

A+ Geeks Vie for Cash Prize & Trophy in Margate

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Margate News

By Mitchell Pellecchia

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They are the figurative construction workers of new. Building fiber optic networks, maintaining vital infrastructure and helping to house and keep safe Internet populations around the globe. They're today's [A+ Certified IT](#) professionals and they're competing at Saveology headquarters in Margate for a thousand bucks Tuesday.

The Tech Factor – a live game show that starts at 6 pm, challenges dynamic IT duos from area colleges to answer questions posed by a panel of information technology experts - increasingly difficult queries designed to reveal contestants' ability to install and troubleshoot complex digital networks.

"I expect this to be a high-energy event that will be a lot of fun," said Saveology CEO, Benzion Aboud. "We're excited to see what kind of IT talent is coming out of local schools and which students can rise to the Tech Factor Challenge."

Demand is on the rise for IT jobs* and there's no end in sight. In fact, with IT giants like [MyTechHelp](#), [Teleperformance](#), [Global Response](#) and [Saveology](#) employing thousands of tech-savvy professionals in the city, there's a better chance of landing an IT job in Margate than in construction, retail or hospitality. Recent job fairs at MyTechHelp and Saveology have attracted hundreds of applicants looking for top jobs in e-commerce sales and marketing, network support and business development, said corporate communications specialist, Evan Nierman.

Associate Dean of IT at Keiser University, Robert L. Frank, said his school's Tech Factor team has been preparing diligently and is hungry to win the competition.

They're psyched and can't wait to play. Our curriculum is very competitive here at Keiser and this is our chance to prove it," Frank said.

Though the interest level among Keiser IT students to participate in Tech Factor was high, and many were qualified to play, the school narrowed it down to a single team of two based on multiple criteria.

ITT Tech in Deerfield Beach, competing opposite Keiser in *Tech Factor*, said they're sending two of their best and brightest to beat the school and others in the area's premiere IT showdown.

"This is an awesome opportunity for us to flex our knowledge," said ITT Tech Factor team Captain, Daniel Miranda, 44, one of the first enrolled at the school's Deerfield campus which opened in December. "We had t-shirts made and students and teachers from ITT will be there to cheer us on."

As more companies rely on newer, faster Internet technologies, mobile networks and user-friendly software to sustain operations at all levels, jobs in IT are expected to grow faster than most careers through 2020, [reports the Bureau of](#)

[Labor Statistics](#). Opportunities in IT will continue to expand and events like Tuesday's Tech Factor Challenge will gain in popularity, in particular among IT employers that want to mobilize a highly-skilled workforce.

"As a local company which relies on having strong technology expertise, we are really looking forward to hosting this event," Aboud said.

What: Tech Factor Challenge. Local colleges compete in A+ CompTIA proficiencies.

When: Tuesday, June 19, 2012. Event starts at 6 pm.

Where: Saveology Campus in Margate, 5259 Coconut Creek Parkway Margate, Florida 33063

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**U.S. Census figures indicate 12.3 percent of Florida IT jobs are located in the Fort Lauderdale MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area)*
