



On the Economic Scene



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

November 11, 2019

[ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG](http://FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG)

TODAY'S WORKFORCE: SPECIAL GRADUATION ISSUE NOW AVAILABLE AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG – The Volusia County Economic Development Division has released the 2019 Special Graduation edition of Today's Workforce to showcase the occupational focus of more than 13,000 students awarded certificates, credentials, diplomas or degrees by county educational institutions during the 2018/2019 school year. In addition to graduation data, readers will find articles describing the community's success in preparing students and incumbent workers with skills that meet today's evolving business needs. Learn more about Volusia County's graduates and the collaborative work being done by local training, education and business partners by reading the [Special Graduation Issue](#).

2019 PAYCHECKS FOR PATRIOTS JOB FAIR – The annual statewide hiring event for veterans and military families – Paychecks for Patriots – began Nov. 4 and is underway through Nov. 15. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO), the Florida National Guard, and the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA), sponsor this hiring event. Its purpose is to bring employers with current position openings in Florida to the table with great military and veteran candidates in an effort to address the employment needs of service members and veterans across the state. The Paychecks for Patriots is a partnership with FDEO, the CareerSource Florida network, the Florida National Guard, FDVA and participating Florida employers to hold job fairs for veterans and their families. The hiring fairs are hosted by the CareerSource Florida network regional boards. [Find a local hiring fair via this link.](#)

ACADEMY OF LAW AND GOVERNMENT – This academy at Atlantic High School focuses on careers in the areas of law, government and public service. It provides curriculum and internship experiences for students aspiring to be lawyers, politicians, police officers, forensic scientists, crime lab technicians, and other law and government related career professionals. The Volusia County Schools career academy programs provide industry sector focused preparation and student engagement. Participating students gain early career knowledge, skill development and workplace exposure. Business owners are encouraged to consider the advantages of participating with career academies. For more details, contact Academy Director [Margo Rivera Conde](#).

2020 GULF STATES HORTICULTURAL EXPO – The 2020 Gulf States Horticultural Expo is focused on the needs of Green Industry professionals who come to find new products and suppliers, build and maintain their professional networks, get updates on industry issues and trends, and participate in education and training sessions. Typical attendees include greenhouse and nursery growers, landscape architecture and design firms, landscape installation contractors, retail garden centers and industry support businesses. Educational sessions will take place on Jan. 15, and the Trade Show follows Jan. 16-17. The expo will be hosted at the Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center in Mobile, Alabama. [View the Gulf States Horticultural Expo website](#) for information on attending.

SCORE PRESENTS FREE SOCIAL MEDIA AUTOMATION WORKSHOP AT DSC – Social media automation is using software or tools to accomplish specific tasks on social media platforms without human intervention, such as posting and sharing content on Facebook, Twitter and other platforms. By automating your business's social media marketing efforts, you will be able to schedule and publish posts, automatically respond to audience feedback and manage daily actions – all through one, user-friendly interface. The workshop will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14, at Daytona State College in Daytona Beach. [Details available online.](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY – Nov. 30 is Small Business Saturday – a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for our communities. Join the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and organizations across the country in supporting your local economy by shopping at a small business. Founded by American Express in 2010 and officially cosponsored by the SBA since 2015, Small Business Saturday has become an important part of how many small businesses launch their busiest shopping season. The [SBA Initiatives website](#) has more details on Small Business Saturday including how to obtain free marketing materials for small business owners.

FUTURES FOUNDATION FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS SEEKS MENTORS – The Volusia County Schools Future Foundation Take Stock in Children program is seeking volunteer mentors at several high schools. Take Stock is a scholarship and mentoring program for low-income high school students and offers an opportunity for interested business professionals to help shape a student's future. Mentors meet with students for 30 minutes a week during the student's lunch. To learn more about Take Stock in Children, contact TSIC Student Services and Mentor Coordinator [Shimene Shepard](#) or call [386-255-6475](tel:386-255-6475), ext. 50724.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS – We honor the service and sacrifice of our community's veterans this Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The Volusia County Veterans Services Division assists all former and current members of the Armed Forces and their dependents in preparing claims for compensation, pension, vocational training, and other benefits and privileges. Through staff efforts, more than \$176 million a year is distributed to veterans and their dependents. Visit the [Volusia County Veterans Services Division](#) website to contact a local office and schedule an appointment with a service counselor.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley at jmagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.