Volusia County Government Activities
Aug. 5 – 11, 2023

AVIATION & ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Air Service/Marketing/Customer Experience: Airport Director Karen Feaster and Air Service Development/Marketing Director Joanne Magley will attend the TakeOff North America air service development forum Aug. 14-16 and have meetings set with several airline route planners. As part of its annual marketing partnership with the Daytona Tortugas, the airport will be featured during the Aug. 19 game. Additionally, Avelo Airlines has provided four roundtrip tickets to give away to a lucky Tortuga fan at the game.

Economic Development: Volusia County Economic Development will host its “Q” Breakfast meeting on Aug. 18 in the Dennis McGee Room at the Daytona Beach International Airport. Aviation and Economic Resources Director Cyrus Callum will present economic data on the second quarter of 2023 pertaining to workforce migration, building permits, labor statistics and employment trends. Robin King, President/CEO of CareerSource Flagler Volusia, will present information on the Workforce Regional Alliance. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@flydab.org.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: Move-in begins Aug. 17 for the National Reptile Breeders Expo on Aug. 19 and 20. This annual show has been hosted at the center since 2008. As the largest reptile meeting in the world, the event will take place in the exhibit hall and arena and expects to attract 6,500 attendees, generating 1,000 room nights. The show is open to the public, and admission is $20 cash at the door. More information about the event is available here. On Aug. 19, Embassy of Hope will host its 2023 Vince Carter Charity Gala in the ballroom. The event expects 400 attendees and is open to the public. More information about the gala may be found here. For more information, contact Tim Buckley at tbuckley@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: In July, the Social Worker in the Library pilot program helped 153 individuals identify various forms of resources and assistance available in Volusia County. Social workers meet individually with residents in the county libraries to identify their specific needs, guide them to the appropriate agency and help them apply for services. These services may include SNAP/WIC, housing information, employment, health insurance, disability/social security, legal aid, substance abuse, mental health, and more. A resident may visit a social worker during walk-in hours or schedule an appointment. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.
**Library Services:** For a second summer, “Reading Rocked” at Volusia County Summer Camps. In a continuing effort to keep school-age children reading during the summer to help prevent learning loss, the library brought books and reading activities to the camps, and the campers had an opportunity to visit a library branch. A cartload of books was provided to each camp for reading, and the books were available for them to take home to read. Each camp also received weekly Read Aloud Literacy Kits to share. Each kit contained a book to read, a guidebook for counselors with a link to an audio reading, props to use when the book is read aloud, activities, and a conversation cube to engage the campers with questions about the book. Throughout the summer, approximately 717 campers participated in the reading program. There were 34 days of camp, with campers averaging 25 days of reading while attending.

The Seed Library at the DeLand Regional Library recently celebrated giving out its 5,000th seed packet in its first year. The packets included seeds for vegetables, herbs and flowers. Seed Libraries are also available in the Ormond Beach Regional Library, Daytona Beach Regional Library, New Smyrna Beach Regional Library, Deltona Regional Library and the Lake Helen Public Library. The library partners with Friends of the Library groups, the UF/IFAS Master Gardeners and local gardening groups to make the seeds available to residents. For more information, contact Lucinda Colee at lcoleee@volusia.org.

**Resource Stewardship:** The Land Management team completed two prescribed burns totaling 88 acres in the Lake George Forest & Wildlife Management. The team is also overseeing a herbicide treatment to control invasive species on 20 acres adjacent to the blue hiking trail on a portion of the Gemini Springs Conservation Area in DeBary. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Emergency Medical Administration:** On Aug. 9, staff attended a meeting with Port Orange Fire regarding the Municipal Transport Program (MTP) to discuss the program’s opportunities. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

**Emergency Medical Services:** Staff and Daytona State College (DSC) are coordinating a graduation ceremony for the eight paramedic students graduating from DSC later this month. The ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. on Aug. 22 at The Mori Hosseini Center at DSC. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

**Fire Rescue:** Preconstruction items have arrived and are set up at the Training Center to construct the bathrooms. This includes the fencing around the construction area and the logistics base from the company. The estimated time of completion is December. For more information, contact Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.
GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: Last week, the Volusia County Manatee Protection Program completed its fifth underwater Jetty cleanup dive of the season, bringing the recovered debris total to 965 pounds. The Volusia County Marine Mammal Stranding Team responded to a female manatee beached in Ponce Inlet in early July. The manatee was rescued and transported to SeaWorld for care due to exhaustion and poor health. After a full recovery, she was released back into the wild at the Dunlawton Bridge in Port Orange on Aug. 3. A satellite tag will track her throughout the upcoming months.

The Sea Turtle Habitat Conservation Plan Program is excited to report a new all-time nesting season record of over 1,441 sea turtle nests so far this year. For reference, in 2022, the entire season total was 1,427. With nesting to continue through September, more nests are still expected to be laid. Approximately 400 of the nests have hatched and cleaned from the beach.

Beach property recovery and permitting are still underway. Hundreds of permits have been issued, and work is still in progress, with some finishing up and others just getting started. There have been no significant impacts to any marked sea turtle nests due to construction activities. In the next few weeks, Community Information will release a short educational video about sea turtle lighting, the ordinance and how properties can come into and remain in compliance with the ordinance.

Staff joined the Aug. 11 Volusia Today show to discuss the International Coastal Cleanup, their respective programs and how marine debris removal positively impacts wildlife. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: On Aug. 8, staff attended the Fire/Police Seminar at the Fire Services Training Center to educate attendees about the types of calls that animal control officers respond to in the community. For more information, contact Alicia Dease at adease@volusia.org.

Beach Safety: On Aug. 8, the division conducted a Junior Lifeguard Day for children associated with the Port Orange Police Athletic League at Winterhaven Park. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mosquito Control: The division is conducting additional surveillance and proactive larvicide operations in preparation for the August race events at the Daytona International Speedway. Field inspectors are focusing on areas with scheduled events or expected areas of increased outdoor activity, including campgrounds. Attendees are recommended to wear EPA-approved repellents to prevent mosquito bites when spending time at such events. Learn more about how to use and choose the right repellent from the EPA’s website. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

Road & Bridge: As part of the Countywide Resurfacing FY23 Phase 1 project, Dunn Avenue in Daytona Beach is scheduled for construction the week of Aug. 14. The project will be completed during night-time hours when traffic volume is reduced and entails roadway milling and resurfacing from North Williamson Boulevard to Bill France Boulevard. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.
**Water Resources and Utilities:** Jackson Hole RV & Fish Camp on River Road in Oak Hill has recently connected to county sanitary sewer service. In recent months, this is the second RV and fish camp to have been connected to centralized utility services, enabling the decommissioning of existing treatment facilities located along the Mosquito Lagoon. The remediation of small treatment facilities is one way in which county staff works with businesses to improve the health of the local waterway. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.