Volusia County Government Activities September 10 – 16, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: The Human Services Advisory Board meeting has a special meeting scheduled for 4 p.m. Sept. 19. The meeting will take place at the Thomas C. Kelly Annex, 121 W. Rich Ave., DeLand. Members will review the updated Community Services Block grant budget and work plan. The public is invited to attend, participate, and provide comments in the meeting. For more information, please contact Carmen Hall at 386-736-5955.

Library Services: Library Services staff traveled to Jacksonville on Sept. 16 to attend the NEFLIN's (Northeast Florida Information Network) annual meeting to accept the 2022 Innovation Award for the "Recipe and Reads: Family Culinary Literacy Labs" program series. Since the programs started in March, library staff and partners have presented 205 programs for 3,959 attendees on subjects such as kitchen basics and safety, basic cooking, nutrition, labels & healthy food choices, food acquisition, cost savings and meal stretching, and STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, Math) of food through recipes and flavors. This is the third year in a row, Volusia County Public Library has been selected for the NEFLIN Innovation Award. The library received the 2021 Innovation Award for the We Are CapABLE programs created to provide ongoing, safe programs for adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. The 2020 award was received for the Lit Kits to Go program created to provide curated library books, activities, and other educational materials based on a family's stated preferences available for pickup weekly. For more information, contact Lucinda Colee at LColee@volusia.org.

Resource Stewardship: The 2023 ECHO grant funding cycle is kicking off with a mandatory workshop for grant applicants on Sept. 29 at 9 a.m. Interested folks may attend in-person or virtually. The ECHO team has provided a process flowchart, timeline for application and funding as well as more information on registering for the workshop at https://www.volusia.org/echo. For more information, contact Brad Burbaugh at bburbaugh@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Community Information: Staff interviewed Emergency Management Activity Project Manager Tom Cisco on the radio program. Mr. Cisco talked about the current activity in the tropics, hurricane preparation, planning, mitigation and where residents can find more information. The Community Information team completed the final Volusia Magazine T.V. show, which airs Sept. 18, 19, 25 & 26 on WDSC-TV15. Staff created a social media video featuring the groundbreaking event for the Medical Examiner's Office Facility. Staff is coordinating with the Fire Rescue Division on a news release, website post and social media post promoting Fire Prevention Week, which will take place from Oct. 9-15. Staff is working with the Volusia County Cultural Alliance to unveil the Tippen-Davidson Award plaque honoring Pat Northey during the Oct. 18 County Council meeting. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Animal Services: Last week was the VCAS-coastal Animal Control Officer's first full week of duty at Smyrna Dunes and Lighthouse Point Parks which allow dogs. During this week, Officer Stinson has already treated three dogs suffering from heat exhaustion, assisted an elderly person who had heat exhaustion and rendered aid for one dog who was injured on the rocks. For more information, contact Division Director Adam Leath, (386) 822-3506.

Beach Safety: Beach Safety personnel will be attending the Crime Stoppers banquet at the Daytona 500 Club on Sept. 15, in support of one of their officers who has been nominated for Crime Stopper Officer of the Year. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge, (386) 239-6414.

Emergency Medical Administration: On Sept. 12, EMA met with key members of the county staff regarding the pending ambulance Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CoPCN) applications. EMA also met with county staff and Dispatch Health on Sept. 12 to discuss other alternative patient dispositions. For more information, contact Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Emergency Medical Services: A new-hire class started on Sept. 12. Ambulance service technician interviews are being conducted this week. For more information, contact Division Director Michael Colman, (386) 236-3511.



Fire Rescue: On Sept. 16, Deputy Chief Alberts will be meeting with the technical advisors from the Florida Department of Emergency Management to discuss the Mitigation Grant that VCFR applied for last fall and continue the process for a possible award to enhance Stations 34 and 42. For more information, contact Interim Fire Chief Joe King, (386) 736-5940 ext. 12909.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: The Coastal Division coordinated with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and private contractors to plant approximately 1,800 plants at Smyrna Dunes Park. The hope is that these plantings will diversify the forage for protected species like the Southeastern Beach Mouse and the Gopher Tortoise. In 1989, the Southeastern Beach Mouse was listed as threatened by the FWS under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The only confirmed existing range of the Southeastern Beach Mouse is the coastal dunes systems in Smyrna Dunes Park, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, and Cape Canaveral. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at (386) 248-8072, ext. 20356.



Engineering & Construction: Construction of the High Bridge Boat Ramp project has reached substantial completion. Most of the punch list items will be completed by the end of business on Sept. 17. Due to material delays, some signs and the gangway for the south floating dock will not be completed until mid-October. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at (386) 736-5967, ext. 15846.

Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control is educating residents to ensure fall gardening structures have proper drainage to prevent growing mosquitoes in their gardens. Garden beds built with solid containers, such as metal troughs, should have holes drilled to prevent standing water. Excess water allows mosquito larvae to grow into biting adults. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at (386) 424-2920, ext. 20272.





Road & Bridge: The notice-to-proceed was issued on Aug. 29 for the B-19 canal box culvert professional engineering services contract. Survey and geotechnical data collection efforts are underway. The ARPA-funded project will provide alternative shoreline stabilization along a portion of the canal in Port Orange. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at (386) 822-6422, ext. 20455.

Solid Waste: The Solid Waste Division maintains 14 used motor oil drop off sites where residents are encouraged to recycle used motor oil. Since the beginning of September, 1,620 gallons of used motor oil has been recycled. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at (386) 947-2952, ext. 21347.

Traffic Engineering: Traffic Engineering signal staff will be performing traffic signal maintenance in the Holly Hill, Daytona Beach, and DeLand areas this month. In addition, they will be performing an inspection of the Lake Helen Osteen Rd and Elkcam Blvd traffic signal rebuild in Deltona on Sept. 14. For more information, contact Jon Cheney at (386) 736-5968, ext. 12709.

