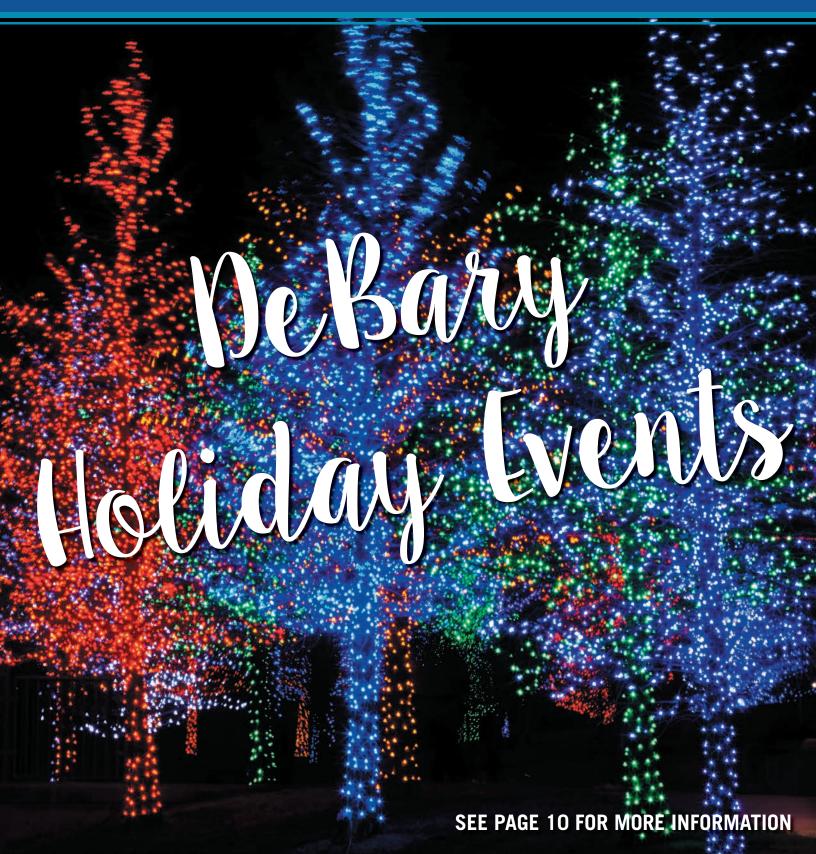


# DeBary Digest

Building Our Community

Fall 2020 | DeBary.org



#### **CITY MANAGER'S CORNER**

#### **DEBARY'S COVID – 19 EXPERIENCE**

The DeBary City Council has completed the budget process for fiscal year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. The City Council continued our focus on Improving Community Infrastructure, Organization Financial Stability and Organization Performance. Last year, the City Council made a business decision to raise our ad valorem rate to 3.5 mils



to accelerate critical stormwater projects, Woodbound Lakes and Valencia Road. These projects are scheduled to begin construction in January/February 2021. These residents have been waiting more than 10 years to get these projects done. The City Council made and kept their promise to reduce the ad valorem back to our baseline rate of 2.9247 mils.

This budget year, the City Council is again targeting another long standing project with the approval of the DeBary Elementary Traffic Improvement Project. This problem has been existing for more than 10 years and we were successful in negotiating with Volusia County School Board to start the process of designing, engineering, procurement and construction of a new entrance to the school off of Donald E. Smith Boulevard. The City will be splitting the cost 50-50 with the School Board.

Even though DeBary has the cost for engineering in our FY 2019/2020 budget, we had to wait until the Volusia School Board committed to the project in their FY 2020/2021 budget. Once the City received the School Board commitment, we fully funded our share in our FY 2020/2021 budget. Since this is a School Board project, they will be controlling all engineering, procurement and construction management. We are finalizing the Joint Partnering Agreement at the time of this article. The project completion is estimated to be December 2021.

The concept of the new design is move the ingress/egress onto Donald E. Smith Blvd. Car stacking will occur on school property (2 lanes) and Donald E. Smith Blvd. (dedicated turn lane) rather than Highbanks Rd. Traffic will turn into the school property, circle around the existing parking lot and back out to Donald Smith Blvd. The current front entrance will be closed. The orange lines are sidewalks.

Thank you to the DeBary City Council for their leadership in solving these long standing problems.



Carmen Rosamonda City Manager

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION UPDATE**



Our Communications Department strives to be best source of information about DeBary government to ensure transparency, engender trust, raise awareness, and empower citizens to be knowledgeable participants in City government.

With the increasing accessibility of social media, very often, people will post questions about City policies, activities, or events on social media on pages that are not associated with the City. Unfortunately, many times, the responses received are incorrect or missing important facts which only causes confusion. To ensure you are receiving the correct information, please follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and check our website for updates. If you have questions, please email info@debary.org or call 386-668-2040 rather than post, as staff cannot respond to social media posts. City staff will typically respond immediately during work hours or at most within 24 business hours after a message is left.



### Know Your Watering Days

# Watering Restrictions

Watering is only allowed before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

Time of year	Odd numbered or no addresses	Even numbered addresses
Daylight Savings Time (Spring & Summer)	Wednesday/Saturday	Thursday/Sunday
Eastern Standard Time (Fall & Winter)	Saturday	Sunday

For information about the watering restrictions and exceptions, visit www.sjrwmd.com/wateringrestrictions

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FROM FIRE CHIEF RONNIE LONG

The DeBary Fire Department wishes all a happy and safe holiday season!

#### **HALLOWEEN**

- Plan a route in advance. Make sure the route is lit by street lights and has sidewalks. Use flashlights and/or reflective material.
- Make sure costumes are not too long so there is no trip hazard.
- ALWAYS inspect your children's candy before you allow them to eat it.

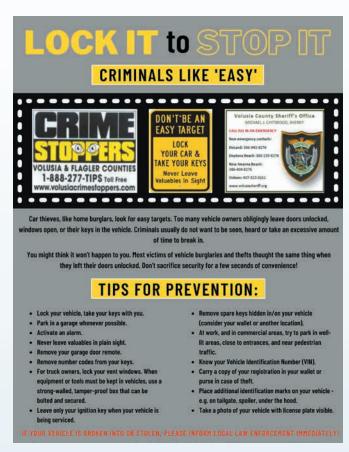
#### THANKSGIVING

- Keep children away from the stove, hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them and replace their batteries if needed.
- When frying a turkey, keep the turkey fryer at least 10 ft away from the house. Place the fryer on flat ground and use a thawed turkey and water to test the oil height when placing the turkey in the fryer.

Dry the turkey off and remove all water from the fryer before placing the oil into the pot for frying. Remember that the frying lid can become very hot and can cause burns. Always keep children and animals away from the frying area and always have a fire extinguisher handy.

#### **CHRISTMAS**

- Make sure all chimney equipment functions properly and are cleaned annually.
- Never leave burning candles unattended. Don't burn candles near trees, curtains, or any other flammable item.
- Decorate your Christmas tree with children in mind; move ornaments out of reach.
- If using a real tree, make sure you water it properly and check for dying limbs.
- Check lights for frayed or bad wiring before placing on the tree.
- Make sure there are no trip hazards around the tree, presents, or near the fire place





# DEBARY'S NEW SHERIFF'S OFFICE DISTRICT COMMANDER CAPTAIN GEORGE MADDOX



In July, The Sheriff's Office in DeBary welcomed its new District Commander, Captain George Maddox. Captain Maddox was born and raised in Central Florida and began his career in law enforcement with the Daytona Beach Police Department. He was later hired by the Volusia County Sheriff's Office and has served over 25 years with the agency. Prior to his new assignment here in Debary, he was assigned as the District Commander in District 3 North and South. This geographical area is located on the most eastern half of Volusia County and covers the unincorporated areas of Ormond Beach, Holly Hill, Daytona Beach, Port Orange, South Daytona, New Smyrna Beach, Ponce Inlet, Edgewater, as well as the City of Oak Hill. Over the years, Captain Maddox has served in various capacities within the Sheriff's Office. He is now looking forward to serving as the District Commander here in the beautiful City of Debary.



## SHOPPING TIPS FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

With the holiday season fast approaching, the following are important safety tips to keep everyone safe this upcoming holiday season. Everyone should keep in mind that criminals utilize this time to target districted shoppers. Therefore, in order to protect yourself from becoming a victim during the holiday shopping season, it is important to stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you at all times. In addition, try and shop during daylight hours whenever possible and if you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.

### Below are some additional safety tips that everyone should keep in mind as well.

- Carry your purse close to your body or your wallet inside a coat or front trouser pocket.
- Park in a well-lighted area and be sure to lock your car doors.
- Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. Check the back seat and around the car before getting in.
- Avoid carrying cash if at all possible. Use credit cards instead.
- Double check that you have your credit cards and wallet after you pay for your items.
- Save all receipts. Print and save all confirmations from your online purchases.
- If you are shopping with your children, talk to them ahead of time about what to do if they get lost in the crowd.
- When shopping online use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or "https" in the URL address.
- Beware of online "bargains" from companies with whom you are unfamiliar—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

#### **COVID-19 INFORMATION**

The City continues to provide up to date information on testing, testing results, and other important announcements concerning COVID-19. Please visit DeBary.org/Covid. This page has links to official information from the State, County, and CDC. To directly reach testing information, please visit Volusia.org/covid19

On September 25th, Governor Ron DeSantis issued <u>Executive Order 20-244</u> for all of Florida's 67 counties, moving Florida into Phase 3 of Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery.

Executive Order 20-244 includes the following:

- Removes state-level restrictions on businesses, such as restaurants.
- Provides that no COVID-19 emergency ordinance may prevent an individual from working or operating a business, giving Floridians and business owners needed certainty and the ability to provide for themselves and their families.
- Provides that restaurants may not be limited by a COVID-19 emergency order by any local government to less than 50% of their indoor capacity.
- Suspends all outstanding fines and penalties, and the collection of such moving forward, applied against individuals related to COVID-19.

#### **GRANTS STILL AVAILABLE**

#### **ReLaunch Volusia Small Business Grant**

Qualifying businesses may be eligible to receive a one-time Reopening Grant Program grant ("Grant")

of \$3,000 for businesses that have 25 employees or less or \$5,000 for businesses that have between 26 and 50 employees to help them recover from the negative financial consequences resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and relaunch their Volusia County business. Grant applications may be completed at: voulsiabusinessresources.com

#### **ReLaunch Volusia Nonprofit Grant**

The County is allocating up to \$2.1 million in grants to brick and mortar nonprofits. At the time this issue went to press, the application has not yet opened. Please continue to check the United Way website at <a href="https://www.unitedwayvfc.org/">https://www.unitedwayvfc.org/</a> for more information.

#### Food assistance

CUMC DeBary Food Pantry is open each Wednesday and the 3rd Saturday of each month 9:00-10:30 AM to distribute bags of groceries to those in need. CUMC is located at 41 West Highbanks Road, DeBary.

#### Mortgage, rental and utility assistance

Volusia County's Community Assistance Division is able to provide up to \$2,000 in rent and utility assistance. Call 386-239-7757 to schedule an appointment. Volusia County is providing mortgage assistance for qualified homeowners. More information for the program can be found at: <a href="https://www.volusia.org/services/community-services/community-assistance/housing-and-grants-administration/c19ma.stml">https://www.volusia.org/services/community-services/community-assistance/housing-and-grants-administration/c19ma.stml</a>



# TOLUSIA ECHO

Preserving our quality of life

The Volusia ECHO program, generated by a grass roots initiative, resulted from a citizen approved referendum passed November 7, 2000. Volusia **ECHO** provides grant funds to finance acquisition, restoration, construction or improvement of facilities to be used for environmental, cultural, historical and outdoor recreational purposes. Resolution 2000-156 states: It is the intent of the **County Council that the** funds be allocated throughout the County to provide broad geographical distribution and apportioned appropriately among the environmental, cultural, historic and outdoor recreation projects. The Volusia ECHO **Program seeks to enhance** the quality of life of Volusia County's residents!



# PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT ONE STEP AT A TIME







- 1. Never dump anything in a storm drain or into a drainage ditch.
- 2. Clean up after your pet. Pet waste is a significant source of pathogens.
- 3. Throw litter in its proper place. If you see garbage near a storm drain, pick it up.
- 4. Never pour household hazardous wastes into storm drains, down the sink, or on the ground. Volusia County offers convenient locations for the disposal of household hazardous waste during Hazardous Waste collection events, usually offered in November and April each year. Don't forget! Residents also may drop off household hazardous waste at the Tomoka Landfill and the West Volusia Transfer Station.
- 5. Do not put greasy food items down the drain or garbage disposal. Wipe dishes, pots and pans with a paper towel to remove excess grease before washing.
- 6. Maintain septic systems regularly.

- 7. Regularly check your vehicles for leaks (and repair them).
- 8. Compost yard wastes. Use Compost Grass, Leaves and Shrub Clippings as mulch to supplement fertilizers. Do not blow or rake these materials into roadways or swales.
- 9. Motor oil is banned from landfill disposal and cannot be placed with your garbage. Recycle used motor oil and other automotive fluids at the oil recycling "igloos" at most Volusia County fire stations
- 10. Use fertilizers and pesticides only when other methods fail, and always follow the label instructions. Do not apply them when rain is in the forecast.
- 11. Wash vehicles in the yard, not on pavement. Better yet, take your car to a carwash, where all wastewater flows into the sanitary sewer system for treatment.
- 12. Report illegal dumping immediately.

### PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN!







- Did you know that when someone pours, blows, or sweeps anything into the street, it will eventually end up in one of our City lakes? Many businesses and individuals discard wastewater, pollution and debris onto the ground and into the storm drains that may cause lake pollution.
- A storm drain is part of the stormwater system that collects rainwater from streets, parking lots and rooftops. In most cases, this polluted stormwater runoff drains directly into one of our lakes through the underground storm sewer system. Please help us keep our lakes free of pollutants!
- Don't wash debris or pollution down the storm drains. This can contribute to blockages that increase the chance of flooding as well as releasing damaging chemicals and organic material into our lakes.
- Don't alter the normal function of stormwater system elements. Stormwater is designed to flow a certain way, so changes to the flow of water in one place can adversely affect another area.
- Keep roadside ditches free of debris at all times. A simple blockage to a drainage system could also cause localized flooding!

# DEBARY RESIDENT INDUCTED INTO THE FLORIDA VETERANS HALL OF FAME

By Frances C. Hahnel October 6, 2020

The State of Florida established the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame in 2013 to recognize and honor those military veterans who, through their works and lives during or after military service, have made a significant contribution to the State of Florida.

In selecting the nominees for submission to the Governor, and the Florida Cabinet, the Council gives preference to veterans who were either born in Florida or adopted Florida as their home state. The chosen individuals will have made a significant contribution to the state in civic, business, public service, or other pursuits.

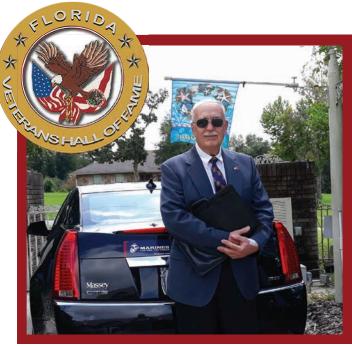
Frank Hahnel served with the 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division in I Corps, South Vietnam in 1967 and 1968 during the height of war, the TET offensive. For his service to our country Frank has been awarded: The Combat Action Ribbon; The Presidential Unit Citation; The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/ Palm; The Vietnam Service Medal w/4 bronze stars; The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; The National Defense Service Medal; and the Marine Corps Expert Rifle Badge.

Frank has earned an Associate of Arts Degree and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Degree from the University of Central Florida and has worked as an Engineer in the Building Construction Industry designing power and lighting systems for construction projects. A local example of his electrical design accomplishment is The Florida Hospital Complex on Saxon Boulevard, Orange City, including the Main Building, Central Energy Plant, Helo Stop, roadway and site lighting. Another example of his work is the Marianna Federal Correctional Institution Main Campus, Satellite Camp, WITSEC Camp (Witness Security), UNICOR (Federal office furniture manufacturing), Central Energy Plant, Secure Site and Site Power Distribution System, Marianna, Florida.

Frank has lived and worked in the State of Florida since 1974 and has been a resident of DeBary for the past 26 years. Frank will be inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame, Class of 2020, on November 11th, 2020, Veterans Day.

He has humbly volunteered his time and talent to help numerous people in their time of need, and because of his unselfish efforts he has been chosen to receive this outstanding honor from the State of Florida.

For the complete 5 page bio on Frank Hahnel and other information about the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame, Class of 2020, please visit: floridaveteranshalloffame.org.



# DeBary Holiday Celebrations

It is the most magical time of year. The City of DeBary wants to ensure that our holiday traditions will continue, despite COVID-19 restrictions, by modifying its popular activities. The DeBary Christmas House Decorating Contest, Parade, and Christmas Tree Lighting will happen, but with a few, fun twists that will make them even more memorable.

DeBary residents are invited to show off their holiday creativity for the whole town to see. Registration begins on October 26th and will be held until Friday, December 4th. It is free to register. Judging will occur from December 9th through December 13th. Prizes will be given for the top 5 scores in each sector. Homes will be judged on creativity, use of lights, and overall appearance. All addresses will be made public so residents can view the displays.

The DeBary Christmas Tree Lighting will take place virtually this year on Friday, December 4th from 6:00pm to 6:30pm. Families can watch from home via the City's livestream site. Make it fun - enjoy some hot cocoa while watching the festivities.

Finally, our Parks & Recreation team has been hard at work ensuring that our beloved Christmas Parade happens. With a Winter Nights & Magical Lights theme, the parade this year will be a "reverse parade" happening at Gemini Springs Park, Sunday, December 13th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm with stationary floats, goody bags, and a fabulous laser light show. Rather than residents crowding streets to watch floats pass by, this year, attendees will remain in comfort in their cars and drive through the floats and displays.

For more information on all these events, including registration for the house decorating contest and parade float, visit debaryrecreation.org





Date: December 13, 2020 from 6-8pm

Location: Gemini Springs Park (37 Dirksen Drive, DeBary)
Float Registration: October 26- December 7, 2020
FREE TO ENTER AND FREE TO ATTEND!

\*Register online with an account or at City Hall. Holiday Lights Required for all Parade Entries\*

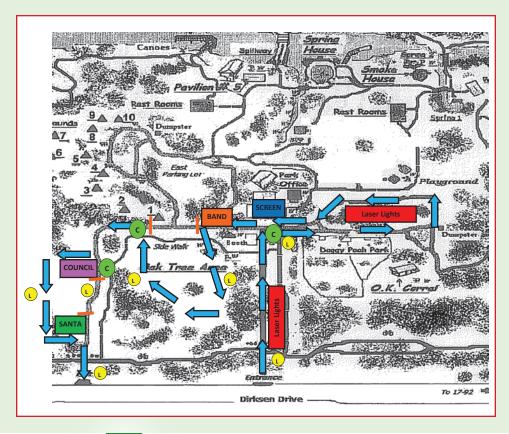
This year we are excited to host a drive-through Reverse Christmas Parade at Gemini Springs Park!

Gemini Springs Park will be lit up with a Laser Light Show, Light Displays, and Floats decked out in lights for families to drive through and enjoy while listening to holiday music streamed directly to your car radio. Santa and other characters will be in attendance as well to pass out goody bags to the children!

Vehicles can drive through anytime during the event window. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

Gates will close at 8:00pm. Giveaways and goody bags are while supplies last!

16 Colomba Road \* DeBary, FL 32713 \* (386) 668 - 2040 Option 4
Regular Office Hours: 8:30am - 5:00pm (Monday - Friday) \* www.debaryrecreation.org



### · Council in the Community ·



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#### **POSTAL CUSTOMER**

	City of DeBary C	ontact Information	
CITY HALL MAIN PHONE	RECEPTION	MAIN FAX	WEBSITE
(386) 668-2040	(386) 601-0238	(386) 668-4122	www.DeBary.org
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS	CITY CLERK	CITY MANAGER
(386) 601-0212	(386) 601-0204	(386) 601-0219	(386) 601-0217
CODE ENFORCEMENT	FINANCE	GROWTH MANAGEMENT	PARKS & RECREATION
(386) 601-0209	(386) 601-0222	(386) 601-0210	(386) 601-0206
PLANNING & ZONING	PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS		PUBLIC WORKS
(386) 601-0204	(386) 601-0225		(386) 601-0207

## Mayor & City Council



Mayor Karen Chasez Seat #5 kchasez@debary.org



Vice Mayor Erika Benfield Seat #2 ebenfield@debary.org



Council Member Stephen Bacon Seat #1 sbacon@debary.org



Council Member Patricia Stevenson Seat #3 pstevenson@debary.org



Council Member Phyllis Butlien Seat #4 pbutlien@debary.org