



Work In Progress

Pasco Economic Development Council, Inc.

MAY 14, 2010

This news bulletin is designed to keep you informed of recent developments in Pasco County Florida, a community of more than 470,000 people in the Tampa Bay Region.

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WORKFORCE BOARD ASSISTS WITH JOB CREATION

Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, Inc. announced that The Florida Back to Work Program has created over 190 job openings in Pasco and Hernando Counties. These job openings represent 17 employers hiring 140 positions in Pasco County and 50 positions in Hernando County. The amount allocated totals \$2.9 million in Federal Stimulus Funds.

“With Pasco County’s current unemployment rate at 14% (March 2010), putting 140 people back to work is a step in the right direction to turn our local economy around,” said John Hagen, President/CEO of Pasco Economic Development Council, Inc. “PEDC is working alongside Pasco County government and the Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, Inc. to help create 20,000 jobs in our community over the next five years--this is just the beginning.”

The Florida Back to Work Program was created to fund jobs for Floridians who receive, or are eligible to receive, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and has the capacity to create nearly 25,500 direct and indirect jobs based on an average hourly wage of \$12. The program provides up to 95% reimbursement to Florida’s businesses to cover the costs of employee wages and benefits. Funding for this program is available until September 30, 2010.

For more information, please contact Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, Inc. at (352)593-2220 or visit www.careercentral.jobs.

Source: Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board Chair’s Report

MORTON PLANT NORTH BAY’S COO NAMED CEO AT JUPITER MEDICAL CENTER

John Couris, Chief Operating Officer of Morton Plant North Bay Hospital and Pasco Economic Development Council (PEDC) Policy Council and Board Member, has accepted a position as CEO of Jupiter Medical Center, effective mid-June.

“John has made an outstanding contribution to our organization since becoming a member, and I am personally disappointed to see him go,” said John Hagen, Pasco Economic Development Council President. “On the other hand, the Jupiter assignment is a beautiful opportunity for him, and we wish him well. It’s a testament to the fine reputation he has built here in Pasco County that he was selected over what was undoubtedly a large, highly qualified pool of candidates.”

Couris joined Morton Plant Mease Health Care in 2000 as vice president of ambulatory care and medical imaging. In 2006 he became Chief Operating Officer of Morton Plant North Bay, a 122-bed hospital. During his tenure, he oversaw a \$49 million expansion that doubled the size of the campus.

Source: Tampa Bay Business Journal

PASCO COUNTY COMPANY LAUNCHES BUSINESS CARE NONPROFIT MANAGED IT SERVICES SERIES

The Launch Pad, based in Odessa, FL, has recently announced the national release of a core group of fixed-fee, managed technology service solutions designed specifically for the nonprofit market.

The series is the convergence of 24x7x365 remote monitoring and automated error mediation, integrated online ticketing, expert help desk and strict business processes geared to the demands of nonprofit environments. The Business Care Nonprofit translates to a greatly reduced total cost and a host of other key benefits for Nonprofits.

Launch Pad's founder and CEO, Ilene Rosoff stated, "The goal of our RevITup™ Business Care Nonprofit Managed IT Service Series is to provide a comprehensive technology package, at a fixed cost, reducing overall IT expenses by as much as 50% and insuring the organization's technology systems function optimally. It is the competitive advantage nonprofit organizations need to succeed."

"This is a very interesting niche market, and it's exciting that a Pasco County company has a robust new product line that solves some key problems for the nonprofit world," said John Hagen, Pasco Economic Development Council President. "Everyone knows that nonprofits are struggling these days and anything that will save them money is sure to find customers."

A key component of the solution includes RevITup™ BDR, an onsite and remote backup and disaster recovery solution offering stand-by server capabilities which is compliant with nonprofit privacy mandates. The series also includes the WebSentry™ Managed Internet Security Series, a managed internet monitoring and reporting system. Both solutions are hosted requiring no upfront investment for purchase.

For more information, visit www.launchpadonline.com

Source: The Launch Pad Press Release

THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IS BECOMING MORE VIABLE FOR BUSINESS—AND COMMUNITIES--TO GAIN EXPOSURE

'Doing more with less' is a common mantra for businesses during these tough economic times. Businesses are becoming more dependent on internet marketing using social media outlets like Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook. Communities, too, are catching this new wave.

Zephyrhills is using social media to gain exposure and get its message out to stakeholders and customers. This is a whole new approach to communications-especially in the public sector--with much promise for the future.

Using outlets such as Facebook allows organizations the opportunity to build a network with others and be a better resource for customers as well as keeping 'fans' informed of meetings and news. According to Facebook's statistics, 50% of more than 400 million active users log on to Facebook in any given day.

"It's great to see Pasco cities like Zephyrhills pioneering in this medium," said John Hagen, PEDC President.

If you're a Facebook user and want to become a fan of Zephyrhills Economic Development Council (ZEDC)-[click here](#).

Source: Facebook Statistics

PASCO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.; A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

PEDC is an organization that promotes countywide economic development. Created in 1987 by a group of dedicated

business and community leaders, it continues to be a strong partnership funded by corporate and public investors and focused on the economic vitality of Pasco County.

If you have any questions or comments about the contents of this newsletter, please contact PEDC at (813)920-6480 or cdearolf@pascoedc.com.

