

Wednesday's Daily Pulse

What you need to know about Florida today

| 12/26/2018

The Panhandle may be the next citrus-growing region

There's a humble copse of 18 trees that recently got planted at an agricultural research station in Jay. It's an experiment into whether Florida's iconic crop can migrate up to the Panhandle. It's also the result of an agricultural agent's migration, from a suburb where farming was losing a battle against urban encroachment to a place where he believes production agriculture has a better chance of long-term viability. [Source: [Crestview Bulletin](#)]

Rick Scott, Florida Job Growth Grant Fund sends \$29 million to projects across state

Now in the final weeks of his governorship, Gov. Rick Scott announced at the end of last week that he was sending more than \$29 million from the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund to programs across the Sunshine State. More from [Florida Politics](#) and [WUSF](#).

Remembrance: He founded a fruit company and helped revive UM basketball

On any given day through the 1960s and '70s, Irving and Ruth Karp could be found at their business, Carnival Fruit, chatting with customers as the couple sold oranges for a penny apiece. Their successful produce company stood as a community staple for decades, its colorful trucks circling Miami's streets. After they sold the company, the Karps turned to philanthropy, donating tens of thousands of dollars to the University of Miami and other organizations. [Source: [Miami Herald](#)]

Florida CEOs discuss their top workforce challenges for 2019

CEOs were asked: Heading into 2019, what do you see as the three biggest challenges for your company's workforce? Brett Beveridge, CEO and founder of The Revenue Optimization Companies says, "With unemployment now in the vicinity of 3.9 percent, merely competing for great talent is a monumental undertaking." [Source: [Miami Herald](#)]

How the government shutdown is affecting South Florida

With the federal government in a partial government shutdown since late Friday, the impact in South Florida is being felt, but in a limited way. Unless you are an employee of the federal government who has been furloughed, the biggest impact can be seen at recreational facilities. [Source: [South Florida Sun-Sentinel](#)]

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