SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH – National Preparedness Month provides an opportunity to remind the business community and the community at large that we all must prepare ourselves and our families now and throughout the year. That’s the theme of this year’s National Preparedness Month. A commitment to planning and being prepared today will help support employees, customers, the community and our local economy. For a business owner, preparing for emergencies also protects your business investment and gives your company a better chance for survival. Please visit the provided link to FEMA as it offers access to a collection of materials on the importance of emergency preparedness, before, during and after a disaster. This website will connect you to preparedness information for businesses, families, pets, seniors and individuals with disabilities. Visit https://tinyurl.com/ydbzo5bt for details. For local information on preparing for emergencies, visit www.volusia.org/emergency and consider following Emergency Management on Facebook and Twitter at @VCEmergentlyInfo.

ATTENTION MANUFACTURERS: ARE YOU PAYING SALES TAX ON YOUR ELECTRIC BILL? – Your business may qualify for tax exemptions that could help you save money if you are charged a Florida sales tax on your electric bill. For further information, visit https://tinyurl.com/yxj87cbe or contact Virgil Kimball at vkimball@volusia.org. Your business may also qualify for a State of Florida tax exemption related to machinery and equipment. To access that information, go to https://tinyurl.com/yysreaab.

WHAT SMALL BUSINESSES NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CYBERSECURITY – SCORE is pleased to present this timely, one-hour live webinar on cyber risks and how to address them. Cybersecurity risks for small businesses increase each year. Small businesses face steep challenges to ensure that their digital assets and customers are well protected from ever-advancing threats. The stakes are high as small businesses may not be able to sustain their operation after a major cyber security breach. The webinar will be presented by Jon Clay, Ryan Delaney and Mitchel Chang of Trend Micro. With its many years of experience, Trend Micro’s vision has been to make the world safe for exchanging digital information. This webinar is designed to help small business owners be proactive on the critical insights of cybersecurity that will protect your data and information from outside sources in cyberspace or the Internet. You will learn about awareness and risks, today’s complex threats, how to protect your business, recover and backup, and important helpful resources. The webinar is scheduled for 1 p.m. Sept. 5. To register for the free webinar, go to https://tinyurl.com/y4knslx5.

FLORIDA EXPORT DIRECTORY – The online Florida Export Directory is the cornerstone of an integrated global marketing initiative created by Enterprise Florida Inc. (EFI) in partnership with The Export Yellow Pages. The directory provides dynamic search and detailed profiles and product catalogs for more than 27,000 U.S. companies. Originally developed through a public-private partnership with the U.S. Department of Commerce, The Export Yellow Pages provides exporters, export service providers and the international trade community an easy-to-use, fast and effective way to locate suppliers, establish contacts and conduct business. The Export Yellow Pages is a highly trafficked online and print business-to-business directory with a global reach. For information on Enterprise Florida export assistance and to access the Export Yellow Pages, visit www.floridaexportdirectory.com/.

ACADEMY OF DIGITAL AUDIO RECORDING TECHNOLOGY – This academy at Atlantic High School enhances students’ skills as musicians, either instrumentally or vocally, through the exploration of studio recording techniques used throughout the world. Partnerships with Bethune-Cookman University and Daytona State College students provide hands-on experiences in the recording arts. Contact Academy Director Jeff Brown at jsbrown@volusia.k12.fl.us. The numerous Volusia County Schools career academy programs provide industry sector focused preparation and student engagement. As part of our community’s emerging workforce, academy students gain early career knowledge, skill development and workplace exposure. Business owners are encouraged to consider the advantages of participating with career academies.

AIRPORT CELEBRATES 40 YEARS WITH DELTA AIR LINES – The Daytona Beach International Airport (DAB) will celebrate Delta Air Lines’ 40th anniversary of service with a cake cutting and an opportunity to win airline tickets from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6. Delta Air Lines began air service on Sept. 8, 1979, with one daily, roundtrip flight between Daytona Beach and Atlanta. During the celebration, the public may enter to win a roundtrip for two on Delta Air Lines, complete with up to seven days of free parking at DAB. Two prize packages will be awarded. A table will be set up across from Delta’s ticket counter and the winners will be drawn at 2:30 p.m. Winners must be present to win. To learn more, call 386-248-8030, ext.18318.

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