Volusia County Government Activities
July 22 – July 28, 2023

OCEAN CENTER
Events: The 2023 World Martial Arts Games wraps up its three-day competition in the ballroom on July 31. The Florida Onsite Wastewater Association begins move-in on Aug. 1 for its annual convention on Aug. 2 and 3. The private event uses the arena, ballroom and meeting rooms and expects 800 attendees, generating 575 room nights.

Jurassic Quest moves into the exhibit hall on Aug. 3 for its Aug. 4-6 event. Attendees will feel like they’ve entered another geological period as life-size dinosaurs roar, move and even walk the floor. Additionally, kids of all ages can take part in fossil digs, where young paleontologists can uncover dinosaur bones, create dinosaur crafts, ride a dino, meet baby dinos, and burn some energy in the Dino Bounce area, with several dinosaur-themed inflatable mazes and dinosaur rides. Tickets start at $19 and can be purchased online. For more information, contact Tim Buckley at tbuckly@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES
Community Assistance: For Volusia County households with at least one member who is 60 years of age or older, electric bill assistance is available through the Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP) for the Elderly. The program requires the household’s electric account to be delinquent or disconnected, or a deposit is needed for a newly established account. This program is very relevant right now as many seniors are on a fixed income, and the warmer-than-normal temperatures are causing utility bills to be higher than usual, which may be straining their already limited finances. For additional information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

Library Services: With the start of school around the corner, the staff is participating in two back-to-school events. On July 29, the library staff was at DeLand's Earl Brown Park for the 13th Annual Mayor's Backpack Giveaway and Community Health Initiative. On Saturday, Aug. 5, staff will be at the Dickerson Center in Daytona Beach for the Pay it Forward's Back to School event.

Daytona Beach Regional Library Youth Services staff concluded visits to three City of Daytona Beach summer camps this week. They introduced the campers to the Botley coding robot, where they learned how to move it around and then were able to program it through challenges and obstacles created by the staff members. Librarians also visited the camps to bring story time to the campers, incorporating interactive stories and songs. For more information, contact Lucinda Colee at llcolee@volusia.org.

Parks, Recreation & Culture: This year’s summer camp program concluded on July 28. Over 900 children attended this year across 13 sites throughout the county. The camp included two to three weekly field trips and various on-site recreational events. Additionally, it continued the partnership with the Library Services Division to provide books to the camp participants via the “Reading Rocks” Program. For more information, contact Tim Baylie at tbaylie@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER
Community Information: Staff is collaborating with the Community Assistance Division to develop outreach materials for the launch of the Volusia Helps app. This app will be a valuable resource for
residents seeking healthcare and social services information. Also, the staff is assisting the Florida Department of Health-Volusia to create an informative video focused on the importance of dental sealants for children. For more information, contact Michael Ryan at mryan@volusia.org.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

*Emergency Management:* The division conducted an Elected Officials Training on July 24, where more than 25 elected officials from the county and municipalities attended to learn about disaster preparedness and operations during an event. For more information, contact James Judge at jjudge@volusia.org.

*Emergency Medical Administration:* AdventHealth Daytona Beach and HCA Florida Lake Monroe Hospital were brought on as “thrombectomy-capable” and “comprehensive” stroke centers, respectively. They were previously designated as “primary” stroke centers. The change in status offers a broader array of interventional services with a corresponding chance of an improved outcome. These two assets complement the thrombectomy-capable stroke services available at Halifax Health Medical Center in Daytona Beach and provide additional resources for the emergency medical services system, allowing quicker access to necessary services when a stroke is suspected. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

**PUBLIC PROTECTION**

*Beach Safety:* The Beach Safety competition team competed in the Southwest Region Surf Lifesaving Championship in Delray Beach on July 19 and 20, finishing third overall. Also, Captain A.J. Miller finished second in points for the male participants. For more information, contact Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

*Mosquito Control:* The division received acknowledgment and appreciation from the Florida Department of Health-Volusia’s disease control director regarding its proactive and thorough response to public health. The division works closely with the health department regarding areas with increased mosquito-borne arbovirus activity in sentinel chickens, animals and humans. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

*Road & Bridge:* As part of the Countywide Resurfacing FY23 Phase 1 project, Enterprise Road in Deltona is scheduled for construction during the first week of August. The project will be completed during night-time hours when traffic volume is reduced and entails roadway milling and resurfacing from CR-4162/Debary Avenue to Deltona Boulevard. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.

*Water Resources and Utilities:* Utilities staff finalized the terms and conditions of a utility services agreement for the Waterstone subdivision in the county’s northeast utility service area. The agreement provides water and wastewater services for up to 144 residential lots. Consideration of the agreement is scheduled for the Aug. 1 County Council meeting. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.