

BUILDING CONFIDENCE THROUGH TRANSPARENCY

# BREVARD DELIVERS

FOURTH QUARTER | 2019



**It's About  
"Community"**

Brevard County Government Employees volunteer throughout the year for causes that help our community thrive





**Coastal**  
Health Systems of Brevard

For information  
Call 321.633.7050  
or visit  
[www.coastalhealth.org](http://www.coastalhealth.org)



**For today, for the future, for our community...  
Coastal makes connections for life.**



## Another Side of EMS – Hurricane/Disaster Preparedness

### Emergency Preparedness is a Team Sport.

While the hurricane season officially runs from June 1st through November 30th of each year, Coastal Ambulance and many other emergency management, fire/rescue and hospital organizations in Brevard County prepare year round for the possibility of hurricanes, storm surges and other disaster scenarios.

In doing so, we train throughout the year and prepare to deploy crews for sustained operations with safe, expeditious and professional patient evacuation being a top priority. These preparations begin prior to hurricane season when Coastal joins forces with other agencies such as Brevard County Fire Rescue, Space Coast Area Transit, Brevard County School Board and our area hospitals in strategic planning for the season.

### Storm Ready.

Coastal Ambulance has several responsibilities during the evacuation process. Once the order for evacuation has been given by the Board of County Commissioners, Coastal executes a closely managed plan to evacuate any hospital in the immediate threat area. Once all hospital evacuations are complete, Coastal then turns its attention to those patients on Emergency Management's Special Needs Registry. Once our planned transports are complete Coastal continues to engage in other operations as required by Brevard County Emergency Management.

Under challenging post-storm conditions — power and communications outages, downed trees/hazards, traffic disruptions and fuel/supply shortages — Coastal works as quickly and as safely as possible to return to normal operations bringing people back to hospitals and residences.

### Evacuation Tested.

In planning for such responsibilities Coastal built its facilities in Rockledge to withstand a Category 4 hurricane, maximizing our ability to operate continually during major storms. Coastal's readiness was tested during hurricane Irma when we provided over 150 pre and post storm evacuations/transport for area hospitals and the Special Needs registry.

### Not Just a Fair Weather Service.

As Brevard County's exclusive provider of non-emergency ambulance services, Coastal makes important connections every day for the citizens of our community and this responsibility is not exclusively a fair weather service. For 31 years, during clear weather and hurricanes alike, our staff of trained professionals has safely transported hundreds of thousands of patients to and from various healthcare providers here in Brevard County and across our state and nation. Being tasked with providing mutual aid support to our community during hurricane season is not only a responsibility we take seriously, it is our commitment, a privilege and an honor. Every day of every year, Coastal is on duty and playing a key role in Brevard's medical transportation system.



**Serving Brevard for 31 years.**



**On the Cover:** Brevard County Employees participate in a variety of fund-raising events each year that help others in the community.

# CONTENTS

Largest Baffle Box East of the Mississippi to be Constructed in Melbourne.....4

Brevard County Government: More than Roads and Infrastructure .....6-9

Derelict Vessels.....10-11

Upcoming Events.....14-15

Grand Canal Muck Dredging Underway .....16-17

Beach Renourishment.....18

Space Coast Area Transit Receives Humanitarian Award .....20

Space Coast’s Mobility Week Was Off to the Races! .....21

Mobility for All Campaign Wins 1st in State .....22

Brevard County’s New Emergency Operations Center Under Way.....23

Space Coast Office of Tourism: New Staff & Campaigns .....24-25

Protecting Brevard from Buzzing, Biting Pests .....28-29

**PUBLISHER**  
Brevard County Government

**EDITOR**  
Don Walker,  
*Brevard County Communications Director*

**PRODUCTION AND GRAPHIC DESIGN**  
Space Coast Advertising Consortium, Inc.  
Terry Nail, *Graphic Designer*

**CONTRIBUTING**  
Brevard County Government Departments  
Matt Culver, *Natural Resources Management*  
Walker Dawson, *Natural Resources Management*  
Michael McGarry, *Natural Resources Management*  
Maria Sonnenberg, *Writer*

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Brevard County Government Departments  
Logan Hemenway, *SCGTV*

**WE VALUE YOUR INPUT. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:**  
Don Walker,  
Communications Director  
321.633.2001  
don.walker@brevardfl.gov

## BREVARD DELIVERS

A quarterly publication keeping you informed on projects throughout our County. Brevard Delivers is an additional way for Brevard County Government to continue building confidence through transparency.



*Brevard Delivers* is posted each quarter at [www.brevardfl.gov/BrevardDelivers](http://www.brevardfl.gov/BrevardDelivers). Printed copies are available at the Government Center in Viera, local libraries and offices of the County Commissioners.

**SUBSCRIBE HERE**

**FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES CONTACT:**  
Bonnie Campion,  
*Vice President Sales & Marketing*  
Space Coast Advertising Consortium, Inc.  
Bonnie@SpaceCoastAd.com



# Largest Baffle Box East of the Mississippi to be Constructed in Melbourne

[Project Partially Funded by half-cent tax to Save Indian River Lagoon](#)

In October, the Melbourne City Council approved construction of the largest nutrient-separating baffle box east of the Mississippi River. It is the latest in a series of baffle boxes being installed at points throughout the city in an effort to reduce the amount of pollution going into Indian River Lagoon.

Baffle boxes are underground structures made up of chambers that trap debris, trash, and other pollutants from stormwater that flows off of streets and into stormdrains after heavy rains. “Nutrient-separating” baffle boxes have an added feature that also removes nitrogen and phosphorus – the two most harmful pollutants going into the Indian River Lagoon.

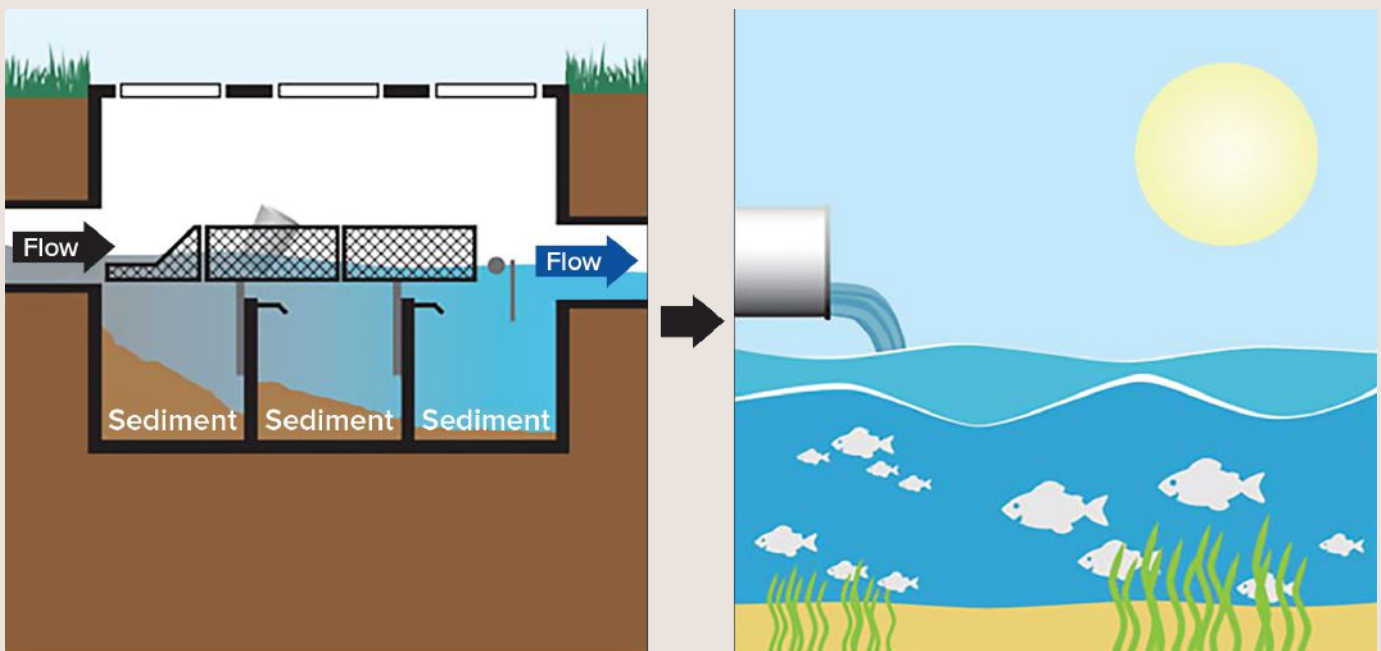
The new baffle box will be installed in the Cliff Creek neighborhood where it will remove pollutants from a 515-acre drainage basin roughly bounded by Stewart Road to the west, Sweetwood Drive to the north, U.S. 1 and the Indian River Lagoon to the east, and downtown Eau Gallie to the south.

Not only is it the largest baffle box to

be installed in the City of Melbourne, it will remove far more nitrogen and phosphorus. In the past five years, the city has installed seven baffle boxes that combined have removed approximately 3,394 pounds of nitrogen and 829 pounds of phosphorus each year. On its own, the Cliff Creek baffle box will remove 3,952 pounds of nitrogen and 797 pounds of phosphorus per year.

The total cost of the Cliff Creek Baffle Box will be \$715,290. It is being partially funded by the Save Our Indian River Lagoon ½-cent local infrastructure surtax fund in the amount of \$347,781. Approved by voters in November 2016, the collected tax revenue is being used to help fund projects throughout the county that are designed to reduce the amount of pollution entering the Indian River Lagoon. Staff anticipates that several more baffle boxes will be added to the City’s system within the next five years with the help from the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Trust fund.

Construction is expected to begin in early 2020. ■



The Cliff Creek baffle box will REMOVE 3,952 POUNDS of NITROGEN and 797 POUNDS of PHOSPHORUS per year

# RECYCLE RIGHT, BREVARD!

**Single Stream Recycling** is an automated sorting process designed to handle non-hazardous items from your **kitchen, laundry room, bathroom, office** and **mailbox**. However, non-recyclable items can slow down the process and risk good recyclables from being recycled into something new. Recycle by Room and include only these items in your curbside recycling cart. **DO NOT** bag recyclables or include loose plastic bags in your recycling cart.



## RECYCLE BY ROOM



### OFFICE

Paper sheets & folders  
Cardboard boxes & tubes



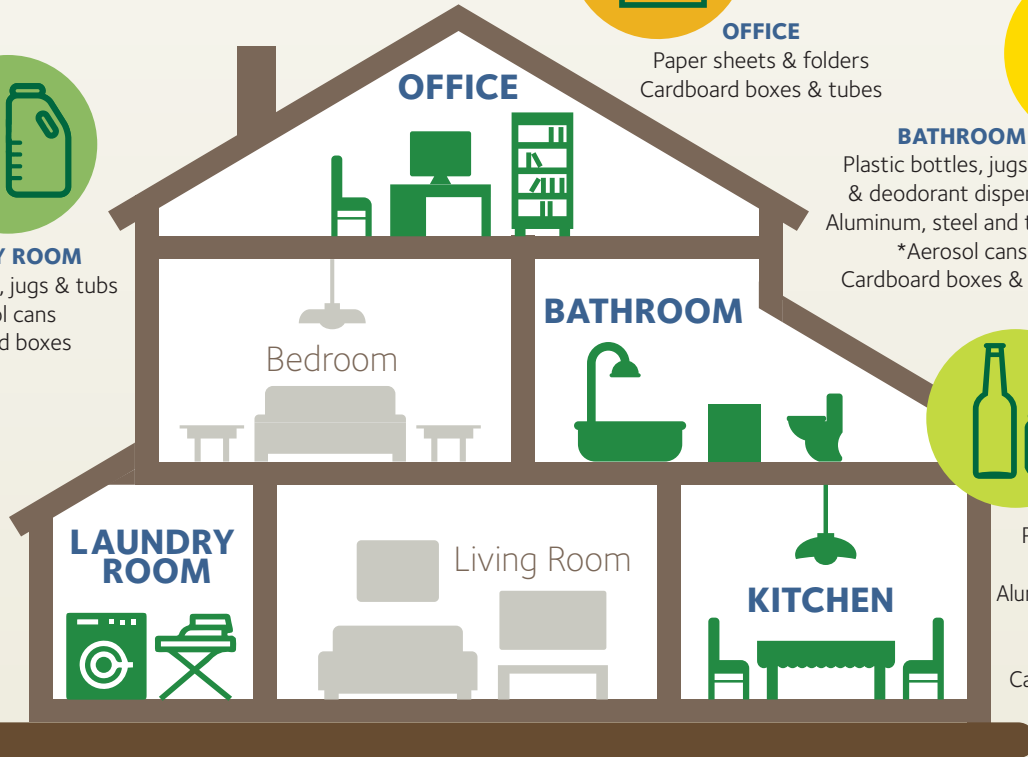
### BATHROOM

Plastic bottles, jugs, tubs  
& deodorant dispensers  
Aluminum, steel and tin cans  
\*Aerosol cans  
Cardboard boxes & tubes



### LAUNDRY ROOM

Plastic bottles, jugs & tubs  
\*Aerosol cans  
Cardboard boxes



### KITCHEN

Plastic bottles, jugs,  
jars & tubs  
Aluminum, steel & tin cans  
\*Aerosol cans  
Glass bottles & jars  
Cardboard boxes, tubes  
& drink cartons



### MAILBOX

Paper junk mail  
Magazines  
Cardboard boxes  
& tubes

When in doubt, leave it out!

\*Please empty and puncture  
bottom of aerosol cans  
before recycling.

# Brevard County Government: More than Roads and Infrastructure



## It's About "Community"

A "beep," "beep," "beep," signaled the arrival of a box truck behind Building C of the Brevard County Government Center in Viera.

The truck was backing into a delivery/pick-up zone parking space, and behind the wheel was Keith Gee, executive director of the Children's Hunger Project. For the second year in a row, Gee's arrival meant multiple barrels of food donated by County employees would soon be available at food pantries across the county for school students and others in need, and just in time for the holiday season. When Gee drove away from the Government Center an hour later, more than 20-plus 55-gallon barrels of food had been loaded into his truck.

The food drive, conducted throughout the month of October, was sponsored by Hands On Brevard!(HOB!). The organization,



made up entirely of Brevard County Government employees, was conceived in 2013. Its mission is to provide and promote community service opportunities for employee volunteers. Along with the food drive, past endeavors by HOB! include a landscape/playground clean-up for Space Coast Early Intervention Center, a "Rescue Me" pet adoption event, boardwalk/bike path construction at the Grant Flatwoods

Sanctuary, Space Coast Connector High and Bike Trail events, the Field of Dreams park build, various oyster reef restoration projects, school supplies drives and a variety of charitable walking and running events to raise awareness and funding for breast cancer,

*A food drive for the Children's Hunger Project and other county food banks is just one of the many charitable events Brevard County employees participate in on an annual basis.*

“Brevard County Government has 2400-plus employees who not only work here, but also live and have families in Brevard County. This is our home, and while we may focus our work days on meeting the needs of county residents from a governmental standpoint – focusing on roads, infrastructure and important initiatives like Indian River Lagoon restoration – I’m moved by how generously we work both collectively and individually to contribute to the well-being of our neighbors and the community as a whole. Throughout the year we’re volunteering and donating our time, money and manpower to great causes and important initiatives that help our community thrive.”

**Brevard County Manager,  
Frank Abbate**

Alzheimer’s and Leukemia & Lymphoma.

The Children’s Hunger Project started 9 years ago at one Brevard County elementary school, serving 27 students. This school year, there are 47 elementary schools participating, serving over 2,200 students. Weekend food packages are sent home each Friday, and there are more than 1,000 students on a wait list. Students are fed breakfast and lunch through



the school system Monday thru Friday, but often times go home to no food or minimal food for the weekend. In January, County employees who helped collect the food donations will gather at the Children’s Hunger Project warehouse in Cocoa to fill the backpacks that students will take home on weekends.

Each year, County employees raise thousands of dollars through the annual United Way campaign. Various events and raffles are held throughout County offices to help raise funds, and employees also pledge individual contributions through annual payroll deductions.

In recent years, County employees participated in a variety of fund-raising activities, including September’s Walk To End Alzheimer’s in Cocoa, an Information Technology and Brevard County Fire Rescue-sponsored Painting With A Twist to benefit United Way, the Corporate 5K to benefit the Children’s Hunger Project, a school supply Give-A-Way, and a chili cook-off for the Brevard County Firefighters Benevolent charity and Driven By Heart, a Melbourne-based cancer support charity.

The County’s Transit Department, Space Coast Area Transit, provides transportation for

Christmas with the Cops, where disadvantaged kids arrive at Walmart and pick out Christmas gifts with a law enforcement official. You will also find them at almost any Touch-A-Truck event in Brevard, where families and their children view, touch, and come inside a transit bus and other large vehicles. Their unique Volunteers in Motion program provides free transportation and assistance to locations such as medical facilities, pharmacies and grocery stores for individuals who are too frail or elderly to use other Space Coast Area Transit services. Transit Director Scott Nelson emphasized that, “While we consider all of our contributions important to the success of our community, perhaps none is more personally gratifying than Senior Day at the Fair. Mobility challenged seniors in nursing homes are provided transportation to the Space Coast State Fair, where they are paired with high school youth who push their wheelchairs around, assisting them with all the fair’s activities and lunch, while allowing them to experience what it’s like to be a kid again for just one day. For many of these seniors, it is the only day of the entire year they leave their nursing home, and one they will always treasure in their heart.”



In October, Natural Resources Management's Carol Gerundo, completed the Chicago Marathon and individually raised \$3,132 to support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Information Technology's Lois Boisseau helps coordinate fund-raisers annually for breast cancer awareness and to support those with breast cancer and cancer survivors. She's Brevard County Government's team captain for

the Corporate 5K, and also is program volunteer for Casting for Recovery's Florida program. The organization provides free-of-charge retreat weekends to survivors. They teach them to fly fish and, at the end of the weekend, a guide takes them on the river and they catch fish with their new found skills. Boisseau, who lost her mother to breast cancer 12 years ago, coordinates an annual Fly Fish 5K fundraiser for

Casting for Recovery. Outside of running events, she also volunteers at a Community Dinner event each Thanksgiving, providing meals for the less fortunate

On Saturday, Sept. 21, Brevard County employees gathered at Riverfront Park in Historic Cocoa Village for a ceremony and two-mile Walk to End Alzheimer's. More than 45 team members – employees, their families and friends – met the team goal and raised \$1,000 in honor of former County Commissioner Nancy Higgs. Team members wore feather headbands, a nod to Ms. Higg's love of scrub jays and the county's natural resources. Participation in the event was organized by HOB!

Martha Pessaro, works for the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program as at the Sams House at Pine Island Conservation Area in Merritt Island. Outside of work she dedicates her free time to a variety of important endeavors including the annual Native Rhythms Festival at Wickham Park in Melbourne. Martha works tirelessly to find local sponsors to support this non-profit event on top of managing the Native Heritage Gathering, Inc. the non-



# YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT

*Proudly Serving Brevard County*

**Palm Bay 321-952-3001**

415 Community College Pkwy SE • Palm Bay, Florida 32909

***www.RingPower.com***

**Ring Power®**



profit charitable organization that hosts the event each year. She has helped this unique to Brevard festival grow significantly while remaining free to the public.

Over the past seven months, Chris Fuentes-Clark has been the Special Events and Youth Program Coordinator for Brevard County, North Area Parks Operations. During this short period of time he has moved beyond the confines and requirements of his county position to help advocate and promote positive community growth and involvement in and around the North Brevard Community. His active involvement ensured the success of auxiliary programs such as the Summer Food Service Program and Summer Fit Challenge where he helped monitor the food accountability process at 12 Camp Sites throughout Brevard with nearly 30,000 meals served, and ensured quantitative and qualitative feedback of active fitness metrics and lessons learned of more than 500 campers to the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) respectively. Moreover, he has been an active volunteer with Veteran outreach through Housing for Homeless (HFH) in Titusville in addition to



*In September, Brevard County employees raised funds by taking part in the Walk to End Alzheimer's event held in Cocoa Village.*

supporting relationships with local law enforcement at Titusville's Police Departments National Night Out. Other highlights include community relation outreach and collaboration with Enterprise Elementary School for their Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Fall Festival and volunteer support for Titusville Chamber of Commerce during their Downtown Titusville Stroll and Senior Expo.

Although he understands the importance of

individual outreach and volunteering he admits that "...leading by example is the only way to inspire others to take positive action to better their community."

These volunteer and fund-raising efforts are just a sampling of the many activities and causes Brevard County employees take on to support their community beyond the scope of day-to-day County Government operations. ■



DRMP will continue our journey with the resolve and desire to deliver excellence and quality in every project we perform throughout the southeastern United States. And as citizens of the places we live and work, our firm aims to make it our responsibility to make an impact that leaves the community better than we found it.




## EXPLORE OUR EXPERTISE AT

[www.DRMP.com](http://www.DRMP.com)

- CONSTRUCTION SERVICES • LAND DEVELOPMENT
- STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
- SURVEYING & MAPPING/GEOMATICS • TRANSPORTATION
- WATER RESOURCES/STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
- FEDERAL SERVICES



 **Join Our Team!**





# DERELICT VESSELS

by Maria Sonnenberg

They may inspire artists to pick up a brush to capture their picturesque and faded glory, but derelict vessels are a headache for folks such as Matt Culver.



Culver, Brevard County’s boating and waterways program coordinator, is responsible for keeping those broken-down old boats from becoming a navigational risk or an environmental problem. “We see a continuous number of vessels left unattended,” said Culver. “Some are fully sunk and are hazards to navigation. Others are environmental hazards because they may leak fuels and chemicals and they are an eyesore. When they sink, they rip up the seagrass, which the fish need to survive. They’re also not the image we want to convey to the many tourists who visit the area.”

The majority of derelict vessels, as these old boats are officially called, run in the 23 to 28-foot range from the 1980s or before, although occasionally larger craft, such as a 55-foot shrimp trawler decimated by fire, are abandoned. Whenever a hurricane or bad storm blows by, there is an uptick on derelict vessels that just could not survive the bad weather. Their owners want nothing to do with them.

Many boats are in such bad shape that no one dares to set foot on them. Others become a refuge for the homeless, who are putting themselves at risk by living on a floating “home” that could sink at a moment’s notice. Once the toys of boating enthusiasts, derelict vessels have come upon hard times as they are sold and re-sold and sold again

as their condition deteriorates with the passing years. “They have not been taken care of for many years,” said Culver. At the end, someone may purchase these for just a couple of hundred dollars without realizing the amount of work and money it will take to keep them afloat. Eventually, they just admit the loss and walk away. “They are typically fixer-uppers someone bought without considering that it may take \$5,000 to bring them back to working condition,” said Culver.

Sailboats and power boats alike are left to rot by the shoreline or on the water. While the majority can be found on the Indian River Lagoon, Culver also must deal with abandoned boats that wash ashore on Brevard’s beaches. About half of the derelict vessels beachside were once recreational boats, while the other half are homemade makeshift contraptions that would-be migrants from the islands have powered with car engines to get them to America. A few may have transported drugs. The Coast Guard is the first line of inspection for the oceanside boats. “The Coast Guard will spray “OK” on the boats after they have been inspected for people and drugs,” explained Culver.

While it is the owner’s responsibility to dispose of their unwanted vessels properly, locating the owners is often difficult. A recently revised law requires boat owners to register their vessel under their name within



They are typically fixer-uppers someone bought without considering that it may take \$5,000 to bring them back to working condition”

*Matt Culver, Brevard County's boating and waterways program coordinator*

30 days of purchase. Although in the past new owners were mandated to put their names on the title, there was no strong mechanism to enforce the law, leading to serious misunderstandings when officers from Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission or the Sheriff's Office come after the owners to pay for the boat's removal. "The original owners haven't seen the boat in years and don't have any idea of what we're talking about," said Culver.

Current owners are charged with a misdemeanor and taken to court to recover disposal costs...if the owners can be found. Even if the officers are able to track down current owners, they usually discover that these folks do not have the financial resources to pay for the disposal of their unwanted vessel. "Many times, you can't even track them down, and in some cases, you discover the current owners are indigent," said Culver.

Getting rid of a no longer viable boat is not cheap; the task costs between \$5,000 to \$7,000 for the derelict vessel removal company to raise the boat, haul it to shore and take it to the landfill. Yes, boats end up in the landfill. In fact, the county makes it as easy as possible for owners of derelict vessels to dispose of their unwanted boats. "The county has waived disposal fees for all derelict vessels," said Culver.

Grant money from Florida Fish & Wildlife and the Florida Inland Navigation District pays for the majority of the removals of derelict vessels, but this requires going through a complicated and lengthy grant process. As a result of the large number of boats made derelict by Hurricanes Matthew and Irma, the Brevard County Commission, along with the Tourist Development Council, also allocated special funding for the removal of the more than 50 vessels that had accumulated in the county's waterways.

Culver works with the municipalities of Cocoa, Melbourne and Palm Bay to keep derelict vessels at a minimum, but the task is never-ending.

The State of Florida counts close to one million registered boats. Time will take their toll on them and many will end up cast off. They may provide artistic inspiration for painters, but derelict vessels truly are a blight on the waterways. ■

**To report a derelict vessel, call the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission at 888-404-3922 or Matt Culver at 321-482-7970.**





# EXPLORE PORT CANAVERAL

## Central Florida's Gateway to the World

Port Canaveral is not just any port. We're Central Florida's premier maritime gateway for commerce and tourism and home to some of the best known cruise ships afloat today. As the world's 2nd busiest cruise port and Florida's 3rd largest by operating revenues, we're one of Florida's fastest growing ports and proud of our role in Florida's booming economy. From cruise ships to rocket ships, we're ready for what the future holds. The sky is truly the limit at Port Canaveral. For more information, visit [www.portcanaveral.com](http://www.portcanaveral.com).



# Primary Stroke Center

Nationally Certified Since 2004

Stroke is a leading cause of death in Florida. Certified Primary Stroke Centers, like Parrish Medical Center, have demonstrated stroke treatment excellence.

At the first signs of stroke, call 911 immediately.

## Symptoms of Stroke

*Sudden symptoms like these should never be ignored.*

- Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
- Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
- Trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Difficulty walking, dizziness, or loss of balance and coordination
- Severe headache with no known cause



The Joint  
Commission



American Heart  
Association  
American Stroke  
Association

CERTIFICATION

Meets standards for

Primary Stroke Center

TAKE OUR FREE  
RISK ASSESSMENT



Visit [parrishhealthcare.com/  
strokeaware](http://parrishhealthcare.com/strokeaware)

  
**PARRISH**  
MEDICAL CENTER  
PARRISH HEALTHCARE

[parrishhealthcare.com](http://parrishhealthcare.com)

Healing Families—Healing Communities®



MAYO CLINIC  
CARE NETWORK  
Member

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Movies in the Park

Throughout the year, the Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department hosts movies in the park. Movies are family friendly and free to attend.

**Brevard County North Area Parks presents “Shazam!” | PG-13  
Sand Point Park in Titusville • Friday, Jan. 24, 2020; 6:30-8:40pm**

We all have a superhero inside us, it just takes a bit of magic to bring it out. In Billy Batson’s case, by shouting out one word – SHAZAM – this streetwise fourteen-year-old foster kid can turn into the grown-up superhero Shazam.

**Brevard County North Area Parks presents “The Princess Bride” (1987) | PG  
Sand Point Park in Titusville • Friday, Feb. 14, 2020; 7:00-8:40pm**

While home sick in bed, a young boy’s grandfather reads him the story of a farmboy-turned-pirate who encounters numerous obstacles, enemies & allies in his quest to be reunited with his true love.

**Brevard County North Area Parks presents “The Little Mermaid” (1989) | PG  
Sand Point Park in Titusville • Friday, March 27, 2020; 8:00-9:30pm**

The story of a mermaid princess named Ariel who dreams of becoming human, after falling in love with a human prince named Eric.

**Brevard County South Area Parks • feature presentations TBD  
Held at Regional Pavilion inside Wickham Park**

Dates: Friday, Jan. 24, 2020; Feb. 28, 2020; March 27, 2020

Event begins at 5:00pm with the feature presentation starting at 7pm



*Hometown Inspirations*

Signature Series Interior/Exterior Paint  
**MADE IN FLORIDA FOR FLORIDA**

**GET 25% OFF WITH SAVINGS CODE: Brevard Delivers 25**  
Viera • Merritt Island • Ace of Titusville • Melbourne • Palm Bay

**Building success for today and tomorrow.**

**321.632.7660 | wjconstruction.com**



■ **Erna Nixon Park – Melbourne**  
**Moonlight Stroll**  
**Saturday, January 4**  
**Starting at Sunset**

Live music throughout the park by local bands, with a few food trucks, and Brevard Astronomical Society bringing out telescopes to see the celestial bodies in the night sky!

■ **McLarty Park Pool – Rockledge**  
**Cardboard Boat Regatta**  
**Saturday, February 8 • 10am**

Central Area Parks and Recreation will be hosting this first time event. Teams will build a cardboard boat with duct tape and race across the pool.

■ **McLarty Park – Rockledge**  
**Seussical Celebration**  
**Saturday, March 8 • 10am**

Come celebrate the works of Dr. Seuss and his birthday. This is a free family event!

■ **Sand Point Park – Titusville**  
**3rd Annual Touch-a-Truck**  
**Saturday, March 21, 2020**  
**9:00am – 2:00pm**

A FREE event for families and kids-at-heart to interact, play, and learn about awesome machines associated with agriculture, commercial logistics, construction, defense, and emergency services and other one-of-a-kind vehicles.

■ **Viera’s First Friday Event**  
**Farmer’s Market & Food Truck Event**  
**Viera Regional Park Community Center**

*First Friday each month; Farmer’s Market 3-9pm; Food Trucks open 5-9pm*  
Brevard County South Area Parks and Recreation and Viera Park Market deliver delicious taste adventures each month. Be ready for a fantastic time and mouthwatering food!

**Health  
First**

# We are Brevard

## We are Health First

More than 80 years ago, community members and clinicians joined together to make health care local. This tradition continues today with our more than 9,000 associates who are committed to improving the wellness and health of Brevard. In the past seven years alone, Health First has given \$967 million back to Brevard in charitable investments.

**Matthew and Kathryn**  
NICU patient and Mother



## Grand Canal Muck Dredging Underway

Nearly 500,000 cubic yards of muck will be removed from the Grand Canal over the next four years as part of a \$27 million Indian River Lagoon restoration project that began in November.

The project entails hydraulic dredging of the Grand Canal system from Pineda Causeway south to the north end of Samson Island. Work includes muck removal from entrance canals entering from the Banana River and residential finger canals but excludes the canal between Port Royal Boulevard and St. Georges Court, which may occur later but not currently included due to manatee protections.

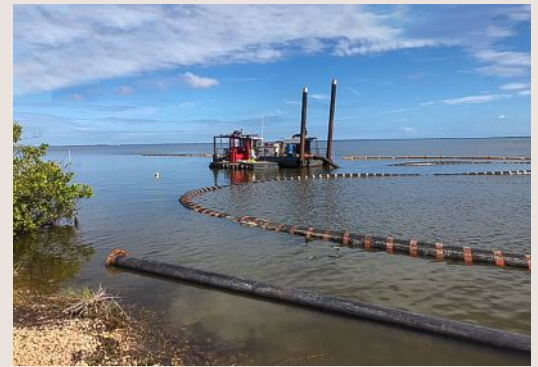
As part of this project the County has conducted sediment sampling in 2015, 2018, and 2019. These samples were tested for chemical constituents often found in dredged sediment plus a large suite of atypical analytes selected due to proximity to the military dump located in South Patrick Shores. Test results support moving forward with dredging. The County has also developed a rigorous sediment sampling plan that will continue throughout the duration of the project.

All of the canals within the Grand Canal Muck Removal Project Area have been investigated and determined to contain a significant amount of muck. Muck is considered a legacy load caused by decades of stormwater runoff, wastewater treatment facility discharges, septic system drain fields, and excess fertilizer applications. Muck is material on the bottom of the lagoon that contains fine-grained organic material; creates large areas that are not hospitable to seagrass, shellfish or other marine life; releases large amounts of hydrogen sulfide and nutrients into the water column that contribute to harmful algal blooms; creates turbid conditions that negatively affects seagrass growth and the benthic communities that it supports; and depletes oxygen in the water column that can result in fish kills.

The project is funded primarily through a Save Our Indian River Lagoon (SOIRL) 10-year half-cent sales tax approved by Brevard County voters in 2016, but also about \$9 million in grant funds approved by the Florida Legislature for muck removal. Work is underway with dredging expected to continue intermittently through spring 2023 due to seasonal manatee closures required by regulatory agencies.

**The contracted muck removal will entail an auger-head and vacuum-style (hydraulic) dredge. Here's how it works:**

- The muck will be sucked from the bottom of the canals and pumped through a pipeline to a temporary dredged material management area (DMMA) along the south side of Pineda Causeway, just west of the S. Patrick Drive exit.
- The muck will be pumped into geotubes (big geotextile duffle bags) and dewatered.
- Once a geotube is filled with muck, it will sit for approximately five-to-seven days to allow the muck to decant water and dry out.
- While the muck is drying out, it will be tested again for arsenic and copper levels to ensure the material is appropriate for agricultural use. Alternative measures will be taken for any material that exceeds agricultural use thresholds.
- When the muck is in a dry enough condition, each geotube will be cut open and the dried muck will be loaded into haul trucks, transported to and placed on agricultural land west of I-95 for beneficial re-use as an organic soil amendment.
- The decanted water (dredge effluent) from the geotubes will be diverted through a temporary water treatment system assembled at the DMMA to reduce nitrogen and phosphorous concentrations prior to being returned to the Grand Canal system.



**The SOIRL half-cent sales tax has included other dredging projects that have either already been completed, are under way or are currently in the bid and/or permitting stages. They include:**

- **Turkey Creek Muck Removal Project** – Dredging was completed with state grant funds. The area was cleaned again with SOIRL funds after a hurricane moved muck in to the cleaned area. FEMA reimbursement for 87.5% of the SOIRL clean-up cost is pending.
- **Mims Boat Ramp Muck Removal Project** – Dredging was completed December of 2018. Funded through the State grant. Additional nutrient removal was contracted with SOIRL funds.
- **City of Cocoa Beach Muck Removal** – Phase III – Work underway. Dredging to be completed by end of 2019
- **City of Cocoa Beach Muck Removal** – Phase IIb – Work underway. Dredging to be completed by the end of 2021
- **Sykes Creek Muck Removal Project** – Phase I – Anticipated to go out to bid by the end of the year. Includes approximately 58,000 cubic yards of muck from residential canals and open water borrow pits just east of Kiwanis Island Park in Merritt Island.
- **Eau Gallie Causeway Muck Removal Project** – Anticipated to go out to bid in early 2020. Includes removal of approximately 250,000 cubic yards of muck from areas adjacent to Eau Gallie Causeway.
- **Merritt Island District Two Muck Removal** – FDEP permit issued. Anticipated to go out to bid within the next 6 months.
- **Titusville Railroad Bridge (East and West)** – Field data collection underway. Anticipate submittal of permit applications to FDEP and USACE in early 2020. Regulatory authorization and bid advertisement anticipated by end of 2020.
- **NASA Causeway East** - Field data collection is underway. Anticipate submittal of permit applications to FDEP and USACE in early 2020. Regulatory authorization and bid advertisement anticipated by end of 2020.

**Specializing In:**  
Studies & Planning  
Engineering Design  
Construction Review  
Permitting

*For:*  
**Beach & Dune Restoration  
Coastal Structures  
Inlets - Marinas - Reefs  
Coastal Properties**

**olsen**  
associates, inc.  
Coastal Engineering

**Proud To Be A Partner With  
Brevard County  
In Restoring And Managing  
The Beaches Of The Space Coast**

**2618 Herschel Street • Jacksonville, FL 32204  
904.387.6114 • www.olsen-associates.com**

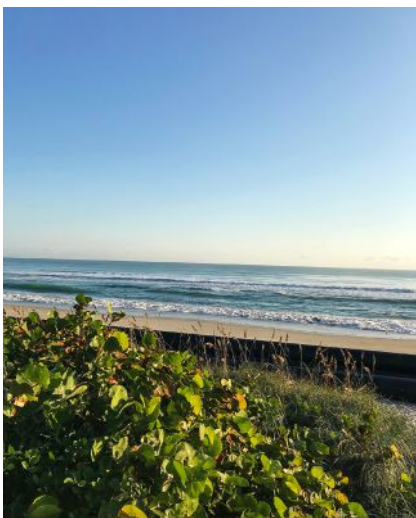
# Beach-related tourism has an estimated \$1 billion annual impact to Brevard County's economy.



## In November, four beach renourishment projects got underway along Brevard County's shoreline with an estimated cost of \$55.6 million and a targeted completion date of May 2020.

The U.S. Army Corps is constructing three project areas, as a single construction contract. These include the South Reach and Mid Reach with Brevard County as the local sponsor, and Patrick Air Force Base on behalf of the Air Force.

Mid Reach (Pineda Causeway southward to Flug Ave) is 7.8 miles long and is being nourished with 350,000 CY (cubic yards) of sand by truck haul placement to minimize burial of nearshore rock reefs. The sand for the Mid Reach is being dredged from Canaveral Shoals and stockpiled on the beach between Spessard Holland North and South parks, before being moved north on A1A by truck to be placed in the Mid Reach. The cost for the Mid Reach is about \$20.5M. A mitigation reef to make up for any impact to natural nearshore reefs was successfully completed in the summer of 2019 and initial observations show it is functioning well. The local cost share (about 22%) for the Mid Reach is provided by the Tourism Development bed tax on short term rentals.



The South Reach is a previously constructed project running from Flug Avenue southward to Spessard Holland Parks, including the towns of Indialantic and Melbourne Beach. The South Reach spans 3.8 miles and will receive 500,000 CY of sand at a cost of approximately \$10.5M. This work will be completed by dredge. The current south reach construction is being fully funded by the federal government in response to Hurricane Irma.

The Patrick Air Force Base project is placing 375,000 CY of sand along the full 3.7 miles of base shoreline, at a cost of approximately \$7.5M. This work is funded by the Air Force to protect base assets.

Brevard County is also undertaking an emergency dune project in the South Beaches. This project does not involve the Corps of Engineers. It will place sand along the eroded dune face to repair erosion caused by Dorian, between Spessard Holland Park and Sebastian Inlet State Park. This project will place about 98,500 CY of sand at a cost of approximately \$4.5M. Funding for this work is provided by the Tourism Development bed tax on short term rentals, and partial reimbursement will be sought from FEMA. ■

All sand placement is expected to be completed by May 7th, 2020. Some beach access points may be temporarily closed when work is taking place in the immediate area. Every effort will be made to minimize beach closures. A weekly construction update can be heard at 321-637-5374 or found here <https://www.brevardfl.gov/NaturalResources/Beaches>

# Audiology and Hearing Services



Andrew Clarke  
H.A.S.

Karen Cowan-Oberbeck  
Au.D., FAAA, CCC-A,  
Doctor of Audiology

Glenn Oberbeck  
NBC-HIS

Bea McCabe  
H.A.S.

**WE ARE A LOCAL, INDEPENDENT, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED PRACTICE COMMITTED TO RENEWING YOUR WORLD OF HEARING.** A strong patient-provider relationship based on honesty, integrity, and values is what we strive for, and we feel that this is the best approach to making sure you don't miss any of the precious moments in your life.

**SERVING BREVARD COUNTY FOR OVER 35 YEARS.**

**AUDIGY**  
CERTIFIED

**OUR SERVICES:**

- Comprehensive Diagnostics
- Audiology
- Tympanometry
- Tinnitus Management
- Earwax Removal
- Video-Otoscopy
- Hearing Conservation
- Hearing Protection
- Musician Monitors
- Swim Plugs
- Hearing Aid Validation
- Assistive Listening Devices

**WE OFFER:**

- State-of-the-Art Hearing Aid Technology
- Earmolds
- FM/Bluetooth®

**WE ACCEPT:**

- Medicare
- Federal BCBS
- Veterans
- Patients of all Ages
- Most Insurance
- Visa, MasterCard, Discover
- CareCredit
- 60-day hearing aid trial
- Money back guarantee
- Solutions for all lifestyles



**EarCare**

[WWW.EARCARE.NET](http://WWW.EARCARE.NET)

**SUNTREE/VIERA**

7777 N Wickham Rd, Ste 21  
Melbourne, Florida 32940  
**321-622-3630**

**MERRITT ISLAND**

250 North Courtenay Pkwy, Ste 102  
Merritt Island, Florida 32953  
**321-622-3630**

**INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH**

1875D S Patrick Dr  
Indian Harbour Beach, Florida 32937  
**321-622-3630**



## Space Coast Area Transit Receives 2019 Central Florida Humanitarian Award

Space Coast Area Transit recently received the Central Florida Humanitarian Award, created by Space Coast Daily magazine and SpaceCoastDaily.com to recognize outstanding individuals and organizations that dedicate their Time, Talent or Treasure to help people in need locally and around the world.



### HIGHLIGHTED SPACE COAST AREA TRANSIT CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDED:

- Serving as a key disaster drill participant with Brevard County Emergency Operations for both Orlando-Melbourne International Airport and St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant. Partner with Brevard Law enforcement agencies for their SWAT training.
- Overseeing transportation for Brevard County Emergency Management. Contact hurricane warning special needs registry list, pick up and transport, if needed, to a special needs evacuation shelter set up by the county. Transit employees participate in staffing of Emergency Operating Center until emergency is over and every special needs citizen has been returned to their home.
- Coordinating with other emergency support functions such as public works, law enforcement, and the Red Cross, along with delivering crews and supplies wherever they are needed.
- Participating in World Elder Abuse Awareness which helps provide seniors information on public transportation programs.
- Working with Brevard agencies such as Brevard Achievement Center, Space Coast Center for Independent Living, Aging Matters, and the Alzheimer's Foundation, training them how to safely use their vehicles and wheelchair securement systems. Train Independent Living Instructors from the Center for the Visually Impaired on how their clients can access transit services.
- Providing travel training through PROJECT SEARCH; when youth with functioning disabilities age out of high school to help them assimilate graduates into the workplace; in conjunction with Holmes Regional, Palm Bay, and Cape Canaveral Hospitals. Works with Brevard County School Board to provide the mobility that transitions high school graduates with more severe disabilities to programs such as Easter Seals and BAC.

**WORLD CLASS CARE. RIGHT WHERE YOU LIVE.**

**Melbourne Regional Medical Center**  
**Rockledge Regional Medical Center**

STEWART FAMILY HOSPITALS

[melbourneregional.org](http://melbourneregional.org) | [rockledgeregional.org](http://rockledgeregional.org) | Steward

**HONEYCUTT & ASSOCIATES**  
 ENGINEERS • SURVEYORS • PLANNERS

3700 South Washington Avenue Titusville Florida 32780  
 Phone: (321) 267-6233 Fax: (321) 269-7847  
 E-mail: [mail@honeycutt.cc](mailto:mail@honeycutt.cc)  
 Serving Central Florida for Over 40 Years

# Mobility For All Campaign Wins 1st in State

Space Coast Area Transit recently created a Rider's Guide for Special Services highlighting Paratransit and ADA Paratransit Service, Mobility Devices, Service Animals, Title VI Civil Rights, and many other subjects pertaining to transportation disadvantaged. Additionally, an ADA website compliance consultant, who is both visually impaired and a transit rider, was hired to test and evaluate 321Transit.com to make recommendations and verify compliance upon completion of ADA remediation modifications. 321Transit.com now meets accessibility guidelines, WCAG 2.0 level AA. It is also compatible with the popular screen reader JAWS or JOB ACCESS WITH SPEECH. According to Transit Director Scott Nelson, "An investment of money and time was made to insure our transportation disadvantaged citizens understood how to access mobility options through the Transit Department. Everyone who contributed to making our website ADA compatible has a new appreciation for what it is like to be visually impaired in a digital world," Nelson said. The campaign was entered in the Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) marketing awards where it received 1st Place.



Space Coast Area Transit Marketing Team accepts award from FPTA for Mobility for All campaign.

Aerospace ♦ Medical ♦ Defense ♦ Facilities ♦ Marine ♦ Government ♦ Commercial

**35 YEARS**  
Building with Integrity

**RUSH MARINE** **RUSH CONSTRUCTION** **RUSH FACILITIES**  
Since 1984

**Parrish Healthcare Center At Titus Landing**

**Port Canaveral Cruise Terminal #3 Berth**

**Space Florida Space Port Landing Facility**

(321) 267-8100 • [www.rushinc.com](http://www.rushinc.com)

THE SPACE COAST'S  
PREMIER COMMERCIAL  
PRINTING COMPANY

**Digital Graphics**

PRINT & MAIL

☎ 321.984.0301  
 🌐 [www.digitalgraphics.com](http://www.digitalgraphics.com)  
 ✉ [sales@digitalgraphics.com](mailto:sales@digitalgraphics.com)

**PROCESSING VARIABLE DATA WITH  
ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY.**

## Space Coast's Mobility Week Was Off to the Races!

What moves you? Space Coast Area Transit, the Space Coast TPO and the Florida Department of Tourism (FDOT) recently celebrated the third annual Mobility Week, an event designed to promote travel alternatives. Space Coast Area Transit passengers rode the bus for free on October 31st, known as "Try Transit Thursday", by showing the 321Transit app on their mobile device.

A special Mobility Week "Ride with Jim, provided the general public and transit advocates an opportunity to share coffee and conversation with those who help shape Brevard County's Transit System, and featured Scott Lagasse Jr., a celebrity NASCAR driver. Lagasse, Jr. is a spokesperson for FDOT's "Alert Today Alive Tomorrow" campaign, which raises awareness about pedestrian and bicyclist safety. He also ran a full season in the Trans Am Series with M1 Racecars this year, and is currently 3rd in points.

Another popular Mobility Week event was the Downtown Titusville Stroll and Senior Expo, North Brevard residents joined the Space Coast TPO and multiple partners enjoyed a safety seminar series, stroll in downtown Titusville, senior expo, and a Space Coast Area Transit bus tour of the Coast to Coast Trail.

According to Scott Nelson, Director of Space Coast Area Transit, "Mobility Week was a great opportunity for our residents to learn more about safe multimodal transportation choices. We appreciated their participation!"

*Celebrity NASCAR Driver Scott Lagasse enjoys a cup of coffee at Bagel 13's Ride with Jim event while chatting with Eva Rey, Director of Community Management, Amenities, and Communications for the Viera Company and Chairman of Transit One, the Council for Transit Advocacy, along with Chris Mahoney, Outreach Specialist with the FDOT District 5 ReThink Your Commute Program.*



# Bussen-Mayer Engineering Group





Civil  
Engineers

Environmental  
Consultants

Land  
Surveyors

100 Parnell Street  
Merritt Island FL 32953  
321-453-0010  
bmeg.net










# Welcomes You!

- Unique shopping & dining
- World Renowned Playhouse
- Special Events
- Arts & Culture

## Stay Connected

www.CocoaFL.org • [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [v](#) [p](#)

## Brevard County's New Emergency Operations Center is Under Way

**After many years of discussion, work on the future Emergency Operations Center is under way.** Thanks to federal and state funding, the design of a 43,000-square-foot building has been finalized, permits have been acquired, and site work is in progress on a Brevard Public Schools-owned property adjacent to the current facility. So far, the land has been cleared of trees and plants; muck has been disposed of; three storm drain structures have been installed; water and sewer connections have been made; 600 feet of reinforced concrete pipe has replaced the open drainage ditch on Huntington Lane; power poles and lines have been relocated; a temporary fence has been installed to secure the site, and 57,000 tons of fill dirt have been delivered and compacted.

Construction of a gravity wall is scheduled to begin in December. More than \$4 million in grants and legislative appropriations has been awarded, and the Board of County Commissioners has approved that revenue earned from cellular tower licenses will be directed toward the project. There is currently sufficient funding to keep the site work going through approximately May 2020, but no capital for construction of the building itself. A grant application for \$12.8 million in Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery funds has been submitted, and Senator Debbie Mayfield and Representative Tyler Sirois are sponsoring an appropriations request for \$1 million (to fund the completion of site work) in the upcoming Florida legislative session. The best phrase to describe this project: beyond shovel-ready.

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Successfully prepared for and responded to Hurricane Dorian, coordinating the activities of the Emergency Operations Center, 14 shelters and all supporting organizations to ensure a cohesive response, the magnitude of which resulted in receiving a Presidential Disaster Declaration and federal assistance.
- Updated GIS street and address points for the Next Generation 911 conversion, upgrading emergency response systems to keep up with ever-evolving mobile communication and technology
- Replaced outdated radio towers in Rockledge and Palm Bay
- Implemented an on-line payment system for health care plan reviews, 800 MHz radio user billing, and street addressing.
- Completed the final revisions of the radiological launch plan in anticipation of the upcoming Mars rover launch in the summer of 2020.
- In partnership with Planning and Development, working with municipalities to develop and upload preconfigured teams and task areas into Crisis Track software to streamline post-disaster damage assessment.

**DO YOUR EMPLOYEES  
KNOW WHAT TO DO IN  
A FIRE EMERGENCY?**

## FIRE SAFETY & EXTINGUISHER SAFETY TRAINING

Call for training at your location  
321-637-5660 or email  
[Fire.Prevention@brevardfl.gov](mailto:Fire.Prevention@brevardfl.gov)





## Our Coast is Clear

The Space Coast dodged a major bullet when Dorian turned and headed North, however there was an economic cost due to the timing of the storm around Labor Day Weekend. Many hotels and other tourism related businesses suffered due to cancellations. To help businesses rebound from the loss of revenue, the Space Coast Office of Tourism launched a full scale campaign called Our Coast is Clear. The campaign utilized public relations, social and paid media to remind people that taking a vacation is often the best way to help an area recover from the financial, if not physical, effects of a storm.

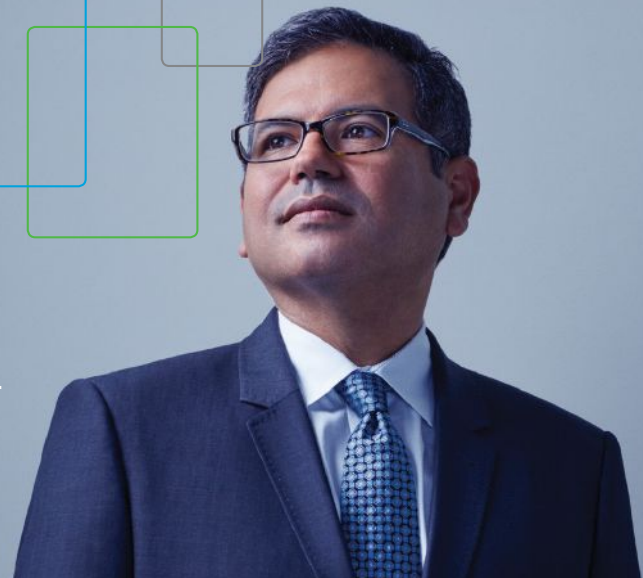
We're up to speed, so you can go full speed.

### SEE CHALLENGES BEFORE THEY'RE CHALLENGING.

To make confident decisions about the future, middle market leaders need a different kind of advisor. One who starts by understanding where you want to go and then brings the ideas and insights of an experienced global team to help get you there.

Experience the power of being understood.  
Experience RSM.

[rsmus.com](http://rsmus.com)



**THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD**  
AUDIT | TAX | CONSULTING



RSM US LLP is the U.S. member firm of RSM International, a global network of independent audit, tax and consulting firms. Visit [rsmus.com/aboutus](http://rsmus.com/aboutus) for more information regarding RSM US LLP and RSM International.

## Welcome Our 2 New Members



### CHARITY STEWART

is the new **Tourism Marketing Director**. Charity moved from Huntsville, AL., where she worked for a digital marketing agency and prior to that was Advertising Director for the Space and Rocket Museum.



### BRIAN BLANCHARD

is the new **Deputy Director of Tourism**. Brian is a local from Merritt Island and most recently worked at Port Canaveral, but has over 20 years experience in tourism including time with Universal Orlando.

## Holiday Campaign

A new holiday campaign promoting the Space Coast is underway. The \$300,000 marketing effort will focus on digital and TV advertising in the drive market and promote the Space Coast as the perfect place to share the holidays with family.



### Apollo 50th

The public relations efforts surrounding the Apollo 50th Anniversary are in and it yielded an incredible 602 million reach with a \$1.25 million media value!

This included the BBC Worldwide coverage, as well as many national and international media including Good Morning America and the Chicago Tribune. Many of the stories weren't just about the incredible events from 50 years earlier, but talked about the vibrant space programs and many rocket launches going on now, as well as the many other amenities that the Space Coast has to offer travelers. All of the communications really positioned the Space Coast as a great place to celebrate history and look to the future, all while enjoying an incredible family vacation.

# CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING GROUP

*Supporting Brevard County  
through  
Engineering and Design*



**CONSTRUCTION  
ENGINEERING  
GROUP**  
*consulting engineers*

2651 W. Eau Gallie Blvd., Ste. A  
Melbourne, FL 32935  
tel: 321.253.1221  
fax: 321.253.3123  
[www.cegengineering.com](http://www.cegengineering.com)

Civil | Structural | Mechanical | Electrical

## SAFETY | TRUST | QUALITY



- CIVIL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
- ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION
- FULL SERVICE ENERGY SECTOR CONTRACTOR



**DICKERSON FLORIDA, INC.**  
BUILT ON SAFETY

**3122 NORTH 25TH STREET  
FORT PIERCE, FL 34946  
(772) 429-4444**

[www.dickersonflorida.com](http://www.dickersonflorida.com)

# BERMAN HOPKINS

— CPAs & Associates, LLP —

## Proudly Serving Brevard County Since 1958

Over the years Berman Hopkins has stayed true to our core values; We build relationships with each client in order to understand their business and provide them with dependable solutions. Berman Hopkins' predecessors developed the solid foundation that has made us into the company we are today. We are currently one of the largest independently owned CPA firms in all of Central Florida with three offices – Melbourne, Orlando and Titusville – to accommodate our clients throughout the region. Our partners and staff are highly qualified with education and experience to support our clients with outstanding accounting and financial services.



**Accounting**  
**Assurance Services**  
*Audits*  
*Reviews*  
*Compilations*







**Taxation**  
**Business Valuations**  
**Forensic Accounting**  
**International Services**



**Succession Planning**  
**Litigation Support**  
**ESOPs**

### Reach us at

 8035 Spyglass Hill Rd. Melbourne, FL  
 321-757-2020

 [info@bermanhopkins.com](mailto:info@bermanhopkins.com)  
 [www.bermanhopkins.com](http://www.bermanhopkins.com)

# S2Li

**Responsive Services  
Unparalleled Expertise  
Pragmatic Solutions**

Providing extraordinary  
solid waste services for the  
world's best clients

**S2L, INCORPORATED**

531 Versailles Drive, Suite 202  
Maitland, FL 32751

8029 Ridge Valley  
Woodstock, GA 30189

P: 407.475.9163 • F: 407.475.9169

**Visit us at [S2Li.com](http://S2Li.com)**



Wickham Park Community Center

**Excellence in  
Construction  
Since 1994**

**General Contractors  
Construction  
Managers  
Design Build**



NASA Crawlerway Project



**Canaveral**  
CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

3475 North Highway 1 • Mims, FL 32754  
321.269.4011



**ADAMS  
ROBINSON**  
General-Mechanical  
Contractors

Proud to be working with  
Brevard County on the  
South Central Regional  
Wastewater Treatment  
Facility Expansion

Corporate Office:  
2735 Needmore Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45414  
937-274-5318

[adamsrobinson.com](http://adamsrobinson.com)



Satellite Offices: Altamonte Springs, Florida, and Sterling, Virginia

# PROTECTING BREVARD FROM BUZZING, BITING PESTS

Mosquito impoundments are saltwater marsh areas surrounded by earthen dikes, originally constructed in the 1950's and 1960's to reduce mosquito populations by enabling Mosquito Control to strategically manage water levels. Brevard County Mosquito Control currently manages approximately 28,000 acres of mosquito impoundments Countywide.

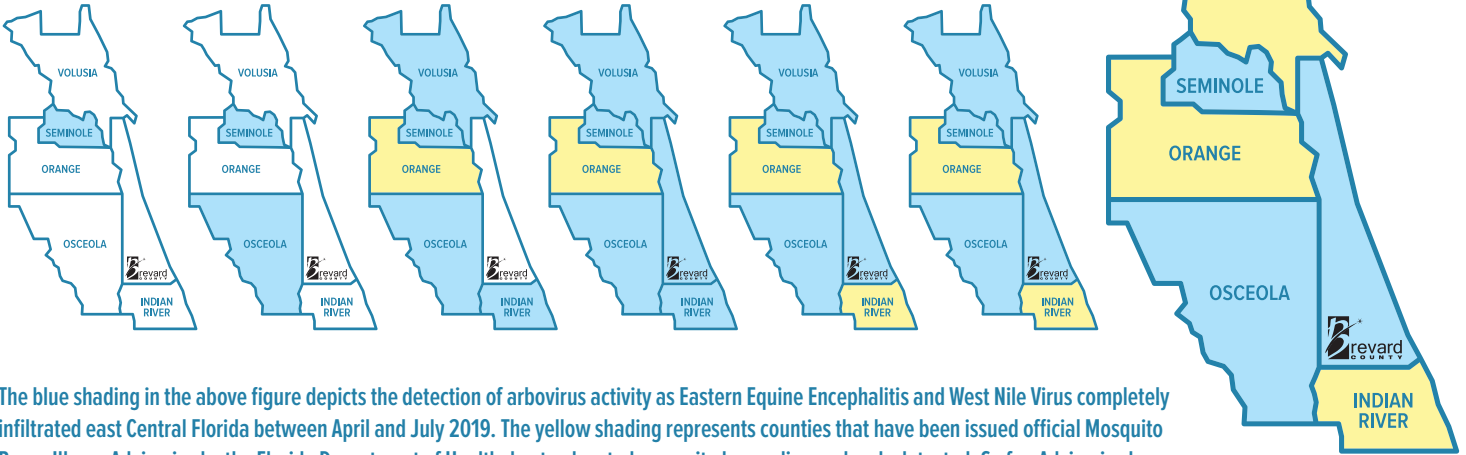
This has been quite a busy year in mosquito control throughout Florida and other parts of the country. Both Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV) have been detected in Florida since March 2019, and both diseases began making their way into East Central Florida by April.

By the end of June, both viruses were detected in Volusia, Seminole, Orange and Osceola Counties. By mid-July, Indian River County had also detected WNV.

Fortunately, Brevard and many other Counties utilize an industry standard called Integrated Mosquito Management to keep mosquito and disease levels from getting unreasonably high. This involves a multifaceted approach. Aside from nighttime chemical spraying by fog trucks and helicopters, Brevard manages water levels in 28,000 acres of salt marsh areas called mosquito impoundments to drastically reduce mosquito egg laying in the Indian River Lagoon. By capturing the water and managing levels in these vast mosquito impoundments, Brevard's impoundment technicians greatly reduce the salt marsh mosquitoes' opportunities to lay eggs, thereby preventing an exponential growth effect that we otherwise would experience this time of year. These particular mosquitoes are floodwater species, so they only lay their eggs in sediment (prior to flooding) and not directly in the water. It has been estimated that the County's mosquito population is reduced by approximately 50% by managing these impoundments.



APRIL 2019 OCTOBER



The blue shading in the above figure depicts the detection of arbovirus activity as Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus completely infiltrated east Central Florida between April and July 2019. The yellow shading represents counties that have been issued official Mosquito Borne Illness Advisories by the Florida Department of Health due to elevated mosquito borne disease levels detected. So far, Advisories have been issued in Volusia, Orange and Indian River Counties between late July and mid-October.

Additionally, natural pesticides known as biorational larvicides are regularly applied by ground and air to prevent immature mosquitoes from becoming flying, biting adults. All pesticides used by Brevard County Mosquito Control are EPA tested and approved.

Mosquito inspectors employ proactive measures to reduce mosquito breeding. Waste tires are regularly picked up by the truckload, disposing an average of 80 tons per year. These tires would otherwise provide the perfect habitat for container breeding mosquito species that could potentially transmit diseases like Zika, dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever.

Inspectors also stock mosquitofish in newly established ponds and ditches for biological control of mosquito larvae. A new fish hatchery facility has been approved and construction is underway to expand biological control capabilities countywide. The new facility is expected to be in full swing in early 2020.

Mosquito Control's Aquatic Weed Control team takes a more indirect approach by eliminating the non-native nuisance vegetation that would otherwise harbor mosquitoes in ditches, ponds and lakes throughout the County. Three local mosquito species specifically have modified air siphons that are sharp enough to pierce into the plant root and stem systems, making them virtually undetectable to predators as they breathe oxygen directly through the host plants. Amongst these species are those known to transmit EEE, so this aquatic plant management is critical to local public health.



Nevertheless, while it's estimated that these aforementioned practices reduce mosquito populations significantly, billions of biting mosquitoes will still find a way to fly into adulthood. This is where nighttime spraying comes in. Chemical adulticides are applied by fog trucks and helicopters once sufficient numbers of mosquitoes are verified for justification, per Florida Statute. Ground and environmental staff set approximately 45 adult mosquito traps per week countywide. Since there are approximately



## MOSQUITO CONTROL PROTECTS PUBLIC HEALTH

Clarke is proud to offer the broadest portfolio of control products and the most experienced service and operations teams, helping to prevent the spread of vector-borne diseases and keep nuisance levels in check.

Visit [clarke.com](http://clarke.com) to learn more.

The World Needs



Mosquito Control'

Making communities around the world more livable, safe and comfortable.



40 species of mosquitoes known in the county, it is important that our environmental team counts and identifies adult mosquitoes as they are each associated with specific habitats, hosts, and diseases. Diseases like EEE and WNV are also monitored by environmental staff as small chicken coops are distributed around the county and chicken blood samples from 66 chickens are tested weekly at a Department of Health laboratory. Fortunately, chickens are immune to these mosquito-borne diseases, but their blood serves as an indicator of local disease transmission. Mosquitoes from traps are also sent to state laboratories intermittently for additional virus detection.

Finally, beyond all of these extensive mosquito, habitat and disease management efforts, the department's Outreach team protects public

health through education. Mosquito Control staff engage the community to educate thousands of children, families, and adult groups on how to protect themselves from mosquito borne viruses and reduce mosquito breeding around the home. This year, an Educational Outreach Committee was created, comprised of dedicated Mosquito Control staff who are passionate about community education. Despite the busy 2019 season, the outreach team has already doubled the number of venues since last year, attending 23 events so far. The new Educational Outreach Committee is currently securing a concession trailer and restoring an old van to utilize for future events. Vehicle wraps will be added with mosquito and disease prevention tips, and solar panels are being installed to power microscopes, fish aerators and other outreach exhibit tools and accessories. ■

## Helpful Hints to Protect Against Mosquitos

Residents are encouraged to stay vigilant to protect themselves, their families and communities by practicing the 5D's of mosquito control:

- **DAWN/DUSK:** Avoid spending time outdoors at DAWN and DUSK, which are the most active times for mosquito activity.
- **DRESS:** Wear long sleeves and pants if you are outdoors during active mosquito times, preferably with light-colored, loose fitting clothes.
- **DEET:** Apply mosquito repellent with less than 30% DEET on exposed skin during active mosquito times.
- **DRAIN:** Eliminate or drain water holding containers around the yard, which could allow for mosquito breeding.

Also, beyond the 5 D's, be sure to keep doors and windows sealed and screens repaired to prevent mosquitoes from entering the house.

For more information or to contact Mosquito Control directly, please visit the Brevard County website at [www.brevardfl.gov//MosquitoControl](http://www.brevardfl.gov//MosquitoControl).



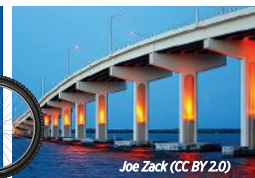
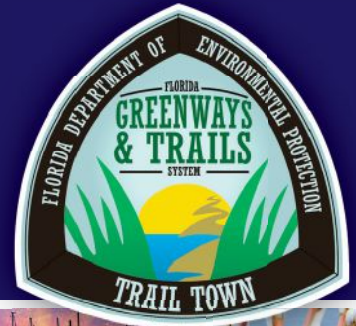
- Underground Utilities
- Vac-Con Truck Services
- Hydro-Excavation
- Leak Detection
- Sewer Camera Specialists
- Sewer System Smoke Detection
- Sludge Hauling
- 24 Hour Emergency Service



5555 U.S. Highway 1 • Vero Beach • 32967  
772-569-2285 • [meeksplumbing.com](http://meeksplumbing.com)

# BLAZING TRAILS

# IN Titusville FL



**DISCOVER** outdoor recreation and wild nature experiences — on foot, by kayak, on horseback, on a bicycle, on a fishing expedition, or with your camera.

**Get maps and tips at the Titusville Welcome Center.** Explore our historic downtown. Ride our expanding cycling trails to Sand Point Park, Marina Park, Draa Park, Chain of Lakes and beyond. Discover equestrian trails. Get acquainted with wild nature at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and breathtaking beaches at Canaveral National Seashore. Check the **space launch schedule** and be here for the roar of a rocket launch.

**Adventures big and small launch from here.**

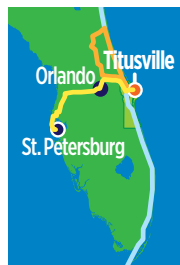
## RIDE THE TRAILS



**23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SPACE COAST BIRDING & WILDLIFE FESTIVAL**  
JAN 22-27 · 2020

SAVE THE DATES

**Gear Up. Ride It DOWN**  
IN Titusville FL  
MARCH 21 · 2020



**Converging Trails:** Three major trails converge in Titusville, FL — the 250-mile Coast-to-Coast Trail, the 5-county St Johns River to Sea Loop, and the 2,900-mile East Coast Greenway. Titusville was officially designated a Florida Trail Town in 2018.

**LAUNCH FROM HERE**  
TITUSVILLE • FL

LEARN MORE & SHARE YOUR ADVENTURE AT:  
**LaunchFromHere.com**

Launch From Here is a local campaign created by the people who love to live here for the people who will love to visit here.

Like Us [facebook.com/LaunchFromHere](https://facebook.com/LaunchFromHere) Follow Us [@LaunchFromHere](https://twitter.com/LaunchFromHere)



Relocation Information  
EconomicDevelopment@Titusville.com  
Titusville.com



Vacation Information  
Info@Titusville.org  
Titusville.org

# PAVING BREVARD'S FUTURE



- Paving Brevard since 1982
- Total Site Contractor
- Performing work for PAFB, CCAFS, NASA, FDOT, Brevard County
- Florida Department of Transportation qualified
- Specialize in Government Contracts
- Four-time recipient of NASA women-owned small business award

**VA** Paving, Inc.  
2955 Lake Drive • Cocoa, Florida 32926

321.636.2565 | VAPAVING.COM