AVIATION AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Economic Development: Staff will attend the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Launch Your Venture Competition March 31. Six student-led startup finalists will present their business pitch to a judging panel representing investors, industry and military personnel. For more information, contact Helga Van Eckert at hvaneckert@volusia.org.

OCEAN CENTER

Events: Contractors will continue to work on the LED lighting project in the arena and ballroom March 27-30. On March 31, the Ocean Center will host Council On Aging's "Dancing Through the Decades" event in the arena and ballroom. Almost 600 attendees are expected. Varsity Spirit begins move-in April 1 for the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) & National Dance Alliance (NDA) Collegiate National Championship, as well as the Daytona Beach Open, which takes place April 2. The Collegiate National Championship takes place April 5-9 and is the world's largest collegiate cheer and dance event. The competition utilizes the entire Ocean Center facility and the Daytona Beach Bandshell and is estimated to bring in 13,000 attendees and 10,000 room nights. The NCA/NDA Collegiate National Championship is open to the public and will be live-streamed on Varsity TV. For more information about the event and to purchase tickets, visit http://bit.ly/3JFM4q. For more information, contact Tim Riddle at triddle@volusia.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Assistance: Summer camp scholarship information, applications and an interactive map listing the approved sites are available at volusia.org/scs at 8:00 a.m. Scholarships will be awarded to income-eligible children between the ages of five and 14 who have completed kindergarten. Children up to age 17 attending approved special needs camps are also eligible. Applications will be accepted electronically, by mail and in person beginning at 8:00 a.m. April 10. For additional information, contact Carmen Hall at chall@volusia.org.

Parks, Recreation & Culture: There will be a Trails Master Plan public meeting at 5:30 p.m. March 27 at the Sanborn Center, 815 S. Alabama Ave., DeLand. The meeting will be hosted by Parks, Recreation and Culture staff and will accept public comments on the draft Trails Master Plan. The Trails Master plan survey can be viewed at http://bit.ly/3lDxx7d. The public is encouraged to attend. If members of the public cannot attend, they are encouraged to complete the survey. All public comments received will be presented to the County Council for consideration and adoption. For more information, contact Tim Bailey at tbailey@volusia.org.

COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE

Community Information: On March 20, staff coordinated the groundbreaking ceremony for the raptor exhibit at the Marine Science Center. The division continues disseminating information regarding hurricane and beach recovery efforts, including the biweekly recovery newsletter issued March 24. Staff is coordinating with multiple departments for another easement open house at 5:30
p.m. March 27 at the Brannon Center, 105 S. Riverside Drive, New Smyrna Beach. For more information, contact Kevin Captain at kcaptain@volusia.org.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency Management: The division continues to support the affected areas through the Disaster Recovery Center and provide resources to those areas of need for Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) hosted the LMS Meeting and EMS Workgroup meetings March 22. Corrections finished its leadership training on March 23 at the EOC. The EOC hosted an EMS staff meeting March 23. Staff participated in the FDEM/County Financial Meeting regarding Hurricanes Ian and Nicole March 23. The staff virtually attended the FDEM COOP meeting, and Shannon Ball attended the East Central Florida LPC and Training Task Force Meeting in Gainesville March 24. The division continues to support beach recovery efforts in collaboration with other divisions. For more information, contact James Judge at jjudge@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Administration: On March 22, staff attended the monthly Municipal Transport meeting and the Medical Advisory Board March 23. For more information, contact Mark at mwolcott@volusia.org.

Emergency Medical Services: EMS will be interviewing new employee candidates this week. There was a labor management meeting between Battalion Chiefs and EMS Administration on March 24. For more information, contact Interim Division Director Mark Wolcott, (386) 561-8087.

Fire Rescue: Throughout the next two weeks, the division will be submitting two grants to FEMA. The first grant is the staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant, where VCFR will apply for nine positions. The second grant is the Fire Prevention and Safety Grant, where VCFR will apply for Fire Safety Education equipment. For more information, contact Chief Joe King at jwking@volusia.org.

GROWTH & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Management: March 14-18 was a great week at the Lyonia Environmental Center (LEC)! The LEC had a successful Spring Break camp, a larger-than-expected group for the Wildlife Wednesday Walk and participated in “Ponce Preserves the Planet,” where over 100 people stopped by to hear about the LEC and to meet the ambassador animal, Kai. Water Quality staff performed a bimonthly, routine water sampling on the entire Halifax River, comprising 15 stations. Pollution Control staff were featured in a video released by Community Information highlighting the derelict vessel removal program. The marketing of April as “Water Conservation Month” has begun, with staff working with Community Information to provide tips to the public with the aim of conserving the county’s water resources. For more information, contact Ginger Adair at gadair@volusia.org.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Beach Safety: Beach Safety Headquarters hosted a two-day FBI course on March 22-23. For more information, contact Division Director Andy Ethridge at aethridge@volusia.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coastal: More beach accesses have been reopened to the public as Coastal tradesworkers and maintenance staff repaired the pedestrian beach access at Heron Street in Wilbur-by-the-Sea and
reopened the off-beach parking located north and south of the approach. Staff also repaired the pedestrian beach access and off-beach parking at 23rd Avenue in New Smyrna Beach. Additionally, trades and maintenance staff have begun repairs at Mallard Street in Wilbur-by-the-Sea and 9th Avenue in New Smyrna Beach. These two locations are anticipated to be open to the public by the end of March. A total of 66 Coastal accesses remain closed. For more information, contact Jessica Fentress at jfentress@volusia.org.

**Engineering and Construction:** The Sea Bridge Pier project is nearing completion, with a substantial walkthrough performed March 7. ADA handrailing is being completed this week, along with final site grading. Demobilization is scheduled to take place the first week of April. For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at tkasbeer@volusia.org.

**Mosquito Control:** The division is now using a resident alert system powered by the Everbridge software to send treatment notifications. This will allow residents to receive messages using their preferred text, email, and/or phone call method. This is the same system the Emergency Management Division uses to send weather alerts. Residents with a current account can update their subscriptions to include mosquito alerts. To register for notifications, visit bit.ly/vcmc-notifications. For more information, contact Marcus McDonough at mmcdonough@volusia.org.

**Road and Bridge:** The division’s construction crew recently resurfaced the Boy Scout Camp Road in New Smyrna Beach from Lake Ashby Road to the Lake Ashby Park entrance. The road was impacted by Hurricane Ian and needed repair. For more information, contact Lori Koontz at lkoontz@volusia.org.

**Solid Waste:** On March 18, team members staffed the recycling education table at the Ponce Preserves the Planet event in Ponce Inlet, where they provided information on how to recycle right, anti-littering, Keep Volusia Beautiful information and giveaway items. For more information, contact Regina Montgomery at rmontgomery@volusia.org.

**Traffic Engineering:** The division is reviewing the Traffic Impact Analysis Methodology for a proposed RaceTrac fuel station located on the northwest corner of State Road 44 and DeLand Crossings Boulevard in DeLand. This development will include 16 automobile fueling positions, six truck fueling positions and an 8,100-square-foot convenience store. For more information, contact Jay Williams at jiwilliams@volusia.org.

**Water Resources and Utilities:** The Florida Department of Health has issued a letter of clearance for the 1.2-mile potable water emergency interconnect project, which will connect the county’s distribution system in northeast Volusia and the City of Ormond Beach. The $883,200 construction project is expected to be operationally available by mid-April, while restoration activities will conclude in May. Federal ARPA funding of $400,000 was allocated for the project. For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at mulrich@volusia.org.