

# Volusia Matters Newsletter

# **Jim Cameron Consulting LLC**

September 2024

JIM CAMERON CONSULTING LLC has 40 years experience working with local government and is available to serve on a clientele basis regarding local government issues, campaign assistance and more. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.JimCameronConsulting.com">www.JimCameronConsulting.com</a> or call me at **386-566-2140**.

"Days, nights, and weekends, *my guarantee still stands*.

If I don't return your call in eight business hours, I will pay you \$1,000 cash."



Sept 3 - **Gov DeSantis** visited Daytona State College to highlight Florida's success in enhancing the nursing talent pipeline through two specific State nursing education funds whose intent is to increase the number of nurses entering the workforce.

He recently approved \$130 million for the PIPELINE and LINE nursing programs in the FY 2024-25 Budget, thus bringing the total investment to \$380 million of which Daytona State College received over \$9 million.

He also stated that investment has generated a 25% increase in nursing students with an average passing grade of 92%.

Halifax Health CEO Jeff Feasel stated, Halifax Health has partnered with the State by adding a total of \$3 million since 2019. He also said that Halifax has hired 380 nurses from Daytona State College. AdVent Health has also contributed to these funds as well.

# Education Commissioner Manny Diaz stated,

"These programs are strong incentives for publicprivate partnership and we are seeing record numbers of enrollees and completers."

Fla has invested \$46 million in state universities each year since FY 2022-23 to enhance nursing education which led to a record high of 1,800 nursing graduates.

There were more than 150 attendees for this event including **Senator Tom Wright**, as well as **Representatives Webster Barnaby and Chase Tramont**.



Gov DeSantis and Halifax Health CEO Jeff Feasel





General Election Ballot November 5 (post Primary Election Results)

#### **US Senate**

Mucarcel-Powell, Debbie (DEM)
Scott, Rick \* (REP)

# **US Congress - House Dist 6**

Richard Paul Dembinsky (WRI)

John David Stockton (DEM)

Michael Waltz\* (REP)

# **US Congress - House Dist 7**

Adams, Jennifer (DEM)
Cory Mills (REP)\*

#### Fla Senate District 7

George Anthony T Hill (DEM)
Tom Leek (REP)

#### Fla House Dist 27

<u>Ferrari, Andy</u> (DEM) <u>Richard Gentry (REP)</u> Dennis Simpson (LPF)

#### Fla House Dist 28

Joseph Hannoush (LPF)
John Navarra (DEM)
Bill Partington (REP)

## Fla House Dist 29

Webster Barnaby\* (REP)
Matt Johnson (LPF)
Rosemarie Latham (DEM)

#### Fla House Dist 30

<u>Chase Tramont\* (REP)</u> <u>Smith, Kelly Anne (DEM)</u>

## Sheriff

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

# **County Chair**

<u>Jeff Brower\*</u> Randy Dye

# **County Council District 2**

Steve Miller
Matt Reinhart\*

#### **School Board District 2**

Cassandra Gonyer Krista Goodrich

# Volusia Voter Turnout—August 20

Active Volusia Eligible Voters 372,410
Unofficial Voter Turnout 88,649
Percent Turnout 23.80%

# Total Ballots by Type

Mail 46,859

Early Voting 15,863

Election Day 25,927

**Total Ballots by Party** 

Democrats 29,048
Republicans 46,864
NPAs 11,436
Other Parties 1.301

Note - number of party primary contested races could've affected this total

### **School Board District 4**

Donna Brosemer
Carl Persis\*

# **Daytona Beach Commission Zone 2**

Nicholas Edgar Ken Strickland\*

#### **Deltona Commission Zone 1**

<u>Davison Heriot\*</u> Brandy White

## **Deltona Commission Seat 4**

Dori Howington
Dana McCool\*

## **Deltona Commission Seat 6**

Dominic Nick Lulli Jody Lee

# **Edgewater Commission Dist 2**

Gigi Bennington

Mike Thomas

# New Smyrna Beach—Mayor

Fred Cleveland\*
Frank Dalton

# New Smyrna Beach—Zone 3

Jason McGuirk \*
Larry Westley

# New Smyrna Beach—Zone 4

Brian Ashely Randy Hartman\*

# Oak Hill Mayor

Doug Gibson Ricky Taylor

#### **Oak Hill Commission Seat 1**

Mark Drollinger
Steve McGee

# **Orange City Mayor**

Kelli Marks
Laurie Scotton

# **Orange City Council Seat 2**

Cristina Oyarbide
Lisa Stafford\*

# **Ormond Beach Mayor**

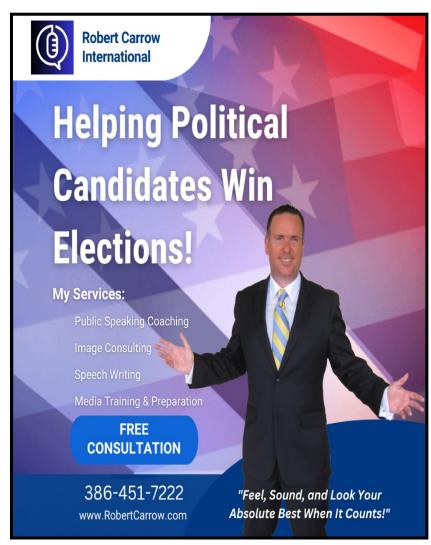
Jason Leslie Susan Persis

# **Pierson Mayor**

Samuel Bennett
Gray Leonhard

## **Pierson Council Seat 4**

Jimmy Anderson Sergia Cardenas



**Candidates Elected in Primary Election** 

Clerk of the Court

Laura Roth (REP) \* ELECTED

**Deland Commission—Seat 2** 

<u>Charles Paiva \*</u> **ELECTED** 

Holly Hill—Dist 1

Debra Kay Snow **ELECTED** 

**Ormond Commission Zone 3** 

Kristen Deaton

**Deltona Commission Zone 2** 

Emma Santiago ELECTED

**Ponce Inlet Council Seat 2** 

Joe Villanella\*

**Port Orange Mayor** 

Scott Stiltner

**Port Orange Council Dist 3** 

Shawn Michael Goepfert

**Port Orange Council Dist 4** 

Lance Green

(or without opposition)

**Supervisor of Elections** 

Lisa Lewis (REP) \* ELECTED

**State Attorney** 

Larizza, RJ (REP) \* UNOPPOSED

**Public Defender** 

Matt Metz (REP) \* UNOPPOSED

Tax Collector

Will Roberts (REP) \* ELECTED

**Property Appraiser** 

Larry Bartlett (REP) \* ELECTED

**County Council District 4** 

Troy Kent\* **ELECTED** 

**Daytona Beach Mayor** 

Derrick Henry\* **ELECTED** 

**Daytona Beach Commission Zone 4** 

Stacy Cantu\* ELECTED

**Daytona Beach Commission Zone 6** 

Paula Reed\* **ELECTED** 

**DB Shores Commission Seat 2** 

Mark Card\* ELECTED

**DB Shores Commission Seat 3** 

Stephen Dembinsky\* ELECTED

**DB Shores Commission Seat 4** 

Michael Politis\* ELECTED

**DeBary Commission Seat 1** 

William Sell\* ELECTED

**DeBary Commission Seat 2** 

Jim Pappalardo\* ELECTED

**Deland Commission—Seat 4** 

Daniel Reed **ELECTED** 

**Edgewater Commission Dist 4** 

Robert Wilkie **ELECTED** 

Holly Hill—Mayor

John Penny ELECTED

Holly Hill—Dist 2

Jeffrey Delanoy **ELECTED** 

**Lake Helen Commission Zone 2** 

Roger Eckert\* **ELECTED** 

**Orange City Council District 4** 

Lisa Marie Richardson **ELECTED** 



**Ormond Commission Zone 2** 

<u>Travis Sargeant\*</u> <u>ELECTED</u>

**Ormond Commission Zone 4** 

Harold Briley\* ELECTED

**Ponce Inlet Council Seat 1** 

Bill Milano\* ELECTED

**South Daytona Mayor** 

Bill Hall **ELECTED** 

Lake Helen Commission Zone 4

<u>Charlene Bishop</u> **ELECTED** 

**Oak Hill Commission Seat 2** 

Carrie Werning **ELECTED** 

**Orange City At Large** 

Dana Knight ELECTED

**Orange City Council Seat 1** 

Harold Grimm ELECTED

**Orange City Council Seat 3** 

Alexander Tiamson\* ELECTED

**South Daytona Council** 

<u>Eric Sander</u> <u>**ELECTED**</u>

**County Judge** 

Rachel Myers\* UNOPPOSED

**County Judge** 

Bryan Feigenbaum\* UNOPPOSED

Circuit 7 Judgeships

Chris France (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED
Rose Marie Preddy (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED
Mary G. Jolley (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED
Linda Gaustad (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED
Leah Case (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED
Elizabeth Blackburn (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED
Chris Kelly (NOP)\* UNOPPOSED

Did you know? The Volusia Sheriff's Office uses Live911 to give deputies on patrol a live audio feed of 911 calls in their area. Hearing a live 911 call in real time can help speed up response time and get valuable first-hand information directly to responding units with zero delay.

August 20 – Port Orange voters approved a obligation bond measure that would allow the city to secure up to \$30 million to be spent in renovating and expanding portions of its city parks over the next 30 years.



So far, five new projects are proposed.....

- new sports fields,
- restoration of historic sites,
- renovate aging parks,
- trails to improve safe ways to navigate the city,
- indoor recreation space for recreation/sports programs

More to come....

Important dates to remember regarding General Election......

- o Oct. 7 Voter registration deadline.
- o Oct. 21 Early voting begins (see Oct VIM news)
- o Oct. 24 Vote by Mail ballot request deadline
- o **Nov. 2** Early voting ends
- Nov. 5 General Election Day

To check your voter registration, find early voting sites, or look up your Election Day polling location, <u>click here.</u>



# Economic Development 2nd Q Breakfast

Economic Development Director Lou Paris reported.....Volusia employed a labor force of 264,532 AND OF THAT Volusia has 104,973 locals employees are working in county......plus an additional 58, 275 living elsewhere migrating to work in Volusia while 106,108 Volusia residents work outside the county.

<b>Local Employment Rates</b>	2Q'24
Volusia	3.6
Daytona Beach	4.4
Deland	4.1
Deltona	3.9
New Smyrna Beach	3.4
Port Orange	3.1
Ormond Beach	3.2

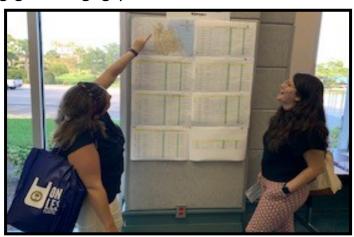
- 151 Commercial Construction Bldg Permits valued at \$188 m
- 52 Commercial Redevelopment Permits valued at \$17.6 m
- 849 Residential Construction Bldg Permits valued at \$289 m

For more info, go to https://www.floridabusiness.org

Next Economic Q2 breakfast will be Friday, November 15, 7:30—9 AM Daytona Intl Airport

# August 26 - Ormond Beach Planning staff hosted residents to seek input for its comprehensive plan.

The meeting reviewed future land use, coastal management, capital improvements and cultural and historic resources. About 100 attended participated the event which included 14 different booths to help provide a game plan for the future of the City. Once all community input is received, Planning Staff will engage in changing specific elements.



VCARD's Kelli Constantino and Cobb Cole Attorney Jessica Gow review exhibits at the event

Transportation was one of the main topics being asked about.

The Ormond Beach Planning Board will review the comp plan's future land use at the Planning Board's Sept 12 meeting.

Citizens will get their next opportunity to review comp plan amendments on Jan 16, 2025. After that, the City Commission will get their first look at the amendments April 15.



Call 1-800-369-1393 for more info. Ask for Nancy. 5 locations around Volusia and Flagler. They're nice people!



County Engineer Tadd Kasbeer discusses road funding options

# County seeking public feedback on proposed Road Priority List

Meetings will give residents the opportunity to comment and provide input in regards to key intersections, widening and building new roads, and extending existing roads. Potential safety projects include adding paved shoulders, widening narrow lanes and installing turn lanes.

**County Engineer Tadd Kasbeer** pointed out road funding sources including:

- Gas Tax: 12-cent per gallon tax, with 5 cents specifically allocated for capacity projects.
- Impact Fees: generated by new developments and used for capacity projects within specific zones.
- Proportionate Fair Share: generated by new developments, and used for capacity projects in congested traffic areas.
- Grants: State/federal grants....Local Agency Program (LAP) and Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP), are used for specific projects.

Notably, property taxes are not used to fund road projects in Volusia County.

**Click here** for PowerPoint slides.

# County's Economic Development Dept to Host Small Business Funding Readiness Workshop

Wednesday, Oct 2, 8:00 - 1:30 PM Center at Del-

tona, 1640 MLK Blvd.

The keynote speaker will be Venus Swimwear founder Daryle Scott, who founded a \$100 million international brand.



The workshop will feature lenders, financial professionals, and small business consultants who will share insights to help small businesses navigate the lending process. Attendees will learn what lenders and investors expect, know where pre-application work is required, and be able to recognize the type of funding that best fits their venture's needs.

The workshop will introduce the Volusia Business Resources Funding Readiness Center which helps assess funding readiness, expanding financial knowledge, and guiding business owners to outside capital alternatives that fit their business.

It's free and includes lunch. Attendees must preregister online. For more information, contact Heather Edwards, 248-8048.



HGC Merchant Services Michael J. Pawelski CEO 904.993.3205 Cell www.hgcmerchantservices.com



Deland Chief JD Umberger and Capt Adam Kishardt

# Meetings with Local Police Chiefs.....

On August 2, our friend **Brandon Frey, Central Fla Regional Director for Gov DeSantis** was in Volusia.

He and I met with local police chiefs including Holly
Hill's Byron Williams, Ormond Beach Jesse Godfrey
and Capt Chris Roos, South Daytona's Mark
Cheatham, Deland's JD Umberger and Capt Adam
Kishardt, and Orange City Capt Jason Ward.

Discussions centered on local law enforcement issues.



Holly Hill Chief Byron Williams



Ormond Beach Jesse Godfrey and Capt Chris Roos

Volusia Sheriff's Office uses Live911 to give deputies on patrol a live audio feed of 911 calls in their area.

Hearing a live 911 call in real time can help speed up response time and get valuable first-hand info directly to responding units with zero delay.



# Local Governments to Set Property Tax Rates This Month!

Don't forget that Property Appraiser Larry Bartlett stated Volusia's property values increased this year 7%.....slightly lower than last year's 15% increase. Overall the value of property in Volusia rose to \$104 billion, the highest amount ever.

SO this month, cities, the county and school board will-debate and finalize numbers for their FY 2024-25 budget. The new fiscal year begins October 1.

During these budget hearings, you'll hear reference to RollBack Rate....that's the tax rate that brings in the same tax revenue in the com ing fiscal year aside from new construction — because increased property values cause that same rate to bring in more revenue. SO it's kinda like a benchmark.

In September's budget hearings, they'll START with TRIM ceiling rate (set back in August) it can be lowered or remain the same. From what I've seen at the meetings I've attended......most commissions/councils are setting that higher tax rate as it will be debated/negotiated this.

In 2021, Volusia Sheriff's Office established its own Training Academy....3 years later, the VSO Academy has brought in 7 recruit classes of the next generation of deputies. For more Academy info and VSO careers......

https://www.volusiasheriff.gov/careers/



# Volusia County Can Help Nonprofits Become Certified CHDOs

As part of its Affordable Housing Initiative, the County is helping nonprofit organizations become certified as a **Community Housing Development** 

Organization

(CHDO) and apply for funding opportunities.



A CHDO is a private

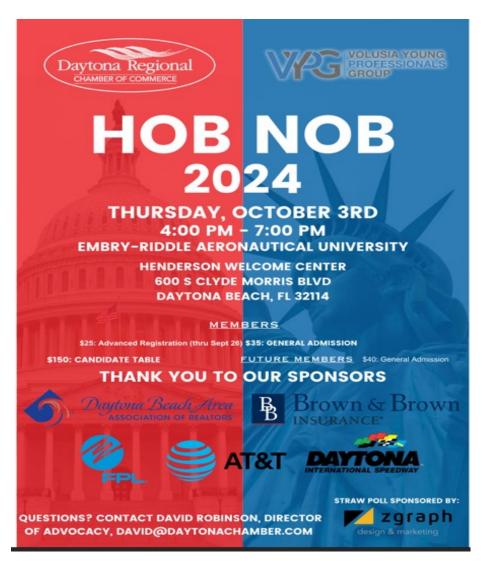
nonprofit, community-based organization that is locally certified and focused on developing affordable housing. CHDO certification is necessary to become eligible for HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding, which can be used to expand the supply of affordable housing and assist state/local governments to provide housing by public private partnerships.

HOME regulations require Volusia County to set aside 15% of its annual allocation for CHDOs. Funding for proposed projects must be used to acquire and rehabilitate, or construct, affordable single-family rental housing or other small rental housing projects for low-income households in Volusia County. Funds up to \$609,919, which includes funding from the prior and current year, are available to be awarded to Volusia County certified CHDOs.

To qualify for designation as a CHDO, nonprofits must submit two applications to the County:

- Applications deadline to become a certified CHDO is 5 PM Friday, Sept. 27
- Financing deadline of one or more projects is 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25







Elected Officials Roundtable
meeting Monday Sept 9,
9:00 - 11:00 AM
Dennis McGee Room
Daytona Beach Intl Airport
(unless otherwise noted).
Agenda forthcoming.....I highly
recommend this informative

Now is the time when local entities will be deciding their tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year.
Once that final rate has

Understanding Local Property Taxes

been set, tax bills will be sent November 1. It's important to know that it's not just the mileage rate per se, in determining how much you pay, but it's the millage rate in proportion to the property's value.

One city with high value properties may be able to generate \$10,000 in revenue with a quarter of a mill while another city with lower property values may have to charge three or four mills to generate \$10,000 in revenue.

And on a side note......Homestead properties receive two \$25,000 exemptions AND they have the Save Our Homes 3% assessment limit.....and these and any future proposed benefits and that means a higher tax burden for non-homestead properties, including business/commercial/industrial and renters.

Another factor regarding property tax is the percentage of commercial/industrial to residential.

See Tax/Budget Chart on pages 9, 10, 11 See Volusia Property Data on pages 12, 13

Please note that Commissions/Councils will hold budget hearings this month and that budgets and millage rates may or may not be lowered. A final budget/millage rate report will be emailed the first week of October.....

# je

# Jim Cameron Consulting LLC FY 2024-25 Tax Rates / Budget Chart

Click Links for more details	FY 2023-24 Millage Rate	Proposed Rate 2024-25 (Roll Back Rate)	General Fund Proposed FY 2024-25 vs (General Fund FY 2023-24)	Total Budget Proposed FY 2024-25 vs Total Budget FY 2023-24)	Contact for more info	Budget Hearings
Daytona Beach	5.43	5.93 (5.07)	\$151.5 m (\$138.9 m)	\$359.2 m (\$343.2 m)	301 S Ridgewood Ave Budget Dir Fred Coulter 671-8060 DB City Commission	Sept 4, 18 6 PM
Daytona Beach Shores	4.58	4.58 (4.21)	\$21.2 m (\$20.1 m)	\$44.2 m (\$24.6 m)	2990 S Atlantic Ave Budget Director Lori Irwin 763-5353 DB Shores City Comm	Sept 9, 24 6 PM
Port Orange	4.99	4.99 (4.61)	\$61.3 m (\$58.7 m)	\$169.2 m (\$187.8 m)	1000 City Center Circle Budget Dir John McKinney 506-5710 Pt Orange City Council	Sept 4, 18 5:30 PM
Ormond Beach	4.00	4.16 (3.67)	\$49.1 m (\$43.3 m)	\$131.9 m (\$120.1 m)	22 S Beach St Finance Dir Kelly McGuire 676-3226 Ormond Bch City Comm	Sept 4, 18 7 PM
<u>Holly</u> Hill	5.90	5.90 (5.41)	\$12.2 m (\$10.9 m)	\$35.7m (\$31.6 m)	1065 Ridgewood Ave 248-9426 Finance Dir Michele Moore Holly Hill Commission	Sept 9, 24 6 PM
South Daytona	7.75	7.75 (7.11)	\$12.3 m (\$11.3 m)	\$36.5 m (\$36.7 m)	1672 S Ridgewood Ave 322-6063 Finance Dir Jason Oliva S Daytona City Comm	Sept 9, 6 PM
Volusia County Schools	5.40	5.285 (5.088)	\$657.1 m (\$662.1 m)	\$1.2 b (\$1.4 b)	200 N Clara Ave Deland Budget Dir Todd Seis 255-6475 ext 20385 Volusia School Board	Sept 10, 5:30 PM
County of Volusia	3.3958 – County 1.4541 – Sheriff *4.8499 - Total	3.286- County 1.599 - Sheriff *4.855 - Total Rollback (3.143 - County) (1.345 - Sheriff)	\$361.5M - County \$146.8M - Sheriff (\$324 M - County) (\$130 M - Sheriff)	\$1.32 b (\$1.19 b)	123 W Indiana Ave Deland Bdgt Dir Aaron van Kleeck 736-5934 County Council	Sept 3, 17 6 PM

for more devails	FY 2023-24 Millage Rate	Proposed Rate 2024-25 (Roll Back Rate)	General Fund Proposed FY 2024-25 vs (General Fund FY 2023-24)	Total Budget Proposed FY 2024-25 vs (Total Budget FY 2023-24)	Contact for more info	Budget Hear- ings
New Smyrna Beach	4.70	4.72 (4.08)	\$52.9 (\$49.5 m)	\$138.9 m] \$139.6 m)	210 Sams Ave Budget Dir Ken Abbide 410-2650 NSB City Commission	Sept 11,24 5 PM 6:30 PM
Deltona	7.35	7.02 (6.77)	\$70.6 m? (\$53.7 m)	\$133.9 m \$124.1 m)	2345 Providence Blvd Finance Dir Mari Leisen 878-8555 Deltona Commission	Sept 4, 17 6:30 PM
Deland	6.48	6.38 (5.96)	\$48.3 m (\$44.9 m)	\$131.2 m \$103.9 m)	120 S Florida Ave Budget Dir Dan Stauffer 626-7079 Deland Commission	Sept 4, 17 7 PM
DeBary	2.92	3.50 (2.77)	\$35.0 m (\$31.1 m)	\$52.9 m (\$55.8 m)	16 Columba Rd Bdgt Dir Mike Jones 601-0222 DeBary City Council	Sept 4 6:30 PM
Lake Helen	6.50	9.72 (5.96)	4.2 m (3.6 m)	\$6.6 m (\$4.7 m)	327 S. Lakeview Dr City Admin Lee Evett 228-2358 Lake Helen City Comm	Sept 12, 26 7 PM
Pierson	5.24	5.24 (4.93)		\$1.22m (\$1.18 m)	106 N. Center St Clerk Yvonne Braddock 749-2661 Pierson Council	Sept
Edge- water	6.33	6.33 (5.81)	\$29.6 (\$24.4 m)	\$71.5 (\$88.0 m)	104 N Riverside Dr BdgtDir Bridgette Vaissiere 424-2400 x 4000 Edgewater City Council	Sept 9,23 6 PM

Ponce Inlet	6.50	6.74 (5.80)	\$10.7 m (\$9.8 m)	\$22.8 m (\$15.0 m)	4300 S Atlantic Ave Finance Dir Kim McColl 236-2150 Ponce Inlet Council	Sept 4,19 6 PM
Orange City	7.12	6.98 (6.59)	\$18.9 m (\$20.3 m)	\$30.1 m (\$32.7 m)	205 E. Graves Ave Finance Dir Devlin Moore 775-5427 Orange City Council	Sept 9,24 6 PM
Oak Hill		5.68 (5.32)	(\$3.3 m)		34 US Hwy 1 City Admin Jerome Adams 345-3522 Oak Hill Commission	Sept 5,23 5:30 PM

# Property Tax Collection is year-round...

On average since, 2020\*

- 4% are paid in installments
- 1% are paid in partial payments
- 4% go delinquent..tax certificates sold in May.... WILL ROBERTS
  TAX COLLECTOR
   Majority of property taxes are paid in November.
   Revenue is distributed once a month (twice in November)
- 44 tax districts (ad valorem)

to taxing authorities in the County.

188 special districts (non-ad valorum)

Tax Years 2020-2030

# Property Facts......

- In 2023, Volusia County sent 288,053 property tax bills.
- Approx 40% percent of property taxes are paid through mortgages
- In 2023, Volusia Tax office billed \$1.1 billion in property tax
- Excess/unused funds at the end of the fiscal year are distributed back to Volusia's taxing authorities



#### **Volusia County Property Data Commercial** Residential **Industrial Percent** Percent 20,849 Parcels 48% 38% 9,503 Homesteads **Daytona Beach** \$6.0 B Just Value 8,001 Parcels **Daytona Beach** 1.989 Homesteads 84% 12% **Shores** \$2.8 B Just Value 26,223 Parcels 12,504 Homesteads **Ormond Beach** 67% 23% \$8.7 B Just Value 32,292 Parcels 16.272 Homesteads 67% **Port Orange** 24% \$9.3 B Just Value 8,039 Parcels **Holly Hill** 56% 2,595 Homesteads 31% \$1.0 B Just Value 7,541 Parcels **South Daytona** 61% 3,256 Homesteads 29% \$1.6 B Just Value 26,209 Parcels **New Smyrna** 11,051 Homesteads 84% 11% **Beach** \$11.2 B Just Value 43,227 Parcels 26,463 Homesteads **Deltona** 7% 86% \$10.9 B Just Value 20,849 Parcels **Deland** 64% 21% 9,503 Homesteads \$6.0 B Just Value 13,708 Parcels 7,504 Homesteads **DeBary** 7% 54% \$5.0 B Just Value 14,764 Parcels **Edgewater** 72% 16% 7,413 Homesteads \$3.5 B Just Value

	Residential Percent	Commercial Industrial Percent	
Ponce Inlet	93%	1%	4,002 Parcels 1,498 Homesteads \$1.9 B Just Value
Pierson	43%	14%	1,608 Parcels 345 Homesteads \$234.6 M Just Value
Lake Helen	74%	12%	2,103 Parcels 899 Homesteads \$408.8 M Just Value
Oak Hill	72%	11%	2,095 Parcels 727 Homesteads \$425.3 M Just Value
Orange City	32%	48%	7,181 Parcels 2,391 Homesteads \$2.0 B Just Value

# Fla Legislature House/Senate Interim Committee weeks set -

Senate House

Week of December 2<sup>nd</sup>
Week of December 9th
Week of January 13<sup>th</sup>
Week of January 21st
Week of February 3rd

Week of February 3rd

Week of February 3rd

Week of February 10th

Week of February 17th

Week of February 17th

2025 Legislative Session begins March 4.



(386) 761-2251 • WholesaleLightingDaytona.com

2500 South Nova Rd., Daytona Beach • I-95 Exit 260A 1.4 miles off Beville Road August 21 - Daytona Beach city commissioners voted 7-0 to continue the lease with the FSS for another five years. Commissioners also agreed to allocate \$400,000 per year for another five years to the facility.

Mayor Derrick Henry, City Manager Deric Feacher and Deputy City Manager Dru Driscoll traveled to New York City to meet with the Jackie Robinson Foundation about developing a museum at Jackie Robinson Ballpark, where Major League Baseball's color barrier was broken in 1946.



The team told Major League Baseball execs (MLB) of City's commitment to a \$30 million renovation of Jackie Robinson Ballpark to meet MLB facility standards. A groundbreaking ceremony took place on August 15 on the field. Mayor Henry also proposed that MLB consider a regular season game at the ballpark on Jackie Robinson Day, April 15 suggesting it would draw national attention and further honor Robinson's legacy.

Volusia Sheriff's Office' 306,430 service calls in 2023.....an 8.8% increase from 2022. VSO's 7,603 total arrests in 2023......a 9.7% increase from 2022.



Colby Allman, a local young business owner, has just released his flagship product, Sabbatical that focuses on developing, maintaining, and improving Al systems for businesses.

Sabbatical is a suite of AI systems that enables cutting-edge automation for

businesses—saving you time and money.
Your website is a critical part of your business' identity and a key gateway to new clients and higher revenue. Unfortunately, most websites are messy/disorganized with 1,000 products, property listings, or articles that visitors resent having to filter through to finding what they want.
Most websites are cluttered with scattered or buried information/details resulting in visitors frequently having to peruse multiple pages just to find the key facts they need......no means of reaching out and grabbing visitors before they get confused or frustrated. Other visitors end up saying, "I'll call/email them later," but never calling you, and go on to a different business.

Sabbatical streamlines your process, reduces your bounce rate, and increases your conversion rate. It automatically updates itself with the newest information, products, and listings from your website. Sabbatical acts as a widget on your website that customers click and converse with.

It asks prospects exactly what they are looking for and suggests the items that best fit their needs. It can help retain your visitors by sending them a message first. Sabbatical can provide information to visitors so they don't have to call you or wait for an email back, saving time and turning "maybe" into "yes!"

Sabbatical can create appointments inside your existing business calendars, summarize visitor conversations then post warm information to your spreadsheet or CMS, and research and email your prospects to turn them into clients. Sabbatical can even integrate with your API creating endless possibilities.

Al is not only a powerful tool but now, it's a necessity. Here's your chance to automate your business $^{\text{TM}}$  with Sabbatical.

Click <u>www.sabbatical.cloud</u> to discover how it can help your business.

The City Deland seeking input on government services and to measure the quality of life in the city.



Mayor Chris Cloudman...."We want more input from the community to help us understanding of the quality of our services"

The input received will help City Commission set its priorities for FY 2025-26.

The survey will focus on economy, community design, utilities, safety, natural environment, inclusivity, engagement, and other elements of DeLand's overall livability. results will show DeLand's strengths, areas needing improvement, and what matters most to residents. It'll also show how the City's performance compares to other communities across the US.

Click here to take the survey.

Responses are anonymous, and personal information is securely stored.

For more information, contact the City of DeLand at 386-626-7117. The survey closes on September 9.

\_\_\_\_\_

DeLand's Citizens Police Academy gives locals an inside look at the operations and procedures of law enforcement. It's set for 7 PM each Thursday (Sept 19—Oct.24 at Police HQ, 219 W. Howry Ave.



It'll include hands-on activities, presentations / discussions regarding patrol operations, firearms, defensive tactics, crime scenes, criminal investigations and the traffic unit.

Participants can also ask officers about their experiences on the job.

Seating is limited to 20 participants. Applications can be obtained at the DeLand Police Department lobby during business hours or by e-mailing **Officer Rod Hancock** at hancockr@deland.org

\_\_\_\_\_

Daytona Beach business owners in the in the Main St, Midtown, South Atlantic, Ballough Rd and Downtown redevelopment areas can receive \$50,000



dollars or 80% of the project's total cost for interior and exterior improvements. Loans have a 0% interest rate and are forgivable in two years.

Grant money does not have to be paid back as long as the property is not sold, or the establishment does not go out of business within two years.

City of Daytona Beach Redevelopment Project

Manager Angela Armstrong 671-8196

The DB City Commission approved \$3.58 million property tax break to entice French electric plane manufacturer Aura Aero to locate a \$172.5 million airplane manufacturing plant that would create approx. 1,000 jobs.

Team Volusia, County's Aviation/Economic Resources along with Daytona Beach's city staff are working to lure the e-plane maker to locate on Daytona Intl Airport property.

Upon Aura Aero choosing Daytona Beach, the company would receive 6 years of tiered property tax breaks.

Aura Aero says it intends to create 700 aircraft assembly jobs and another engineering 300 jobs which the city will monitor.

Space Florida could also be called upon for capital funding Auro Aero facilities. Let's see what happens.

# THE VOLUSIA MONEY & REAL ESTATE SCORECARD

The Volusia Money & Real Estate Scorecard is a monthly report that identifies and tracks various key metrics that are important to Volusia County's economy and consumers.

Compiled by Jami Gallegos, MBA, Owner & Lic. Broker of Lifestyle Reatly Group, Inc.

## **VOLUSIA COUNTY SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES**

Source: Florida Realtors

**JULY** 2024

**CLOSED SALES** 



1,010



**MEDIAN SALE** PRICE

\$354,420



FROM A YEAR AGO

MONTHS SUPPLY OF INVENTORY



4.5 Mos



**DOLLAR VOLLUME** 



\$421 Million



**ACTIVE** INVENTORY

4,246



**NEW LISTINGS** 



1,473



## AVERAGE MORTGAGE RATES

**Last Updated August 30, 2024** 

30-YR. FIXED 6.43% **1** -0.02 6.34% 8.03%

7/6 SOFR ARM 6.28% **O**-0.01 5.95% 7.55%

15-YR. FIXED 5.95% 0.00 5.88% 7.35%

30-YR, FHA 5.82% **(1)** +0.02 5.75% 7.44%

30-YR. JUMBO 6.62% **10.00** 6.60% 8.09%

**30-YR. VA** 5.83% **(1)** +0.01 5.74%

# COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE RATES



**Last Updated** August 30, 2024

Freddie Mac	5.59% - 7.11%
Fannie Mae	5.54% - 6.81%
HUD 223(f)	6.00% - 6.70%
CMBS	6.33% - 7.93%
Regional Banks/Credit Unions	6.77% - 10.50%
HUD 221(d)(4)	6.60% - 7.30%

#### **AVG AUTO LOAN RATES** Source: US News & World Repor



JULY 2024

7.46%

Credit Score Range	New Car Loan Rates	Used Car Loan Rates
750 or higher	7.24%	7.49%
700-749	7.24%	7.49%
600-699	6.99%	7.24%
451-599	10.37%	10.62%
450 or lower	17.00%	17.25%



The School year began last week with new versions of Turie T. Small and Tomoka elementary schools.

The new facilities feature large media centers, 850 student stations and upgraded classroom technology, and TV boards.

The development of these new schools coincide with the area's growing population, while Volusia school leaders struggle with an overall decline in student enrollment.

The July 10 School Board meeting showed more students being enrolled in homeschool and Florida Virtual over public schools.

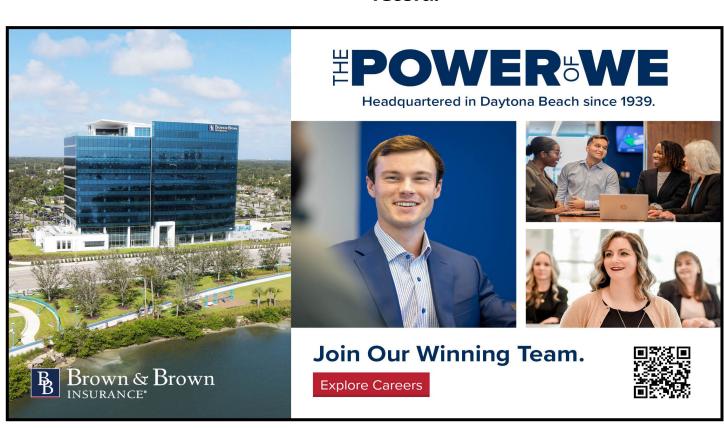
Vice Chair/District 4 Councilman Troy Kent will host a quarterly District Dialogue on Monday, Sept. 16, 5 to 6 PM at Holly Hill City Hall.

District 4 includes Ormond Beach, Ormond-by-the-Sea,



For more information, call County Manager's Office 257-6011.

August 6— County Council members congratulated Ocean Center Director Lynn Flanders on bringing 45,000 visitors to the facility this summer. One of the busiest on record.



- Here's SOME of the DEMOCRAT's <u>TOP</u> <u>policy platform</u> items:
- Growing Our Economy from the Bottom Up & Middle Out
- \*\*\*\*
- Reward Work, Not Wealth
- Lowering Costs
- Tackling the Climate Crisis, Lowering Energy Costs, Securing Energy Independence
- Protecting Communities & Tackling the Scourge of Gun Violence
- Strengthening Democracy, Protecting Freedoms & Advancing Equity
- Securing our Border & Fixing the Broken Immigration System
- Advancing the President's Unity Agenda
- Strengthening American Leadership Worldwide
- Achieving universal, affordable, quality health care
- Protecting communities and building trust by reforming our criminal justice system

# There's others too.....



JIM CAMERON Volusia Sales Representative

386-566-2140 jim@jimcameronconsulting.com

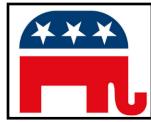
1200 Synergy Way Holly Hill, FL 32117

CYBERSECURITY • PHYSICAL SECURITY
IT INFRASTRUCTURE
CLOUD SERVICES • SUPPORT SERVICES

LeadsCreative.net

**CONNECT • PROTECT • SIMPLIFY** 

# Here's SOME of the Republican's TOP policy platform items:



- Seal the border, stop the migrant invasion and car-ry out massive deportation operation
- curtail inflation
- Make US the dominant energy producer
- Stop outsourcing, and bring back us manufacturing
- Tax cuts for workers, and no tax on tips!
- Defend freedom of speech, religion, and the right to bear arms
- Keep US dollar as world's reserve currency
- Protect Social Security & medicare..no cuts
- Cancel the electric vehicle mandate and cut costly and burdensome regulations
- Cut federal funding for any school pushing critical race theory, radical gender studies
- Deport pro-Hamas radicals and make our college campuses safe

There's others too...



HGC Merchant Services Michael J. Pawelski CEO 904.993.3205 Cell www.hgcmerchantservices.com



November 5 - there will be 435 elections across the country that will determine control of the US House of Representatives.

There are currently 220 Republicans, 212 Democrats and three vacancies.

Looking at the math....Democrats need to flip four seats to win back control of the House.....it comes down to a much smaller scale....where there's 435 members of Congress, there's only 35 who won their seat with 5% or less so they're July....FSS housed had 49 individuals come very few seats up for grabs when you look at the into the shelter and they were able to help 25 total map.... so of those 35, there's probably about 22 (11 on each side that are really up for grabs). So in the battlefield of trying to pick up seats vs what seats each party has gotta hold.....there's very few.

Local company is seeking.....

- Mechanical Draftsman familiar with **Solid Works and Fusion 360**
- **Inventory Control Expediter...a hands** on in production position not a computer or purchasing job.
- **CNC Operator**
- **Finish Carpenter / Cabinet Maker** If you know anyone in these fields that might be looking for a position or looking to change employers...have them call Jim 566-2140. Cameron,

First Step Shelter went into hurricane prep mode last month....which means securing everything outdoors and making indoor space for Safe Zone occupants and also to house County EMS personnel.... same thing that they did for 2022/2023 hurricanes..... the County EMS have been great partners, providing whatever when extra people are on premises.



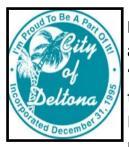
individuals into housing (including 3 veterans) 60% of FSS' population is over the age of 50 and nearly half of these are age 65 or older. On the other end, 7% are under the age of 25.

August 19 - by a 5-0 vote, Deland City Com-



mission approved a new ordinance allowing law enforcement officers to issue trespass warnings to individuals who violates any city ordinance, regulation,

etc on or within any city maintained/public properties, buildings.



Deltona University is a new initiative from City Manager Dale "Doc" Dougherty. He brought the program from Garden City, Michigan where he was city manager.

Classes are Sept 17 - Nov 26 at City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd. 6 to 8 PM (every other Tuesday).

The fall semester is already full, but additional seasonal sessions are expected to be held.

The program is free and session topics include:

- City Commission/City manager's office;
- Sheriff's office;
- Public Works Dept/Deltona Water
- Fire Dept
- Parks & Rec Dept
- City Clerk's Office, Finance, Planning & Zoning, Building and Communications Depts.

Participants will meet elected officials/city staff members with the that they may become candidates for city advisory boards.

Residents can sign up for a waitlist at <a href="www.deltonafl.gov/689/Deltona-University">www.deltonafl.gov/689/Deltona-University</a> or by calling 878-8850.



Florida's current Constitution was adopted November, 1968 and since then, it has been amended 144 times while the US Constitution only holds 27 amendments.

For a list of amendments on the 2024 ballot, go to

JimCameronConsulting.com

August 21 - City Commission agreed to appeal the July 18 decision of US District Judge Wendy Berger's (Middle District of Fla/ Orlando Division)



ruling that the City's <u>panhandling regulations are</u> <u>unconstitutional</u>. The appeal will be heard by the US District Court of Appeals 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit in Atlanta.

For now, the city can't enforce its 2019 panhandling ordinance because Judge Berger ruled that the city violated the panhandlers' First Amendment rights to solicit. In other words, the City's prohibitions regarding panhandling, begging and solicitation are out....unless the Appeals Court overturns Judge Berger's ruling.

DeLand's SunRail station opened on August 12...connecting locals to 15 other stations in Seminole, Orange and Osceola Counties ranging from \$2 to \$5 per zone distance.....

Trains will operate Monday through Friday. Departures begin every half-hour in the starting like 5:30 in the morning and running to 11ish in the evenings and intermittently midday.

Wifi will be available on these trains. In 2023, the DeBary SunRail station had a total of 71,916 passengers and from January through June 2024, the DeBary SunRail station had a total of 57,351 passengers So let's see what this new Deland station does for the passenger count.





Khalid Resheidat (far right) with Mayor Fred Cleveland and City Commission members

August 29.....more than 100 locals attended a retirement ceremony for **City Manager Khalid Resheidat** who worked at the City for 35 years. It was a fantastic evening with lots of stories by former mayors, commissioners and staff members. The highlight of the evening was naming a street as **Khalid Resheidat** Blvd.



Edgewater Mayor Diezel...former Edgewater City Manager Tracey Barlow

Did you know? Sheriff's Office runs Volusia Family Resource Center at 3747 W ISB Daytona Beach (former United Way bldg). The program screens/connects youthful offenders and their families with juvenile justice agencies and mental health resources. Partners include Dept of Juvenile Justice, Volusia County Schools, Halifax Health Behavioral Services, Children's Home Society, and Hope Florida.



**DMC President Shaleish Patel**...retiring NSB City Mgr **Khalid Resheidat** 



Container/Field Office Bldg for sell. Ready to move..... Can withstand up to 200 mph winds. Constructed by SnapSpace Solutions. Call Jim Cameron 566-2140.



Joni Hunt - who was government relations rep at Halifax
Health has moved back to Advent Health as Vice President for
Strategic Partnerships. Her email
- joni.hunt@adventhealth.com

Stephanie Wohlford - who previously worked with state representative Tom leek is now Director, Government Affairs for Halifax health. Email —
Stephanie.Wohlford@halifax.org



Samantha Bergeron - who worked as the economic development director for city of Edgewater has now moved into that same position for city of New Smyrna Beach and took over September 3. New title is CRA/

Economic Development Director 424-2160 sbergeron@cityofnsb.com



Center at Deltona September 27, 7-11 PM

At this event, the spotlight will shine on wigs, symbolizing the courage and strength of patients who, with unwavering spirit, don these head-pieces in their battle against cancer.

**<u>Click here</u>** for Sponsorship Opportunities



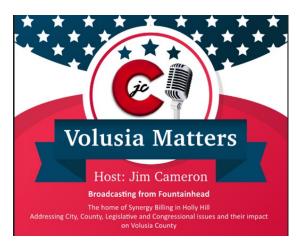
Join us for the Riverfront Market at the Riverfront Esplanade on the last Sunday of each month!

**Sip, Shop & Stroll with us at our next one on Sept 29....10am-3pm** with local vendors, music, and FREE yoga with
Renew Yoga Studio at 9am in the Rose
Garden! Be sure to bring your own mat and water!

Mark your calendars! Can't wait to see everyone there!

Riverfront Market - 179 S. Beach St. Yoga in the Rose Garden - 255 S. Beach St.





For more immediate and timely news, check out my Volusia Matters podcast.....it covers local political, governmental, business, economic development topics plus interviews with local business/ community leaders as well as elected officials....

Listen online on your laptop, smart phone or in your car en route to work!

**Episode 81...**interview with **Volusia Clerk of the Court Laura Roth plus local/state governmental news.** 

**CLICK HERE** for **Podbean Podcast/CLICK HERE** for **Apple Podcast** 

- Daytona, Team Volusia, County wants to locate Auro Aero near DBIA
- DB City Commission renews 1<sup>st</sup> Step Shelter lease
- Volusia's Citizens Academy accepting applications
- County wants public input on proposed Road Priority List



**Episode 80 .....**interview with **local economist Toni Hunt plus local/ state governmental news.** 

**CLICK HERE** for **Podbean Podcast/CLICK HERE** for **Apple Podcast** 

- Primary Election Results...
- Volusia Economic Q Breakfast details
- Deland Approves Trespass Ordinance
- Property Taxes being considered...BUT remember this..
- Inflation Rate drops to 2.9% will Fed cut Interest Rates
- Republican and Democrat Party Platforms



**Episode 77....**Interview with **Real Estate Broker Jami Gallegos** and **lo-** cal/state governmental news

**CLICK HERE** for **Podbean Podcast/CLICK HERE** for **Apple Podcast** 

- French aircraft mfg AURA AERO looking new facility in ERAU Research Park
- US debt now \$35 trillion....who owns US securities?
- US House passes 2024 Water/Resources Development Act..could mean \$31
   million for Deltona





# 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— From Wall St to White and Back Anthony Scaramucci
- Ben Johnson Better Off Dead Jack Reacher Series
- Ben Sedrine Elon Musk .......Walter Isaakson
- Bill Partington Sr Traffic ..... Tom Vanderbilt.
- Billie Wheeler The Women Kristen Hannah
- Bob Apgar The Innocent.....Baldacci
- Bob Williams Casting Forward David Ramirez
- Bobbie Doyle Heaven and Earth Grocery Store James McBride
- Bryan Feigenbaum If It Takes All Summer .. Dan Warren; New York Game....Kevin Baker; Boys in the Boat ...Dan Brown
- 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 If These Walls Could Talk
- 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 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

   Dorito Effect
- 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
- Elizabeth Albert—You're the Leader You've Been Waiting For.....Eric Klein
- Ernie Audino

   Warning to the West Alexander Solzhennitsyn
- Erika Benefield—Drive Through Napa Book
- Fred Guzman Debt of Honor Tom Clancy
- Fred Lowry Books of Matthew and Luke
- Georgia Turner Leaving God for God Phil Davis
- Holley Miranda Mother of God Paul Roslie
- Hardy Smith Ego Is The Enemy..... Ryan Holiday
- 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 The Gap & Gain: High Achievers' Guide to Happiness, Confidence, Success Dan Sullivan/Benjamin Hardy
- Jesse Thompson David and Goliath.. Malcolm Gladwell
- Jessica Lovatt
   — Wildflower...Drew Barrymore.
- Jim Cameron Forces of Nature .....Clay Henderson
- Jim Tobin The Firm..... John Grisham

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

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- Joe Yarbrough Big Sky...AB Guthrie
- John Booker The National Parks Ken Burns
- John Danio Drums & Demons...Joel Selvin
- John Phillips First 90 Days.....Michael Watkins
- •
- 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
- Kevin Captain—Never Split the Difference....Chris Voss
- Leila Gosney—Hillbilly Elegy...JD Vance
- Linda Bradley -Seven Girls Gone Allison Brenna
- Linda Cuthbert Enough Cassidy Hutchinson
- Lise Forte The Giver Lois Lowery
- Lois Paritsky Edmund Fitzgerald Legendary Shipwreck
- Lori Tolland The Last Lecture Randy Pausch
- Loretta Arthur Destinations of a Lifetime
- Lynn Flanders 40 Days to a Joy Filled Life
- Mark Bontrager Outlive Peter Attia
- Marguerite Ardito— 15-Minute City.. Carlos Moreno
- Martin Tooley Quantum Faith Ann Capps
- Mary Bennett Making of Vince Carter Michelle Carter
- Mary Margaret Kelley -The 2% Way Myron Rolle
- Michael Burton—Demon of Unrest
- Michael Kahn Exodus Leon Uris
- Michelle Carter Scott Making of Vince Carter
- Michael Fowler—How to Know a Person David Brooks
- Mike Pawelski Meditations ..... Marcus Aurelius

- Mike Scudiero- Blossom: Cultivating More Joy/Success Nancy Lohman
- Mike Springer Outliers ...Malcolm Gladwell
- Nate Quartier—Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage...Alfred Lansing
- Nick Conte Art of Practice
- Pat Northey Cigar City Murders.....Glenn Storch
- Pierre Lewis Lead from Any Seat .... Andrei Anca
- Randy Hartman Who Moved My Cheese
- Renae Ann—You're a Badass at Making Money Jen Sincero
- 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 1177 Eric Cline
- Sue Barry Lessons in Chemistry Bonnie Garmus
- Susan Persis—Shogun James Clavell
- Tammy Kozinski Life We Bury Allen Eskens
- Ted Rover I Am N Marharaj
- Teresa Rand Culture Shock Jim Clifton
- Terri Hinks Good Bye Things Fumio Sasak
- Tom Self Living Athena
- Toni Hunt 360 Leader John Maxwell
- Traci Woodard Walking with God . Tim Gray Jeff Cavins
- 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