

# DEBARY DIGEST



## IN THIS ISSUE:

4th of July Freedom Fest



History Harvest Event



Upcoming Road Closures



Upcoming Fall Sports



Council in the  
Community



The Historic Preservation Board of the City of DeBary invites you to join us for a

## History Harvest

to preserve and celebrate the rich history of our community!

The multi-purpose fields at Rob Sullivan Park will be



# Closed for maintenance

Beginning June 10th-  
August 30th



## ● CALLING LONG-TIME DEBARY RESIDENTS

July 8th | 9am-2pm  
DeBary City Hall (16 Colomba Road)

*Join us for this drop-in event!*

Community members are invited to bring and share their letters, photographs, and other objects from the time period prior to 1993. The UCF Public History Team will be on hand to scan and digitize these artifacts, ensuring that they are preserved for future generations to explore and enjoy. Call 386-668-2040 or email [history@debary.org](mailto:history@debary.org) for more info.

## ● FIELD CLOSURE AT ROB SULLIVAN PARK

The multi-purpose fields at Rob Sullivan Park will be CLOSED from June 10th to August 30th for maintenance. We are revitalizing the fields after extensive use from year-round programs, user groups, and rentals. During this period, alternative field space is available at River City Nature Park (200 Barwick Rd.) on the large grass field at the front of the park. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

# UPCOMING ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:

## Proactive Initiatives for Traffic and Stormwater Infrastructure

Many cities face challenges in installing the necessary infrastructure in tandem with growth. Too often, infrastructure is added after buildings or homes are constructed, significantly increasing costs for governments. In addition, delaying storm water infrastructure improvements can negatively impact communities. In DeBary, we have incorporated necessary infrastructure into our strategic plan for all properties entitled and zoned decades ago. Currently, we are working on three major road improvements to enhance traffic flow and public safety

## CITY MANAGER'S CORNER



DEBARY CITY MANAGER  
CARMEN ROSAMONDA

### Ft. Florida Road Reconstruction

*(Barwick Road to the  
Railroad tracks)*

**Details:** This segment of Ft. Florida Road is being totally reconstructed which includes but not limited to strengthening and raising the base of the road, improving drainage and adding a 10' multiuse trail on the south side of the street.

**Funding:** The cost for this improvement is paid from mobility fees collected from new businesses and residents in the southern area. This reduces the burden from existing residents.

**Construction:** Because of total reconstruction, this segment of the road will be closed from June through December 2024. During closure, residents will be able to use Barwick Road to bypass the construction. For travelers wanting to go north on Highway 17-92, it is highly recommended that these travelers go north on Ft. Florida Road to Highbanks. Use Highbanks to get to Highway 17-92 and make a left turn safely.

### Benson Junction Road

*(HWY 17/92 to S. Shell  
Road | Cost: \$5.7M)*

**Details:** This segment of Benson Junction Road is being totally reconstructed which includes but not limited to strengthening the road base and pavement, adding curbs and gutters, adding an 8' multiuse sidewalk on the north side that will improve bike and pedestrian safety, and significantly improve the stormwater system. Benson Junction Road serves our Industrial District to the north and our new Commercial/Resident District to the south (new Main Street).

**Funding:** The City applied for and received a grant from the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization in the amount of \$4.3 million. The balance of the costs (\$1.4 million) will come from mobility fees and City savings, which we have been accumulating for several years.

**Construction:** The City is finishing up engineering and we are anticipating construction early in 2025. This is a large project and we anticipate road closures and detours. As we get closer to the commencement of this project, we will keep you informed.

### Fort Florida Road (Reconstruct bridge over FP&L Spillway | Cost: \$2M)

**Details:** FP&L owns a 1200 acre reservoir along Ft. Florida Road, known as Lake Konomac. This lake has spillway gates on the west side to manage the water level of the lake. When the water level rises, FP&L has the authority through the Florida Department of Environmental Regulations to release the water to the St. Johns River. The spillway passes under the Ft. Florida Bridge.

**Funding:** The City applied for and received a \$1 million Legislative Appropriation. FP&L will be contributing \$500,000 and the City has already budgeted \$500,000.

**Construction:** The City is currently in-process of engineering the project which is expected to be completed by March 2025. Construction will take place November 2025 through June 2026, which is outside hurricane season. Unfortunately, this will require a portion Fort Florida Road to be closed.

We know that temporary road closures can disrupt daily routines, but by taking these proactive steps now, we're ensuring our city remains safe from flooding and hazardous roads in the future. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to make our community safer and stronger.

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

**Hurricane season is June 1st - November 30th**

Whether this is your first hurricane season in DeBary or you are a seasoned Floridian, it is important to prepare for hurricane season BEFORE the first storm is detected. Hurricanes are not just a coastal problem. Hurricane effects such as storms, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding can also affect our City, so it is important to be prepared!



## STAY INFORMED

- Download Volusia County's Emergency Preparedness App.
- Sign up for telephone notifications with AlertVolusia



- Scan the QR code to sign up to for Emergency Email Notifications from the City of DeBary.

## MAKE A PLAN

*Do you plan on evacuating when it is time?*

- If you live in a secure and stable home and do not require any electronic medical equipment, it is usually recommended that you shelter in place.
- If you choose to evacuate, know where you are going (friends, family, hotel/motel, public shelter). Volusia County shelters will be announced prior to a storm.

## Stock up on Emergency Supplies

- Non-perishable food for 3-7 days
- 3 (or more) gallons of water per person
- Manual can opener
- Flashlights & extra bulbs
- External/portable charger with cords
- Matches or a lighter
- First aid kit
- A week's supply of prescription medications
- Radio (battery operated or hand crank)
- Books and games
- Pet's food, water, and medication

Sandbags will be provided to residents PRIOR to a major storm. Sandbags will NOT be available *during* the storm.

Learn more about hurricane preparation in the City of DeBary



## IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR HURRICANE INFORMATION

- [debary.org/publicsafety/page/hurricane-safety](http://debary.org/publicsafety/page/hurricane-safety) - City of DeBary hurricane information and resources
- [www.volusia.org/emergency](http://www.volusia.org/emergency) - disaster planning
- [www.volusia.org/PIN](http://www.volusia.org/PIN) - Weather & evacuation updates, public shelter openings
- [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) - learn about flood insurance
- [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) - help to create a personalized family disaster plan
- **386-252-8000** - 24-hour Weather Line Forecast Service
- *\*ONLY during a disaster\** **866-345-0345** - Citizen's Information Center

During a Hurricane or disaster, City Staff are deployed to different locations to safely work throughout the storm. **PLEASE DO NOT COME TO CITY HALL DURING A HURRICANE.** Once it is safe to do so, storm recovery staff will be busy clearing blocked roads for electrical crews and emergency vehicles. Other staff members are answering phones at the Volusia County Citizen's Information Center. To report a concern to City Hall during an emergency, call the Citizen's Information Center *\*ONLY during a disaster.\**

CITY OF DEBARY'S

# 4TH OF JULY



## FREEDOM FEST

- ✓ Kids Zone
- ✓ Food Trucks
- ✓ Live Music
- ✓ Fun & games
- ✓ Nighttime Spectacular show

**GEMINI SPRINGS  
6 - 10:30 P.M.**

**Fireworks and  
Laserlight  
Show starting  
at 9 P.M.**

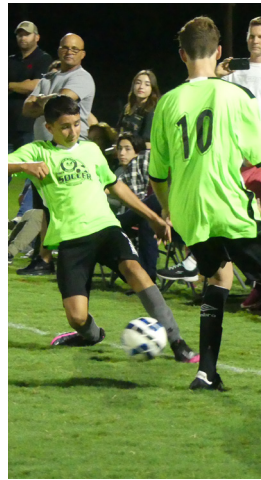


**GEMINI SPRINGS PARK**  
37 Dirksen Drive, DeBary, FL 32713

**More Information**  
[www.debary.org](http://www.debary.org)

Parking is limited to the lots available within the park. Coolers and pop-up tents are allowed but glass, grills, pets, and personal fireworks are not permitted

# FALL SPORTS PROGRAMS



## Pickle Ball (50 & Up)

Tuesdays from 8:30-10:00 am | Bill Keller Park  
Free drop-in program with no registration required

## Fall Adult Kickball League

Co-ed Adult Kickball | Registration: July 22nd - Aug. 16th  
Program dates: September 6th-November 8th | Games begin at 6:30pm at Rob Sullivan Park | Cost \$350.00/team | 10-14 players/team

## Fall Youth Soccer League

Registration: July 29th - Aug. 23rd | Program dates: Sept. 3rd - Nov. 16th  
Grades: K-8th | \$75/child

## Fall Tumbling

Registration: Aug. 5th-30th | Program dates: Sept. 3rd - Oct. 16th  
**Ages 3-5-year-olds:** Mondays, six 30-minute sessions | \$30/child  
**Ages 6-12-year-olds:** Wednesdays, six 55-minute sessions | \$60/child

## Little Kickers

Registration: Aug. 12th-Sept. 6th | 3-5-year olds | 30 minute sessions  
Program: Tuesday evenings Sept. 17th-Oct. 22nd | Cost: \$30/child  
Rob Sullivan Park

## Little All Stars

Registration: Aug. 12th-Sept. 6th | 3-5-year-olds  
Program dates: Thursdays Sept. 19th-October 24th | \$30/child  
Florence K. Little Town Hall

## Jazzercise (Adults)

Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 10am until August 29th, 2024  
Held at Gateway Center for the Arts  
Contact Adrienne Austin for more info: 386-451-8753

# SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

We still have summer sports camps scheduled for the remainder of the summer:



## Cheer Camp (ages 6-12)

July 15th - 19th, 2024

## Disc Golf Camp (Ages 12 & up)

July 15th - 19th, 2024

## Tennis Camp (Ages 4 & up)

July 22nd - 25th, 2024

## Soccer Camp (Ages 5-17)

July 22nd - 26th, 2024

## Baseball Camp (Ages 7-14)

July 8th - 11th, 2024

## Dodgeball Camp (Grades: 2nd-5th)

August 5th - 8th, 2024

Learn more at <https://debary.org/parksrec/page/summer-sports-camps>

SCAN



## COUNCIL IN THE COMMUNITY



**Mayor Chasez presenting Vice Mayor Butlien a Citizen's Academy Pin with the 2024 graduating class**



**Mayor Chasez, Vice-Mayor Butlien, and Councilmembers Sell & Stevenson at the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway**



**Congratulations to our City Manager, Carmen Rosamonda!**

**Mayor Chasez, Vice Mayor Butlien, and Councilmembers Sell & Pappalardo joined our City Manager at the Volusia League of Cities as he was awarded Executive Officer of the Year**

## WETLAND PRESERVATION IN DEBARY



The City of DeBary has made significant strides in environmental conservation by preserving key natural wetlands. Here are three notable properties saved from development this past year:

**Palm Road Property:** This 7-acre site, once slated for over 100 townhomes, is now protected for its unique biodiversity, moderating traffic, and stormwater runoff.

**Margarita Road Property:** Targeted for high-density apartments, this area faced potential traffic and flooding issues. The city secured it for wetland conservation.

**Riverbend South:** Known as Alexander Island, this 170-acre site was intended for 64 homes. DeBary obtained grants to transform it into a passive park opening in 2025, preserving wildlife, and providing a peaceful retreat for residents.

Learn more about the City's wetland preservation efforts at [www.debarynaturally.org](http://www.debarynaturally.org)

We're thrilled to share that Carmen Rosamonda, City Manager of DeBary, has been recognized with not one, but TWO major leadership awards!

- The Florida City and County Management Association (FCCMA) has honored Carmen with the Professional Management Excellence Award for 2024.
- The Volusia League of Cities (VLoC) has named him the 2024 Executive Officer of the Year.

The FCCMA represents professionals from 479 cities and counties across Florida and highlights outstanding local government management through its annual awards.

# Cruise Into Summer Fun!

APPLY NOW



## Must-Know Golf Cart Info for a Great, Safe Summer in DeBary!

Summer is upon us, bringing longer days and nights filled with outdoor fun in DeBary! As you gear up for sunny adventures and evening rides, it's important to remember and follow golf cart rules and regulations. For ALL golf cart guidelines, please visit [DeBary.org/golf](http://DeBary.org/golf).



### Golf Cart Permits Are Required

Driving a golf cart on City streets and sidewalks requires a City-issued permit. Please stop by City Hall or visit [DeBary.org/golf](http://DeBary.org/golf) to fill out a permit application.



### Eligible Golf Carts May Not Exceed 20 Mph in Speed

As defined in **section 320.01(22), Florida Statutes**, golf carts are "a motor vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 miles per hour." If your golf cart is capable of going faster it is **not** eligible for a City-issued permit.



### Golf Cart Citations Can Be Issued by VSO

It's a fact, not fiction! Golf cart drivers can be ticketed by VSO if they are caught breaking any rules and regulations as outlined by the City golf cart ordinance. This also includes drinking and driving. Don't put a damper on your summer fun by having to pay fines- follow the rules of the road and keep yourself and everyone safe.



### Number of Seats = Total Number of Passengers

As expressed in the City's golf cart ordinance, the number of passengers, whether humans or pets, in any golf cart is restricted to the number of seats on the golf cart.



More Questions? We've Got Answers.

16 Colomba Rd.

(386) 668-2040

[golfcartpermit@debary.org](mailto:golfcartpermit@debary.org)



16 Colomba Road  
DeBary, Florida 32713-3264

### CITY OF DEBARY CONTACT INFORMATION

CITY HALL MAIN PHONE (386) 668-2040	WEBSITE www.DeBary.org	FACEBOOK @CityofDeBary	CITY RESOURCES linktr.ee/cityofdebarry
BUILDING DEPARTMENT (386) 601-0212	BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS (386) 601-0210	CITY CLERK (386) 601-0219	CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE (386) 601-0238
CODE ENFORCEMENT (386) 601-0209	FINANCE (386) 601-0226	GROWTH MANAGEMENT (386) 601-0204	PARKS & RECREATION (386) 601-0206
COMMUNICATIONS (386) 601-0221	PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS (386) 601-0225		PUBLIC WORKS (386) 601-0208

### MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL



**Mayor  
Karen Chasez**  
Seat #5  
kchasez@debary.org



**Vice Mayor  
Phyllis Butlien**  
Seat #4  
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**Council Member  
Patricia Stevenson**  
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**Council Member  
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**Council Member  
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