

## **Volusia County Government Activities**

**December 21, 2019 – January 3, 2020**

### **Business Services**

#### ***Information Technology***

Information Technology is now protecting all VPN traffic with new Cisco Firepower™ firewalls. More than 900 employees and vendors access the County's network remotely using VPN technology. These devices inspect that communication, checking for signs of malicious content such as ransomware and viruses. In the near future, all internet traffic will be routed through the Firepower™ devices and receive enhanced protection.

GIS employees engaged in their annual holiday-break outreach by offering a training class to local educators. Five teachers from Volusia, Flagler and Lake counties participated in the class, where they received textbooks, training materials and hands-on exercises introducing them to the principles of GIS and how it can be used in the classroom. The teachers were shown how to obtain free Esri™ software and pre-built lesson plans under an education license for their schools. County staff also offered assistance with registering for the free licenses, as well as geo-mentoring services for interested students.

For more information, contact Kevin Benge at [kbenge@volusia.org](mailto:kbenge@volusia.org) or Brian Whiting at [bwhiting@volusia.org](mailto:bwhiting@volusia.org).

#### ***Revenue***

November and December have traditionally been the busiest time of year for the Revenue Division, and 2019 was no exception. During the months of November and December, the Revenue Division collected over \$650 million across all taxing districts on the 2019 tax roll. That's almost 87% of the total 2019 property tax roll already collected, with three full months to go, prior to delinquency.

For more information, contact Craig Baumgardner at [cbaumgardner@volusia.org](mailto:cbaumgardner@volusia.org).

### **County Manager's Office**

#### ***Community Information***

Great progress is being made on the 2020 Census Awareness Campaign. Community Information staff is putting the finishing touches on the billboard, bus and movie theater campaigns; working with the 10 subcommittees; ordering indoor signs for public buildings throughout the county; distributing bookmarks to libraries; and scheduling multiple speaking engagements. On the horizon are digital and social media campaigns; email campaigns to targeted groups; and the development of radio, television and newspaper advertisements.

Staff is also finalizing Human Resources' orientation video and working on the State of the County booklet and video.

For more information, contact Kevin Captain at [kcaptain@volusia.org](mailto:kcaptain@volusia.org).

### **Growth and Resource Management**

Randy Roberts, Chief Plans Examiner, retired on Dec. 31. Activity Managers Rob Walsh and Margaret Hodge will retire on Jan. 3.

For more information, contact Clay Ervin at [cervin@volusia.org](mailto:cervin@volusia.org).

### **Ocean Center**

#### ***Events***



Beginning New Year's Day the Daytona Beach RV Show and Sale, sponsored by RV One Superstores, will be held at the Ocean Center and continue through Jan. 5. Over 5,500 people are expected to attend this show over the five-day event. There is free parking and admission, clowns, face painting and concessions. There is a huge selection of both new and pre-owned RVs.

Also the weekend of Jan. 4-5, the 9th Annual Volusia County Fall Home & Garden Show will be at the Ocean Center on the Arena floor. This event, which attracts more than 1,000 people over two days, is produced by Show Technology. This show also has free admission courtesy of Spa Manufacturers. The show features exhibitors, celebrity guest meet and greets; and experts in gardening, landscaping and home improvements. Family entertainment will include wildlife, pet rescue, dog training, mascots and activities for children.

A tentative date of Jan. 6 has been set for the initialization of the new revenue control/parking software and equipment in the Ocean Center Parking Garage. We are looking forward to the increased accountability and reporting that this new system will bring to Ocean Center and Volusia County. The Parking Garage is operated under a long-term contract with LAZ Parking.

For more information, contact Tim Riddle at 386-254-4500 ext: 24514 or [triddle@volusia.org](mailto:triddle@volusia.org).

## **Public Protection**

### ***Corrections***

Corrections has provided 748 meals to the First Step Homeless Shelter and washed 137 pounds of laundry thus far.

For more information, contact Mark Swanson at 386-740-5120

## **Public Works**

### ***Coastal***

Anticipating mild weather and holiday weekend beach crowds, Coastal Division contract management staff directed the opening of four additional beach access ramps in the greater Daytona Beach area. Secondary toll booths and extra toll attendants were also stationed at the busiest beach ramps in New Smyrna Beach and the greater Daytona Beach area.

For more information, contact Jessica Winterwerp at 386-248-8072, ext. 20356.

### ***Engineering & Construction***

Improvements to West Park Avenue continue to progress with all structural asphalt work now completed. Grading continues in preparation for sod placement, and pond excavation is nearing completion

For more information, contact Tadd Kasbeer at 386-736-5967, ext. 15846.

### ***Water Resource and Utilities***

Staff finalized the terms and conditions for the phase I cost share agreement involving wetland treatment and aquifer recharge project near Blue Spring. The agreement provides up to \$375,000 in project cost reimbursements from the SJRWMD for hydraulic load testing and analysis necessary to determine the technical feasibility of increasing spring flow and augmenting regional groundwater supply.

For more information, contact Mike Ulrich at 386-943-7027, ext. 12724.