



July 24, 2017

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

HOW TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS IN FLORIDA – SCORE will present a free workshop, “How to Start Your Own Business in Florida,” from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 27, at Deltona City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd. This workshop is for new entrepreneurs and those considering starting their own business. Presentation topics will include an overview of legal structures, checking for financial viability, tracking income and expenses, marketing, pricing, and the business plan. To register, visit <https://volusiaflagler.score.org> or call 386-255-6889.

MANUFACTURER ASSOCIATION AWARDS – Nominations are still open for Manufacturer Association of Florida (MAF) Business of the Year awards. The application deadline is July 31. Any person or entity can nominate a company in Florida, and companies may self-nominate. Any MAF member or affiliated Regional Manufacturing Association member is eligible to compete. Winners will be announced in November. MAF leadership and judges will honor winners with a local celebration of their excellence, allowing employees, legislators, media and customers to attend. To learn more, contact Jeff Littlejohn at jml@wsourcegroup.com, call 850-363-9644 or visit www.mafmfg.com/manufacture-of-the-year.

FLORIDA TREND LISTS – Florida Trend's July 2017 issue includes a list of the 125 biggest public companies and the 225 biggest private companies in Florida. Those lists include the following firms headquartered in Daytona Beach: NASCAR (#12-private), Brown & Brown (#41-public), International Speedway Corp (#78-public), Consolidated-Tomoka (#117-public), and ICI Homes (#191-private). TopBuild Corp. (NYSE: BLD) was inadvertently omitted from the Florida Trend list; with 2016 reported revenue of \$1.7 billion, it would have ranked near Brown & Brown.

HOW GREEN IS YOUR BUSINESS? – Managing a business in the heat of a Florida summer can be a challenge, but also an opportunity to “go green” and improve efficiencies while supporting the environment. For example, when purchasing new products, look for the Energy Star logo to help reduce your electricity bill. Repairing leaks in faucets and toilets can save on water bills. Using green cleaning products can cut down on chemical usage and create a healthier business environment. For more tips, visit www.greenvolusia.org.

2017 SITE SELECTION TRENDS IN U.S. – According to Site Selection Group, a leading location advisory and economic incentives firm, nearly 1,900 manufacturing facility investment projects were announced in the first half of 2017. Of those, the average number of jobs created per project was 74 employees and the average capital investment per project was approximately \$30 million. In terms of industry sectors, chemicals and plastics had the highest total investment so far this year at \$33.3 billion. Automotive scored highest in total number of jobs announced with more than 30,000.

FLORIDA 50 INDEX – The University of Miami's Florida 50 Index, the bellwether on the state economy, gained 7.2 percent in the second quarter of 2017. The index, which tracks all Florida firms in the S&P Composite 1500® Index, beat the S&P 500 by 4.63 percent and the S&P 1500 by 4.74 percent for the quarter. For the year, the Florida 50 Index was up 18.33 percent compared to 8.24 percent for the S&P 500 and 7.81 percent for the S&P 1500. The Florida 50 Index, which was established by the School of Business in 2016, is based on the capitalizations of all Florida-based large-, mid- and small-cap companies included in the S&P 1500 index having common stock listed on the NYSE or NASDAQ.

FLORIDA COMES OUT ON TOP – Based on 2015 financial statements, Florida ranks first as the most fiscally healthy state in a new ranking of state government fiscal health. The Mercatus Center at George Mason University released the 2017 edition of its “Ranking the States by Fiscal Condition” report. It applies 13 metrics in five categories to analyze state finances: cash solvency, budget solvency, long-run solvency, service-level solvency, and trust fund solvency. A full copy of the report and related spreadsheet data can be found at www.mercatus.org/statefiscalrankings.

BANKING AND TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION – The rise of financial technology or “fintech” is placing increasing pressure on the global banking industry for technology adoption and continuing evolution. This according to global treasury news portal gtnews.com. End users are more and more tech savvy and expect rapid access to comprehensive data and analytics. Emerging trends anticipated to have significant impact are data management, automation, machine learning and self-service analytics. The importance and value of big data utilization, human error reduction and algorithmic analysis are actively shaping banking's future. For more details, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ycc77byd>.

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.