



December 4, 2017

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

12th ANNUAL VOLUSIA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE – The 12th Annual High School Showcase will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, in the Tommy Lawrence Arena at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. The showcase provides 7th and 8th grade middle school students and their parents opportunities to learn about the outstanding high school programs and career academies available in Volusia County Schools. Career Academy, Cambridge/AICE and IB applications will be available at the event. For event details, call Dr. Kristen Pierce at 386-734-7190, ext. 20642.

MEASURE IT, UNDERSTAND IT, GET IT DONE: A BUSINESS PERFORMANCE GUIDE – GrowFL will present this free webinar from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13. The presenter will be John Flick, principal for Nperspective – CFO/Strategic Services. Regardless of your current level of achievement, this instructive session will help you take information from financial statements and operations and effectively use it in a structured approach to business improvement. The webinar will help you act on opportunities to improve the profit, cash flow, financial stability and value of your business. A culture of continuous performance improvement builds value in your business and increases distributable profit. Webinar presenter John Flick brings over 35 years of experience in finance, strategy and operations in the logistics, distribution and consumer goods businesses. He holds a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a master's degree in business administration from Columbia University. For more details, go to www.growfl.com/all_events/nperspective-dec-webinar.

GOOD JOBS THAT PAY WITHOUT A B.A. – New research from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, in collaboration with JPMorgan Chase & Co., finds that there are 30 million good jobs in the U.S. that pay well without a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.). These good jobs have a median salary of \$55,000. The Good Jobs That Pay Without a B.A. report shows that good jobs continue to grow, but are changing from traditional blue-collar industries to skilled-services industries such as those in financial services and health services. A gain of 4 million good jobs in skilled services has more than offset the 2.8 million lost in manufacturing. Americans with only high school diplomas still have the largest share of good jobs (11.6 million). Visit <http://goodjobsdata.org/resources/> for additional information.

DAB OFFERING LONG-TERM LOT PARKING DISCOUNT – Until Dec.31, park for three consecutive days in the long-term lot at Daytona Beach International Airport (DAB) and get one day free with the Sky Dollar discount coupon. The printed coupon must be presented at the toll booth when exiting. To print the coupon, go to <http://www.flydaytonafirst.com/parking-directions/parking-promotions.stml>. Limit one coupon per vehicle.

RECORD DEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS – The number of industrial robots deployed worldwide will increase to around 2.6 million units by 2019. This is according to the 2016 World Robotics Report, as published by the International Federation of Robotics. That's about 1 million units more than in the record-breaking year of 2015. Broken down by sectors, around 70 percent of industrial robots work in the automotive, electrical/electronics, and metal and machinery industry segments. The U.S. is the fourth largest market for industrial robots in the world. Within the NAFTA area (U.S., Canada and Mexico), the total number of newly installed industrial robots rose by 17 percent to a new record of some 36,000 units (2015). The United States led the pack, accounting for three-quarters of all units sold. Five percent growth was recorded. For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7y25obl>.

SMALL BUSINESS INSTITUTE – The national Small Business Institute (SBI) provides confidential and professional management assistance to small businesses through consulting projects performed by MBA students. SBI connects local small businesses to the resources and management expertise of UCF's College of Business Administration and the Florida SBDC at UCF. Central Florida business owners participating in the SBI program receive consulting services tailored to fit their business needs in areas such as business plans, competitive analysis, customer surveys, feasibility studies, financial analysis, marketing plans, market research and strategic plans. To learn more, visit <http://sbdcorlando.com/sbi/> or contact Jill Kaufman, assistant director/program manager at [407-420-4854](tel:407-420-4854) or Jill.Kaufman@ucf.edu.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING – Thanks to the strength of the state's economy and increased confidence among consumers, the upcoming shopping season looks very bright for Florida's retailers. The Florida Retail Federation is predicting that Sunshine State retailers will see a 4 percent increase in sales, which is expected to outpace the national average of 3.5 or less percent. Consumers are expected to spend an average of \$935 on gifts. Total spending is expected to increase to more than \$655 billion, up from \$630 billion last year, thanks to the continued growth and spending of millennials.

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.