



# On the Economic Scene



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

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

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**DAYTONA BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PASSENGER TRAFFIC EVEN IN MAY** -- Passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport remained steady during May. During the month, 60,356 passengers flew in or out of the county-operated airport compared with 60,551 passengers last May. For the 12 months ending May 31, passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport increased 2 percent -- from 620,572 passengers last year to 634,902 this year.

**HISPANIC CHAMBER PLANNING TRADE MISSION TO CUBA** -- The Volusia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is planning a trade mission to Cuba November 1 - 8. For information go online to: [trade.volusia.me/](http://trade.volusia.me/).

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON CUBA EXPORT REGS** -- On January 16, 2015, the Bureau of Industry and Security amended export regulations to reflect changes in U.S. foreign policy toward Cuba. For information go online to: [bis.doc.gov/index.php/policy-guidance/country-guidance/sanctioned-destinations/cuba](http://bis.doc.gov/index.php/policy-guidance/country-guidance/sanctioned-destinations/cuba).

**U.S. BIRTH RATE RISING AGAIN** -- The number of children born in the U.S. increased in 2014 for the first time since the Great Recession. This is a sign that Americans, especially women, may be feeling financially stable enough to start a family. According to a National Center for Health Statistics study, the number of births and the fertility rate in the U.S. increased 1 percent in 2014, the first rise since 2007.

**SBA LAUNCHES SERVICE FOR DEAF ENTREPRENEURS** -- The Small Business Administration (SBA) and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) last week launched a video phone service for entrepreneurs with hearing deficiencies. The new American Sign Language (ASL) customer support line uses video phone technology to connect callers with staff fluent in ASL. Go on line to: [youtube.com/watch?v=MCb6Mj8Uyhk](http://youtube.com/watch?v=MCb6Mj8Uyhk).

**HOME SALES RISING NATIONALLY** -- According to the National Association of Realtors, existing home sales increased 5.1 percent to an annual rate of 5.35 million units, the highest level since November 2009.

**VMA MANUFACTURERS SHOWCASE REGISTRATION UNDERWAY** -- Registration is underway for sponsors and exhibitors at VMA's next manufacturers showcase, the ninth annual. To register e-mail [jessica.lovatt@VMAonline.com](mailto:jessica.lovatt@VMAonline.com), call 904-228-1288 or go online to: [vmaonline.com](http://vmaonline.com).

**WORKSHOP ON LEGAL, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESS** -- The local SCORE chapter is presenting a free workshop on legal and insurance requirements for businesses. The workshop is July 9 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the business incubator at Daytona Beach International Airport. To register go online to: [score87.org](http://score87.org) or call 386-255-6889.

**PLASTICS MATERIALS, MACHINERY EXPORTS GUIDE AVAILABLE** -- The 2015 Plastics Materials and Machinery Export Guide, a reference for U.S. exporters in the plastics industry, is available through the U.S. Commercial Service. Go online to: [export.gov/build/groups/public/@eg\\_main/@byind/@manufind/documents/webcontent/eg\\_main\\_081772.pdf](http://export.gov/build/groups/public/@eg_main/@byind/@manufind/documents/webcontent/eg_main_081772.pdf).

**FREE DISASTER PLANNING HELP AVAILABLE** -- The Florida MEP Disaster Recovery can provide free assistance to business owners with the creation of a communications and emergency plan that will include identification of key personnel, suppliers, processes, essential materials, safeguarding assets and important data, and emergency preparedness training. For information call 321-939-4000.

**ACADEMY READIES STUDENTS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ROBOTICS CAREERS** -- The Information Technology and Robotics Career Academy at Spruce Creek High prepares students for information technology, robotics, simulation and game design careers. For information, email Dru Urquhart at [dhurquha@volusia.12k.fl.us](mailto:dhurquha@volusia.12k.fl.us).

**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.