



On the Economic Scene Make it Volusia

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

January 22, 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. Bernie McShea, vice president of business development for Space Florida, will be the featured speaker. For more information, call 386-248-8048.

2017 BEST PERFORMING CITIES – The Milken Institute has released its 2017 U.S. index of best-performing cities. The annual report ranks 200 metropolitan areas using metrics based on job creation, wage gains and technology developments to evaluate relative growth. The Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area was ranked 46th in 2017, a significant improvement from last year's ranking of 69. Florida fared well, placing five entries among the top 30 in the country. To view the full report and results on an interactive map, visit <http://best-cities.org/>.

ENGINEERING ACADEMY – The Academy at DeLand High School prepares students for careers in engineering, manufacturing and technical design through the integration of math and science concepts, real-world problems, and software applications. The academy uses Amatrol industry-standard equipment and an integrated curriculum to connect various areas and levels of manufacturing. These include quality assurance, design and manufacturing processes, electrical systems, and fluid power. This program culminates with a semester-long internship working in local industry. Contact Academy Director Peter Policke at pwpolick@volusia.k12.fl.us.

THE AMERICAN DREAM ACHIEVED – The Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach MSA has been designated a Top 10 metropolitan area in achievement of the American Dream. Using survey responses to the 35 dimensions in Xavier University's American Dream Composite Index, Burgland, LLC, identified the top states and metropolitan areas where residents express statistically higher levels of life satisfaction than the average person in America. To read more, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yb4ophac>.

TRILLION DOLLAR ECONOMY – The Florida Chamber Foundation – Florida's nonpartisan, business-led, nonprofit research organization – expects Florida to become a \$1 trillion economy by the end of 2018. Officials noted that Florida's economy is already larger than Saudi Arabia is and is preparing to overtake Mexico's spot in the global economy in the coming years. The foundation also projects that Florida will create 180,000 jobs across the state in 2018 – outpacing the U.S. economy in job growth for the eighth year in a row.

DAYTONA 500 RACE PARKING – It's time to buy your parking space at Daytona Beach International Airport for the upcoming Daytona 500 on Sunday, Feb. 18. Airport parking spaces are conveniently located adjacent to the speedway. To make reservations, go to <https://vats.municipalcitationsolutions.com/events/>.

BICYCLES ON A ROLL – U.S. bike commuting has grown 47 percent nationwide and 73 percent in the largest cities over a 10-year period, according to www.peopleforbikes.org. Americans reportedly spend \$81 billion on biking annually, generating 770,000 jobs nationwide. In addition to pedal-powered bikes, e-bikes have become very popular and can be pedaled without electric power or with electric power to assist. Sales of e-bikes are expected to hit close to 50 million units in 2018.

COMPLETE LIST OF INTERNET PROVIDERS – BroadBandNow.com offers an online tool to search by zip code for a complete list of internet providers. The site provides a list of residential, business and mobile service with statistics such as consumer rating, coverage, fastest speed and pricing for each. The search also provides download speeds for each option, broadband statistics for that geographic area, and a competition map. Publicly funded internet access points are also listed.

SUNBIZ.ORG BUSINESS RESOURCES – The Florida Department of State's Division of Corporations serves as the state's official business entity index. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week through Sunbiz.org. As the first stop for starting or staying in business in Florida, it is also an excellent resource for locating businesses operating in the Sunshine State. The guide covers the documents and registrations required by the Florida Division of Corporations. For more information, visit www.sunbiz.org.

DAB SKY DOLLAR DI\$COUNT – Park for three days, get one day free at Daytona Beach International Airport, with a consecutive three-day minimum. Get the coupon at <http://www.flydaytonafirst.com/parking-directions/parking-promotions.stml>.

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