COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resource Stewardship: On Feb. 15, staff attended a ribbon cutting for the purchase of the Penland & Pomerenke property in Ormond Beach. The Volusia Forever program acquired the property in conjunction with the City of Ormond Beach and the St. Johns River Water Management District.

The ECHO Advisory Committee met Feb. 17 to score the grant applications received during this funding cycle. Applications scoring 80 or above will be recommended for approval and be presented to the County Council in March. The total ECHO funding requested during this cycle is $1,098,060.

For more information, contact Bradley Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff coordinated the ribbon cutting for the Volusia Forever property purchase in Ormond Beach. The final preparations for the 2023 State of the County are being made with the deadline to RSVP to the event Feb. 20. Reservations to the event may be made at https://2023StateoftheCounty.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency Medical Administration: The division continues working with fire-based field providers to implement EMS Charts as the primary medical reporting platform. This will expand to include fire-based transport providers testing EMS Charts against the ZOLL billing server soon. Ultimately, the division will also migrate to EMS Charts, placing all providers on a single platform. The division is also working with Halifax Health to develop strategies to reduce ambulance offload delays with a focus on Bike Week, which begins March 3. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Services: The division prepared for an influx of activity and visitors for Speedweek. The division is excited to present promotional offer letters to two employees: one from sergeant to battalion chief, the other from field training officer to battalion chief. For more information, contact Mark Wolcott at mwolcott@volusia.org.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: Quilt Week, hosted by the American Quilters Society, began move-in on Feb. 19, and the event will run Feb. 22-25. Attendees will take quilt classes, enjoy lectures, and shop fabrics, notions and more at the Vendor Merchant Mall. They will most of all, explore beautiful quilts, from award-winning and semi-finalist contest quilts to special exhibits. The event brings an expected 3,000 attendees, generating about 1,000 room nights. Additional information about the event may be found at https://www.americanquilter.com/quiltweek/daytona-beach-2023/daytona-beach-2023-admission/. Quilt Week is open to the public. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.
PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: On Feb. 18, staff attended the DeLand Mardi Gras Dog Parade and Festival. The theme this year was Mardi Gras in La Habana! The new mobile spay/neuter bus was driven in the parade, and Animal Services also had a table set up with information and promotional items. For more information, contact Adam Leath at aleath@volusia.org.

Beach Safety: As part of the division's annual recruitment efforts, staff visited DeLand High School Feb. 14. For more information, contact Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: Coastal tradesworkers and maintenance staff have repaired and reopened the beach accesses at Hillside Avenue in Daytona Beach and Calumet Avenue in Ponce Inlet. Staff also repaired the handrailing at Al Weeks North Shore Park in Ormond Beach and began repairs to the walkover at Oyster Quay in New Smyrna Beach. Additionally, staff coordinated with contractors to reopen the Cardinal Drive vehicular access ramp in Ormond Beach. A total of 85 Coastal accesses remain closed. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at JFentress@volusia.org.

Mosquito Control: The division is advertising for student workers and interns for the upcoming summer semester to support arbovirus surveillance activities. The students will be involved in the daily operations of the Integrated Pest Management Program, including but not limited to the collection and identification of mosquito species, data input and management, field inspections for mosquito production sites, public education and outreach and insecticide resistance monitoring. To be eligible, applicants must be undergraduate or graduate students attending an accredited college, university or vocational school. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

Road and Bridge: No lane or road closures were permitted on county-maintained roadways around the Daytona International Speedway from Feb. 16-19 during the Daytona 500 race and associated events. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.

Solid Waste: The Tomoka Farms Road Landfill held limited operational hours Feb. 19 in support of the 2023 Daytona 500. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at rmontgomery@volusia.org.

Traffic Engineering: The division’s signal maintenance staff is performing maintenance on flashers and pedestrian crossings countywide. The staff also replaced a pedestrian pole at SR-44 and Clara Avenue in DeLand damaged in a vehicle crash. Maintenance crews will be upgrading flashers on Kepler Road to solar-powered beacons. Signal operations staff finalized preparations for event traffic management associated with the Daytona 500. For more information, contact Jay Williams at jwilliams@volusia.org.

Water Resources and Utilities: Construction of the 3-mile sewer force main and potable water main to serve DeLeon Springs is 60% complete and on schedule for completion by the beginning of September. The sewer force main and water main will provide centralized sewer and drinking water to the commercial corridor of DeLeon Springs. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.