

Administration

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Registration open for Fall 2024 Citizens' Academy, class size limited

August 1, 2024 – Registration is open for the upcoming Flagler County Citizens' Academy that will be held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning October 8, and officials invite residents to treat themselves to an enriching educational endeavor. The course is designed to introduce participants to the day-to-day operations of Flagler County government, inclusive of its elected Constitutional Officers.

“It’s a wonderful opportunity for residents to learn about the responsibilities and operations of our county departments and because the classes are held at a variety of county facilities, participants experience first-hand the broad range of resources and capabilities that Flagler County provides,” said County Administrator Heidi Petito. “Local governments that support and encourage resident participation in its citizens academy is essential to foster a deeper understanding of civic responsibilities, governance structures, and the policymaking process.”

The academy will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon, and it will wrap up with a 13th session – a Monday afternoon Board of County Commissioners Roundtable at 4 p.m. November 18, followed by graduation at the regular BOCC meeting that begins at 5 p.m.

“This academy provides a platform for citizens to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of local government. It encourages active involvement, informed discourse, and collaborative problem-solving,” Petito said. “Emphasizing residents’ participation in our citizens academy not only strengthens the fabric of our democracy, but also creates a more vibrant and resilient community where diverse voices are heard and valued.”

The slated agenda is as follows:

- **October 8** – Get to Know Your County Government | Flagler County’s History
- **October 10** – Library System and Programs | Growth Management, Planning, and Compliance
- **October 15** – Health and Human Services Programs | Florida Department of Health-Flagler
- **October 17** – General Services (Parks, Fleet, Facilities, Transit, Land Management)
- **October 22** – Emergency Management | Fire Rescue
- **October 24** – Agricultural Extension | Engineering & Public Works
- **October 29** – Human Resources & Veterans Affairs | Finance

Andy Dance
District 1

Greg Hansen
District 2

David Sullivan
District 3

Leann Pennington
District 4

Donald O’Brien, Jr.
District 5

- **October 31** – Tourism, Economic Development & Culture | Innovative Technology
- **November 5** – Executive Airport
- **November 7** – Sheriff's Office | Tax Collector | School District
- **November 12** – Clerk of the Courts | Property Appraiser | Supervisor of Elections
- **November 14** – Regional Agency Round Table | Wrap-up
- **Monday, 4 p.m. November 18** – Flagler County Board of County Commissioners Round Table | Graduation

For more information and to register, go to www.FlaglerCounty.gov/Academy. Registrants are accepted on a first come, first served basis for those residents who are able to attend all sessions.

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