

Volusia Matters Newsletter

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC April 2024



Gov Desantis is receiving and signing bills......

Florida legislature approved a \$117 b budget.....a **1.4** % **reduction** compared to the current budget.....it includes **\$717 million** for healthcare initiatives, aiming to attract more doctors to the state and allocates **\$500 million** to pay down state debt.

Education Funding includes a \$1.8 billion increase in public school funding AND \$1.2 billion for increasing teacher salaries.

The budget now goes to Gov DeSantis and he has between 7 to 15 days to either approve or veto it once it reaches his desk....let me repeat....once it reaches his desk...that may be tomorrow or next week.

He also has line-item veto for an individual House or Senate member's specific projects back in their district. Our Volusia delegation has several much-needed projects too.



S 1638 Compact to Conserve by **Sen Travis Hutson**, commits revenues from the Gaming Compact between the state and the Seminole Tribe for continued acquisition and management of Fla's conservation lands and clean water infrastructure.

To "combat homelessness", Gov DeSantis signed a statewide ban against sleeping/camping in public.

The new law, HB 1365, also promises the homeless greater access to services for substance abuse and mental health problems. Beginning in 2025, empowers residents/business owners to sue local governments for failing to uphold the ban.

The state DCF will oversee local governments that set up designated areas for the homeless to camp for up to a year.

The encampments would be created if local homeless shelters reach maximum capacity. The legislation lays out several rules for new housing sites. They must include security, running water and mental health support. They must also be located somewhere that does not impact nearby property values.....no drugs or booze allowed.

HGC Merchant Services Michael J. Pawelski CEO 904.993.3205 Cell www.hgcmerchantservices.com HB 7073 eliminates certain taxes/fees homeowners pay on their property/flood insurance thus reducing property insurance premiums by more than \$500 million statewide..

SB 7028 grants \$200 million in funding to the My Florida Safe Home Program which provides matching grants of up to \$10,000 for families while who fortify their homes with new hurricane-safe doors and windows or replacing their roof. These improvements in turn help reduce insurance premiums.

HB 1029, a new pilot program property insurance initiative designed to expand the My Safe Florida Home Program. It would allow condo associations, like residential homeowners, to pursue matching grant dollars for storm-hardening renovations. In the past, they have not been able to take advantage of My Safe Fla Home

Gov DeSantis signed HB 621 to ratchet up penalties against squatters and empower law enforcement to go after them. It seeks to ensure property owners are no longer forced into lengthy/expensive court proceedings to remove squatters.

Under the new policy, if law enforcement shows up and squatters can't produce the paperwork to prove they legitimately live there, officials can remove them quickly.

The bill also

- makes it a first-degree misdemeanor to make false statements in order to falsely convey property rights.
- makes it a second-degree felony to trespass on a residential property with \$1,000 or more in damages
- and a first-degree felony for knowingly advertising the sale/rent of a residential property without legal authority or ownership.

Legislators passed SB 280—Short-term vacation rentals legislation that could impact property owners. SB 280 has the STATE setting rules/regulations for short-term rentals, thus removing cities/counties the option to prohibit the rentals.

In 2021, the County banned short-term rentals in unincorporated areas. Since then, some cities have created ordinances to control where vacation rentals are allowed and how long guests can book.

Once the Gov <u>receives the bill</u>, he has 15 days to either sign it, veto it, or allow it to become law without his signature. <u>Apparently....he's NOT yet</u> received **SB 280**.

However, opponents neighborhood residents and local government officials from coastal and tourist communities, realtors say the bill will tarnish their quality of life, erode the rights of property owners and they're urging DeSantis to veto the measure

Fla's Long Term Financial Standing.....

June 30, 2023, Florida's total outstanding direct debt stands at \$16.3 billion, (\$800 million less than FY 2021 -22)......a 42% reduction since FY 2011.

Some key points include:

- 1. Fla's debt ratio was 2.93%.
- 2. General Revenue collections increased \$3.3 b over FY 2022-23, helping Fla's strong financial position.
- 3. Bond Refinancing: Fla's legislative and gubernatorial aversion to bonding, along with leveraging bond refinancing opportunities, has helped reduce outstanding debt. Transportation and education funding efforts constitute the largest portions of direct debt.
- 4. Over the next 10 years, Fla is expected to pay \$11.2 b in debt service on outstanding net tax-supported debt, with 34% of this amount (\$3.8 b in interest payments. Refinancing initiatives have successfully saved taxpayers money by reducing interest rates on bonds.

US House Democrat/Republican Count

- Cong Ken Buck Colorado's 4th District left Congress on March 13 which sets up a special election.
- SENTRING SENTRING
- Cong Mike Gallagher, a Wisconsin Republican will resign from Congress April 19.

42 US House members total not seeking re-election: Of this total, 3 Republicans and 9 Democrats—<u>are running for US Senate</u>....others running for State office.....with 28—11 Democrats and 17 Republicans—<u>are retiring from public office</u>. These departures will narrow the Republicans' slim majority in the House <u>218 to 216 seats</u>, while Democrats have 213. SO Republicans can only lose two votes to pass legislation along party lines.

Be looking for several Special Elections to fill vacant seats in the US House:

- New York's 26th District on April 30. 3 political agencies rate it "Solid or Safe Democratic"
- California's 20th District on May 21. 3 political agencies rate it "Solid or Safe Republican"
- Ohio's 6th Congressional District on June 11. 3 political agencies rate it "Solid or Safe Republican"

Assessed value is just value minus assessment limitations i.e. Save Our Homes

Just value is the property's market value.



<u>Currently.....US Senate</u> <u>has 51 Democrats - 49</u> <u>Republicans</u>

U.S. Senators who've announced that they won't seek re-election in Nov 2024 elections:

Joe Manchin (Dem, West Virginia)
Laphonza Butler (Dem, California).
Debbie Stabenow (Dem, Michigan).
Ben Cardin (Dem, Maryland)
Tom Carper (Dem, Delaware)
Mitt Romney (Rep, Utah)
Mike Braun(Rep, Indiana) running for Gov
Kristen Sinema Indep Arizona

Look for 2 special elections set for November 5:

- One to fill REMAINING 2 years of 6-year US Senate term that was vacated by Nebraska Republican Ben Sasse who resigned to become President of Unv of Fla. Republican Pete Ricketts is currently filling that vacancy.
- One to fill the rest California Democrat
 Dianne Feinstein's US Senate 6-year term.
 Feinstein passed away last September and
 Democrat Laphonza Butler is currently filling that vacancy...and won't seek re-election

Meanwhile.....New Jersey Democrat Sen Bob Menendez... is up for reelection November 5. However, he's facing federal bribery charges and won't be running in the Democratic primary. He will run as an Independent if he's exonerated.



President Biden's proposed \$7.3 trillion budget for FY 2024-25:

- Aims to increase corporate income tax rates companies pay from 21% to 28%
- ..totaling \$2.1 trillion over 10 years.
- Increases individual Tax Rates for anyone earning over \$400 K...no specific details yet.
- Individuals with \$100 million or more would pay at least 25% of their income in taxes.
- Allows federal government to negotiate drug costs, potentially reducing pharmaceutical expenses.
- Includes \$1.8 trillion deficit (6.1% of GDP).
- Child tax credit would be increased, cutting taxes \$2,600 for 39 million low and middleincome families.
- Spends \$258 billion to build or preserve over
 2 million units i.e. expand housing inventory.
- To increase home ownership, the plan provides a \$10,000 tax credit to sellers and then up to \$400 dollars a month to first-time buyers to help with their mortgage payments.

Like many other Presidents' proposals, this budget has little chance of passing. Apparently, they're only suggested budgets.



While the Federal Reserve has sought to bring inflation to 2%.....

The Fed is expected to keep its current federal funds interest rate at approx 5.5% this week.....the same rate

it has kept since last July and has contributed to a surge in borrowing costs. They want to make borrowing more expensive, thereby reducing spending and curbing inflation.

However, the Consumer Price Index has been 3.1%

(January) and 3.2% (February), raising concerns about the need to keep rates elevated.

Potential Rate Cuts? Economists think the earliest the Fed could begin cutting rates is during its June 11-12 meeting.

If the inflation rate remains above the Fed's 2% target, there may be 2 additional rate cuts before the end of 2024. It seems inflation is being driven by housing costs, nationwide housing shortage and higher mortgage interest rates......

January 2024, US government's total debt was \$34 trillion....but who owns this debt?

- 1. Japan owns \$1.1 trillion (14.5% of *foreign-owned* US debt)..... the largest foreign holder of US debt
- 2. China owns \$770 billion.... Given China's rapid economic expansion, this substantial investment in U.S. debt isn't surprising.
- 3. United Kingdom owns \$693 billion.
- 4. Luxembourg owns \$318 billion.
- 5. Cayman Islands owns \$265 billion.

To put this debt into proportion....\$34 trillion exceeds the combined GDP of the top 5 global economies <u>after the</u> <u>U.S.</u>: China, Japan, Germany, India, and UK.



On Fla's November ballot...

Fla Annual Inflation Adjustment for Homestead Property Tax Exemption Value Amendment (a legislatively referred constitutional amendment)is on November 5 ballot.



As you know.....Homes in Florida are assessed at just value (market value), minus the homestead exemption. The State has a \$25,000 homestead exemption for every primary residence. Another \$25,000 homestead exemption is applied on a homestead's value between \$50,000 and \$75,000, which exempts that amount from all taxes except school district taxes.[2]

This Legis Recommended amendment would provide for an annual inflation adjustment for the value of the homestead property tax exemption that applies to non -school taxes. The adjustment would be made every year on January 1 based on the Consumer Price Index. A "yes" vote supports an annual inflation adjustment to the amount of assessed value that is exempt from property taxation.

A "no" vote opposes an annual inflation adjustment to the amount of assessed value that is exempt from property taxation.

Supermajority requirement: A 60% supermajority vote is required for the approval of the amendment

March 5—the County Council approved a new agreement with Oak Hill to operate a recently completed



sanitary sewer system in Indian Harbor Estates. It will reduce pollutants flowing into the Mosquito Lagoon by providing some 280 homeowners with centralized wastewater service thus providing a cleaner waterway for marine life.

With construction complete, property owners are connecting to the new sewer system. Volusia County is the water provider for Oak Hill and will oversee wastewater system's operation and maintenance.

Gov DeSantis stated Fla's private sector job growth rate added 38,000 jobs in January. Fla's labor force grew by 243,000 over the last year. Education/Health Services sector added 9,700 jobs

followed by Tourism/Hospitality professions adding

9,400 jobs.

Florida's statewide unemployment rate is 3.1%. Gov DeSantis stated "there are many job oppor-



one who wants to work, with more than 405,000 jobs posted online.

Floridians in search of work/new job opportunities can utilize the Fla CareerSource network for help.

To view the January 2024 employment data, visit: floridajobs.org/economic-data.



Leedscreative.net

Starting teacher salaries Volusia County **School District** are:

- A beginning teacher with a bachelor's degree/no experience, starting salary \$48.670.
- With a **master's degree**, starting salary is **\$51,661**.
- For teachers with a doctorate, starting salary is \$54,563.

Additionally, the district provides statemandated performance pay to eligible teachers. It's important to note that these figures reflect the starting salaries, and there are ongoing efforts to address salary compression and support veteran teachers in the district

Daytona Beach Charter Review Commission announces dates for public **Town Hall meetings**

Charter Review Commission Members of the Charter Review Commission (CRC) have

started reviewing the city's 36-page charter and making recommendations for changes /additions which will be presented in a final report to the City Commission on June 5.

The CRC is hosting Town Hall meetings where the public can share their recommendations for changes to the charter.

One Town Hall was held March 25 at the Cherry Community Center.

- Monday, April 8 DB Police Dept's Community Room 129 Valor Blvd.
- Monday, April 22 Schnebly Recreation Ctr 1101 N. Atlantic Ave.





Daytona Beach - beginning this month, high-tech security cameras are being installed in the entertainment area along Seabreeze Blvd, N. Oleander Ave, N Wild Olive Ave and Seabreeze boat ramp in an effort to deter crime and assist police. Cost -

\$147,000...Once operational, live views from the cameras, will be fed into the Police Dept Grandview substation.

Mayor Derrick Henry contributed \$20,000 and Zone 2 Commissioner Ken Strickland provided \$80,000 from their respective COVID Local Fiscal Recovery Fund allocations.

The Edgewater City Council met March 25 to consider future goals......Some of the ideas included......More Sidewalks and

Street Lights, concentrate on Storm Water Maintenance, internships at City Hall, Update long term land use



plan, Zero discharge into River, 5-year plan for building a new city hall and a new community center, Update 2008 Vision Plan, Outdoor shopping center, and Economic Development need to get more commercial business to add to tax roll.

In the last several years, DeLand has added 10,000 new residents and city officials are surveying residents about growth, infrastructure and the City's vision for the future.



One of the Land's strong points has been a vibrant downtown however, like New Smyrna Beach,parking has become a challenge. In addition apartments and new single home subdivisions Are on the horizon and a new SunRail station will open this Summer. However, with that new station 4 miles to the West of the downtown, there's talk of a shuttle service.

Citizen survey will be presented to DeLand's planning board and city commission in April. Whatever they find out will then help the city update its comprehensive plan, which is set to be finalized later this year.

Last month, Deltona City
Commissioners appointed
Davison Heriot to fill
the District 1 vacancy until
the election. If you remember, Commissioner Tom
Burbank, elected in 2022,

resigned.



He's a Seminole County financial manager, who's kept up with Deltona City matters. His application showed his experience infrastructure projects, emergency preparedness, as well as federal/state disaster grants.

He joins **Commissioner Troy Shimkus** who was appointed by the Commission in February. Congratulations Davison!

New Smyrna Beach City Commissioners approved an ordinance to halt issuance of building permits that impact the malfunctioning storm water system in Venitian Bay Phase II until the flooding issues are resolved.

The temporary moratorium goes until June 25 and targets apartments, shops and stores that have been on the table. Home construction projects already with permits are not affected.

City Officials said it's Venetian Bay's responsibility to pay for the costs to make the improvements, and it's the City's job to make sure it happens



After Hurricane Ian, several Port Orange neighborhoods experienced servere flooding Port Orange Mayor Donald Burnette stated, "the City re-



ceived a \$15 million grant from the state to replace/upgrade filters and emergency generators at their wastewater facility to ensure the system doesn't go down again during a major flooding/hurricane event."

Port Orange is also lining thousands of feet of stormwater pipes and upgrading lift and pump stations to help with drainage.

All the updates will be complete in the next year or two.



The Volusia League of Cities met March 28 in Orange City where Fla League of Cities Senior Legislative Advocate Jeff Branch provided a recap of recent legislative action that will impact cities.....

Vacation rental units.....SB 280 has not yet been delivered to the Governor. It will shift regulatory authority to the State's Dept of Business/Professional Regulation, curtailing local government authority with VRUs in residential neighborhoods.

Statewide ban against sleeping/camping in public...HB 1365 would also

Regulate when/where local governments would set encanpments IF local shelters reach capacity.

Upcoming Events.....



Keiser Unv - Daytona to host annual Criminal Justice

Day.....with local law enforcement agencies.... Thursday, April 18, 10 AM - 12 PM.

It highlights the field of Criminal

Justice. High school students and general public will see demonstrations and learn first-hand from DB Police Dept K-9units, SWAT, Motor Brigade, DB Fire Dept, and Pt Orange Police Dept. For more info, call 274-5060.

Port Orange/South Daytona Chamber and the Volusia Recovery Alliance to host Networking Luncheon, Thursday, April 11.



Topic - The Opioid Epidemic & The Workplace: Developing a Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative....it aims to raise awareness towards creation of a comprehensive Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative. Click here to register today!



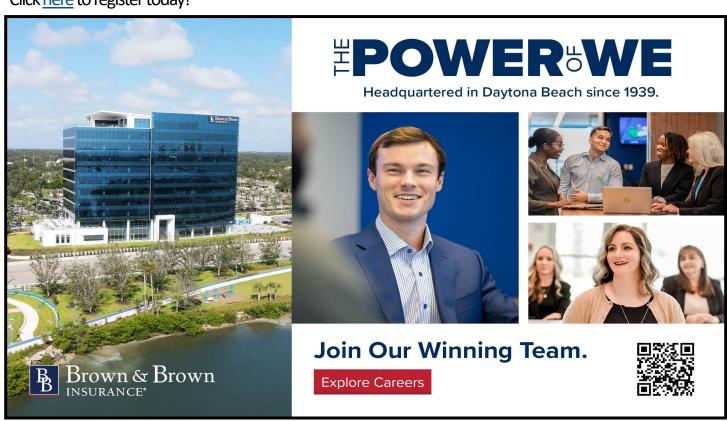


March 18 - Volusia School District had a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Orange City Elementary School.

The school was originally constructed in 1878 and will be rebuilt at its current location. The first phase of the new school is projected to be completed for the 2025 school year.

The frontage of the new school campus will exhibit Spanish Mission architecture and will house over 700 students state of the art technology and security systems.

The **Volusia School District** serves approx **62,666 students** . The district employs over **4521 skilled teachers** (all state-certified) .





At its March 19 meeting, the County Council......

- accepted Volusia Forever Property Acquisition Priority Recommendations from the VF Advisory Committee.
- appointed **Dwight Selby, Sue Odena, Mark** Billings, Waylan Niece...plus 2 others to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee
- appointed Caitlin Sutherland, James Jones, Mike McDonald to the Construction Licensing/ Contractors Appeals Advisory Board

Approved a report of transfer of SunRail's financial obligations from FDOT to Central Florida commuter rail members which includes Osceola Orange Seminole and Volusia counties as well as City of Orlando. With capital/operating and other expenses...it appears to be approx \$63 M annually...Council agreed to a *phased-in approach* whereby FDOT covers Sunrail's costs until December 31.....after that, Volusia's portion will kick in NEXT FY..... which should run about \$6 to \$7 m....or \$8 to \$9 with expanded service. It was also mentioned that DeLand's SunRail station should open sometime this summer.



Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD) to host 2024 Hurricane Expo Saturday, May 4, 10 am - 2 pm at Volusia's UF/IFAS Extension Office, 3100 E New York Ave DeLand.

Emergency Mgnt Director Clint Mecham stated

"It aims to prepare the community for the upcoming hurricane season via safety demonstrations/ presentations, and hurricane preparedness exhibits, With interactive exhibits, safety info, and the distribution of essential preparedness items".....i.e. weather radios on a first-come, first-served basis.

Vendors and guest speakers will be announced later....expo is free, no pre-registration required.

For more info, call **Yolanda Buckles** at 254-1500



Sip, Shop & Stroll with us at the next Riverfront Market taking place on April 28th from 9am-1pm! Featuring local vendors, music, and FREE yoga with Renew Yoga Studio at 8am! Be sure to bring your own mat and water! Mark your calendars and we can't wait to see everyone soon! Location: 179 S. Beach St, Daytona Beach.....



County Council Considers Changes for Beach

Access....Volusia's beaches run on a \$26.4 m budget of which \$7.8 m is tolls and beach passes...the County is seeking to increase revenue up to \$13.4 m....

So, the Council gave staff direction regarding offbeach parking fee structure and automation options. This would entail using current industry technologies i.e. License Plate Reader Cameras to increase efficiency for the public accessing Volusia Beaches...

As for access fees, residents pay \$25 for an annual pass....day visitors pay \$20 and \$100 for an annual pass. Under the proposal, residents get FREE access while non-residents pay \$30 a day and \$150 for an annual pass.

Residents still get FREE access in off-beach parking lots while visitors would pay \$20 a day and \$100 for



Other County Council items......

Last December, the County Council asked staff to draft a list of advisory boards that could be sunset or combined.....SO discussed yesterday were Animal Control, Code Enforcement, Historic Preservation Board and Library Boards, ENRAC, PLDRC Volusia Forever and ECHO. However, numerous concerned citizens spoke in support of their particular advisory board....

The Council agreed to POSTPONE consideration of switching Code Enforcement Bd to a Special Magistrate.

Regarding Cultural Council...George Recktenwald said look for a future workshop to be announced. redirect ENRAC to work with staff to prioritize storm water.



They want staff bring options regarding future of Library Advisory Board...AND Animal Control Bd as well as options for Business Incubator Advisory Bd but without changing relationship with UCF



Daytona Tortugas kick off their 2024 season with their first home game at Jackie Robinson Ballpark on Tuesday, April 9.

On Local Agendas this week......

Deltona Commission April 1

 Rescinding previous ordinances pertaining to Business Tax Receipt and regulations requiring a home inspection for a home business.

Deland Commission April 1

- Update from Mainstreet DeLand.
- Presentation re Deland City Academy
- Ordinance regarding a Downtown Utility
 Fair Share ordinance related to charges for new development in downtown area.

County Council - April 2

- \$2.9 million contract with Paul Culver Construction for Improvements to ISB beach approach in Daytona Beach
- 2024 ECHO Grant Award Recommendations Request to Consider Additional Grant Cycle.

Total recommended for funding: \$2,666,084 Total not recommended for funding: \$148,825 Total requiring Council direction: \$2,500,000 Total funding request: \$5,314,909

2024 ECHO Grant Applications

- 1 Historic Seville School Restoration
- 2 Ormond Sports Complex Softball LED Lights
- 3 Ormond Nova Community Park Improvements
- 4 Pt Orange City Ctr Playground Improvements
- 5 New Smyrna Beach Skate Park Expansion
- 6 Edgewater Hawks Park Pickleball Courts
- 7 Debary Alexander Island Phase I
- 8 Volusia/Flagler YMCA Athletic Fields/Playground
- 9 Stetson Unv Lk Beresford Shoreline Restoration/Public Access

SUPPLEMENTAL POWERPOINT for ECHO Grants

 Appointments to Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.... At-Large, Districts 1 and 3. Jake Johansson is the Committee's County Council representative.

Applicants:

- -Anne B. Evans, Incumbent
- -D.J. Lebo, Incumbent
- -Terry Sitaram
- -Phyllis Terri Malia

Port Orange Council April 2

- First Reading Ordinance No. 2024-04 Adoption of the City of Port
 Orange Comprehensive Plan 2022-2045
- Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Intl Assn of Firefighters (IAFF)

Ormond Beach April 2

- Capital Improvement Plan: Update on Parks Projects
- A Resolution accepting a proposal to perform an Aeronautical Survey and prepare an Obstacle Action Plan for the Ormond Beach Municipal Airport

DB Commission April 3

 Amend the LDC Requiring visible minimum of 12-inch tall Arabic numbers/letters be installed and visible at the rear oceanfront of all beachfront buildings facing the addressing to the beachfront for buildings.

> Click link below..... Volusia's Attainable Housing Dashboard



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mon - Fri 9am-5pm Saturday 10am-4pm (386) 761-2251 • WholesaleLightingDaytona.com

2500 South Nova Rd., Daytona Beach • I-95 Exit 260A 1.4 miles off Beville Road

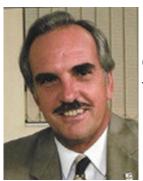
Some long-time friends that the good Lord recently called home.....



Kit Martin, passed away March 26. No doubt that she was the Matriarch of Republican Politics in Volusia. There's no way to count the number of events she held at her home for Ron DeSantis, and other members of Congress including

Ander Crenshaw, Sandy Adams, and many others. Whenever I had visiting staff members from the Governor, US Senators, members of Congress, State CFO.....she was always a gracious host. It's examples like this is why there's a special Kit Martin Award. She was a staunch and proud Republican and was the leader for numerous causes... A Celebration of Life event is being scheduled in April. We gonna miss ya, Kit!

Jim Foley. 88 passed away March 8. In 1974, he opened Foley & Associates Construction, building



projects at NASA, Disney World, Daytona Intl Speedway, Orlando Arena, and condominiums from Amelia Island to Vero Beach.

He was on several area bank boards and Daytona Regional Chamber. He served as Director

of the Economic Development Council, and a DB Shores Planning and Zoning Board member. He and his wife later relocated to North Carolina. They recently moved to St. Augustine. He is survived by his wife Connie, his son Craig Foley, his daughters. He leaves behind 7 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren. Jim will be missed!

CONGRESSMAN CORY MILLS

MILITARY ACADEMY DAY

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES ARE WELCOME

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE

100 WELDON BLVD. **BUILDING C** SANFORD, FL 32773

FOR DIRECTIONS TO EVENT, USE: 102 CAMPUS LANE, SANFORD, FL 32773











APRIL 13, 2024 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM **REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:15 AM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

NOMINATIONS@RICKSCOTT.SENATE.GOV 407-872-7175



Volusia Property Appraiser's Office appraises various types of property in the County. Their mission is to discover, list, and value all real and tangible personal property within the county including: Real Property: encompasses land, buildings, and other permanent structures.

Tangible Personal Property: machinery, equipment, furniture, and other movable assets.

Centrally Assessed Properties: properties assessed at the state level, often related to utilities and railroads.

The office creates the annual ad valorem tax roll, which helps determine property taxes based on the assessed values. They maintain a comprehensive real estate/economic database to assist in accessing relevant information.

The appraiser determines property values, actual tax rates are set by County Council, City Commissions/ Councils and School Board

Volusia County Cultural Alliance Your Voice for the Arts

Volusia Cultural Council will host 2 workshops for organizations wanting to apply for a Community Cultural Grant......

- Wednesday, April 3, 1:30 pm DB Shores Community Center, S Atlantic Ave
- Thursday, April 4, 9 am County Admin Ctr 123 W Indiana Ave Deland

An organization representative must attend one of the workshops in reference to the grant. This Grant provides operating support to nonprofit organizations whose mission is to deliver cultural/heritage-based programs to the public. In 2023, \$611,758 was awarded to 30 organizations.

The meeting will provide information about the submission deadline and grant scoring date. Grant award recommendations are forwarded to the Volusia County Council for review/approval. For info, call Cultural Coordinator Robert Redd 736-5953.

County to reopen online application portal for the Transform386 Hurricane Ian Homeowner Recovery Program on Monday, April 1......

The Transform386 initiative, funded by the US

Dept of Housing / Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery program, supports eligible homeowners impacted by



Hurricane Ian by offering repairs and reimbursement for completed work.

With over 1,000 applications already submitted, affected homeowners are encouraged to apply ASAP so staff may begin reviewing their eligibility. For more information, including eligibility criteria and benefits, go to

www.transform386.org





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HGC Merchant Services Michael J. Pawelski CEO 904.993.3205 Cell

www.hgcmerchantservices.com

Does your business want to get a better Rate of Return on your Credit Card processing?

Call Mike Pawelski or Jim Cameron to set an appointment......



The Florida Scorecard™ is a dynamic online tool that identifies and tracks key metrics that are important to Florida's economy today and into the future.



- April 3, 1 pm Environmental Natural Resources Advisory Committee ENRAC County Admin Bldg Deland
- April 10, 3 pm Affordable Housing Advisory Committee County Courthouse, 125 W NY Ave.
- April 17, 9 am Code Enforcement Committee
 Cty Admin Bldg Deland
- April 17, 9 am W Volusia Tourism Advertising
 Authority Main St Deland 125 Woodland Blvd
- Aprill 18, 9 am Planning Land Development Regulation Committee PLDRC Cty Admin Bldg
- April 24, 9 AM River to Sea TPO Daytona Intl Airport
- April 24, 6 pm Volusia Growth Mngt Commission VGMC Cty Admin Bldg

Click link below..... Volusia's Attainable Housing Dashboard

Taxable value is the assessed value minus exemptions and is the value the tax collector uses to calculate the taxes due.

Volusia County Land Use Terminology

Volusia County Zoning Code governs land use regulations. Zoning determines how land can be used, the types of structures allowed, and other specific requirements. It covers aspects such as permitted land uses, dimensional requirements, and more

Future Land Use Designation: outlines the intended use of a parcel of land in the future. It considers factors like residential, commercial, industrial, or recreational purposes. To find your future land use designation, go to Volusia County Zoning & Future Land Use Web Map

Zoning Classifications: These specify the allowable uses for different areas within the county. Examples include residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial zones. To discover your specific zoning classification, follow these steps:

Visit the Volusia County Zoning Search.

- Use the search bar to input an address, tax parcel number, or street name.
- Click on the plus sign (+) next to
 "Land_Use_Zoning" to reveal a dropdown menu with layers of information.

Enable the relevant layer to view your zoning classification

Building Permits: The map also displays open and active building permits. <u>Click on the blue indications</u> to learn about permits issued for various sites within the county





Candidates update..... (8/20/2024) (11/5/2024)

Clerk of the Court Laura Roth (REP) *

Supervisor of Elections

Lisa Lewis (REP) *

State Attorney Larizza, RJ (REP) *

Sheriff

Mike Chitwood (IND)* James L Powers, Jr (REP)

Public Defender Matt Metz (REP) *

Tax Collector Will Roberts (REP) *

Property Appraiser Larry Bartlett (REP) *

County Chair Jeff Brower* **Don Burnette**

Randy Dye

County Council District 2

Matt Reinhart*

County Council District 4

Troy Kent*

School Board District 2

Cassandra Gonyer Krista Goodrich Angela Kopnicky

School Board District 4

Donna Brosemer Merrick Brunker Sarah Marzilli Carl Persis*

County Judge Rachel Myers

County Judge

Bryan Feigenbaum*

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 2

Ken Strickland*

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 6

Paula Reed*

DeBary Commission Seat 1

William Sell*

DeBary Commission Seat 2

Jim Pappalardo*

Deltona City Commission Zone 1

Morris Gunny Froscher

Deltona City Commission Zone 2

Elizabeth Chavez William Mabery Emma Santiago

Deltona Commission Seat 6

Dominic Nick Lulli

Jody Lee

Edgewater Commission Dist 4

Gary Conroy

Holly Hill—Mayor

John Penny

Holly Hill—Dist 1

Arthur Burns Debra Kay Snow

New Smyrna Beach—Mayor

Fred Cleveland* Louis Joseph Pate

New Smyrna Beach—Zone 3

Jason McGuirk* Larry Westley

New Smyrna Beach—Zone 4

Randy Hartman*

Orange City Mayor

Kelli Marks

William O'Connor

Orange City At Large

Dana Knight

Orange City Council Seat 1

Harold Grimm

Orange City Council Seat 1

Cristina Oyarbide

Ormond Beach Mayor

Jason Leslie Susan Persis

Ormond Commission Zone 2

Travis Sargeant*

Ormond Commission Zone 3

Barbara Bonarrigo Kristen Deaton

Ormand Commission Zone 4

Harold Briley*

Ponce Inlet Council Seat 1

Bill Milano

Port Orange Mayor

Scott Stiltner

Port Orange City Council Dist 3

Shawn Michael Goepfert

Barry Pitek

Candidates.....

Fla Senate District 7

Michael Levone Gist (NPA) George Anthony T Hill (DEM) Gerry James (REP) Tom Leek (REP)

Fla House Dist 27

Ferrari, Andy (DEM) Richard Gentry (REP) Stephen Wayne Shives (REP) Beckie Sirolli (REP)

Fla House Dist 28

John Navarra (DEM) Bill Partington (REP)

Fla House Dist 29

Webster Barnaby* (REP) Rosemarie Latham (DEM) Vazquez, Adam (REP)

Fla House Dist 30

Chase Tramont* (REP) Smith, Kelly Anne (DEM)

US Senate

Scott, Rick * (REP)

US Congress - House Dist 6 Michael Waltz* (REP)

US Congress - House Dist 7

Adams, Jennifer (DEM) Cory Mills (REP)* Allek Pastrana (DEM)

Sports Betting Update.....

Fla Supreme Court keeps Seminole Gaming Compact intact -

The court unanimously rejected a bid by a pair of pari-mutuels to strike down the Seminole Gam-



In its ruling, the court ruled against the petition filed by West Flagler Associates.

This decision maintains the Seminole Tribe's control over retail and online sports betting in Florida. Despite this ruling, the US Supreme Court is still considering whether to take up an appeal on the matter.

The Seminoles committed to paying the state a minimum of \$2.5 billion over the first five years, with the potential for billions more throughout the pact.

The Seminoles have already started accepting mobile sports bets and introduced new table games and sportsbooks at their casinos. CEO, Jim Allen, expects to pay the state at least \$650 million over the next **year** under the deal.

Episode 61 includes local/state governmental news plus interview with Daytona Chamber Adocacy Director David Robinson.....

CLICK HERE for **Apple Podcast** OR **CLICK HERE** for **Podbean Podcast**

- Gov Signs 2024 Bills
- City/County Updates
- Congress Approves Spending



Broadcasting from Fountainhead Addressing City, County, Legislative and Congressional issues and their impact on Volusia County

Host: Jim Cameron

First Step Shelter Update.....

Shelter Intakes	2020	2021	2022	2023	January	February	Total
Daytona Bch PD	54	65	89	123	24	28	383
Ormond Beach PD	2	2	5	2	0	0	11
Pt Orange PD	0	2	4	8	0	1	15
DB Shores PD	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
S Daytona PD	1	2	1	0	0	0	4
Ponce Inlet PD	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Holly Hill PD	2	1	6	10	0	1	20
Volusia Sheriff Office	3	3	18	36	0	1	61
New Smyra Bch PD	•	•	•	2	0	0	2
Total Law Enforcement	62	75	125	182	24	31	499
Dept of Corrections			3	12	1	0	16
Total Hospitals	38	20	50	57	9	6	180
Total Churches	55	145	165	100	18	4	487
FSS Help Line			37	6	0	0	43
Total	155	240	380	357	52	41	1225

Safe Zone Intakes	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan '24	Feb '24	Total
Daytona Bch PD	23	2469	252	420	139	97	3400
Ormond Beach PD	0	20	20	22	2	4	68
Pt Orange PD	0	25	21	22	0	4	72
DB Shores PD	0	20	12	14	0	0	46
S Daytona PD	0	8	8	2	0	0	18
Ponce Inlet PD	0	0	2	3	0	0	5
Holly Hill PD	7	19	14	38	8	7	93
Volusia Sheriff Office				101	20	3	124
New Smyrna Bch PD	-	-	-	14	5	2	21
Total	30	2561	329	636	174	117	3847

<u>Click here</u> for more details regarding First Step Shelter....





CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION for VOLUSIA COUNTY



Sen. Marco Rubio

284 Russell Senate Office Bldg Washington DC 20510 marcorubio@senate.gov 202-224-3041

Chief of Staff -

Dist Office – 201 S Orange Ave Ste 350 Orlando 32801 407-254-2573

Regional Director – Ryleigh Wogoman

Ryleigh Wogoman@rubio.senate.gov 407-223-9503

COMMITTEES – Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe Appropriations; Foreign Relations; Small Business/Entrepreneurship; Committee on Intelligence (Vice Chair); Special Committee on Aging



Sen Rick Scott

110 Hart Senate Office Bldg Washington, DC 20510

Rick scott@senate.gov 202-228-0493

Chief of Staff – Craig Carbone

District Office – 225 E Robinson St Orlando 32801

Regional Director – Barry Cotton

barry cotton@rickscott.senate.gov 407-872-7161 – c

COMMITTEES – Committee on Armed Services; Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs; Budget; Special Committee on Aging



Cong Michael Waltz (R - 6)

213 Cannon House Office Bldg Washington DC 20515
(202) 225-2706 michael.waltz@mail.house.gov
Chief of Staff – Micah Ketchel
Dist Office - 22 South Beach St Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Dist Staff – Ernie Audino, Brandi Anderson 281-4949
COMMITTEES – Armed Services; Foreign Affairs Committee;
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence



Cong Cory Mills (R-7)

1237 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington DB 20515 (202) 225-4035 Cory.mills@mail.house.gov
Chief of Staff –

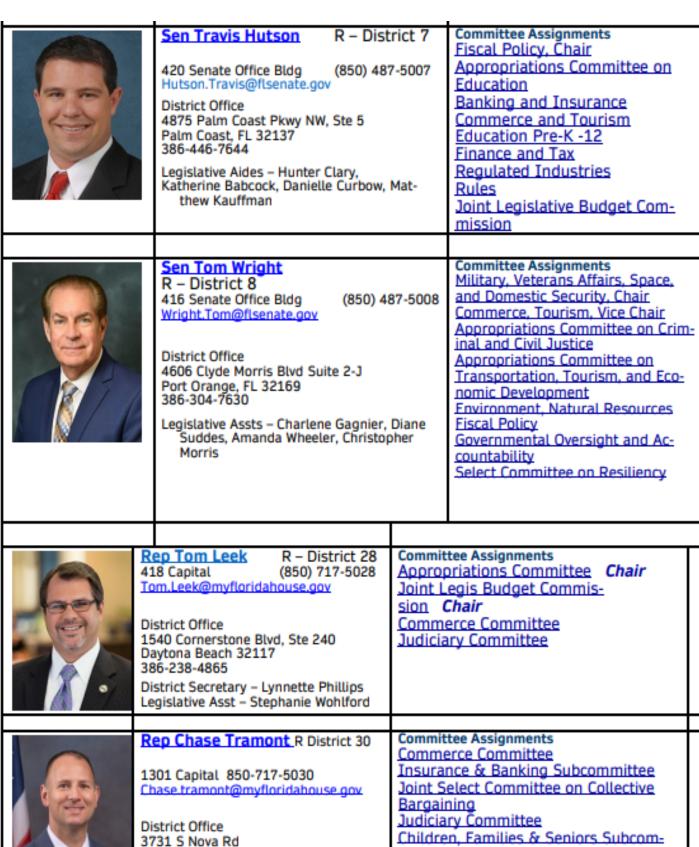
Dist Office

1000 City Center Circle Pt Orange 32127 238-9711

Dist Staff – Amy Dunn, Vanessa Horgan, Debbie Phillips

COMMITTEES – Armed Services; Foreign Affairs

Volusia Legislative Delegation 2024 Session Dates—January 9—March 8



mittee

mittee

Ethics, Elections, Open Govt Subcom-

Port Orange 32127

District Aide: Beri Bastian

Legislative Aide: Duncan DeMarsh



Rep Webster Barnaby R - District 29

300 House Office Bldg (850) 717-5029 Webster.Barnaby@myfloridahouse.gov

District Office 736-5042 120 S Florida Ave Deland 32720 Legislative Asst – Darryl Boyer District Aide - Robb Marcantonio Committee Assignments

Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee Vice Chair

Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Vice Chair

Commerce Committee

Judiciary Committee

Ways & Means Committee



Rep Stan McClain R – District 27 418 Capital 850-717-5027 McClain,Stan@myfloridahouse.gov

District Office (352) 732-1313 315 Southeast 25th Ave Ocala, FL 34471-2689

Legislative Aide: Ryan Thomas District Aide: Jennifer Treiber Committee Assignments
Ways & Means Committee Chair

Education & Employment Committee

Choice & Innovation Subcommittee

Rules Committee

Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee

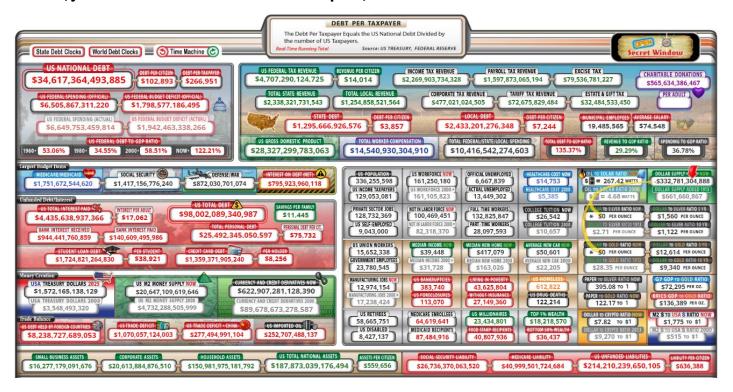


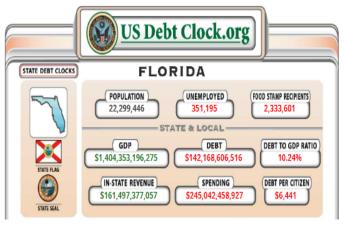
Sip, Shop & Stroll with us at the next Riverfront Market taking place on April 28th, 9am-1pm!
Featuring local vendors, music, and FREE yoga with Renew Yoga
Studio at 8 am! Be sure to bring your own mat and water!

Mark your calendars and we can't wait to see everyone soon!

Location: 179 S. Beach St, Daytona Beach......

....when my daughter, Holley was little and wanted something....she'd say, "you don't need money Dad, just write a check." as of 10:03 AM April 1, 2024





Last week, US GAO warned the national debt is growing at a rate that threatens the vitality of our nation's economy AND will more than double over the next 30 years ..." poseing serious economic/security problems if not addressed".

Most of the growth in government spending is three things.....

- Social Security,
- healthcare (Medicare/Medicaid),
- interest on the debt.

In 2000, US national debt was just \$3.4 trillion..... about one-third of annual gross domestic product. Back then, the Congressional Budget Office felt it could be wiped out completely within a decade.

Today it's \$34 trillion....nearly 100% of GDP.... highest level since World War II. On the current trajectory it will hit 200% of GDP by 2050.

Despite economic growth, FY 2023 deficit was \$1.3 trillion, 4th year in a row of a deficit above \$1 trillion.

Projections show the federal government will pay more than \$1 trillion in net interest costs starting in 2029. The recent rise in net interest spending has been driven by higher interest rates.

GAO has previously suggested that Congress develop a plan to address the government's unsustainable fiscal path.

Local Government Links

Volusia County Council - April 2, 9 am/ 16 - 4 pm Admin Bldg

Daytona Beach City Commission April 3, 17 - 6 pm City Hall

Ormond Beach City Commission April 2, 16 - 7 pm City Hall

Port Orange City Council April 2, 16 - 6:30 City Hall

Holly Hill City Commission April 12, 26 6 pm City Hall

South Daytona City Council April 12 - 6 pm City Hall

DB Shores City Commission April 12, 26 - 6 pm City Hall

DeBary City Council April 6, 20 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Deland City Commission April 1, 14 - 7 pm City Hall

Deltona City Commission April 1, 14 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Edgewater City Council April 1, 4 – 6:00 pm City Hall

<u>Lake Helen City Commission</u> April 11 - 7 pm City Hall

New Smyrna Bch Commission April 9, 23 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Oak Hill City Commission April 8 - 6 pm City Hall

Orange City Council April 9, 23 - 6:30 pm City Hall

Ponce Inlet Town Council April 11 - 2:00 pm City Hall

School Board of Volusia April 12, 26 - 4:30 pm Deland

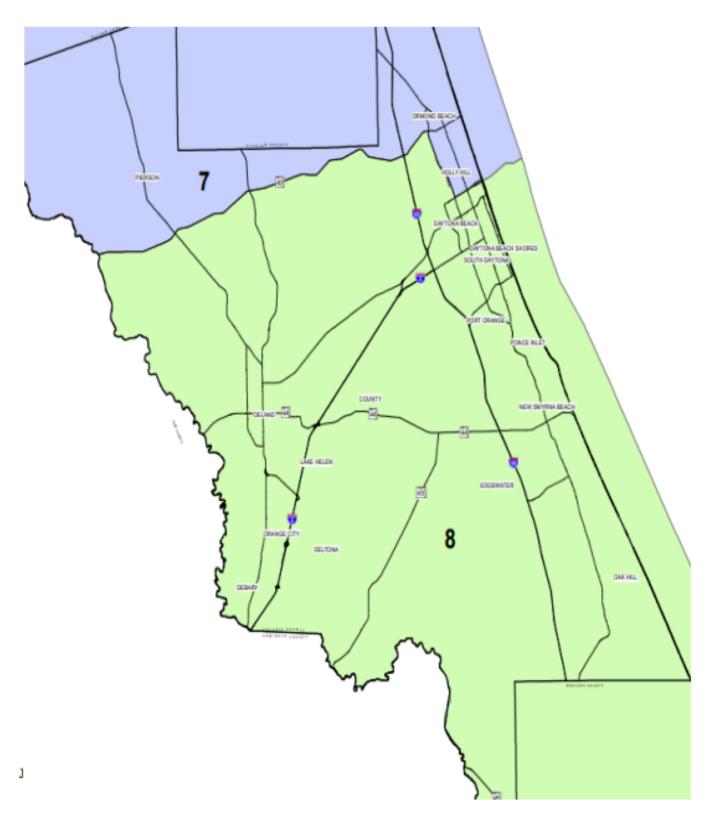
River to Sea TPO April 24 - 9 am Daytona Intl Airport



(386) 761-2251 • WholesaleLightingDaytona.com 2500 South Nova Rd., Daytona Beach • I-95 Exit 260A 1.4 miles off Beville Road

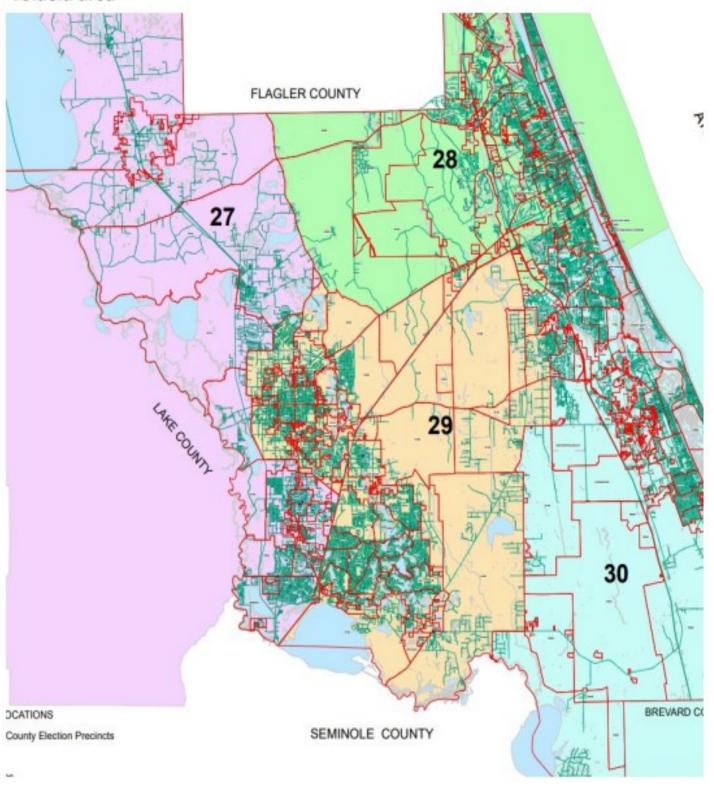
Florida Senate Districts 7 and 8

Volusia area

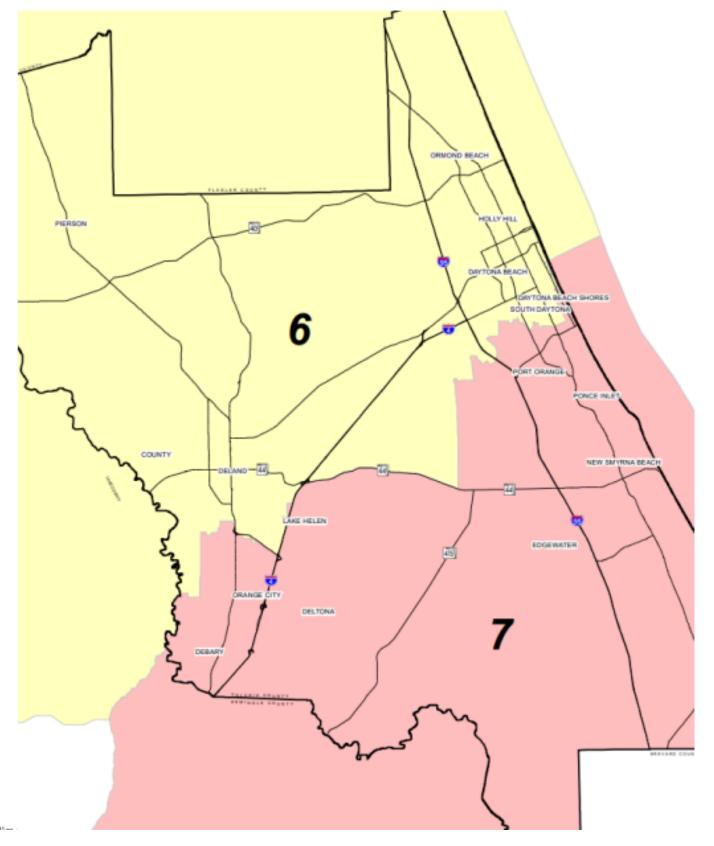


Official Florida House Districts

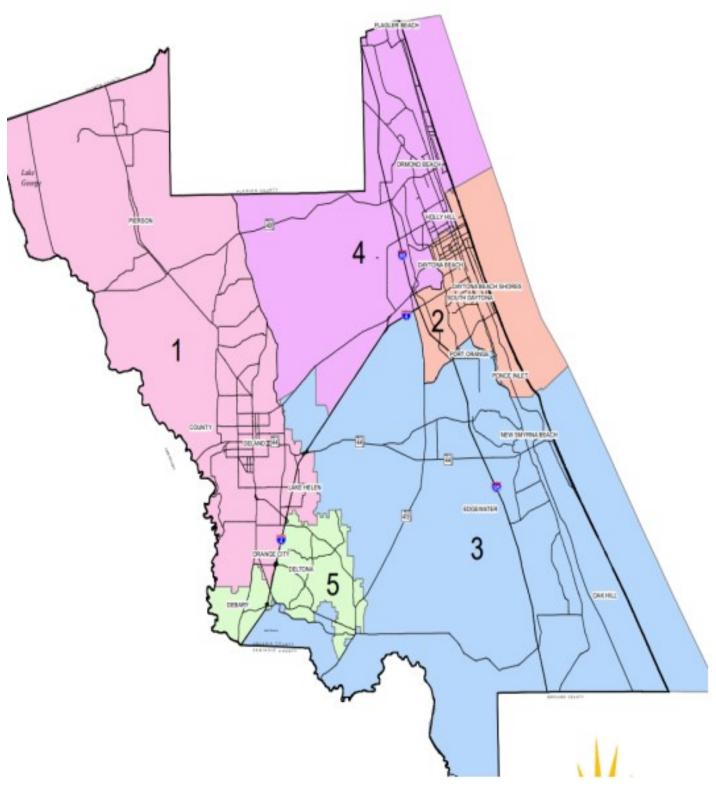
Volusia area



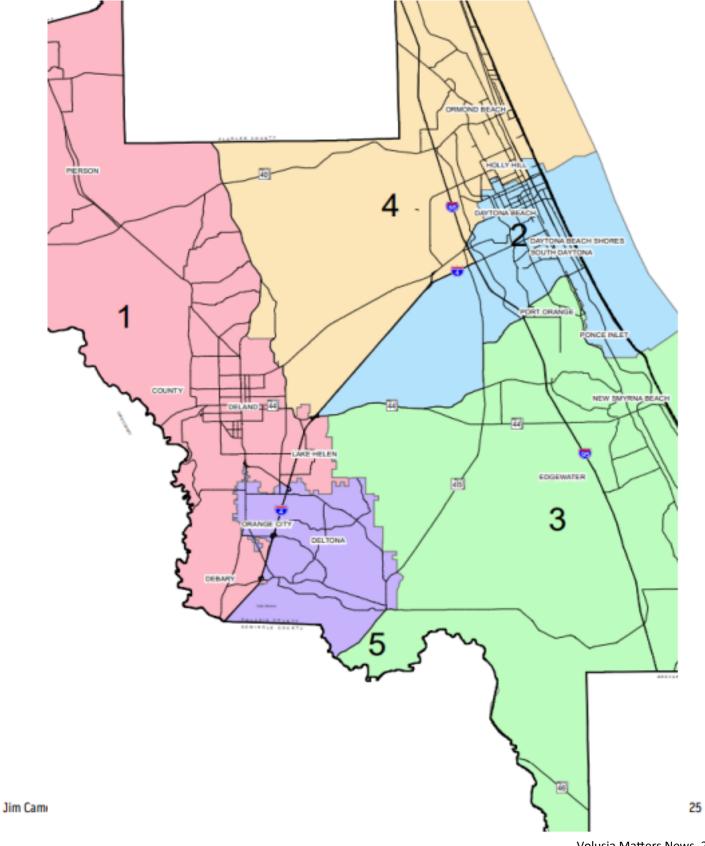
Congressional Districts 6 and 7



Volusia County Council Districts



Volusia County School Board Districts





What are you reading?

Do you have a book that you're reading now or recently read? If so, text it to 566-2140

- Abbas Abdulhussein Turning Ordinary Moments into Extraordinary Results
- Alhadi Abdulhussein The Big Short
- Amanda Thorpe Tattooist of Auschwitz Heather Morris
- Ammie Olson The Atlas Paradox Olivie Blake
- Anne Ruby—Monarchs of the Sea Dana Staaf
- Ben Johnson In the Blink of an Eye Michael Waltrip
- Ben Sedrine Friend and Foe Galinski/Schweitzer
- Bob Apgar Gathering Prey John Sandford
- Bob Williams Eat To Beat Your Diet William Li
- Bobbie Doyle Heaven and Earth Grocery Store James McBride
- Brandon Frey-12 Rules for Life Jordan Peterson
- Cathy Washington-Lead Guide or Get Out of the Way Frank Sennett
- Charlene Gagnier—How to Win Friends & Influence
 People Dale Carnegie
- Chris Via Warrior Diplomat Cong Mike Waltz
- Chuck Gaurra Backstage Pass Paul Stanle
- Colby Allman The Richest Man in Babylon George Samuel Clayson
- Cong Cory Mills—Creature from Jekyll Island Edward Griffin
- Cynthia Slater—Untold Story of Harry Moore America's First Civil Rights Martyr Ben Green
- Dale Ketcham The Black Tongue Thief Christopher Beuhlman
- Dan Francati Killing the Witches Bill O'Reilly
- Darold Schonsheck Prodigal Daughter Jeff Archer

- David Batten-Georgia Bottoms Mark Childress
- Deborah Crock Forrester
 — The Women Kristin Hannah
- Didiayer Snyder Don't Just Stand There Pray Something Ronald Dunn
- Don Burnett Most Dangerous Man in America, Making of Douglas MacArthur
- Doug Kosarek Million Dollar Weekend Noah Kagan
- Duncan Demarsh Master of the Senate Robert Caro
- Ernie Audino A Message to Garcia Elbert Hubbard
- Fred Guzman Leadership Challenge Kouzes Posner
- Fred Lowry Books of Matthew and Luke
- Hardy Smith The Long Game Dorie Clark
- Hugh Grimes Teaching Black History to White People Leonard Moore
- Hyatt Brown Elon Musk Walter Isaacson
- Jake Johansson Common Sense Thomas Paine
- Jason Meyer Going Infinite Michael Lewis
- Jeff Brower Wisdom Meets Passion When Generations Collide/Collaborate Dan Miller/ Jared Angoza
- Jesse Thompson David and Goliath Malcolm Gladwell
- Jessica Lovatt-Welty Habits Candy Valentino
- Jim Cameron—Walk the Blue Line
- Jim Tobin the firm John Grisham
- Joe Yarbrough Guns Germs and Steel Jared Diamond

Many of these books are available via Kindle through the Volusia County Library. Go to https://volusialibrary.org/ click Digital Library. GREAT selection of online books!

- John Booker The National Parks Ken Burns
- John Danio Hitchcock's Blondes Lawrence Lerner
- Joie Alexander-Cigar City Murders 1950 Glenn Storch
- Judge Matt Foxman Start Stay Or Leave Trey Gowdy
- Judge Mike Orfinger-Oath & Honor Liz Cheney
- Kate Wallace Build the Life You Want Arthur Brooks and Oprah Winfrey
- Kathy Smith-Words are Powerful Susie Yelvington
- Ken Hunt-Starbucks Experience Joseph Mitchell
- Kent Sharples -Empire of the Summer Moon S C Gwyne
- Kevin Captain—All Hands on Deck Joe Tye
- Linda Bradley -Seven Girls Gone Allison Brenna
- Linda Cuthbert Enough Cassidy Hutchinson
- Lise Forte -Thinking in Systems Donella Meadows
- Lois Paritsky Edmund Fitzgerald Legendary Shipwreck
 Ellie Andra Warner
- Loretta Arthur Destinations of a Lifetime
- Mark Bontrager Outlive Peter Attia
- Martin Tooley Quantum Faith Ann Capps
- Mary Bennett The Making of Vince Carter Michelle Carter
- Mary Margaret Kelley The 2% Way Myron Rolle
- Michael Kahn Exodus Leon Uris
- Michelle Carter Scott Making of Vince Carter
- Michael Fowler—How to Know a Person David Brooks
- Mike Pawelski Psychology of Selling/Persuasion Leonard Moore
- Mike Scudiero- Fair Warning Michael Connelly
- Mike Springer Book of Five Rings Miyamoto Mushashi

- Pat Northey Clapton by Eric Clapton
- Pierre Lewis Trump 101 Way to Success Donald Trump
- Richard Bryan-Eat Drink Be Happy Dr Walter Willett
- RJ Larizza Elevation Stephan King
- Rob Merrell The Sun Also Rises Ernest Hemingway
- Robin King Zen in The Art of Writing Ray Bradbury
- Ron Nowviski War at Sea Nathan Miller
- Roy Johnson Book of Romans
- Ryleigh Wogoman The Blue Zones Dan Buettner
- Sandy Bishop Strong Towns Charles Marohn
- Stan Escudero Ecclesiastical History of English People Venerable Bede
- Sue Barry Lessons in Chemistry Bonnie Garmus
- Susan Persis—Shogun James Clavell
- Tammy Kozinski Eye of The Needle Ken Follett
- Ted Rover I Am N Marharaj
- Teresa Rand Culture Shock Jim Clifton
- Terri Hinks Good Bye Things Fumio Sasak
- Tom Self Devil in the Grove Gilbert King
- Toni Hunt 360 Leader John Maxwell
- Traci Woodard Tell Me Stories of Jesus Albert Mohler
- Valli Perrine Unwoke How to Defeat Cultural Marxism in America Ted Cruz
- Vic Baker Government Gangsters Kash Patel
- Victoria Fahlberg The Summer List Amy Mason Doan

