



On the Economic Scene



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

November 16, 2015

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

AIRPORT TRAFFIC UP IN OCTOBER -- Passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport increased 5 percent in October. During the month 49,527 passengers flew in or out of the county-operated airport, compared to 47,075 passengers last October. For the 12 months ending October 31, passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport is down less than 1 percent – from 628,240 passengers last year compared to 624,746 passengers this year.

MORE THAN 100 ATTEND VMA MANUFACTURING BUS TOUR -- More than 100 school and career counselors recently participated in the first VMA Manufacturing Champions Bus Tour. The tour was to build awareness of local manufacturers and the career opportunities for people with all levels of skills and education. The participants toured several local manufacturing plants and met with human resource directors from manufacturing companies.

EXPORT MISSION TO KOREA, TAIWAN -- Enterprise Florida will lead an export mission to Korea and Taiwan April 15 - 23. South Korea is the United States' sixth largest trading partner. Taiwan is the third largest trading partner. Small and mid-sized Florida manufacturers and professional service providers may qualify for a Gold Key grant, which will offset the matchmaking fee for the first company representative. A separate application process is required for this grant. For information, call Leigh Shapleigh or Virgil Kimball at Volusia County Economic Development at 386-248-8048.

ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE DECEMBER 10 -- More than 3,000 students are enrolled in the 34 career academies in Volusia high schools. The Volusia school system will host the 10th Annual High School Showcase December 10 from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Volusia County Fairgrounds/Tommy Lawrence Arena. A booklet for the 2016-17 school year will be available along with applications for career academy and International Baccalaureate programs. For information call Dr. Kristin Pierce at 386-734-7190 x20642.

TECHNOLOGY SHOW IN GERMANY -- CeBIT, the world's largest technology expo, is March 16 - 20 in Hanover, Germany, with 3,500 companies from 70 countries registered, 92 percent buyers. CeBIT focuses on business-to-business and includes IT equipment and components, software, internet, mobile, telecommunication and digital business solutions. For information, call Volusia County Economic Development at 386-248-8048.

CAREER SOURCE OFFERS NEW SKILLS ASSESSMENT SYSTEM -- CareerSource Flagler|Volusia (CSFV) now offers KeneXa's Prove It! Assessment, a skills testing and pre-employment program that evaluates jobseeker competencies and occupational skills. The program can provide skills assessment in 1,500 fields including clerical, software, technical, call center, industrial, financial, legal and medical. For information go online to: businessservices@careersourcefv.com.

FOUR ENTRY LEVEL CAREER CHOICES THAT ARE WORTH CONSIDERING -- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are four associate's degree, entry level occupations that offer growing demand, good job availability and in 2012 paid a median salary between \$35,000 - \$54,999. They are occupational therapy assistants, physical therapy assistants, medical and clinical laboratory technicians, and cardiovascular technologists and technicians. For information go online to: bls.gov/ooh/occupation-finder.htm.

VENTURE CAPITALISTS LIKE UTAH, BUT FLORIDA RANKS FIRST -- Venture capital firms invested \$801 million across 43 deals in Utah in 2014, according to a MoneyTree survey. At \$18.6 million per deal, the average investment is second highest behind only Florida and the per capita investment is third behind California and Massachusetts.

OVERALL, UTAH BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS -- Utah leads Forbes' ranking of the Best States for Business for the second straight year and fifth time since 2010 (Virginia ranked first in 2013). Forbes' 10th annual Best States ranking considers business costs, labor supply, regulatory environment, economic climate, growth prospects and quality of life. Business costs, which include labor, energy and taxes, carry the most weight.

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.

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