



Volusia Matters Newsletter

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

September 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.

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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 5:01 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 Finance 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 Finance Director Liz Bauer 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.





August 18 Primary Results...

Registered Voters 396, 818

108,665 ballots cast with 27% voter turnout

County Council At-Large	Nancy Miller	41,538	41%	Runoff Nov 3
	Mike Poniatowski	39,062	39%	Runoff Nov 3
	Barry Powell	19,208	19%	Eliminated
County Council District 1	Wendy Anderson	9,738	47%	Runoff Nov 3
	Don Dempsey	6,567	32%	Runoff Nov 3
	Melissa Thorne	4,166	20%	Eliminated
County Council District 3	Bryon White	11,625	46%	Runoff Nov 3
	Danny Robins	9,757	38%	Runoff Nov 3
	Anthony Gorham	3,825	15%	Eliminated
School Board District 1	Brenda Beery	10,449	49%	Runoff Nov 3
	Jamie Haynes	7,523	35%	Runoff Nov 3
	Jaclyn Carrell	3,090	14%	Eliminated
School Board District 3	Grace Kellermeier	13,007	48%	Winner
	Jessie Thompson	11,531	42%	
School Board District 5	Ruben Colón	9,698	62%	Winner
	Dean Condon	5,712	37%	Eliminated
Daytona Beach Zone 3	Steve Miller	525	41%	Runoff Nov 3
	Quanita May	470	37%	Runoff Nov 3
	Christos Mavronas	255	20%	Eliminated
Daytona Beach Zone 5	Willie Williams	807	60%	Winner
	John Counts	269	20%	Eliminated
	Aaron Harrison	261	19%	Eliminated
Deltona Mayor	Maritza Vazquez	4,367	33%	Runoff
	Jason Voelz	4,315	33%	Runoff
	Santiago Avila Jr.	4,144	32%	Eliminated
Deltona District 6	Christian O'Brien	825	32%	Runoff Nov 3
	Chris Nabicht	790	32%	Runoff Nov 3
	Jody Lee Storozuk	720	29%	Eliminated
Edgewater Mayor	Diezel DePew	3,022	55%	Winner
	Wayne McCloskey	1746	31%	Eliminated
	Steven Oleksy	706	12%	Eliminated

Holly Hill District 2	Carmen Ruiz	982	54%	Winner
	Mike Cerbo	693	40%	
NSB Zone 2	Jennifer Devine	4,666	59%	Runoff Nov 3
	Cynthia Sniezak	2697	31%	Runoff Nov 3
	Lou Pate	546	6%	
Ormond Beach Mayor	Lori Tolland	5,441	51%	Winner
	Jason Leslie	3,237	29%	
	Damien Curry	1,215	11%	
	George Doran	721	6%	
Ormond Beach Zone 1	Melissa DeVriese	1,627	51%	Winner
	Alan Burton	816	24%	
	Coleen McMahon	732	21%	
Ormond Beach Zone 4	Harold Briley	931	41%	Runoff Nov 3
	Amber Bobak	862	38%	Runoff Nov 3
	Barry du Moulin	428	17%	
South Daytona Seat 2	Doug Quartier	1,345	60%	Winner
	Victoria Maxwell	891	39%	
7th Circuit Judge—	Jeanne Stratis	57,287	59%	Winner
	Carleen Leffler	38,942	35%	
Governor	Byron Donalds - R			
	David Jolly - D			
CFO	Blaise Ingoglia - R			
	Annette Taddeo - D			
US Senate	Ashley Moody—R			
	Angie Nixon—D			
Congress District 6	Ryan Elijah - R			
	Bale Dalton - D			
Congress District 7	Randy Fine—R			
	Eric Younce—D			

NSB...Jennifer Devine and Cynthia Sniezak go to a Nov 3 runoff despite Devine receiving 59%....required by NSB Charter.....

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Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable
Monday Sept 14
9 AM



Daytona Intl Airport

To discuss local issues that affect the entire county...including a report from Storm-water Management Committee.



Daytona Beach plans to change retirement benefits for police officers and firefighters retiring after October 1. Maximum retirement benefit would decrease from 90%

to 75% of a worker's salary. However, the current \$5,500 monthly benefit limit would be removed. Benefits for some retirees who reached that limit may be recalculated to include later service time, including time in DROP program. Commission takes final action on September 23. Commission made appointments to Police and Fire Pension Bd.

Deltona City Commission took up Fla Dept of Environmental Protection and St Johns River WMD supporting Deltona's aquifer recharge project via a 50/50 grant to build a recharge well and two monitoring wells to help determine whether treated water from Lake Monroe can be added to the Upper Floridan Aquifer. Testing may use only drinking water at first.



If the testing succeeds, Lake Monroe water will be treated to meet drinking water standards..

Volusia County is advancing a tentative \$1.06 billion budget with property taxes providing \$455.5 million.

Public safety would receive nearly 56% of property-tax revenue, supporting law enforcement, Fire Rescue, emergency medical services, and emergency management.

Transportation and public works would receive \$299.6 million. The plan also funds libraries, conservation, transit, beaches, the airport, courts,

Local Government Update—



DB Shores City Commission adopted a 2026 Vulnerability Assessment created by the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council and by Fla's Resilient Program.

It examines risks from flooding, storm surge, sea-level rise, and other water hazards. It reviews roads, infrastructure, emergency facilities, and assets under current conditions and future projections. Because the city is located on the peninsula, storm surge is a major threat.

A Category 5 storm could flood critical assets and roads. The assessment recommends stormwater systems, elevated facilities, green infrastructure, resilient development, and seeking grant funding for improvements.

**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.**

Deland City Commission addressed an ordinance to change water, sewer, and reclaimed-water rates by resolution and remove account maintenance fees and include those costs in monthly base charges.



Commission also addressed an ordinance to increase water fees from \$2,580 to \$6,375 per residential unit and wastewater fees from \$5,257 to \$7,320 starting October 1.. The changes reflect higher construction costs and ensure development pays for infrastructure.



DeBary City Council discussed FY 2027-28 budget requirements pursuant to House Bill 1329 Local Government Financial Transparency and Accountability Act.

which applies to every county and city. One component of the bill requires, before adopting a final budget, local bodies must hold a workshop exploring how to cut the next fiscal year's budget by 10% without harming essential services like police and fire protection. Findings or a recording must be posted online at least 14 days prior to final adoption.



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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.

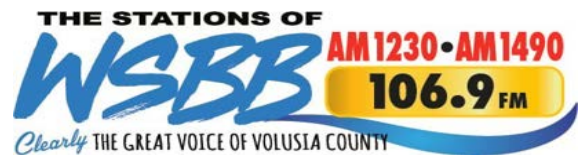
Amendment No. 3 – regarding County Constitutional Officers..... Clerk, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector.. adds language so that Constitutional Offices mentioned in the Charter is consistent with Florida's Constitution.

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.



WSBB and Volusia Matters will host 3 shows regarding items on the Nov 3 ballot

- **Nov 15 8:30 - 9 AM**
County Charter Adm 1 - Election of County Chair
- **Nov 29 8:30 - 9 AM**
County Charter Adm 5 - Conservation lands registry for County Council to "lock" specific properties /protect them from being sold or transferred
- **October tba**
State Constitutional Adm 3 - Homestead Exemption

Holly Hill Business Assn provides an opportunity for Holly Hill businesses to connect, share ideas and resources, learn about programs/ opportunities, and to promote a thriving local economy.

Their goal is to create a stronger Holly Hill businesses network and making sure our local businesses have a voice and a place at the table.

Membership is intended for businesses located in Holly Hill and is designed to complement, rather than replace, existing business organizations and chambers of commerce. It's focus is building business relationships in Holly Hill and connecting those businesses with the City/community.

For more information, contact Becki Leggett, Economic Development Mgr & CRA Administrator City of Holly Hill

1065 Ridgewood Ave Holly Hill

Phone: (386) 248-9446

bleggett@hollyhillfl.org



HOLLY HILL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION Meeting

Join us for our next Business Association meeting.

These meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month (with the exception of December) at THE Kitchen at Pictona.

LEARN - CONNECT - GROW

Next meeting:
Tuesday, September 1st
11:45 AM-1:00 PM

For more information, please contact:
Becki Leggett
(386) 248-9446
bleggett@hollyhillfl.org

500 Most Desirable provided by THE Kitchen

We're Better Together!

DeLand's Land Development Regulations (LDRs) which govern zoning, development standards, permitted uses, building requirements and related growth issues **are being rewritten .**



For example, tiny-home regulations remain a development issue....DeLand has been working on **proposed regulations for tiny homes**, including a public open house to discuss the proposed rules.

This fits into the larger question facing DeLand: **How does the city accommodate new housing types while maintaining neighborhood standards and controlling development?**



Vacancies for County Advisory Bds.

- Affordable Housing Advisory (1 position)
- Contractor Licensing/Construction Appeals Bd (2 positions)
- Cultural Council (3 positions)
- ECHO Advisory Committee (1 position)
- Housing Finance Authority (1 position)
- SunRail Customer Advisory (2 positions ...member must ride SunRail 3x a week)
- Tourist Development Council (1 position)
- Volusia Growth Management Commission (3 positions)

Interested? Contact Karissa Green in County Manager's Office

(386) 736-5928 KGreen@volusia.gov

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.

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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.**



Martians / Maralakók Exhibit - Opening Ceremony

Save the Date: September 21st | 5:30pm



Join us in our Dune & Palm Gardens on **Monday, September 21 at 5:30pm** for the Opening Ceremony of the **Martians / Maralakók Exhibit**. This interactive traveling exhibition pays tribute to Hungarian and Hungarian-born Nobel Prize winners, as well as the great figures of domestic science and the outstanding achievements they accomplished — in an accessible and entertaining format. The content of the exhibition can be displayed in both Hungarian and English.

This exhibit will be on display through October 15.

Location 📍 Dune & Palm Gardens: 179 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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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.

Health and education dominate spending....2 largest budget categories are consistently:
Health & Human Services
Education (K-12 and higher ed)
Together, they account for well over half of total appropriations.



Fla Insurance Commissioner Michael Yaworski says Fla drivers may continue to see lower car insurance rates due to legislative tort reforms.....designed to reduce legal system abuse and lower insurance costs. He believes full savings have not yet been reached and rates may keep falling next year.

The Fla Office of Insurance Regulation (FOIR) recently ordered 2 insurance companies to provide customers credits or refunds.....due to those companies' "excessive profits". FOIR is also reviewing other companies that may need to provide similar rebates.

Homeowners' insurance prices are affected by the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. The fund currently has about \$11.7 billion vs ~\$4 trillion in possible hurricane risks. Yaworski believes changing the fund's payment formula could help lower insurance costs. He would like to see the fund grow closer to its previous \$18 billion level.

Yaworski recently visited Lloyd's of London, where many Fla insurers obtain reinsurance. Reinsurance companies now consider Fla a better risk which could lower costs and encourage more companies to offer homeowners' insurance. As a result, homeowners have more choices.

FOIR also expects changes to Citizens Property Insurance, the state-backed insurer for people who cannot find private coverage. Citizens now has about 274,000 policies and more than \$6 billion in reserves. New laws may offer its customers cheaper coverage options while keeping Citizens affordable.

MANTA

Security Cameras/Surveillance....Call Jim Cameron 566-2140

Fla Office of Insurance Regulation

- **helps protect insurance customers and keep the insurance market fair.**
- **reviews insurance companies, approves or rejects rate changes, checks companies' financial health, and investigates complaints**
- **makes sure insurers follow Fla laws and pay valid claims.**
- **can order refunds when companies charge too much or earn excessive profits**



Fla Hurricane Catastrophe Fund

- **helps insurance companies pay for damage caused by major hurricanes**
- **gives insurers financial support when disaster costs are too high for them to handle alone.**
- **gives support to help insurance companies remain stable, continue serving customers, and pay homeowners' claims after severe storms**
- **helps keep insurance available in Fla for residents/businesses**



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!



On September 30.....

- Non-tipped employees: minimum wage rises from \$14.00 to \$15.00/hour
- Tipped employees: cash wage rises from \$10.98 to \$11.98/hour (employers keep taking a \$3.02 tip credit, so tips + cash wage must still total at least \$15.00/hour)

After 2026, further raises get tied to inflation (CPI for urban wage earners), calculated each September 1 and effective the following September 30, 2027.

A few practical notes for employers: this lands mid-pay-period for most businesses, so payroll systems need updating for the period that includes Sept 30.

Employers also need to post the updated minimum wage notice and give tipped employees updated tip-credit notices.



SunRail Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission Bd of elected leaders from the five Local Funding Partners meets

Thursday, September 17, 1:30 PM LYNX Central Station Admin Bldg Orlando.

VM News will have **County Chair Jeff Brower** (Volusia's representative) report during next week's podcast.



Fla Economy is still growing faster than many states over the long run but 'boom growth' is slowing....

Population growth remains a major economic advantage.....adding **2.1 million residents since the 2020 Census**, and Economic Research expects population to grow another **1.2% annually through 2030**, vs ~0.4% nationally.

Average annual wage reached **92.4% of US average in 2025**, up considerably from earlier decades.

Q1 2026....**Fla Tourism** had ~**39.9 million visitors**.. overseas visitors were up **8.5%**.

Population migration remains a factor of economic growth, supporting consumer spending, housing demand, construction and tax revenues.

Housing is probably biggest economic weakness right now.....affordability has deteriorated...home ownership rate fell to **65.6% during first 6 months of 2026**, while single-family building permits have fallen to only **64.6% of their long-run average**...expected to decline another **1.3% in FY 2026-27**.

Fla's median existing single-family home price was ~**\$414,600** in FY 2025-26, with very little price growth expected.

Unemployment rate rose to **4.6%**, with approx **514,500 unemployed.....expected** to rise to about **4.9%** in current fiscal year before improving.

Fla's economy a **B+** today.....it's **not in trouble—but the "Florida economic boom" has cooled**.

The state's major strengths remain:

- Population growth
- Tourism
- Business migration



Fla's gaming compact with the Seminole Tribe is still active. The 2021 compact gives the Seminoles exclusive control over certain types of gambling, including online sports betting.

Hard Rock Bet remains the only traditional online sportsbook operating statewide.

The newest challenge comes from prediction-market companies such as Kalshi. These companies offer federally regulated contracts connected to sports events. The contracts may look similar to sports bets, but the companies argue that they are financial products, not gambling. This creates a possible conflict with Florida's laws and the Seminole compact.

The question is whether prediction markets can legally offer sports-related contracts in Fla. If state regulators try to stop them, the issue could become a fight between state and federal authorities. If prediction markets continue operating, the Seminoles might argue that their exclusive sports-betting rights are being weakened.

This issue matters because the Tribe pays Fla large amounts of money for gambling exclusivity. State law says that if important parts of the compact, including exclusivity or revenue sharing, are invalidated, the entire agreement could possibly become void.

The compact also supports public budgets. Under a 2026 law, 3% of the Seminoles' payments goes to local governments. The rest goes to Florida's General Revenue Fund.

For now, the compact is not in immediate danger. However, prediction markets could become a major legal and financial issue for Florida, the Seminoles, and local governments.

The poster for the Riverfront Esplanade Market has a teal background. At the top, it says "RIVERFRONT ESPLANADE" in white, with a logo of a stylized bridge and water. Below that, "RIVERFRONT MARKET" is written in a large, white, cursive font. To the right, it says "EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM 5-9PM" and "LOCAL VENDORS, LIVE MUSIC & MORE!". In the center is an aerial photograph of the market area, showing a waterfront with palm trees, a parking lot, and various market stalls. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text describing the market and its location, followed by a location pin icon and the address "178 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach".

RIVERFRONT ESPLANADE

RIVERFRONT MARKET

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
FROM 5-9PM

LOCAL VENDORS,
LIVE MUSIC & MORE!

The Riverfront Market is a weekly Friday night market designed to bring the community together in the heart of Downtown Daytona Beach! Held EVERY Friday from 5-9 PM at the Riverfront Esplanade, the market features local vendors, live music by Aaron Esposito, and a relaxed, waterfront atmosphere across the street from the Riverfront Shops of Daytona Beach!

Location 📍 178 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach

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%

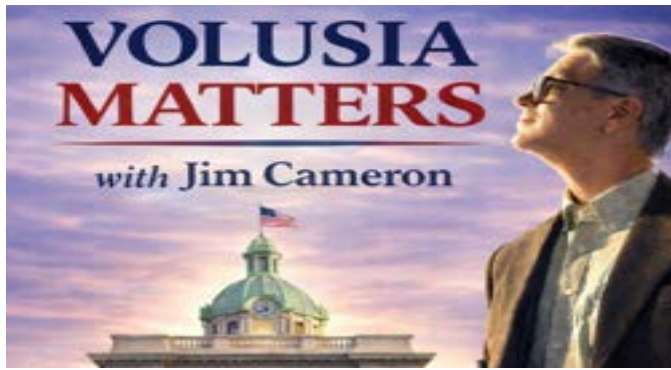
Court Ruling on Amendment 3.....

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.





Recap of Aug 27 VM Podcast regarding State Const Adm 3 with Volusia Tax Collector Will Roberts

Roberts provided an educational overview of State Constitutional Amendment 3 regarding homestead property tax exemptions ¹. The primary take-away is that regardless of the amendment's outcome, taxpayers will still receive tax bills in November 2027 and 2028 because school board taxes remain exempt from the initiative ¹².

Amendment 3 Implications

- **Tax Bill Persistence:** The amendment will not eliminate property tax bills; the school board portion remains mandatory ¹.
- **Revenue Shifting:** If ad valorem revenue decreases, taxing authorities may increase **non-ad valorem assessments** (e.g., stormwater, garbage, street lighting) to cover essential services like police, fire, and EMS ²³.
- **Exemption Gaps:** Unlike ad valorem taxes, non-ad valorem assessments have no exemptions, meaning even totally exempt veterans may see new charges ³.
- **Economic Burden:** Tax burdens may shift toward **non-homesteaded properties**, potentially increasing costs for renters and small businesses ⁴.

Alternative Revenue Risks: To fill funding gaps, authorities might consider raising sales tax or introducing a state income tax ⁵⁶.

Risks to Local Government

- **Service Reductions:** Lower revenue could lead to reduced public services or a shift toward "point-of-sale" payment models for emergency services ²⁷.
- **Rural County Instability:** Approximately 30



Tax Collector Will Roberts

"fiscally constrained" counties in Fla may face bankruptcy or be forced to merge/regionalize if revenue declines ⁸.

Maintenance Issues: Specialized authorities, such as St. John's River Management, may lack the funds to maintain thousands of acres of preserved land .

Technical Tax Details

- **Assessment Caps:** Currently, homestead properties have a 3% cap and non-homesteads have a 10% cap; if the amendment passes, the non-homestead cap drops to 5% ¹⁰.
- **Approval Threshold:** The amendment requires a **60% approval rate** to pass ⁹.
- **Future Outlook:** Property tax reform is expected to remain a legislative topic for the next 2-3 years regardless of the current vote.

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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

Jim Cameron
Volusia Sales Representative
470 Destination Daytona Lane
Ormond Beach 32174

386-566-2140
jim@jimcameronconsulting.com

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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.

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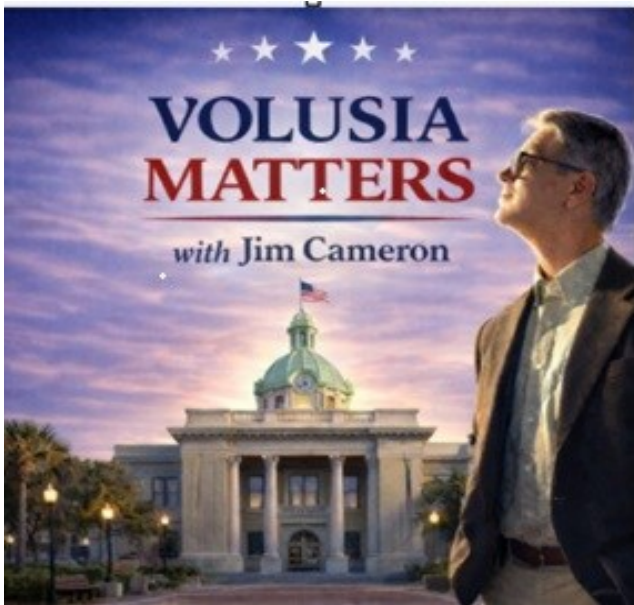
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**Port Orange/South Daytona
Chamber's Town Hall Oct 7,
6 PM (doors open 5:30 PM)
Topic - Amendment 3: How
it will affect your communi-**



ty and your businesses... Agenda will include **Volusia Tax Collector Will Roberts, Property Appraiser Larry Bartlett, County Councilman Matt Reinhardt, Pt Orange Mayor Scott Stiltner, S Daytona Mayor Bill Hall**, elected reps from DB Shores and Ponce Inlet along with **Sherrif Mike Chitwood**. Since our cities cannot actively campaign for or against, PO/SD Chamber is hosting this educational forum in which anyone is invited, including the media. Questions? Call **Don Burnette, President/CEO** at 761-1601



Check out today's news podcast and interview with Edgewater Mayor Diezel Depew



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- No costly hardware replacement required.
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For more info, call Jim Cameron at 566-2140

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).



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Paid by Jake Johansson, Republican, for State Senate District 8

Local Government Meetings Links

[Volusia County Council](#) Sept 3. 9 AM 18, 4 PM County Ad, min Bldg

[Daytona Beach City Commission](#) Sept 9, 23 - 6 pm City Hall

[Ormond Beach City Commission](#) Sept 9, 23- 7 pm City Hall

[Port Orange City Council](#) Sept 16, 28 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[South Daytona City Council](#) Sept 9, 23 - 6 pm City Hall

[DB Shores City Commission](#) Sept 9, 22 - 6 pm City Hall

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

[Deland City Commission](#) Sept 9, 21 - 7 pm City Hall

[Deltona City Commission](#) Sept 9, 21 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Edgewater City Council](#) Sept 14 – 6 pm City Hall

[Holly Hill City Commission](#) Sept 9, 21 - 6 PM City Hall

[Lake Helen City Commission](#) Sept 10 - 7 pm City Hall

[New Smyrna Bch Commission](#) Sept 9, 23 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Oak Hill City Commission](#) Sept 23 - 6 pm City Hall

[Orange City City Council](#) Sept 9, 24 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Ponce Inlet Town Council](#) Sept 16, 30 - 6 pm City Hall

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

[River to Sea TPO](#) NO MTG , 9 am 1540 Cornerstone Blvd Ste 240 DB

Economic Development Update

August 21 Volusia Economic Q2 Breakfast....whereby **Economist Sean Snaith** was guest speak and stated..... Florida's economy and Volusia's economy doing well and continue to grow. However, rising debt, credit-card spending, electricity costs, and changing technology could create challenges. Businesses and workers must learn new skills and use artificial intelligence effectively. Volusia's main goal is to turn its growth into better-paying jobs and a stronger economy.

Volusia's Economic Development Director Lou Paris provided the following economic statistics... 11,234 new business applications formed in Volusia last year ...

Employment growth sectors for last 10 years includes...

- Healthcare/social assistance 21%
- Leisure/hospitality 10%
- Retail trade 9%
- Manufacturing 10%
- Transportation warehouse utilities, 105%
- Wholesale trade 16%

Q2 new commercial construction (27 permits total \$175 M)

- Education \$94M
- Municipal \$32 M
- Leisure hospitality \$13 M
- Business professional \$8.3 M

New residential permits (582 permits totaled \$232 M)

New Commercial Construction 2016-25

- Multifamily \$1.4 billion
- Storage/Retail 716 M
- Healthcare \$484 M

Labor statistics/unemployment

- Volusia County 5.2
- Daytona Beach 6.6%
- Deland 5.8%
- Deltona 5%
- New Smyrna Beach 5%
- Ormond Beach 4.9%
- Port Orange 4.6%

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Investors are watching the Fed Bd's Sept 16 meeting for clues about interest rates as they're considering job growth, inflation, and inflation expectations. August added 162,000 jobs, unemployment is 4.1%, and wage growth slowed. If inflation remains manageable, rates may stay unchanged. Edward Jones remains optimistic, citing strong consumers, employment, earnings, diversified investment opportunities, including technology and international markets for investors.

THE VOLUSIA REAL ESTATE SCORECARD

Monthly market intelligence for Volusia County

VOLUSIA COUNTY

All Property Types

July 2026

Source: Florida Realtors



CLOSED SALES

↓ -1.3%
from a
year ago

918



MEDIAN SALE PRICE

↑ 3.8%
from a
year ago

\$347,600



ACTIVE INVENTORY

↓ -17%
from a
year ago

4,738



DOLLAR VOLUME

↑ 1.3%
from a
year ago

\$364 million



NEW LISTINGS

↑ 2.0%
from a
year ago

1,269



MONTHS SUPPLY OF INVENTORY

↓ down from
6.7 MOS.
a year ago

5.2 Months

AVERAGE MORTGAGE RATES

Last Updated September 8, 2026

Source: Mortgage News Daily

30 Yr. Fixed

6.89% +0.00

5.99% 6.91%

15 Yr. Fixed

6.49% +0.00

5.55% 6.50%

30 Yr. Jumbo

7.08% +0.02

6.10% 7.08%

7/6 SOFR ARM

6.53% +0.00

5.29% 6.55%

30 Yr. FHA

6.48% +0.04

5.62% 6.48%

30 Yr. VA

6.50% +0.04

5.64% 6.50%



Jami D. Gallegos, MBA
CEO | Broker | CAM

Cell: 386.872.8742

Office: 386.951.6565

Jami.Gallegos@LifestyleRealty.Group

www.LifestyleRealty.Group



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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.



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Luxury Rental Residences

RESIDENCE FEATURES

- Spacious open-concept floorplans with 9–15 ft ceilings
- Private balconies and terraces with ocean and river views in select residences
- Designer cabinetry with matte brass hardware in two color schemes
- Quartz countertops and stainless steel appliances
- En-suite primary bathrooms with glass-enclosed showers
- Luxury vinyl plank flooring throughout living areas
- 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

WORK & PRODUCTIVITY

| 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

Congressional/Federal Issues Update



2026 Midterm Elections: Why Congressional Control Is Important

Nov 3 midterm elections could significantly change the balance of power in Washington.

All 435 U.S. House seats and 35 Senate seats will be contested. Republicans currently have narrow majorities in both chambers, making control of Congress a central issue.

Congress controls federal spending, creates laws, and oversees the executive branch. Whoever controls the House and Senate have substantial influence over taxes, government spending, healthcare, immigration, energy, national defense, and other major policies.

House is expected to be highly competitive. Republicans currently hold a 218–214 edge, so Democrats would need only a small number of additional seats to gain control. Approximately 50 House races are considered competitive, making individual districts especially important.

Senate presents a greater challenge for Democrats. Republicans hold 53 seats, while Democrats have 45, with two independents caucusing with them. Democrats would need to gain 4 seats to take control. Key races in Georgia, Michigan, Maine, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, and Texas are receiving national attention.

The election will influence President Trump's agenda during the final 2 years of his term. Continued Republican control would make it easier for the administration to pass legislation.

Democratic control of either chamber would give Democrats more power to block bills, investigate the administration, and conduct oversight.

For voters, the midterms are about more than individual candidates. They will determine who controls Congress and how the federal government addresses major economic, social, and national-security issues. In short, the election could shape federal policy through the remainder of Trump's presidency.



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

Current Make Up of US House
218 Republicans—214 Democrats -
1 Independent—2 Vacancies



Q2 2026	Trade balance
April	-\$54.6 billion
May	-\$77.6 billion
June	-\$73.3 billion
Q2 total	-\$205.5 billion

This quarterly projects an annualized \$822 billion deficit if this quarterly pace continues for the full year.

June's deficit improved to \$73.3 billion..... with a \$102 billion goods deficit offset by a \$28 billion services surplus.

Thus trade imbalance reduced Q2 GDP growth by about 1%.

Despite thus this drag, US GDP still grew at a 1.5% annual rate in Q2.

In summary, the US STILL runs a large trade deficit, but THIS deficit is lower than same quarter of 2025.

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VOLUSIA COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (VCEMS) is committed to being a community leader in delivering high-quality, cost-effective prehospital emergency care. Our mission is to serve the residents and visitors of Volusia County with the highest standards of professionalism, advanced technology, and compassionate patient care.

VCEMS operates as a two-tiered emergency response system, utilizing both Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances to meet the diverse needs of our community. In 2025, VCEMS responded to more than **70,600** calls for service and transported **56,318** patients. These services were provided by a dedicated team of more than **200** professionals committed to delivering exceptional patient care.

Our fleet consists of ALS and BLS ambulances built on Ford F-450 extended-cab chassis, as well as an enclosed All-Terrain Specialized Ambulance Patrol (ASAP) vehicle and Quick Response Vehicles (QRVs), allowing us to effectively respond to emergencies across a variety of environments and operational needs.

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email: emscareers@volusia.gov

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- Stryker® Power-PRO XT Power Load Cot System
- Zoll® X Series Monitors
- Caraplex OneScope Laryngoscopes
- Cadaver laboratory in partnership with the County's Medical Examiner's Office
- AHA & NADMT Training Center
- Zoll & Hamilton Ventilators
- Whole Blood Program

In addition to a progressive training program, field providers are provided with a highly competitive compensation package:

- \$17.75 EMT starting rate, with paid holidays
- \$19.00 EMT rate after clearing with the medical director
- \$22.27 paramedic starting rate, with paid holidays
- \$25.20 paramedic rate after clearing with the medical director
- 12 hours shifts; days/nights
- 10 paid holidays
- Night shift differential
- Lead EMT pay incentive
- Senior designation incentive
- EMT / MEDIC PTO opportunities
- Florida State Retirement - Special Risk Classification pension (2% multiplier per year of service once vested and meet retirement eligibility)
- Deferred compensation plan 457(b)
- Tuition reimbursement plan
- Paramedic program sponsorships
- Individual and family medical, dental, vision, prescription, and life insurance
- Continuing education (ACLS, PHTLS, PALS, BLS, etc.)
- Uniform Allowance

Visit: Volusia.gov/EMScareers to apply today!

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 ~\$16.75 billion, one of the strongest reserve positions in the US

FEDERAL BUDGET FY 2025-26

To date, the federal budget for this FY which ends September 30 shows.....

Federal revenue collected to date.. \$4.15 trillion

Federal spending to date... \$5.52 trillion

Deficit \$1.37 trillion

US government collected **~75 cents for every \$1 spent**.

That means the government is running an average deficit of roughly **\$6 billion per day** during the fiscal year.

What is driving the deficit?

The biggest federal spending areas remain **Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, national defense, other federal programs, and interest on the national debt**.

One particularly important issue is **interest on the debt**. The federal government is now paying well over **\$1 trillion annually in interest**, making interest one of our largest expenditures.

What about the FY2027 federal budget?

Congress is now working toward funding the government for **FY2027, which begins October 1, 2026**. The immediate issue is whether Congress can complete the regular appropriations bills—or pass a **continuing resolution (CR)** to keep the government operating.

The latest Treasury statement through June 30 shows 5 major expenditures.....

The federal budget is essentially being driven by **five enormous areas**:

1. Social Security — about \$1 trillion

Retirement, disability and survivor benefits.
billion

2. Medicare — roughly \$550 billion

Health insurance for seniors and certain disabled Americans.

3. Defense — roughly \$800 billion

Military personnel, operations, weapons, bases and related defense programs.

4. Interest on the national debt — roughly \$600

This is particularly important. **Interest is now comparable to or larger than what the government spends on many major federal programs.**

5. Medicaid and other health programs — roughly \$500 billion

This includes Medicaid and several other federal health programs.

The problem isn't the government spending too much in one area....it's **mandatory programs + defense + interest consume most federal revenue**, leaving relatively little room for everything else.

So the federal government is borrowing roughly **\$1 out of every \$4 it spends**.

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Jim Cameron

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..... Sept 9 through Nov 4, US Treasury plans to increase its purchases of long-term government bonds from ~\$2 billion to ~\$4 billion. A bond buyback happens when the government purchases bonds from investors before they reach their regular maturity date.

This could affect the economy in several ways. When the Treasury buys more bonds, demand for those bonds increases which can raise bond prices and lower their yields. Treasury yields are important because they influence the interest rates on mortgages, car loans, credit cards, and other loans. Lower long-term rates could make borrowing less expensive and encourage people and companies to spend and invest more.

This plan is also meant to bring stability to the bond market. Interest rates on 30-year Treasury bonds have risen above 5% making it more expensive for the government to borrow money, thus increasing costs for families/businesses.

More Treasury purchases could encourage investors to buy/sell bonds more easily without causing large price changes.

However, the buyback plan is not the same as quantitative easing.....that's when the Federal Reserve creates money to buy bonds.

Thus, the Treasury must sell short-term Treasury bills to pay for its purchases. This could lower long-term rates for a while, but it can make the government more dependent on short-term borrowing. If interest rates rise later, the government could face higher interest costs.

This also doesn't solve the causes of high interest rates, that being large federal deficits, growing national debt, and concerns about inflation which may continue to worry investors. If these problems remain, investors could still demand higher interest payments.

Overall, the buybacks may calm the bond market and provide short-term help, but they cannot replace responsible control of government spending, borrowing, and inflation



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Federal Reserve Faces Critical Decision on Interest Rates

Federal Reserve Bd's Sept 15–16 meeting is vitally important for the U.S. economy. Policymakers must decide whether to keep interest rates unchanged or raise them to fight inflation. Current federal funds rate is 3.50% to 3.75%.

The decision has become less predictable following a surprisingly strong August jobs report. Employers added 162,000 jobs, more than economists expected, while unemployment remained at 4.1%. The strong employment numbers suggest the economy may be able to handle higher interest rates without causing a major increase in unemployment.

Inflation is Fed's biggest concern....3.4% inflation rate is still above the Fed's 2% target. Rising energy prices and other pressures are adding to the uncertainty.

About 70% of economists expect the Fed to leave rates unchanged at the Sept meeting....a significant change from August, when about 90% expected no change. More NOW believe the Fed may raise rates by one-quarter percentage point.

Higher rates mean more expensive mortgages, car loans, credit cards and business borrowing. Lower rates would make borrowing cheaper and could encourage consumers and businesses to spend and invest more. Mortgage rates are already around

6.85%, demonstrating how higher borrowing costs continue to affect the housing market.

The Fed must also consider the broader economy balance persistent inflation against a labor market that has recently shown renewed strength. Recent reports show modest economic growth, employment gains and moderate price increases, suggesting the economy remains resilient but faces significant uncertainty.

Bottom line: Sept's meeting could provide an important signal about where the economy is headed. If the Fed raises rates, it means that controlling inflation remains the priority. If it holds rates steady, policymakers would be betting that inflation is gradually cooling without requiring additional monetary tightening. Either way, the decision will influence borrowing costs, housing, business investment, financial markets and consumer confidence for months to come.

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.

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



SunRail Update



Sept 4.....**SunRail is operating between DeLand and Poinciana with 17 stations and 61 miles of track through Seminole County, Orlando, and Osceola County.**

SunRail carried about 1.2 million riders in 2024, a 12% increase from 2023. Continued growth could help convince state leaders to provide more money for the system. DeLand's station is also beginning to support economic development. An 86-unit apartment project is planned near the station, and local officials hope to create a neighborhood with housing, businesses, and stores within walking distance.

There is a proposed \$4 billion Sunshine Corridor which would connect SunRail with Orlando Intl Airport, Intl Drive, Orange Cty Convention Center, Universal, Disney, and possibly Brightline. It's still being studied and is not yet a funded construction project.

The Sunshine Corridor could greatly benefit Volusia with connections for people in DeLand and DeBary to reach central Fla jobs, and attractions. Better rail service could also increase property values, encourage new businesses, support housing development, and create more transportation choices.

However, Central Fla must find funding for construction and future operations. Funding methods e.g. future property-tax growth to support transit projects is the primary debate.

Volusia leaders should watch state funding, Sunshine Corridor funding, weekend and evening ser-

Overall, SunRail is in a stronger position than it was several years ago. DeLand service is established, ridership is rising, and development is beginning near the station. Still, the Sunshine Corridor remains a long-term goal, not a guaranteed project. Volusia should continue making sure DeLand and DeBary remain part of Central Florida's regional transportation plans.

A promotional poster for the Riverfront Esplanade Market. The top half has a teal background with the text "RIVERFRONT ESPLANADE" in white, followed by "RIVERFRONT MARKET" in a larger, stylized font. To the right, it says "EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM 5-9PM" and "LOCAL VENDORS, LIVE MUSIC & MORE!". Below this is a photograph of the market area, showing a waterfront with palm trees, colorful umbrellas, and people. At the bottom, a teal box contains text describing the market as a weekly Friday night event in Downtown Daytona Beach, held from 5-9 PM, featuring local vendors, live music by Aaron Esposito, and a relaxed waterfront atmosphere. The location is listed as 176 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach.

RIVERFRONT ESPLANADE

RIVERFRONT MARKET

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
FROM 5-9PM

LOCAL VENDORS,
LIVE MUSIC & MORE!

The Riverfront Market is a weekly Friday night market designed to bring the community together in the heart of Downtown Daytona Beach! Held EVERY Friday from 5-9 PM at the Riverfront Esplanade, the market features local vendors, live music by Aaron Esposito, and a relaxed, waterfront atmosphere across the street from the Riverfront Shops of Daytona Beach!

Location 📍 176 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach



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).**





FDOT Secretary Jared Perdue and Gov Ron DeSantis at Press Conference at ERAU

FDOT recently announced a partnership with ERAU to train students for careers in Advanced Air Mobility. They'll be taught to fly, repair, design, and test electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft and may also work with autonomous vehicles.

ERAU will research safety, operations and worker needs. Florida plans to begin testing this new aircraft by the end of the year. Future uses could include air taxis, deliveries, medical transportation, and emergency response services statewide.



Alexandra and Yolanda Helle's (She Greets the Night" and Matte Watkins (Starry Night Gallery)....on display at [Starry Night Gallery](#) Ask for Wendy...



Art on display, entertainment, food trucks.... 4—7 PM S Beach St

This is a really nice event. I highly recommend it.

DAYTONA BEACH KIWANIS PRESENTS...

Adopt a DUCK. Help a CHILD!

THE GREAT DAYTONA BEACH
KIWANIS DUCK RACE

*Food Trucks
Vendors &
activities for
the kids!*

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\$1,000

2ND PLACE

\$500

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You do not need to be present to win

Saturday, September 12th, 2026

11:00AM- 3:00PM

JACKIE ROBINSON BALLPARK | DAYTONA BEACH, FL

THE RACE BEGINS... 1:00 pm

Join us as we dump 10,000 ducks into the Halifax River. Every dollar goes to support LOCAL kids in need. We will have food, vendors, music and kid activities. This will be a fun community-wide event for the whole family.

Kiwanis
DAYTONA BEACH

SCAN QR CODE TO ADOPT A DUCK, SPONSOR, OR BE A VENDOR!

IT'S FOR THE KIDS!!!
duckrace.com/daytonabeach

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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EMBRY-RIDDLE
Aeronautical University



Upcoming Events/Calendar of Events

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

If you have an annual /semi-annual event (not monthly), please e-mail me the event name and date. It's to help business/ community 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

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

Dec 3...Pt Orange/S Daytona Chamber Annual Banquet....DB Shores Community Ctr

Dec 3....VCARD Christmas Party.....Fountainhead Innovation Ctr.....5 - 7 PM

Jan 14...VCARD Installation/Awards Banquet....ERAU... 5-7 PM

Governmental Calendar

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

Nov 9 - Elected Officials Roundtable....Daytona Intl Airport....7:30 AM



GDP grew at a 1.5% annual rate in Q2, after 2.1% in Q1. Consumer spending, exports and investment helped offset declining government spending.

1. Jobs — July employment fell by **23,000**, with unemployment at 4.1% BUT **August jobs increase 166,000**. Economists expected only about 55,000 new jobs.

2. Inflation — ● Still too high

July CPI was **3.4%**,.....considerably better than the inflation surge of 2021–22, but still above the Federal Reserve's 2% objective.

3. Interest rates — ● Major uncertainty

The Fed is currently at **3.50%–3.75%**.....things changed dramatically in the last few days.

Fed Chairman Kevin Warsh's recent comments pushed financial markets toward expecting a possible **September rate increase**. Current market pricing puts the probability around **60%–66%**, although the August jobs and inflation reports could change that substantially.

4. National debt — ● Long-term problem

The federal debt is approaching—and essentially reaching—**\$40 trillion**. Treasury's official daily data showed more than \$32.3 trillion in debt outstanding as of August 27 under one Treasury accounting series, while total gross national debt was approaching \$40 trillion; the difference reflects the distinction between debt held by the public and gross federal debt.

That's an enormous structural problem because interest payments consume an increasing share of federal revenues.

5. Business investment — ● The sleeper positive

One of the strongest parts of the economy.....business investment rose at **~10% annual rate during the first half of 2026**, driven by equipment, intellectual property and technology investment.

AI investment boom is particularly important because it could eventually raise productivity and economic growth.

The **September 11 CPI report** could answer that question. The Fed's September meeting is scheduled for **September 15–16**.



Dashboard of Current Economic Indicators.....

Indicator	Latest number	Direction	Assessment
GDP growth	1.5% Q2	↓	⦿ Slowing
Unemployment	4.1%	→	⦿ Relatively healthy
August jobs	166,000	↑	⦿ Great!
CPI inflation	3.4%	→	⦿ Too high
Core CPI	2.5%	↓	⦿ Improving
PCE inflation	~3.7%	→	⦿ Too high
Fed funds rate	3.50–3.75%	→	⦿ Restrictive
Consumer spending	+3.4% Q2 annualized	↑	⦿ Strong
Business investment	~+10% H1 annualized	↑	⦿ Very strong
Housing	High mortgage rates	→	⦿ Weak
S&P 500	~7,712	↑	⦿ Strong
10-year Treasury	~4.3–4.7%	→	⦿ High
National debt	~\$40 trillion	↑	⦿ Serious
Federal deficit	~6% of GDP	→	⦿ Serious
Oil	Rising sharply	↑	⦿ Inflation risk



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20 major US news outlets — political leanings.....Scale:

-5 = Very Liberal | -3 = Liberal | -1 = Lean Liberal |

0 = Center |

+1 = Lean Conservative | +3 = Conservative | +5 = Very Conservative

These are **political-bias assessments, not judgments about accuracy**. An outlet can have a political lean and still produce accurate reporting. AllSides, for example, specifically distinguishes bias from factual reliability and uses surveys, editorial reviews and other methods to determine its ratings.

#	News outlet	Leaning	Degree	Rating
1	Reuters	Center	Very little political slant	0
2	Associated Press (AP)	Center / Lean Liberal	Slight	-1
3	WSJ — News	Center / Lean Conservative	Slight	+1
4	The Hill	Center / Lean Liberal	Slight	-1
5	USA Today	Lean Liberal	Mild	-2
6	Fox News	Conservative	Moderate–Strong	+3
7	New York Post	Conservative	Strong	+4
8	Newsmax	Conservative	Strong	+4
9	Breitbart	Very Conservative	Very Strong	+5
10	Daily Wire	Very Conservative	Very Strong	+5
11	New York Times	Liberal	Strong	-4
12	Washington Post	Liberal	Strong	-4
13	CNN	Lean Liberal / Liberal	Moderate–Strong	-3
14	MSNBC	Very Liberal	Very Strong	-5
15	NBC News	Lean Liberal	Moderate	-2
16	CBS News	Lean Liberal	Moderate	-2
17	ABC News	Lean Liberal	Moderate	-2
18	NPR	Liberal	Strong	-4
19	Politico	Lean Liberal	Moderate	-2
20	The Guardian (U.S.)	Very Liberal	Very Strong	-5

One useful caution: **the same organization can have substantially different bias in its news reporting versus its opinion/commentary**. The Wall Street Journal is a good example—its straight news operation is generally much closer to the center than its editorial page.



General Election is Nov 3.....

- Early voting Oct 19- 31 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](#)

Elections/Candidates

November 2026

County Council At Large

[Nancy Miller](#)

[Mike Poniatowski](#)

County Council, District 1

[Wendy Anderson](#)

[Don Dempsey](#)

County Council, District 3

[Danny Robins](#)

[Byron White](#)

County Council, District 5

[David Santiago](#)

[David Sosa](#)

School Board, District 1

[Brenda Lyn Beery](#)

[Jamie Michele Haynes](#)

School Board, District 3

[Grace Kellermeier](#) ELECTED

School Board, District 5

[Ruben Colon](#) ELECTED

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 1

[John Navarra](#)

[Monica Paris](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 3

[Quanita May](#)

[Steve Miller](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 5

[Willie Williams](#) ELECTED

DB Shores Mayor

[Stephen Dembensky](#) (UNOPPOSED)

DB Shores Commission Seat 3

[Chris Conomos](#) (UNOPPOSED)

DB Shores Commission, Seat 5

[Vincent DonVito](#)

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](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Deland Commission Seat 5

[Kevin Reid](#) (UNOPPOSED)

Deltona Mayor

Maritza Avillia Vazquez

[Jason Voelz](#)

Deltona Commission District 1

[Davison Heriot](#)

[Brandy White](#)

Deltona Commission District3

[Tarra D'Errico](#)

[Sean O'Donnell](#)

Deltona Commission District 5

[Chris Bellingham](#)

[Stephen Colwell](#)

Deltona City Commission District 6

[Chris Nabicht](#)

[Christian O'Brien](#)

Edgewater Mayor

[Diezel Depew](#) (Elected)

Edgewater Council District 1

[Charlotte Hope Gillis](#)

[Charles Martin](#)

Edgewater Council District 3

[Deborah Dolbow](#)

[James McGuiness](#)

Holly Hill Commission District 2

Carmen Ruiz (Elected)

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 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

[Lori Tolland](#)— ELECTED

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 1

[Melissa DeVriese](#) - ELECTED

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](#)

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

[Doug Quartier](#)

South Daytona Seat 3

[Lisa ONeal](#)

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

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

[Michael Gist](#) (NPA)

[Andrew Parrott](#) (LPF)

[Eric Yonce](#) (DEM)

Congress—District 7

[Dalton Bale](#) (DEM)

[Ryan Elijah](#) (REP)



Election Dates' Calendar

General [Election](#)

Ballot will include congressional, legislative, county, city offices.....State Constitutional adms and County Charter adms

[Deadline to Register To Vote](#) for General Election

Oct 05, 8:00 am

[General Election](#)

October 19 - 31

8:00am - 6:00pm

See Voting Sites on page 44

[General Election](#)

Nov 03, 7:00 am

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

House Delegation Members



Rep Richard Gentry 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](#)



Rep Bill Partington 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](#)



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



Rep Chase Tramont 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 Quiniones 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

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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

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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
O - 736-5920
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
District 1
West Volusia
ddempsey@volusia.org
O -736-5920



David Santiago
District 5
SW Volusia DeBary,
Deltona,
Enterprise/Osteen
dsantiago@volusia.org
O - 736-5920



Matt Reinhart
District 2 Representative
(Daytona Metro Area)
mreinhardt@volusia.org
O- 736-5920
C – 507-4004



George Recktenwald
County Manager
[greckten-](mailto:grecktenwald@volusia.org)
wald@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



Mark Castain is Chief Banking Officer for Barwick Banking Company. Prior to that, he was Barwick's Chief Lending Officer and before that, he was President of Reunion Bank in Daytona Beach. He's a Univ of Florida and was a member of Leadership Daytona 2005. Congratulations Mark!

Josh Goergen is now Director of Government Advocacy at AdventHealth East Florida Division. He's held previous positions related to Government Relations at AdventHealth. A FSU graduate, he's also been active with Daytona Regional Chamber.



Karen Eastman is the new Sr Director of Development/ Strategic Partnerships at Daytona State College Foundation Inc....she was formerly Director of Marketing at Fla Healthcare Plans. Email - k_eastman@yahoo.com

Happy for you Karen!

Denise O'Toole Kelly has been promoted Community Investments Director at **Community Foundation and United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties**...previously worked at Residing Hope and Family Renew Communities...Email deniseotoole-kelly@gmail.com



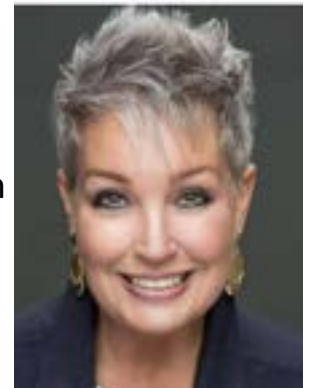
Melissa Gabriel is the new Director of Foundation at **UF Health Central Florida**. She was previously manager of donations at SMA Healthcare.

Lisa Bordis is the new Director of Volunteers at AdventHealth.... She previously worked at Daytona Beach CVB and Politis and Matovina law firm....Email landerson6991@hotmail.com



Melinda Dawson has a new position as SVP Accounting at Sentrics....a graduate of Leadership Daytona....active with Daytona Regional Chamber. Email - melinda@thedawsons.us

City of Daytona Beach has hired **Katrina Powell** as their new **Economic & Strategic Opportunities Director** and she will work to recruit, retain and expand businesses, develop and maintain **strategic partnerships** and promote **long-term economic growth**. She's taking over for Jeff Brown who relocated earlier this year. She **began August 24**. Look forward to working with ya, Kartrina!



United Way CEO Courtney Edgcomb is now an Adjunct Professor at Stetson University

Clifford Scarborough is the new Manager, ITS Safety and Security Technical Support at **Volusia County School District**



Volusia Sports Foundation is a LOCAL NON-PROFIT that helps kids from paycheck-to-pay check families compete in local sport leagues. Approximately 45% of Volusia families are in the category and living on a tight budget.....when a large unexpected bill comes in.....hard decisions must be made....repair the transmission or pay the rent and add a \$300 or \$400 expense for their child to play sports? That's out of the question!

Volusia Sports Foundation helps these families cover these expenses so their kids can play ball. In other words, it evens the playing field kids from lower income families can compete.

VSF has numerous programs to help kids but donations are needed to help cover these costs....and with cities and the county facing budget cuts....your donations are needed that much more.

Besides, your dollars might help the next Vince Carter (NBA All-Star) or Leonard Williams (Seattle Seahawks) or ????

For more information, contact



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.



THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data...



TALENT SUPPLY
& EDUCATION



INNOVATION &
ECON. DEVELOP.



INFRASTRUCTURE &
GROWTH LEADERSHIP



BUSINESS CLIMATE &
COMPETITIVENESS



CIVIC &
GOVERNANCE



QUALITY
OF LIFE

State of Florida Metrics

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

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 09/09/2026

23,769,651



JOB CHANGE

Jobs Year Over Year Change

41,000
(Gain)

Growth Rate

0.4%
(Positive)

View Statewide Heat Map

Net New Jobs Needed by
2030

767,717



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

446,518
(Declining)

515,000
Unemployed Persons
(Declining)

116

Unemployed People per 100
Jobs



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.6%
(Declining)

View Statewide Heat Map

Jobs Year Over Year Change

41,000

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)

23,870
Sales (Improving)

\$425,000
Median Sale Price (Decreasing)



POVERTY RATE

12.6%
(Unchanged)

View Statewide Heat Map



CONSUMER SENTIMENT

67.4
(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%

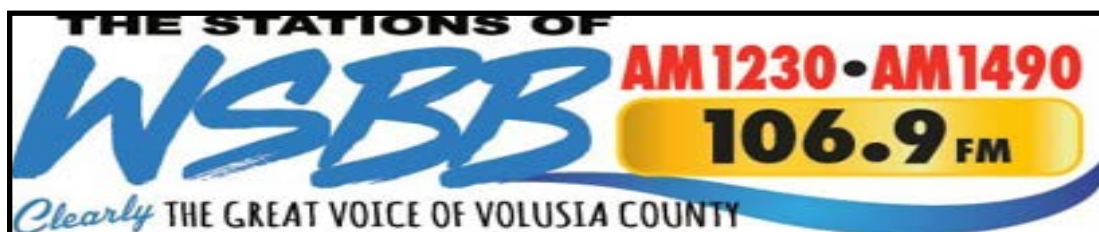
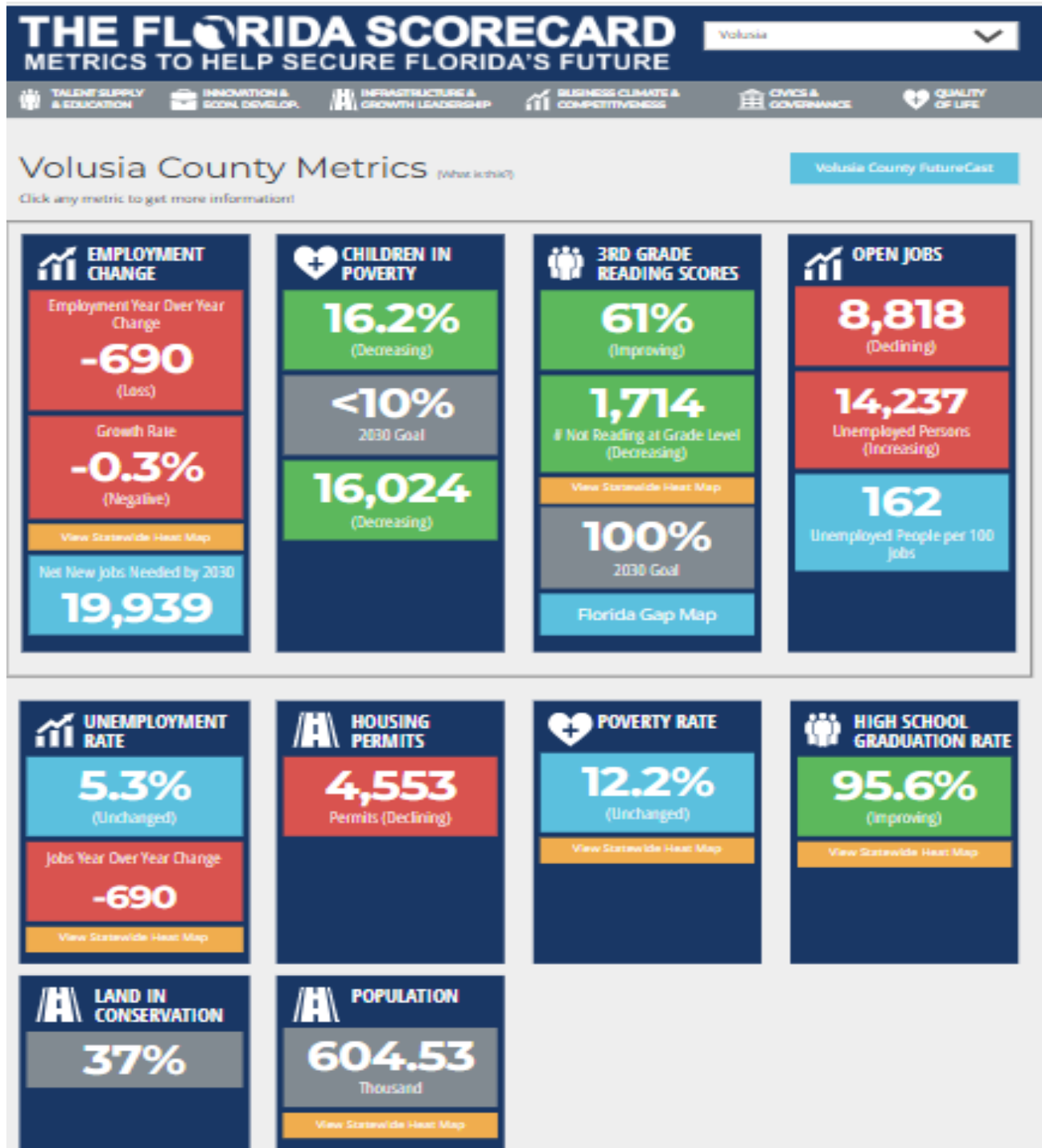


STATE HOUSING STARTS & SALES

\$425,000
Median Price (Decreasing)

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— Sept 10, 2026 (Includes Active and Inactive Voters)			
	Active	Inactive	Total
Democrats	106,309	19,672	125,981
Republicans	173,733	17,509	191,242
No Party Affiliation	101,619	24,324	125,943
Other	17,482	1,708	19,190
Totals	399,143	63,213	462,356

LOCAL LAND USE TERMS.....

A city's **land development code** is a legal document that creates rules for how property within the city limits can be built on or used. It regulates details like how tall a building can be, how close it can sit to the street, and how many parking spaces or green areas are required. These local codes act as the enforcement tool to make sure all new construction matches the city's long-term growth and environmental plans.

A city's **comprehensive plan** is the official, long-range guide (goals, objectives, and policies) that... directs how the city will use land, provide services, and grow over time sets rules and priorities for housing, transportation, parks, utilities, and environmental protection so future decisions stay consistent. The plan must be based on data, coordinate with county/state plans, and include implementation policies and multi-year planning periods.

A city's **future land use plan** shows how different parts of the city are planned to be used in the future (homes, businesses, parks, industry). It maps where growth can happen and sets allowed types and density of development for each area. The plan guides zoning and development decisions to make sure land use matches the city's goals for housing, jobs, and environment.

In summary.....the comprehensive plan sets the city's long-term goals and policies for growth and services. The future land use plan maps where different types of development should go to meet those goals. The land development code translates the plan and map into specific rules (zoning, lot sizes, building rules) that developers and officials must follow.





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>



Pay It Forward

Your Business. Our Resources. Let's Grow Together!

Spectrum Reach is officially entering our fifth year of helping businesses grow with the Pay It Forward program. Want to get in on the action? We're offering:

A three-month TV and streaming advertising schedule.

A 50% value match offer with paid schedule following grant schedule.

Access to on-demand educational content, expert industry insights, and exclusive speakers' series and events.

A free original 30-second commercial and support from local experts during the three-month period.

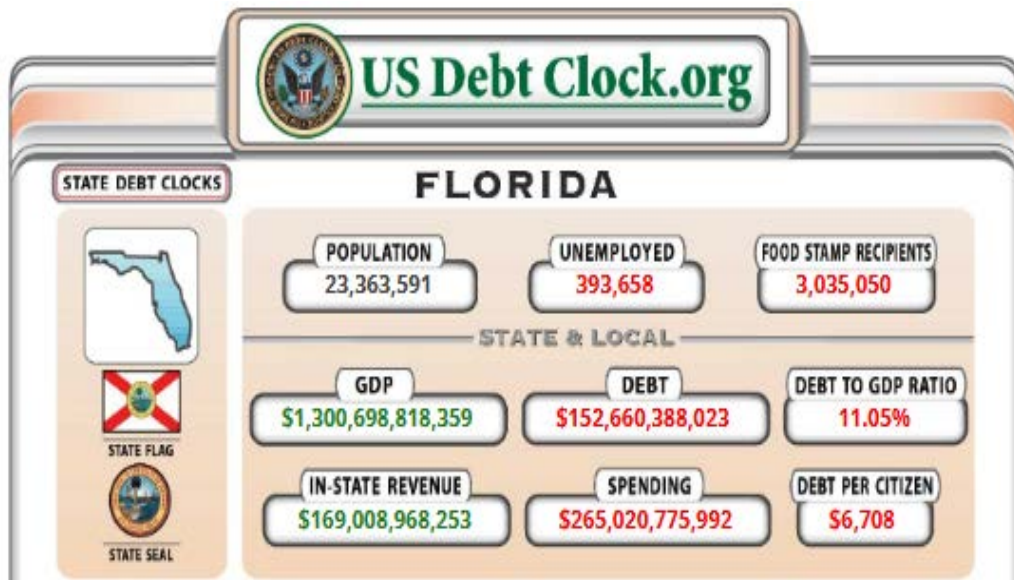
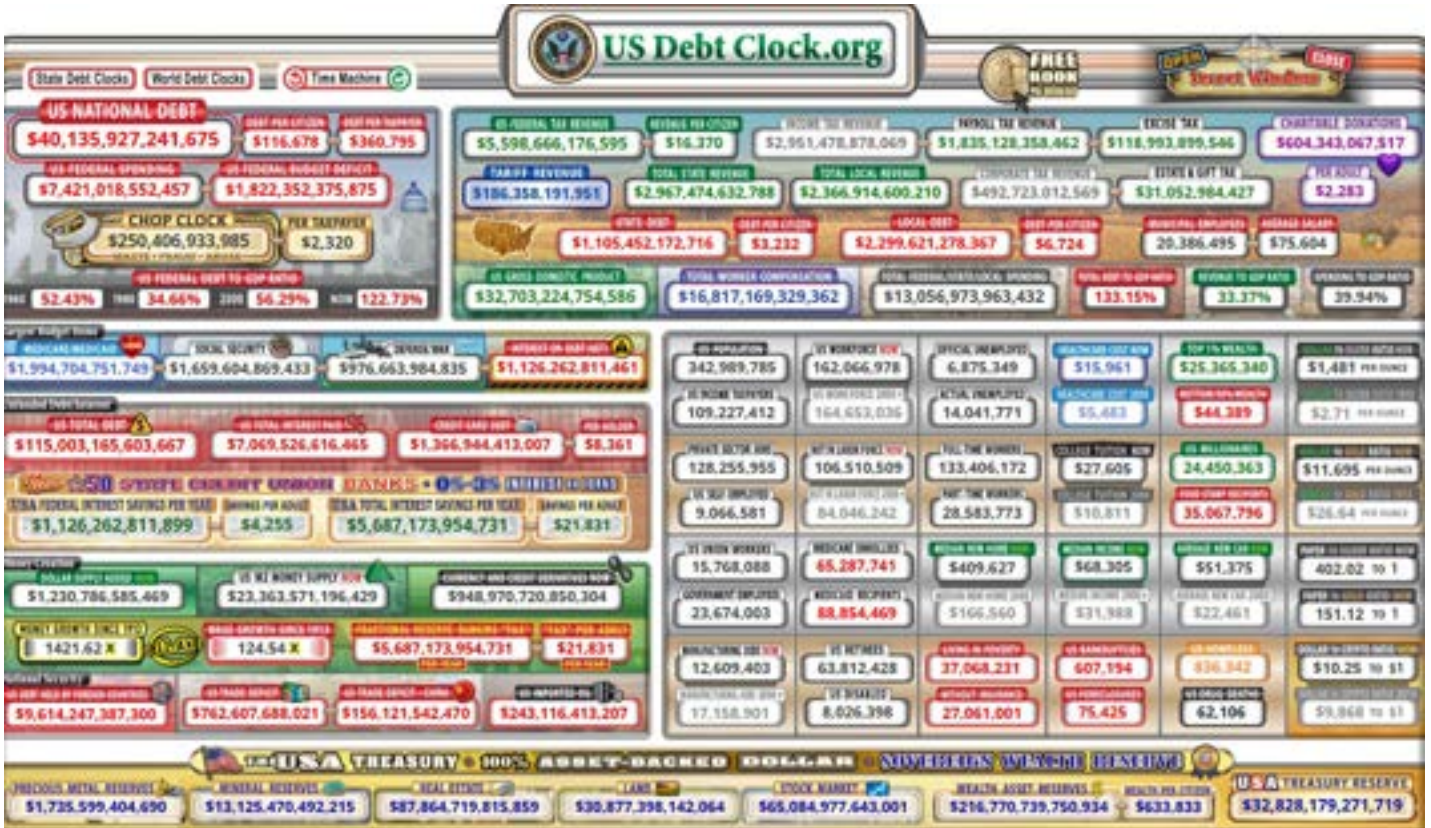


Learn more about Pay It Forward today.
SpectrumReachPayItForward.com

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 5:08 PM Sept 9, 2026.....



**WHOLESALE
LIGHTING**

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

First Step Shelter Stats— August 2026

	Oct. 1 to Aug. 31 FY 25-26												
Shelter Intakes	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
DBPD	23	18	32	14	15	24	14	13	20	23	19		215
OBPD	1	0	1	2	0	1	4	3	0	2	0		14
POPD	2	0	3	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	3		14
DBSPD	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1		6
SDPD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
PIPD	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1
HHPD	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	1	2	3		12
VSO	4	4	3	1	2	1	0	1	2	4	7		29
NSBPD	1	0	4	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	2		13
Deland PD	4	4	2	4	1	6	9	6	8	6	8		58
VSO Oak Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Total LEO	35	26	47	24	20	39	27	27	37	37	43		362
DOC	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	3	1	0	2		12
Total Hospitals	8	3	6	8	11	7	5	5	8	4	8		73
Total SS & Worship	5	8	3	3	5	14	8	3	7	6	7		69
Total	48	38	57	35	37	62	41	38	53	47	60		516

Rose Ann Tornatore Safe Zone Referrals— August 2026

All LEO referrals	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Total
DBPD	54	62	71	49	38	56	30	48	42	46	48		544
PIPD	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		1
OBPD	2	1	3	6	2	1	5	7	1	9	3		40
POPD	2	1	6	6	2	8	1	5	1	2	6		40
DBSPD	2	1	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	0	1		12
SDPD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
HHPD	1	3	7	8	8	2	2	7	6	3	6		53
NSBPD	1	2	5	7	2	1	1	1	8	0	2		30
Deland PD	5	9	8	12	14	13	5	8	13	8	15		110
VSO	5	10	3	11	4	4	3	14	10	9	15		88
VSO Oak Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Total	72	89	103	100	71	89	47	91	83	77	96		918

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



Albino Aboug (Wipi Group)
Rollan Roberts (US Ctr for Diplomacy)



Sen Ashley Moody....Ammie Ryan (WSBB Radio)



Kirt Glaenzer and Jayme Dickey



Cong Mike Harridopolis and Rep Chase Tramont



DB Commissioner Stacy Cantu
Lake Helen Mayor Roger Ekert



DeBary Mayor Karen Chezae
Deland Mayor Chris Cloudman



S Daytona Councilman Eric Sander
TPO Exec Colleen Nicoulin



Rodney Cruise (ERAU)
Rollan Roberts (US Ctr for Diplomacy)
FDOT Secretary Jared Perdue



John Reid (State Atty's Office)
Cindy Lane (FDOT)



Rep Webster Barnaby
Kirsten Pierce (Volusia County Schools)



School Bd member Krista Goodrich
Lista Taylor (CTE Specialist)



John Cece (Progressive Medical Research)
Volusia Tax Collector Will Roberts



Jason Frederick (Edward Jones)



Preston Root (Root Organization)
John Guthrie (Halifax Health)



Kristin Weiss (Daytona Regional Chamber)
Stephanie Wohlford (Halifax Health)



Rolland Via
Carmen Ruiz (Fast Signs)



———— and Joe Forte (retired Holly Hill City Mgr)



Jami Gallegos and her Mom Connie Whitehead



Christy B (Christy B's Comedy Club)
Al Smith (Al Smith Promotions)



Joey Posey (Storch & Associates)
Mike Springer (City of Port Orange)



County Mgr George Rectenwald
Josh Goergen (AdVent Health)



Tiffany McCann (Volusia County Schools)
Michael Scheck (Daytona State College)



Alex Quinones (Sen Ashley Moody)
Nancy Vargas (Majestic Transportation)



Josh and Theresa Lieberman



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 homesteaded 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 Nowvski 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.