

Volusia County Government Activities

August 14 – 20, 2021

AVIATION & ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Daytona Beach International Airport

Air Service Development, Marketing & Customer Experience: The airport is hosting a TSA PreCheck® enrollment event Aug. 23 – 27.

Operations: With the Aug. 28 Coke Zero NASCAR race, staff is preparing for an increase in private jet parking on airport property. Volusia County Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) and county personnel are traveling to Oshkosh, WI to inspect the new ARFF fire trucks, set for delivery at the end of September.

Economic Development: Director of Economic Development Helga van Eckert will be the keynote speaker for two upcoming events to provide economic development updates. The first presentation will be at the Chamber Alliance meeting on Aug. 25 at the Daytona Regional Chamber; the second will be for the Daytona Regional Chamber Community Advisory Group on Aug. 26 at the Daytona Beach International Airport in the McGee Room. For more information, contact Joanne Magley at jmagley@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Due the postponement of the Affordable Housing Summit, we are planning for additional virtual activities that will continue to build on the knowledge and discussions that have already come out of the Affordable Housing Initiative. This will begin with an interactive session at noon on Sept. 10. Experts from the Florida Housing Coalition will share the framework of strategies that make housing affordable in a community and will outline techniques to develop a successful affordable housing plan will join staff. For more information, please contact Dona Butler at ddbutter@volusia.org.

Library Services: The library plans summer reading programs to encourage school-aged children to keep reading during summer vacation. Preventing the “summer slide” is a main objective of summer reading programs. Despite programming restrictions caused by the pandemic, Library Services staff was successful engaging children in the summer reading program. The programs were planned around the theme “Tales and Tails” with staff getting creative with outdoor programs and self-directed passive programs. The 140 outdoor face-to-face programs welcomed an attendance of 3,199 people, while the 1,384 self-directed programs in the library branches were enjoyed by 57,357 participants. We also had 1,306 school age students participate in our online summer reading log program developed in tandem with the public schools. Lastly, library staff at 12 branches provided 14,443 grab and go breakfast/lunch combination meal bags to children this summer. For more information, please contact Lucinda Colee at lclee@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff collaborated with Animal Services and Fire Rescue with a media event on Aug. 20, for the launch of Operation Fire Scan & Rescue, which is a joint initiative to help bring lost pets home safe-n-sound. Animal Services has purchased a pet microchip scanner for all county fire stations and is training fire personnel at each station in the use of the scanners. The media was invited to the first training and the program is additionally being promoted through a video news release, social media and an upcoming segment on Volusia Magazine. Staff continues to work with Public Protection, the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County, and partnering cities and agencies on COVID-19 initiatives. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: The Marine Science Center started work on its new “Life on the Ledge” exhibit Monday with the delivery and installation of the new aquarium. The new exhibit will educate the public about Florida’s geologic history and how sea level rise and fall helped shape Volusia County and its critical offshore ledge habitat (Fast Fact: 26,000 years ago the beach was located 25 miles east of its present location). Creating the exhibit’s other elements, life support systems, facade, and interpretive signage, is expected to take 4-5 weeks to complete. The exhibit was funded by capital funds and a generous donation from the Friends of the Marine Science Center. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.



OCEAN CENTER

Events: Aug. 21 – 22, the Ocean Center is hosted the 32nd Annual National Reptile Breeders Expo, the largest reptile meeting in the world. See hundreds of exhibits of captive-born snakes, spiders, lizards, amphibians and turtles, along with herpetology memorabilia, books and supplies. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Beach Safety: Four new Beach Safety officers will begin their second week of our field-training program and they will be sworn in on Aug. 18. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Etheridge, (386) 239-6414.

Corrections: VCCD provided vaccines to 91 inmates this week, bringing their total to date to 1,165 vaccinations provided to inmates while in custody.

Emergency Management: Emergency Management is monitoring the Atlantic Storm Activity and the continued surge of the COVID-19 Delta Variant. Emergency Management will be hosting a CIC Training Class for Corrections on Aug. 17. For more information please, contact Division Director Helene Wetherington, (386) 254-1500.

Emergency Medical Administration: Emergency Medical Administration will be distributing the video laryngoscopes to the EMS agencies in Volusia County this week. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Emergency Medical Services: EMS conducted Lead EMT training Aug. 17 and Aug. 19 for five employees. Upon completion, the Lead EMTs will start being scheduled to work on BLS trucks to help increase the number of BLS units available to the County. For more information, contact Interim Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Fire Rescue: On Aug. 16, VCFR welcomed their new Deputy Chief of Operations, Joe King. Deputy Chief King comes to VCFR by way of Flagler County where he served as a Deputy Chief of Operations and Interim Fire Chief. His knowledge and expertise will be an asset for VCFR as we continue to strive for service excellence. Oct. 15 VCFR department members were notified of the 2021 Annual Awards Ceremony, to be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse building in DeLand. For more information, contact Fire Chief Howard Bailey, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12918.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Coastal Crews pressure washed approximately 2,580 square feet of the boardwalk, observation tower landing and stairs, at the Marine Science Center nature trail. For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.

Engineering & Construction: The 10th Street project continues to progress, including the successful reopening of 2-lanes of traffic on 10th Street east of Myrtle Street prior to the first day of school. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is responding to an increase in reported neglected swimming pools. Unmaintained water in swimming pools can produce biting mosquitoes in residential neighborhoods and are treated by releasing Gambusia mosquito fish as a biological control of mosquito larvae. Mosquito Control works collaboratively with Volusia County and City Code Enforcement Agencies to respond to these sites. For more information, contact Suzanne Bartlett at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.

Road & Bridge: Crews rehabilitated several areas of sidewalk at the Marine Science Center. The work is being completed in partnership with the Coastal Division and includes removing potential trip hazards along the nature trail that leads to the wooden boardwalk. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: SCS Field Services, approved landfill gas expansion contractor, will mobilize this week to begin installing eleven vertical wells and 12-inch gas header pipe in accordance with the Class I cell landfill gas master plan. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Traffic Engineering staff is preparing plans to rebuild the traffic signal at Elckam Boulevard and Lake Helen Osteen Road. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

