



Volusia Matters Newsletter

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

April 2025

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 www.JimCameronConsulting.com or call me at 386-566-2140.

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



April 1 Special Congress District Elections.....Randy Fine won District 6 US House election 57 to 43% margin vs Democrat **Josh Weil**. Congress District 1 (in Fla's Panhandle) Republican **Jimmy Patronis** was elected over Democrat **Gay Valimont**, 57 - 42%. Upon these elections, US House has **220 Republicans** and **213 Democrats**, with **2 vacancies**.

Weil's campaign totaled \$9.5 million vs Fine's campaign with \$1.6 million. Early voter turnout was strong with more than 100,000 people voting (about 18%).

Voter turnout for District 6 was notable. Early voting saw over **100,000 ballots cast**...about **18% turnout** before Election Day. Republicans had an early voting turnout advantage with approx **9,000 more votes** than Democrats. However, Democrats showed strong engagement in Volusia, leading early voting by a slim margin. On Election Day itself, Republican turnout increased significantly.

By Party.....	
Democrat	23,232
Republican	29,915
Libertarian/Others	1,428
NPA	10,791

How Republicans voted	
Mail	7,757
Early Voting	7,556
Election Day	14,792
Total	29,915

Volusia only Voter Stats	
Active Eligible Voters	194,819
Voter Turnout	65,366 (33.5%)

How the Total District voted total.....	
Mail	20,113
Early Voting	16,817
Election Day	28,436

How Democrats voted	
Mail	8,767
Early Voting	6,508
Election Day	7,957
Total	23,232

Congressional District 6 per County			
Randy Fine	REP	110,978	56.6%
Josh Wiel	DEM	83,571	42.6%
Andrew Parrott	LPF	702	.36%
Randall Terry	NPA	526	.27%

	Volusia	Lake	Marion	Flagler	Putnam	St Johns
Randy Fine	31,888	16,315	23,516	22,222	9,719	7,318
Josh Wiel	30,712	11,533	14,114	16,533	4,770	5,909
Andrew Parrott	272	110	104	140	43	33
Randall Terry	203	87	71	91	45	29



These two Republican wins have slightly bolstered the Republican majority in the US House, bringing their count to **220 seats** vs Democrats' **213 seats**. This slim margin Republicans gives a bit more breathing room in tight votes, but they still need near-unanimous support within their party to pass legislation without Democratic backing.

This shift could influence debates on key topics like budget negotiations, healthcare reforms, and immigration policies.

Budget negotiations in Congress are heating up as lawmakers work to reconcile differences between the House and Senate proposals. The Senate GOP is pushing a plan that includes making the 2017 Trump tax cuts permanent, introducing \$1.5 trillion in new tax cuts, and raising

the debt ceiling by \$5 trillion. Meanwhile, the House is grappling with concerns over Medicaid cuts and deficit reduction targets.

Budget negotiations are critical, as they will shape the fiscal policy for the coming years and address pressing issues like healthcare funding, defense spending, and tax reforms

Healthcare funding is another in budget negotiations Particularly regarding....

Medicaid spending pertaining to making those 2017 tax cuts permanent. Critics argue this could impact millions of low-income Americans who rely on Medicaid for healthcare.

Adjustments to Medicare (2.5% increase in Medicare Physician Fee Schedule conversion factor for 2025), partially offsetting cuts finalized by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Consideration of a new Medicaid HCBS waiver program allowing states to cover services for individuals who need them

Increased scrutiny on **Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)** i.e. greater transparency/prohibitions on certain pricing practices in Medicaid and Medicare Part D plans.

These negotiations will shape the future of healthcare access and affordability..



Jeffrey Hill, Satellite 2025 Chair; Leslie Giscombe, President Phemotron Systems; Dr. Femi Ishola, Founder/CEO Phemotron Systems; Rafferty Jackson, Founder/CEO Jack Industries; Aubry Williams, Satellite 2025 Director

Local Aerospace Company wins top award at 2025 SATELLITE Startup Space Pitch Competition

March 11 – Phemotron Systems, a Daytona Beach-based aerospace company, was awarded top prize at the prestigious Startup Space pitch competition, held during the SATELLITE 2025 Conference & Exhibition in Washington. It competed against nine other global startups in a contest judged by active aerospace.

Phemotron Systems is a multinational space company with operations in Nigeria, Japan, and Daytona Beach. It is developing and plans to launch a 12U small satellite (AI-MotherBox-1) equipped with an AI engine that can gather data-gathering from a low-earth orbit.

SATELLITE 2025 Executive Chair Jeffrey Hill, stated, “This was the most competitive Startup Space pitch event we’ve held in our nine-year history. Phemotron Systems’ CubeSat could potentially utilize existing ground infrastructure in Africa to distribute analytics and critical data to various customers.

The company’s partnerships put it in a unique position to find success in Africa’s geopolitical landscape.” It’s the first African-American space startup to receive this award in the competition’s nine-year history.



Founder/CEO Dr. Femi Ishola is an aerospace engineer and Adjunct Professor at ERAU. Phemotron’s satellite is based on their AI-MotherBox-1 which can execute data-gathering tasks at record speeds and transform satellite communication. Phemotron Systems also operates in Japan, and Nigeria, focusing on small satellites and providing advanced engineering technologies in space, with a commitment to shape the future of space and its benefits to the continent of Africa.

Also attending was the President and Chief Business Officer, **Leslie Giscombe**, who expressed his enthusiasm for Phemotron’s continued growth and success in the industry.

For more info, click [Phemotron Systems](https://phemotron.com)



March 26 luncheon in Daytona Beach.....Jim Cameron, Leslie Giscombe, Femi Ishola (Phemotron Systems) Frank DiBello (former CEO Space Florida), Roland Roberts (President, US Center for Diplomacy)



Fla's recent Revenue Estimating Conference updated general-revenue projections by about \$1.3 billion for FY 2025-26 BUT they ALSO were cautious of policies at the federal level which could affect Fla's economy not the mention what the Federal Reserve going to do next

In the legislature

House, Senate budget committees have float released their DRAFT FY 2025-26 budget...

Senate Appropriations Committee proposed a \$117.3 billion budget, which prioritizes infrastructure and environmental projects. It's \$1.3 billion less than last year's budget. It will

- eliminate 967 vacant state positions
- pay down state debt by \$600 million
- provide a 4% raise for state employees
- 15% increase for state firefighters/veteran state law enforcement officers
- \$14.6 billion for reserves.
- \$29.6 billion for education



House Budget Committee proposed \$112.9 billion budget....It includes

- \$29.3 billion for Education (a \$9000 per-student increase vs last year)
- \$11.3 billion for Florida Education Finance Plan (includes \$100 million for pay increase our veteran teachers)
- \$285 million affordable housing funds (\$99 million reduction)
- \$12 billion back to state reserves.

A major factor in the House budget proposal is cutting the state sales tax from a current 6% to 5.25%.

Meanwhile, DeSantis has pushed for the elimination of Florida property taxes, and the Senate is only open to considering structural tax change at some point.

Meanwhile....Gov DeSantis has proposed a \$115 billion budget....

VCS was selected as one of the Best Communities for Music Education 2024-2025 by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)

[HB 1205](#) **Constitutional amendments**..requires paid petition gatherers collecting signatures to be Fla residents and prevents them from being paid per petition to eliminate other incentive-based formats.....also improves the process for election supervisors to review gathered petitions, and aligns grounds upon which the result of a constitutional amendment can be challenged with the process to contest the results of a candidate election. HB 1205 is ready for a vote on the House Floor, and the Senate version, **[SB 7016](#) is moving.**

Senate Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Committee approved **SB 1516, Aerospace Industry**, by **Sen Tom Wright** to require Space Florida to administer International Aerospace Innovation Fund. It's now in Fiscal Policy Committee. The House version is moving as through committees.

[HB 859](#) **School Readiness Program by Rep Chase Tramont** helps more families access childcare, thereby keeping parents in the workforce by moving from federal poverty line to a threshold of 65% State Median Income. It passed its first committee and is now in PreK-12 Budget Subcommittee. Senate version is also moving through committees.

House Housing, Agriculture & Tourism Subcommittee passed **Affordable Housing bill [HB 943](#)** to strengthen Live Local Act regarding affordable housing by limiting local government's ability to impose regulations that might restrict it. Senate version SB 1458 is moving too.

[SB 184](#) **Affordable Housing** addresses workforce housing by requiring local governments to allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in single-family residential areas. Now in Rules Committee.....this is same measure that **DB City Commissioner Stacy Cantu** got approved a few years ago

Auto Insurance.....HB 1181.....The current no-fault system covers drivers' medical bills, regardless of who caused the accident.

But this new proposal would repeal No-Fault Insurance — shifting to an at-fault system, where the driver responsible for the accident would pay.

Florida No Fault vs At Fault Auto Insurance

NO-FAULT: No-fault auto insurance laws require every driver to file a claim with their own insurance company after an accident, regardless of who was at fault. In states with no-fault laws, all drivers are required to purchase personal injury protection (PIP) as part of their auto insurance policies.

AT-FAULT: In at-fault insurance systems, the driver responsible for an accident is liable for damages, and their insurance covers the other party's costs, including vehicle repairs and medical care. In at-fault systems, bodily injury coverage is required. It is optional in Fla.

[HB 1181](#) **Motor Vehicle Insurance** is before House Judiciary Committee (**Rep Webster Barnaby - Vice Chair**)

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Volusia Sea Turtle Nesting Season starts May 1

Volusia's sea turtle nesting season, runs **May 1 to October 31**.....a critical time for protecting these endangered /threatened species.

Details include...

- **Beach Lighting Ordinance**...beachfront properties must comply with lighting regulations/ reducing artificial light visible from the beach to prevent disorientation of nesting turtles/ hatchlings
- **Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)**...county implemented measures to safeguard nesting sites, ensuring turtles can lay eggs without disturbances.
- **Monitoring /Data Collection:** Volunteers / environmental specialists track nesting activity, species, and hatchling success rates to support conservation efforts.
- Residents and visitors are encouraged to follow guidelines, such as avoiding beach activities that could harm turtles or nests.
- **Washback Watcher Program:** Volunteers help rescue young turtles washed ashore due to heavy winds and surf later in the season.

April 1 ...County Council made several decisions regarding stormwater management strategies to tackle flooding/environmental concerns. Their key initiatives included.....

- **Enhanced Wetland Protections:** Stronger policies to safeguard wetlands, which are vital for flood prevention
- **Stormwater Infrastructure Requirements:** Applying stricter standards for stormwater systems to improve their efficiency and resilience.
- **Expanded Canal Maintenance Programs:** Increased efforts to maintain canals /drainage systems to ensure better water flow and reduce flooding risks.
- **Flood-Prone Property Acquisition:** Exploring the purchase of properties in flood-prone areas to mitigate future risks.



- **Low Impact Development (LID):** Promote environmentally responsible development practices to minimize stormwater runoff and enhance natural water absorption. To be done voluntarily.
- **Soil Testing/Groundwater Analysis:** Conducting soil borings and groundwater studies to better understand and address local flooding challenges.
- **Purchase low lying properties and convert to stormwater retention ponds.**
- **No more building in wetlands or adding to wetland mitigation banks.**



Daytona Beach Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB) is working to retain the **Collegiate Cheer (NCA) and Dance Championship (NDA)** at the Ocean Center and Bandshell. This event, scheduled for **April 9-13** will draw 470 college cheer-leading teams. Daytona Beach has hosted this event for **29 years** and the championship contributes significantly to our local economy, with an estimated impact of **\$40 million to \$60 million**. (Check out VM interview with CVB Exec **Lori Campbell Baker** on March 26).

The CVB has secured 38 local hotels to ensure hotel availability for participants and their families. They're also encouraging the community to

welcome competitors and attendees upon their arrival. "If your local business has a sign that can be transformed into a welcome greeting, please show your support". The CVB team is creating/distributing welcome posters/stickers to local businesses. The City of Daytona Beach will post a '*Daytona Beach Loves NCA/NDA banner*' on the Main St Pier. Other displays will appear at Daytona Beach International Airport, ONE DAYTONA and Ocean Walk Shoppes. The CVB's efforts aim to maintain Daytona Beach's reputation as the premier destination for this iconic competition.

For more info, go to www.daytonabeach.com



April 1 - County Council's approved an ordinance to make the dog-friendly section of Ormond Beach permanent. After it was designated on a trial basis back in July 2023 by **Councilman Troy Kent**. That pilot program saw nearly 13,000 dogs visiting the beach with no reports

of bites or aggressive behavior. Proponents said allowing dogs on the beach provides a wholesome recreational opportunity for residents and visitors and could potentially boost local tourism and benefiting nearby businesses. "Dog-Beach" volunteers helped maintain compliance with leash laws and waste cleanup. **Nancy and Lowell Lohman** donated \$100,000 for supplies and other needed items to assist in its success. Upon approval, supporters said expanding this program to other sections of Volusia County's beaches could boost the area's allure as a pet-friendly destination



April 1 Eric Rainbird was elected over Renee Sortman in the Edgewater Zone 4 special election. His campaign focused on addressing infrastructure challenges, enhancing public safety, and fostering community

engagement. His election fills the seat vacated by Rob Wilkie and could influence decisions on key issues like zoning, development, and environmental policies in Edgewater.



The Volusia County Charter review process should begin soon....Council will MAYBE pick Charter Review Commission members in May. STAFF IS DRAFTING A CRC APPLICATION formembers to serve on the Charter Review Commission (CRC).

It'll include discussions on potential amendments, such as a rural boundary charter amendment, which aims to address development and environmental concerns.

- The review updates the charter to reflect current needs, challenges, and priorities of the community, ensuring it remains effective and relevant.
- It provides residents an opportunity to voice their opinions, fostering transparency and community involvement.
- It evaluates the structure/operations of the county govt, identifying areas for improvement

As Volusia grows and urbanize, the review ensures that the charter supports sustainable development and addresses emerging issues.

It also ensures that the charter aligns with state/federal laws, avoiding potential legal conflicts.

Listen for updates Charter Review updates on Volusia Matters podcasts.



Sip, Shop & Stroll with us at the next Riverfront Market taking place on April 4th from 5pm-9pm! Featuring local vendors and FREE yoga with Renew Yoga Studio at 5:30pm in the Rose Garden! 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 Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114



Gov DeSantis proposed a plan to abolish the state portion of property taxes , specifically the required local effort (RLE) that funds public

schools. It includes using state reserves to backfill the elimination of the RLE for 1 year

and providing a **\$1,000 rebate** to homestead property owners. Upon implementation, it would benefit over **5.1 million homesteaded properties** across the state.

He wants to shift the tax burden to tourists and non-residents, arguing that Visit Fla's numbers makes this approach doable.

He likes the idea of a constitutional amendment to abolish property taxes entirely, which would require **60% voter approval**.

The plan has sparked discussions, with critics raising concerns about its impact on local government revenues and public service and impact on conventions and tourists.



DeSantis Urges Congress to Address \$36 trillion national debt and Balance its Budget

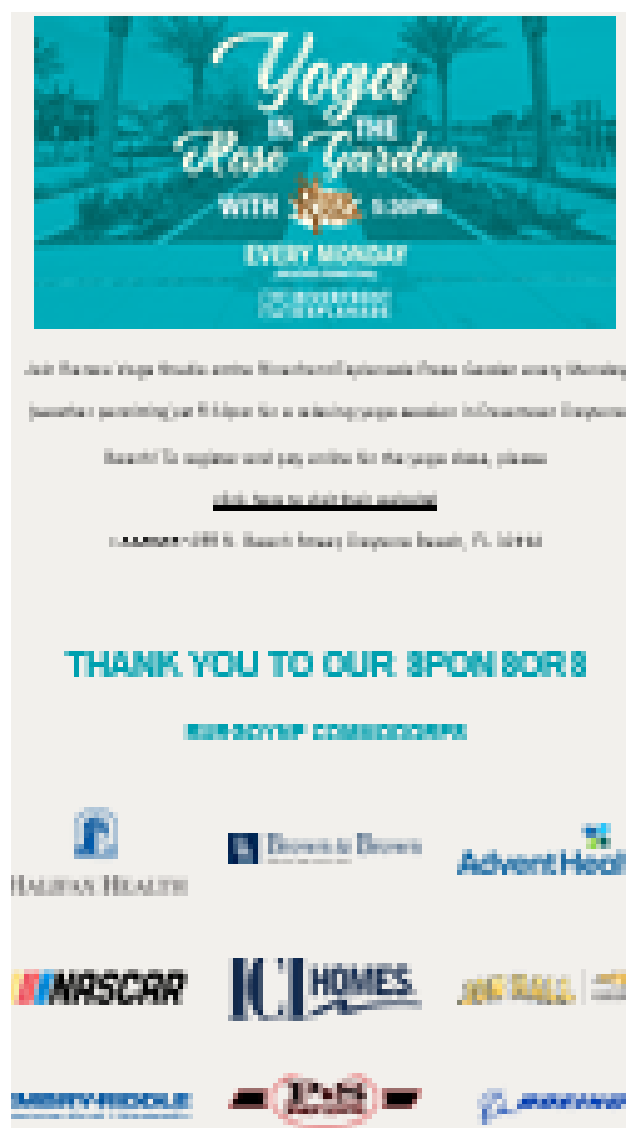
Gov DeSantis is traveling to other States to recruit them to supports a Constitutional amendments requiring Congress to balance its budget.

He's ALSO saying that the \$36 trillion national debt is a problem that was caused by Democrats AND Republicans because of institutional pressures in Washington. He doesn't think that will slow down anytime soon.

Btw, AFTER that budget bill passed by Congress on March 14 to avoid a government shut-down.....**Congressional Budget Office (CBO) forecasts the US debt to be \$56 trillion in 2035.**

DeSantis wants other states to join calls for a constitutional convention to address this. 27 states are on board so far of a needed 34 states to REQUIRE Congress to write a balanced budget amendment and send to the states for ratification.

SEE....it's not just Volusia Matters barking about that damn national debt! Let it eat Ron....let it eat!



US Economic Update March 2025

The March 2025 US jobs report shows the economy added **228,000 jobs**, surpassing expectations of 135,000. Unemployment rate was **4.2%** compared to 4.1% in February. Job gains were recorded in healthcare, social assistance, transportation, warehousing, and retail trade.

Despite the positive job growth, concerns remain about the impact of recent tariffs and federal workforce reductions

However, the US GDP growth rate for the first quarter of 2025 is **-3.7%** (per Atlanta Fed's GDPNow model). This indicates a contraction in economic activity, reflecting challenges such as tariffs, policy uncertainty, and declining consumer sentiment

The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) surveys for March 2025 revealed mixed economic signals.

The **U.S. Composite PMI** rose to **53.5** (a 3-month high and indicating moderate growth in business activity). However, the **Manufacturing PMI** dipped to **49.8**, meaning a contraction in the manufacturing sector. Globally, **Composite Output PMI** registered at **51.5**, reflecting the slowest growth in 14 months.

These results highlight challenges such as cost pressures, declining business optimism, and the impact of tariffs on global trade.

These **purchasing managers monthly surveys** of at private-sector companies measure new orders, production levels, supplier deliveries, inventory levels, and employment conditions. **PMI Surveys** are key economic indicators that measure

the health of the manufacturing and service sectors and they're used by analysts, investors, and policymakers to gauge economic trends and make informed decisions.

What is on Fed Reserve Bd's May 6-7 agenda?

Federal Reserve Board's meeting on **May 6-7** and will focus on several key topics:

- **Interest Rate Decisions:** Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) will discuss whether to maintain the current interest rates, given the economic conditions and inflation trends.
- **Economic Projections:** Discussions will likely address inflation, employment, and GDP growth.
- **Policy Adjustments:** The Board will evaluate the impact of recent tariffs, government spending cuts, and other economic policies on the broader economy.
- **Press Conference:** Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell will hold a press conference on **May 7**, providing insights into the Fed's decisions and outlook.

April 4 **Fed Reserve Chair Jerome Powell** spoke at a conference and expressed concerns about potential inflationary effects of Trump's tariffs, warning they could lead to slower economic growth and higher prices. He also emphasized the Fed's commitment to maintaining stable prices and maximum employment, noting that the economy remains solid despite uncertainties. He also pointed out challenges in the housing market, citing rising costs and shortages as ongoing issues

April 5—by a 51-48 vote, the US Senate approved a budget resolution for FY 2025-26. Below are several key provisions:

- **Tax Cuts:** aims to make the 2017 Trump tax cuts permanent and introduces an additional \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts.
- **Defense and Border Security:** allocates \$150 billion for military spending and \$175 billion for border security over the next decade.
- **Debt Ceiling:** raises debt ceiling by \$5 trillion.
- **Medicare and Medicaid Protections:** An amendment was adopted to safeguard these programs, despite concerns about potential cuts.

Senators Rick Scott and Ashley



Moody voted YES.

The bill now goes to the House, where Republicans have a 220-213 edge.

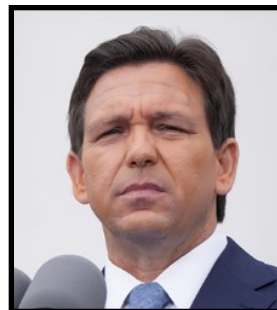
House Speaker Mike Johnson wants to bring the Senate's plan to the floor this week. If the House approves it, the reconciliation process begins.

HOWEVER....some House conservatives are voicing disapproval of the Senate's budget resolution because it "lacks substantial spending cuts and deficit reduction measures". They also want more definitive spending and deficit reduction goals.

This will be new Congressman Randy Fine's first vote in the US House.



Gov DeSantis said Fla's labor force exceeded 11 million in January. State's job growth continued to grow or remained stable in 10 of the past 12 months but was especially strong in manufacturing, which reached 430,800 jobs. Florida employers expanded the workforce in 54 of the past 57 months providing a 1.3% job growth rate.



ALSO

Fla's unemployment rate increased from 3.5% in January to 3.6% in February (that's an estimated 398,000 citizens out of work out of a total 11.2 million labor force). Meanwhile, the State's leisure/hospitality sector lost jobs last month while construction and manufacturing gained positions. US unemployment rate last month was 4.1%.

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CONNECT • PROTECT • SIMPLIFY

Changes in Fla's Elected Officials Cycle

Now that Cong **Randy Fine** has been sworn in for Fla's District 6 AND Cong **Jimmy Patronis** is in place for Dist 1....

Fla needs a new State CFO to replace **Jimmy Patronis**. No time table has been announced on when Gov DeSantis appoint a new CFO for the State...**Sen Joe Gruters** wants it..

Meanwhile, **Cong Byron Donalds** kicked off his campaign for Governor in 2026.

And with **Jeanette Nuñez** leaving Lieutenant Governor position to become the interim president of Fla International Univ.... DeSantis plans to wait until after the legislative session ends May 2, to appoint a new Lieutenant Governor.

Meanwhile, the **Legislature** is considering a proposal to eliminate the office of Lieutenant Governor and replace it with a new Cabinet-level position called.... "Commissioner of Government Efficiency." If approved, it would go before voters in the 2026 election.



Jax (2013 – 2025) Today's newsletter is dedicated to Jax who went to dog heaven this morning. We got him from Edgewater Humane Society and he was a lovable friend to Rita, Jenna and me. He supported Tom and Danny.....

He and I enjoyed watching Alabama football and basketball and he knew point spreads better than Vegas. He was proud of his brackets.

However the last few days he's been moping because of the Atlanta Braves' poor start.

He was hoping to join me in DeLand last Tuesday in support of Ormond dog beach.

He left us this morning 10:40 AM listening to his favorite gospel songs by Hank Williams, Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan.



Over 1,700 VCS students participate in work-based learning, including on-the-job-training, internships, clinical rotations, and job shadowing.

Local Business People on the Move.....



Ashley Wohlford is the new Marketing/Public Relations Director for Halifax Health. She's been part of the Halifax Health team since 2015....prior to that she was a Senior Account Exec with Benedict Advertising. She earned her Business/Marketing degree from UCF. She's a Leadership Daytona graduate and serves on Ormond Beach Chamber Bd. She and husband Kellen have 2 girls...Quinn and Ellie.

Jonathan Miller is the new Govt Affairs Director for the Daytona Beach Area Assn of Realtors. He's

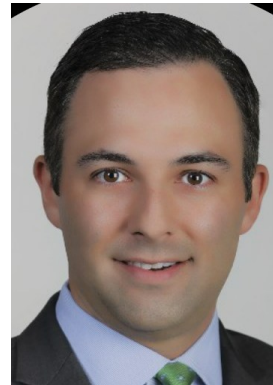
worked past 20+ years in advocacy and public affairs. He's been a lobbyist at the federal/state levels and was a CareerSource Fla Bd member. He was Vice-Mayor/Commissioner for City of Casselberry from 2006-2013. He's President/CEO of Victory Marketing & Communications and was Managing Advocacy Director for Majority Strategies. Jon is the proud Dad to 5 kids.



Government Relations Administrator Hardy Smith has announced he will retire from city of Daytona Beach on June 30. He's worked with the city since 2006 and prior to that he worked with International

Speedway Corp/NASCAR since 1983. Prior to that he was a reporter with WNUZ radio in Talladega Alabama

Jeremy Nikolow, a Captain with the DB Police Dept has spent 10 weeks at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA with over 250 law enforcement executives from all around the world.



NASCAR has appointed Jason LaGosh as Senior Director, Public and Government Affairs. Previously, LaGosh was Sr Director, Government Relations for Orange County Public Schools and was legislative counsel in the US Senate.

Mica Lill is the NEW Executive Director Food Brings Hope Community Organization....

Founded in 2007 by Forough Hosseini, FBH works with schools/community partners to help homeless and economically disadvantaged students. She previously worked with the American Diabetes Assn and was Community Health Manager with Halifax Health





MOAS Embarks on Crown Jewel Capital Campaign!

A newly proposed \$175 million “Crown Jewel Capital Campaign” for the Museum of Arts & Sciences has now begun. It will raise funds for a \$75 million building, a \$25 million upgrade to the [museum's current building](#) and a \$75 million addition to the MOAS’ endowment fund.

Cici and Hyatt Brown are providing a \$150 million gift towards this venture (\$83.7 million already provided plus a pledge up to \$67 million in 3 for 1 matching donations.

SO...MOAS is seeking \$25 million from local community donations with the goal to make it a regional destination with one of the largest museum endowments in Fla.

The new 60,000-square-foot building facility would be adjacent to the **Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art** off Nova Rd.

The plan would downsize the current 100,000-sq-ft main building to 60,000-sq-feet and relocate part of that building to Nova Rd.

The Lohman Planetarium, Root family train cars, children's museum and other amenities would remain at the current facility.

Next step will include hiring an architect to draft a final design for the new building and the redesign of the existing building with construction planned to commence in 2026 with a 2027/2028 completion date.

The new building is estimated to cost \$1,200 per square foot. Museum trustees and others have pledged \$3.8 million so far.

Hyatt & Cici Brown reiterated that they will match individual donations 3 to 1 until the Community Campaign hits \$25 million. That means a good tax break for you!

Anyone interested in donating can visit www.moas.org or call MOAS Executive Director Tabitha Schmidt at (386) 255-0285.



The City of NSB will host public forum Wednesday, April 16, 5:30 PM in the [Brannon Center](#) at 105 S. Riverside Dr to provide an ongoing flooding vulnerability assessment. City officials want citizen input to help maximize available funding from the FDEP's Resilient Fla program to address and mitigate flooding. This meeting will be online as well....go to the City's website for details.

ALSO..

City of New Smyrna Beach is hiring a Mobility/Parking Director to address parking concerns/related mobility issues, as part of a broad plan to improve parking management and create a citywide Parking & Mobility Dept



March 25 – **Port Orange City Staff presented a draft Stormwater Master Plan and 9 potential flood mitigation projects in various neighborhoods.** Many of these projects focus

on improving drainage by constructing pumps to move water more efficiently from neighborhoods into the river, to reduce flood risks.

The Council will next prioritize projects and securing funding to design and construct in order to enhance resilience, improve water management..

ALSO

A new food court at Port Orange Riverwalk is set to open next month with 6 food trucks, outdoor seating, live music, and other amenities. It'll operate on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays..

Crews have finished on-site parking/site work, and now focusing preparing spaces for food trucks, outdoor seating, and building a stage for live music. AND a local coffee shop will soon be operational.

March 19 - **DB City Commission voted 4-3 to proceed with a proposed \$20 million.. 35,000 sq ft expansion the City Hall...**



the project will be two-story additional stories to the eastern portion of City Hall. The second-floor addition will serve as the Permits and Licensing Dept with the third-floor serving various Govt Departments.

March 19 - **Daytona Beach City Commission approved allocating \$15,000,000 for Phase I of the Jackie Robinson Ballpark Stadium Design/Build Project.** This phase focuses on upgrading the historic ballpark to meet Major League Baseball standards while preserving its legacy.

Btw, I took my grandson Royce to the opening Tortugas game last Friday night...the place looked great!



Call Barbara 386-676-5050 for more info.

8 locations around Volusia and Flagler.

www.storitselfstorageall.com

They're nice people!



Jake Johansson, Co-Chair of new Stormwater Management Committee presented progress report

March 10 Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable focused on flood mitigation strategies and the 30 ongoing flooding studies across the county, including four led by the county itself. They emphasized the need for collaboration, as stormwater issues often cross municipal boundaries.

Key points included

- the development of a centralized stormwater webpage for residents,
- voluntary incentive-based programs for low-impact development,
- updates to land development codes.

However, no major new developments or declarations were made during the meeting. Solutions will take time, as studies and projects progress through various stages of planning and approval.



VCS offers 120 industry certifications to students, and 99% of CTE programs offer at least one industry certification.

Meanwhile, S Daytona, Orange City, Ormond Beach, Daytona Beach, Edgewater and most other cities are cleaning pipes, canals, etc in preparation for the next Hurricane Season.....3 different hurricane centers are predicting 17 named storms next year.



City of Ormond Beach is doing extensive work in the Central Park area. It's part of the city's broader floodplain management strategy, which aligns with FEMA's guidelines and the Volusia County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy

March 26—Volusia Flagler TPO Bd amended their FY 2025-29 Transportation Improvement Program and approved their 2024 Annual FDOT/TPO Joint Certification Report.

They also discussed developing a Volusia-Flagler 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.

TPO Exec Colleen Nicolin and this year's Chair S Daytona Councilman Eric Sander run a good operation....

you might want to keep up with their activities via their website... www.r2ctpo.org



THE VOLUSIA REAL ESTATE SCORECARD

VOLUSIA COUNTY - ALL PROPERTY TYPES*

Source: Florida Realtors

FEBRUARY
2025

CLOSED SALES



792



1.0%
FROM A
YEAR AGO

MEDIAN SALE PRICE



\$335,000



-4.0%
FROM A
YEAR AGO

MONTHS SUPPLY OF INVENTORY



6.4 Mos



UP FROM
4.4 MOS.
A YEAR AGO

DOLLAR VOLUME



\$303
Million



-7.3%
FROM A
YEAR AGO

ACTIVE INVENTORY



5,573



35%
FROM A
YEAR AGO

NEW LISTINGS



1,506



3.1%
FROM A
YEAR AGO

AVERAGE MORTGAGE RATES

Source: Mortgage News Daily

LAST UPDATED
APRIL 04, 2025

30-YR. FIXED

6.55%



-0.08
FROM 30
DAYS AGO

6.11% 7.52%

52 Week Range

15-YR. FIXED

5.97%



-0.08
FROM 30
DAYS AGO

5.54% 6.91%

52 Week Range

30-YR. JUMBO

6.70%



-0.10
FROM 30
DAYS AGO

6.37% 7.68%

52 Week Range

7/6 SOFR ARM

5.90%



-0.20
FROM 30
DAYS AGO

5.90% 7.55%

52 Week Range

30-YR. FHA

5.95%



-0.12
FROM 30
DAYS AGO

5.65% 7.00%

52 Week Range

30-YR. VA

5.98%



-0.11
FROM 30
DAYS AGO

5.66% 7.03%

52 Week Range

- Starting with the April 2025 scorecard, data will reflect ALL property types, to include single family homes, townhomes, condos and manufactured homes. Previous scorecards focused solely on Single-Family Homes.

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 Realty Group, Inc.



Jami Gallegos

Owner / Broker / Real Estate Advisor

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LifeStyleRealty.Group

1095 N. US Hwy 1 Suite 3
Ormond Beach, FL 32174



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More news on US International Trade....

Regarding trade, the US' largest trade deficits are with :

- **China:** \$279.4 billion
- **Mexico:** \$152.4 billion
- **Vietnam:** \$104.6 billion
- **Germany:** \$83.0 billion
- **Japan:** \$71.2 billion
- **Canada:** \$67.9 billion
- **Ireland:** \$65.3 billion
- **South Korea:** \$51.4 billion

US' largest trade surpluses are with

- United Kingdom \$12.5 billion
- Australia \$13.6 billion
- Brazil \$8.1 billion
- Netherlands \$24 billion
- Belgium \$14 billion
- Hong Kong \$23.5 billion
- United Arab Emirates \$15 billion

VCS's graduation rate for the Class of 2024 was 93.7%. VCS ranks in the top 10 of Florida's 67 counties. This graduation rate is four percentage points higher than the state average.

NEED YOUR HELP!!!

My Volusia Matters podcast and newsletter aims to keep **LOCAL** business/community leaders and elected officials informed of governmental, economic development, political news that relates to Volusia County.

VM Podcast is emailed each Tuesday....VM Newsletter is emailed first week each month...NO editorial content or commercials... **it's FREE**

(I am asking you to click the link below to subscribe to Volusia Matters.....It'd sure help me provide YOU the latest/best news that impacts us in Volusia.

And you can **unsubscribe at any time.**

Click

<https://mailchi.mp/jimcameronconsulting/newsletter-contact>

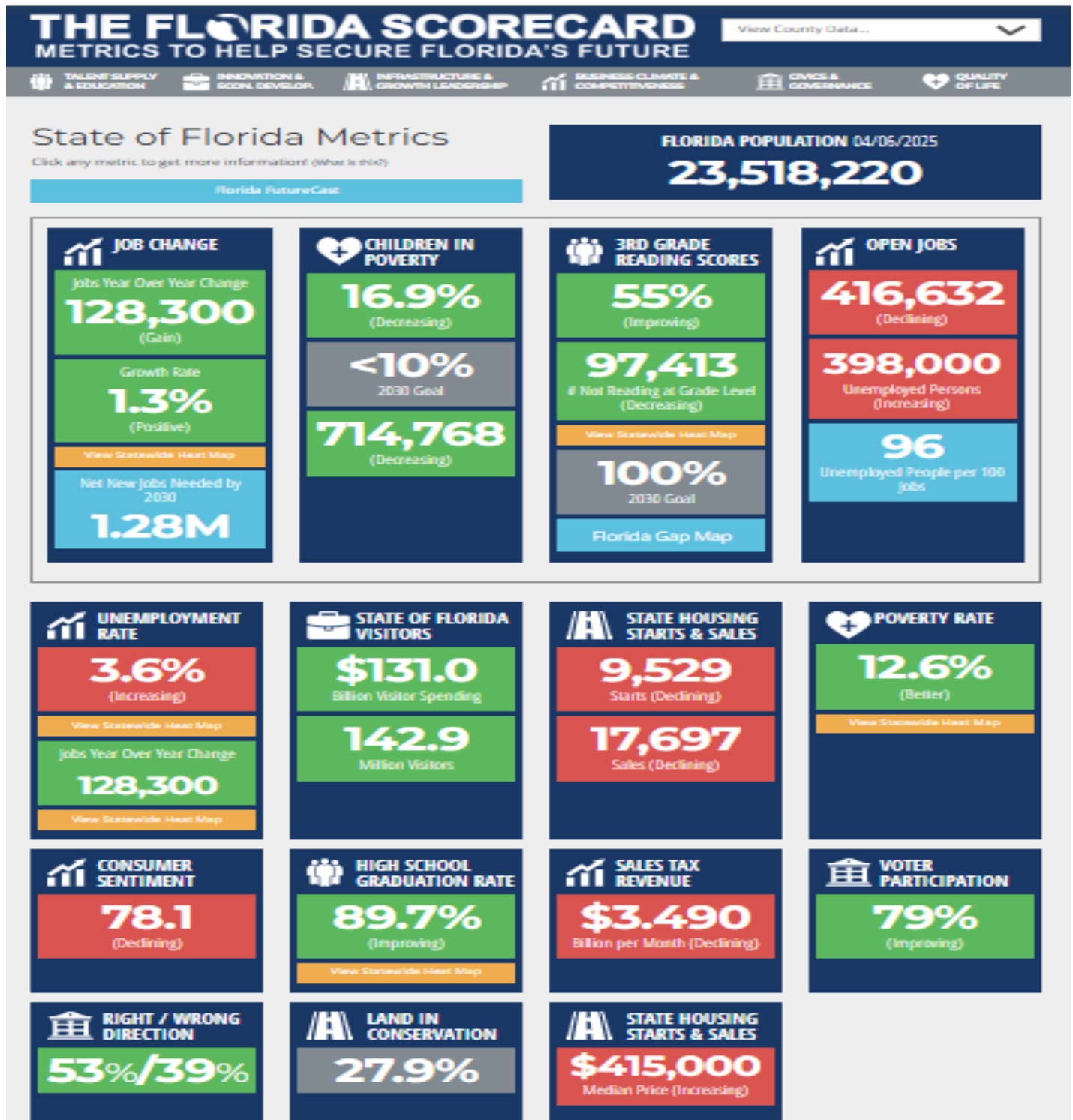
Call me if you have any questions.

Jim Cameron
386-566-2140



US inflation rate for March 2025 was 3.0%, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI)... a slight decrease from February's 3.2% rate, indicating a continued easing of inflation pressures

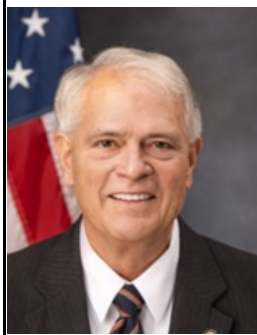




The Fla Scorecard™ is a dynamic online tool that identifies and tracks key metrics that are important to Fla's economy today and into the future.



House Delegation Members



Rep Richard Gentry R – District 27
1302 Capital
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275 S Charles Richard Beall Blvd Unit 108
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Jerry Bertsch Erika Benfield

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- [State Affairs Committee](#)
- [Government Operations Subcommittee](#)
- [Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee](#)
- [Industries & Professional Subcommittee](#)
- [Transportation & Economic Development Budget Subcommittee](#)



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Sandy Morgan

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- [Ways & Means](#)
- [Criminal Justice Subcommittee](#)
- [Housing, Agriculture Tourism Subcommittee](#)
- [Human Services Subcommittee](#)
- [State Administration Budget Subcommittee](#)



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- [Criminal Justice Subcommittee *Vice Chair*](#)
- [Ways & Means](#)
- [Agriculture/Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee](#)
- [Health Care Facilities/Systems Subcommittee](#)



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Port Orange 944-1010



Legislative Staff - Duncan DeMarsh
Julie Watts

- [Commerce Committee](#)
- [Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee](#)
- [Housing, Agriculture & Tourism Subcommittee](#)
- [Rules & Ethics Committee](#)
- [Health Care Budget Subcommittee](#)
- [Health Care Facilities/Systems Subcommittee](#)

January 2025, median rent for all bedroom counts and property types in Daytona Beach is \$1,700. It's slightly lower than the national average. Rent prices remained stable for the past year.

Federal Reserve sets the federal funds rate...the rate which banks lend to each other

Volusia Legislative Delegation
2025 Session Dates—March 4 – May 2

	<p><u>Sen Tom Leek</u> R – District 7</p> <p>310 Senate Office Bldg (850) 487-5007 Leek.tom@flsenate.gov</p> <p>780 W Granada Blvd (386) 446-7610 Ormond Beach 32174</p> <p>Legislative Aides - Danielle Curbow, Michael Murtha, Lynnette Phillips</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commerce and Tourism, Chair • Appropriations Committee on Higher Education • Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development • Community Affairs • Fiscal Policy • Health Policy • Judiciary • Joint Administrative Procedures Committee
	<p><u>Sen Tom Wright</u> R – District 8</p> <p>412 Senate Office Bldg (850) 487-5008 Wright.tom@flsenate.gov</p> <p>4606 S Clyde Morris Blvd Suite 2-J Port Orange 32129 304-7630</p> <p>Legislative Aides - Charlene Gagnier, Christopher Morris, Diane Suddes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security, Chair • Appropriations • Appropriations Committee /Crinal and Civil Justice • Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development • Commerce and Tourism • Rules • Transportation • Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

Price of home insurance increases 3.1%

Home insurance costs in Fla did indeed spike in the 3rd quarter of 2024, with the statewide average premium for a single-family home policy increasing by 3.1% between the 2nd and 3rd quarters. This follows 2 straight quarters of smaller increases, which experts attributed to a decrease in law-suits, a mild 2023 hurricane season, and lower hikes in the cost of reinsurance.

However, it's uncertain whether this 3.1% spike indicates a new upward trend for 2025. Factors such as rising home prices, inflation, and contin-

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Congressional Delegation for Volusia County



Sen Rick Scott R

110 Hart Senate Office Bldg Washington DC 20510

Rick_scott@senate.gov 202-224-5274

District Office 225 E Robinson St Orlando

District Director—Barry Cotton

Barry_cotton@senate.gov 407-872-7161—C

Committees - [Foreign Relations](#); [Special Committee on Aging \(Chair\)](#); [Armed Services](#); [Homeland Security/Governmental Affairs](#); [Budget](#) ; [Senate Steering Committee](#)



Sen Ashley Moody R

B40-B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

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District Office

Committees [Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions](#); [Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#); [Judiciary](#); [Joint Economic Committee](#); [Special Committee on Aging](#)



Cong Corrie Mills R

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District Office 1000 City Center Circle Port Orange 386-238-9711

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Committees [Armed Services](#) [Foreign Affairs](#)



Cong Randy Fine R

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District Office -

Local Staff -

Committees

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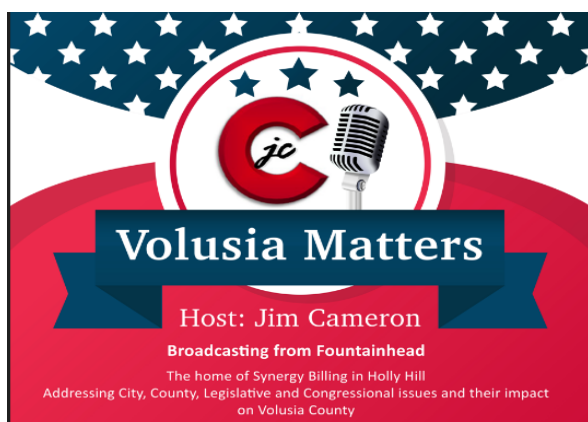


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SpectrumReachPayItForward.com

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Media Biased Chart Ratings based on online content..not TV, radio or paper content Ratings do NOT reflect accuracy or credibility....they reflect accuracy only.				
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BuzzFeed News	AP Politics	Axios	The Dispatch	Breitbart
CNN Opinion	The Atlantic	BBC	Epoch Times	The Blaze
Democracy NOW!	Bloomberg	Christian Science Monitor	Fox News	CBN
Daily Beast	CBS	NPR News	Market Watch	Daily Caller
Huff Post	CNN News	Reuters	NewsMax News	Daily Mail
The Intercept	The Economist	Real Clear Politics	NY Post	Daily Wire
Mother Jones	The Guardian	The Hill	Post Millenial	Fox News Opinion
MSNBC	NBC	USA Today	Reason	Federalist
NewsWeek	NY Times	Wall St Journal News	Wall St Journal Opinion	National Review
New Yorker	NPR Opinion	Volusia Matters	Washington Examiner	NY Post Opinion
NY Times Opinion	Politico		Washington Times	NewsMax Opinion
The Nation	TIME			OneAmerica News
Slate	Washington Post			
VOX	Yahoo News			



Volusia Matters podcast is emailed each Tuesday (or Wednesday) and includes local/state, federal, political, business, economic news that you need to know. 30 minutes of time well spent.

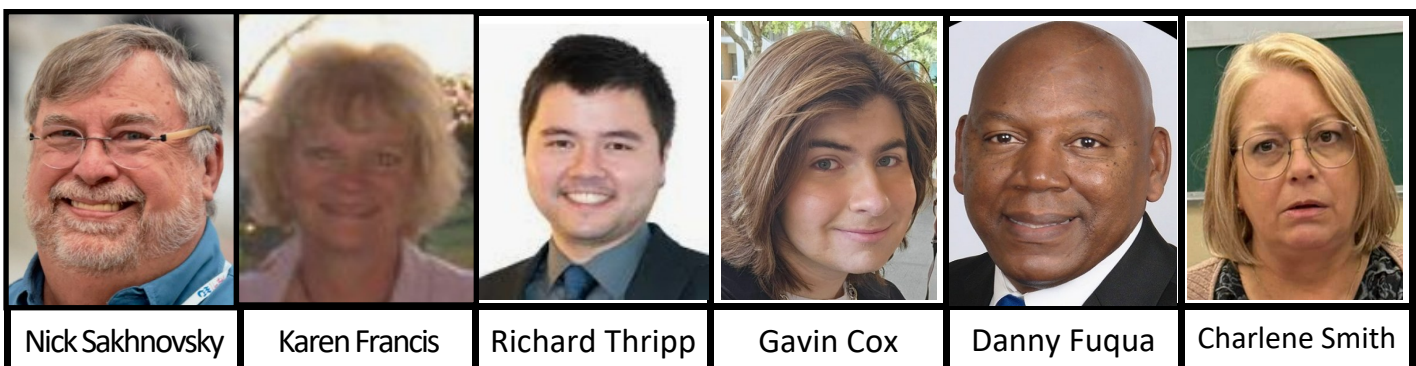
Also look for Volusia Matters news on Instagram and X. [Click here](#) for past episodes.

December 14 - the Volusia Republican Executive Committee elected new county party officers including Mary Ann Pistilli as the new chair, succeeding Paul Deering, who chaired the group since 2019. Deering announced at the start that he would not seek re-election.

Duncan DeMarsh was elected as Vice-Chair, Cathy DiBernadino as Secretary, John Reid as Treasurer; Erika Benfield as State Committeewoman; as Vic Baker as State Committeeman.



December 9 - Volusia County Democratic Executive Committee recently elected new leadership including Nick Sakhnovsky as the new chair. Past Chair Jewel Dickson opted not to run for re-election. Karen Francis was elected as vice chair, Charleen Smith as secretary, and Richard Thripp as treasurer...Susanne Raines, Danny Fuqua, Gavin Cox, Josephine Pope, Ginger Jabour and Theresa Jerinsky will be Fla Democratic Party executive committee members.



The top 5 countries by Gross National Product (GNP):

United States: \$26.89 trillion

China: \$18.90 trillion

Japan: \$4.86 trillion

Germany: \$4.56 trillion

India: \$3.63 trillion

GNP is the value of all goods/services produced by these countries, both domestically AND abRd.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of all goods/services produced WITHIN A COUNTRY'S BORDERS in a specific time period.



**Reminder – Volusia
Elected Officials
Roundtable meets Mon-
day, May 12, 9 AM at
Daytona Intl Airport.**

**The agenda will entirely on flooding and storm-
water management with Mayors or Vice
Mayors and City Managers of all cities as well as
County Council members and other elected of-
ficials. I HIGHLY recommend it!**

Current Labor Force

Volusia 272,258

Daytona Beach 33,365

Deland 16,118

Deltona 47,472

New Smyrna Bch 13,094

Ormond Beach 21,072

Port Orange 33,862



FRIENDS OF THE ESPLANADE

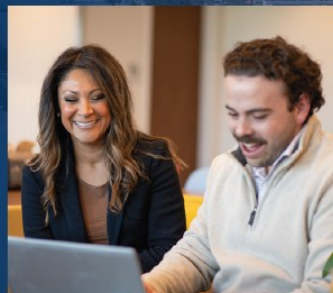
Want to become a Friend of the Riverfront Esplanade?

As a Friend of the Esplanade you strongly believe in the work and dedication that has gone into revitalizing the downtown riverfront property into a place Daytona residents and businesses can be proud. A friend of the Esplanade agrees to promote and advocate on behalf of the Esplanade in future challenges.

If you would like to be a Friend of the Esplanade, please share some information by completing the short survey via the link below. We want to know more about you and how you feel we can improve. Thank you for your interest in joining our Esplanade community.

[Take the Survey](#)

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FRIENDS OF THE ESPLANADE

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Thank you for your interest in joining our Esplanade community.

[Click Here to Take the Survey](#)



THE
FOUNTAINHEAD
AT HOLLY HILL



Colby Allman, a local young business owner, has just released his flagship product, **Sabbatical** that focuses on developing, maintaining, and improving AI 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.



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However, 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 conversion rates. It automatically updates itself with the newest info, products, and listings from your website. It acts as a widget on your website that customers click and converse with.

It asks prospects what they're looking for and suggests items that best fit their needs. It can help retain your visitors by sending them a message first. Sabbatical can provide info to visitors so they don't have to call you or wait for an email back.

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

AI is not only a powerful tool but now, it's a necessity. To automate your business™ with Sabbatical, click www.sabbatical.cloud.



Renae Ann (Northwestern Mutual)
Jean Ivis (Kiwanis Club)



Charter Spectrum's Alex Redkin
DB Shores Mayor Nancy Miller



Nicole Sharbono (SMA Healthcare)
Pam Hargis (Focal Point Coaching/Training)



DB City Commissioner Ken Strickland
Carol Kilian (Volusia Volunteers in Medicine)



DB City Commissioner Monica Paris
Ernie Audino (CEO Business Alliance)



DeBary Mayor Karen Chasez
Holly Hill Mayor John Penny



Tywan Arrington (Team Volusia)
Jason Lagosh (NASCAR)



VBIA's Alison Root
Advent Health's Joni Hunt



Samantha Bergeron (City New Smyrna Beach)
Ronald Steger (Exit Realty)



SEVMTC's John Massey and Bliss Jamison



Edith Shelley (The Shelley Company)
Kerry Karl (Kimley Horn)



NSB City Commissioner Lisa Martin
Joey Posey, Corey Brown (Storch Law Firm)



Melissa Wietzel and Kris Rowley
(Zev Cohen & Assn)



Joe Benedict and Tom Valley



Sarah Malphrus (Elliott Meadows Custom Homes)
Emma Dangel (NSB Bd of Realtors)



Mike Arman (City of Oak Hill)
Volusia Tax Collector Will Roberts

VCARD Real Estate Values Forum Tuesday June 10, 8:30 - 10:30 AM Daytona International Airport

Speakers to include **Volusia County
Property Appraiser Larry Bartlett
and Lawrence Yun chief economist
for National Assn of Realtors**

**It's co-hosted by Daytona Regional
Chamber and Daytona Beach Assn of
Realtors**

**For more information..contact...
kelli@responsibledevelopment.com
Or call 255-0981**

**I go to this event every year because it's
extremely informative. I HIGHLY recom-
mend it.....**

Volusia Calendar

Volusia Calendar is part of the Volusia Matters brand It includes **Community and Government sections....**

If you have an annual /semi-annual event (not monthly), please e-mail me the event name and date. It's to help business/ community folks plan their calendar AND avoid scheduling conflicts. Volusia Calendar will appear in Volusia Matters newsletter each month., so e-mail your MAJOR events to Jim@jimcameronconsulting.com

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

Community Calendar

April 16....Pt Orange/S Daytona Chamber Tasteful Affair/Restaurant Showcase 5—8 PM

April 19....Easter Beach Run

May 1, 2, 5....Daytona Intl Speedway Plantation Bay & Oceanside GC

May 1....Boy Scouts Golden Eagle Dinner 6 PM Hard Rock Hotel

May 1-5....Halifax Health 51st Annual DIS ProAm Golf Tournament..

May 16....Volusia Economic Q Breakfast 7:30 AM Daytona Intl Airport

May 30....Team Volusia

June 10....VCARD Real Estate Values Forum 8:30—10:30 AM DBIA

October 10...Halifax Health Foundation Bahama Casual Dinner

Governmental Calendar

May 12.....Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable – 9 AM

May 22...Volusia League of Cities Meeting – 6 PM Elected Officials Only

July 24.....Volusia League of Cities Meeting – 6 PM Elected Officials Only

September 8.....Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable – 9 AM

September 25....Volusia League of Cities Meeting – 6 PM Elected Officials Only

November 10.....Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable – 9 AM

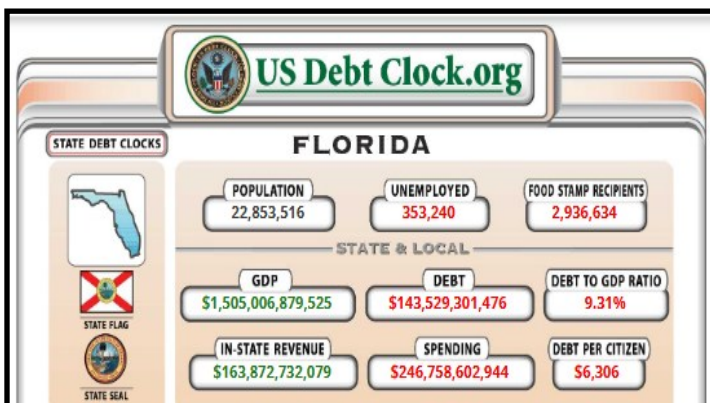
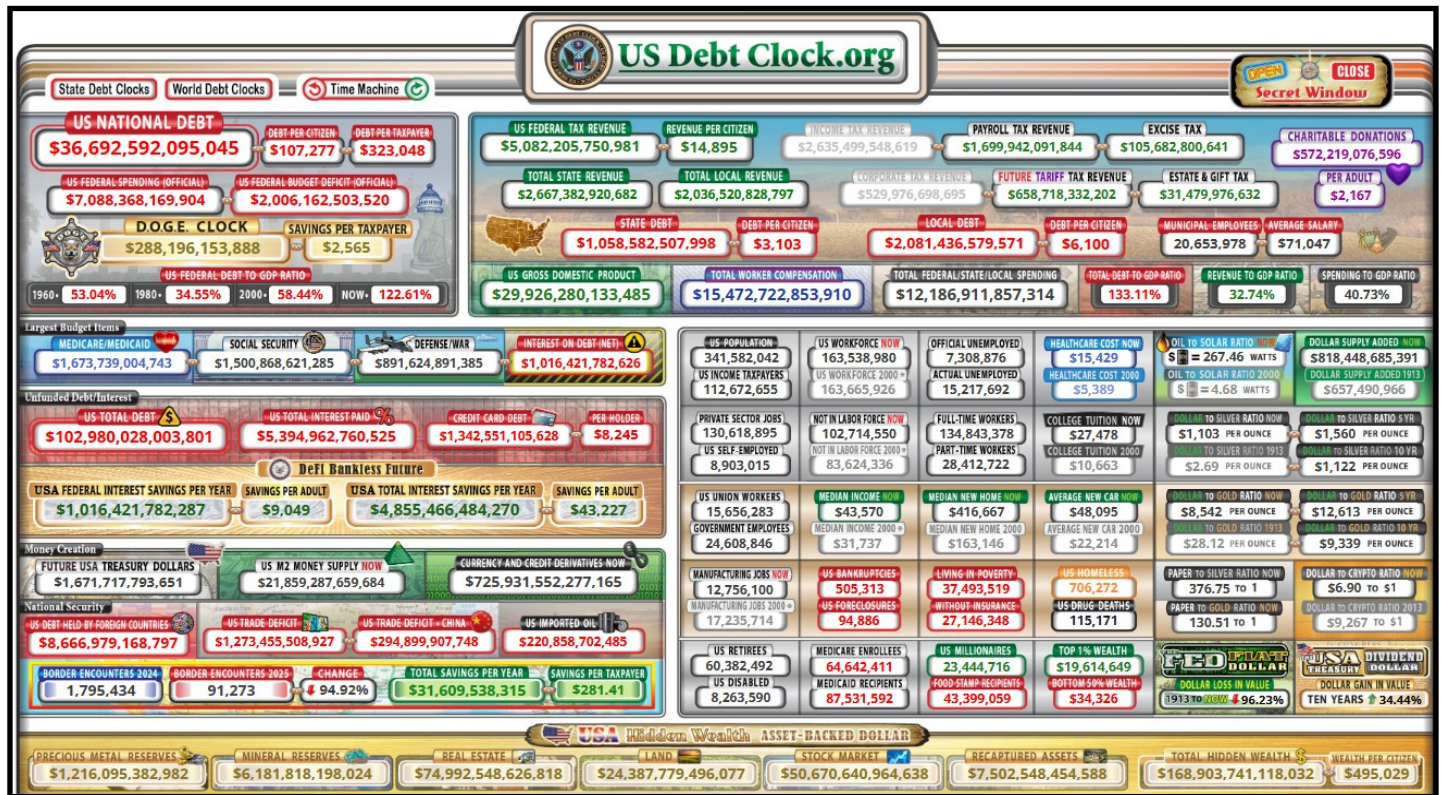
December 11....Volusia League of Cities Meeting – 6 PM Elected Officials Only



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....when my daughter, Holley was little and wanted something...she'd say, "you don't need money Dad, just write a check" As of 2:15 PM April 5, 2025.....



\$36 trillion national debt has sparked significant concerns among various stakeholders. Here are some of the latest concerns:

- **President Trump and Congressional leaders** are now mentioning the national debt every day.
- **Economic Impact:** Peter Peterson Foundation's Fiscal Confidence Index says that Americans are concerned about the debt and urging leaders to “get their shit together on this matter”.

Debt-to-GDP Ratio: US House Committee on the Budget said the national debt now exceeds the size of the U.S. economy, with a debt-to-GDP ratio of 123%.

This situation could lead to either slow economic stagnation or a swift sovereign debt crisis.

Overall, US citizens are getting “PFS” about this matter.

According to the Treasury Department, the US federal debt is over \$36.2 trillion, 123% of the country's 2024 national income.

One course of action....President Trump wants to end the Chips Act, a 2022 bipartisan law that has allocated \$52.7 billion in subsidies to entice semiconductor manufacturing back to the US. The President wants to use that money to pay the national debt instead. He also recommended manufacturers be incentivized to build facilities in



On Saturday, April 12, the Sunset Concert Series will present FEVER, a Tom Petty Tribute featuring Are Friends Electric with friends Beartoe, Dyer Davis and Dan Walters and Celebrating Stevie Nicks with Andrea Elmer Mix at 7:15 PM here at the Riverfront Esplanade, 355 N. Beach Street, in Downtown Daytona Beach.

The Sunset Concert Series is a partnership between AI Smith Productions and the Riverfront Esplanade dedicated to bringing a new entertainment venue to Downtown Daytona. Gates open at 5:30 PM – Show Starts at 7:15 PM.

Grab dinner at one of the Beach Street restaurants before the show!

NOTE: Ice chests, coolers, and containers are prohibited.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS](http://www.DowntownDaytonaBeachEvents.com)

Location: 355 N. Beach Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114



US-based employers laid off 172,017 workers in February (a 103% increase from January).

Most job cut were in the government sector (62,242 announced cuts across 17 federal agencies) based on DOGE mandates.

Private sector job cuts were 38,956 (retail), 14,554 (technology) and 10,625 (consumer products). 900 jobs were cut in the private/non-profit sector.

While the DOGE actions were the main factor, 20% of job losses were due to bankruptcy, 16% due to market/economic conditions and 10% due to restructuring.



For more immediate /timely news, check out Volusia Matters podcast...with 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!

[Click here](#) for recent podcast episodes.....

Private-sector jobs grew an estimated 77,000 jobs in February (down from 186,000 jobs seen in January). Economists had estimated a 142,500 net job gain.

Federal Reserve Bd meets March 18-19 and will likely hold interest rates steady due to

- February inflation rate was 3% (still above Fed's 2% target)
- uncertainty persists around US trade policy i.e. tariffs.
- unemployment rate at 4.0%
- hourly earnings growth is expected to fall to 0.3% in February from 0.5% in January.



Local Government Links

[Volusia County Council](#) April 1 - 9 am, 15 - 4 PM County Admin Bldg

[Daytona Beach City Commission](#) April 2, 16 - 6 pm City Hall

[Ormond Beach City Commission](#) April 4, 18 - 7 pm City Hall

[Port Orange City Council](#) April 1, 15 - 6:30 City Hall

[Holly Hill City Commission](#) April 8, 22, 6 pm City Hall

[South Daytona City Council](#) April 8 - 6 pm City Hall

[DB Shores City Commission](#) April 1, 22 - 6 pm City Hall

[DeBary City Council](#) April 2 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Deland City Commission](#) April 3, 17 - 7 pm City Hall

[Deltona City Commission](#) April 3, 17 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Edgewater City Council](#) April 3 – 6 pm City Hall

[Lake Helen City Commission](#) April 13 - 7 pm City Hall

[New Smyrna Bch Commission](#) April 8, 22 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Oak Hill City Commission](#) April 14, 28 - 6 pm City Hall

[Orange City City Council](#) April , 25 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Ponce Inlet Town Council](#) April 17 - 2 pm City Hall

[School Board of Volusia](#) April 8, 22 - 4:30 pm Deland

[River to Sea TPO](#) April 23, 9 am DBIA Airlines Rm

First Step Shelter Stats— March 2025

Shelter Intakes	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Total
DBPD	54	65	89	123	270	30	23	15	669
OBPD	2	2	5	2	8	3	0	2	24
POPD	0	2	4	8	9	0	2	2	27
DBSPD	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
SDPD	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
PIPD	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
HHPD	2	1	6	10	20	0	0	2	41
VCSO	3	3	18	36	17	3	7	5	92
NSBPD	-	-	-	2	6	3	0	2	13
Deland PD	-	-	-	-	13	2	2	1	18
Oak Hill PD						0	0	0	0
Total Law Enforcement	62	75	125	182	346	41	34	29	894
DOC			3	12	11	1	3	3	33
Total Hospitals	38	20	50	57	108	11	7	9	300
Total SS and Worship	55	145	165	100	79	3	3	1	551
FSS Help Line			37	6	0	0	0	0	43
Total	155	240	380	357	544	56	47	42	1821

Rose Ann Tornatore Safe Zone Referrals—February 2025

Law Enforcement Referrals Program only starting 2024	31-Dec	2021	2022	2023	2024	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Total
DBPD	23	2469	252	420	609	43	40	27	3883
PIPD	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
OBPD	0	20	20	22	17	1	0	3	83
POPD	0	25	21	22	29	4	3	3	107
DBSPD	0	20	12	14	8	2	0	0	56
SDPD	0	8	8	2	0	0	0	0	18
HHPD	7	19	14	38	61	2	0	2	143
NSBPD	-	-	-	14	23	4	1	2	44
Deland PD	-	-	-	-	4	0	0	0	4
Volusia County Sheriff				101	71	6	13	7	198
Total	30	2561	329	636	822	62	57	44	4541

[Click here](#) for more details regarding First Step Shelter....



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 MuskWalter Isaacson
- Bill Partington Sr TrafficTom Vanderbilt.
- Billie Wheeler The Women Kristen Hannah
- Bob Apgar Democracy Awakening Heather Richardson
- Bob Williams Hillbilly Elegy JD Vance
- Bobbie Doyle - Heaven and Earth Grocery Store James McBride
- Judge Bryan Feigenbaum - It's Hard for Me to Live with MeRex Chapman
- Brandon Frey-12 Rules for LifeJordan 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
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