



On the Economic Scene Make it Volusia

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

January 15, 2018

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

VOLUSIA COUNTY QUARTERLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING – The next quarterly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Economic Development Division will be held at 7:45 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9, in the Dennis R. McGee Room at Daytona Beach International Airport. For more information, call [386-248-8048](tel:386-248-8048).

DEVELOP YOUR FINANCIAL SKILLS INTO A POWERFUL ASSET FOR YOUR BUSINESS – The Volusia's Best Program at Daytona State College will present an important business seminar in February and March: Develop Your Financial Skills into a Powerful Asset for Your Business. This course will help you understand the dollars-and-cents-language of business financials and how to leverage them to maximize your potential. Executive adviser and trainer Jeff Badovick has been the founder and CEO of several successful ventures and raised more than \$25 million in capital throughout his career. The course will cover key topics including the workings of finance and accounting, financial planning, funding, leveraging working capital, and risk assessment. The course will take place from 8 to 11 a.m. on Thursdays, Feb. 8 and 22 and March 1 and 8 at Daytona State College, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Building 150, Room 305. The fee is \$95. Reservations are required; contact Tracy at 386-506-4723 or Tracy.Martin@DaytonaState.edu.

HEALTH SERVICES ACADEMY – The Health Services Academy at Deltona High School prepares students for careers in health care. Through strong partnerships with the local health care community, students participate in intensive medical preparation combined with career-related and core academics. Academy students take part in a unique learning environment that prepares them for direct entry and/or post-secondary preparation in this growing industry. For more information, email Academy Director Brandy Meadows at bemeadow@volusia.k12.fl.us.

AIRPORT TRAFFIC UP 3 PERCENT IN NOVEMBER – Passenger traffic at Daytona Beach International Airport increased 3.3 percent for November in comparison with the same month last year. During the month, 56,512 passengers flew in or out of the county-operated airport, compared to 54,732 passengers last November. For the 12 months ending Nov. 30, total passenger traffic at DAB increased 3 percent with 699,912 passengers traveling through the facility last year compared to 721,136 passengers this year.

NEW IFAS REPORT – For 2015, Florida's agricultural, natural resources and food industries provided \$132.04 billion in value-added contributions to the state's economy, an increase of 2.6 percent over 2014, according to a study released last month by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. When adjusted for inflation, this statistic has seen an average increase of 2.3 percent every year since 2009. Similarly, Florida had 2.27 million full-time and part-time jobs directly and indirectly connected to agricultural, natural resources and food industries, an increase of 2.8 percent from 2014. Since 2009, this statistic has seen an annual average increase of 3.2 percent. These statistics reflect a steady post-recession recovery. The 2015 increases can be credited to numerous factors including the state's recent population growth and the increased building construction activity that comes with it.

SMALL BUSINESS WAGE AND EMPLOYMENT TRENDS – The Small Business Jobs Index report, a study by human resources company Paychex and information provider IHS Markit, shows that U.S. small-business employment dropped 0.78 percent for the year. Tennessee, Washington state and Florida had the strongest performance in small-business job growth, year-over-year, with small business wages in Florida increasing 2.7 percent to \$23.83. Overall hourly earnings increased 2.76 percent since last year and averaged a growth rate of 2.85 percent for 2017, up from 2.75 percent in 2016. The Paychex / IHS Markit Small Business Employment Watch report analyzes the payroll data of about 350,000 Paychex clients to gauge small-business wage and employment trends on a national, regional, state, metro and industry basis. Details are available at www.paychex.com/employment-watch/#/.

RANKINGS THAT MATTER – The State of Florida reached the Top 10 in three of Site Selection magazine's "Rankings that Matter." In their "State of the States – 2018" report, an annual compendium of data considered significant by global corporate location decision-makers, Florida was ranked No. 1 in fiscal condition, No. 4 in business tax climate, and No. 8 in higher education research and development expenditure. For more information, visit <http://siterelection.com/issues/2018/jan/cover.cfm>.

FUTURE OF EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE – The Future of Education Technology Conference (FETC), which opens Jan. 23, is the leading resource for education technology with more than 400 expert- and peer-led sessions and workshops, 500 technology suppliers and providers, and 8,000 attendees from more than 40 countries. FETC offers a wealth of information for all education professionals – teachers, principals and deans, district administrators, curriculum designers, media specialists, technology directors and others. This is your once-a-year opportunity to discover the resources, ideas and solutions that drive excellence in all areas of the curriculum, from pre-K to 12th grade and beyond. For conference details, go to <https://shar.es/1FgzdY>.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information director, at imagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.