FIBERGLASS FABRICATION BOOT CAMP – Daytona State College is offering its Fiberglass Fabrication Boot Camp from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 21, 22, 28 and 29 at the college’s Fiberglass Fabrication Lab, 1601 Tionia Road, New Smyrna Beach. Participants will be introduced to fiberglass manufacturing, including manufacturing processes, safety, tools and equipment, lamination and final part finish and inspection. The fee is $595 for the 40-hour boot camp. Assistance with paying the fee may be available for eligible participants through CareerSource Flagler/Volusia. For more information and registration, contact Joanne Parker or call 386-506-4224.

2020 LAUNCH YOUR VENTURE STUDENT PITCH COMPETITION – Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is once again teaming up with Boeing HorizonX for the 2020 Launch Your Venture student pitch competition in Daytona Beach April 3. They are looking for Florida university student-led startups with revolutionary ideas that will change the future of the aviation, aerospace and engineering industries. The application deadline is Feb. 24. The prizes are $10,000 for first place, $5,000 for second place and $3,000 for third place. Winners will also receive in-kind services including intellectual property, marketing, accounting, early-stage venture funding, IT support and more. Full details at erau.edu/launchyourventure.

SCORE WEBINAR: FLORIDA SALES AND USE TAX WEBINAR – Learn the basics of state sales and use taxes during this webinar presented by the Florida Department of Revenue’s tax specialists Jamese Blakely-Martin and Jeff Graham. Topics will include types of transactions, exemptions, annual resale certificates, bracket system, discretionary sales surtax, filing requirements and more. This free one-hour webinar will be held at 2 p.m. Feb. 27.

HIRE VETS MEDALLION AWARD PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS – The U.S. Department of Labor’s HIRE Vets Medallion Award is the only federal-level veteran’s employment award that recognizes employers for their investments in recruiting, employing and retaining our nation’s veterans. This award is an opportunity to highlight your organization’s work to support America’s veterans. Applications are now open and will run through April 30. Job creators of all sizes can apply online and learn more about the application process at HIREVets.gov. The award is based on a number of criteria, from veteran hiring and retention to providing veteran-specific resources, with requirements varying for large, medium and small employers.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY TRADE FAIR: HANNOVER MESSE 2020 – HANNOVER MESSE, the world’s leading industrial technology trade fair, will be held April 20 to 24 in Hannover, Germany, and combines seven leading trade shows and an investment summit all in one. There will be industry pavilions for automation, motion and drives, engineered parts & solutions, digital ecosystems, compressed air & vacuum, energy solutions, logistics and future lab. The show connects exhibitors to potential customers across relevant industry sectors. Consider attending HANNOVER MESSE 2020 and utilize the U.S. Commercial Service’s value added services to maximize your trip’s value, whether you are an experienced exhibitor or attending for the first time. Eligible U.S. companies may apply for a SBA STEP Grant to help offset some of the exhibition fees and other expenses. For more information, contact Marisel Trespalacios or Rebecca Gladen.

NIST OFFERS STRATEGIES TO HELP BUSINESSES SECURE CYBER SUPPLY CHAINS – Reducing the cybersecurity risk to one of the most vulnerable aspects of commerce — global supply chains — is the goal of a new publication by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). NIST computer security experts have distilled a set of risk management techniques into a draft guidebook for businesses. Key Practices in Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management (Draft NISTIR 8276) provides a set of strategies to help businesses address the cybersecurity issues posed by modern information and communications technology products. NIST is seeking public comment on the draft until March 4.

5G WIRELESS DEVICES EXPECTED TO GAIN SCALE IN 2020 – Global telecommunications company, Ericsson, recent survey reported that 5G is expected to be the fastest deployed mobile communication technology in history. Expect 2020 to be a growth year in the number of fixed wireless devices, with many vendors and models enabling 5G-connected households. With this generation of technology, vendors are working to surpass first-generation launches with more integrated designs, reduced power consumption, and more frequencies and network operation modes. Access the full report here.

LIBRARY VISITS OUTPACED TRIPS TO MOVIES IN 2019 - Visiting the library remains the most common cultural activity Americans engage in. This is according to survey results from a December 2019 Gallup poll. The average 10.5 trips to the library U.S. adults reported taking in 2019 exceeded participation in eight other common leisure activities. Americans attended live music or theatrical events and visited national or historic parks roughly four times a year, and visited museums and gambling casinos 2.5 times annually. Locally, visit the Volusia County library webpage to access its books, e-books, magazines and small business resources.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley at jmagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.

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