



## **Economic Development Newsletter**

May, 2019

### **The Half-Cent Sales Tax Ballots Have Arrived!**

One of the factors for business location and expansion decision-making is having an adequate transportation system, including local roads. On May 1 the Supervisor of Elections mailed a ballot to all registered voters in Volusia County to decide if a half-cent will be added to the sales tax collected in the County. The mail ballot contains the ballot, return envelope/certificate, and secrecy sleeve.

The proceeds from the additional half-cent sales tax will go for road, stormwater, and wastewater project improvements around the County and its 16 municipalities. This tax, if adopted, will be in effect for 20 years beginning January 1, 2020. In New Smyrna Beach projects would include:

- Improving the SR 44/Mission Dr, Wallace Rd intersection to Canal St
- Providing 4 lanes on Josephine St/10<sup>th</sup> St from Old Mission Rd to Tatum St.
- Providing Safety & Paved Shoulders on Pioneer Trail/Wallace from I-95 to SR 44
- Providing 4 lanes on Sugar Mill Rd from SR 44 to Pioneer Trail
- Constructing a new 4 lane section of Williamson Rd from SR 44 to Pioneer Trail

The mail ballot must be in the Supervisor of Elections Office in Deland by 7 pm, May 21, to be counted. Return your ballot in the postage-paid envelope included in the mailout, and the envelope must be signed by the voter or the vote may not count. A power of attorney is not valid for voting. For your convenience, a secured mail ballot collection box has been placed at every City/Town Hall beginning May 2 until May 20.

For further information please contact the Department of Elections at (386) 736-5930.

# Groundbreaking set for new ALF in Canal St area!

The Assisted Living Facility planned for 115 Washington St in the Canal St area will have a ground-breaking ceremony on the property on Wednesday, May 8, at 10 am. The Southeast Chamber of Commerce is hosting the ceremony complete with gold shovels.

It is anticipated that the four story, 104 bed facility will bring an economic boost to the Canal St area as family visits will bring customers to area shops and restaurants, in addition to the jobs for area residents. The site of the new facility was once the well-known Alba Court Hotel, and renderings of the new building portray an aesthetically-pleasing improvement to the long-vacant property.

This is another sign of the continuing revitalization of the Canal St area as renovated sites and new developments stretch out both North and South from Canal Street!

## I-95/Pioneer Trail Interchange Study to be completed in Spring, 2020

The Florida Department of Transportation is in the process of conducting a Project Development & Environment Study for the proposed I-95/Pioneer Trail interchange. A public open house meeting was held by FDOT at the Brannon Center on April 30, and all of the information presented at the meeting is available of the study website:

[http://www.cflroads.com/project/436292-1/I-95\\_INTERCHANGE\\_AT\\_PIONEER\\_TRAIL](http://www.cflroads.com/project/436292-1/I-95_INTERCHANGE_AT_PIONEER_TRAIL)

Study information provided on the website includes interchange alternatives and evaluation factors:

- Consistency with the Long Range Transportation Plan
- # of Parcels impacted
- # of Potential Relocations
- Total Right of Way Required
- Potentially Contaminated Sites
- Wetland Impacts (acres)
- Cultural Impacts
- Floodplain Impacts (acres)
- Wildlife Impacts

- Engineering issues including emergency evacuation, bike /pedestrian /Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, and traffic delays; and
- Estimated constructions costs.

Contact: Heather Grubert PE., District Five Project Manager - 386.943.5540 or [Heather.Grubert@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Heather.Grubert@dot.state.fl.us).

## Jane's Art Center is NOW OPEN!

In a newly constructed building designed specifically to host many art endeavors, Jane's Art Center is now open at 199 Downing Street - a wonderful addition to the Canal Street area! Jane's Art Center is an eclectic fine art gallery & ceramics center featuring art from American and European artists, and fine, imported French linens (see the "Art of the Table Blog" on the Center's website).

Registration for clay classes and other information is available on the Center's website: [janesartcenter.com](http://janesartcenter.com).

The Center is open 10 am to 5 pm Tuesday to Saturday. Contact: call (386) 402-8673 or email: [janesclay@janesartcenter.com](mailto:janesclay@janesartcenter.com).

## City Business Outreach Program Continues!

Mayor Russ Owen has initiated a program to enhance the City's services to businesses. Chamber President Krissy Chalk will bring chamber support as well.

The program includes a series of monthly meetings to provide business owners with important information on available resources for business planning. The program will also research key questions with local business owners about their experience in the City, as well as interview business leaders in targeted industries.

The meetings will be held at the City's NEW Live Oak Cultural Center, 1050 Live Oak St adjacent to the City Gym and the County Library Branch at 3<sup>rd</sup> and US 1. The meetings will begin at 5:30 pm. The schedule for the remaining monthly workshops:

1. Monday, May 6: Canal St area
2. Thursday, June 27: Beachside area (Flagler, Third, A1A)
3. Wednesday, July 24: US 1
4. Thursday, August 22: SR 44
5. Thursday, September 26: Airport, Manufacturing, Technology
6. Wednesday, October 23: Start-ups and Small Business

*See you at the Business Outreach meeting!*

# **Announcements & Prominent Projects Underway!**

## **Announcements**

- Coming Soon! The space formerly occupied by the French Quarter Restaurant near The HUB on Canal St (corner of Canal St. and Magnolia) is undergoing renovation to open as The Local Pear! oyster shoppe.
- Coming Soon! The Posh Pineapple at 330 Canal St is expanding! Renovation work is now underway.
- A Tractor Supply store is being planned for the SE corner of SR 44 and Corbin Park Rd. Zoning was approved at the August 14 City Commission meeting.
- A Hyatt Place Hotel is being planned in the former Outback Plaza across from Norwood's on Third Ave. Zoning was approved at the November 28 City Commission meeting. Construction plans are being finalized.

## **Private Property Projects**

- Publix Expansion underway! The \$20 million expansion of the Publix store at 1930 SR 44 is nearing completion! The store is scheduled to open in June.
- Riverwalk Condos, NW area of North Causeway: construction continues on several buildings. One of the units was featured in the recent Parade of Homes.
- Canal Street Pavilion: the former movie theatre space on the NE corner of Canal and Orange has been renovated. Owner Dick Rosedale has several office spaces upstairs still available for lease: 956-0668.
- New Commercial Building at 1890 SR 44 (at the east end of Publix Plaza), 8,800 sq ft under construction and planned as a location for day-care: Kid City.
- New Commercial Building at 701 E Third at Saxon (east bound side of street): two units left to lease for professional office, retail, or restaurant: 690-1636.
- Blue Ocean Dermatology is constructing two professional office buildings at the NE corner of W Canal and Duss St.
- Apartments at SR 44 and Glencoe Rd (SW corner): Site work has begun.

## **City/County/State Projects**

- The "Weeping Mortar Building" North of City Hall: Following renovation this building will house the City Commission Chambers, and the Planning, Engineering, and Building departments which will move from their current location at 2650 US 1.

- FDOT study for a pedestrian path in the area of the US 1 corridor, from SR 44 to Daytona Beach: this FDOT study is being conducted by the Scalar Consulting Group: 561.429.5065. Additional information is at [www.sjr2c.org/home](http://www.sjr2c.org/home).
- FDOT project on US 1, from Julia to Andrews with significant work at the Canal St intersection: now under construction; completion scheduled for summer, 2020.
- 5<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge Replacement in coordination with FDOT: in design.
- Swoope Boat Ramp Parking Expansion: NOW OPEN! This project added 42 truck-boat trailer parking spaces and a middle access pier to create two distinct boat launch ramps (v. one wide ramp) to improve ramp usage.
- Alonzo “Babe” James Community Center Splash Pad: in design.
- 27<sup>th</sup> St Park Improvements: now under construction. Includes an ADA all-inclusive playground with shade structures, and new drainage structures. Anticipated completion in July.
- Mooring Fields in Intra-Coastal Waterway: conceptual planning for south of the South Causeway with grant funding.
- Women’s Club: conceptual planning for improvements with grant funding.
- Old Fort Park Wall: conceptual planning for improvements with grant funding.
- Public Parking lot to serve Pettis Park and the Black Heritage Museum: Property at the SE corner of Duss and Jefferson Streets has been purchased by the City’s CRA for the planned construction of a public parking lot.
- Affordable Housing: a duplex is being constructed at the NE corner of Julia and Dimmick Streets by the New Smyrna Beach Housing Authority, in partnership with the City’s CRA.
- Brannon Civic Center: this “signature” New Smyrna Beach facility, “Central Florida’s Premier Event Venue” is available to rent for your event, meeting, or seminar! For rental information call Shonna Green, Center Manager, at 410-2880 or go to <http://www.cityofnsb.com/126/Rental-Facilities>. The website includes room capacities and rates.



## ***BUSINESS RESOURCES FOR YOU!***

- The “Second Wednesday Club” – Small business owner meet-up held the Second Wednesday of each month (except December) at 5:30 pm at the Half-Wall Brewery, 1887 SR 44 next to the Harley Davidson store. Order off the menu & pay for your order. No reservations required! Check out the group’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Second-Wednesday-Club-of-Southeast-Volusia-2048020132078476/>. Contact: Jim Long at 386-402-0071.
- Florida Virtual Entrepreneur Center: a valuable website for start-ups and small business owners. The City of New Smyrna Beach is a FLVEC member, so entrepreneurs within the City can have a profile posted on the FLVEC website, no charge. Contact: [www.flvec.com/Volusia](http://www.flvec.com/Volusia); or call 386-310-8781.
- SCORE offers business training classes and individual, confidential business consulting including start-ups. Contact: Lillian Conrad CPA: 409-7881; Website: [www.volusiaflaglerscore.org](http://www.volusiaflaglerscore.org).
- Daytona State College Small Business Development Center: services for established businesses including financial analysis and planning by a former banker. Website: [www.sbdcdaytona.com](http://www.sbdcdaytona.com) or call (386) 506-4723.
- New Smyrna Beach Visitor’s Bureau offers web listings for tourism industry partners on the Visitor’s Bureau website; restaurants with a Facebook page should forward automatically to the Bureau’s “Eat” section. Contact Holly Blount: [holly@visitsnbfla.com](mailto:holly@visitsnbfla.com).
- Business Planning and Development Information available from the City: includes resident data in 1-3-5 mile rings from a store location; traffic counts; site analysis for expansion. Contact Tony Otte: 566-3941 or [totte@cityofnsb.com](mailto:totte@cityofnsb.com).
- The Southeast Volusia Chamber of Commerce: provides many valuable opportunities for training, networking, and special events. Contact: Sue Williams: 428-2449, [SWilliams@sevchamber.com](mailto:SWilliams@sevchamber.com); [www.sevchamber.com](http://www.sevchamber.com)
- Volusia County Department of Economic Development: services include exporting assistance. (386) 248-8048; [www.floridabusiness.org](http://www.floridabusiness.org)
- Innovate Daytona: this 501(c)(3) group serves all of Volusia County with activities including the weekly One Million Cups in Daytona. Website: [www.1MMCDB.com](http://www.1MMCDB.com).
- Daytona State College: free seminars. Website: [www.daytonastate.edu/cbi/](http://www.daytonastate.edu/cbi/) Contact [Joanne.Parker@Daytonastate.edu](mailto:Joanne.Parker@Daytonastate.edu) or (386) 506-4224
- Online Business Research Tool: users can create customizable report content with information about demographics, employment, housing, spending, and education. Learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/y94kmjru>
- Assistance with hiring employees: Career Source Flagler Volusia: (386) 323-7001, website: [www.careersourcefv.com/](http://www.careersourcefv.com/)

**Contact: Tony Otte CEcD - 566-3941; [totte@cityofnsb.com](mailto:totte@cityofnsb.com)**