

AUG. 17, 2022

City Manager's Update



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JOY
106.3fm

Noon to 1 p.m.

State recognizes ballfield where Jackie Robinson trained

Robinson played in scrimmage game at Kelly Field in Cypress Street Park

Before Jackie Robinson made history in 1946 by playing in the first integrated professional baseball game at what was then called City Island Ballpark, he trained with the AAA Montreal Royals on a ballfield in the heart of Daytona Beach's African American community.

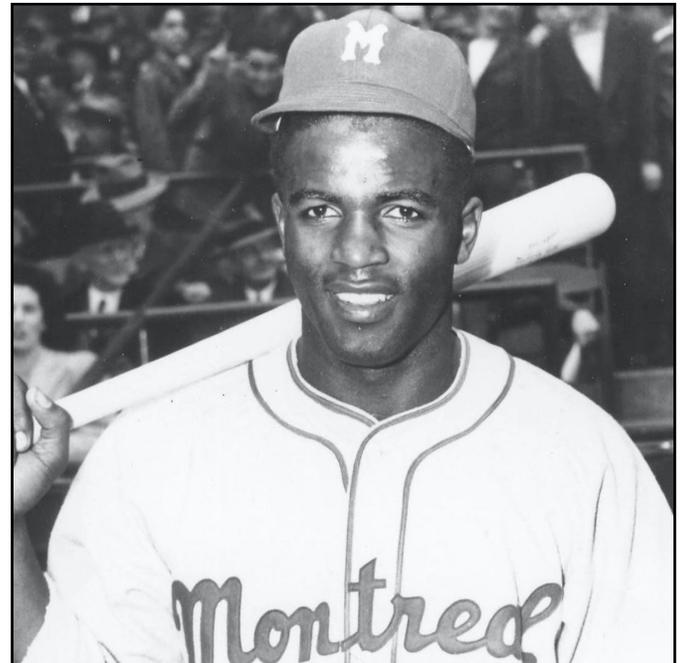
The historic field, called Kelly Field, was created in 1929 in Cypress Street Park, near the corner of George W. Engram Boulevard and Keech Street.

Kelly Field was a recreational area where residents of all ages gathered to participate and watch baseball, softball and football games. It was also the site where Bethune-Cookman College practiced and played their home games.

Other baseball greats who played at Kelly Field were Daytona Beach's own World Series champion Ed Charles as well as Hall of Famers Satchel Paige, Larry Doby and Roy Campanella. In addition to the ballfield, Cypress Street Park included a swimming pool, tennis courts, horseshoe pits, bandshell, playground and kindergarten.

Kelly Field was razed in 2011 for the construction of the Midtown Cultural and Educational Center.

Although Kelly Field no longer exists, several associations have worked together in the last several years to officially recognize the location where Jackie Robinson and African American teammate Johnny Wright once trained.



The Society for American Baseball Research, the Volusia County-Daytona Beach NAACP, the City of Daytona Beach and the Daytona Tortugas advocated to have the site of Kelly Field added to the State of Florida's list of historical sites.

They will unveil a marker this fall so future generations can learn about the historically significant athletes who played on Kelly Field. The marker is through the Florida Historical Marker Program, a part of the Florida Division of Historical Resources. The public will be invited to the ceremony to unveil the marker, which will be at the Midtown Cultural & Educational Center, which is being renamed to the Julia T. and Charles W. Cherry Cultural & Educational Center.

Cypress Street Park and Jackie Robinson Ballpark are part of the city's Black Heritage Trail, which honors our diverse history.

City makes it easier to gain access to public documents

The City Clerk's Office is improving transparency by making public record requests much easier for people through a new service called JustFOIA. Accessible from the city's website, www.CODB.us, the new system can be used for all public record requests, including requests of the Daytona Beach Police Department. The user-friendly portal has an added feature allowing citizens to track the progress of their public record requests.

With the new software, citizens are able to create a personalized login and receive unique security keys to access and track the status of their requests.

"We continue to look for innovative ways to better serve our citizens, streamline our processes, reduce paper and evolve with technology," said City Clerk Letitia LaMagna.

Other methods for submitting requests are still available including in-person, by mail, by sending an email to clerk@codb.us or by calling (386) 671-8023.



Daytona Beach is a Certified Better City for Pets

The City of Daytona Beach has received a *Pet-Friendly Certification* through the "Better Cities for Pets" program from Mars Petcare. The certification recognizes cities that have met or exceeded pet-friendliness standards. The effort to earn the certification was spearheaded by Daytona Dog Beach, Inc., a local nonprofit committed to the welfare of pets.



Certified cities have programs and policies that make it easier for pets and their owners to live a happy, healthy life together. Daytona Beach met its benchmarks across various traits that support pet-friendly shelters, homes, parks and businesses. The certification recognized Daytona Beach's efforts to welcome pets, offer pet-friendly programs and amenities and help keep people and pets together in tough times. Daytona Beach's multiple programs and policies to support a pet-friendly community include an animal tethering policy and mandatory spay and neuter ordinance.

The full list of "Better Cities for Pets" certification recipients can be found at www.BetterCitiesForPets.com.

Citizens Academy Reunion, Jan. 24

The city is organizing a graduate-only reunion for its graduates of its *Our Daytona Beach: A Citizens Academy*, from the first class in 2009 through the most recent graduating class in 2020.

The reunion will be one day, **Tuesday, Jan. 24**, in the Community Room at the Police Department's headquarters at 129 Valor Blvd. From 9 a.m. to noon, alumni can enjoy reconnecting with classmates, meeting new staff including City Manager Deric C. Feacher and learning about recent city projects and initiatives.

Led by Assistant City Manager Bettye Goodman, the city is updating previous participants' contact information in an effort to reach as many alumni as possible to attend the reunion. Unfortunately, not all participants' contact information has remained up-to-date from many years ago.

People who have attended a previous Citizens Academy and have new contact information, can email GoodmanBettye@CODB.us or call (386) 671-8203, so their information can be updated.

The Citizens Academy is one of the city's most popular outreach programs, which provides residents a behind-the-scenes look at their local government.

Save the Date

CITY of DAYTONA BEACH
CITIZENS ACADEMY

Reunion

9 AM
TUESDAY, JAN. 24

COMMUNITY ROOM
DAYTONA BEACH POLICE HEADQUARTERS
129 VALOR BLVD.



Two polling locations host early voting

Early voting is underway for the Primary Election at two locations in Daytona Beach from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. through **Saturday, Aug. 20.**

- Daytona Beach Regional Library (City Island)
105 Jackie Robinson Parkway
- Midtown Cultural & Educational Center
925 George W. Engram Blvd.

The Primary Election is **Tuesday, Aug. 23.** Polls throughout the county will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The General Election is **Tuesday, Nov. 8,** with an early voting period from **Oct. 24** through **Nov. 6.**

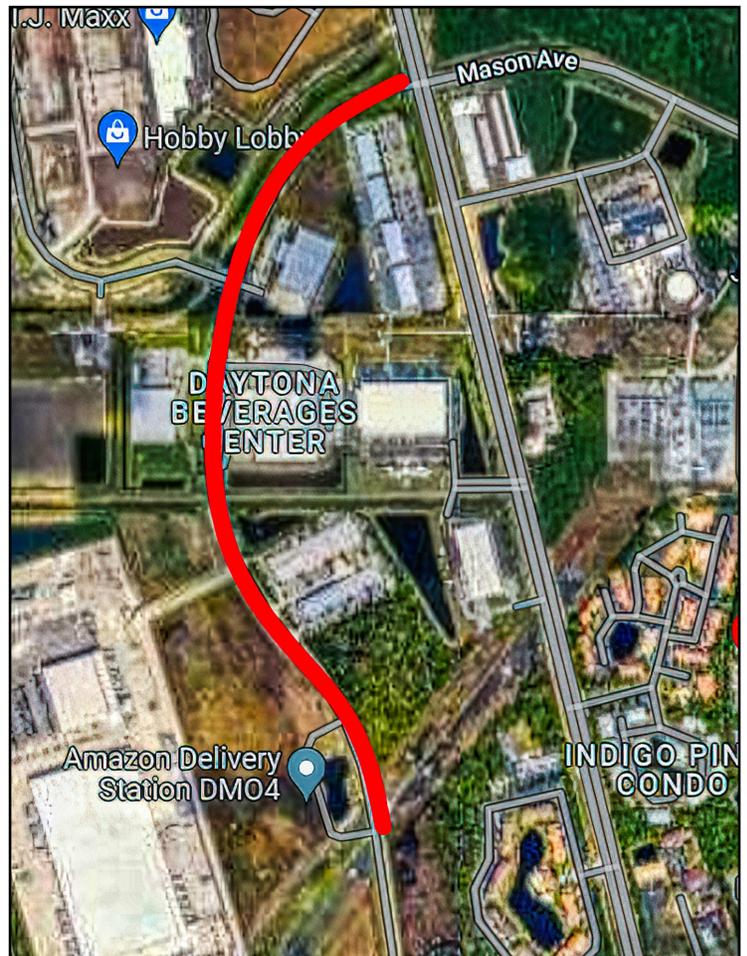
For more information, visit www.VolusiaElections.gov.



Portion of Mason Avenue Extension being resurfaced this week

Road improvements are continuing throughout the city with resurfacing of Palmetto Avenue between Orange and Bellevue avenues having recently been completed.

A new phase started Monday night, which includes the Mason Avenue Extension between Williamson Boulevard to just north of Dunn Avenue. Residents in the area have been notified of the road improvements. Crews are working from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. with the work anticipated to be completed in four to five days. There are temporary lane, road, side street and parking closures during paving operations.



City's Water and Sewer System earns A+ rating from Standard & Poor's

The City of Daytona Beach's utility system recently received a bond rating of A+ by Standard & Poor's (S&P) Global Rating agency after they analyzed the city's \$27.2 million water and sewer bond. The A+ rating is an improvement over the previous "A" rating. The upgraded rating reflects the "utility's strong economic base, historically strong financial performance and robust management policies." An improved bond rating is important because it allows the city to borrow money at a lower rate, ultimately saving taxpayers' money. It is also an indication of the utility's financial stability.

In S&P's written analysis they stated, "The stable outlook reflects our expectation that the utility will maintain its strong financial metrics while funding capital needs. We believe that the annual rate studies and implemented rate increases, in addition to a growing economic base, will support the utility's strong financials." Additionally they added, "The recent restructuring has kept rates affordable, as single-family residential water and sewer rates have been slightly decreased while multi-family rates have been slightly increased. For a single-family residence with average monthly water and wastewater consumption of 4,000 gallons, the water bill is \$29.75 and the sewer bill is \$43.55."

The City of Daytona Beach, as a whole, has an overall bond rating of AA.

Daytona Beach's

FOOTBALL KICKOFF PARTY

Free event at Daytona Stadium Saturday

The city is hosting a Football Kickoff Party Saturday at Daytona Stadium. Attendees can enjoy free country, pop and rock concerts, school performances and more from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. including:

- Local school cheerleaders, mascots and marching band performances
- Regional qualifying for national Punt, Pass and Kick USA competition
- Tailgating in the facility's expansive parking lot

Admission is free and concessions will be available. Tailgating is \$10, and RVs are \$20. Outside food will be allowed in tailgating area only so bring the grills and enjoy cooking and a day full of fun activities. There will be a tailgate contest with judging at 2 p.m. by WVYB 103.3 The Vibe's DJ Tremble and HOT 94.1 DJ Jay Love. First place winner will receive a \$300 Academy Sports + Outdoors gift card. For more information or to register for tailgating, visit www.CODB.us/FootballParty.

The event is sponsored in part by Academy Sports + Outdoors, Advent Health, One Daytona, Tanger Outlets, VyStar Credit Union, 103.3 The Vibe, 95.7 The HOG, HOT 94.1 and 93.1 Coast Country.

Youth can participate in Punt, Pass & Kick Competition Saturday at Football Kickoff Party

Youth can participate in a free Punt, Pass & Kick USA Competition at Daytona Stadium Saturday during the city's Football Kickoff Party.



The Punt, Pass & Kick USA football competition allows youngsters to showcase their talents in punting, passing and kicking with scores based on distance and accuracy. A number of NFL players have competed in Punt, Pass & Kick, including Hall of Fame quarterbacks Dan Marino and Brett Favre.

Kicking off the action at 3 p.m. will be 103.3 The Vibe's DJ Tremble and HOT 94.1 Jay Love, who will compete against one another.

Boys and girls ages 6-15 will compete starting at 3:15 p.m. Youth can register at www.CODB.us/FootballParty. Registration will be available onsite Saturday, Aug. 20, as well. A valid birth certificate and parental approval are required, but no registration fee or purchase is required to enter.

Winners will receive awards and qualify for the regional competition to be held in the fall.

Daytona Beach's competition is one of only two in Florida. The other competition is in Panama City, Florida.

FREE CONCERTS ON THE ONE DAYTONA STAGE



11 a.m. Nerd Ranger: With a collective IQ of over 1,000, these geniuses have turned party rock and roll into a science with a big bang.



2:30 p.m. Chris McNeil: From Central Florida, this U.S. Navy veteran's first single, "County Line," has already caught the attention of the Nashville music scene.



5:30 p.m. Lovestruck Robot: From Orlando, this band's explosive and energetic stage show and extensive repertoire of cover songs is guaranteed to get you fired up.



CODB.us/FootballParty