



May 29, 2017

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED -- In December 2000, Congress passed and the president signed into law the National Moment of Remembrance Act, which encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time May 30 for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who died in service to the nation. It is believed the origin of Memorial Day dates back to the mid-19th century as a somber day of remembrance.

DROUGHT DISASTER BUSINESS LOANS NOW AVAILABLE -- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced that Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations located in Volusia County arising from the drought that began on March 21, 2017. Loan amounts can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of 3.15 percent for small businesses with terms up to 30 years. Apply online via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. To access the press release, visit www.sba.gov/offices/disaster/dfoce/resources/1575432.

HURRICANE SEASON SMALL BUSINESS ADVICE -- Are you prepared for a disaster, such as a hurricane? Every year many businesses suffer damage and loss due to fire, wind, water and other events. Stop for a moment and think about all the time and resources you've invested in your small business. Imagine that it's all gone - furniture, equipment, inventory, records, everything. What do you do? Read the Florida Trend magazine recommendations at <http://tinyurl.com/kg5sreh>.

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES ACADEMY -- The Biomedical Sciences Academy at University High School offers a challenging set of courses in which students learn about various diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and sickle cell anemia. The academy offers a course in human body systems and medical interventions where students learn how healing and modern medicine affect the body. For more information, email Academy Director Jessica Clayton at jlclayto@volusia.k12.fl.us.

FLORIDA SEAPORTS ECONOMIC IMPACT -- The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development (FSTED) Council consists of port directors of the 15 publicly owned seaports and representatives from the Department of Transportation and the Department of Economic Opportunity. The FSTED Council has released a new report called "Five-Year Florida Seaport Mission Plan," which shows that Florida's 15 seaports support 900,000 direct and indirect jobs from Pensacola to Key West. The seaports also represent nearly \$118 billion in total economic activity. To read the full report, visit www.flaports.org.

GET THE EXPORT RESOURCES APP -- ThinkGlobal has released the Export Resources App for Apple iOS and Android platforms. The app provides access to trade leads, trade events, market research and trade news gleaned from U.S. International Trade Administration trade specialists and other reliable sources worldwide. To download the app, visit www.think.global/exusa#.WRmx5vyskl. For other ITA app resources, visit <http://developer.trade.gov/app-gallery.html>.

TOP COMPANIES LIST -- LinkedIn recently released its Top Companies list which looked at employee retention and interest in jobs, and brand; it was based on the billions of actions taken by more than 500 million members. The list of 50 companies spans 21 industries and employs some 3.3 million workers. Alphabet, the parent company of Google, ranked No.1. For the complete list, visit www.linkedin.com/pulse/linkedin-top-companies-2017-where-us-wants-work-now-daniel-roth?published=t

SENIOR HEALTH REPORT -- The 2017 America's Health Rankings Senior Report provides a comprehensive analysis of senior population health on a national and state-by-state basis across 34 measures. This report's model is based on the historical overall population health model and was adapted in 2013 for the senior population under the guidance of experts in the field. Visit www.americashealthrankings.org/ to review the full report.

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS -- The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) reports that Florida's 2016 two-way merchandise trade (exports plus imports) totaled nearly \$143 billion. Two other notably strong international business sectors were services exports, which reached \$38.5 billion; and foreign direct investment, which exceeded \$53 billion last year. Overall, Florida was the seventh-largest export state in the U.S. in 2016 after Texas, California, Washington, New York, Illinois and Michigan.

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.