



Volusia Matters Newsletter

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

August 2026

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.

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

If I don't return your call in eight business hours, I will pay you \$2,000 cash."

The proposed" TRIM millage rates (top number in column 3) can amended by a local entity at its public hearing before taking final action on the budget and tax rates in September. New Fiscal Year begins October 1. The proposed Florida Constitution Amendment 3 may already be affecting how cities and counties plan their FY 2026–27 budgets, even though voters won't decide on it until November 3. The amendment won't impact FY 2026–27 property tax revenue because those budgets begin October 1, 2026, and the amendment—if passed - begins January 1, 2027, impacting FY 2027–28. and beyond. Still, the prospect of a large revenue cut is making local governments plan more watchfully now.

Here are the biggest impacts over the next 60 days:

- Some local entities are delaying new programs, new employees, and discretionary spending until the outcome of Amendment 3.
- Some local officials may be disinclined to lower property tax rates this year because they could face much lower property tax revenues beginning in 2027.

Continued on pg 3

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This is the FIRST VM Local Government Tax Rate/Budget chart. It outlines and compares general funds/total budgets as well as proposed FY 2026-27 tax rates compared to the roll back rates for the County, School Board as well as 16 cities. This chart will be updated until the final budgets and tax rates are adopted in September. It's the only one of its kind in the County. Check it out!

 Jim Cameron Consulting LLC FY 2026-27 Tax Rates / Budget Chart						
	FY 2025-26 Millage Rate	Proposed Rate 2026-27 (Roll Back Rate)	General Fund Proposed 2026- 27 vs General Fund 2025-26	Total Proposed 2026-27 Budget vs 2025-26 Budget	Contact for more info	Budget Hearings
Daytona Beach	5.93	5.94 (5.73)	\$164.2 m (\$159.6 m)	\$406.5 m (\$379.8 m)	301 S Ridgewood Ave Budget Dir Natalia Eckroth 671-8060 DB City Commission	Sept 9, 23 6 PM
Daytona Beach Shores	4.58	4.99 (4.55)	\$24.9 m (\$25.6 m)	\$116.0 m (\$98.3 m)	2990 S Atlantic Ave Budget Dir Lori Irwin 763-5353 City DB Shores	Sept 9, 23 6 PM
Port Orange	4.97	5.15 (4.85)	\$67.8 m (\$63.3 m)	\$219.2 m (\$223.1 m)	1000 City Ctr Circle Budget Dir Sue Wang 506-5710 City Pt Orange	Sept 16, 28 5:30 PM
Ormond Beach	4.38	4.32 (4.17)	\$53.2 m (\$52.4 m)	\$152.0 m (\$142.4 m)	22 S Beach St Finance Dir Kelly McGuire 676-3226 City Ormond Bch	Sept 9, 23 7 PM
Holly Hill	5.80	5.80 (5.65)	\$14.4 m (\$12.4 m)	\$37.0 m (\$36.2 m)	1065 Ridgewood Ave 248-9426 Finance Dir Michele Moore City Holly Hill	Sept 9, 21 6 PM
South Daytona	7.75	7.75 (7.50)	(\$11.8 m)	(\$38.3 m)	1672 S Ridgewood Ave Finance Dir Jason Oliva 322-3063 City S Daytona	Sept 9, 22 6 PM



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Volusia County Schools	5.27	5.24 (5.23)	\$626.9 m (\$702.9 m)	\$1.09 b (\$1.36 b)	200 N Clara Ave Deland Budget Dir Deidra Whittenberg 255-6475 Volusia School Bd	Sept 8 5:30 PM
County of Volusia	3.2 County 1.5 Sheriff *4.801 - Total	3.2 County 1.5 Sheriff *4.801 – Total (3.1 – County 1.5– Sheriff 4.64 – Total)	\$236 m – County \$177 m – Sheriff \$241 m – County \$162 m – Sheriff	\$1.06 b – Cty (\$1.11 b – Cty)	123 W Indiana Ave Deland Bdgt Dir Veronica Black 736-5934 County Council	Sept 3, 22 6 PM
New Smyrna Beach	4.64	4.63 (4.51)	\$77.1 m (\$76.6 m)	\$185.5 m (\$199.5 m)	210 Sams Ave Budget Dir Jo Anne Drury 410-2650 NSB City Commission	Sept 9, 23 5 PM 6:30 PM
Deltona	6.70	6.49 (6.49)	\$79.8 m (\$76.9 m)	\$208.0 m (\$245.5 m)	2345 Providence Blvd Fi- nance Dir John McKinney 878-8555 City Deltona	Sept 9, 21 6:30 PM
Deland	6.03	6.18 (6.02)	\$55.0 m (\$52.3 m)	\$142.6 m (\$133.2 m)	120 S Florida Ave Budget Dir Dan Stauffer 626-7079 City Deland	Sept 9, 21 7 PM

From page 1...

- Numerous entities are reconsidering or delaying building projects, buying vehicles, and expanding facilities because they expect tighter budgets.
- Many governments are trying to save cash this year so they can handle the financial impact if the amendment goes into effect.
- Numerous local entities are planning 2 various budget scenarios—one if the amendment passes and one if it fails—so they can respond quickly after the election.

June 9 - Volusia County CFO Ryan Ossowski estimated the amendment would reduce County government property tax revenue by ~\$92 million in FY 2027–28.

DeBary	3.65	3.65 (3.52)	\$36.6 m (\$31.8 m)	\$54.0 m (\$45.1 m)	16 Columba Rd Bdgt Dir Mike Jones 601-0222 City DeBary	Sept 9, 16 6:30 PM
Lake Helen	6.86	7.17 (6.50)	\$4.99 m (\$4.06 m)	\$6.70 m (\$6.50 m)	327 SLakeview Dr City Admin Lee Evett 228-2358 City Lake Helen	Sept 12,26 7 PM
Pierson	5.24	5.38 (4.89)	(\$1.23 m)	(\$1.71 m)	106 N. Center St Clerk Yvonne Brad- dock 749-2661 Town of Pierson	Sept 9 ,23 5 PM
Edgewater	6.33	6.33 (6.11)	\$41.2 m (\$33.6 m)	\$128.6 m (\$182.3 m)	104 N Riverside Dr Bdgt Dir Bridgette Vaissiere 424-2400 x 4000 City Edgewater	Sept 9, 23 6 PM
Ponce Inlet	6.25	6.37 (6.17)	\$10.9 m (\$10.8 m)	\$20.7 m (\$22.6 m)	4300 S Atlantic Ave Finance Dir Kim McColl 236-2150 Town Ponce Inlet	Sept 16, 30 6 PM
Orange City	7.23	7.23 (7.05)	\$22.1 m (\$21.2 m)	\$38.3 m (\$44.1 m)	205 E. Graves Ave Finance Dir Devlin Moore 775-5427 Orange City Council	Sept 9,24 6 PM
Oak Hill	5.69	5.68 (5.33)	---		34 US Hwy 1 City Admin John Barkley 345-3522 City Oak Hill	Sept 5, 23 5:30 PM

Volusia Matters has covered the budget process for years in order to keep you, the taxpayer, informed. Again, these numbers could change during the September public hearings. It's still a "work in progress" situation for some of the smaller cities.....more info is needed from Tallahassee.



Local Government Update—

July 28 - DB Shores City Commission voted unanimously to place the proposed name change on the November 3 ballot, giving residents the final say on whether the city should drop “Daytona Beach” from its name and become “The Shores.”



Supporters say the current name **creates confusion** with neighboring **Daytona Beach** (tourists, delivery drivers, and visitors often get the location wrong).

Opponents say the change is **too expensive** and the money could be used elsewhere.

A city survey was reported as finding ~65 to 67% support the measure.

Daytona Beach Shores was incorporated in 1960 and currently has 5,200 residents.

Medicaid is a massive driver to Fla’s budget.....

While much is federally matched, Medicaid remains one of the largest single budget pressures and often shapes broader spending decisions.

New Smyrna Beach and the County of both run paid parking programs on coastal parking areas they control. County uses Park Volusia and vehicle registration databases and license plate reader technology while the City has its own system and database for annual pass holders, plus daily parking fees.



This interlocal agreement would let annual City OR County pass holders park in the other place’s lots interchangeably. Both entities would share permit

information needed to check if a license plate is valid, while keeping customer data confidential.

Later this year, City pass holders would need to create Park Volusia accounts before using the reciprocal parking starting January 1. Both sides would update its own websites and parking signs, and each would handle citations issued in its own parking areas.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Mon - Fri 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

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

Stormwater Management Update

The County launched a new interactive dashboard to give residents a means to see the work underway to reduce flood risks, improve drainage, and strengthen stormwater infrastructure throughout the county.

Designed in partnership with the Elected Officials Roundtable Flooding Subcommittee and the county's 16 cities, the dashboard consolidates all major flood mitigation efforts into one resource. The maps show regional efforts to make stormwater systems more resilient. They also cover capital upgrades to reduce flooding, engineering analyses to plan long-term improvements, and routine tasks like cleaning ditches and repairing drainage.

To explore projects and learn more about flood mitigation projects throughout the County, type in [Volusia Stormwater Resilience Dashboard....](#) Click on individual projects for more details.

Deltona City Commission had a 1st Reading....on Creating a Fire Rescue Services Assessment based on recent Study Prepared by Benesch Financial Consultants....the same folks that were before NSB City Commission last week. However, the Commission voted down the fire assessment proposal 7-0. The Commission also set a 6.49 mills TRIM rate despite staff recommending a 6.7 mills rate.

Based on an ordinance approved last year.....Deltona City Commission addressed regulations including sidewalks and speed limits for scooters/e-bikes....

Deltona CC approved a resolution to protect environmentally sensitive land and open space....it lets city manager look for properties that could be conserved and try to get grant money for buying them....it applies everywhere in the city, and it

July 20— Deltona City Commission had 1st Reading....on Creating a Fire Rescue Services Assessment based on recent Study Prepared by Benesch Financial Consultants....the same folks that were before NSB City Commission last week. However, the Commission voted down the fire assessment proposal 7-0. The Commission also set a 6.49 mills TRIM rate despite staff recommending a 6.7 mills rate.



Deltona City Commission

- addressed regulations including sidewalks and speed limits for scooters/e-bikes....
- approved a resolution to protect environmentally sensitive land and open space....

it lets city manager look for properties that could be conserved and try to get grant money for buying them....it applies everywhere in the city, and it only starts evaluations—no property can be bought and no city funds can be used without another approval from the City Commission.

Volusia County and other towns finished the 2026 public flood report which helps people learn about flood dangers and how to prepare.



It also shares flood insurance and ways to lower harm. Working together, communities teach residents and help keep them safe.

They also may keep flood insurance discounts under the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System.

The report lists outreach done this year...safety talks, mail to homes at risk...handing out info. It also suggests updates for next year's outreach.



Volusia Charter Review Commission is proposing 5 amendments to the County's Charter which will go on November 3 ballot. The County Council will

host three public hearings on these proposed amendments on June 2 and 16. The County Council does not have authority to revise the proposed amendments or to decline to place the proposals on the ballot.

Amendment No. 1 would see the County return to the pre-2002 system, whereby the Council would still be 5 district members and two at-large members. If adopted, the Council itself would select one of its 7 members to serve as chair for a term of one year as opposed to voters electing a County Chair.

Amendment No. 2 - Removal of Charter limitations regarding reimbursement of work-related expenses by County Council members for out-of-county expenses and in-county expenses.

Amendment No. 3 – regarding County Constitutional Officers..... Clerk, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector.. adds language so that Constitutional Offices mentioned in the Charter is consistent with Florida's Constitution.

Amendment No. 4 - shifts detailed HR rules/staff requirements in the County Charter and into more flexible local ordinances. While this change allows the County Council to manage personnel policies more easily, the County would still be legally required to hire employees based on merit.

Amendment No. 5 - creates a conservation lands registry where the County Council can "lock" specific properties to protect them from being sold or transferred. Adding or removing land from this list requires a "majority plus one" vote (5 out of 7 members) and follows strict public notice rules if property is being delisted. While registered lands are generally protected, they can still be used for county public projects or transferred to entities with eminent domain authority.

Click [Volusia County Government](#) for more details regarding Charter Review Amendments.

Additional updates regarding Charter amendments will appear in future VM newsletters.



June 2 - Council approved a measure on how impact fees are charged for accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Instead of a separate multi-family home, ADU will be classified as an addition to a single-family house, which lowers the total fees homeowners must pay...new rule applies to County impact fees for fire, roads, parks, and emergency services, and because it reduces costs.

Council heard a 5-year financial forecasts for the County's taxing funds as part of the FY2027 recommended budget development process.

Council also appointed **James Jones (General Contractor)** to the Contractor Licensing and Construction Appeals (CLCA) board.



Volusia Property Insurance Update by Hyatt Brown, Chair of Brown and Brown
Summary of comments from August 5 interview Volusia Matters podcast.....listen to podcast for full details.....

Regarding homeowners insurance in Volusia County, it depends on where you're located and your home's construction.. the age of the roof, etc.....

On the peninsula/barrier island, homeowners' policies prices are going down 6 to 8%.... as you go west across the Halifax River going West to around Nova Rd, prices decrease maybe 10%.....In Deland/West Volusia, prices go down 12 – 13%

BUT, there's lots of caveats e.g. if you have a dog that's bitten someone, you probably won't get insurance with certain companies.....or there's no or limited coverage regarding the animal.

Second thing is if you had claims and if you repaired the house to the same quality.....

As Florida goes into another year of no wind, it's likely prices will continue to go down.. There are a number of additional/new companies that are writing business thus more competition... and that's good...

Be careful about dealing with small companies...it's important to know if their capital is adequate for the number of homes they're writing insurance for and that depends on the amount of their reinsurance....

If a company insures more homes than their reinsurance anticipates in terms of exposure and a serious hurricane occurs, those companies might not be able to survive because of the fact that the reinsurance is not adequate.

More competition doesn't necessarily mean we're out of the woods without having any hurricanes.

Building codes which are now being strictly enforced and enforcing rules/regulations on new construction that make those new buildings more hurricane proof...that's good...

NOTE - VM would like to thank Hyatt Brown for the interview. We plan to have him for another update at December 1 (the end of hurricane season)



Volusia County is heavily affected by Tallahassee budget choices..

State allocations influence:

- **Transportation funding (I-4, SR corridors, bridges)**
- **School district dollars**
- **Beach restoration funding**
- **Environmental restoration projects**
- **Affordable housing programs**
- **Public health and mental health funding**





INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP 2026



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
9:30 AM**

**DAYTONA BEACH CITY ISLAND PARK
105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach**

**Post-Cleanup Lunch @
Mc's Tavern, Daytona Beach
COMPLIMENTS OF OUR SPONSORS:**



This is a fun event and it's for a good cause.....besides, when was the last time you went to the beach? Yea, me too.....

Anyhow, I joined this beach cleanup the last several years and I plan to participate several more. I like to have my grandsons join me.....what better way to spend time with your kids? Or you can spend Saturday morning with them at home playing stupid-ass video games. Not only that, Kelli provides a fantastic lunch.....and it aint that cheap stuff either. VCARD goes first class!

Update—Legislature/State Issues



Recent polls show Fla Adm 3 regarding home-
stead property taxes report

- 61% to 64% in favor at this time.
- 87% of those are Republicans
- 62% of those are NPAs
- 65% Democrats oppose it.
- 65% Homeowners /64% renters support it.

However, polls show respondents like the idea
of lower property taxes but become more
divided when presented with possible
tradeoffs.....

While the amendment assures funding for
police, fire, EMS and core programs....BUT it's
going to impact other programs and services.

Keep in mind, Fla constitutional amendments
need 60% approval to pass....so Volusia Mat-
ters is going to carefully watch this amend-
ment leading up to Election Day.

A black rectangular box containing the Black Pearl Real Estate logo on the left, which includes a circular emblem with the words "BLACK PEARL REAL ESTATE". To the right of the logo is a circular portrait of Loretta Arthur, a woman with brown hair. Below the portrait and logo is the phone number "386-527-2230" and the email "BlackPearlRealEstateLLC@gmail.com". At the bottom left is the address "211 E. International Speedway Blvd. Daytona Beach, FL 32118" and the website "BlackPearlProperty.com". At the bottom right is the name "Loretta Arthur" and the title "Licensed Real Estate Broker Founder".

Legislature's Interim committee schedule announced -



Following the November 3 elec-
tions, Senators will return Nov.
17-19 for Senate training and organization fol-
lowed by Interim Committee meetings.....

2026 – 2027 House and Senate's Interim Com-
mittee Schedule...

- November 30—Dec 3
- January 4 - 7
- January 11 - 14
- February 1 - 4
- February 8 - 11
- February 15 - 18

The Senate will convene Nov. 17 to select offic-
ers for the 2026-28 term.

Sen. Jim Boyd is expected to be sworn in as
Senate President.

A date for the Volusia delegation annual
will be announced later on.....

Opening day of the 2027 Regular Session is
Tuesday, March 2, 2027.

Since Fla has no state income tax, the State relies heavily on:

- Sales tax
- Doc stamp taxes (real estate transactions)
- Corporate income tax
- Tourism-related taxes and fees

**That means when tourism, hous-
ing sales, or consumer spending
slow, revenue projections tighten
quickly.**

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Fla Constitutional Amendments...on the November 3 ballot.....

1 – Amendment to raising the limit from 10% to 25% of net general revenue in the Budget Stabilization Fund. It also requires an annual transfer of \$750 million, or less if needed to reach the 25% limit. The Legislature could pause these transfers only in certain situations, like emergencies or specific critical state needs, usually requiring a supermajority vote.

2 – Amendment to exempt certain farm property from ad valorem taxes if it is kept on agricultural land and used for farming or agritourism. The exemption would only apply under rules the Legislature sets, including conditions, limits, and definitions.

3 – Amendment to change Fla’s homestead tax exemptions, by increasing the current \$50,000 to \$150,000 in 2027 and moving to \$250,000 in 2028 and later. It’d postpone this exemption for non-Fla residents until they live here for 5 years.....after that, they get the new full exemption. The changes would require rules for how local governments increase exempt amounts, and lower the yearly limit on non-homestead property assessments can rise from 10% to 5%. Finally, it would restrict how counties and cities can use property tax money to specific “core needs,” like public safety, education, and certain infrastructure and flood control projects

All constitutional amendments must be approved by 60%

Court Ruling on Amendment 3.....

A Leon Circuit County judge ordered Fla to update the ballot language for a proposed homestead property tax cut (Adm 3) before it goes on the November. 3 ballot.....”Voters should get fair, clear, and accurate wording that is not misleading. The state must finalize the new text quickly to meet the deadline. The measure will pass only if at least 60% of voters approve it.

Backers say the change could help homeowners save money, while local governments fear reduced revenue. Although the state can appeal the decision, the timetable for legal steps is short.

The judge also criticized wording that seemed like slogans or might confuse the amendment’s real effects.



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Jayson Meyer has big plans for this property by creating the Fountainhead Innovation Center.....a place where entrepreneurs, businesses, students, and inventors can work, learn, and connect.

In the middle of the building, he foresees a restaurant, a café, and a wine bar.....a gathering spot where people meet and spend time together. The café could become a place where business ideas start amongst entrepreneurs, investors, and innovators.

Starting a restaurant from scratch costs a lot of money and major steps. You need to find a location, build a kitchen, handle permits, and buy equipment, and costs can add up quickly.

But because the restaurant area is included in the building's overall plans, someone with the right know-how could open a café or restaurant with far less upfront investment than starting completely on their own. By the way, once completed, the entire building will likely have 300-400 people daily.

If you know someone who's wanted to own a restaurant, run a café, or opening a wine bar, call Jim Cameron at Synergy Billing at 386-566-2140. Tours of the building are available upon request.

MANTA

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jim@jimcameronconsulting.com

MANTA SI (formerly Leeds Creative) is a Fla-based IT and security solutions provider specializing in updating facility infrastructure. We focus on **AI-driven physical security** that deploys **Verkada** cloud-managed platforms.

- **Integrated System:** Consolidates smart cameras, access control, and environmental monitoring into a single, unified interface.
- **AI Analytics:** Moves beyond simple recording to allow high-speed searches by specific criteria, such as people, vehicle types, clothing color, or specific activities.
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By replacing old hardware with AI-powered cloud solutions, Leeds helps organizations reduce theft, accelerate incident investigations, and improve overall operational safety.

[Click here](#) for more info but call



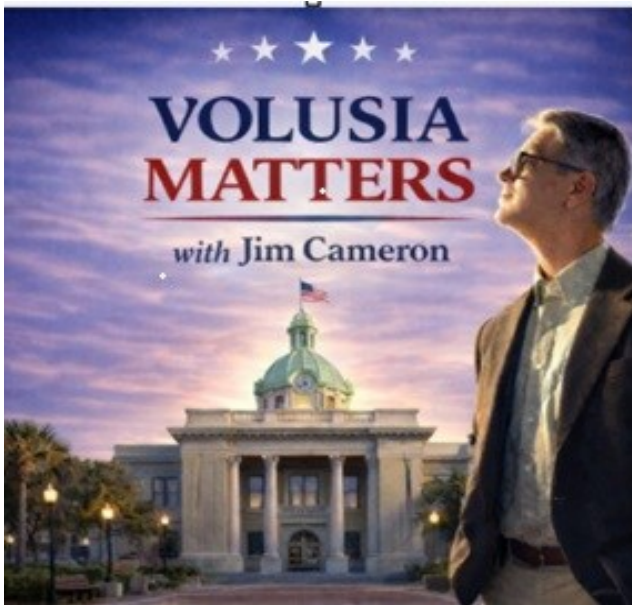
Nationwide Freightlinx – Local Roots, Nationwide Reach

Located on US-1 in Ormond Beach, Nationwide Freightlinx is a family-owned, US veteran owned, transportation and logistics company serving businesses throughout our local community and across the US. They coordinate shipments nationwide and remain committed to provide personalized service, accessibility, and relationships that only a local company can. Their team is available around the clock, ensuring customers always have a real person to call when they need support.

Specializing in full truckload (FTL), less-than-truckload (LTL), refrigerated, dry van, flatbed, and expedited transportation, Nationwide Freightlinx helps manufacturers, distributors, and businesses of all sizes move freight safely and efficiently. They take pride in building long-term partnerships through dependable service, competitive pricing, and clear communication from pickup to delivery. Whether you're shipping across Fla or across the country, they're ready to serve you company...Call them for a quote today!

Tom Moore - Owner
386-453-180 — — —

www.nationwidefreightlinx.com



Check out today's news podcast
and interview with
School Supt Carmen Balgobin

First Day of School
August 10

Legislature—not the Governor—writes the budget.....
Governor PROPOSES a budget, but actual General Appropriations Act is written by House/Senate. Governor then has **line-item veto authority** (specific appropriations can be struck without vetoing whole budget).



[Coram.ai](https://coram.ai) turns your **existing security cameras** into a smart, AI-powered platform.

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- No costly hardware replacement required.
- Improve safety, reduce risk, and save time by transforming passive video into actionable insights that enhance daily operations.

For more info, call Jim Cameron at
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Paid by Jake Johansson, Republican, for State Senate District 8

Local Government Meetings Links

[Volusia County Council](#) August 4, 9 AM 18, 4 PM County Ad, min Bldg

[Daytona Beach City Commission](#) August 5, 19 - 6 pm City Hall

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

[Port Orange City Council](#) August 4, 18 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[South Daytona City Council](#) August 11 - 6 pm City Hall

[DB Shores City Commission](#) August 11 - 6 pm City Hall

[DeBary City Council](#) August 5, 19 - 6:30 pm City Hall

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

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

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

[Holly Hill City Commission](#) August 11, 25 - 6 PM City Hall

[Lake Helen City Commission](#) August 3 - 7 pm City Hall

[New Smyrna Bch Commission](#) August 11, 25 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Oak Hill City Commission](#) August 10 - 6 pm City Hall

[Orange City City Council](#) August 11, 25 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Ponce Inlet Town Council](#) August - 6 pm City Hall

[School Board of Volusia](#) August 11, 25 - 4:30 pm Deland

[River to Sea TPO](#) August 26, 9 am 1540 Cornerstone Blvd Ste 240 DB

Economic Development Update

VOLUSIA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



THE "Q" BREAKFAST

Aug. 21, 2026 | 7:30 - 9 a.m.

Daytona Beach International Airport
Dennis McGee Room

The "Q" Breakfast is
supported by



Conserve
energy &
earn rebates
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ECONOMIC FORECAST



GUEST SPEAKER

Sean Snaith, PhD., Director
University of Central Florida's
Institute for Economic Forecasting

LIMITED SEATING EVENT. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

[Click here](#) to attend.....Breakfast is FREE but you MUST RSVP to attend. In addition to Sean Snaith's presentation, Volusia's Economic Development Director Lou Paris will present a snap shop of our local economy for the last quarter. I've attended these breakfast for years and I highly recommend them.....they're informative and a great opportunity to network with other business men and women.

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

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THE VOLUSIA REAL ESTATE SCORECARD

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

Compiled by Jami D. Gallegos, MBA, Real Estate Advisor.

VOLUSIA COUNTY All Property Types

June 2026

Source: Florida Realtors



CLOSED SALES

▲ 9.7%
from a
year ago

1,063



MEDIAN SALE PRICE

↔ NO CHANGE
from a
year ago

\$350,000



ACTIVE INVENTORY

▼ -21%
from a
year ago

4,649



DOLLAR VOLUME

▲ 7.2%
from a
year ago

\$429 Million



NEW LISTINGS

▼ -5.0%
from a
year ago

1,226



MONTHS SUPPLY OF INVENTORY

▼ down from
6.9 MOS.
a year ago

5.1 Months

AVERAGE MORTGAGE RATES

Last Updated August 5, 2026

Source: Mortgage News Daily

30 Yr. Fixed
6.75% +0.00

5.99% 6.85%

\$1,621 / mo

15 Yr. Fixed
6.29% +0.00

5.55% 6.34%

\$2,149 / mo

30 Yr. Jumbo
6.89% -0.01

6.10% 6.92%

\$1,645 / mo

7/6 SOFR ARM
6.30% -0.01

5.29% 6.55%

\$1,547 / mo

30 Yr. FHA
6.31% +0.02

5.62% 6.40%

\$1,549 / mo

30 Yr. VA
6.32% +0.01

5.64% 6.42%

\$1,551 / mo

Estimated Principal & Interest

Loan Amount:

300,000

[Mortgage Calculators](#)



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LIFESTYLE REALTY
GROUP



Valor Real Estate Development Pushes Forward on Revitalization

Aston Martin Residences Daytona Beach Shores represents a defining moment for Central Florida real estate — the arrival of Miami-caliber luxury in a coastal market primed for its first-ever branded residential tower. The development comprises 78 premium oceanfront residences and 8 palatial double-height penthouses, housed within a sleek 18-story silhouette set to transform the Daytona Beach Shores skyline.

Priced from \$2M to \$10M+, these homes will command price points that establish an entirely new ceiling for the zone. At its heart is an amenity offering unlike anything on Florida's Atlantic Coast north of Miami: over 45,000 square feet of curated lifestyle space — more than 523 square feet of amenities for every single residence.

From an oceanfront saltwater pool and private beach club to a full wellness center, spa, plunge pools, Zen garden, and private residents' lounge, the building delivers a five-star resort experience as a permanent address. The tower will also mark a retail and culinary first for the area — introducing a ground-floor luxury retail program.

A café anchors the Atlantic Ave entrance, flowing across the ground floor and culminating in an oceanfront fine-dining destination. This end-to-end food and beverage experience will function as a neighborhood amenity as much as a resident one, establishing the building as a cultural anchor of the shore.

[Click here](#) for more details.....

Fla Tourism Stats in 2026?



Early 2026, Fla stayed one of the top travel spots in the US, though growth cooled off slightly. January to March, about 39.9 million people visited the state, a small 1% drop vs 2025.

About 36.5 million, came from within the US. Of those, roughly 38% flew in and 62% drove or arrived by other means. Hotels also stayed busy, with room bookings up slightly from last year.

NOTE—2025 was a record year with 143 million total visitors. Tourism is a huge part of Fla's economy: in 2024, visitors spent about \$135 billion in the state, and tourism overall added \$133.6 billion to Fla's economy, saving each household nearly \$2,000 in taxes.

In 2025, ~91.5% of all visitors (131 million) came from elsewhere in US. Overseas visitors totaled 9.3 million, and Canadian visitors totaled 3.17 million. Brazil is now the second-biggest source of international visitors, and more people are coming from Argentina, UK, France, Spain, Italy.

Congressional/Federal Issues Update



Congress is working to prevent a federal government shutdown before the new fiscal year begins on October 1.

The House has already passed a temporary funding bill, called a Continuing Resolution (CR), that would keep the government operating through **December 4** if Congress does not finish all 12 regular spending bills for Fiscal Year 2027. The bill would mostly continue funding at current FY 2026 levels.

The Senate has approved its own bipartisan version of the temporary funding bill. The biggest difference is that the Senate plan would keep the government funded through **December 11** instead of December 4. It also includes several policy changes that differ from the House bill. The Senate passed its proposal by a strong **89-4** vote, showing broad bipartisan support.

Before the bill can become law, the House and Senate must agree on the exact same version and send it to the President for his signature.

The House is expected to consider the Senate's changes when lawmakers return from their August recess on **August 31**.

Senate Democrats say their version of the bill provides better protections for food assistance programs, national security, disaster relief, and limits on shifting money to Border Patrol without additional reforms. They also say the bill removes several controversial provisions that could have delayed passage. However, they were unable to include every change they wanted.

The deadline is important because Congress has not yet completed the 12 regular spending bills needed to fund the federal government for the new fiscal year. If lawmakers fail to pass either those bills or a temporary funding measure by **September 30**, parts of the federal government would shut down beginning October 1.

Congressional leaders from both parties say they want to avoid a shutdown. The main question now is whether the House will accept the Senate's version or whether more negotiations will be needed before the September 30 deadline.



Current Make Up of US Senate
53 Republicans—45 Democrats (2 Independents caucusing with Democrats).

Current Make Up of US House
217 Republicans—212 Democrats -
1 Independent—5 Vacancies

Federal Reserve Bd UPDATE



Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent says the US \$39.8 trillion national debt is a serious long-term problem..he also believes it cannot keep rising forever.

He makes five main points.

- 1) the government is borrowing too much, and higher interest costs will eventually make it harder to pay for other important programs.
- 2) the main issue is government spending, not taxes.....US has wasteful spending that should be cut, while the country should focus on growing the economy.
- 3) strong economic growth is the key to handling the debt. When the economy grows faster, the government usually collects more tax revenue without raising tax rates. This can make the debt feel smaller compared to the size of the economy.
- 4) reduce annual federal deficit over time.....bringing the deficit down to about 3% of GDP could help stabilize the debt.
- 5) the problem should NOT be solved via higher taxes vs extending some tax cuts, cutting unnecessary spending, and using policies that help businesses invest more and create jobs.

Overall, Bessent sees the debt as a big risk, but he believes the best solution is faster economic growth and careful spending, not large tax increases or major cuts to Social Security and Medicare.

Current US tariff rates on imports impact our economy and it's changing rapidly. The Trump administration has replaced many earlier tariffs that were struck down by Supreme Court with a new tariff program under Section 301 of the Trade Act. Tariff trade status for numerous countries are....

- Canada ...0% (USMCA goods); 25% non-USMCA
- Mexico...0% (USMCA goods); 25% non-USMCA

USMCA products meet the 2020 US Mexico Canada Trade agreement's "rules of origin" it can usually cross the borders between the US Canada, and Mexico **without paying tariffs**. In other words, a **car assembled in Mexico** using enough North American-made parts qualifies under USMCA and can enter the U.S. **tariff-free**. **That same car** made with too many parts from outside North America (such as China) may **not qualify** and could face a **25% U.S. tariff**. Therefore, a product generally must be made primarily in the US, Canada, or Mexico including materials and parts

For China, the current tariff is 12.5% baseline.. for Brazil, it's 37.5% on many products

Most imports from about 60 trade partners are now subject to either a **10% or 12.5% baseline tariff.....10%** is now the standard baseline tariff for most major US trade partners including.....

Japan	Germany
UK	S Korea
Taiwan	India
Vietnam	Malaysia
Thailand	Singapore
Switzerland	France
Italy	Netherlands
Ireland	Belgium

You're hearing more news of candidates from the Democratic Socialist of America party... but what is in the DSA's platform?

New York City recently elected mayor mon-dami as well as other DSA candidates elsewhere to local offices. Apparently, there are 12 DSA-endorsed candidates currently running for Congress....2 currently serve in Congress....**AOC and Rhasida Tlaib.**

But what what's in the platform of Democrats socialists party? I examined their website and found the following....

- Abolish the Electoral College. Replace the President and Supreme Court with an executive and judiciary chosen by and subordinate to Congress.
- Extend full voting rights to all permanent U.S. residents and restore the right to vote for incarcerated people and people with criminal convictions.
- Replace the two-party system with a multi-party democracy. Expand the House of Representatives, implement proportional representation and ranked choice voting in all elections, and abolish the Senate.
- Establish public ownership of the largest corporations and essential industries to ensure democratic control and accountability to the people.
- Enact aggressive wealth taxes on the richest individuals and corporations to spend on public goods and infrastructure.
- Empower workers to come together and fight the boss.....and a \$25 minimum wage

- Demilitarize police depts, disempower police unions.....redirect funding to public services.....fully abolish the police/prison system which protects the rich and jails the poor.
- Treat drug addiction and mental illness as health issues, not crimes
- Recognize a free Palestine with Jerusalem as its capital

Individuals have no debt.....no need health insurance.....don't pay a mortgage or have a landlord, because comfortable housing is a human right. Your retirement is publicly funded. Food, education, energy, medicine, and transportation aren't for-profit businesses; they are common goods and utilities

The end of capitalism!... just because it isn't easy to imagine now doesn't mean we shouldn't try to make it happen

Democratic Socialists of America are building a party whose goal is a democratic society of the working class. In Fla, DSA candidate Oliver Larkin is running to unseat Democrat Jarrod Moskowitz in S Fla. Stay tuned.....

[Click here to see the DSA's website.....](#)



RIVERFRONT MARKET

AUGUST 7 | 5-9PM | 179 S. Beach St.

Join us at the **Riverfront Market!** 🎉 Starting back up on **Friday, August 7**, and continuing **every Friday from 5–9 PM**, enjoy **up to 45 local vendors**, live music by **Aaron Esposito**, and a laid-back waterfront atmosphere right across from the Riverfront Shops. **Shop, dine, and explore—it's everything you love about a Friday night, all in one place.**

See how we're reimagining
The Cici & Hyatt Brown
Museum of Art,
Science & History
for generations to come.

Welcome to the Future of THE BROWN



Get the Full Vision

Discover how The Brown is transforming:
design, exhibitions, and campus layout.

Stay Informed

See planning updates, construction
progress, and more.

Be Involved

Learn how to support this
once-in-a-generation project.

Stay Up To Date With the Museum's Future

www.MOASFuture.org



What's Changing

The Brown is undergoing a bold transformation.

Key priorities:

- Build a landmark new facility
- Renovate and repurpose existing galleries
- Create a unified, walkable campus
- Reimagine The Brown's identity around innovation, discovery, and connection

Stay Connected/More Info

The Brown

Learn more about our new name, new brand, and our visionary plans for our future campus.

FAQ

Reference our FAQ section for answers to your questions about construction, timeline, and our future plans.

News & Blog

Get the latest project updates, renderings, and stories.

Museum in Motion

Through an expanding calendar of programs, we're bringing hands-on learning directly into schools and community spaces—meeting audiences where they are and sparking lasting curiosity. Meanwhile, members enjoy exclusive experiences, and the Lohman Planetarium continues to inspire with special events and immersive shows.

Check Our Event Calendar





Onboard Amenities

SunRail offers various amenities to integrate safety and comfort seamlessly into your daily commute.

Free Wi-Fi

SunRail offers unlimited Wi-Fi on all passenger trains for a seamless digital experience.

Power Outlets

Standard 110-volt electrical power outlets available to supply power for electronic devices.

Comfortable Seating

Wide and comfortable seats with plenty of leg room make SunRail a cushy ride for everyone.

Luggage Storage

Lower-level train car seats flip up to provide passengers with additional luggage storage.

Bike Storage

Lower-level train cars offer cyclists designated areas to secure their bicycles.

Onboard Restrooms

Clean & accessible restrooms include grab bars, mirrors and sinks with lever-operated faucets.

[Click here](#) for maps/schedules [Click here](#) for Stations/Destinations

[Click here](#) for fares/passes [Click here](#) for Connecting Services

[Click here](#) for any questions.....

Volusia County gasoline taxes are ~52.4 cents per gallon	
Federal gas tax per gallon	18.4¢
Florida state fuel taxes/fees (state excise, inspection fee, pollutants tax, transportation taxes)	~22.0¢
County local option fuel taxes (county-imposed lo- cal fuel taxes)	~12.0¢
Total per gallon in Volusia County:	≈ 52.4¢



DBIA started operations with JetBlue in December and their numbers are doing well. JetBlue operates Embraer E190 and Airbus A320 family aircraft with nonstop JetBlue destinations to New York–JFK, and Boston (seasonal service varies).

DBIA has received information that there could be another announcement for some winter service. JetBlue is doing better than expected originally. DBIA staff has a very collaborative relationship with our advertising partners in the marketing our new airlines.

Airport Manager - Air Service, Marketing & Customer Experience Joanne Magley was a participant in a promotional events in Boston and New York City that was funded through our partnership with Volusia’s CVB’s.

DAB has seen a surge in traffic, reporting **772,170 passengers.....**an 11% increase over the previous year and marks the **highest passenger volume the airport has seen since 1997**. Overall seat capacity at the airport jumped by 20%.

Additionally, the airport shattered its **all-time single-day passenger record** on February 16 (the Monday following the Daytona 500), screening 3,534 passengers through the TSA checkpoint in a single day, handling 21 arriving and 22 departing flights.

This spike in arrivals/departures is due to aggressive route expansion from low-cost carriers alongside legacy airlines.

DAIB currently features **11 year-round nonstop routes.....**in addition to Jet Blue....DBIA is also home to.....

- **Breeze Airways** offering nonstop service to **Providence, RI; Hartford, CT; Raleigh/Durham, NC; and Akron/Canton, OH.**
- **Avelo Airlines:** provides key regional connections nonstop flights to **New Haven, CT** and **Wilmington/Philadelphia, DE.**
- **Delta Air Lines & American Airlines** with daily hub traffic to **Atlanta (ATL)** and **Charlotte (CLT).**



School Board & Education



Volusia County Schools and Volusia United Educators Settle Teachers' Contract

Volusia School District and Volusia United Educators (VUE) have reached an agreement related to Teacher Salary Increase Allocation funding. The agreement includes approximately an additional \$611,111 in funding on top of the previously allocated \$4 million, reinforcing the district's commitment to attracting and retaining high-quality educators while recognizing the dedication of current employees. Eligible employees may submit verification of Florida teach-



Florida Teaching Experience	Amount
10 to 15 Years	\$1,800
16 to 20 Years	\$2,200
21 to 25 Years	\$2,600
26 Years and Up	\$3,000

ing experience to human resources prior to September 2, 2026.

Superintendent Dr. Carmen Balgobin says teachers are the foundation of the schools. The agreement is meant to attract and keep great educators by improving pay for both new and experienced teachers. She thanks the School Board, employees, families, students, and community partners for their support. The goal is to help every student succeed.



WE'RE BACK! JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY

RIVERFRONT
MARKET

STARTING THIS FRIDAY
AUGUST 7TH FROM 5-9PM

UP TO 45 VENDORS,
LIVE MUSIC & MORE!

THIS WEEK'S LOCAL VENDORS ARE:

AP Accessories	Honest Batch	Pine forge Soap Co
Atlas Farms	Jerusalem Street Food	Renod Escarment
Blair Plastering / Terra Form	Just By Gen + The Ethereal	Somethings's Brewing Coffee
Curio Cab	Hook	Tabbs Fashion Beads
Dancing Root Displays	Kingdom Acai	Terra Tea Wellness
DOGSNOG Dog Treats	La Isla Delights	The Bubble Lemonade
Doughmination	Leighton Kitchen	The Huni Company
Eat What's Wholesome &	Little Hens Natural	Tiki x Kiki Coffee
Good	Mahdi Creations	Violstones
Ed's Custom Wood Creations	Num Num Sauce Company	Wild Honey Bee Farm
Forever Branded Jewelry Co	Olive & Hummus	Worlds Best Kettle Corn

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BURGOYNE COMMODORES



HALIFAX HEALTH



Brown & Brown
INSURANCE



Advent Health



EMBRY-RIDDLE
Aeronautical University





Leadership VCS: Connecting Community Leaders to Volusia County Schools

Leadership VCS is an innovative leadership development program designed to provide business, nonprofit, and community leaders with an in-depth understanding of Volusia County Schools. Through an engaging eight-month experience, participants gain a behind-the-scenes look at the many departments, programs, and professionals who work together to support more than 60,000 students across the district.

Throughout the Leadership VCS program, participants explored the departments, programs, and initiatives that work together to support Volusia County Schools' strategic plan goal that *All students will engage in high levels of learning every day*. Through interactive visits with key departments including Teaching, Leading, & Learning, Career & Technical Education, Transportation, Student Services, Safety & Security, Exceptional Student Education, School Way Café, and Finance participants gained insight into how district teams collaborate to create opportunities, remove barriers, and support student success in every school.

In addition to department presentations and school tours, participants engaged in collaborative discussions, hands-on demonstrations, and networking opportunities with school and district administrators.

These experiences fostered meaningful connections while increasing participants' awareness of the opportunities and challenges facing public education.

Leadership VCS equips participants to become informed advocates for Volusia County Schools and strengthens partnerships that positively impact students, educators, and the community.

Applications are now being accepted for the next Leadership VCS cohort. Community leaders and business professionals are encouraged to apply and discover how they can help shape the future of education in Volusia County.

To register or for more information, please contact Denise Ribeiro at dlribeir@volusia.k12.fl.us. We look forward to welcoming the next class of Leadership VCS!



School Bd member Jamie Haynes addresses VCS Leadership graduates



Daytona State College is working to secure funding for a new facility at Daytona Intl Airport for its upcoming Aviation Maintenance Management program, and in the

meantime is coordinating with Embry-Riddle to use space on ERAU's campus to start the program before its own building is complete in 2027.

The Aviation Maintenance Management A.S. degree itself is set to launch Fall 2026, pending FAA and accreditor approval, training students as airframe and powerplant mechanics alongside logistics and safety management coursework. Separately, DSC also launched a new Aerospace Technology A.S. degree in Spring 2026, developed with NASA, Blue Origin, and Northrop Grumman.

DSC received about \$17.3 million to help construct facilities for these new aviation programs.



B-CU launched 8 new degree programs aimed at emerging industries, including

- Actuarial Science,
- Applied AI,
- Cybersecurity,
- Digital Marketing,
- Esports/Gaming Administration,
- Healthcare Administration,
- Supply Chain Management.

The University also added a Healthcare Administration track to its MBA program.

School Bd will host a workshop next Tuesday, Aug 11, at 12:30 PM at the DeLand Administrative Complex.

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Julio Valle and Research Evaluation and Accountability Coordinator Kyle Schicker's presentation will focus on high-quality staff and instruction.

CTE Coordinator Dr. Kristin Pierce will discuss new academies and partnerships with the local business community.

The final presentation will focus in the District's Student Progression Plan.





Volusia Schools' CTE Academies mix regular classes with hands-on training focused on real industry careers. They offer pathways in healthcare, engineering, IT, and skilled trades, often including certifications or internships to help students be ready for college and high-demand local jobs.

[Animal Science & Services | Agriscience Academy](#)

New Smyrna Beach HS

Prepares students for careers in agriscience/aquaculture. Via school farm/area marine environments, students connect with local projects in agricultural sciences

[Applied Cybersecurity | Cybersecurity Academy](#)

Pine Ridge HS

Students get hands-on training in digital security, learning threat analysis, ethical hacking, secure network design, and incident response through simulations and real scenarios. The academy also prepares students for agriscience and aquaculture using the school farm and nearby marine environments for real-world local projects.

[Applied Engineering Technology | Engineering Academy \(DeLand\)](#)

DeLand HS

Students learn engineering, manufacturing, and technical design by combining math and science with real-world problems and software. They train on industry equipment in areas like quality assurance and electrical systems, and students may complete a local internship

**OTHER CAREER ACADEMIES WILL BE LISTED
IN THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER**

[Applied Robotics, Java Development & Programming | Academy of Information Technology & Robotics \(AITR\)](#)

Spruce Creek HS

Prepares students for careers in information technology and is destination for students interested in technology, programming, and robotics. Hands-on labs and projects provide students with practical experience, enabling them to develop and create solutions for real-world challenges. Led by a team of instructors and industry experts, the academy fosters creativity/problem-solving,

[Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair | Academy of Automotive Technology and Maintenance](#)

Atlantic HS/Pre-Apprenticeship

Provides students with automotive technology and repair skills. Students explore aspects of vehicle maintenance, diagnostics, repair, and performance testing. Working with the latest automotive technologies, students gain experience in vehicle systems, safety, and troubleshooting.

[Biomedical Sciences | Biomedical Sciences Academy](#)

University HS

Offers a curriculum that blends scientific inquiry, laboratory exploration, and practical application in the field of biomedicine. Students learn about human biology, disease processes and medical research methodologies. Through hands-on laboratory experiences, research projects, and in-depth studies, students learn principles of modern medicine.



Upcoming Events/Calendar of Events

Volusia Calendar is part of the Volusia Matters brandCommunity 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 folk a 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

Community Calendar

August 6...SEV Chamber Regional Economic Summit..Brannon Center...8 AM – 12 PM

August 6...Elevate Daytona Beach.....Peabody Auditorium.....5—8 PM

August 21....Economic Development Q Breakfast....Daytona Intl Airport.....7:30 AM

August 29....NASCAR Race.....Daytona Intl Speedway.....

Sept 17-19....Boss Lady Women's Leadership Conference....

Sept 17....VCARD's Local Government Icebreaker....LPGA Clubhouse....5:30 PM

Sept 18....Team Volusia EDC Bd ... Daytona State College..... 9 AM

Sept 22.....SEV Chamber State of the State.....Brannon Center...12 – 1 PM

Sept 25.....Passport to the Beginning (Benefit for the Brown)....Brannon Ctr NSB...6 PM

Sept 30....Daytona Chamber Annual Awards Celebration...Renaissance Hotel..4 - 6 PM

Sept 30....SEV Chamber Candidates' Forum..... Brannon Center5 – 7 PM

October 22..Halifax Urban Ministries 45th Anniversary Soirée ...6 PM...Shores Resort Spa

Nov 7-8...Halifax Art Festival.....Downtown Daytona Beach

Nov 12..SEV Chamber.....Annual Meeting & Awards..... Brannon Center....6 - 8:00 PM

Nov 21....Economic Development Q Breakfast....Daytona Intl Airport.....7:30 AM

Dec 1....Daytona Chamber's Elected Officials Meet/Greet....Brown & Brown.....5 PM

Governmental Calendar

Sept 14 - Elected Officials Roundtable....Daytona Intl Airport....7:30 AM

**Nov
Elected
Officials**



Call Barbara 386-676-5050 for more info.
8 locations around Volusia and Flagler.
www.storitselfstorageall.com
They're nice people!

9



Early voting August 8 - 15 8:00am - 6:00pm
Early Voting Sites

- Supervisor of Elections Office
1588 N Woodland Blvd, DeLand [Map It](#)
- Wayne Sanborn Center
815 S Alabama Ave, DeLand [Map It](#)
- Florence Little Town Hall
12 Colomba Rd, DeBary - [Map It](#)
- The Center at Deltona
1640 Dr. M.L.K. Blvd, Deltona - [Map It](#)
- Ormond Beach Regional Library
30 S Beach St, Ormond Beach - [Map It](#)
- Charles Cherry Sr Cultural/Education Ctr
925 George Engram Blvd, Daytona Bch- [Map It](#)
- Daytona Beach Regional Library
105 Jackie Robinson Pkwy, DB - [Map It](#)
- Lakeside Community Center
1999 City Center Cir, Port Orange - [Map It](#)
- New Smyrna Beach Regional Library
1001 S Dixie Fwy, New Smyrna Bch - [Map It](#)



On the ballot.....

U.S. Senate (Special Election)

- Republican
- Democratic

US House of Representatives

- Congressional District 6
- Congressional District 7

Governor

- **Republican**
- **Democratic**

Florida Cabinet

- Attorney General
- Chief Financial Officer
- Commissioner of Agriculture

County Council

- At Large
- District 1
- District 3

School Board (Nonpartisan)

- District 1
- **Daytona Beach Commission**
 - * Zone 1
 - * Zone 3
- **Deltona Commission**
 - * Mayor
 - * District 6
- **Edgewater**
 - * Mayor
- **NSB Commission**
 - * Zone 2
- **Ormond Beach Commission**
 - * Mayor
 - * Zone 1
 - * Zone 4
- **Circuit Judge for 7th Circuit**

See following pages for a list of candidates in upcoming elections.....

Elections/Candidates

August/November 2026

County Council At Large

[Nancy Miller](#)

[Mike Poniatowski](#)

[Barry Powell](#)

County Council, District 1

[Wendy Anderson](#)

[Don Dempsey](#)

[Melissa Thorne](#)

County Council, District 3

[Anthony Gorham](#)

[Danny Robins](#)

[Byron White](#)

County Council, District 5

[David Santiago](#)

[David Sosa](#)

School Board, District 1

[Brenda Lyn Beery](#)

[Jaclyn Carrell](#)

[Jamie Michele Haynes](#)

School Board, District 3

[Grace Kellermeier](#)

[Jessie Thompson](#)

School Board, District 5

[Ruben Colon](#)

[Dean Condon](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 1

[John Navarra](#)

[Monica Paris](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 3

[Christos Mavrones](#)

[Quanita May](#)

[Steve Miller](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 5

[John Counts](#)

[Aaron Richard Harrison](#)

[Willie Williams](#)

[Britany Yisrael](#)

DB Shores Mayor

[Stephen Dembensky](#) (UNOPPOSED)

DB Shores Commission Seat 3

[Chris Conomos](#) (UNOPPOSED)

DB Shores Commission, Seat 5

[Vincent DonVito](#)

[Edward Offerman](#)

DeBary Council Mayor/Seat 5

[Phyliss Butlien](#)

[Lita Handy-Peters](#)

DeBary Council, Seat 3

[Michael Scheck](#) (UNOPPOSED)

DeBary Council, Seat 4

[Christopher Adams](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Deland Mayor

[Chris Cloudman](#) (UNOPPOSED)

DeLand Commission Seat 3

[Jessica Davis](#)

Deland Commission Seat 5

[Kevin Reid](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Deltona Mayor

[Santiago Avila](#)

Maritza Avillia Vazquez

[Jason Voelz](#)

Deltona Commission District 1

[Davison Heriot](#)

[Brandy White](#)

Deltona Commission District 3

[Tarra D'Errico](#)

[Sean O'Donnell](#)

Deltona Commission District 5

[Chris Bellingham](#)

[Stephen Colwell](#)

Deltona City Commission District 6

[Chris Nabicht](#)

[Christian O'Brien](#)

[Jody Lee Storozuk](#)

Edgewater Mayor

[Diezel Depew](#)

[Wayne Thomas McCloskey](#)

[Stephen Oleksy](#)

Edgewater Council District 1

[Charlotte Hope Gillis](#)

[Charles Martin](#)

Edgewater Council District 3

[Deborah Dolbow](#)

[James McGuinness](#)

Holly Hill Commission District 2

[Mike Cerbo](#)

[Carmen Ruiz](#)

Holly Hill Commission District 4

[Damon Samson](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Lake Helen Commission Zone 2

[Earl Farmer](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Lake Helen Commission Zone 4

[Charlene Bishop](#) (UNOPPOSED)

New Smyrna Beach Mayor

[Fred Cleveland](#)

[Lisa Martin](#)

New Smyrna Beach Commission Zone 1

[Carl Curtis Hodges](#) (UNOPPOSED)

New Smyrna Beach Commission Zone 2

[Jennifer Devine](#)

[Cynthia Flanagan](#)

[Lou Pate](#)

[Cynthia Sniezak](#)

Oak Hill Commission

[Glyn Weeks](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Oak Hill Commission

[Joe Catigano](#)

[Terry Mason](#)

Orange City At-Large

[Stephen Gensel](#)

[Dana Knight](#)

Orange City Council District 3

[Brett Marquez](#)

[Sherry Pough](#)

Orange City Council District 4

[Anthony Pupello](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Orange City Council District 5

[Frances Darms](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Ormond Beach Mayor

[Damien Curry](#)

[George Doran](#)

[Jason Leslie](#)

[Lori Tolland](#)

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 1

[Alan Burton](#)

[Melissa DeVriese](#)

[Colleen McMahon](#)

Ormond Beach City Commission Dist 2

[Jennifer Bright](#)

[Travis Sargent](#)

Ormond Beach Commission 3

[Kristin Deaton](#)

[Ted Rhodes](#)

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 4

[Amber Bobak](#)

[Harold Briley](#)

[Barry du Moulin](#)

Pierson Council Seat 1

[Julia Crisp](#)

[Linnie Richardson](#)

Pierson Council Seat 3

[Brandy Peterson](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Pierson Council Seat 5

[Robert Greenlund](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Ponce Inlet Council Seat 2

[Bill Milano](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Ponce Inlet Council Seat 4

[Joseph Villanella](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Port Orange Council District 1

[Stan Schmidt](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Port Orange Council District 2

[Tracy Grubbs](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Port Orange Council District 4

[Lance Green](#) (UNOPPOSED)

South Daytona Council Seat 2

[Victoria Maxwell](#)

[Doug Quartier](#)

South Daytona Seat 3

[Lisa ONeal](#)

4th quarter 2025, NATIONAL monthly cost of a median-priced home was \$3,120 (a mortgage payment, insurance and property tax).

2nd quarter is now \$3,200.....~46% increase from 2019.

Since 2020, home prices have increased 54% nationwide AND mortgage rates are back up.

Property taxes increased 31% from 2019 to 2025 AND insurance premiums increased 72% during the same time..... Joint Center for Housing Studies – Harvard University.

Fla Senate District 8

[Jake Johansson](#) (REP)

[Ngying, Judy](#) (DEM)

[Wozniak, Gabriel Jude](#) (LPF)

Fla House District 27

[Richard Gentry](#) (REP) *Incumbent

[Andy Ferrari](#) (DEM)

Fla House District 28

[Joseph Hannoush](#) (LPF)

[Sammy Jackson](#) (DEM)

[Bill Partington](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Fla House District 29

[Webster Barnaby](#) (REP) *Incumbent

[Donald Kanfer](#) (DEM)

Fla House District 30

[Edwin Munoz](#) (DEM)

[Chase Tramont](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Congress—District 6

[Manuel Asensio](#) (REP)

[Aaron Baker](#) (REP)

[Dan Bilzerian](#) (REP)

[Robert David Cooper](#) (DEM)

[Randy Fine](#) (REP) *Incumbent

[Charles Gambaro](#) (REP)

[Michael Gist](#) (NPA)

[Steve Morgan](#) (DEM)

[Murchinson-Rivera "Ron"](#) (DEM)

[Andrew Parrott](#) (LPF)

[Eric Yonce](#) (DEM)

Congress—District 7

[Dalton Bale](#) (DEM)

[Ryan Elijah](#) (REP)

[Alan Grayson](#) (DEM)

[Marialana Kinter](#) (DEM)

[Michael Don Johnson](#) (REP)

[Cory Mills](#) (REP)*

[Sarah Ulrich](#) (REP)



Election Dates' Calendar

Primary Election

Ballot will include congressional, legislative, county, city offices, Volusia County-Judges, 7th Judicial Circuit Judge races.

Aug 18, 7:00 am

Deadline to Register To Vote for General Election

Oct 05, 8:00 am

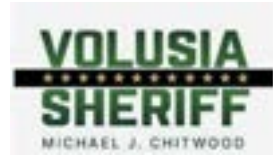
General Election

Nov 03, 7:00 am

To find your Election Day polling location, visit our [Precinct Locator Site](#).

Public Safety

Operation Holy Rollers Targets Organized Crime in Holly Hill



Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies recently joined forces in **Operation Holy Rollers**, a coordinated investigation aimed at disrupting organized criminal activity in the Holly Hill area. The operation involved the **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**, **Volusia Sheriff's Office (VSO)**, **Holly Hill Police Dept (HHPD)**, **Fla Dept of Law Enforcement (FDLE)**.



The multi-agency effort executed search warrants, gathered evidence, and arrested approx 50 individuals suspected of participating in organized criminal enterprises. Authorities

said the investigation targeted illegal activities that posed a threat to public safety and the quality of life in the community.

Law enforcement officials emphasized that partnerships among federal, state, and local agencies allow investigators to combine intelligence, personnel, and specialized resources to address complex criminal cases more effectively.

Apparently it involved a gang calling themselves...Cutthroat Murderers.....and was operating out of a local foodbank connected to a church...Great Harvest Ministries

Officials expect additional info, including more arrests, charges filed, and evidence seized, to be released as the investigation and related court proceedings continue.

I'd like to thank Volusia Sheriff Mike Chitwood and Holly Hill Police Chief Byron Williams and their crews for their work in this bust.



REGGAE ON THE ROCK

AUGUST 8 & 9 | 355 N. Beach St.

Experience Florida's FREE Ultimate Island Reggae Festival featuring 20+ artists across two stages featuring an eclectic mix of reggae bands, D.J.s, and emerging solo performers! Explore a vibrant Vendor Village, and indulge in food trucks, cocktails, and unbeatable waterfront vibes where island living meets the Florida coast! **FREE**

ADMISSION

Fla uses lots of "trust funds"
A significant share of spending isn't flexible General Revenue—it's locked into dedicated trust funds for transportation, environmental programs, unemployment, etc.



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Daytona Beach, FL 32118
BlackPearlProperty.com

Loretta Arthur
Licensed Real Estate Broker
Founder

House Delegation Members

	<u>Rep Richard Gentry</u> R – District 27 1302 Capital Richard.gentry@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5027 275 S Charles Richard Beall Blvd Unit 108 DeBary Legislative Staff Jerry Bertsch Erika Benfield	• Public Counsel Oversight Joint Committee • State Affairs Committee • Government Operations Subcommittee • Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee • Industries & Professional Subcommittee • Transportation & Economic Development Budget Subcommittee
	<u>Rep Bill Partington</u> R – District 28 1301 Capital Bill.partington@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5028 444 Seabreeze Blvd Ste 645 Daytona Beach Legislative Staff - Sandy Morgan Christian Velazquez	• Joint Select Collective Bargaining • Ways & Means • Criminal Justice Subcommittee • Housing, Agriculture Tourism Subcommittee • Human Services Subcommittee • State Admin Budget Subcommittee
	<u>Rep Webster Barnaby</u> R – District 29 317 Capital Webster.barnaby@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5029 120 S Fla Ave Deland, FL 32720 (386) 327-0380 Legislative Staff - Mackenzie Cunningham Karah Evans	• Judiciary <i>Vice Chair</i> • Criminal Justice Subcommittee <i>Vice Chair</i> • Ways & Means • Agriculture/Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee • Health Care Facilities/Systems Subcommittee
	<u>Rep Chase Tramont</u> R - District 30 214 House Office Bldg Chase.tramont@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5030 5889 S Williamson Blvd Ste 201D 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

	<u>Sen Tom Leek</u> R – District 7 310 Senate Office Bldg (850) 487-5007 Leek.tom@flsenate.gov 780 W Granada Blvd (386) 446-7610 Ormond Beach 32174 Legislative Aides - Danielle Curbow, Michael Murtha, Lynnette Phillips	• 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
	<u>Sen Tom Wright</u> R – District 8 412 Senate Office Bldg (850) 487-5008 Wright.tom@flsenate.gov 4606 S Clyde Morris Blvd Suite 2-J Port Orange 32129 304-7630 Legislative Aides - Charlene Gagnier, Christopher Morris, Diane Suddes	• 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

Fla uses lots of “trust funds”
A significant share of spending isn’t flexible General Revenue—it’s locked into dedicated trust funds for transportation, environmental programs, unemployment, etc.



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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

Ashley_Moody@senate.gov 202-224-3041

District Office

District Director—Alexander Quinione alexander_quiniones@moody.senate.gov

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



[Cong Corrie Mills](#) R

1237 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington DC

Corrie_mills@mail.house.gov 202-225-4035

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

Local Staff - Francesca Audino

francesca_audino@mail.house.gov

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



[Cong Randy Fine](#) R

244 Cannon House Office Bldg Washington, DC

Randy_fine@mail.house.gov : (202) 225-2706

District Office - 120 S Florida Ave Deland 32720 386-279-0707

Local Staff - Stephen Shylkofski Brandi Sadauskas

Stephen.shylkofski@mail.house.gov (772) 882-2270

Committees [Education & Workforce](#) [Foreign Affairs](#)



Volusia County Council
123 W Indiana Ave Deland
1st Tuesday 9 AM 3rd Tuesday 4 PM



Jeff Brower
County Chair
jbrower@volusia.org
O - 736-5920
C – 785-3062



Danny Robins
District 3
SE Volusia Pt Orange,
NSB, Edgewater, Oak
Hill, Enterprise, Osteen
drobins@volusia.org
O - 736-5920



Jake Johansson
At-Large
jjohansson@volusia.org
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C – 747-9006



Troy Kent
Vice Chair,
District 4
(N Volusia Holly Hill,
Daytona, DeLand/
DeLeon Springs)
tkent@volusia.org
O- 736-5920



Don Dempsey
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David Santiago
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O - 736-5920



Matt Reinhart
District 2 Representative
(Daytona Metro Area)
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C – 507-4004



George Recktenwald
County Manager
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[wald@volusia.org](mailto:grecktenwald@volusia.org)
O - 736-5920
C – 717-2324

School Board of Volusia
200 N Clara Ave
Deland
2nd and 4th Tuesdays 4 PM



Ruben Colón
 District 5 – Board Chair
rcolon@volusia.k12.fl.us
337-1071
 Bd Member Since: 2018
 Current Term: 2022-2026



Jessica Thompson
 District 3
jjthomps@volusia.k12.fl.us
386-624-2753
 Bd Member Since: 2022
 Current Term: 2022-2026



Krista Goodrich
 District 2
kngoodri@volusia.k12.fl.us
 Bd Member Since: 2024
 Current Term: 2024-2028



Donna Brosemer
 District 4
dbroseme@volusia.k12.fl.us
 Bd Member Since: 2024
 Current Term: 2024-2028



Jamie Hayne
 District 1
jmhaynes@volusia.k12.fl.us
386-624-4723
 Bd Member Since: 2018
 Current Term: 2022-2026



Dr. Carmen J. Balgobin
 Superintendent
cbalgobi@volusia.k12.fl.us
 255-6475 ext 20210

Sales tax is Fla's financial engine
About three-quarters of Fla's General Revenue comes from sales and use taxes....making the State especially sensitive to consumer confidence and retail activity.



People on the Move

Deputy Chief Chris Hughes is the **Interim-Fire Chief** for **Daytona Beach** after **Chief Dru Driscoll** announced he'll retire July 24 (with last official day July 9). City leaders have begun a search for a new chief.



Karah Evan is the new District Aide for **Rep Webster Barnaby, House District 29**. She interned for him in the 2026 Session, and after the session, she became his District Aide. She earned an AA Degree from Daytona State College and is currently a student at Stetson University where she's studying Political Science, Environmental Science, and Philosophy. Contact - Rep Webster Barnaby Tallahassee (850) 717-5029 DeLand (386) 327-0380 Karah.evan@flhouse.gov



Nina Hosseini Lockett has been promoted to Vice President - Customer Experience & Company Excellence at ICI Homes. A Univ of Florida graduate.

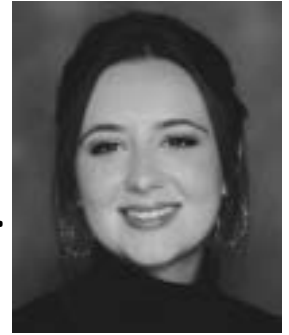


Jordyn Weaver is the new Regional Manager for West Central Fla, covering Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter, Marion counties for **CFO Blaise Ingoglia**.

"Look for a Volusia Manager soon"Before this role, she was Information Specialist/ Events Coordinator for the Hernando Chamber of Commerce. June 2023....she was Legislative Aide for then-Sen Ingoglia.

She handles constituent issues and is a CFO's liaison between Tallahassee and residents Contact..Dept of Financial Services Office of CFO Blaise Ingoglia Regional Manager for Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter, Marion Counties |

Jordyn.Weaver@myfloridacfo.com 850-509-0671



Eric Fraine, a Daytona Beach native with over 20 years in the electrical field, was named executive director of the Electrical Training Alliance of Daytona Beach. He began July 1 and plans to build on the program's work training licensed electricians. The nonprofit apprenticeship program combines classroom lessons with paid on-the-job training, aiming to help students avoid big student debt. The 4-year program includes about 2,000 paid work hours each year. After finishing, graduates can become journeymen and work toward Fla electrical licensing.





Denise Pope has joined CESO as Business Development Director.

Based in Orlando, she supports business development efforts throughout Central Florida for CESO's

civil engineering, surveying, environmental, land planning, and development services.

CESO is a national multidisciplinary consulting firm serving clients in a variety of markets, including commercial, industrial, residential, hospitality, energy, and public works.

**Long-range projections show pressure ahead
Fla's financial outlook has projected future structural deficits in outer years if recurring spending grows faster than recurring revenue. That's one reason lawmakers are cautious about creating permanent programs.**



Give your pup the perfect place to run, play, and make new furry friends by joining **Brownie's Dog Park**! This **gated membership dog park** welcomes dogs of all sizes and is open **sunrise to sunset**. Members get exclusive access to the **separate parks and agility courses for small and large dogs**, **artificial turf for cleaner play**, and a safe environment where **current vaccination records are required** for all dogs. Membership is available for a small annual fee to support the park's maintenance and upkeep. Simply **complete the membership form**, and our team will guide you through the **quick application process**!

A Park with a Story

Brownie's Dog Park is named in honor of **Brownie**, a friendly brown stray who captured the hearts of the Daytona Beach community after wandering into the Daytona Cab Company in 1940. His gentle spirit made him a local legend, and when he passed away in 1954, dozens gathered to celebrate his remarkable life.

Today, Brownie's legacy lives on at the Riverfront Esplanade through **Brownie's Dog Park**, a beautiful mosaic at the park entrance, and **Brownie's statue and burial site** located on the south side of the Esplanade—creating a special place where his love for bringing people together continues through the joy of their four-legged companions.



Sen Ashley Moody's Central Florida Director Alexander Quinones was in Volusia to meet with local constituents.....



Alexander Quinones , Jeff Leason of Bold Age Pace

Some of his stops included **Daytona Regional Chamber** where he met with their **Director of Advocacy, Drake Wyman**.

He met with the **County's Government Affairs Director John Booker**.

He met with **Jeff Leason, Operations Director for Bold Age Pace** to tour their "soon to open" facility in Holly Hill. Bold Age Pace works with Medicare Seniors overseeing their healthcare, providing physical therapy as well as a facility for them to congregate.



Synergy Billing CEO Jayson Meyer, Alexander Quinones

He also met **Synergy Billing CEO Jayson Meyer**. Synergy specializes in medical billing and coding pertaining to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and works to eliminate claim denials.

You'll soon be seeing here more often. He's holding Office hours at DB Shores Community Center.

Would your business be interested in meeting with him?

**Contact - Alexander_Quinones@moody.senate.gov
407-705-7492**



June - US economy remained resilient while growth continued to moderate as consumers and businesses are more cautious about spending.

Labor market stayed pretty strong, with the unemployment rate at **4.2%**, reflecting a healthy but gradually cooling job market.



Inflation remained above the Federal Reserve's 2% target....with annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) at **4.2%**, driven largely by higher energy costs (June CPI report set to be released July 14).

Federal Reserve Bd left interest rates unchanged in June (3.5 to 3.75%) and continues to monitor inflation/labor market conditions before making any additional policy moves.

Business investment remains steady, but higher borrowing costs and global uncertainty continue to weigh on manufacturing and housing activity.

Overall, US economy continues to expand, but policymakers remain focused on bringing inflation under control while avoiding a significant increase in unemployment.



June - Fla's economy remained one of the nation's strongest....supported by steady population growth, a robust tourism, continued business investment, and healthy consumer spending.

Unemployment rate was **3.5%**, below the nation's 4.2% rate and reflecting continued demand for workers across many industries. Tourism, construction, healthcare, logistics, and professional services were the key drivers of job growth.

Inflation was approx **3.4%** over the last 12 months with housing affordability and rising insurance costs remaining a problem for many.

Overall, Fla enters the second half of 2026 with a growing economy, low unemployment, moderate inflation, and continued optimism despite higher interest rates and ongoing affordability concerns.

Meanwhile, Volusia's economy also remained stable in June, supported by continued growth in tourism, healthcare, aviation, manufacturing, education, and construction.

County's unemployment rate was approx **5.2%** (latest available data), that's common as more people enter the workforce during the spring and summer months. (Click [FRED](#) for more details)

Volusia's inflation always pretty much same as Florida's rate, with CPI at **3.4%**, driven primarily by housing, insurance, and energy costs.

Local tourism industry continues at a moderate to strong number of visitors coming to our beaches. Look for a bump next month with NASCAR's Coke Zero 400.....employers in healthcare, skilled trades, and professional services continued hiring. Businesses also continued to face challenges from higher insurance premiums, labor shortages in some occupations, and elevated borrowing costs that have slowed portions of the housing market.

Overall, Volusia County entered the second half of 2026 with a diversified economy that continues to grow, although at a more moderate pace than in recent years.



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- Large-format windows framing natural light and views
- Walk-in closets and mud nooks
- Full-size washer and dryer included
- Keyless entry and high-speed internet ready

Studio

47 STUDIOS

1 Bedroom

112 UNITS

2 Bedroom

119 UNITS

3 Bedroom

16 UNITS

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

OUTDOOR & POOL

Resort-Style Pool | Interior Courtyard | Rooftop Amenity Deck

SOCIAL & ENTERTAINMENT

Private Speakeasy Lounge | Resident Clubroom | Entertainment Kitchen | Game Lounge | Golf & Sports Simulator

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Coworking Spaces | Private Conference Rooms | High-Speed Wi-Fi in Amenity Areas

FITNESS & WELLNESS

State-of-the-Art Fitness Center | Yoga Studio | Spin Studio | Infrared Sauna | Cryotherapy Recovery | HydroMassage

SERVICES & CONVENIENCE

Pet Spa | Automated Parcel Lockers | Secured Access Parking Garage | EV Charging Stations | Controlled Access | Elevator

400 N. Beach St., Daytona, FL • 294 Total Residences



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Learn the #1 mistake most businesses make now at <https://www.clientsnextdoor.com/vmn>

McGyver Labs is a systems engineering and applied AI consultancy founded by Kathryn Neel, a veteran CTO and neuroscientist whose



career spans software architecture, automation, and complex systems leadership. Blending technical rigor with human-centered design, Kathryn helps organizations build technology that works, is understandable, and can evolve without constant reinvention.



She serves as a fractional CTO and strategic advisor to founders and leadership teams who have outgrown fragile tools and improvised workflows, focusing on resilient system design, AI-

assisted automation, privacy

-conscious data pipelines, and decision-support frameworks.

At its heart, McGyver Labs supports organizations ready to move beyond technological noise into operational calm, delivering thoughtful systems that reduce emergencies, accelerate execution, and enable better decisions.

**LEEDS
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JIM CAMERON
Volusia Sales Representative

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THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...



TALENT SUPPLY
& EDUCATION



INNOVATION &
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



INFRASTRUCTURE &
GROWTH LEADERSHIP



BUSINESS CLIMATE &
COMPETITIVENESS



CIVIC &
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY
OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics

Click any metric to get more information! (What is this?)

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 08/05/2026

23,717,962



JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

30,700
(Gain)

Growth Rate

0.3%
(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by
2030

779,127



CHILDREN IN POVERTY

16.5%
(Decreasing)

<10%
2030 Goal

711,576
(Decreasing)



3RD GRADE READING SCORES

60%
(Improving)

82,821
Not Reading at Grade Level
(Decreasing)

View Statewide Heat Map

100%
2030 Goal

Florida Gap Map



OPEN JOBS

483,309
(Increasing)

525,000
Unemployed Persons
(Declining)

109

Unemployed People per 100
Jobs



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.7%
(Declining)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

30,700

View Statewide Heat Map



STATE OF FLORIDA VISITORS

\$134.9
Billion Visitor Spending

143.3
Million Visitors



SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING STARTS & SALES

9,943
Starts (Declining)

26,036
Sales (Improving)

\$432,000
Median Sale Price (Increasing)



POVERTY RATE

12.6%
(Unchanged)

View Statewide Heat Map



CONSUMER SENTIMENT

71.1
(Declining)



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

92.2%
(Improving)

View Statewide Heat Map



VOTER PARTICIPATION

79%
(Improving)



RIGHT / WRONG DIRECTION

53%/39%



LAND IN CONSERVATION

33.2%

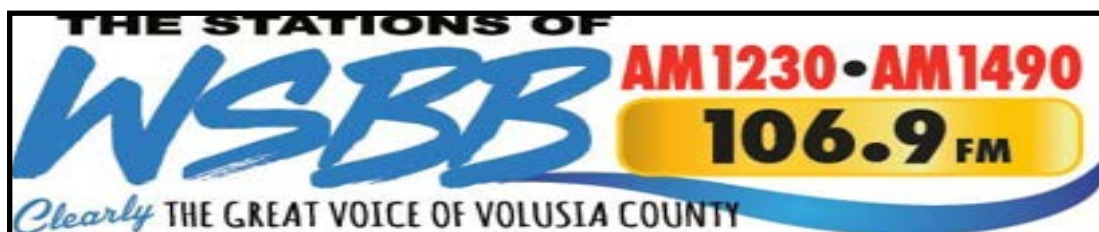
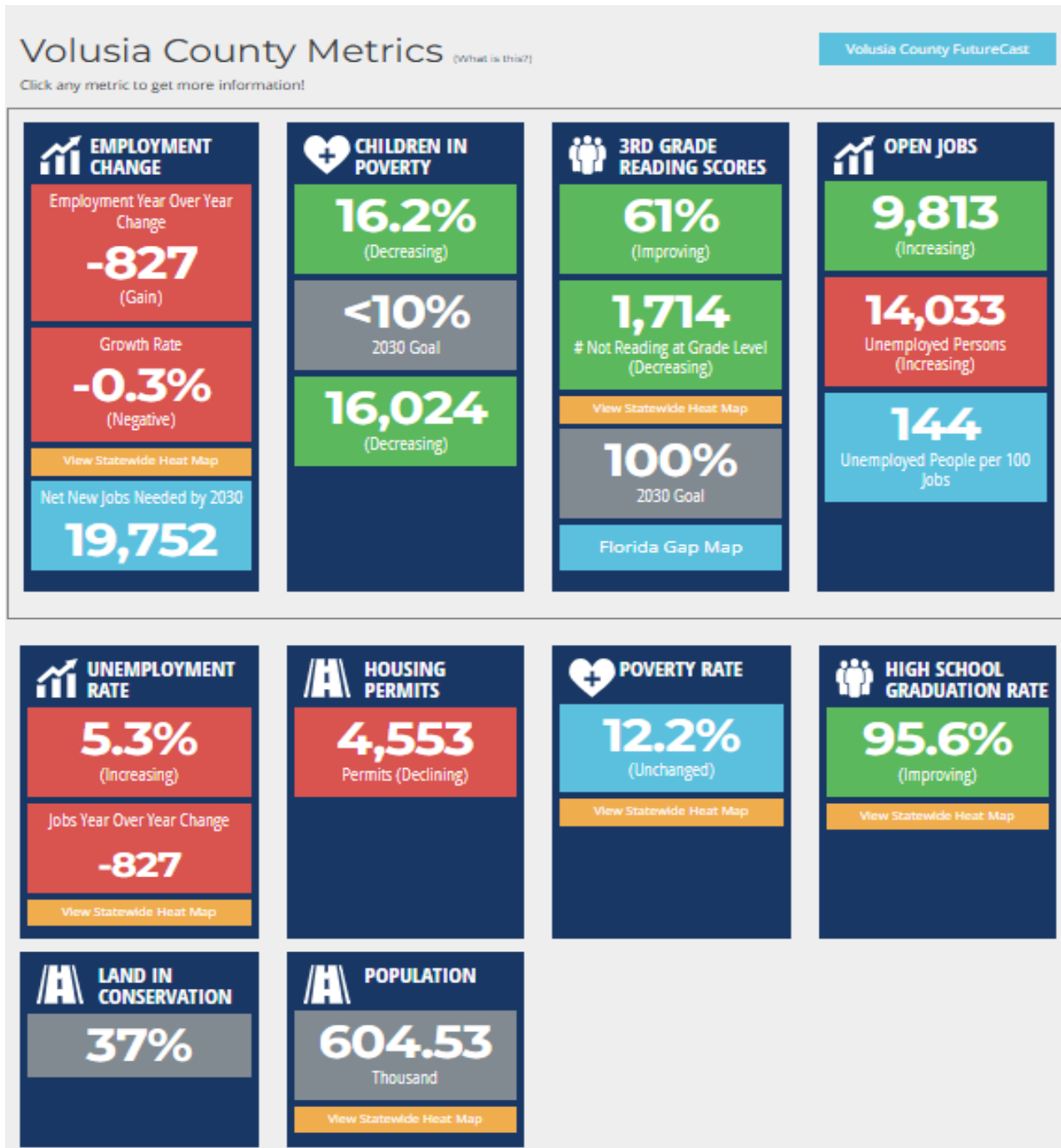


STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

\$432,000
Median Price (Increasing)

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.

This is a supplement to the Fla Score Card that includes
VOLUSIA COUNTY data...**GREEN** = Improving **RED** = Declining



Volusia's Registered Voters—June 4, 2026
(Includes Active and Inactive Voters)

	Active	Inactive	Total
Democrats	105,048	20,192	125,240
Republicans	170,789	18,111	188,900
No Party Affiliation	101,934	24,820	126,754
Other	17,025	1,761	18,786
Totals	394,796	64,884	459,680

Tourism helps fund state government

Because of hotel stays, rental cars, dining, and shopping, millions of visitors effectively subsidize Fla's revenue stream. This is why tourism downturns can create major fiscal pressure. FY 2026–27 reserve level is around **\$17.75 billion**, one of the strongest reserve positions in the nation.

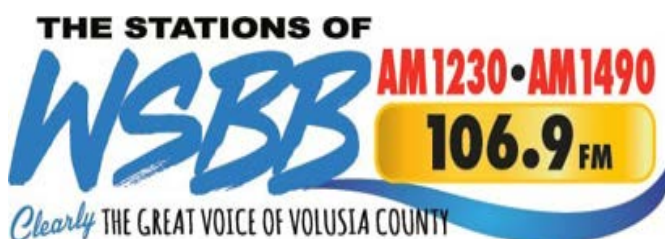


**May —1st Step Shelter took in 38 new clients and found housing for 26 of their clients
91 individuals stayed in the Rose Ann Tornatore Safe Zone**



US unemployment rate fell to 4.2% in June down from 4.3% in May...

US inflation rate for June was 4.2%...





Africa's Project D.A.W.N. Secures First University Partners, Launching Student-Built Satellite Initiative

Project D.A.W.N. (Digital Africa-Wide Nanosatellites) has reached a major milestone with the official onboarding of its first university partners, Obafemi Awolowo University and University of Lagos. This marks the transition from concept to execution, initiating active academic participation in building Africa's next-generation nanosatellite ecosystem.

With two universities now formally engaged, Project D.A.W.N. enters a critical phase focused on hands-on satellite development, student training, and systems integration. At Obafemi Awolowo University, a student satellite team has already been formed, signaling immediate readiness for technical development. At University of Lagos, a formal steering committee and institutional commitment have been established, ensuring long-term governance and continuity of the program.

The initiative is supported by a multidisciplinary network of faculty and subject-matter experts guiding mission design, systems engineering, and satellite operations. Dr. Seyi Olatoyinbo serves as Faculty Anchor at OAU and CEO of the United Nations-affiliated African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in English, mentoring the student satellite team. Additional faculty include Professor Michael O. Kolawole, Dr. Ramson Nyamukondiwa, Dr. Lasisi Salami Lawal, Professor Alex Ike Mowete, and Ayotunde Fasanya, bringing expertise across communications, radar, systems engineering, and satellite operations.



Dr Femi Ishola



Project D.A.W.N. is designed as a capacity-building platform that provides students with direct exposure to the full lifecycle of satellite development, from mission design and systems architecture to assembly, integration, testing, and operational planning. Integrating education with hands-on engineering, the program aims to accelerate the development of skilled talent across Africa and contribute to the continent's growing space ecosystem.

Project D.A.W.N. (Digital Africa-Wide Nanosatellites) is an international initiative advancing satellite technology and space education across Africa. Through partnerships with universities, research institutions, and industry, the program aims to democratize access to space and build long-term technical capacity.

For more information....

PhemotronSystems

Dr. Femi Ishola, PhD

femi@phemotron.com

<https://projectdawn.africa/#about>



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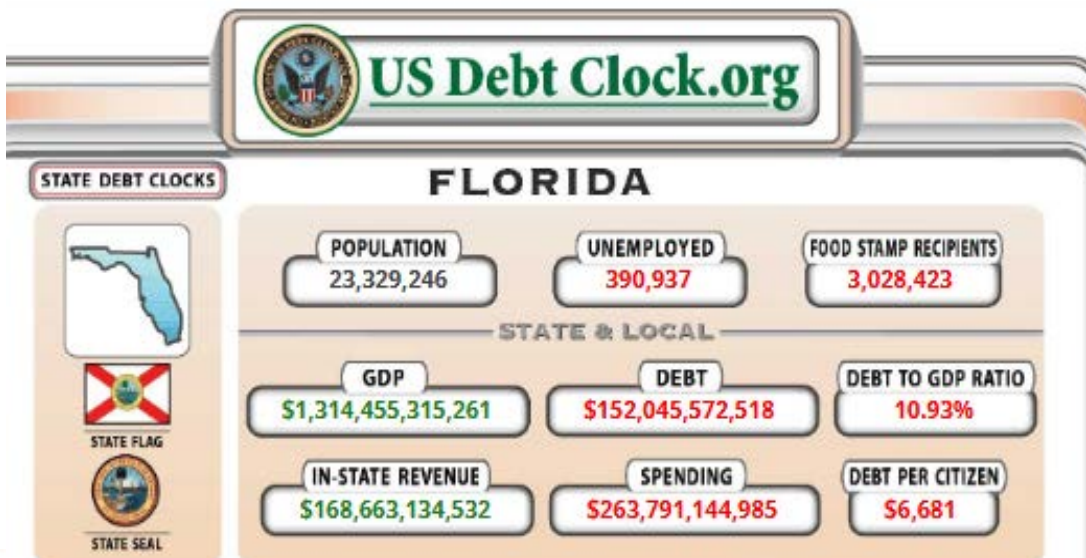
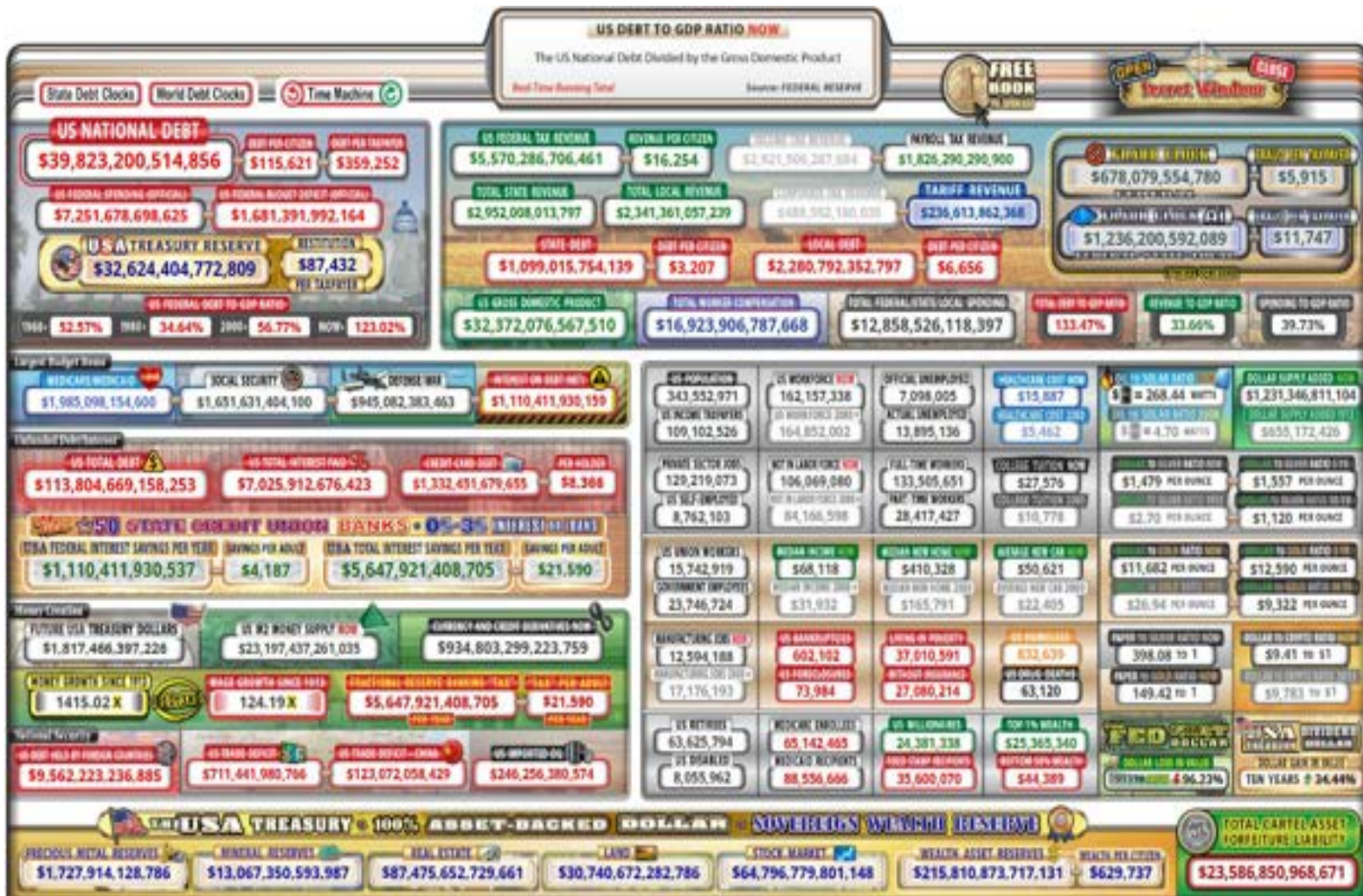


Learn more about Pay It Forward today.
SpectrumReachPayItForward.com

Want to connect with other likeminded business owners? Join our Pay It Forward Facebook Group!



...when my daughter, Holley was little and wanted something...she'd say, "you don't need money Dad, just write a check" As of 5:14 PM August 5, 2026.....



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1.4 miles off Beville Road

First Step Shelter Stats— May 2026

Shelter Intakes	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Q1	Apr	May	Total
DBPD	54	65	89	123	270	317	53	14	13	998
OBPD	2	2	5	2	8	14	3	4	3	43
POPD	0	2	4	8	9	20	3	0	2	48
DBSPD	0	0	0	1	3	2	2	0	1	9
SDPD	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
PIPD	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
HHPD	2	1	6	10	20	15	3	0	1	58
Volusia County Sheriff	3	3	18	36	17	46	4	0	1	128
NSBPD	-	-	-	2	6	13	3	0	0	24
Deland PD	-	-	-	-	13	14	11	9	6	53
Oak Hill Volusia County Sheriff	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Total Law Enforcement	62	75	125	182	346	441	83	27	27	1368
DOC			3	12	11	13	3	1	3	46
Total Hospitals	38	20	50	57	108	90	26	5	5	399
Total SS and Worship	55	145	165	100	79	58	22	8	3	635
FSS Help Line			37	6	0	0	0	0	0	43
Total	155	240	380	357	544	602	134	41	38	2491

Rose Ann Tornatore Safe Zone Referrals— May 2026

	11.23.2020						2026			
All Law Enforcement Referrals	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Q1	Apr	May	Total
DBPD	77	2534	341	543	924	732	143	44	48	5386
PIPD	0	0	4	3	2	0	1	0	0	10
OBPD	2	22	27	24	25	25	9	7	7	148
POPD	0	27	25	30	41	40	16	3	5	187
DBSPD	0	20	12	15	10	18	5	1	1	82
SDPD	1	10	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	21
HHPD	8	20	20	48	72	30	18	3	7	226
NSBPD	-	-	-	14	24	24	10	1	1	74
Deland PD	-	-	-	-	43	95	39	9	8	194
Volusia County Sheriff	3	3	18	101	79	96	19	5	14	338
Volusia County Sheriff Oak Hill	-	-	-	-	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	91	2636	455	780	1220	1061	260	73	91	6667

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



Jason Frederick (Edward Jones)
Jayson Meyer (Synergy Billing)



Melissa Malik (Meta World)



Katelyn Thom (ECS)



Rose Ann Tornatore (Wholesale Lighting)
Paul Culver (Paul Culver Construction)



Mike Panaggio (DME)
Susan Clark (First Step Shelter)



Mauricio Lan Agami, Darius Wilhere
Valor Real Estate /Aston Martin



Drake Wyman (Daytona Regional Chamber)
Aimee Garrido



Ashley
Ashley Neff (Keiser Univ)



Monty Bailey (Stor It)
Dr Barry Butler, Rep Tyler Sirois (ERAU)



DB Commissioner Monica Paris
Susan Scheiber (Dream Green Volusia)



Pt Orange Councilman Elect Stan Schmidt
Ammie Olsen (WSBB Radio)



Michelle Jordan



Ethan Sale, Travis Sargent, Johnny Long
(Foundation Risk Management)



Shelly Minshew (One Source Restoration)
Jim Cameron



New Smyrna Beach City Mgr Kevin Cowper,
Mayor Fred Cleveland



S Daytona Councilman Eric Sander
Pt Orange Councilman Shawn Geopfert



Julie Watts (Rep Chase Tramont)
Jayne Fifer (Jake Johansson campaign)



Rep Chase Tramont
Alex Redkin (Charter Spectrum)



Beat Kahli Stephanie Lerret (Avalon Daytona Beach)
Josh Goergen (Advent Health)



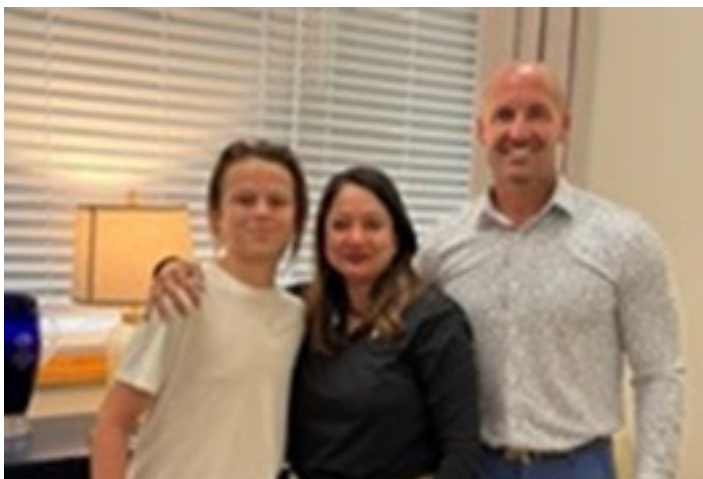
Drake Wyman (Daytona Regional Chamber)
Amy Munizzi (DeLeon Springs Community Assn)



Karen Chrapek (Daytona Recovery Ctr)
Jayson Meyer (Synergy Billing)



Jim Cameron
Marina Glikina (Golden Magnolia)



Royce Miranda (Creekside MS student)
School Supt Carmen Balgobin, CIO Mike Micallef



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
- Alex Redkin—Soul of America Jon Meacham
- Amanda Thorpe Tattooist of Auschwitz Heather Morris
- Ammie Olson - The Atlas Paradox Olivie Blake
- Aniju Varughese - Breath.....James Nestor
- Anne Ruby A Libertarian Walks into a Bear
- Ben Johnson - Make Me Jack Reacher Series
- Bill Partington Sr Matter with Things...Iain McGilchrist
- Billie Wheeler Code Name Helene...Ariel Lawson
- Bob Apgar—Democracy Awakening..... Heather Richardson
- Bob Williams Consider Phlebas....Iain Banks
- Bobbie Doyle - Heaven and Earth Grocery Store James McBride
- Judge Bobby Pickens - An American Life Ronald Reagan
- Brian Ashley - Education of a Wandering Man....Louis L'Amour
- Judge Bryan Feigenbaum - Under the Banner of HeavenJon Krakauer
- 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
- Chuck Gaurra - If These Walls Could Talk
- Colby Allman The Richest Man in Babylon George Samuel Clayson
- Cynthia Slater— Black Reconstruction on America....WEB DuBois
- Dale Ketcham- Tomorrow is Yesterday Hussein Agha
- Dan Francati - Killing the Witches Bill O'Reilly
- Darold Schonscheck Prodigal Daughter Jeff Archer
- David Batten-Georgia Bottoms Mark Childress
- Debbie Phillips—Melania
- David Santiago—Believe in People...Charles Koch
- Deborah Crock Forrester— Critical Thinking and Logic Mastery
- Debra Kay Snow— Princesses Behaving Badly
- Deric Feacher—Save Our City...Diane Kalen Sukra
- Didiayer Snyder - Don't Just Stand There Pray Something Ronald Dunn
- Don Burnett How to Swim with Sharks Harvey McKay
- Donna Brosemer—The Invisible Coup....Peter Schweitzer
- Doug Daniels After the Empire Emmanuel Todd
- Duncan Demarsh Storming the Ivory Tower....Richard Corcoran
- Elizabeth Albert—You're the Leader You've Been Waiting For.....Eric Klein

**\$110 million (37.5%) of Volusia' property tax revenue comes from home-steaded properties....
County Finance Director
Ryan Ossowski**

- Ernie Audino— The Next 100 Years...George Friedman
- Erika Benefield—Real Estate Boss....Krista Goodrich
- Frank Farmer— A World Undone ...GJ Meyer
- Fred Guzman Unreasonable Hospitality....Will Guidara
- 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 - Let Them TheoryMel Robbins
- Hyatt Brown - How to Hide an Empire...A History of the US.....Daniel Immerwahr
- Ildeko Benke - Journey of Souls....Michael Newton
- Jake Johansson Wealth of Nations Adam Smith
- Jami Gallegos - The Little Book of Talent....Daniel Coyle
- Jason Leslie - Wealth of Nations Adam Smith
- Jayme Dickey—Let Them Theory ...Mel Robbins
- Jayson Meyer - Leadership 2.0 audible
- Jeff Brower Life Force Tony Robbins
- Jenny Nazek - The Culture Code Daniel Coyle
- Jessie Thompson - Fevre Dream...George RR Martin
- Jessica Lovatt— Future is Faster than You Think..
- Jim Clayton—Social Justice Fallacies Thomas Sowell
- Jim Tobin The Firm..... John Grisham
- JJ Royer Covenant of Water.....Abraham Verghese
- Joe Yarbrough - Big Sky...AB Guthrie
- John Booker - The National Parks Ken Burns
- John Danio - Millionaire Milestones
- John Phillips - First 90 Days.....Michael Watkins
- Joni Hunt - Between Two Kingdoms Suleika Jaouad
- Judge Matt Foxman - Start Stay Or Leave Trey Gowdy
- Judge Mike Orfinger-Calamity of Souls ... David Baldacci
- Kathy Smith— Coddling of the American Mind...Jonathan Haidt / Greg Lukianoff
- Kelly Azinarro - It's All About Relationships ...Eddy Arriola
- Ken Hunt-Starbucks Experience Joseph Mitchell
- Kent Sharples -Empire of the Summer Moon
- Kevin Captain—Never Split the Difference....Chris Voss
- Larry McDemott—2034Elliott Ackerman
- Leila Gosney—Hillbilly Elegy....JD Vance
- Linda Bradley -Seven Girls Gone Allison Brenna
- Linda Cuthbert - Enough Cassidy Hutchinson
- Lise Forte— Never Split the Difference Chris Voss
- Lois Paritsky Edmund Fitzgerald Legendary Shipwreck
- Lori Tolland The Last Lecture Randy Pausch
- Loretta Arthur - Sea & the Stars Robert Wilder
- Lynn Flanders 5 Dysfunctions of a TeamPat Lencioni
- Marci Murphy—Confronting Evil....Bill O'reilly
- Mary Bennett - The Widow ...John Grisham
- Mary Margaret Kelley -The 2% Way ...Myron Rolle
- Matt Reinhart - Bleachers John Grisham
- Melissa Cohen - A Hole in the Apple ...Harley Carnes
- Merrick Brunker - Advise & Consent...Alan Drury
- Michael Burton—Demon of Unrest

- Michael Kahn - Exodus Leon Uris
- Michelle Carter Scott - Bible (lent scriptures)
- Michael Fowler—How to Know a Person David Brooks
- Mike Pawelski Black Swan.... Nissam Taleb
- Mike Scudiero- Blossom: Cultivating More Joy/ Success Nancy Lohman
- Mike Springer How Big Things Get Done.....Brent Flyvbjerg Dan Gardener
- Nancy Miller—Let Them Theory Mel Robbins
- Nate Quartier—Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage...Alfred Lansing
- Nick Conte Art of Practice
- Nikki Pullen—The Advantage....Patrick Lencioni
- Pat Northey - Our Florida Legacy Land Legend Leadership...Margaret Barlow
- Pete Peterson—It Isn't a Diet, It's a Lifestyle.... Michael Peterson
- Pierre Lewis Lead from Any SeatAndrei Anca
- Powell Brown—1929Andrew Ross Sorkin
- Renae Ann - Never Split the Difference..Chris Voss
- Richard Bryan—Great Age Reboot..Michael Roizen
- Rick Durgin—Sideline CEO
- RJ Larizza - A Land Remembered.. Patrick Smith
- Rob Merrell The Sun Also Rises Ernest Hemingway
- Robert Campbell—Leading Change....John Kotter
- Robin King - Zen in The Art of Writing... Ray Bradbury
- Rolan Roberts - Beside Still Waters..Chas Spurgeon
- Ron Nowviski Creature from Jekyll Island...Edward Griffin
- Emilio Pucci - Terence Ward
- Shawn Goepfert- Living by the Word..Seth Jones
- Stan Escudero 1177 Eric Cline
- Stephanie Ford Broken Country ..Claire Leslie Hall
- Sue Barry - Lessons in Chemistry Bonnie Garmus
- Susan Persis—Shogun James Clavel
- Ted Rover - Sovereign Individual
- Teresa Rand Culture Shock Jim Clifton
- Terri Hinks - Body Keeps the Score...Bessel Kolk
- Tom Self - Living Athena
- Toni Hunt 360 Leader John Maxwell
- Tony Servance -
- Traci Woodard - Walking with God . Tim Gray Jeff Cavins
- Valerie Uy -
- Valli Perrine - Wine Lovers' Bucket List—Simon Wollf
- Vic Baker - Government Gangsters Kash Patel
- Victoria Fahlberg Circle of Days.....Ken Follett

Jim Cameron - Proposition 13....America's 2nd Tax Revolt....Chuck Gaurra

Property tax is based on a property's assessed value, which is appraised for market value as of January 1 of each year. Fla homeowners (permanent residences) are currently eligible for a homestead exemption on first \$25,000 which applies to all property taxes including school district taxes. Another additional \$25,000 exemption applies only to non-school taxes.