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

**UNDERSTANDING HURRICANE THREATS AND IMPACTS GRAPHICS** – Hurricane threats and impacts (HTI) graphics are issued by local weather forecast offices when tropical cyclone (i.e. hurricane or tropical storm) and/or storm surge wind watches and warnings are in effect. One commonly viewed graphic is the cone graphic, which displays the probable tracks of storm centers. HTI graphics show the geographic extent of associated hazards and their level of threat and potential impacts. Through the implicit use of probability data, color-coded HTI graphics depict the potential conditions to protect against and provide descriptions of potential impacts. For additional HTI information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yammcvzw>.

**GAMING/SIMULATION AND ROBOTICS ACADEMIES** – The academies at University High School have two pathways: Gaming/Simulation and Robotics. Both pathways offer a sequence of project-based courses aligned with challenging academic standards that prepare students for careers in information technology. For details, contact Robotics Academy Director Fred Urquhart at [fcuquha@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:fcuquha@volusia.k12.fl.us) or Gaming and Simulation Academy Director David Manning at [dmmannin@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:dmmannin@volusia.k12.fl.us).

**TSA PRECHECK COMING TO DAB** – TSA will host a Precheck enrollment event from July 16 through 20 in the baggage claim area at Daytona Beach International Airport (DAB). TSA Precheck allows participating low-risk travelers to experience a more efficient airport screening process by leaving on shoes, light jackets and belts and leaving laptops and compliant liquids in carry-on bags. Schedule your appointment by pre-enrolling at <https://www.identogo.com/precheck>. Visit the TSA Universal Enroll web page at <https://tinyurl.com/yaqxuzr4> to determine the required documents you will need to provide.

**INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE EXHIBITION** – Enterprise Florida, the Consulate of Japan, and the Florida Delegation of the Southeast U.S./Japan Association invite Florida aviation and aerospace companies to participate in the Japan International Aerospace Exhibition 2018. The exhibition is scheduled for Nov. 28 to 30, 2018, in Tokyo. Japan is the largest aerospace industrial market in Asia, and the Japanese aerospace industry has a huge potential for growth. The exhibition is expected to bring together approximately 20,000 participants who represent a diverse range of aerospace-related businesses: air frames/air components, engines, space equipment/services, material/consumables and manufacturing/processing machines. For details, contact Virgil Kimball at [vkimball@volusia.org](mailto:vkimball@volusia.org) or Keith Norden at [knorden@tvedc.com](mailto:knorden@tvedc.com).

**2018 KIDS COUNT INDEX** – The Annie E. Casey Foundation has released the 2018 KIDS COUNT Data Book containing the KIDS COUNT index. The index reflects child health and educational outcomes as well as risk and protective factors, such as economic well-being, family structure and community context. The 16 indicators of child well-being are derived from federal statistical agencies and reflect the best available state and national data for tracking yearly changes. Florida ranked 34th overall, with New Hampshire ranked first. To download a copy of the report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7mkhs4h>.

**VENTURE BRIDGE FLORIDA** – As reported, Enterprise Florida has launched a first-of-its-kind program to bring foreign investors into the state. Venture Bridge Florida is a "soft landing" program that offers virtual training programs to prepare foreign companies for entry into the U.S. market within Florida. The initiative targets companies with \$500,000 to \$20 million in sales. Last year, international trade and foreign investment comprised about one-sixth of the state's economic output and Florida's total trade was valued at \$147.7 billion, according to Enterprise Florida. The program is similar to the local Soft Landing program available since 2015 at the Volusia County Business Incubator powered by the UCF Business Incubation Program. To learn more about this local program, visit <https://incubator.ucf.edu/soft-landing/>.

**SPACE EXPLORATION** – According to a recent Pew Research Center survey, most Americans express confidence that private space companies will make meaningful contributions in developing safe and reliable spacecraft or conducting research to expand knowledge of space. Private companies such as SpaceX, Blue Origin and Virgin Galactic are becoming increasingly important players in space exploration. A large majority of Americans (81 percent) are confident that private space companies will make a profit from these ventures. Some 44 percent of Americans have a great deal of confidence that private space companies will be profitable, and an additional 36 percent have a fair amount of confidence.

**CUSTOM ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY SHOWING STRENGTH** – CE Pro magazine, a custom electronics trade publication, recently released its CE Pro 100 report on the top 100 revenue-earning custom electronics installation companies for 2017. Total 2017 revenue was \$3.5 billion for the CE Pro 100 group, and 13 percent growth is predicted for 2018. These findings come from the CE Pro 100 report on 2017 revenue from residential development installations. HabiTech Systems, located in Ormond Beach, was ranked 41st in the country and the only company from East Central Florida to make the 2017 list.

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