



# On the Economic Scene



A weekly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Department of Economic Development

May 18, 2015

ONLINE VERSION AT [FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG](http://FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG)

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**DAYTONA BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TRAFFIC INCREASES 1 PERCENT IN APRIL** -- Passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport increased 1 percent in April compared with April, 2014. During April, 60,939 passengers arrived and departed through the county-operated airport. This compares with the 60,152 travelers recorded last April. For the 12 months ending April 30, 635,489 passengers traveled through the airport, compared with 614,947 recorded for the prior 12 months, a 3 percent increase.

**RED CROSS OFFERS EMERGENCY INFO MOBILE APP** -- A mobile app offered by the Red Cross combines more than 35 severe weather and emergency alerts providing real-time, customizable information. The app provides disaster updates and what to do before, during and after an emergency. Go to: [redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps](http://redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps).

**FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE FOR CITRUS GREENING** -- The USDA has made financial assistance available to eligible Florida citrus growers for the removal and replanting of trees afflicted with citrus greening. The USDA has expanded the Tree Assistance Program to allow Florida producers to remove and replace trees as they decline for up to six years. For information, go to: [fsa.usda.gov/factsheets](http://fsa.usda.gov/factsheets) or [usa.gov/pYV3](http://usa.gov/pYV3).

**BUSINESS INCUBATION CONFERENCE SET FOR DAYTONA BEACH** -- The Florida Business Incubation Spring Conference will be May 28 - 29 at the UCF Business Incubator in Daytona Beach. The two-day summit will feature discussions of best practices, emerging trends, and resources for entrepreneurs and emerging businesses. For information go to: [fbiaonline.org](http://fbiaonline.org).

**COUNTY ECONOMIC BRIEFINGS CALENDAR ANNOUNCED** -- For planning purposes, the Volusia County Economic Development Division has announced the dates for the year's remaining quarterly briefings. The briefings will be August 7 and November 6 at 7:45 a.m. in the Volusia Room at Daytona Beach International Airport.

**U.S. ENERGY IMPORTS, EXPORTS PROJECTED TO BALANCE** -- According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, U.S. energy imports and exports are projected to balance for the first time since the 1950s. Crude oil price scenarios project continued gains in oil and natural gas production, growth in the use of renewables and slow growth in energy demand. For information, go to: [eia.gov/pressroom/releases/press420.cfm](http://eia.gov/pressroom/releases/press420.cfm).

**SEMINAR ON FINANCING FOR HOME-BASED BUSINESSES** -- The local SCORE chapter will present a free seminar May 28 from 6 - 8 p.m. on home-based business financing. The workshop will cover how lenders view the business, what business factors lenders look for, and understanding business loans for home-based business. The session will be at the business incubator at Daytona Beach International Airport. To register go to: [score87.org](http://score87.org) or call 386-255-6889.

**WEBINAR TO COVER STRONG DOLLAR EXPORT STRATEGIES** -- The strong U.S. dollar makes exports more expensive for buyers in other countries. A free webinar will review ways to adjust sales strategy in response to the stronger dollar, and the best trade finance solutions for foreign clients. For information or to register go to: [attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7866323266136794881](http://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7866323266136794881).

**VOLUSIA COUNTY HOUSEHOLD SIZE STEADY AS POPULATION GROWS** -- Volusia County's 2015 average household size is forecast to be 2.31, according to the current ESRI Business Analyst Market Profile. This would be unchanged from the 2000 and 2010 Census results. In the 2000 - 2015 period, the forecast shows population growth from 443,343 to 506,494, a 14.2 percent increase. The number of housing units grew 23.6 percent, from 211,938 to 261,882. The forecast for 2020, projects household size to remain the same, with population increasing 3 percent to 521,743 and housing units also growing 3 percent to 269,719 units.

**NEWS ITEMS WANTED!** -- Please send your business news items to Dave Byron, Volusia County Community Services Department Director, at [dbyron@volusia.org](mailto:dbyron@volusia.org). If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.