**On the Economic Scene**

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

March 5, 2018

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

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**TSA PRECHECK COMING IN MARCH** – TSA will host a Precheck enrollment event from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. daily from March 19 through 23 at Daytona Beach International Airport (DAB) in the baggage claim area. Precheck allows participating flyers to experience a more efficient airport screening process by leaving on shoes, light jackets and belts and leaving laptops and compliant liquids in carry-on bags. During the onsite enrollment at DAB, applicants will be fingerprinted for a background check. The $85 application fee can be paid by credit card, money order, company check or certified/cashier's check. Cash and personal checks are not accepted. Applicants should pre-enroll at https://www.identogo.com/precheck. When enrolling, enter “Daytona Beach, FL” as the location and choose Daytona Beach International Airport. To complete the on-site process, applicants must bring proof of identity and U.S. citizen documentation, such as a U.S. passport or a birth certificate and a driver’s license.

**ACADEMY OF FINANCE** – The Academy of Finance at University High School trains students for careers in banking and credit, financial planning, international finance and economics, securities and insurance, and accounting. The academy provides a rigorous curriculum, an on-campus credit union and internships in the local financial community. For more information, contact Academy Director Sheryl Flowers at.slflower@volusia.k12.fl.us.

**TRADE SHOW EXPORT SALES RESULTS** – The Medica Trade Fair, the world’s largest medical trade show held in Germany last November, brought Florida more than $122 million in total projected export sales, according to Enterprise Florida. The state’s public-private business development arm reported these export sales, but the projected data was provided from the 23 Florida companies—small and mid-sized—that participated in the show.

**DIGI Q** – The all-digital Economic Development Quarterly (digi-Q) newsletter is produced by the county’s Economic Development Division. The newsletter is intended to provide meaningful information on the area's business, economic development and real estate opportunities. The 2018 first-quarter edition was emailed to more than 2,000 addresses, and analytics show a 32 percent open rate. Visit www.floridabusiness.org/economic-reports/quarterly.shtml to access the current issue. To submit story ideas or offer comments, contact Economic Development Director Rob Ehrhardt at rehrhardt@volusia.org.

**ENTREPRENEURIAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY** – The L. Gale Lemerand Center for Entrepreneurship at Daytona State College (DSC) is currently accepting student applications through March 28 for the L. Gale Lemerand Entrepreneurial Speaker Series Scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded to students interested in becoming entrepreneurs. Up to three $1,000 scholarships may be given, based on the following criteria: a Volusia or Flagler County high school student who plans to attend DSC; a DSC college-credit student; or a DSC Adult Education student. Please visit www.DaytonaState.edu/scholarships to submit your application by 5 p.m. March 28. For details on the April 11 Speaker Series event visit https://tinyurl.com/ybpd6wxx.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & BUSINESS LAW BASICS: HOW TO PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS** – Every business needs to plan for success. A strong IP portfolio is a necessity for success if you plan to enter the market quickly, and attending this workshop can get you started. Lori Sandman will be presenting this SCORE workshop on Intellectual Property Protection (Trademark, Copyright) and Business Law basics. Topics covered include Patents, Trademarks/Copyrights, Distribution Agreements, Liability Protection, E-Commerce, and Understanding the Law (LLC, LLP, NP). The workshop will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 15 at Daytona State College, UCF Building 150, Rm. 101, in Daytona Beach. To register, call 386-255-6889 or email info@score87.org.

**CORPORATE TAX RATE COMPARISON** – The Tax Foundation has released an analysis of state corporate income tax rates and brackets for 2018. The analysis shows that corporate income taxes are levied in 44 states, and they account for an average of just 5 percent of state tax collections and 2.6 percent of state general revenue. According to the Tax Foundation, Iowa levies the highest top statutory corporate tax rate at 12 percent and North Carolina’s flat rate of 3 percent is the lowest rate in the country. Florida’s marginal corporate income tax rate of 5.5 percent is not the lowest but ranks favorably in the southeastern U.S. To review the complete analysis, go to https://taxfoundation.org/state-corporate-income-tax-rates-brackets-2018/.

**BEST STATES FOR RETIREMENT** – Florida earned the no. 4 spot in a new ranking of the best states for retirement by MoneyRates.com, a personal finance and banking website. Florida earned the ranking because of its high number of residents 65 years and older whose life expectancy is the third highest in the country. MoneyRates.com considered popularity with senior residents, local economy, weather, personal security, and a healthy environment when constructing their rankings. Iowa, Hawaii and Arizona finished in the first, second and third rankings, respectively.

**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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