Volusia County Government Activities  
Sept. 16 – 22, 2023

OCEAN CENTER

**Events:** US Food moves into the Ballroom on Sept. 26 for its private event taking place the following day. The 2023 NPC/IFBB Pro League Daytona Pro/AM Championships will be held in the Arena on Sept. 29 and 30. The public event expects 1,000 attendees; more information about the event is available on their website. The Church of God Assembly Conference moves into the Ballroom on Sept. 29 for its event, Feast of Tabernacles, which will take place from Sept. 30 through Oct. 7. The private event expects to generate 1,400 room nights. Geocoinfest 2023 takes place in the Exhibit Hall on Sept. 30. For more information, contact Tim Buckley at tbuckley@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Community Assistance:** Volusia County’s Housing Choice Voucher Program will host an informational session for landlords, whether they are already renting to Section 8 participants or considering doing so in the future. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on Sept. 27 and will be held in the County Council Chambers. During this session, staff will outline the program's rules and regulations for the landlords in attendance to ensure a clear understanding of their role in the program.

Additionally, the Human Services Advisory Board has a meeting starting at 3:30 p.m. on Sept. 28. The meeting will take place in the Conference Room in the TCK Annex building. At this meeting, board members will discuss the acceptance of new members and receive detailed operational and programmatic reports. For more information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

**Library Services:** District 2 County Council Member Matt Reinhart presented a proclamation at the Daytona Beach Regional Library, designating Sept. 18, 2023, as Federal Documents Depository Library Day in Volusia County. This day was established to recognize the library's 60th anniversary as a depository library. A depository library is a vital institution designated by the federal government to receive and provide public access to a wide range of government publications and documents, ensuring that information is readily available to the local community.

During the event, Regional Federal Depository Manager Sarah Erekson, representing the University of Florida-Gainesville, shared insights about the significance of this program. Volusia County Public Library is one of six public libraries in Florida entrusted with serving as a depository, showcasing its role in providing access to federal documents and information for the community. For more information, contact Lucinda Colee at lcoleee@volusia.org.

**Parks, Recreation & Culture:** Construction work commenced during the week of Sept. 18 at Chuck Lennon Park in De Leon Springs to resurface an existing tennis court and add two new pickleball courts. The project aims to expand the appeal to a broader range of sports enthusiasts and encourage active and healthy lifestyles among residents. Anticipated completion is set for October, during which time the tennis courts will remain temporarily closed to the public. Funding for this
enhancement project is provided through the Environmental, Cultural, Historical, and Outdoor (ECHO) program in conjunction with Park impact fees.

DeBary Hall hosted a Victorian Tea on Sept. 23. This elegant event welcomed 21 guests to experience the grace and charm of a traditional Victorian afternoon tea, complete with delectable samplings, etiquette lessons, and a house tour. For more information, contact Tim Baylie at tbaylie@volusia.org.

**Resource Stewardship:** The Volusia ECHO program will launch the 2023-24 grant cycle with a mandatory workshop scheduled for 9 a.m. on Sept. 28. The workshop will be held in the County Council Chambers, and attendance is a prerequisite for all prospective applicants seeking eligibility to apply. An option to attend the workshop virtually is also available. The registration link can be accessed on the ECHO website.

The UF/IFAS Volusia County Extension staff is excited to present an engaging fall vegetable class as part of the "Savor the Flavor" series. This series explores the intricacies of spring and fall vegetable gardening, as well as the art of harvesting and preparing fresh produce from a personal garden. For more information, contact Nick Dunnam at ndunnam@volusia.org.

**Veteran Services:** The division's newest officer has completed the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs accreditation course, a significant achievement that will enhance the County's capacity to serve more Veterans and their dependents. For more information, contact Bob Watson at rbwatson@volusia.org.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**Legal:** On the evening of Sept. 13, County Attorney Mike Dyer participated in a panel discussion during County Counsel Day at FAMU Law School in Orlando. The Florida Association of County Attorneys organized this event, bringing together legal professionals from various counties and sectors.

Joining County Attorney Mike Dyer on the panel were counterparts from Seminole and Monroe counties, along with the General Counsel for Orange County Schools. A diverse audience of students attended this informative session to gain insights into pursuing careers in county government and the legal profession. For more information, contact Mike Dyer at mdyer@volusia.org.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Emergency Management:** The division held a Hurricane Idalia post-action meeting that brought together over 30 participants representing various County divisions and partners from other government entities and community organizations. During the meeting, attendees engaged in discussions regarding the events that unfolded and collectively identified strategies to enhance collaboration in the event of a future activation. For more information, contact Clint Mecham at cmecham@volusia.org.

**Fire Rescue:** Staff attended a "Run, Hide, Fight" training class with the Volusia Sheriff's Office on Sept. 21 at the Florida Technical College in Deland, underlining the importance of equipping themselves with essential emergency skills. This training ensures they can respond effectively,
safeguard lives, and maintain a secure environment during such a crisis. For more information, contact Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: The International Coastal Cleanup occurred on Sept. 16, drawing in a substantial crowd of approximately 1,059 participants. Although data collection and tabulation are still ongoing, the initial findings reveal that the volunteers have already eliminated 7,883 pounds of debris from the beach and the adjacent coastal waterways, encompassing the Tomoka, Halifax, and Indian rivers.

During the cleanup operations, the most frequently encountered item was cigarette butts, with a tally of 9,030 gathered. A comprehensive summary of the cleanup activities is being assembled and anticipated to be finalized later this week. For more information, contact Tom Carey at tcarey@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: On Sept. 19, Director Angela Miedema met with representatives from the Best Friends Animal Society to discuss best practices in animal welfare and provide them with a tour of the division’s facilities. The non-profit organization operates the nation’s largest sanctuary for homeless animals and offers various services, including adoption, spay/neuter, and educational programs.

On Sept. 22, staff convened with the Coastal Division to discuss the optimal approaches for enforcing rules and regulations for the upcoming Dogs on the Beach pilot initiative set to start in November. For more information, contact Angela Miedema at amiedema@volusia.org.

Corrections: Sergeant Lalashuis and Senior Officer West received recognition for their heroic actions while on duty, as they administered Narcan to an individual amid an overdose, ultimately saving a life. For more information, contact Joe DeMore at jdemore@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mosquito Control: The division is preparing for a field evaluation of the products used in helicopter larviciding operations. This essential component of the division's integrated pest management program involves directly applying these products to water bodies, effectively preventing mosquito larvae from developing into biting adult mosquitoes.

The upcoming field evaluation will focus on assessing the penetration capabilities of various granular larvicide formulations and their performance under different levels of forest canopy coverage. The data collected during this evaluation will be utilized to inform treatment decisions, with the primary objectives being the optimization of treatment effectiveness and the efficient management of application costs. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmDonough@volusia.org.

Road & Bridge: Between Sept. 18 and Oct. 17, a project will be in progress to revitalize storm drainage pipes and structures within two retention basins along South Clyde Morris Boulevard/CR-483 in Port Orange. The work will primarily occur during nighttime hours when traffic volume is lower to minimize motorist disruptions. This undertaking will necessitate intermittent lane closures stretching from Regency Drive to Old Kings Road. Funding for this stormwater conveyance improvement project
is provided by the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund through the American Rescue Plan Act. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.