HOW WELL WAS YOUR BUSINESS PREPARED FOR HURRICANE DORIAN? – Despite the departure of Hurricane Dorian away from the Florida coastline, it is important to remain vigilant and prepared. The Atlantic Basin hurricane season typically peaks between August and October. Now is an opportune time to review your business preparedness plan and make any necessary updates in light of the Hurricane Dorian experience. Visit Volusia County Emergency Management’s website for disaster planning checklists, maps and links to other emergency resources. For business preparedness assistance direct from FEMA, explore the Ready Business Hurricane Toolkit website. The toolkit offers step-by-step guidance to help you create your business continuity plans and address key concerns such as critical staff communications; structure protection; and mitigation activities for electrical, fuel and water systems. Another business resource is FloridaDisaster.biz from the State of Florida. It can help guide your business in stepwise fashion to prepare and quickly recover from an emergency. To learn more, go to FloridaDisaster.biz to register your business, access business resources, and review the disaster planning tool kit.

DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE INTRODUCES CNC SPECIALIST PROGRAM – Daytona State College has introduced a new program that will provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be employed in the manufacturing industry. This is an introductory course in Computer Numerical Control (CNC) programming of CNC Vertical Milling Machines. Linear coordinate systems and polar coordinate systems will be the main focus of study. Machine set-up, operation, part programming and toolpaths are covered extensively. Students will have the opportunity to obtain National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS) CNC Milling: Programming Setup & Operations Level 1 certification. The course will be held from 4 to 9:50 p.m. Monday through Thursday from Oct. 17 through Dec. 11. Go to the Daytona State College Programs website page for more details regarding this course and the CNC Machining Vocational Certificate 4 course program, costs and possible financial aid options.

WANT TO JOIN THE GIG ECONOMY? JOIN THE U.S. CENSUS – The U.S. Census Bureau is ramping up hiring to conduct the 2020 Census next year with more than 500,000 available temporary and part-time jobs. To learn more about the opportunities available, go to the Join the Gig Economy U.S. Census webpage.

9/11/2001 – A PRESENTATION ON LESSONS LEARNED & LOCAL IMPACT – The American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) will host a presentation reflecting on the local impact of the 9/11/2001 terrorist attacks – “September 11th – Lessons Learned & Local Impact.” Topics will include local community impact and response, and the resultant changes to business operations and personal perceptions of safety. The discussion will be led by Chris Bonner, former FBI special agent with service on the Joint Terrorism Task Force and current associate professor of homeland security and international affairs at Embry-Riddle. The event will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 9 in the Dennis McGee Room at Daytona Beach International Airport. Lunch and parking will be included, and the fee is $20 for ASSP members and $25 for non-members. For more information, contact the ASSP chapter secretary at Sherrie Garcia or get further details and to register on the ASSP Chapter website.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY – This academy at Mainland High School is designed for students interested in architecture, engineering, construction, drafting, computer aided manufacturing, electronics and interior design. Students have an opportunity to work in a small-scale fabrication lab with CNC machines, plotters, wood and metal working machines, and promotional products manufacturing equipment. The academy is affiliated with Project Lead the Way, a national pre-engineering curriculum. Opportunities are available for dual enrollment at Daytona State College. For more information, contact Dan Lundy. The Volusia County Schools career academy programs provide industry sector focused preparation and student engagement. Academy students gain early career knowledge, skill development and workplace exposure. Business owners are encouraged to consider the advantages of participating with career academies.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INNOVATION & COMPETITIVENESS FRONTIERS LAUNCHED – The significant impact of innovation on business growth and success can be seen throughout the national economy. The country’s business community has been facing fundamental change in the pursuit of innovation as it is now possible for someone to imagine, develop and scale a disruptive technology independent of traditional institutions. New business models are emerging and challenging traditional models by cutting the link between production and capital. The pace of innovation is increasing, and it is disrupting the boundaries among fields, sectors and disciplines. The Council on Competitiveness has launched the National Commission on Innovation & Competitiveness Frontiers to overcome critical challenges facing the U.S. innovation engine and create competitive momentum to outpace the rest of the world in innovation capacity, capability and competitiveness. Learn more about this national initiative by reading the announcement from the Council on Competitiveness.

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.

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