

Volusia County Government Activities May 28 – June 3, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: The summer food feeding program will start June 6 and conclude August 12. The program provides free and nutritious meals to persons 18 years of age and younger while school is on break for the summer. There will be nearly 60 sites participating in this year's program. A person may find a site by visiting www.summerbreakspot.org, text "Food" to 304-304, or call 386-736-5956. To request additional information, contact Carmen Hall, Community Assistance Director, at chall@volusia.org.

Resource Stewardship: The ECHO Advisory Committee voted all five ECHO 2022 applications as eligible at the May 26 tour and eligibility meeting. The Committee will meet on June 16 as the Grant Review Panel to review and score these eligible applications. Applications scoring 80 or above will be recommended to the County Council for approval in July. The fall ECHO grant cycle will begin with a mandatory meeting for prospective grant recipients at 9 a.m. Sept. 29.

Library Services: The Library Services Division is participating in the Real Florida Reader program. The Real Florida Reader Program is a partnership between Florida State Parks, the Florida Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services and public libraries throughout Florida. This program allows Florida public library cardholders to check out a Florida State Park Day Pass which provides free park admission for up to eight people in a single vehicle. Each of the 14 branch libraries received two passes. The passes are available for checkout on a first come basis. The passes circulate for 7 days and cannot be renewed. The program runs through Sept. 12.

Parks and Recreation: The High Bridge boat launch repair project is underway and expected to be substantially complete in August.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff attended training and presented on Community Information's role during a disaster at the Emergency Management Partners quarterly meeting on June 2. Staff promoted Community Assistance's summer food program with a news release and Facebook post, as well as interviewing Human Services Manager Clay Jackson on the Volusia Today radio program; a videocast carve-out will also be posted on social media. Staff participated in the airport's triennial disaster exercise after-action meeting on June 3. Staff are collaborating with the Coastal Division for the upcoming reef deployment slated for June 18. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: The first-grade class of Longstreet Elementary created another successful fundraiser and raised \$3,300 for the Friends of the Marine Science Center. The class, taught by Carly Stasa, has made and sold turtle-inspired jewelry for the last two years. The students are required to research sea turtles and conservation as part of the learning process. Ms. Stasa and her "Turtle Rescuers" have raised \$7,300 to support the animal care hospitals at the MSC over the past two years. Check out Ms. Stasa's first-grade classroom picture at right. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.



OCEAN CENTER

Events: The Halifax Area Advertising Authority Advertising Committee meeting is June 7, in meeting room 103. The Florida Trucking Association Truck Driving Championships is June 9-11. The event utilizes the entire building and is expected to generate 2,000 attendees over the course of the event and 1,700 total room nights. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Beach Safety: On May 31, Beach Safety staff attended a "Great Kids Learning Presentation" in Ormond Beach where they discussed general beach safety. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge, (386) 239-6414.

Emergency Management: The Citizen's Information Center Training began for Leads and Supervisors on May 31. Two hurricane presentations were held at Latitudes Margaritaville on LPGA and Seabird Island in Port Orange on June 3. For more information please, contact Interim Division Director James Judge, (386) 254-1500.

Emergency Medical Services: EMS Division Commander Interviews were finalized this week. Union negotiations were held with the International Association of EMTs and Paramedics Local 77 on June 1 and 2. For more information, contact Division Director Michael Colman, (386) 236-3511.

Fire Rescue: Final interviews for the Operations Division Chief were completed this week; the selected candidate will fill the vacancy of retiree Division Chief Paul Ebanks who retired with over 30 years of service. Final interviews for the Airport Division Chief will be completed the week of June 6. For more information, contact Fire Chief Howard Bailey, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: In preparation for the Memorial Day weekend, Coastal Division contractors added additional port-o-lets at Mary McLeod Bethune Park and staged extra dumpsters throughout the Coastal parks. During the holiday weekend, janitorial contract staff continuously traveled to all coastal restroom facilities for cleaning, replenishing supplies and assisting with litter pick up. Additional contract staff walked the beach and coastal parks picking up trash while other contract staff operated trash carts and continuously emptied trash cans, picked up large items and offered to collect trash from patrons. Fifty (50) additional cans were placed directly on the sand in the no-drive section between Intl Speedway Blvd and Seabreeze Blvd. These cans were closer to the waterline to allow for easier access and were removed from the beach every night and re-set in the mornings to maintain compliance with turtle regulations. Eighty-five (85) additional trash cans were placed on existing trash trees from Williams Ave to Botefuhr Ave, 70 of which were from University Blvd to Silver Beach Ave. A total of 31.86 tons of trash was removed from the beach during this 3-day weekend. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Engineering & Construction: Dewatering efforts continue on the High Bridge boat ramp to complete the concrete boat ramp preparations for cast-in-place concrete accessory docks on both north and south sides of the boat ramp. Steel rebar and form removal will begin thereafter. Once removed, new forms will be constructed and reinstalled. Concrete placement for both the north and south accessory docks is scheduled for Jun. 20. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is currently training new student interns from Stetson University to provide local students an opportunity to gain work experience in the public health and environmental fields. These students participate in all aspects of our integrated pest management program to include mosquito trapping, arbovirus surveillance, mosquito identification, data management, and field research. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.



Road & Bridge: In preparation of rainy weather and the hurricane season that officially began June 1, the drainage task team crews are inspecting stormwater systems throughout the County to ensure retention areas, swales, box culverts, and other drainage assets are functioning properly. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: Solid Waste Management Compliance Officers routinely conduct inspections on vehicles hauling solid waste, ensuring the loads are covered and secured to reduce windblown litter. This past month 31 trucks were inspected, resulting in six warnings. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Traffic Engineering signal staff will be conducting preventive maintenance on traffic signals in the cities of Port Orange and Orange City during the month of June. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

Water Resources and Utilities: Award of contracts for (1) construction of a potable water emergency interconnect for the County's northeast utility service area and (2) engineering and design services for advanced treatment at the southeast regional wastewater treatment facility is scheduled for County Council consideration on June 7. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at (386) 943-7027, ext. 12724.