



GNV NEWS



News and Information from Gainesville Regional Airport

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Gainesville Regional Airport Wins Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award

Expansion at the Airport

The Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority (GACRAA) was awarded the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce business of the year award, in the small business expansion category, on Wednesday, Nov. 1 at the annual awards luncheon.

The Airport won the award for the addition of an Eclipse Aviation factory service center, a 61,000 square-foot facility that began construction in April 2006. The Gainesville facility will be part of a network of seven U.S. factory service centers dedicated to Eclipse 500 aircraft maintenance and support. This facility will have the ability to house more than 160 employees. The jobs, on average, will provide salaries approximately equal to 150 percent of the Alachua County average wage.

“This service center is an \$11.2 million investment in our community. While Eclipse Aviation has already played a role in the attraction of DayJet™, the Airport hopes that a business cluster surrounding the evolution of the Very Light Jet (VLJ) will continue to develop at Gainesville Regional Airport,” said Airport CEO Rick Crider.

DayJet™, a per-seat, on-demand air taxi company, will open its first DayBase™ at Gainesville Regional Airport in early 2007. The DayBase will add another 60 to 100 jobs to the Gainesville market, paying, on average, 225 percent of the Alachua County average wage.

Eclipse Aviation Facility Construction Continues on Schedule

As Scherer Construction approaches 7 months of work, the project remains on schedule. Scherer Construction has completed the roof



Gainesville Regional Airport officials and Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan at the Annual Chamber Business of the Year Awards Luncheon

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and has begun placing the steel for the customer service lounge. Most of the siding is complete and construction of plumbing and electrical work will continue. ♦



Eclipse Aviation facility picture taken Oct. 16, prior to completion of roofing

Southeast Aircraft Charter, Inc. Adds to Its Fleet

Southeast Aircraft Charter, Inc. (SEAC) announces the addition of two King Air aircraft to its fleet.

Its new King Air C90GT arrived November 19. The second aircraft, a 1999 King Air B200, arrived in October. The two King Air will help meet the demand of SEAC business and add to its fleet of four aircraft.



Pilot Randy Carter aside SEAC's 1999 King Air B200



Carolyn Bomberger, owner of Gator Aviation and SEAC, in the new King Air C90GT

SEAC also has two new pilots and intends to recruit additional pilots as the number of charter flights continues to increase.

“They are hard-working and skilled. We will be using two pilots on all charter flights and have been working on training SIC’s,” said Carolyn Bomberger, chief pilot and owner of SEAC.

SEAC has been in operation since June 2005 and plans to continue to grow its business. It is considering the addition of a mid-sized jet to its fleet. For more information, visit www.southeastaircraftcharter.com or call 384-0100. ♦

Senator Bill Nelson joins Airport in Groundbreaking of Taxiway Improvements

The Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority and Senator Bill Nelson held a groundbreaking ceremony in August to launch the replacement of edge lights and improvements to Taxiway Alpha.

“This funding will help make flying into and out of the Gainesville Regional Airport even safer, while also attracting additional business to the airport,” said

Senator Bill Nelson.

The Airport requested fiscal year 2006 federal funding for runway and taxiway renovations

and Senator Nelson helped secure the funding for this high-priority project. With the \$2.8 million grant, the Airport will now be able to replace the edge lights on Taxiway Alpha, construct an



Left to Right: Contractor Ron Rothwell, Airport CEO Rick Crider, Senator Nelson, Authority Chair Jim Stringfellow, County Commissioner Lee Pinkoson, Mayor Hanrahan

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associated electrical vault, and purchase a new aircraft rescue and fire fighting (ARFF) vehicle for the Airport.

Senator Nelson and the Airport Authority were joined by members of the State's legislative delegation for Alachua County and by representatives from the City and the County.

The taxiway edge light replacement project was awarded to Riliee-Sandkris Construction, LLC of Sanford, Fla. for approximately \$2 million. The project is expected to be complete by Summer 2007. ♦

University Air Center Unveils Cessna Pilot Training Center

University Air Center (UAC), the fixed base operator (FBO) at Gainesville Regional Airport, is now an official Cessna Pilot Training Center and held a grand opening ceremony, open to the public, in September.

Visitors had the opportunity to meet with flight instructors and tour University Air Center at no charge. UAC also offered a \$59 "discovery" flight.

This certification is a "stamp of credibility" for the flight school at UAC. A set of standards had to be met, including a review of the quality of aircraft, space allocated to flight training and finances.



3-year-old Issac Ferguson, one of 150 visitors at the open house, expresses excitement as he takes his first flight

Cessna flight training involves an interactive, internet-based educational program. In order to receive a pilots license, a student must complete ground school and approximately 50 hours of airborne instruction. For more information, visit www.universityaircenter.com or call 335-4681. ♦

DayJet Lands at GNV

In October, DayJet landed at the Airport to give the community a "sneak peak" of the Eclipse 500 aircraft.

The community was among the first in the nation to step inside one of the world's first Very Light Jet (VLJ) aircraft, which will be operated by the company that will put more than 300 of these aircraft into operation to help busy travelers get from place to place in Florida all in the same day - DayJet.



Dayjet's visit on Oct. 25, 2006 - The Eclipse 500 Aircraft

Gainesville has been selected as one of just five airports in Florida to be the launch pad for DayJet's innovative per-seat-on-demand jet service - another world's first. For more information about DayJet's air service, visit www.dayjet.com. ♦

RD Air Services Makes GNV Home for Its Charter Operations

RD Air Services, LLC, now operating at the Gainesville Regional Airport with its own office and hangar space, is the newest private air charter service based at the Airport, with a variety of aircraft from regional piston-powered to long range jets.

It has the only jet available for charter at the Airport capable of flying coast-to-coast, non-stop. Its staff has many years of experience, including pilots with more than 45,000 hours combined flight time and perfect safety records.

For more information, please call 352-377-7308 or 1-866-784-1247. ♦

Airport Gallery

Right: Airport Authority Chair Peter Johnson thanks out-going Chair, Jim Stringfellow, for his dedication



Left: UAC supports the Gators at the Homecoming Parade in October

Right: Volunteers at Breakfast for Thanksgiving Passengers



Left: Thanks to Tatiana Mastrocolla for helping the Airport at the Chamber Golf Tournament



Right: Airport CFO, Garrick Crocker, tests the BMW-designed interior seating of the Eclipse 500



Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority Board Members

- Peter L. Johnson, Chair
- Joe G. Dunlap, Vice-Chair
- Kinnon Thomas, Secretary/Treasurer
- Billy Brashear
- William R. Breeze
- Mark Goldstein
- W. E. "Mac" McEachern
- James L. Stringfellow
- Marilyn L. Tubb

A special thanks to...

- Rep. Larry Cretul, Airport CEO Rick Crider and staff, Airport Authority Chair Peter Johnson and board member Jim Stringfellow for helping with the passenger breakfast on Nov. 21 and 22 at 5:45 a.m.

Breakfast Sponsors: Continental Connection, Delta Connection, US Airways Express, Avis, National/Alamo and Signs By Tomorrow.

- The Airport staff for its support of the Airport's United Way campaign and Rick Crider as a Leadership Giver (Diamond Division), which resulted in \$4,788 pledged for the 2007 campaign. Nineteen employees (more than half of all GACRAA employees) pledged to support United Way of North Central Florida. Gary Parkinson and Felix Warren won the preferred parking spaces, which allow them to use the United Way contributor parking spaces that will be reserved in the short-term parking area for one year starting January 1, 2007.

- Airport RSVP volunteers, Eddie Hines, Bill and Mary Jones, Montie Lipsey-Lee and Shirley Wheeler, for helping passengers and providing information in November and December. ♦

AIRPORT EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dec. 21 and 22:
Airport to Serve Breakfast to Early-Morning Holiday Passengers

January 2007:
Groundbreaking for Phase 2 of the Terminal Renovation

Jan. - March 2007:
Airport March of Dimes Campaign Begins and Chili Cook-off Event

For more information on these events, please contact the Airport at 373-0249.

This Newsletter is brought to you by the Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority. For comments, suggestions or article ideas, please contact Michelle Danisovszky, Manager, Public Relations and Governmental Affairs, at michelle@flygainesville.com or 373-0249.