



// Daytona Lagoon, Swim with a First Responder

## WATER SAFETY TAKES CENTER STAGE ACROSS DAYTONA BEACH

### FIRST RESPONDERS MAKE A SPLASH AT DAYTONA LAGOON & BEYOND

Water safety remains a top priority in Daytona Beach, and local first responders are leading the effort to help residents of all ages stay safe in and around the water.

Last week, Daytona Lagoon hosted *Swim With a First Responder*, a community event where safety and fun went hand in hand. Organized by Every Kid Swims, 2 Walk on Water, No Longer Fatherless, Daytona Board Store, the Daytona Beach Fire Department, Daytona Beach Professional Firefighters Local 1162 and the Volusia Sheriff's Office, the event gave participants a chance to swim alongside first responders. It was a great opportunity for children to ask questions, hear safety tips and have fun with the heroes who serve the community.



Fifteen off-duty **Daytona Beach firefighters**, along with deputies from the Volusia Sheriff's Office, volunteered their time to help local children build confidence in the water, equipping families with knowledge that could one day save lives.



Water safety training isn't just for kids. **Daytona Beach Police Department** recruits are also sharpening their rescue skills. Last week, new recruits participated in water rescue and defensive tactics training at Daytona State College.

With summer in full swing, residents are encouraged to take advantage of the city's public aquatic centers, which offer a safe way to stay cool:

- Cypress Aquatic Center: Open Monday through Saturday, noon to 7 p.m.
- Campbell Aquatic Center: Open Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.

Later this month, participants in the city's summer camps will take part in a special Beach and Pool Safety class. The program covers first aid, CPR, recognizing distressed swimmers and basic swim techniques. It also includes educational visits to Volusia County Beach Safety and the Daytona Aquarium.

Whether through community events, first responder training or hands-on safety programs, the city of Daytona Beach remains committed to promoting water safety and equipping residents with the skills they need to stay safe all summer long.

**A BIG THANK-YOU GOES OUT TO THE CITY'S FIRST RESPONDERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED DEDICATION TO PROTECTING AND EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY.**





// Mural Artist Tiffany Urquhart

## NEW MURAL ADDS COLOR AND CULTURE TO HALIFAX HARBOR MARINA

Daytona Beach continues to expand its collection of colorful murals. The latest addition is a vibrant, oversized sea turtle mural on the south side of the Halifax Harbor Marina. Created by talented artist Tiffany Urquhart, this bold and beautiful piece captures the spirit of coastal life, bringing another splash of creativity to the city's public art initiative. The mural features a colorful sea turtle swimming through an undersea garden, framed by stylized coral, waves and marine plants. The mural marks Urquhart's sixth mural in Daytona Beach. Other works can be seen at the Dickerson Rec Complex, Joe Harris Park, Daisy Stocking Park, the Daytona Beach Pier and a city training facility located at the marina.



## DAYTONA BEACH SCHOOLS HELP PROPEL VOLUSIA COUNTY TO HISTORIC "A" RATING

In a landmark achievement for education in our community, Volusia County Schools earned an overall "A" grade from the Florida Department of Education for the first time since 2008-09, marking a major milestone in student success and community progress. Daytona Beach schools played a pivotal role in this historic accomplishment, with both Mainland and Seabreeze high schools receiving "A" ratings, a first-ever for Mainland. In addition, Beachside Elementary earned its first "A" rating since Ortona and Osceola Elementary Schools merged into one school (2021-2022).

These ratings reflect a districtwide commitment to excellence. Superintendent Dr. Carmen Balgobin credited the community's united effort, "This 'A' is more than a measure of academic success; it is a reflection of a district and a community that chose to come together—with purpose and with heart—to ignite a passion for learning in all students."

***Great schools help build great communities.***

## ATTENTION PATRONS OF THE PEABODY AND BANDSHELL: OCEAN CENTER'S PARKING GARAGE TO GO CASHLESS STARTING AUG. 1

Starting Friday, Aug. 1, payments for parking at the county-operated parking garage and nearby surface lots serving the Peabody Auditorium and the Daytona Beach Bandshell will transition to a cashless-only system.

The parking fee is a flat rate of \$10 for event parking. Visitors must show their show ticket to the attendant to receive the event rate. Accepted payment methods include credit and debit cards, as well as digital wallet options.

### Locations:

- County Parking Garage: 701 Earl St.
- Surface Lots – South (orange lot) and West (blue lot): 457 Auditorium Blvd.

# IN THE WORKS



UPCOMING

## **MIDTOWN RECREATION COMPLEX PLAYGROUND:**

New playground and fitness equipment, which includes a decline bench, leg lift and flex wheel, has been ordered, with installation targeted for late August. These upgrades will provide a refreshed space for children and families to play, stay active and enjoy the Midtown Recreation Complex.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

## **MASON AVENUE ROAD REPAVING:**

Improvements are underway on the Mason Avenue corridor as part of a multi-year repaving and safety enhancement project. Crews are currently working on concrete removal, replacement and drill shaft installation to support upcoming pedestrian safety features. The project includes four new midblock crossings with pedestrian beacons, upgraded crosswalks and new sidewalk on the north side of the road. Spanning over 2 miles from Clyde Morris Boulevard to east of Beach Street, the \$12 million project is a partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Completion is anticipated in spring 2026.



UPCOMING

## **HALIFAX HARBOR MARINA FISHING PIER:**

Reconstruction to the fishing pier at east side of the Halifax Harbor Marina is set to begin next month. The pier lost nearly 50 feet of wooden boardwalk from Hurricane Milton. An 8-foot-wide section was torn from support posts, compromising the railing and damaging the water line to the fish cleaning station. Crews will begin by removing the damaged piles, railings, bents, joists, deck boards and timber posts. The section will then be fully rebuilt and reconnected to the remaining pier structure. As part of the repair project, all work will be completed in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards to ensure accessibility for all residents and visitors. **The \$92,331 FEMA funded project is expected to be finished this fall.**



UPCOMING

## **BOOKLAND BRIDGE:**

City staff will meet next week with representatives from Daytona Beach-based East Coast Marine Construction & Design to review final plans and logistics for the Bookland Bridge Restoration Project. The \$269,760 project, scheduled to begin next month, will repair over 100 feet of the wooden footbridge, underneath the ISB bridge, connecting City Island to the Riverfront Esplanade. Work will include resetting existing pilings and installing new decking, handrails and lighting.

**FOOD** | **PLANTS** | **ACCESSORIES**

**SATURDAY**  
SEPT. 20, OCT. 18  
& NOV. 8

**9 A.M.**  
TO **1 P.M.**

**1000 VINE STREET**

## ACCEPTING VENDOR APPLICATIONS FOR NEW ARTISAN MARKET AT YSG

The City of Daytona Beach is seeking vendors for a new monthly Artisan Market at the Yvonne Scarlett-Golden Center, an initiative of Zone 5 Commissioner Dannette Henry. The Saturday markets will showcase homemade, homegrown and handcrafted goods.

**DATES:** Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 8 | 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

**LOCATION:** 1000 Vine St., Daytona Beach

No vendor fee; table and chairs provided.

Complete the vendor application online at

[DaytonaBeach.gov/ArtisanMarketApplication](http://DaytonaBeach.gov/ArtisanMarketApplication) or contact Samantha Gottlieb at (386) 671-5551 for assistance.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### FREE TO ATTEND SOUNDS OF SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

July 18 | 7:15 p.m.  
**Oceanfront Bandshell**  
Featuring Prince tribute band Sir Jac



### FREE TO ATTEND 18TH ANNUAL RUM FEST STREET PARTY

Saturday, July 19 | 6 to 11 p.m.  
**Main Street**



### FREE TO ATTEND SUMMER SIZZLE CRAFT & VENDOR MARKET

July 19 & July 20  
**Tanger Outlets**



### FREE TO ATTEND SUN SOAKED SOCIAL

Saturday, July 26 | 2 to 10 p.m.  
**Main Street**  
Food Trucks | Retail Vendors  
Live Entertainment | Kid Zone



### FREE TO ATTEND MEET & GREET WITH NEW BETHUNE-COOKMAN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. ALBERT MOSLEY

July 23 | 5:30 to 7 p.m.  
**Cherry Community Center**



### FREE TO ATTEND DAYTONA BEACH POLICE PRESENTS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Aug. 5 | 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Derbyshire Sports Complex**