



# On the Economic Scene



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

October 24, 2016

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

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**QUARTERLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING** -- The next quarterly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Economic Development Division is scheduled for 7:45 a.m. Friday, Nov. 4, in the Dennis R. McGee Room on the second floor of Daytona Beach International Airport. John Hoblick, president of the Florida Farm Bureau, will be the featured speaker. For more information, call [386-248-8048](tel:386-248-8048).

**NEW SBA TOOL** -- The U.S. Small Business Administration now offers the SizeUp business tool to help business owners grow their business. The tool allows owners to benchmark their business against competitors; map customers, competitors and suppliers; and locate the best places to advertise. To get started, visit [www.sba.gov/tools/sizeup](http://www.sba.gov/tools/sizeup) and select an industry and the city where your business is located.

**U.S. EXIM BANK REOPENS FOR BUSINESS IN ARGENTINA** -- The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM), recently announced its resumption of short- and medium-term financing in Argentina after being closed to sovereign transactions for more than 15 years. The opening reflects an improved economic and financial environment in Argentina. Overall, EXIM approved \$12.4 billion in authorizations for fiscal year 2015. These authorizations supported an estimated \$17 billion in U.S. export sales and 109,000 U.S. jobs. Small business exporters can discover how EXIM products can empower them to increase foreign sales by visiting [www.exim.gov/get-started](http://www.exim.gov/get-started).

**SPORT AVIATION SHOWCASE 2016** -- If you are a homebuilt aircraft owner, builder or enthusiast, mark your calendar for the First Annual DeLand Sport Aviation Showcase at DeLand Municipal Airport from Nov. 3 to 5. According to the Experimental Aircraft Association, experimental amateur-built aircraft, often called "homebuilts," are the fastest growing segment of new aircraft in the United States. Homebuilts will share center stage at the showcase with some of the finest manufacturers of recreational aircraft from around the country and world. Learn more about the showcase at [www.sportaviationshowcase.com](http://www.sportaviationshowcase.com).

**NASA EXPO** -- The NASA Kennedy Space Center will hold its Business Opportunities Expo 2016 in KSC Terminal 1 in Cape Canaveral from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25. For more information, go to <https://procurement.ksc.nasa.gov/procure/ciao.htm>.

**FORECLOSURES** -- Completed foreclosures are down by 42.4 percent nationwide, and the foreclosure inventory has shrunk by 29.6 percent, according to real estate data provider CoreLogic. The U.S. foreclosure inventory - the percentage of mortgaged homes in some stage of the process - posted its largest annual drop since January 2015. Florida's foreclosure inventory stood at 1.6 percent in August, the sixth-highest level in the United States. It has dropped from 2.6 percent one year ago, but it remains higher than the U.S. rate of 0.9 percent, which is at its lowest point since July 2007.

**AFRICA TRADE MISSION** -- Enterprise Florida and the Volusia County Division of Economic Development invite you to join the Florida Trade Mission to South Africa Feb. 25 to March 4, 2017. Mission participants will have prearranged business meetings, receive business intelligence briefings from the U.S. Embassy, and meet local government and private sector leaders. The U.S. Commercial Service offers a limited number of Gold Key Matchmaking one-on-one appointments for participating Florida companies. Small and mid-sized Florida manufacturers and professional service providers may qualify for a Gold Key Grant, which will offset the matchmaking registration fee for the first company representative. To learn more, call Virgil Kimball at [386-248-8048](tel:386-248-8048).

**PROJECTED SPENDING** -- A new poll from the National Retail Federation projects that Halloween revelers will spend \$8.4 billion preparing for and celebrating the fall holiday. That breaks down to an average of \$82.93 per shopper vs. the \$74.34 spent last Halloween. If the projection is accurate, Halloween spending would be eighth-highest in dollars spent behind the winter holidays, back-to-school/college spending, Mother's Day at \$21.4 billion, Valentine's Day, Easter, the Super Bowl, and Father's Day at \$14.3 billion.

**NEWS ITEMS WANTED!** -- Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information Director, at [imagley@volusia.org](mailto:imagley@volusia.org). If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.