VOLUSIA COUNTY QUARTERLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING COMING MAY – The next quarterly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Economic Development Division will be at 7:45 a.m., Friday, May 4, in the Dennis R. McGee Room at Daytona Beach International Airport. For more information, call 386-248-8048.

JOB FAIR FOR 2018 GRADUATING SENIORS – Volusia County Schools Career Connection and CareerSource Flagler/Volusia will hold a job fair from 6 to 8 p.m. April 23 in the Atlantic High School auditorium and April 26 in the University High School auditorium for graduating seniors. Job fair participants will get a chance to meet with local businesses looking to hire graduates and learn about apprenticeship and helpful resources to navigate future career paths. There will also be raffles and giveaways. Attendees should dress for success and bring multiple resume copies.

SERVICE EXPORT MISSION TO HONG KONG – Enterprise Florida is hosting a Service Export Mission to Hong Kong and Guangzhou, China, from June 1 to 9. Hong Kong and Guangzhou are two strong and vibrant export markets for U.S. companies. U.S. goods exports to China in 2015 were $116.2 billion, and exports of services were an estimated $42.5 billion in 2014 (latest data available). For itinerary, costs and registration information, visit https://tinyurl.com/y6yqjz2.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING/STEAM ACADEMY – The Academy at Pine Ridge High School prepares students for post-secondary education in the areas of engineering, technology and business and direct entry careers in design, machining, robotics, programming and fabrication. The program uses state-of-the-art industry standard equipment and integration with rigorous core classes. The academy is active in several competition leagues including GreenpowerUSA Racing, SeaPerch robotics and Charlotte STEAM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics). For more information, contact Academy Director James Maynard at mailto:JWMaynar@volusia.k12.fl.

ELEVATE DAYTONA BEACH – Save the date for ELEVATE Daytona Beach July 19 at the News-Journal Center, Daytona Beach. For tickets visit http://www.elevatedaytonabeach.com/tickets/index. Those interested in auditioning April 19 and 26 can contact Shawn Abbatessa at 386-274-4736 or Steve Mach at 386-212-6834.

USDA 2017 DISASTER PAYMENT PROGRAM – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will make disaster payments of up to $2.36 billion, as provided by Congress, to help America’s farmers and ranchers recover from hurricanes and wildfires. The funds are available as part of the 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program. USDA’s Farm Service Agency will make these disaster payments to agricultural producers to offset losses from hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and devastating wildfires. Sign-ups for the new program, authorized by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, will begin July 16. For more information, visit https://tinyurl.com/y9px5z55.

EDA DISASTER GRANTS AVAILABLE – The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has published the FY18 Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity, which makes $587 million available to eligible grantees in communities where a presidential declaration of a major disaster was issued under the Stafford Act as a result of hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria; wildfires; and other natural disasters in 2017. EDA disaster grants are made by its regional offices under the Economic Adjustment Assistance Program, which enables EDA to make awards that support a range of construction and non-construction activities. EDA encourages the submission of applications based on long-term, regionally oriented and collaborative development strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. For more information, visit https://www.eda.gov/programs/disaster-recovery/2018-supplemental/.

REGIONAL RESILIENCY ACTION PLAN LISTENING SESSION – The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council will host a listening session on Monday, May 7, at the Volusia County Emergency Operations Center, 3825 Tiger Bay Road, Daytona Beach. The council will discuss and collaborate on identifying actionable items to better prepare, plan and implement regional resiliency. Resiliency has become the new norm for communities as they plan for and respond to increasing disasters, flooding, sea level rise, and other potential vulnerabilities. The listening session for local jurisdictions and agencies is scheduled from 9 to 11:30 a.m.; the session for public and private organizations will be from 1:30 to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Tara McCue at 407-245-0900, ext. 327, or tara@ecfrpc.org.

2017 ECONOMIC CENSUS – In early May, the U.S. Census Bureau will mail instructions to businesses nationwide for completing the 2017 Economic Census. Approximately 3.7 million U.S. businesses will receive instructions to set up an account to complete their economic census online. The response deadline is June 12, 2018. Every five years, the Census Bureau collects business information essential to understanding the American economy. For more information, visit the Economic Census at https://tinyurl.com/y9n5b9aw.

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