



On the Economic Scene Make it Volusia

A weekly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Division of Economic Development

May 7, 2018

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY – The academy at University High School is designed to teach students to solve a variety of traditional agriscience problems using a scientific approach to prepare them for careers as laboratory technicians. Contact Academy Director Kenneth Hartless at kahartle@volusia.k12.fl.us.

2018 MAF AWARDS – Nominations are open for the 2018 MAF Manufacturer & Distributor of the Year Awards. The Manufacturers Association of Florida (MAF) was organized in early 2006 to improve Florida's manufacturing business climate. MAF is composed of manufacturers and those who serve them and want to set the direction for manufacturing policy. Any person or entity may nominate a company in Florida for these awards; companies may self-nominate. The deadline is May 25. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7wxaggz> for details.

NEW TAX LAW IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS – SCORE is offering a free workshop on the many changes introduced in last year's tax reform. Seasoned tax experts will walk you through the key changes to help you keep more of your hard-earned money. Some of the topics discussed will include the new pass-through income deduction; increased limits for expensing assets; changes to meals, entertainment and dues deductions; new tax brackets and more. The workshop will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. May 10 at Daytona State College, UCF Building 150, Room 101, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach. For information, call 386-255-6889 or visit <https://tinyurl.com/y9yydq66>.

MEDICAL FAIR ASIA COMING IN AUGUST – Medical Fair Asia will showcase its most impressive lineup ever of medical and health care industry players from around the world in its 12th edition at Marina Bay Sands Convention Center in Singapore from August 29 to 31. Enterprise Florida has secured exhibit space for Florida companies to showcase their products and services. Qualified Florida companies can apply for a Target Sector Trade Show Grant to cover 50 percent of exhibition booth costs, up to \$6,000. For more information, including rental booth details, contact Virgil Kimball at [386-248-8048](tel:386-248-8048) or Vkimball@volusia.org.

FLORIDA RANKED IN TOP 5 BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE GROUP – The Chief Executive Group has released its "Best Places To Do Business" rankings for 2018, and Florida repeats as No. 2. Florida's tax, regulatory and lifestyle advantages continue to draw business to the state. In its May 2 magazine article, the Chief Executive Group highlighted Central Florida's "flourishing advanced manufacturing sector." It cited Orlando's position at the "center of a nexus of colleges and universities" and the continuing influence of the nearby Space Coast around Cape Canaveral. See the complete rankings list at <https://tinyurl.com/y9nd22e4>.

VOLUSIA COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER WEBSITE TRAINING AVAILABLE – The office of the Volusia County Property Appraiser is providing training for the general public on the use of its website's new search functions and capabilities. Available dates and times are: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 8 and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 23. Both sessions will be held in the Dennis McGee Room at the Daytona Beach International Airport, 700 Catalina Drive, Daytona Beach. Limited seating is available, so please call [386 740-5131](tel:386-740-5131) or email vcpa@volusia.org to reserve your seat today.

PNC ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RELEASED – The PNC Financial Services Group has released the latest findings from its semiannual telephone survey of small and medium-size business owners and executives. Exactly half of respondents describe their outlook for the national economy as optimistic in spring 2018, a significant increase compared to the fall 2017 survey (29 percent). Across-the-board, record optimism is reflected by the 85 percent of respondents who selected a positive emotion to describe how they feel about the business climate during the next six months. In addition, six of 10 business leaders (61 percent) expect demand for their company's products or services to increase in the next six months, up from 51 percent in fall 2017. To review PNC's Spring Economic Outlook Survey, visit <http://pnc.mediaroom.com/pnc-economic-outlook-survey-spring-2018>.

BUILD A BUSINESS PLAN IN FOUR SESSIONS – A business plan is a critically important tool for managing and growing your business. A well-designed plan lays out a vision of growth and the steps needed to get there. A plan is also an essential communications tool for attracting financing, managers and staff as your business grows. During this four-part workshop, the seven components to a business plan will be reviewed. Registration for the first workshop will automatically place you in all four sessions: 6 to 8 p.m. May 17, May 24, May 31, and June 7 at Daytona State College, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., UCF Building 150, Room 101, Daytona Beach. These workshops are provided in partnership with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). For information, call 386-255-6889 or register at <https://tinyurl.com/ycl28btg>.

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.