Mission Statement
“To promote economic growth and the quality of life in the greater Dade City area”

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NEW DATE!
March 27, 2021
“Sponsorship Opportunities Available”
Call Today 352-567-3769

Chamber Business Breakfast (tentative)
September 15, 2020  7:00am
Sponsor: First National Bank of Pasco
Location: Scotland Yards Golf & Country Club
To our valued members – THANKS for your ongoing support of the Chamber during this very difficult time. Please check our website at www.dadecitychamber.org – the front page – for links to various agencies.

The Chamber has had to adjust a number of upcoming events. A quick synopsis of what is coming soon (if permitted) follows below:

- Friday September 11th: Chamber Golf Tournament – Lake Jovita Golf & County Club, 8.30am Shotgun start
- Tuesday September 15th: Chamber Business Breakfast – Scotland Yards Golf and County Club, First National Bank of Pasco Sponsor
- Tuesday, October 20th: Chamber Business Breakfast – Scotland Yards Golf & Country Club – Spivey Karate Sponsor and Speaker 7 am
- Tuesday November 17th: Chamber Business Breakfast – Advent Health Dade City Sponsor & Speaker – 7 am
- Friday December 4th: Dade City Christmas Parade – Downtown Dade City – 7 pm
- Tuesday December 15th: Chamber Business Breakfast – The Edwinola Sponsor, Kurt Browning, Superintendent of Schools, Speaker – 7 am

NOTE – The Annual Kumquat Festival has been moved to Saturday, March 27th – if permitted.

Stay tuned for date and information regarding all these happenings.

The Chamber is here to try and assist you with the phasing in your business. We understand the difficulties, as the Chamber is also a small business, with revenue recovery, expense control and customer service all important to our survival.

We appreciate your partnership and support and best of luck with reopening and returning to business!

John & Team

The Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce does take pictures and videos at Chamber events in order to promote our Chamber members and the organization. These images/videos may be used by the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce in their printed and online publicity, on social media, in newspapers and magazines, or in any other ways that further the aims of the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce, whose mission is “to promote economic development and quality of life in the area”

The Chamber publishes this newsletter for our members information. Much of this information is provided by our members. The articles and information submitted to the Chamber belong to their author and do not necessarily mirror the views and opinions of the Chamber.
Upcoming Events (tentative)

35th Annual Joe Kiefer Golf Tournament
September 11, 2020
8am Shotgun Start
Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club

September Chamber Business Breakfast
September 15, 2020
7:30am
Sponsor: First National Bank of Pasco
Location: Scotland Yards Golf & Country Club

Business Connects (fka Annual Banquet)
November 5, 2020
6-8pm
Dade City Woman’s Club

For more information and registration visit website www.dadecitychamber.org or call Chamber office 352-567-3769
The warm and sunny Pasco weather is perfect for days on the water. However, it creates possible dangers for those who do not know how to swim. Fatal drowning rates continue to increase each year. Residential locations, such as a child’s home, a family or friend’s house or a neighbor’s residence count for 71 percent of fatal drowning incidents. This is expected to increase as more families stay home to combat the spread of COVID-19. The Pasco Sheriff’s Office wants everyone to review the following water safety tips in order to reduce the chances of injury or death around water.

**Stay Alert**
Many drowning fatalities can be prevented by adult supervision. Children shouldn’t be unattended in or near water. Rather than assume someone else is watching a child in a pool area, designate an adult water watcher. This person shouldn’t be distracted in any way and should have a charged phone nearby for emergencies. Although swimming lessons and life preservers are important for water safety, there is no substitute for adult supervision. Additionally, don’t to leave objects, such as toys near pools, docks, canals or other bodies of water, which can draw a child’s attention towards water.

**Water Safety Skills**
Learning to swim is crucial for water safety. Between 2015-2017, children younger than 5 years old account for 75 percent of child drownings. Ensuring that children know how to swim and know the rules of pool or water safety are vital for reducing water-related incidents. Establishing clear rules with children, such as don’t climb pool fences or stay off of docks while playing can aid in safety as well.

Another way to ensure safety while enjoying water-related activities is knowing CPR and updating these skills regularly. Additionally, keeping rescue equipment and a first aid kit poolside or easily accessible at all times can help prevent serious injury or death. Starting life-saving procedures prior to emergency personnel’s arrival can increase someone’s chances of living.

**Appropriate Equipment**
Proper fences, alarms and pool covers are crucial for water safety. Check to make sure all drain covers are secure before entering a pool or spa. Use at least four-foot high fence with self-closing and self-latching gates around all pools. Never prop open gates that lead to water or leave furniture where a child could use it to climb over the fence. Use covers and install alarms, such as a wave-activated alarm in the pool or an alarm on the door leading from the house to the pool. Ensure all life-saving equipment, such as life rings or reaching poles are in good condition and readily available for use.

*To learn more about water safety, visit: poolsafely.gov, apsp.org, or redcross.org.*
The Mayor’s Communiqué........................

Congratulations Mayor Pro Tem Shive, Commissioner Woodard, and Commissioner Nathe. Welcome to the Dade City Commission. I am honored to serve with such dedicated individuals and look forward to working with each Commissioner as we continue to move Dade City forward.

This is certainly a year like no other. Normally, children are enjoying summer camp, visiting with friends, and traveling with family. As a result of Covid, we are all adjusting to a new first in summer and school plans. Please be safe and take care of yourself and others as you spend time this summer before the start of a new school year. As you return to the school environment, whether it is on the school campus, or virtually, we wish only success and a productive year for all our students. Whether your child is starting kindergarten, elementary or middle school, high school or entering university or college, we wish families all the best. The opportunity to learn and acquire knowledge and skill sets to help one succeed in future endeavors is invaluable. Yes, this is a new year, unlike any other, but the opportunity for children to learn, grow and experience new things, is something that will last them a lifetime.

As in past years, numerous community organizations in East Pasco have stepped up to assist families as they prepare not only for the start of a new school year, but continuing to lend support for families for food, clothing and other items during this difficult time. We are fortunate to have so many individuals and organizations assisting families for what is often an extremely exciting but stressful time of year. The Dade City community is extremely generous and willing to assist our children and families. Covid has not changed the generosity of people here in our Dade City community.

While families and children ready themselves for the school year, the City Commission and staff are working diligently preparing for a new fiscal year in Dade City. The Commission and staff are focused on Morningside Drive, paving streets, sidewalks, stormwater projects, splash Park design, visitor’s information center, maintaining and improving our parks, signage, updating and improving our water facilities, ensuring our community remains safe and secure, and so much more. The Commission is meeting and discussing these important projects in virtual workshops before finalizing the budget. Your input is always welcomed and encouraged before the final budget is adopted.

We are also focusing on the CRA. The desire is to increase awareness of Dade City and its amenities, improving the quality of life for current and future residents, and establishing Dade City as an entrepreneurial destination. Implementing this vision will require focus and dedication from our community to achieve desirable results and elevate our economic success and quality of life for all in our community. Stay tuned for additional information as these conversations continue.

As always, it is an honor and privilege to serve the residents of Dade City. Your ideas are always welcomed and encouraged. Feel free to contact me at chernandez@dadecityfl.com or 352-523-5052. We continue to move Dade City forward from better to best!

Camille

Camille Hernández, Mayor Dade City
The Dade City Police Department is proud to congratulate Chief James Walters on his completion of 25 years of dedicated service to the Dade City Police Department and the citizens of Dade City.

We are very excited to announce that Maggard Law Firm is expanding to partner with Danny Burgess. Danny is another hometown attorney with a long history of public service. An official press release will be distributed this week. Maggard and Burgess, PA looks forward to continuing to support Pasco County and the surrounding area. Welcome Danny!
Due to scheduling challenges because of COVID-19, we have made the decision to suspend Business Link meetings until January 2021.

We remain committed to our Small Business Community! Over recent months, we proudly assisted local businesses with the SBA Paycheck Protection Program. **To date, we have processed 224 PPP Loans totaling $7,296,200.** These dollars have helped to keep our neighbors employed and our local businesses open during these very difficult times. We are grateful for the opportunity to assist our communities in this way.

Should you have any questions regarding Business Services at the credit union, please contact us at businesslending@sacfcu.org

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The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy. —Martin Luther King Jr.
Dade City Monarch Butterfly Festival—CANCELLED

Unfortunately, because of the ongoing pandemic and the concerns for the health and safety of our members and the public, we are cancelling the Dade City Monarch Butterfly Festival scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2020 in Hibiscus Park in Dade City.

Stay well and safe!
Joan Hepscher, Dade City Garden Club

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Drive-thru Grocery Pickup Location Change

**Thursdays, beginning July 16 | 4-6:30pm**

**Pasco-Hernando State College**
East Campus
36727 Blanton Rd
Dade City, FL 33523

Make A Difference is assisting Feeding Tampa Bay with their Mega Food Pantry for Pasco County. We need volunteers to help us distribute food every Thursday at 3:00pm. Please sign up through Feeding Tampa Bay website or contact Make A Difference.

Find additional food resources at FeedingTampaBay.org/find-a-pantry
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Buy a Community Bag at Winn Dixie in August and we will receive $1

For the month of August, Sunrise of Pasco County will receive a $1 donation from each purchase of the $2.50 reusable Community Bag at Winn-Dixie 12649 Highway 301, Dade City FL.

Flint Creek
Online Store
Fly Fishing
Bike Sales and Repairs
Camping and Hiking
Mens and Womens Apparel

Flintcreekoutfitters.com
14233 7th St.
Dade City Fl. 33523
813 681 1588
Pasco Welcomes Baymar Solutions to the County

Baymar Solutions is investing over $2 million in the rapidly growing life sciences and manufacturing industry in Pasco County.

The Pasco Economic Development Council (Pasco EDC) is pleased to welcome Baymar Solutions to the county. Baymar Solutions is investing $2,090,000 in an existing facility off of Gunn Highway in Odessa. The company has been in business since 2006 and is expanding their operations and capabilities. They will be hiring five new employees well above the average county wage.

“Baymar Solutions is a great addition to that area of the county,” said Pasco County Commissioner Kathryn Starkey. “The Odessa and Lutz areas are quickly becoming an attractive place for many companies in the Life Sciences industry. I am excited to watch them grow their business here in Pasco.”

As the company grows, they are driving towards more in-house integration to improve quality and reduce delivery times and cost throughout their entire supply chain. They are able to produce low volume complex medical devices up to higher volume consumables produced in a cleanroom environment as well as the ability to manufacture a wide variety of products for the aerospace and defense market.

“They are adding quality, high wage jobs to the workforce in an industry our education institutions and training centers heavily focus on,” said Bill Cronin, President/CEO, Pasco EDC. “We are thrilled to welcome Baymar Solutions to the Pasco County business community.”

The company comes at a time when the Life Sciences Industry is rapidly growing in Pasco County. Baymar Solutions is unique from some of the others in its industry in that they offer a diverse engineering team with deep experience in product development, design transfer, and product optimization. With this talented team, they are able to help companies develop products with a lower cost and higher reliability that is production ready at launch.

“We are really excited that we can be a part of the incredible growth of the life sciences sector in Pasco County, especially during these challenging times. The Pasco EDC has been very helpful in connecting us with some great training incentives and helping us get settled. We are looking forward to helping Pasco continue to grow by hiring professional and highly skilled labor.” shared Andrew McCutchen, President/CEO, Baymar Solutions.
Darby Community Church

2020 has been quite the year, hasn't it? We've all been tested in new and challenging ways. Yet through all these difficulties we've seen God's grace in abundance. Despite the inconveniences posed to our work and school situations, families are spending more time together. Despite the fear that runs rampant, communities are rallying to help each another. We don't always know why bad things happen. But we do know that God has a way of turning them around for good. And we know that all the bad news in recent headlines can't compare with the timeless good news of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

Here at Darby Community Church, we've been trying to shine the light of that good news more than ever. When we temporarily stopped physical services earlier this year to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, we were still able to livestream our worship and teaching online. We ended up reaching not just our congregants but hundreds more whose churches had also stopped meeting. Thanks to the collaboration of another local church, we were able to operate a food pantry during the spring and early summer months. Providing resources to our community was especially needed in this time of economic downturn and discomfort at the grocery store. We have also been able to serve several families in our community with yard work—our Amazing crew worked through some vicious Florida heat and torrential Florida storms to get it done. We are so thankful for the volunteers that made these ministries possible!

We are also excited to remind you about Darby Christian Academy (DCA), which will still be providing on-campus classes this fall. With so much uncertainty looming over the traditional school model in the upcoming year, many families are seeking alternative education options. DCA operates on the unique community school model, which means students meet two days a week in the classroom and are homeschooled the other three days using the lesson plans created by our teachers. This is a dedicated partnership between the school and the family, blending the best of homeschooling and traditional schooling to create a new, Bible-based, affordable educational model.

For more information on our ministries & services visit www.darbycommunitychurch.com. You can also visit our Facebook page, call the office at (352)588-2440, or email us at admin@darbycommunitychurch.com. May God bless you!
Pasco-Hernando State College (PHSC), through the Continuing Workforce Education department, is now offering new hybrid exam prep classes designed to prepare students to sit for testing to become industry-certified in a variety of fields to include:

- **Certified CompTIA A+ Professional**: Sept. 1–Nov. 19, 2020 on Tues. and Thurs. from 6–9:30 p.m. & online.
- **AIPB Certified Bookkeeper Professional**: Sept. 3–Nov 19, 2020 on Thurs. from 6–9:30 p.m. and online.
- **Certified AutoCAD User**: Sept. 10–Nov. 9, 2020 on Mon. and Thurs. from 6:30–8:30 p.m. and online.

These hybrid courses, offering a combination of online and face-to-face instruction, were developed to provide technical training that directly responds to current industry demands, as well as offering an accelerated pathway to high-wage careers. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) tuition funding available through CareerSource Pasco-Hernando to qualified students.

Classes will take place on our PHSC West Campus, 10230 Ridge Road, New Port Richey 34654 as well as the East Campus, 36727 Blanton Road, Dade City, FL 33523, with most course content available online. Pasco-Hernando State College is strategically planning for a safe return for the fall semester depending on the state of COVID-19 and guidance from state and federal authorities. For any changes to the fall term format, visit phsc.edu.

For additional information on these courses, please contact Karen Strouthopoulos at 727.816.3123, or email stroutk@phsc.edu. To register and pay online, visit: phsc.edu/academics/continuing-education and select Campus based Continuing Professional Education courses.
Pasco Animal Services Achieves Service Enterprise Certification

Pasco County Animal Services (PCAS) is proud to share that it has been certified as a Service Enterprise by Points of Light, the world’s largest organization dedicated to volunteer service. Volunteers are the cornerstone of the life-saving mission at PCAS, and this achievement signifies a demonstrated ability to strategically integrate their skills, talents and time to improve the shelter’s performance.

Organizations that certify with Points of Light join the top 11 percent of nonprofits nationwide in volunteer management and organizational performance. In addition to growing their in-house volunteer program, PCAS is now a highly-recommended shelter for training opportunities.

“The Service Enterprise journey has a tremendous impact, identifying opportunities and areas of service that can benefit from the efforts of our dedicated volunteer team,” said PCAS Director Mike Shumate. “Our growth and the success of the shelter is a direct result of their generous contributions.”

For every $1 spent engaging volunteers, Pasco County Animal Services can see up to a 600 percent return on investment. PCAS offers more than 35 volunteer opportunities, and in 2019 volunteers recorded an exceptional 21,000+ hours of service.

Visit Pasco County Animal Services online at MyPasco.net/PAS to learn more about our programs, services and pets available for adoption. Keep up with the latest PCAS information by following us on Facebook. You can also see pets available for adoption on: Petango.
Drop off to Solutions Thrift Store located at 35535 State Road 52 in Dade City, Monday thru Friday 10 am-4 pm. Let the dock know that the items are for the shelter so they can set aside. Their phone number is 352-521-3000 if you want to call ahead.

SHELTER NEEDS

The items in bold are in very short supply or completely out.

Hygiene Products
Shampoo & Conditioner
   Body Wash
   Deodorant
Feminine Products
   Razors
   Q-tips
   Toothpaste

Cleaning Supplies
   All Purpose Cleaner
   Fabuloso
   Disinfectant Wipes
   Disinfectant Spray

Hair Products
   African American hair care products
   Ties
   Brushes
   Combs
   Spray
   Gel

Other
   Face Masks (store bought or handmade)
   Rain Gear
   Dish Soap
   Baby Wipes
   Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
   Aluminum Foil
   Dishwasher Detergent
   Laundry Detergent
   Air Fresheners
   Thermometers
   Benedryl
   Phone Charging Cords and Outlet Cubes
      (Especially the 911 and wifi phone micro-usb/android)
Nancy & Sydney
InQuickER Patients

“InQuickER was a savior that day.”

When Sydney came home from school, she wasn’t feeling well. She had a high fever and it wasn’t going away. So, her mom found AdventHealth’s online scheduling tool, InQuicker, and reserved an ER treatment time, making Sydney’s visit fast and easy.

Get in quicker and get out faster at an AdventHealth ER near you.

GetInQuickER.com

In case of a life-threatening emergency, call 911.
Due to the CV-19, our March 21, 2020 Dogs’ Day in Dade City had to be cancelled. So we wanted to join in with the City of Dade City in offering a fun event for family and friends to participate in a “Virtual” Dog Costume Contest which was held from June 1st thru the 22nd. We had three categories: Dog/Owner Lookalike, Cutest Costume and Most Creative Costume. Pictures were emailed by participants who could enter more than one category. We had many participants who had a great time being creative with their dog costumes, and the dogs were adorable! We appreciated the support of our participants. Please see below our three, first-place winners. Special thanks to our Dogs’ Day in Dade City Sponsors in providing door prizes for our 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention winners: Blake Veterinary Hospital, Dade City Youth Council, Dog-Mania & Cats, Farmers Feed Depot, Green Door on 8th and Granny’s Animal Camp.

Save-the-Date for our 2021 Dogs’ Day in Dade City event which will be held on Saturday, March 20th.
MENTAL HEALTH DURING COVID

Meditation is very beneficial to our mental and physical health. Now you may be thinking, I have tried to meditate before and failed or it just didn’t work for me! Well let’s try again. What have you got to lose? It’s not like you don’t have the time. Now is the perfect time! Don’t we all need to relieve some anxiety, fear, and boredom these days? I am sure by now your homes and yards are probably looking the best they ever have. So, how about focusing on another de-cluttering project, one of the mind.

How to Start
Find a quiet place to be still for a few moments each day. Silence your tv, computer, and phone. Set an alarm and start with a couple minutes. Now just breathe. Breathe in and breathe out slowly. Feel the cool sensation of the air entering and exiting your lungs. Take your time. When you really pay attention, you will notice a lovely stillness at the bottom of the exhalation.

Some find it beneficial to count their breaths in the beginning. Don’t get discouraged if your mind appears to be running rampant and you feel bombarded with an array of negative or irrelevant thoughts. This is what the brain does. It is normal. Instead of getting frustrated, be an observer of your thoughts and try not to get caught up in them, just watch them for a moment and then return focus to your breathing. This can be an interesting experiment and one of great discovery.

You don’t always have to sit in a quiet room with your legs twisted into a pretzel, although finding a relaxing location is helpful, you can practice mindfulness anywhere at anytime throughout the day. You can concentrate on what you are doing whether it is a hobby or a chore. Yes, the mind will wander like it often does, but noticing this and returning your focus to the task at hand will improve over time. Being mindful of your mind, and intentionally guiding it in a direction that is positive and beneficial to your well being is key.

Important Benefit
It is very unfortunate that many people often believe their own thoughts. So many of us find it hard to differentiate between our brain’s concoction of random thoughts and our own intentional ones. When you start to observe your thoughts and negate the ones that do not serve you, you can gain a sense of freedom and peace in knowing that you have the ability to guide them and ultimately almost every decision and action.

Don’t give up and know that your self-care is not selfish and is essential for optimal health, which is paramount during this time.
**What to Expect at the Polls in August 2020**

The unprecedented time of conducting elections during a pandemic has presented challenges to ensure the safety of my team, poll workers and the voters of Pasco County, however, there will still be three options for casting a ballot in the upcoming August 18, 2020 Primary Election. While we strongly encourage voters to consider voting by mail, in-person early voting and Election Day voting will still be available with a few added conveniences for voting by mail, and the utilization of CDC guidelines for in-person voting.

Vote-by-mail ballots may be requested at [www.PascoVotes.gov](http://www.PascoVotes.gov), by calling 1-800-851-8754, or in writing with your date of birth to PO Box 300, Dade City FL 33526. For this election cycle, voters may return their vote-by-mail ballot postage paid but should allow adequate time for delivery by the USPS. Per Florida law, vote-by-mail ballots must physically be in the elections’ office by 7:00 p.m. Election Day – not just postmarked. You can track your ballot via our website with the option to receive text/e-mail notifications when delivered to the Elections’ Office. For added convenience, curbside drop-off for vote-by-mail ballots at all 11 Early Voting sites during the early voting period, August 8 – 15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily will be available. Voters may also drop off their ballots at one of our three offices countywide through 7:00 p.m. Election Day.

Voters who choose to vote in-person should expect longer wait times due to health and safety measures being implemented at Early Voting sites and Election Day polling places. Precautions such as limiting the number of people inside the polling room and continuous cleaning of equipment and surfaces will be the main reasons for longer in-person voting experiences. Knowing this in advance, we are hoping voters will be understanding and remain patient while waiting in line. Additional planned health and safety measures include:

- Masks and/or face shields will be used by poll workers
- Single-use styli will be available for voters to sign for their ballot
- Re-usable ballot secrecy sleeves will not be required
- Hands-free 2D barcode readers will be utilized for checking-in voters with Florida Driver License and Florida ID cards
- Voters will be encouraged to use their own blue or black ballot marking pen
- Masks will be available if needed. The use of masks will be encouraged in accordance with the county directive, and may be required at some voting locations
- Social distancing will be maintained while in line outside and inside the Polling Place
- Touch points for voters and poll workers will be minimized through the implementation of cleaning surfaces, voting pens, voting machines, etc.

While we are anticipating some of our customary Election Day Polling Places will be unavailable for voting, the majority should be open as usual. If a Polling Place becomes unavailable for Election Day, we will send voters in that precinct postcard notifications via USPS, time permitting, as well as posting the changes on [www.PascoVotes.gov](http://www.PascoVotes.gov). Additionally, a notice will be placed at the former polling location and voters will receive automated text alert messages through the Pasco County Emergency Management. Early voters have the option to vote at any of the 11 early voting sites, but on Election Day, voters are statutorily required to vote at their polling place.

The message for voters during this unprecedented time is simple – let’s “Make it Work”. Plan, accordingly, and decide today which voting method you’ll use to cast your ballot in the August Primary. If you haven’t requested a Vote-by-Mail ballot, request one now. If you prefer to vote in person, plan to vote during the first four days of Early Voting. If you prefer to vote on Election Day, visit [www.PascoVotes.gov](http://www.PascoVotes.gov) before you leave home to verify your assigned Polling Place.
Our Vision: “to be the best resource to support our members and attract new business”

Why Join?
Promotion of your business
~ Links on our website - the preferred conduit for business development and tourism in our area
~ Advertising Opportunities
~ Sponsorship Packages

Awareness of your brand
~ Multimedia program partnership
~ Event participation
~ FREE Ribbon Cuttings

Introduce your business to the community

Networking with your clients
~ Interaction with potential customers
~ Business Breakfasts
~ Chamber Ambassador Opportunities
~ Events and Committees

Receive a credit of $25.00 for each new member you refer!

Our Mission: “to promote economic growth and quality of life in the Greater Dade City area.”

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Tim Yaeger
Vice President
Professional Abatement & Demolition Services
www.simpsonenv.com
Saint Leo University announces new Bachelor’s degree program:
Health Education and Health Promotion

Saint Leo University (www.saintleo.edu) announced the start of a new four-year degree—a bachelor’s in health education and health promotion—that will prepare graduates for a growing number of health education positions at community organizations, healthcare agencies, and workplaces.

Health education specialists help the public understand how to cope with health challenges they face as individuals or as concerned family members. For instance, the specialists offer instruction in healthy habits and preventative measures that can be adopted, and provide information on health care services available to the public. Health education specialists play another important role in organizations by developing new education programs for various groups, and improving education programs that may already exist.

Graduates from Saint Leo, in particular, will be educated to promote a “culture of health” wherever they work through effective teaching, through the examples they set as individuals who prioritize their own well-being, and through the cooperative working relationships they maintain with clinicians and other health professionals.

“Health education specialists are bridging an important gap between what individuals, families, and communities know and understand, and the increasing amount of knowledge available,” said Kathleen Van Eerden, PhD, RN, associate dean of Saint Leo’s College of Health Professions. The number of job openings for health educators is expected to grow nationally by 11 percent from 2018 to 2028, according to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“Saint Leo is excited to add this program as it fits so well with our university’s Catholic Benedictine tradition, which emphasizes the balanced growth of body, mind, and spirit,” said Van Eerden. “We continue to stress that lesson today. Adding this degree program is another way we can support that philosophy and provide interested students with a direct pathway into a meaningful career.”

Saint Leo is launching the Bachelor of Science program in the fall 2020 Semester at the residential campus. Faculty anticipate that students most attracted to the program will be those with a keen desire to learn about health and to engage with others, and those who enjoy working with groups of people.

The Saint Leo program will prepare them with a contemporary curriculum that draws from courses in anatomy, professional speaking, statistics, psychology, ethics, and nutrition, and layers upon those subjects courses in education and health promotion. Education courses, such as teaching diverse populations, brain-based learning, and assessing health learning, will ensure that students not only understand health material, but are able to make it understandable to future clients.

Saint Leo students themselves will learn through experiences and projects, as well as from readings and lectures conducted in small, personalized classes. During a “capstone” learning experience in their final year, students will work with a professional contact at a community agency on a project meant to help improve the health of a designated group. Afterward, they will evaluate the project’s success. The strong Saint Leo liberal arts foundation courses will help the students attain the deep reading, writing, and analytical skills they will need to progress through this challenging course of study.

There will still be room in students’ academic schedules for some elective courses, as well.

“This innovative curriculum really shows the benefit of a four-year university program for those interested in the field,” Van Eerden said. “This is where a student can become well-rounded for the needs of the profession, as well as for personal growth.”

Students will be able to transfer into the Saint Leo program from other schools, but may need to take the program’s foundational courses—including anatomy, ethics, speaking, psychology—before being able to progress into the upper-level courses.

At the end of this cohesive program of study, students can choose to take a national competency exam for the Certified Health Education Specialist credential. Some employers require the credential. In general, it is considered an asset for those in the field.

The Bachelor of Science in health education and health promotion is the first degree offering announced by the Saint Leo College of Health Professions, the university’s newest academic unit. The College of Health Professionals joins the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and Social Services, and the Tapia College of Business.
We have been a member of the Greater Dade City Chamber for many years. We believe that it is just good business to work alongside our community neighbors. The chamber represents the areas of Dade City and San Antonio, where two of our four offices are located and provide banking services. The chamber's events have continually grown and become staples for our community. We try to be involved with as many as we can. They are a wealth of information, sharing new developments via email blasts and at the monthly business breakfasts. They do a great job of representing our community to others, we are proud of this local partnership. ~San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union

When I was the director of several drug and alcohol rehab centers I wish I knew the powerful networking opportunities available within a Chamber of Commerce. Like in all businesses, marketing was costly and took up a large part of my time in order to keep our services visible in our community and in front of our referral sources such as health professionals, clinics, hospitals and employers, etc. I wish I knew then what I known now, that all those sources can be found in one place and that place is the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce. ~Frank Notarianni, Dade City, Florida

John, I just wanted to thank you and the Dade City Chamber for the leadership displayed over the last couple of weeks. With the announcement that Dade City Main Street was shutting down, there was a lot of 'uneasiness' among the retail merchants. But you stepped up immediately to reassure us all that the Chamber was more than willing to help with any gaps that might exist after the shut down. As a member for the last 16 years I am not surprised that this show of leadership was swift and immediate. The Dade City Chamber of Commerce is the arm that reaches out for all the small businesses that are unable to do this alone. The business climate in Dade City today is strong and vibrant and I believe the major contributor for this success is the Dade City Chamber. Again, thanks for all you do. ~Jim Hendry, A Matter of Taste

San Antonio Antiques applauds the Dade City Chamber of Commerce for its year-round promotion of local businesses and community events that have positive impact on small business owners like myself. I appreciate all the networking and marketing opportunities available to Chamber Members. ~John Herrmann, Proprietor, San Antonio Antiques

Jarrett Ford has been a proud sponsor of the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce's Annual Kumquat Festival since it's inception 22 years ago in 1998. It fills our city's streets with many visitors and many potential future patrons to our community. They see how unique we are here in east Pasco County with our eclectic community of restaurants and shops and friendly people. We’re looking forward to another exciting year with another successful festival. ~Cliff Martin, Vice President / General Manager Jarrett Ford, Inc.

John, thank you for working with us on the 2016 Annual Kumquat Festival! Trusted Senior Care’s “Westbrooke Manor” believes being part of the Annual Kumquat Festival® is critical to successfully doing business in East Pasco. You and your team are doing superior work! ~Trusted Senior Care, Inc.

“The East Pasco Democratic Club has utilized the services of several of our fellow Chamber members for items we needed - from t-shirts to a vinyl sign - and found the services great and the quality of the items ordered top-notch. We look at the directory first to see if we can find what we need from our fellow Chamber members. Our goal is to shop Dade City first! and to support the Greater Dade City Chamber.” ~East Pasco Democratic Club
We are so excited to welcome our new members The Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce! At the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce their mission is to promote economic growth & quality of life in the Greater Dade City area. The Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce has been operating as a successful trade association organization for over 50 years and now represents over 430 business, associations, non-profits and individuals throughout Pasco County. Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce, we are so thankful for your support! For more information about this great organization please feel free to visit http://www.dadecitychamber.org/index.cfm. ~The Thomas Promise

There are two words that I cannot say enough and those two words are “Thank You”. I hope the three of you truly know how much you helped me in “2016” AND “2017” has already started off with a bang! If it were not for your support and friendship I would not have been able to help make all the “Littles” dreams come true by helping find them a “Big Brother” or “Big Sister” in Pasco County – You never know who has made the decision to make a difference in someone’s life and by your mere act of kindness that you have shared with me time and time again by sharing our mission and event dates you definitely had a direct impact on the success of my efforts. Just think - What if every child reached their potential? What if every child stayed in school? What if every child gave back to the community? What if every child was sent on the right path? Our mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. Just a little bit of time can make a BIG difference. Once again, “Thank you” Jo, Mel & John for all you do to help make Pasco County such a special place to live and share our lives. ~Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay

“I have been very pleased with the effective communication and outreach efforts of the Greater Dade City Chamber. As the president of Galen College of Nursing for the Tampa Bay region, I find the meetings and events helpful as I navigate the business climate in our numerous surrounding counties that my college serves. Thanks for all you do!” ~Galen College of Nursing, Tampa Bay Region Saint Petersburg FL

“Thank you for hosting the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce Breakfast! I saw some people that needed to contact me later that day and some new folks that I will be collaborating with later this Fall. Thank you for providing this forum to allow such great networking opportunities!” ~Ahmy S. Arca, Pasco-Hernando State College East Campus

Thank you so much John, Mel and Jo for the many years you have worked with the Dade City Garden Club to market and sell our Historic Dade City Ornaments. In 1994 when we produced our first ornament, the Pasco County Courthouse, the Chamber was there to help us. You have continued over the years to sell our ornaments and you have many loyal customers that would only buy their annual ornament at the Chamber. It is the Garden Clubs main yearly fund raiser and your efforts are critical to our success. We are a non-profit organization and all the money is used to maintain our historic building and grounds. It is not an easy job for you and we appreciate your dedication and continued support all these years. ~Members of the Dade City Garden Club

"If you are serious about business, get serious about joining the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce. The place where serious business owners discuss serious business with other serious business owners. Time to get serious." ~Steven D. Hickman, President & CEO First National Bank of Pasco
Member Testimonials Continued..

Being 13 year member/supporter of our Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce I have gained countless relationships with those in my community. Visibility is key in establishing community connections while promoting your business. The networking opportunities are endless through the Chamber, and there’s no better way to promote your business because it’s “free marketing” and people do business with people they know. Our Greater Dade City Chamber offers many programs and events throughout the year as a way to give back to the community and business owners who supports the Chamber. Joining The Chamber is great. A business receives many benefits visibly and behind the scenes. However, joining only gets you so far. Participating is the true key to receiving the benefits of chamber membership. Being a member of the Chamber only works for you if you participate in what the Chamber has to offer to help you succeed in business and community connectivity. To sum it up, our Greater Dade City Chamber is the very “Best” when it comes to promoting, representing and supporting our community and its local businesses.

~Bonnie Krummen, CenterState Bank VP/Branch Manager - Dade City office

I became employed in the Dade City area at Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club in Feb. of 2014. Moving here from Western Colorado I had no connection with the community or the surrounding area. In the spring of 2015 I joined the chamber’s golf committee for the Dade City Chamber’s annual Joe Kiefer Golf Tournament held at Lake Jovita. That opened the door for me to get involved and meet many of the local business leaders. Since that first year, my career has moved me from the Golf Pro Staff into the General Manager Position overseeing 100+ employees, maintaining 500+ acres, and a full service restaurant at Lake Jovita G&CC and the connect with the community and area businesses has been crucial to the success myself and Lake Jovita is experiencing. The Chamber was the gateway to those relationships and the business to business workings that help every aspect of Lake Jovita G&CC.

~Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club

We appreciate your testimonials and kind words, thank you!

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