



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

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS SHOULD INCLUDE FAMILY MEETING PLACE -- A family emergency preparedness plan should include a meeting place where everyone should gather during or after an event. For additional hurricane preparedness information, go online to: volusia.org/services/public-protection/emergency/management. During a storm, storm status, maps, and other valuable information will be available on this site. Residents can sign up for the First Call emergency notification program to receive notices as they are issued.

DBIA PASSENGER TRAFFIC DOWN IN JULY -- Passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport decreased 7 percent in July compared with July, 2014. During the month 53,431 passengers flew in or out of the airport compared to 57,397 passengers last July. For the 12 months ending July 31, total passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport remains up slightly year over year – from 627,788 passengers last year to 629,326 passengers this year.

MASSIVE ONLINE COURSES AN OPTION FOR SELF IMPROVEMENT -- In recent years, massive open online courses (MOOC) have become a popular option for low cost, distance education, especially since many courses are self-paced and free. A good place to start is the nonprofit edX web site edx.org/how-it-works, which offers courses from partner universities including Cornell, Harvard, Purdue, MIT, Dartmouth, Cooper Union and Columbia.

ACADEMY PREPARES STUDENTS FOR AGRISCIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS – The Agritechnology and Environmental Resources Academy at New Smyrna Beach High School prepares students for careers in agriscience and environmental fields. The curriculum is hands-on, project-based and includes working on a FFA farm, growing sea oats and mangroves, participating in the county and state fairs, raising livestock, and competing in state and national conventions. For information e-mail Beth Harper at eaharper@volusia.k12.fl.us or call 386-424-2555, extension 38601.

MANUFACTURING FAST-TRACK PROGRAM STARTS SEPTEMBER 14 -- The Center for Business and Industry at Daytona State College and CareerSource Flagler/Volusia are offering the fast-track program in manufacturing. The program includes certified production technician training, NIMS training, hands-on training, and internships. The program starts September 14. For information contact William Howe at 386-506-3379 or email at howed@daytonastate.edu.

LOCAL CHAMBER HEADS TRADE MISSION TO CUBA -- The Volusia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is leading a trade mission to Havana November 1 - 5. The mission will feature round-table communication with entrepreneurs, economists and educators, and the Havana International Business Fair (FIHAV). The mission is open to local companies. For information and registration go online to: trade.volusia.me/.

COMMERCIAL BOAT SHOW DECEMBER 1 - 3 IN NEW ORLEANS -- The International WorkBoat Show December 1 - 3 in New Orleans highlights commercial marine manufacturers, boat builders, distributors and service providers. For information go online to: business.usa.gov/events/international-workboat-show-2015.

WORKSHOPS ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING -- The government procurement process will be the topic of two free workshops that will feature presentations by Volusia County Government's director of purchasing and contracts and the assistant director and PTAC program manager for the Florida Small Business Development Center. The workshops will be September 18 at 9 a.m. at the Volusia County administration center in DeLand and September 25 at Daytona Beach International Airport. For information contact Leigh Shapleigh at lshapleigh@volusia.org or 386-248-8048.

DBK ON FASTEST GROWING COMPANY LIST -- Inc. magazine has ranked DBK Inc., DeBary, 687 on its list of the 5,000 fastest-growing companies in America. The average company on the list had a three-year growth of 490 percent and the companies combined generated 647,000 jobs. To view the list go online to: inc.com/inc5000.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED – Please send your business news items to Dave Byron, Volusia County Community Services Department Director, at dbyron@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.