

Volusia County Government Activities April 23 - 29, 2022

AVIATION & ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Daytona Beach International Airport

On May 4, Aviation and Economic Resources Director Cyrus Callum will speak at the National Tourism Week Breakfast on panel that includes the three tourism agencies. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: The Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program has left over funding available to assist households that have experienced a financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible households may receive up to nine months of rental and utility arrears and three months of forward assistance. Applications will be accepted continuously beginning at 9 a.m. on May 4. The ERA application portal will remain open until the current funding has been depleted. During that time, county residents may submit an application online at www.volusia.org/era. Navigators will be available during normal business hours at each of the libraries as well as the ERA office in DeLand to assist applicants with completing the application. For more information, please contact Carmen Hall, Community Assistance Division Director at (386) 736-5955 or chall@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff participated in a statewide emergency management training exercise at the Emergency Operations Center on April 27, which simulated local response to a cyber-attack. Staff also filmed at the 10-year anniversary celebration on April 27 for the Volusia County DUI Treatment Court for an upcoming video story. In collaboration with the Parks, Recreation and Culture Division, staff hosted the Lemon Bluff Park ribbon cutting on April 29 in Osteen. Production staff created a post-event video that includes drone footage, which was promoted on social media and is located on the County of Volusia YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPJJEjggFNY>. Staff are creating new posts for the *Get Healthy Volusia* and *Keep Volusia Beautiful* campaigns that continue on social media. Staff interviewed Animal Services Director Adam Leath on the County's weekly radio program. During the interview, Director Leath emphasized the importance of including your pet in your family's disaster/hurricane planning. A carve out from the interview is posted on the County of Volusia Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CountyOfVolusia/videos/560522778715685>. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: Environmental Management coordinated the 26 Annual St. Johns River Cleanup on April 23. The event included 284 volunteers, picking up 3,655 pounds of trash from 56 miles of river. Volunteers registered for one of nine cleanup sites along the river from Lake George to Lemon Bluff. For more information, please contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.



OCEAN CENTER

Events: The SMA Healthcare Foundation's annual mental health symposium, *Who is Jay?*, takes place May 3 in the ballroom. The cost to attend is \$60 for the public, \$25 for students; NAMI members can attend free. To register or for more information, visit www.whoisjay.org. Four hundred attendees are expected. Regional Dance America/Southeast will use the arena and meetings rooms for a three-day annual festival scheduled May 5-7. The event will also utilize space at the Peabody Auditorium and Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort. Five hundred attendees are expected at the Ocean Center with 1,075 estimated room nights. Klean Society will host their Exhibition Auto Tour May 7, in the exhibit hall. Spectator tickets are available online for \$25. More information is available at www.kleansociety.com. Up to 1,500 are expected. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Corrections: The Corrections Division has resumed an effective program that was running full speed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, dog obedience training. On April 25, the Halifax Humane Society delivered two dogs to the Correctional Facility for obedience training. As a recap to this program, two inmates are assigned to a dog and work under the supervision of a Humane Society employee to train the dogs on basic obedience. Once the dogs are trained, they will go up for adoption if they have not already been adopted. The cost for the training is free and the inmates as well as the dogs develop a bond that is a positive experience for each of them. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Flowers, (386) 254-1568.

Fire Rescue: On April 25, VCFR received approval to purchase DroneSense, which is a comprehensive software platform that manages drone programs of any size. DroneSense supports small, local agencies with a single aircraft and large departments managing hundreds. Moreover, this platform was purposely built for the needs of public safety and provides a seamless way for operators to collaborate with partner agencies. For more information, contact Fire Chief Howard Bailey, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Coastal trades workers replaced a section of broken fence at Bethune Beach Park West in Bethune Beach, repaired a section of the Ponce Inlet Jetty deck damaged during the last storm event, and installed a section of split-rail fencing to deter vehicles from inadvertently accessing the dog park at Lighthouse Point Park in Ponce Inlet. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Engineering & Construction: The Sea Bridge Pier contractor has submitted all requested survey information to the permitting department, and we anticipate final permit approval by May 9. Mobilization will then occur May 9 -16. Demolition is scheduled to start May 26, and construction should begin in the beginning of June. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is collaborating with the Land Management division to update the Arthropod Management Plan for Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve as part of an Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) program. Arthropod Management Plans are used to document an Arthropod Control Plan for lands designated by the State of Florida or any political subdivision as being environmentally sensitive and biologically highly productive. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

Road & Bridge: The Knox Bridge Submarine Cable Replacement project will soon be underway with the staging of the contractor's barge on the northwest side of the channel. The L.B. Knox Bridge is located on High Bridge Road in Ormond Beach, and the project entails the replacement of subaqueous cable that provides electric power from one side of the bascule structure to the other. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: The Volusia County *Adopt a Road Program* is a litter reduction campaign designed to remove litter and debris from Volusia County roads to keep *Volusia County Beautiful*. During the first quarter of 2022, 21 groups conducted clean ups utilizing 137 volunteers and removed 3,350 pounds of litter from county roadways. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Traffic Engineering staff is reviewing a study to evaluate whether safety improvements are needed on the 4-lane, undivided South Atlantic Avenue within Ponce Inlet. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.