

FLAGLER BOCC HEADLINES



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DAVE SULLIVAN

Dave Sullivan represents District 3 in eastern Flagler County – including the municipalities of Flagler Beach and Beverly Beach. He was elected to his first term in office in November 2016, and was handily reelected in 2020 to serve residents for a second term.

BIOGRAPHICAL:

Commissioner Sullivan is a retired U.S. Navy captain. After his military retirement, he served as director for the Hughes Electronics Corporation, and Boeing Space and Communications. He served as chairman of the Flagler County Republican Executive Committee for many years until 2014. Sullivan serves on several committees including the Canvassing Board; Flagler County Tourist Development Council; Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; and the Heritage Crossroads Committee.

OF IMPORTANCE:

"We have a workshop on February 7 to get an update about the Beach Management Plan that is such a critical issue for the entire county, not just for the beachside residents. Sometimes it seems that people think our beach woes started with Hurricane Matthew but when you look at historic pictures, it's clear that we've been losing sand for decades. Flagler County and Flagler Beach have partnered for years to work through this complicated process of creating a plan to preserve our beach and its protective dunes. There are currently three projects in the works - one with the Army Corps of Engineers, a second with the Florida Department of Transportation, and a third with FEMA and the Florida Department of Emergency Management to restore the in-house project we did after Hurricane Matthew."



FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FIRE RESCUE, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, GIS TRAIN TOGETHER WITH SEARCH/RESCUE APP

The scenario could have been real. No tornado ripped through northern Flagler County on Wednesday. There was no damage to residential or commercial property. And, thankfully, there was no missing child who needed to be found.

But that didn't stop more than 50 people from the Flagler County Sheriff's Office and the Flagler County Emergency Management, Fire Rescue and GIS (geographic information system) divisions from coming together at Princess Place Preserve to train as though it had. The full-scale exercise utilized a customized GIS-based phone app – powered by ESRI's "Quick Capture" – for live tracking of individual search-and-rescue members, hazards reporting, and accurate data sharing that was instantaneously transmitted back to the home base.

"It's great to have an opportunity to deploy both our Emergency Response Team and our Telecommunications Emergency Response Team to test their mettle with new, and ever-changing technology," said Sheriff Rick Staly, who came out to oversee some of the training. "Clearly, it's ideal to do this before you have to use it for an actual search-and-rescue mission."

Players used exercise "injects" to drive their actions over the 50-acre search area and 18 "damaged buildings." Controllers and evaluators took notes for evaluation and debriefing, but largely did not intervene. The exercise ran more than four hours, with an hour-long debrief to wrap up the scenario.

"The debrief is an important component of the training," said Flagler County Fire Rescue Chief Mike Tucker. "While everything went very well, it gives us an opportunity to see what the gaps are – or potential gaps – so that we can operate optimally during an actual deployment."

When in use, the Quick Capture app marks continuously the travel path of the first responder. The marks are color-coded by squad and are linked to the individual carrying the phone.

"In addition to the breadcrumb trail that is captured by each first responder's app, there is the ability to capture damage assessment of structures, as well as to document human interactions," said GIS Manager Darlene Pardiny. "This includes things such as reporting whether someone has been evacuated or rescued. It also allows those in the field to report on multiple types of hazards, which includes dangerous wildlife, fire, flooding, but can also be used to document support locations."

In short, the push-button ability to report hazards, victim location, and other critical information, allows first responders to focus on the search.

"We had a handful of objectives to accomplish with this exercise, and I believe we succeeded," said Emergency Management Director Jonathan Lord. "The fire and law enforcement personnel worked well together to conduct search, rescue, and missing persons operations."

'TUNE IN' TO MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 7: BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 9 a.m.
FEBRUARY 7: BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 1 p.m.
FEBRUARY 8: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AT 6 p.m.
FEBRUARY 21: BOCC REGULAR MEETING AT 5 p.m.

LIVE STREAM

www.youtube.com/flaglercounty/live



NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVAL RETURNS TO PRINCESS PLACE AFTER A COVID HIATUS

The Native American Festival that is fast becoming a February tradition at Princess Place Preserve returns in 2022 after a hiatus last year because of COVID-19. It will be the seventh Pow Wow held since its inception in 2015.

As in past years, the festival will include dancing, weapons demonstrations, wildlife exhibits, encampments and displays.

"Mark your calendars now – it promises to be a great weekend," said Parks Manager Frank Barbuti. "The event will be held the last weekend of the month, February 26 and 27."

Tribes representing North and South America – as many as 50 – will perform traditional dances such as the Hoop Dance, and the Candy Dance for children. Additionally, there will be demonstrations, storytelling, and historical presentations among the exhibits.

"Everyone enjoys the other experiences that are offered at the festival like face painting, pony rides and shopping at the trading booths," Barbuti said. "Food and refreshments will be available, including some authentic Native American food."

More details will be available closer to the event.

For more information about Flagler County Parks and Recreation, go to www.flaglercounty.gov/departments/parks-recreation.

'DO DATE' EVENTS

02/25/22: MOAS LECTURE SERIES (2 p.m.)
The Famous Paintings of George Washington
Palm Coast Main Branch LIBRARY
2500 Palm Coast Parkway Northwest
www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyPublicLibrary

BREAKERS

JONATHAN LORD AWARDED

Flagler County Emergency Management Director Jonathan Lord will be presented the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA) "Gary Arnold Award" at its annual meeting in February. This award is provided to an individual for dedicated, unselfish and enthusiastic service to improving the emergency management community.

"I am humbled to be receiving this award," Lord said. "I really love what I do, and my amazing staff. I guess my enthusiasm shows – not a bad thing, I suppose."

Lord was notified about the award by his own Senior Planner Ryan Simpson, who nominated Lord but was not involved in the selection.

Simpson, while still working for Putnam County, witnessed Lord's dedication and passion for emergency management at the start of COVID-19.

"Jonathan is very deserving of this award, and has been an asset to the organization in a number of ways," said FEPA Executive Director Eve Rainey. "He's always willing to take on leadership roles, like serving as treasurer for 10 years, despite his very demanding day-to-day work position."

SKYWARN STORM SPOTTER CLASS

Emergency Management and the National Weather Service will host a free Skywarn Storm Spotter webinar class on Monday, February 7, at the request of the county.

Kip Bricker, meteorologist with the National Weather Service, will teach the class. It will cover everything from cloud formations to thunderstorm development to visual predictions.

Those who participate in the class – which starts at 6 p.m. and will last more than an hour – are eligible to become volunteer storm spotters and assist Emergency Management and the National Weather Service by reporting potentially hazardous weather events.

Registration is required, and can be done by visiting www.FlaglerCounty.gov/emergency and selecting Volunteering and Training from the menu.

Otherwise, sign up for ALERTFlagler at www.flaglercounty.gov/alertflagler.