

Players



► **Andrea Massey-Farrell**, senior vice president at pest-control company Massey Services, will be the next chairwoman of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce.

Business Briefs

CAPE CANAVERAL – A **SpaceX** rocket carrying a satellite for Facebook exploded on the launch pad. No one was hurt.

CLERMONT – **USA Canoe/Kayak** will hold its 2017 national championship at the city's Waterfront Park on Lake Minneola.

COCOA BEACH – **Cross-Brands Manufacturing** will open a 75,000-sq.-ft. facility to resume production of Sea & Ski sunblock, once the top-selling suntan lotion in the country.

LAKE MARY – **Faro Technologies**, which develops 3-D measurement technology, bought

Londonberry, N.H.-based Laser Protection Technologies. ► **AT&T** leased 30,000 square feet of office space to house 180 employees.

LONGWOOD – Winter Park-based developer Alexander Investments International is redeveloping a **long-abandoned community golf course** into a 286-unit apartment complex.

OCOE – City commissioners approved a site plan for a large **mixed-use project** that will include a hotel, nearly 300 condo units and more than 170,000 square feet of retail space.

ORANGE COUNTY – **Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando and SeaWorld Orlando** began dis-

tributing free insect repellent to visitors amid rising concerns about the Zika virus. Meanwhile, Disney World will drain and fill in a 330,000-gallon pool at its River Country water park, abandoned since Disney closed it in 2002.

ORLANDO – Los Angeles-based video game designer **Particle City**, which is backed by Respawn Entertainment,

plans to open an Orlando studio, which will develop a series of mobile games around the Titanfall franchise. The company says it expects to create 17 jobs over the next three years. ► The **University of Central Florida** pushed back the planned opening of its downtown campus by one year, to August 2019.

Meanwhile, the university's private fundraising foundation set a goal of raising \$500 million — some of which will pay for the downtown campus — by June 2019. ► **Ronald McDonald House** opened an \$8-million home adjacent to Nemours Children's Hospital, the charity's third housing facility in Orlando.

► **Asurion**, a Nashville-based insurer of mobile devices, opened a 50,000-sq.-ft. call center in Orlando with plans to hire 350 employees.

SEMINOLE COUNTY – After a successful citizens' petition drive, county commissioners approved new regulations for **greyhound tracks**, including mandatory injury reporting, disposal reporting and animal licensing. The county has one track: Penn National Gaming's Sanford Orlando Kennel Club.

SUMTER COUNTY – State economists expect the county's total **taxable property value** will grow by nearly 55% over the next five years, the fastest rate in the state.

WINTER GARDEN – A developer plans to build a **three-story building** with apartments and commercial space in the small city's burgeoning downtown area. **FI**



Innovation

Destiny with an Asteroid

On Sept. 8, NASA launched the Lockheed Martin-built OSIRIS-REx spacecraft, which will make a seven-year round-trip journey to a mountain-sized asteroid called Benu. If all goes as planned, OSIRIS-REx will make contact with Benu for about five seconds in order to collect samples of dust and other material. The probe will then fly home to Earth so the samples can be analyzed by scientists. Researchers hope the tests will shed more light on the origins of the Earth.

