



Volusia Matters Newsletter

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

April 2026

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City Mgr Deric Feacher...Mayor Derrick Henry

DB City Commission to Further Deliberate Pcard-Policies after Hearing Audit Update

April 1 - Daytona Beach City Commission heard an audit update from **Internal Auditor Abinet Belachew followed** by an extensive discussion. His overall message found "correctable weaknesses"—gaps in how departments document spending, manage contracts, and handle cash.



Comm Stacy Cantu

Several departments had gaps in vendor payment trails, inconsistent cash-handling at facilities; and the need to better track equipment.

During the discussion, **Commissioner Stacy Cantu** questioned about why current city policies

are not being followed by individuals working for

the City followed by comments that those current policies must be updated.

There was a tense series of comments regarding the Fire Dept's employee purchase cards. Belachew mentioned extensive food purchases that apparently lacked proper documentation.

Fire Chief Dru Driscoll questioned the auditor's report and has called for a third-party state auditor to check Belachew's work.



Auditor Abinet Belachew

During this discussion, a motion was made to terminate the City Manager but it failed on a 5-2 vote.

The city's independent auditor—who reports directly to the Commission. As the city moves toward the next fiscal cycle, there will be plenty of work on how the City can tighten its record-keeping and address "correctable weaknesses".

City of Daytona Beach operates with a \$159.6 General Fund budget for FY 2025-26



Legislature Heads to April Special Session on Redistricting and Unfinished Business

The Legislature adjourned its regular session March 13 with “slim results” and unfinished business thus increasing pressure for follow-up sessions. So they’ll be back in Tallahassee this month to address 3 unresolved priorities: state budget, an overhaul of property taxes, and redrawing of congressional maps.

Gov DeSantis has called a special session April 20–24 to redraw congressional districts. The decision to defer redistricting until April reflects both strategic timing and legal. DeSantis indicated lawmakers should first complete their regular-session agenda....budget policy bills, and unresolved legislative priorities—before turning full attention to redistricting.

Equally important, State leaders believe that a pending US Supreme Court decision may directly affect the legality of portions of Fla’s current map, making a post-session mid-decade redraw more prudent.

Traditionally, states redraw congressional maps once every ten years following the census. However, several states—spurred in part by national political strategy—have begun revisiting maps ahead of the 2026 elections.

Fla currently has a 20–8 Republican advantage in its congressional delegation, and any redraw could further influence the balance of power in the US House..... 218 Republicans vs 213 Democrats with 4 vacancies.

Critics argue that mid-decade redistricting risks violating Fla’s “Fair Districts” constitutional amendments (approved 2010) which prohibit drawing such maps. Proponents say recent population shifts justify revisiting district boundaries.

Several key questions will define the outcome :

- Will lawmakers pursue minor adjustments or a more aggressive redraw?
- Will any new map withstand expected court challenges?
- Could redistricting shift Fla’s congressional balance further toward one party?

The legislature finished its regular session without a budget..... With a \$1.4 billion gap between the House and Senate, and FY 2026-27 starts July 1.

Not only the budget but property tax reform is a major issue. The House approved HJR 203 which would place a constitutional amendment on the Nov ballot to eliminate (or phase out) all non-school property taxes on homesteaded primary residences. It would shift/remove the main funding source for local governments.

If the state eliminates homestead property tax revenue, the budget must account how local entities are going to fund services.

DeSantis has floated eliminating homestead property taxes entirely....but local govts rely on that cash. If you cut that revenue, who pays for roads? Do we raise sales tax? Do commercial business owners/ rental properties pick up the slack?

The House is ready to move, but the Senate is worried about the long-term fiscal shock to our cities/ counties. To get on the 2026 ballot, they need a deal by August.

If they pass a budget quickly in mid-April, it’s a good sign. If they don’t, it means the fight over property taxes has hijacked the entire process.

You may remember we talked a while back about that old Wyotech property over in Ormond Beach... just off I-95 at Destination Daytona.

Since then, there's been real progress over there. Still early, but you can see something starting to come together.



Jayson Meyer and his group have been working on it, and it's shaping up into what he's calling the **Fountainhead Innovation Center**.

Not sure what it's going to be just yet... but that's usually how the interesting ones start.

You're Invited to come join us!.....On **April 23**, Synergy Billing's celebrating **20 years**, at the NEW property 470 Destination Daytona Lane ... 5 to 9 PM. Plenty of good food / beverages!

There's going to be office space opening up there over time... so if you're looking for a place to move—or want to be around some folks building things—that may be worth a look.....



Gov DeSantis said that Fla has surpassed 10,000 bonuses awarded via the Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program since it launched in 2022.



Over \$67.9 million has been awarded to date with ~\$5.5 million recently awarded to 744 officers.

Each newly recruited or relocated officer gets a one-time \$5,000 after-tax bonus.

The program targets officers relocating from states with "radical political agendas" to bolster Fla's "law-and-order" status.

It's part of a larger legislative push to support law enforcement, including.....

- \$49 million secured for raises affecting over 16,200 state officers.
- minimum base pay raised to \$60,000.
- entry-level officers got a 10% increase, while veterans got a 15% increase.

Launching the Florida Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program to cover training costs and introducing law enforcement programs in high schools.



Resource/Stewardship Director Nick Dunnam discusses Volusia Forever

Volusia Charter Review Commission Update

The CRC is getting towards the end of their process. ...in addition to proposing amendments, the CRC also provides recommendations to the County Council about ordinances/policies that they might want to consider based on public input. They approved language for a transmittal letter that will go to the council.

There was significant input from the public regarding Volusia Forever.

Next meeting will be April 13, 5:30 PM Daytona Intl Airport and May 4 (final report)...

It's likely that the CAC will place 4-5 County Charter Amendments on the November ballot.

* CRC to submit report to County Council by May 18, 2026.

* Three county public hearings in June through July 2025.

* County Council to call for referendum by August 4, 2026

* Voters consider amendments November 2026 general election.

CRC members

- **Amy Munizzi** (DeLeon Springs Community Assn President)
- **Ben Johnson** (former Cty Sheriff)
- **Billie Wheeler** (former Cty Council member)
- **Chris Tolland** (local Insurance Exec)
- **Dwight Lewis** (former Cty Council member)
- **Jim Clayton** (retired Circuit Judge)
- **Jennifer Bright** (retired Symantec sales mgr)
- **Kelly Kwiatek** (Halifax Health Legal Counsel)
- **Ken Parker** (former Pt Orange City Mgr)
- **Mark Watts** (land use attorney, 2015 CRC member)
- **Nathaniel Ingram** (real estate broker/former law enforcement officer)
- **Nicholas Sakhnovsky** (Chair, Democrat Exec Committee)
- **Pat Northey** (former Cty Council member)
- **Stephanie Wohlford** (Halifax Health Community Relations)
- **Suzanne Scheiber** (founder of Dream Green Volusia)

VM news will report on CRC meetings each month.



County Housing Committee officials break ground
225 W New York

March 31—County is teaming with local partners to develop **New York Ave Apartments**, an 84-unit affordable housing development located directly across from Deland City Hall....the old Putnam Hotel site....

Designed to help local workforce individuals/families with limited budgets, it's part of the county's efforts to replace housing lost during recent hurricanes. Notably, 13 of those units will provide homeless individuals a means to get their act together.

It's funded via state and federal dollars, including the County's **Transform386 program**. The second of four major multi-family projects, it leverages funds to keep residents living where they work, supporting both the local economy and the long-term vitality of DeLand.

Blue Sky Communities will manage the facility which should open sometime next year

Any County Charter amendment from the County Council requires a two thirds vote to advance to the ballot.



Daytona Tortugas kicked off their 2026 season last week at Jackie Robinson Ballpark

[Click here](#) for tickets.....



- Qtr 2 Cleanup – Tuesday, May 26, 8- 10 AM
Winterhaven Park 4589 S. Atlantic Ave
Ponce Inlet
- Qtr 3 Cleanup - Cleanup 1 – Sunday, July 5, 8–10 AM - Winterhaven Park 4589 S. Atlantic Ave Ponce Inlet
- Qtr 3 Cleanup – Cleanup 2 – Sat, Sept 19, 8–10 AM - Winterhaven Park 4589 S. Atlantic Ave Ponce Inlet
- Qtr 4 Cleanup – Saturday, December 5, 8–10 AM - Winterhaven Park 4589 S. Atlantic Ave Ponce Inlet

For more info, call Lynne Walter 943-7889 ext 21364





Most recent debt reporting, Fla continues to demonstrate disciplined fiscal management, maintaining low debt levels, robust revenue collections, and strong financial ratios that position it well for future economic cycles.

1. Total Outstanding Direct Debt

Fla's total **direct state debt**—which includes both tax-supported and self-supporting obligations—continues a downward track:

- **June 2024**, total debt was **~\$15.4 billion**.....a \$1 billion less from FY 2023 and it continues to decline. Of this total, **tax-supported debt** (repaid using state's **general tax revenues**) was **~\$11.1 billion** and **self-supporting debt** (repaid from project revenues or program being financed) was **~\$4.2 billion**.....

2025 debt report shows debt reduced to **~\$14.6 billion based on Governor's and Legislature's limit new bond issuances and increased pay-downs.**

2. General Revenue Collections

General Revenue (mostly **sales tax**) are the backbone of Fla's annual budget and its ability to service debt.

FY 2024-25....Fla collected ~\$41.1 billion in sales/use tax revenue.

- **Of that amount, ~\$36.9 billion went to General Revenue Fund.**
- **Remainder went to local governments and state trust funds via sales-tax distribution formula.**

Fla's 6% statewide sales tax is the largest single source of revenue, ~74% of General Revenue.

Fla Dept of Revenue Retail's economic data shows Volusia's taxable sales totaled ~\$21 billion generating ~\$1.25 billion annually.

A key measure of a state's fiscal health is **debt ratio**—ratio of debt service (credit card debt) to revenues available to pay debt service:

- Fla's debt ratio is **~2.62%**, below State's **6% policy target.**

Consistent low debt ratios enhance Fla's **credit-worthiness** i.e. **AAA ratings by all three major credit rating agencies** (S&P Global, Fitch, and Moody's).

Low debt ratios show strong financial management and allowing the state flexibility to issue debt in the future for strategic infrastructure or emergency needs without jeopardizing fiscal targets.

5. Reserves and Fiscal Buffers

Fla's maintains high **reserve levels** and rainy-day funds..

The proposed FY 2026–27 **General Fund reserve totals ~\$16 billion**.....the reserves provide fiscal flexibility to absorb economic downturns or revenue shocks.

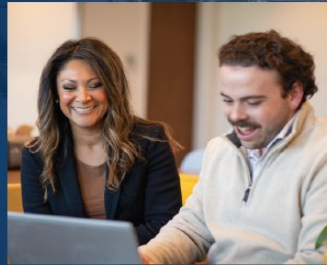
US SBA is offering low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to Volusia small businesses/nonprofits impacted



by the frost and freeze earlier this year.

These funds are intended to cover working capital and operational expenses, such as payroll and fixed debts, for organizations that suffered revenue losses even without physical property damage. **Apply online by Nov 4 at sba.gov/disaster**

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Volusia Charter Review Commission meets Monday, April 13, 5:30 PM Datona Intl Airport

This 15-member commission is reviewing the county's charter (constitution) and will be drafting amendments as necessary. Once approved these amendments will go before public hearings to the County Council prior to going on the November 3 ballot.

These meetings run smoothly....and will likely end by 7 PM....I highly recommend you attend.



Volusia Matters Podcast

Episode 150



County Councilman Matt Reinhart



Jim Cameron
News Commentator

Discussion topics..[Click here](#) to listen

- Legislature has adjourned without a state budget, leading to upcoming April special sessionS focused on fulfilling constitutional requirements, redrawing congressional districts, and addressing property tax reforms.
- Cities are prioritizing infrastructure/safety, with NSB reviewing strategic plans and SR 44 improvements. ...Orange City, Holly Hill updated codes/fees to ensure sustainable development.
- Local aerospace coalition actively works to recruit new industry partners to the region.



Tomorrow's Leaders Session at Synergy Billing's soon to be new facility

Futures Foundation

I've said this before, but it's worth repeating—if you want to understand where a community is headed, spend some time paying attention to how it's investing in its young people.

The FUTURES Foundation's Tomorrow's Leaders program is one of those efforts that continues to get it right.

Each year, they bring together high school juniors from across Volusia County and give them exposure to the people, industries, and institutions that shape this community. It's not just leadership in theory—it's a practical look at how things actually work, and where these students can begin to see their place in it.

I wasn't able to attend their most recent session, but I've heard some strong feedback.

The group spent time out at the former Wyotech campus in Ormond Beach—now being repositioned into what's being called the Fountainhead Innovation Center—and were hosted by Jayson Meyer.

Jayson spoke to the students about what he calls "Seeing the Invisible."

From what I've been told, the message focused on something simple, but not always easy to

grasp at that age—that most things of value start long before they're visible. Businesses, buildings, and systems all begin as ideas... and it takes someone willing to recognize that potential early, take ownership, and move it forward.

He also gave them something of a real-world crash course in how that actually plays out.

Walking through the property, the students were able to see firsthand what it looks like to take an underutilized asset and begin thinking through what it could become—how location, structure, capital, and vision all come together in a real estate deal. Not in a textbook, but in real time.

That setting made the lesson a little more tangible. It's one thing to talk about vision in a classroom.

It's another to stand inside a building and understand that someone had to look at it, evaluate it, take the risk, and decide it was worth bringing back to life. Programs like Tomorrow's Leaders matter because they help connect those dots early—between ideas, opportunity, and action.

And if we're serious about the future of this community, that's exactly the kind of investment we need to keep making.



Synergy Billing CEO Jayson Meyer addresses Tomorrow's Leaders

Congressional Retirements ..2026 Mid-Term Elections

2026 midterms are becoming less a referendum on individual incumbents and more as a nationalized election fought over open seats .

Unusually Large Congressional Exit.....dominant political development heading into 2026 midterms is a surge of retirements and open seats in Congress, with more than 50 US House members (10–11% of Congress) said they won't seek reelection — one of the highest totals this century.

Historically, large retirement waves often signal political volatility ahead.

US Senate Retirements (2026)

9 sitting US Senators are not running again
4 Democrats and 5 Republicans

Slightly above average pace of Senate retirements in recent cycles....so why do these retirements matter? Senate incumbents normally enjoy very high reelection success rates. Open seats remove that advantage and:

- increase competitive races,
- attract stronger challengers,
- increase fundraising, national party involvement.

US House Retirements (2026)

Currently about 52 House members retiring or leaving — tied for highest level since 2018.

31 Republicans 21 Democrats

Republican majority is extremely narrow:

GOP: 218 seats vs Democrats: 214 seats

Only a few seat changes could flip control.

Why So Many Lawmakers Are Leaving?

Political Environment....Increasing polarization... difficult working conditions in Congress.

Career Calculations.....Many members running for Senate or governor, seeking private-sector opportunities, retiring after long careers.

Historically, lawmakers retire when they anticipate:

- difficult reelection environments,
- national political headwinds for their party.



Why Open Seats Matter So Much

Incumbents are far harder to defeat than open seats....Open seats:

- remove name recognition advantages,
- reduce fundraising dominance,
- increase competitiveness.

Potential Impact on the 2026 Midterms

House Control Is Highly Vulnerable..Because majority margin is so small....shift of 3–5 seats could change control....Open seats increase probability of swings. Last time retirements reached 2018 levels, the majority party lost the House.

Senate Control Is Harder to Flip — But Still in Play

- Republicans hold about a 53–47 Senate edge.
- Democrats must win multiple seats to get control.
- Several open seats introduce uncertainty into what otherwise might be safe races.

National Political Climate Still Dominates.....midterms are strongly influenced by:

- presidential approval ratings,
- national economic sentiment,
- public reaction to major policy issues.
- Retirements amplify — rather than create — these effects.

Strategic Consequences

- Senate map slightly favors Republicans
- Some Democratic-held seats remain competitive.
- Narrow majority leaves little margin for error.

Open House districts create Democrat pickup possibilities with early fundraising advantage in competitive races....but Dems must defend several vulnerable incumbents



Water pumped per day (by city)

Combined pumping across major systems ~40 to ~55 million gallons per day

Volusia is a patchwork of independent ground-water pumping systems, all pulling from **Floridan Aquifer** but managed locally.

Usage spikes during: Summer irrigation, Tourist season and Dry periods

- **Daytona Beach**

~14.5 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

~24 million gallons per day is their max capacity

Daytona serves ~75,000 Daytona Beach customers, ~35,000 South Daytona portions of DB Shores and unincorporated County customers

- **Port Orange**

~ 6 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

≈ 15 MGD is their max capacity

Port Orange Utilities also serves DB Shores, South Daytona, Ponce Inlet

Serves ~68,000 Port Orange customers...with ~80,000 total customers (including Ponce Inlet, DBS and S Daytona)

- **Ormond Beach**

~ 6 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

≈ 12 MGD capacity

Ormond Beach Utilities also serves Ormond by the Sea and Hunters Ridge

~45,000 Ormond Beach, 7,000 Ormond by the Sea and 1,000 Hunters Ridge customers

- **Holly Hill**

~ 1.2 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

≈ 2.3 million gallons per day is their max capacity

- **Deltona**

~7–9 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

Deltona serves ~75,000 customers

- **DeLand**

~4–6 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

DeLand serves ~48,000 customers

- **New Smyrna Beach**

~5–7 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

New Smyrna Beach serves ~55k customers

- **South Daytona**

~1–2 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

Population ~12,000 ...smaller but independent system

- **Ponce Inlet**

~0.5–1 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

Small coastal town with its own water department

- **Edgewater**

~2–3 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

Edgewater serves ~23,000

- **Orange City**

~1.5–2.5 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

Mix of city + county supply

- Lake Helen → ~0.3–0.7 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

- Oak Hill → ~0.3–0.6 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

- **Volusia County Utilities**

~3.9 million gallons per day is their AVERAGE use

Operates **multiple regional systems**

Includes:

- ◇ Southwest system (serving Orange City area)

- ◇ Other unincorporated service zones

- ◇ Serves unincorporated areas + some cities (like parts of Orange City)



Team Volusia CEO Keith Norden toasts 15-years productivity

March 12 - Team Volusia hosted its annual meeting and focused on track record, competitiveness, and future growth strategy.

They highlighted its 15-year impact, emphasizing efforts in business recruitment, job creation, and capital investment throughout the County.

They also emphasized how mid-sized markets like Volusia must compete more aggressively for projects, in sectors like

advanced manufacturing, aerospace, logistics, and technology. The takeaway....site readiness, speed-to-market, and workforce quality are now decisive factors.

CEO Keith Norden outlined a forward-looking strategy centered on:

- Target industry recruitment
- Workforce and talent pipeline alignment
- Available, development-ready sites and infrastructure



2010 - 2025

- **Total Economic Impact \$3,900,322,148**
- **Launched projects 63**
- **Jobs 9015**
- **Payroll \$490,182,878**
- **Capital Expenditures \$1,350,292,892**



Attendees at the Synergy Billing table..Jayson Meyer (host)



The Federal Reserve Bd met March 17-18 and voted 11–1 to hold interest rates at 3.5%–3.75%.

Last week, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell’s message was.....**don’t overreact to oil.**

March 17–18....Federal Reserve held interest rates steady.....

Fed made no change to its benchmark federal funds rate, keeping it in the range of 3.5%–3.75%.



Despite rising energy costs fueled by the Iran war, the Fed sees no immediate need to hike rates. In other words, we expect inflation to stabilize and that the Fed’s current 3.5-3.75 rate is good for now.

Investors immediately reacted to Powell's speech. Before he spoke, there was a 50/50 chance the Fed would raise interest rates by December; afterward, those odds dropped to almost zero.

Powell explained that raising rates to combat temporary problems, like a sudden spike in oil prices, is risky because it takes a long time for those rate changes to actually affect the economy. By the time the higher rates "kicked in," the oil crisis might already be over, leaving the economy struggling under high costs for no reason.

Lastly, regarding the **\$3 trillion private credit market**, Powell admitted that more people are failing to pay back their loans. However, he also said not to worry about a total economic meltdown.

Powell’s term as Fed Chair ends May 15.....and his potential successor, **Kevin Warsh**’s nomination is currently stalled in the Senate.

Officials signaled a continued “wait-and-see” / data-dependent approach, reflecting:

- Persistent but moderating inflation
- Ongoing labor market evaluation
- Heightened global uncertainty (notably geopolitical tensions and energy prices)

The decision represents a pause in rate movement, not a pivot:

- The Fed is not yet ready to cut rates
- But also not tightening further

Markets now expect:

- Potential rate cuts in the second half of 2026 depending on inflation trends

Fed is in a holding pattern, prioritizing inflation control and economic stability before making its next move on rates.

Feds next meeting will be April 28–29

2026 Federal Reserved Bd Schedule

- June 16–17
- July 28–29
- September 15–16



US national debt is now **\$39 trillion** (exceeds 100% of nation's GDP and creating a per-capita burden of ~ **\$115,000** per American.

It's driven by persistent annual federal deficits of **\$1.8–\$2 trillion**, compounded by higher interest rates that increase the cost of servicing existing debt and long-term funding pressures from Social Security, Medicare, and defense.

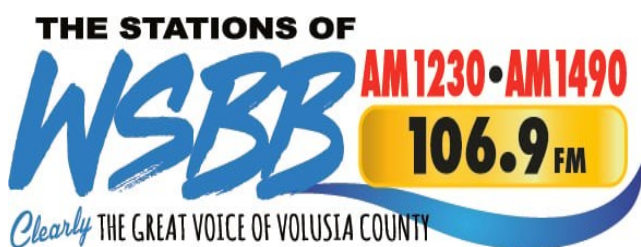
Consequently, rising interest payments are diverting funds away from public programs, limiting the government's ability to handle future economic crises and intensifying political debates over necessary tax and spending reforms.

2026 fiscal data shows a big shift in US priorities: for 1st time in history, cost of servicing the national debt is outpacing several major pillars of government spending.

Recent [CBO projections](#) and [Treasury data](#) show net FY 2026. interest payments are **\$1 trillion**.

2026 Federal Spending Comparison

This table shows how interest payments now compare to largest govt departments /programs



"Crowding Out" Effect: Net interest now consumes approximately **19% of all federal revenue**.....for every dollar collected in taxes, 19 cents is immediately goes to pay (credit card) interest on past debt vs funding current infrastructure, education, or research.

Rapid Growth: Interest is the [fastest-growing major category](#) in the budget. While defense and discretionary spending are projected to grow by roughly 22% over the next decade, interest payments are expected to more than double to **\$2.1 trillion** by 2036.

Historical Context: FY 2000, total national debt was **~\$5.67 trillion**. Last Federal budget surpluses were

FY 1998: ~\$69 billion

FY 1999: ~\$126 billion

FY 2000: ~\$236 billion (largest surplus on record)

FY 2001: ~\$128 billion

These surpluses occurred during the final years of the Bill Clinton administration





Data centers function as the "factories" of the digital age, housing the massive computing and networking hardware required to store, process, and transmit global data. They house high-powered servers, advanced cooling systems to prevent overheating, and redundant power supplies to ensure 24/7 operation. Fla is becoming an attractive hub for these facilities—including massive cloud /AI centers—due to its stable geography, developed fiber networks, strategic infrastructure.

Other factors.....

Economics – Fla has tax incentives, land availability, and local incentives for tech investment.

Tech Growth – AI, cloud services, 5G expansion are driving demand for hi-capacity computing infrastructure.

Electricity – large AI/data centers can use tens of megawatts of power, comparable to a small town.

Water – often used in cooling, which can affect local water supplies.

Environmental Impact – heat, noise, and construction footprint.

Data centers are **the backbone of the digital economy** — supporting social media to AI, finance, healthcare, and government operations. Fla attracts them because it can offer incentives and has strategic advantages, but they also raise questions about **energy, water, local community impacts**.

Fla is seeing a surge in data center development as the industry shifts away from traditional hubs like Virginia and Texas. While this transition offers significant economic diversification and high-tech job growth, it also threatens to strain the state's existing power grids and water supplies.

Key Focus Areas

- **Legislative Oversight: SB 484** (awaiting the Governor's signature) introduces sustainability requirements, such as using reclaimed water for cooling and ensuring data centers fund their own infrastructure to protect local ratepayers.
- **Resource Management:** The massive electricity and water demands of these facilities have sparked community concerns regarding noise and environmental impact, leading to increased local and state-level political debate.
- **Global Context:** Fla's actions reflect a broader national and global trend where policymakers must balance the rapid demand for AI and cloud infrastructure with the need for responsible, long-term resource planning.

Volusia's Clerk of Court has over 100 million digitized court/land record images....most of are available to the public for FREE at www.clerk.org



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Iran's decision to exempt Iraqi oil from its shipping restrictions in the Strait of Hormuz acts as a critical economic pressure valve, potentially returning up to 3 million barrels per day to a global market where Iraqi exports had previously collapsed by 97%. While this concession provides a signal for markets to pause, shipping risks remain extreme and traffic through the Strait is still down 90%, suggesting that energy prices will remain volatile and continue to test corporate margins. For investors, this development underscores the need for disciplined, diversified portfolios that can withstand short-term headline volatility and persistent inflationary pressures. **Jason Frederick.....**



DB Street Rods Assn presents donation to
Volusia Volunteers in Medicine

creating a significant draw for both enthusiasts and tourists.

From an economic standpoint, the event generates an estimated **\$10 to \$15 million in local impact.**

They also raffled a car for charity and the proceeds were donated to Volusia Volunteers in Medicine which provides healthcare for local employees **who have no access to healthcare through work.** This is 45% of Volusia's paycheck to paycheck population.

Thank you Daytona Beach Street Rods Club!

Daytona Beach Street Rods hosted 36th Annual Spring Turkey Run Car Show on March 27-29.

This 3-day event at Daytona Intl Speedway, is one of the premier automotive events in the Southeast.....typically brings in 60,000 to 100,000 attendees, along with more than 5,000 show cars and over 2,000 vendors.



Friends We've Lost Recently.....



Roy Johnson - 86, passed away on March 23. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland, then raised in Virginia where he grew up learning the value of hard work and responsibility. He was an airplane mechanic in the US Air

Force. He later served as Lead Technician for FPL's Central Florida fleet for over 40 years.

In 2010, he was elected Mayor of Holly Hill in addition to serving as Dist 4 Commissioner and Vice Mayor. He also served as Holly Hill's representative on the Volusia-Flagler Transportation Planning Organization.

He shared with me his deep devotion to his daughter Deanna and his grandson Dallas.

Gregory Wynn, 80, passed away on March 2. He established Greg Wynn Financial Services, a firm he proudly managed alongside his three daughters, Erin Masters, Galin Crist, and Kirstin Moore.



A University of Tennessee grad, he enjoyed golf, motorcycling, traveling and playing pool. Greg was a stalwart leader in the financial industry and will be missed.

Approx 40% of property taxes are paid through mortgages



March 23 - Volusia Schools' Leadership Class met a University HS in Orange City.....to learn about School Way Café.....WOW!

It's the food service operation for Volusia County Schools.... one of the largest operations in our school system.



Volusia School district serves more than 60,000 students. And School Way Café provides those students breakfast and lunch at no cost.

On a typical school day, the district serves ~100,000 meals a day—and nearly 20 million meals over the course of a school year. It operates under a federal program that allows schools to provide free meals to all students, regardless of income.

Meals must meet strict federal nutrition standards—balanced calories, limits on sodium and fat, servings of fruits, vegetables, whole grains.

National food companies Including General Mills, Kelloggs, Pillsbury, even Jimmy Dean.... Has facilities that only cater to school district food programs. And they must meet strict USDA standards



**LEEDS
CREATIVE**

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

- **Integrated System:** Consolidates smart cameras, access control, and environmental monitoring into a single, unified interface.
- **AI Analytics:** Moves beyond simple recording to allow high-speed searches by specific criteria, such as people, vehicle types, clothing color, or specific activities.
- **Remote Accessibility:** Users can manage and monitor their facilities in real-time via desktop, laptop, or mobile devices.

Customized Integration: As a regional integrator, Leeds provides tailored designs to fit specific business environments with **competitive pricing**.

By replacing old hardware with AI-powered cloud solutions, Leeds helps organizations reduce theft, accelerate incident investigations, and improve overall operational safety.

[Click here](#) for more info but call **Jim Cameron** for price details. 566-2140



Volusia Sheriff's Office has seized 225 illegal gambling machines and \$97,000 in cash as part of 'Operation Reel of Fortune'an illegal gambling operations investigation that covered were Volusia, Flagler, Brevard, and Duval.



It was a team effort involving VSO, Attorney General's Office and Fla Gaming Control Commission.

Seven businesses in Volusia were raided in the investigation.....accused of running gambling machines that send profits to overseas operatives engaged in human trafficking, drug running, money laundering, and more.

Sad thing is that.....it attracts the folks that ain't have a pot to piss in but they enjoy peeing their money away.



**DAYTONA
STATE COLLEGE**

Daytona State College is launching a new AS aviation maintenance management degree this Fall (upon FAA approval). It will prepare students for FAA certification

exams leading to airframe and power plant ratings. Lab components for this program will be taught at ERAU campus.

Open house will be Thursday, April 9, 5:30 - 7 PM at ERAU building 340 room



311. Topics and tour will cover aircraft structures/materials, aircraft systems, airframe electricity, basic engine, and propellers and turbine labs.



Gov DeSantis “Fla has surpassed 10,000 bonuses awarded thru the Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program since it began in 2022.”

Over \$67.9 million has been awarded to date with ~\$5.5 million recently awarded to 744 officers. Each newly recruited or relocated officer gets a one-time \$5,000 after-tax bonus.

Program targets officers relocating from states with "radical political agendas" to bolster Fla's "law-and-order" status.

It's part of a larger legislative push to support law enforcement, including.....

- \$49 million secured for raises affecting over 16,200 state officers.
- minimum base pay raised to \$60,000.
- entry-level officers got a 10% increase, while veterans got a 15% increase.

Launching the Fla Law Enforcement Academy Scholarship Program to cover training costs and introducing law enforcement programs in high schools.



March 6—Every year, the Beachside Neighborhood Watch hosts a cookout for our Daytona Beach police officers for their hard work during Bike Week and other special events.

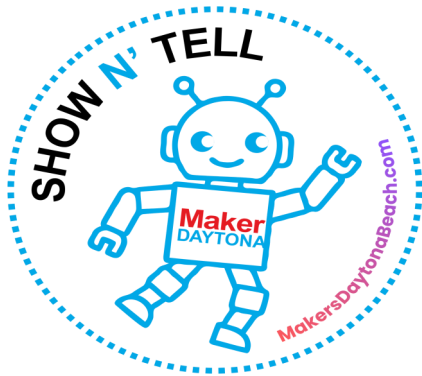
Last week, these volunteers provide hamburgers, hotdogs and sides...This is a kind gesture on their part because these police officers are having to work extra hours making sure our visiting bikers feel welcome.



Every year, I have the privilege of attending thanks to event organizer Ted Hordecky. It's something that I look forward to because it gives me the opportunity to chat with Daytona's Finest about how the event is going.

So, I want to again congratulate and thank Ted and Beachside Neighborhood Watch for this fine





Maker Daytona Beach is launching a new "Show N' Tell" series designed to showcase local innovation and foster hands-on learning throughout Volusia.

It's an interactive night where students, educators, and hobbyists bring physical projects—ranging from high-end robotics to LEGO builds—to share their process with the community.

The first two events will be **April 9** and **May 14, at 5:30 PM** at **Murph's Patio** 1431 Orange Camp Rd in DeLand (with more locations across the county to follow).

The intent is to move away from "traditional presentations" and instead create an accessible space where "learning is visible." This series serves as a buildup to a major exhibition planned for spring 2027.

The series already has diverse backing, including:

- **Education:** Teams from DeLand HS (Tri-Force Robotics), ATC Robotics, and Bethune-Cookman Computer Engineering.
- **Community Partners:** Support from Volusia County Schools STEM, the Museum of Arts & Sciences (MOAS), and Volusia Business Resources.



Regarding Volusia Schools' Half-Cent Sales Tax..... most recent Financial Report showed it generated ≈ \$61 million in revenue.

It was originally projected to generate roughly \$45 million annually when approved, but actual collections are higher due to population growth and tourism activity.

About ~35% of collections come from tourists.

Half-cent sales tax revenue is overseen by a Project Oversight Committee, made up of community members who do not work for the school district but help ensure the funds get the best bang for the buck..

March 2026, Volusia's apartment rental market is basically mid-\$1,500s to low-\$2,000s range, depending on the data source and unit mix:

- **Overall average rent: about \$1,585/month across all unit types**
- **Median asking rent (active listings): roughly \$2,000–\$2,100/month**
 - **Typical unit breakdown (2026 fair market estimates):**
- **1-bedroom: ~\$1,385**
- **2-bedroom: ~\$1,700**
- **3-bedroom: ~\$2,200+**



April 1 - there was a ceremonial ground-breaking of the proposed **Florida Logistics Center** at the new site on S Williamson Blvd at I-95 in Daytona Beach.

It will be a major, large-scale industrial park (~3 million sq ft) that will expand Daytona Beach's logistics/distribution footprint. It'll help position Daytona Beach/Volusia as a Central Florida logistics node, leveraging interstate access and available land. It's still in development phases, but entitlements are in place and the project is moving forward.

Land owned by the Coraci family and the project will be marketed by VeeCor Property Management.

Last October, Daytona Beach City Commission rezoned the property to planned development (mixed-use industrial/commercial) allowing up to 6 million sq ft of office/light industrial and 100,000 sq ft retail.

Ben and Lara Coraci Basile (Alcamo Capital) as well as **Jonathan Fox (VeeCor Property Mngt)** spoke at the event.

Other speakers at the ceremony included **Team Volusia CEO Keith Norden, Volusia County Councilman Matthew Reinhart and Daytona Beach City Commissioner Stacy Cantu. Attorney Sam Owens**, whose worked with the Coraci family was there as well.

Also attending was **County Councilman At Large Jake Johansson, DB City Manager Deric Feacher, Team Volusia's Frank Jones and Monty Fletcher, VCARD Exec Kelli Consentino.**

Other partners attending included Dwight Durant (Zev Cohen & Associates) Jessica Gow (Cobb Cole) and Scott Webber (ACi Architects)



THE VOLUSIA REAL ESTATE SCORECARD

The Volusia Money & Real Estate Scorecard is a monthly report that identifies and tracks various key real estate and mortgage metrics that are important to Volusia County's economy and consumers. Compiled by Jami D. Gallegos, MBA, Real Estate Advisor.


VOLUSIA COUNTY		February 2026	
All Property Types		Source: Florida Realtors	
 <p>CLOSED SALES</p> <p>↓ -2.3% from a year ago</p> <p>774</p>	 <p>MEDIAN SALE PRICE</p> <p>↑ 1.5% from a year ago</p> <p>\$340,000</p>	 <p>ACTIVE INVENTORY</p> <p>↓ -15% from a year ago</p> <p>4,751</p>	
 <p>DOLLAR VOLUME</p> <p>↑ 3.6% from a year ago</p> <p>\$314 Million</p>	 <p>NEW LISTINGS</p> <p>↓ -20% from a year ago</p> <p>1,207</p>	 <p>MONTHS SUPPLY OF INVENTORY</p> <p>↓ down from 6.4 MOS. a year ago</p> <p>5.3 Months</p>	

AVERAGE MORTGAGE RATES

Last Updated April 6, 2026
Source: Mortgage News Daily

<p>30 Yr. Fixed</p> <p>6.43% -0.02</p> <p>5.99% 7.08%</p> <p>\$1,569 / mo</p>	<p>15 Yr. Fixed</p> <p>6.01% -0.01</p> <p>5.55% 6.48%</p> <p>\$2,111 / mo</p>	<p>30 Yr. Jumbo</p> <p>6.60% +0.00</p> <p>6.10% 7.20%</p> <p>\$1,597 / mo</p>
<p>7/6 SOFR ARM</p> <p>6.09% +0.04</p> <p>5.29% 7.12%</p> <p>\$1,513 / mo</p>	<p>30 Yr. FHA</p> <p>5.91% +0.00</p> <p>5.62% 6.53%</p> <p>\$1,484 / mo</p>	<p>30 Yr. VA</p> <p>5.92% -0.01</p> <p>5.64% 6.54%</p> <p>\$1,486 / mo</p>

Estimated Principal & Interest Loan Amount: [Mortgage Calculators](#)



Jami D. Gallegos
CEO | Broker | CAM

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www.LifestyleRealty.Group



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GROUP



Daytona Beach Shores Department of Public Safety has officially welcomed **Mark Swanson as the City of Daytona Beach Shores' new Director of Public Safety.**

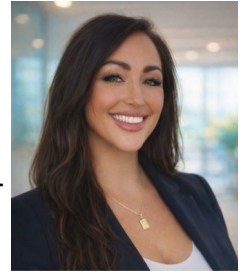
Mark has 4 decades experience in public safety including his tenure with Volusia County.

DB Shores is hiring Public Safety Officers. DBS's Public Safety Officers are triple-certified in police, fire, and EMS, ready to succeed no matter the call.



March 2026....**Bob Lloyd** was appointed **Senior Deputy General Counsel** at Foundation Risk Partners (FRP)...He joins a legal team led by **Chief Legal Officer Tom Leek**

Katie Emerick has joined Daytona Grande Oceanfront Resort as the new Director of Sales. She was previously in Oklahoma City. She also worked at Plaza Resort and NASCAR. Contact—271-7979.



Katie.emerick@daytonagrande.com



Connie Garzon (Volusia Innovation Ctr) has been invited for her 3rd year as a mentor for the **Select Global Women in Tech (SGWIT)** program. **This program** focuses on International women founders, entrepreneurs, and ex-

ecutives in emerging tech sectors as it seeks to boost US economic competitiveness and global innovation by supporting women's economic empowerment.



The March 25 meeting of the Volusia-Flagler Transportation Planning Organization focused on ongoing regional transportation planning efforts, including updates on safety initiatives, long-range planning priorities, and coordination among local governments and state agencies. Board members also addressed routine actions such as reviewing planning programs and transportation priorities while continuing to emphasize a long-term goal of improving mobility, safety, and infrastructure across Volusia and Flagler counties.

THE SUNSET CONCERT SERIES IS BACK!




Featuring SWITCH - BACK TO THE 80s Tribute

SATURDAY - APRIL 11TH - 7:30PM

Enjoy a waterfront evening on the Riverfront Esplanade as SWITCH, Florida's premier 80s tribute band, brings high-energy hits from legends like Duran Duran and Bon Jovi. Known for their dynamic performances and nostalgic flair, SWITCH delivers a fun, time-travelling concert experience. Gates open at 6 PM, show starts at 7:30 PM.

Presented by Al Smith Productions and the Riverfront Esplanade

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

[Click here](#) for tickets.

County Charter includes provisions for how amendments may be proposed:

- by the Council (two-thirds vote)
- by petition of the electors (at least 5% of electors from each district)

then subject to a countywide referendum.



City of Auburndale recently selected Jeff Brown, Daytona Beach economic development official as its city manager.



Auburndale City commission records specifically identify him as “Jeff Brown from the City of Daytona Beach,” noting his role tied to economic/strategic opportunities/economic development. Congratulations Jeff!

Did you know that you can obtain a copy of any deed, mortgage, or land record recorded in Volusia County from 1988 to present, for FREE on www.clerk.org?



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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Fla Citizen Initiatives for 2026 Constitutional amendment...everything is dead

Dept of State announced that none of the active citizen-initiated constitutional amendments met the requirements to appear on the 2026 general election ballot — because no initiative secured the required 880,00 verified signatures by the February 1 legal deadline.

2025 legislation (HB 1205) changed the ballot initiative rules, imposing stricter requirements for petition circulators and deadlines. Therefore, initiative personnel postponed their campaigns for the 2026 cycle due to these tougher initiative rules and insufficient time to gather signatures.

- Smart & Safe Florida initiative sought to legalize recreational marijuana for adults age 21+. The campaign has challenged the state over some 70k signatures and invalidations in court....however, the Fla Supreme Court will NOT be hearing the case.....no explanation....
- “Right to Clean and Healthy Waters” which would empower residents/organizations to take legal action against state agencies that permit harm to Fla's water bodies.
- Medicaid Expansion Initiative which would've expanded Medicaid coverage to adults aged 18–65 with incomes at or below 138% of the federal poverty level to align with the Affordable Care Act.

- “Top 2 Open Primaries” initiative whereby all registered voters (regardless of party affiliation) could vote in that primary; the top two vote getters would then advance to the general election
- Home Insurance Rate Reduction initiative which aimed to lower insurance premiums and prevent unwarranted rate increases and requiring rate cuts for policyholders with no claims
- Initiative Process Requirements Amendment requires sponsors to register a political committee before collecting signatures

As a result, groups stopped collecting signatures and maybe looking to relaunch another initiative for 2028

These amendments could be revived for the 2028 ballot cycle, but sponsors would need to restart signature gathering and meet all legal requirements under the current initiative law framework. Whether they continue to do so remains to be seen, especially amid ongoing litigation challenging Fla's ballot initiative rules.

For more info on proposed amendments and their status, click [Fla Division of Elections' Initiatives](#) page.



A black and white advertisement for Black Pearl Real Estate. It features a circular logo with 'BLACK PEARL REAL ESTATE' in the top left, a circular portrait of Loretta Arthur in the top right, and contact information in the bottom left and right. The contact information includes the phone number 386-527-2230, the email BlackPearlRealEstateLLC@gmail.com, the address 211 E. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32118, the website BlackPearlProperty.com, and the name Loretta Arthur, Licensed Real Estate Broker, Founder.



FLA'S LONG TERM FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Most recent debt report.. Fla demonstrates disciplined fiscal management, maintains low debt levels, shows robust revenue collections,/strong financial ratios that position it for future economic cycles.

Most current, audited numbers (FY 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report)

Volusia County Debt (Oct 2024)

- **Total long-term debt: \$72.6 million**
 - ◊ **Revenue bonds: \$39.26 million**
 - ◊ **Loans/notes payable: \$33.36 million**

County's primary debt load includes:

- Tourist development projects (backed by bed tax)
- Infrastructure (e.g., SunRail extension loan)
- Other capital improvements

Note....Debt declined ~8.3% from FY 2023 due to scheduled repayments

Short-term debt is minimal to none as the County does not carry significant traditional short-term debt (like tax anticipation notes or cash-flow borrowing) on an ongoing basis.

The County operates largely on a pay-as-you-go cash basis for short-term needs....

Volusia's debt is relatively low for a county its size....Most debt is revenue-backed (tourist tax, specific revenue streams) NOT general obligation (property-tax backed) heavy.....No large-scale borrowing tied to general fund operations

1. Total Outstanding Direct Debt

Fla's total **direct state debt**—which includes both tax-supported and self-supporting obligations—continues a downward track:

- **2025 debt report** shows debt reduced to ~\$14.6 billion based on Governor/Legislature's limit on new bond issuances & increased pay-downs

2. General Revenue Collections

General Revenue (mostly **sales tax**) are the backbone of Fla's annual budget and its ability to service debt. Other major source is corporate income taxes...

FY 2024-25....Fla collected ~\$41.1 billion in sales/use tax revenue.

- **Of that amount, ~\$36.9 billion went to General Revenue Fund.**
- **Remainder went to local governments and state trust fund via sales-tax distribution formula.**

Fla's 6% statewide sales tax is the largest single source of revenue (~74% of our General Revenue)

Fla Dept of Revenue Retail's economic data shows Volusia's taxable sales totaled ≈ \$21 billion generating ≈ \$1.25 billion annually.

A key measure of a state's fiscal health is **debt ratio**—ratio of debt service (credit card debt) to revenues available to pay debt service:

- **Fla's debt ratio is ~2.62%, below State's 6% policy target....Consistent low debt ratios enhance Fla's creditworthiness i.e. AAA ratings by all three major credit rating agencies (S&P Global, Fitch, and Moody's).**

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



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



whose career spans software architecture, automation, and complex systems leadership. Blending technical rigor with human-centered design, Kathryn helps organizations build technology that



works, is understandable, and can evolve without constant reinvention.

She serves as a fractional CTO and strategic advisor to founders and leadership teams who have outgrown fragile tools

and improvised workflows, focusing on resilient system design, AI-assisted automation, privacy-conscious data pipelines, and decision-support frameworks.

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

URL: mcgyverlabs.com



Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) and Volusia Emergency Management will host a Hurricane Expo on Saturday, April 18, 10 AM – 4 PM at Daytona Intl Speedway (Pavilion area)...it's free and open to the public.

It's designed to help residents, families, and businesses prepare for the upcoming hurricane season by offering educational resources and preparedness guidance.

It'll include storm-related displays focused on emergency alerts, evacuation planning, property protection, and other readiness topics. Emergency management staff /partner organizations will share insight on preparing for hurricanes. Fire, EMS, law enforcement, and utility vehicles will be on display.

Commercial vendors can reserve a space for \$100 for a 10x10 space, with sponsorship options up to \$2,000) in order to promote hurricane-focused products or services.

Hurricane season in Florida runs from June 1 to November 30



Call Barbara 386-676-5050 for more info.

8 locations around Volusia and Flagler.

www.storitselfstorageall.com

They're nice people!

Feb 23—Deland City Commission took up had discussion on short term rental rentals, which are currently prohibited in the city since 2011.



Code enforcement sent action notices to 48 STR's located throughout the city (in a variety of zoning districts)....

For the record, Volusia, Edgewater, Ormond, Holly Hill, Port Orange, South Daytona DeBary Pearson, Orange City, DB Shores PROHIBIT Short Term Rentals....

New Smyrna Beach, Daytona Beach, Ponce Inlet Oak Hill ALLOW them in certain districts, as well as Lake Helen and Deltona.



First Step Shelter found housing for 26 of their clients in March....

Meanwhile, FSS took in 62 new clients at the same time. 89 individuals stayed in the Rose Ann Tomatore Safe Zone in March.....

Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable Monday, Mary 11, 9 AM Daytona Intl Airport



This will include County Councilmembers as well as mayors/vice mayors and city managers from every entity throughout the County to discuss issues of common interest. It will also include a report from the stormwater management subcommittee chaired by **DB Shores Mayor Nancy Miller and At-large County Councilmember Jake Johansson.**

This meeting is extremely informative and I highly recommend you attend

Continental breakfast 8:30 AM
Free parking.....



The original County Charter established a Council/Manager form of government: the County Council acts as the legislative/policy-making body, and the County Manager executes policy and oversees operations. It grants the county "home rule" governmental powers, allowing local governance in accordance with Fla's Constitution (1968 revision) and applicable statutes.

Volusia's Registered Voters—April 7, 2026 (Includes Active and Inactive Voters)

	Active	Inactive	Total
Democrats	105,217	20,367	125,584
Republicans	169,971	18,148	188,119
No Party Affiliation	102,605	25,060	127,665
Other Parties	16,378	1,744	18,122
Totals	394,171	65,319	459,490



The **second annual Volusia Innovation Challenge** concluded with **Steve Lofvers winning the \$10,000 top prize for TarpBags**, a non-destructive solution for securing emergency roof tarps.

Other major winners included **Tracker**, was 2nd place for its toolbox inventory system, and **LEAF Alliance**, which earned the "Best of Show" award for its legal abuse support platform.

Organized by [Volusia Business Resources](#), the event is a platform to provide local entrepreneurs with funding, mentoring, and networking needed to upscale their businesses.



March 16—Deland City Commission approved an Ordinance regarding e-bikes, micromobility devices, bicycles on downtown sidewalks and using helmets by riders

16-17 years old

Gov DeSantis renewed Fla's state of emergency over illegal immigration, originally declared in January 2023.



It expired last week so he extended it for another 60 days. The extension cites continued impacts from migrants remaining in the state and ongoing deportation efforts, which are described as straining local resources.

The renewal maintains state-level coordination and emergency powers to address the situation.

US unemployment rate fell to 4.3% in March 2026 from 4.4% in February...

U.S. inflation rate for March 2026 was 2.4%...unchanged from Feb 2026

[August/November 2026](#)

County Council At Large

[Nancy Miller](#)

[Mike Poniatowski](#)

County Council, District 1

[Wendy Anderson](#)

[Don Dempsey](#)

[Melissa Thorne](#)

County Council, District 3

[Anthony Gorham](#)

[Danny Robins](#)

[Byron White](#)

County Council, District 5

[David Santiago](#)

[Jason Voelz](#)

School Board, District 1

[Brenda Lyn Beery](#)

[Jaclyn Carrell](#)

[Jamie Michele Haynes](#)

School Board, District 3

[Cydney Ann Reagan](#)

[Grace Kellermeier](#)

[Jessie Thompson](#)

School Board, District 5

[Ruben Colon](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 1

[John Navarra](#)

[Monica Paris](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 3

[Quanita May](#)

[Steve Miller](#)

Daytona Beach Commission Zone 5

[John Counts](#)

DB Shores Mayor

[Stephen Dembensky](#)

DeBary Council Mayor/Seat 5

[Phyliss Butlien](#)

DeLand Commission Seat 3

[Cyntha Pagan-Hale](#)

[Logan Wakefield](#)

Deltona Mayor

[Santiago Avila](#)

[Victor Ramos](#)

[Jason Voelz](#)

Deltona City Commission District 6

[Kimberly Marie Eddins](#)

[Chris Nabicht](#)

[Christian O'Brien](#)

[Jody Storozuk](#)

Edgewater Mayor

[Diezel Depew](#)

[Wayne Thomas McCloskey](#)

Edgewater Council District 1

[Charlotte Hope Gillis](#)

[Charles Martin](#)

Edgewater Council District 3

[James McGuiness](#)

Holly Hill Commission District 2

[Michael Cerbo](#)

Holly Hill Commission District 4

[Damon Sansom](#)

NSB Mayor

[Fred Cleveland](#)

[Lisa Martin](#)

[James Curtis Taylor](#)

NSB Commission Zone 1

[Carl Curtis Hodges](#)

NSB Commission Zone 2

[Jennifer Devine](#)

[Cynthia Amarel Flanagan](#)

Orange City At-Large

[Stephen Gensel](#)

[Dana Knight](#)

Orange City Council District 3

[Brett Marquez](#)

[Sherry Pough](#)

[Dawn Tiamson](#)

Orange City Council District 4

[Cassandra Jones](#)

Orange City Council District 5

[Frances Darms](#)

[Patricia Wall](#)

Ormond Beach Mayor

[Damien Curry](#)

[Jason Leslie](#)

[Lori Tolland](#)

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 1

[Alan Burton](#)

[Melissa DeVriese](#)

[Colleen McMahon](#)

Ormond Beach City Commission Dist 2

[Jennifer Bright](#)

[Travis Sargent](#)

Ormond Beach Commission 3

[Kristin Deaton](#)

[William Sanchez](#)

Ormond Beach Commission Zone 4

[Harold Briley](#)

[Barry du Moulin](#)

Port Orange Council District 2

[Tracy Grubbs](#)

Port Orange Council District 4

[Lance Green](#)

South Daytona Council Seat 2

[Victoria Maxwell](#)

Fla Senate District 8

[Jake Johansson](#) (REP)

[Judy Ngying](#) (DEM)

[Jason Voelz](#) (REP)

Gabriel Wozniak (LPF)

Fla House District 27

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

Fla House District 28

[Purvi Dilip Bangdiwala](#) (NPA)

[Joseph Hannoush](#) (LPF)

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

Fla House District 29

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

[Donald Kanfer](#) (DEM)

Fla House District 30

[Heather Louise Bendl](#) (REP)

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

Congress—District 6

[Aaron Baker](#) (REP)

[Purvi Dilip Bangdiwala](#) (NPA)

[Alexandra Van Cleef](#) (REP)

[Joshua Vasquez](#) (REP)

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

[Charles Gambaro](#) (REP)

[Amr Metwally](#) (MGT)

[Eric Yonce](#) (DEM)

[Andrew Parrott](#) (LPF)

[Jose Valezqueza Cruz](#) (REP)

Congress—District 7

[Marialana Kinter](#) (DEM)

[Michael Don Johnson](#), (REP)

[Sarah Ulrich](#) (REP)

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SUN, APRIL 12 | 10-4

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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.

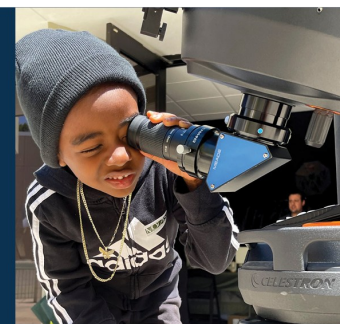
News & Blog


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





MEET ALICE

2023 data from unitedforalice.org


WHO IS ALICE

141,284 households living in Volusia & Flagler Counties are ALICE or Below

WHAT IS ALICE


Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed

47% of Volusia & 45% of Flagler households are ALICE or Below



IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

- Increase in housing instability
- Decrease in Mental/Physical Health
- Lack of disposable income
- Lower employee and student performance



unitedwayvfc.org



FOOD LIMITATIONS

35% of Volusia and Flagler county households have limited access to grocery store which increases food insecurity

RENT BURDEN

57% of Volusia and Flagler county renters are putting more than 30% of their paycheck towards rent.

WORK FORCE

Retail Associates, Customer Services Representative, and Cashiers are the top three occupations that are most likely to be ALICE or below.

HOW CAN I HELP ALICE?

Individual

- Promote 2-1-1 & VITA
- Volunteer with agencies
- Become an advocate for sliding scale services like childcare and health insurance

Company

- Offer hybrid schedule, Competitive Compensation package, or growth opportunities
- Provide paid time off and flex time to support employees with children and family members with health issues
- Partner with local mental health organizations to offer counseling

LEARN MORE: 



SALTY DOG DERBY DURING MANATEE ISLAND SEAFOOD FEST - SATURDAY, MARCH 21 - 1PM, 3PM, & 5PM
 Get ready for the most "paw-some" spectacle in Daytona Beach! As part of the Manatee Island Seafood Fest, on Saturday, March 21, we're bringing you the highly adorable Salty Dog Derby! Come watch these incredible athletes sprint for glory along the riverfront. It's for a fantastic cause - proceeds benefit Halifax Humane Society for animals in need! [Click here](#) for more details....



March 18 - DB City Commission has passed an emergency ordinance to address unsanctioned "pop-up/takeover" event stated by social media promoters.

March 14-15, City had a lot of chaos so they implemented a multi-layered strategy to maintain public safety during remainder of Spring Break.

Commission imposed a temporary curfew

March 20 - 26 for minors under 18....**Hours:** 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM...includes all public beachside areas, restaurants, and bars.

Special Event Zone: From **March 20 to March 22**, a designated zone (typically along Atlantic Avenue) will be active.

Enhanced Penalties: Traffic fines for non-criminal infractions can be **doubled**.

Promoter Liability: Authorities can civilly sue unpermitted event promoters for overtime, medical, and sanitation costs.

Increased Enforcement: * Personnel: 120 officers will be active Friday, increasing to 180 on Saturday, supported by the Volusia Sheriff's Office and Florida Highway Patrol.

Strict Regulations: Focus on ID checks at bars, no vacation rentals for those under 21, and increased foot patrols.

Long-Term Strategy

DB leaders shifted to stricter regulations, including potential for a permanent Spring Break Task Force and fines for the parents of disruptive minors. While other Fla cities have opted for total shutdowns or strict parameters, DB is currently utilizing "high impact" enforcement periods to grant police greater control over large crowds.

March 18—DB City Commission is proposing an amendment to the City Charter to prohibit the City's water utility from approving the use of reclaimed blackwater as a direct source water for injection into the aquifer or introduction into the City's potable public water system. Proposed amendment go on Nov 3 General Election ballot.

Commission ALSO adopted resolution to establish a Building Permit Fee Rebate and Reduction Program designed to manage "excess fees" in compliance with Florida law...whereby they'll waive City fees related the Fla Building Code until Sept 10.

The program ensures that surplus revenue—which by law cannot be carried forward—is returned to the public through rebates and fee reductions. But before that waiver period ends, staff will present City Commission date to adjust the fee schedule in order to prevent another accumulation of prohibited excess funds

March 17 - Port Orange City Council

adopted Volusia's Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information, a coordinated effort to help communities earn lower flood insurance premiums by strengthening public outreach, education, and mitigation activities. It ties into FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and its Community Rating System (CRS), which rewards communities that go beyond minimum floodplain management requirements (other cities are adopting this as well)

Council also bought 3 residential properties that appeared to be in flood zones in an effort to make room for stormwater retention ponds and lift stations. Funds for this purchase comes from FEMA grants (other cities and the county making these same purchases.....another proactive move to address stormwater management)





clientsnextdoor.com

County launched a Beach Management Feasibility Study to create a long-term strategy to protect its coastline. It will

- evaluate erosion risks and storm damage potential
- set plans to protect public infrastructure/ preserve natural habitats.
- ensure that the beach remains a regional economic stimulus
- establishing a countywide plan to help the region qualify for state-level project funding.

It's a joint effort involving beachside cities and public stakeholders.

March 17—County Council took up a contract with consultant Alfred Benesch & Company for new 2026 Impact Fee Study

April 6—Deland City Commission approved Use Agreement for VCEMS Equipment with County of Volusia.

April 6—Deltona City Commission ratified a resolution in Support of Volusia Forever

April 7— Port Orange City Council approved a \$3 M grant from Dept of Environmental Protection for Madeline Ave/Pepperhill Stormwater Pond Pump Station

April 7—Ormond City Commission heard a status report of the City's current Volusia County's Transform 386 Program related to improving stormwater benefits.

For a local business, the easiest sales come from customers who are already searching for the services you offer online. Are they finding you, or are they finding your competitors?

There are 2 paths to the top of Google: the slow path and the fast path.

Most businesses are stuck on the slow path: a frustrating cycle of guessing at SEO, waiting months for results, and spending thousands with no guarantee.

Your competitors who consistently dominate the top of Google are on the fast path. They understand a secret about how Google actually works. It is based on fixing one critical, yet common, mistake. This system allows them to get in front of customers ready to buy for less money and with results in weeks, not months.

Colby's short, 2-minute video reveals this number-one mistake and shows you the exact two-part system to fix it. It is the fastest, most direct path to getting new clients from Google.

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



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

PURCHASE TICKETS



Come cheer on the next generation of entrepreneurs at the
Daytona Beach Children's Business Fair!

Kids take the lead as they dream up a brand, create a product or service, and share it with real customers in this fun, one-day marketplace. Stroll the Riverfront Esplanade, shop kid-made creations, and support some seriously big ideas on Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 9 AM-2 PM! It's a feel-good day of creativity, confidence, and community you won't want to miss!

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

[Click here](#) for more information

Media Biased Chart

Ratings based on online content..not TV, radio or paper content

Ratings do NOT reflect accuracy or credibility....they reflect accuracy only.

Left	Lean Left	Center	Lean Right	Right
Alternet	ABC	AP	American Conservative	American Spectator
BuzzFeed News	AP Politics	Axios	The Dispatch	Breitbart
CNN Opinion	The Atlantic	BBC	Epoch Times	The Blaze
Democracy NOW!	Bloomberg	Christian Science Monitor	Fox News	CBN
Daily Beast	CBS	NPR News	Market Watch	Daily Caller
Huff Post	CNN News	Reuters	NewsMax News	Daily Mail
The Intercept	The Economist	Real Clear Politics	NY Post	Daily Wire
Mother Jones	The Guardian	The Hill	Post Millennial	Fox News Opinion
MSNBC	NBC	USA Today	Reason	Federalist
NewsWeek	NY Times	Wall St Journal News	Wall St Journal Opinion	National Review
New Yorker	NPR Opinion	Volusia Matters	Washington Examiner	NY Post Opinion
NY Times Opinion	Politico		Washington Times	NewsMax Opinion
The Nation	TIME			OneAmerica News
Slate	Washington Post			
VOX	Yahoo News			

THE FLORIDA SCORECARD

METRICS TO HELP SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

View County Data... 


 TALENT SUPPLY & EDUCATION

 INNOVATION & SOCIAL DEVELOP.

 INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH LEADERSHIP

 BUSINESS CLIMATE & COMPETITIVENESS

 CITIES & GOVERNANCE

 QUALITY OF LIFE

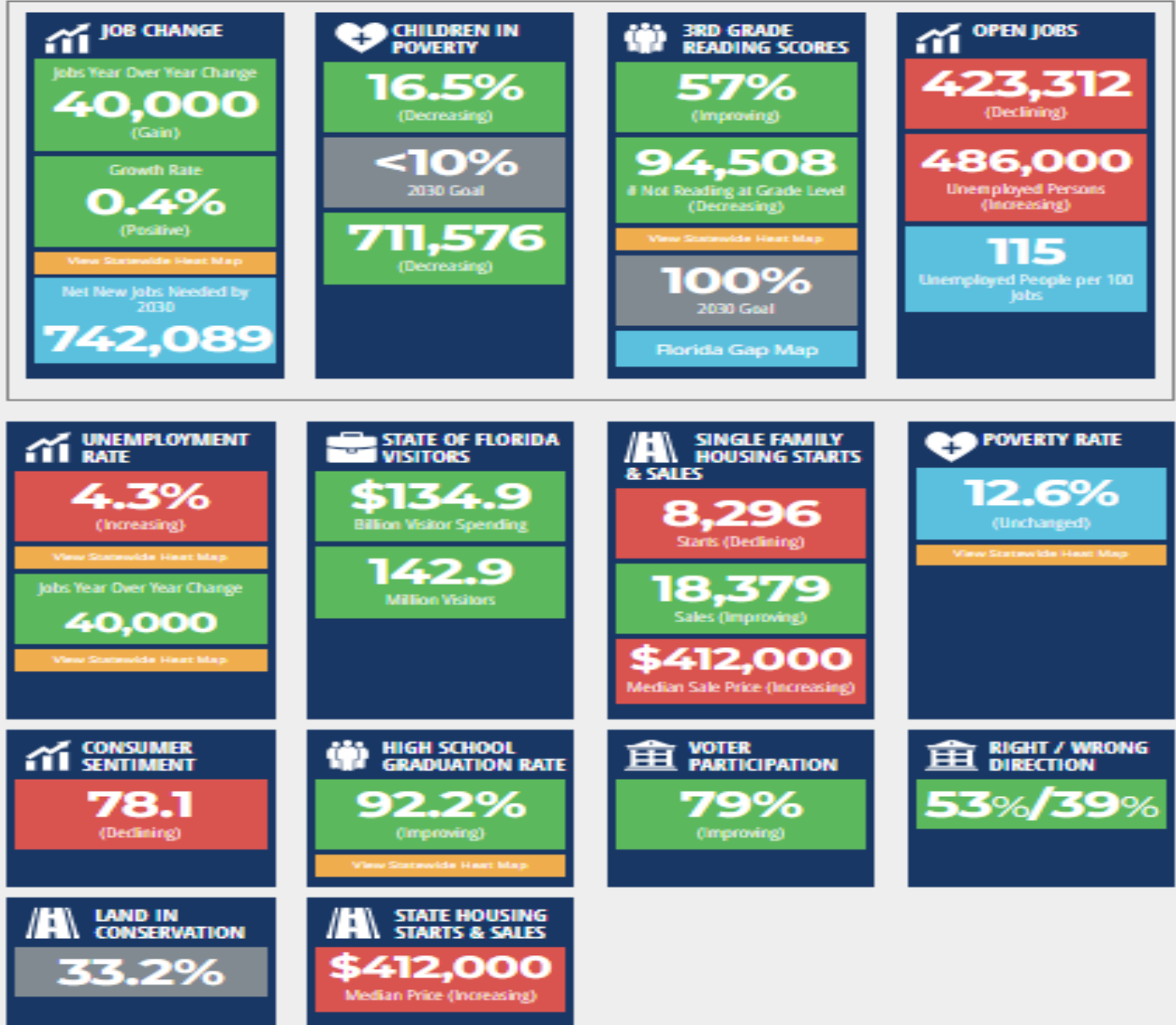
State of Florida Metrics

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

Florida FutureCast

FLORIDA POPULATION 04/07/2026

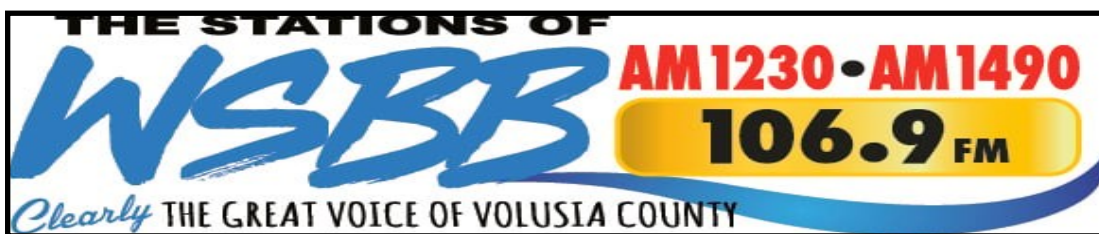
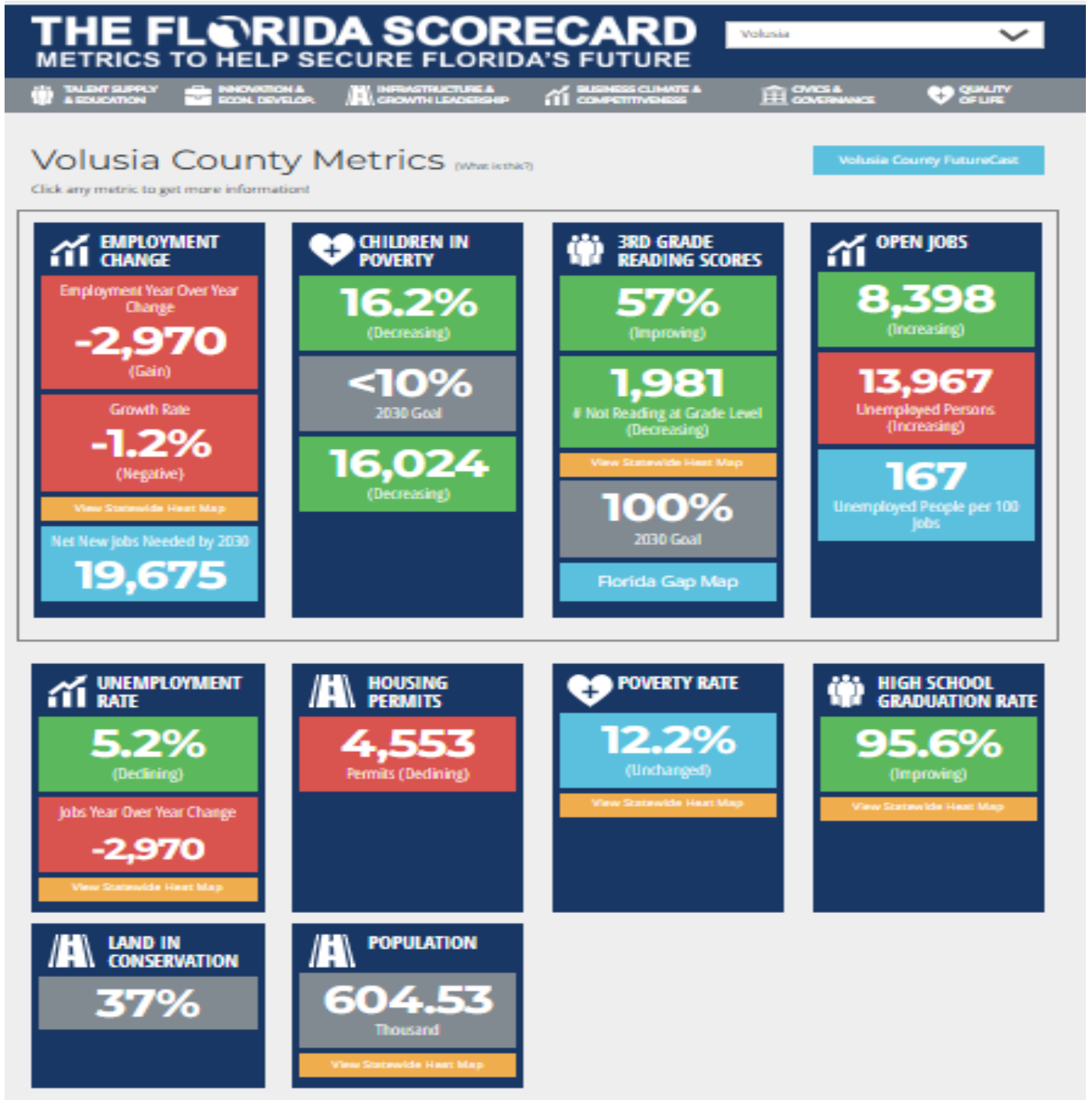
23,540,787



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





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....

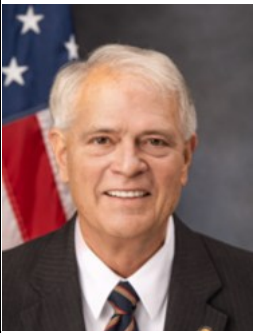
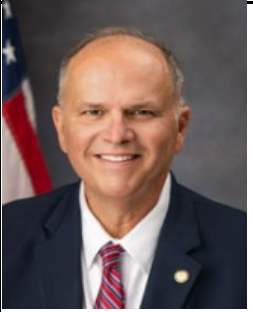


PhemotronSystems

Dr. Femi Ishola, PhD

femi@phemotron.com

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



House Delegation Members

	<p>Rep Richard Gentry R – District 27 1302 Capital Richard.gentry@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5027</p> <p>275 S Charles Richard Beall Blvd Unit 108 DeBary</p> <p>Legislative Staff Jerry Bertsch Erika Benfield</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Counsel Oversight Joint Committee • State Affairs Committee • Government Operations Subcommittee • Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee • Industries & Professional Subcommittee • Transportation & Economic Development Budget Subcommittee
	<p>Rep Bill Partington R – District 28 1301 Capital Bill.partington@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5028</p> <p>444 Seabreeze Blvd Ste 645 Daytona Beach</p> <p>Legislative Staff - Sandy Morgan Christian Velazquez</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Select Collective Bargaining • Ways & Means • Criminal Justice Subcommittee • Housing, Agriculture Tourism Subcommittee • Human Services Subcommittee • State Administration Budget Subcommittee
	<p>Rep Webster Barnaby R – District 29 317 Capital Webster.barnaby@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5029</p> <p>120 S Fla Ave Deland, FL 32720 736-5042</p> <p>Legislative Staff - Drake Wyman Ryan Veitch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judiciary <i>Vice Chair</i> • Criminal Justice Subcommittee <i>Vice Chair</i> • Ways & Means • Agriculture/Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee • Health Care Facilities/Systems Subcommittee
	<p>Rep Chase Tramont R - District 30 214 House Office Bldg Chase.tramont@FLhouse.gov (850) 717-5030</p> <p>5889 S Williamson Blvd Ste 201D Port Orange 944-1010</p> <p>Legislative Staff - Duncan DeMarsh Julie Watts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commerce Committee • Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee • Housing, Agriculture & Tourism Subcommittee • Rules & Ethics Committee • Health Care Budget Subcommittee • Health Care Facilities/Systems Subcommittee

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

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

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

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

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

However, it's uncertain whether this 3.1% spike indicates a new upward trend for 2025. Factors such as rising home prices, inflation, and continued increases in the costs of building materials and labor are contributing to higher premiums.

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Congressional Delegation for Volusia County



Sen Rick Scott R

110 Hart Senate Office Bldg Washington DC 20510

Rick_scott@senate.gov 202-224-5274

District Office 225 E Robinson St Orlando

District Director—Barry Cotton

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

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



Sen Ashley Moody R

B40-B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

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District Office

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

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



Cong Corrie Mills R

1237 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington DC

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

Local Staff - Francesca Audino

francesca_audino@mail.house.gov

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



Cong Randy Fine R

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

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

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





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



Volusia Calendar

Volusia Calendar is part of the Volusia Matters brandCommunity and Government sections....

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

Jim@jimcameronconsulting.com

Community Calendar

April 10.....Daytona Beach PD Policeman's Ball - 6 PM DStC Hosseini Center

April 11–19.... Volusia Building Industry Assn' Parade of Homes

April 12...Atlantic Ctr for the Arts' Horsin Around Event....12 noon

April 17—26.....Jeep Beach

April 18...COAD Hurricane Expo...10 AM-4 PM Daytona Intl Speedway

April 18....Deland Tree Give A Way.....9 AM Public Works Bldg...

April 23..Synergy Billing 20th Anniversary..5 PM..470 Destination Blvd OB

April 30....Pt Orange/S Daytona Chamber Tasteful Affair....Restaurant Showcase...6 PM

May 8....Team Volusia EDC Bd9 AM Daytona State College (Gale Lemmerand Bldg)

May 14....Law Enforcement Appreciation.....Living Faith World Ministies.....5 PM

June 8...VCARD Golf Tournament.....Sugar Mill GC...8:30 PM

Governmental Calendar

March average rents Daytona/Volusia are typically.....

- One-bedroom **\$1,300–\$1,400/month**
- Two-bedrooms **\$1,600–\$1,650/month.**
- Three-bedrooms **\$2,000–\$2,150/month**

....when my daughter, Holley was little and wanted something...she'd say, "you don't need money Dad, just write a check" As of 11:42 AM April 7, 2026.....

US NATIONAL DEBT
\$39,087,745,265,341
 DEBT PER CITIZEN: \$113,796 | DEBT PER TAXPAYER: \$357,069

US FEDERAL TAX REVENUE
\$5,422,301,322,592
 REVENUE PER CITIZEN: \$15,822

US FEDERAL SPENDING (OFFICIAL)
\$7,105,998,414,402
 US FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT (OFFICIAL): **\$1,683,697,176,855**

TARIFF REVENUE
\$355,043,166,659
 REVENUE PER TAXPAYER: \$3,247

US FEDERAL DEBT TO GDP RATIO
 1960: 53.04% | 1980: 34.55% | 2000: 58.43% | NOW: 124.86%

US FEDERAL TAX REVENUE
\$5,422,301,322,592
 INCOME TAX REVENUE: \$2,818,779,986,629 | PAYROLL TAX REVENUE: \$1,795,999,215,705 | EXCISE TAX: \$110,912,881,283

TOTAL STATE REVENUE
\$2,898,998,629,611
 TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE: **\$2,253,780,340,506**

STATE DEBT
\$1,076,955,950,032
 DEBT PER CITIZEN: **\$3,143**

US GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
\$31,305,790,157,263
 TOTAL WORKER COMPENSATION: **\$16,392,993,898,329**

US POPULATION
 343,084,063
 US WORKFORCE NOW: 162,727,077
 OFFICIAL UNEMPLOYED: 7,657,272

US FEDERAL INTEREST PAID
\$6,249,465,232,566
 CREDIT CARD DEBT: \$1,341,980,897,007 | PER HOLDER: \$8,269

US TOTAL DEBT
\$107,342,939,095,543

US UNION WORKERS
 15,656,655
 MEDIAN INCOME NOW: \$51,904
 MEDIAN NEW HOME NOW: \$412,731

US DEBT HELD BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES
\$9,445,558,948,228
 US TRADE DEFICIT: \$859,568,032,614
 US TRADE DEFICIT - CHINA: \$155,302,059,734
 US IMPORTED OIL: \$172,006,202,492

FLORIDA

POPULATION
 23,211,536

UNEMPLOYED
 381,610

FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS
 3,005,712

GDP
\$1,361,603,584,033

DEBT
\$149,938,387,318

DEBT TO GDP RATIO
10.53%

IN-STATE REVENUE
\$167,477,842,859

SPENDING
\$259,576,774,596

DEBT PER CITIZEN
\$6,588

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 Saturday 10am-4pm 1.4 miles off Beville Road

Local Government Links

[Volusia County Council](#) April 7-9 AM, 21 - 4 PM County Admin Bldg

[Daytona Beach City Commission](#) April 1, 18 - 6 pm City Hall

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

[Port Orange City Council](#) April 14, 28 - 6:30 City Hall

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

[South Daytona City Council](#) April 14 - 6 pm City Hall

[DB Shores City Commission](#) April 7 - 6 pm City Hall

[DeBary City Council](#) April 1 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Deland City Commission](#) April 6, 20 - 7 pm City Hall

[Deltona City Commission](#) April 6, 20 - 6:30 pm City Hall

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

[Lake Helen City Commission](#) April 9 - 7 pm City Hall

[New Smyrna Bch Commission](#) April 14, 28 - 6:30 pm City Hall

[Oak Hill City Commission](#) April 13 - 6 pm City Hall

[Orange City City Council](#) April 14, 28 - 6:30 pm City Hall

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

[School Board of Volusia](#) April 14 - 4:30 pm Deland

[River to Sea TPO](#) April 22, 9 am 1540 Cornerstone Blvd Ste 240 DB

First Step Shelter Stats— March 2026

Shelter Intakes							2026			Total
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	
DBPD	54	65	89	123	270	317	14	15	24	971
OBPD	2	2	5	2	8	14	2	0	1	36
POPD	0	2	4	8	9	20	1	1	1	46
DBSPD	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	0	2	8
SDPD	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
PIPD	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
HHPD	2	1	6	10	20	15	0	1	2	57
Volusia County Sheriff	3	3	18	36	17	46	1	2	1	127
NSBPD	-	-	-	2	6	13	2	0	1	24
Deland PD	-	-	-	-	13	14	4	1	6	38
Oak Hill VSO	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Total Law Enforcement	62	75	125	182	346	441	24	20	39	1314
DOC			3	12	11	13	0	1	2	42
Total Hospitals	38	20	50	57	108	90	8	11	7	389
Total SS and Worship	55	145	165	100	79	58	3	5	14	624
FSS Help Line			37	6	0	0	0	0	0	43
Total	155	240	380	357	544	602	35	37	62	2412

Rose Ann Tornatore Safe Zone Referrals— March 2026

All LEO Referrals	11.20.2020						2026			Total
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar	
DBPD	77	2534	341	543	924	732	49	38	56	5294
PIPD	0	0	4	3	2	0	0	0	1	10
OBPD	2	22	27	24	25	25	6	2	1	134
POPD	0	27	25	30	41	40	6	2	8	179
DBSPD	0	20	12	15	10	18	1	1	3	80
SDPD	1	10	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	21
HHPD	8	20	20	48	72	30	8	8	2	216
NSBPD	-	-	-	14	24	24	7	2	1	72
Deland PD	-	-	-	-	43	95	12	14	13	177
VSO	3	3	18	101	79	96	11	4	4	319
Oak Hill VSO	-	-	-	-	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	91	2636	455	780	1220	1061	100	71	89	6503

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



Dolly Vidermen Deidra Whittenbeger
(Volusia School District)



Cliff Weisheimer (NSB HS) Kerry Karl (Kimey Horn)



Kelli Consentino (VCARD)
Mike Schenk (Daytona State College)



Dianna Middleton (Synergy Billing)
Jason Lagosh (NASCAR)



Jason Frederick (Edward Jones)
Chuck Duva



Paul Culver (Culver Construction) Rose Ann Tomatore
(Wholesale Lighting) DB Shores Mayor Nancy Miller



Lee Dunnam (ARCO) Scott Webber (ACI Archtiects)



Antonio and Royce Miranda
(the grandsons)



Ben and Lara Coraci Basile (Alcamo Capital)
Jonathan Fox (VeeCor Property Mngt)



Judge Leah Case



John Reid (State Attorney's Office)



State Attorney RJ Larizza
Chris Conomos (DB Shores City Commission)




Rep Webster Barnaby
Rep Richard Gentry



Pablo Penuela (Pearl Beach Club)
Ruth Smith (Bethune Cookman Univ)



March 27 ceremony at the Volusia County Vietnam Memorial Wall honored local service members who lost their lives in the Vietnam War, bringing together veterans, families, and community leaders in a solemn tribute of remembrance. Speakers reflected on sacrifice and service while emphasizing the importance of preserving the legacy of those whose names are etched on the wall. Speakers included County Chair Jeff Brower, Sen Tom Wright, and Rep Chase Tramont.



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1.4 miles off Beville Road



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 Performance Outrage Brooks Williams
- 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— Modern Irregular Warfare..Friedrich August von der Heydite
- 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
- 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 - Who Not How..... Dan Sullivan Ben Hardy
- Jeff Brower Life Force Tony Robbins
- Jenny Nazek - When Things Fall Apart and Places that Scare You
- 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
- 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 Bruner - 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 - Hawaiian Honeymoon Murders...Glenn Storch
- 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—Bible in 52 Weeks .. Dr Kim Moore
- 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 Nowwiski Creature from Jekyll Island...Edward Griffin
- 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 Wolff
- Vic Baker - Government Gangsters Kash Patel
- Victoria Fahlberg Cost of Discipleship.....Deitrik Bonhoeffer
- 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.