

WORKFORCE AND INNOVATION

Local Leaders Comprise Elevate Daytona Beach Slate

Leadership Through Crises. The Power of Questions. Combatting Imposter Syndrome and Redefining Success. These are just a couple of the topics to be presented at this year's Elevate Daytona Beach presented by **AdventHealth** on **Thursday, August 25** from **5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** at the News-Journal Center on Beach Street downtown. This year's star-studded local speaker lineup includes:

Rachail Allen
Lynea Benjamin
JB Birney
Michael Elliott
Danielle Garrett
Matt Graifer
Nina Guiglotto
Lorene King
Bibi LeBlanc
Bob Lloyd
Dr. Barry Tishler
Adrienne Toles-Williams
Kristine Totanes

Each speaker will make a five-minute presentation accompanied by a PowerPoint that advances every 15 seconds. The result is a show full of fast-paced speeches on a wide variety of topics. Created by the Daytona Regional Chamber's Leadership Daytona Alumni Council, Elevate Daytona Beach is designed to promote innovation and leadership within our community. To register visit elevatedaytonabeach.com.

Dr. Carmen Balgobin Returns to Lead Volusia County Schools



Balgobin

In most cases when new leadership takes the helm of an organization there is an initial period of learning the inner working of said organization and the community in which it operates. Volusia County Schools' new Superintendent will be an exception to that rule. Dr. Carmen Balgobin began her tenure as the school district's leader on July 1.

A 24-year veteran educator, Dr. Balgobin served as Deputy Superintendent of Volusia County Schools beginning in January 2020. She served as Interim Superintendent during the 2020-2021 school year. As Interim Superintendent, she led the district's COVID-19 reopening plan with three learning options: traditional classroom setting, Volusia Live (real-time live streaming), and Volusia Online Learning. During this time, Dr. Balgobin coined the phrase, "Together, We Are Stronger." This phrase summarizes her core belief that it takes a team to serve all students.

Dr. Balgobin was an integral part of the development of the partnership between Volusia County Schools, CareerSource Flagler Volusia, and the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce, which brought the

YouScience skills assessment program to the region.

Daytona Regional Chamber Vice President of Resource Development Ken Phelps asked Dr. Balgobin her thoughts on several issues recently as she returns to Volusia County to lead the school district.

Phelps: *What are your aspirational goals as you begin your tenure as Superintendent?*

Balgobin: I want all students to have a world-class education. My goal is to create the type of access, opportunities, and experiences that will provide our students with the necessary tools to succeed globally, while also becoming contributing members of our local communities.

Phelps: *What are the top three ways the business community can better engage with the school district?*

Balgobin: The relationship that I envision between Volusia County Schools and the local business community is one that will afford both parties incredible benefits. My vision is to offer local businesses the opportunity to establish a strong partnership with our school district. We are ready to engage our business partners in the work we do as we prepare our students to be part of a competitive global economy. The type of partnership that I envision includes the ability for students to participate in valuable internships and job experiences as

See **BALGOBIN P4**

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE & FISCAL GROWTH

Board of Directors Nominations Open


Daytona Regional
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



**NOW
ACCEPTING
NOMINATIONS**

The Nominating Committee for the Daytona Regional Chamber's Board of Directors has been named. Chairing the Nominating Committee is Nellie Lupoli, ICI Homes. Serving with Lupoli is Randy Dye, Daytona Dodge Chrysler Jeep RAM Fiat; Kelly Parsons Kwiatak, Halifax Health; Len Marinaccio, Bomar Construction; Phil

Maroney, Root Company; Teresa Rand, Rand Consulting; Mike Sibley, James Moore & Company; Bobby Thigpen, Ritchey Automotive and Chamber President & CEO Nancy Keefer.

Members interested in being considered for a Board seat should request a nomination form by emailing Nancy@Daytonachamber.com. The

Nominating Committee will review all nomination forms to ensure we have diverse representation on our Board of Directors.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is July 25, 2022.

Awards Nomination Deadline Approaching

Taking place on **Tuesday, November 1** at the Hard Rock Hotel, the 9th Annual Awards Luncheon is a celebration of the accomplishments of businesses and individuals in our area. Each year, the Daytona Regional Chamber accept nominations for several categories, including:

- Nonprofit Business of the Year
- Small Business of the Year
- Marvin Samuels Memorial Leadership Award
- Young Professional of the Year
- Annual Business Milestones

If your business will be celebrating a milestone this year of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, etc. years in business, please contact our office. Annual Business Milestones will be recognized during the event alongside the additional award categories, and we want to celebrate you.

During the event, Board Chairwoman, Kelly Kwiatak, will present the "State of the Chamber" address to conclude the joyous and celebratory occasion. Nominations are open for the award categories and

will be accepted until Monday, August 1. Visit daytonachamber.com to learn more about the award recipient requirements, and to nominate a deserving business. For more information on the Annual Awards Luncheon or for sponsorship inquiries contact Samantha Crouch, Vice President of Small Business Development, at 386.523.3678.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Building Your Career Connections

Start with who you know. Analyze the people that are already in your current network – including, family, friends, roommates, alumni, club or organizations members, former and current coworkers, neighbors, and more. Begin connecting with those you can easily reach and see if they know anyone in a field that interests you.

Be open to meeting new people. Do not discount a new acquaintance simply because they don't have a connection to a person you are hoping to meet, or a product you are seeking. The more people that you meet, share your goals with, and build truly purposeful relationships with – the more impactful your connections will be.

Seek out opportunities. Do research in your area and find out what professional business groups and volunteer organizations you can become a member of. Joining these groups will often give you access to the right connections for your goals.

Be curious and ask questions. To create a purposeful connection, it cannot simply be about you. The most successful professional relationships are between people who are interested



in learning about and supporting one another. Shift your focus away from yourself and your needs and ask thoughtful questions of the person you are trying to build a relationship with.

Follow-up and stay in contact. Staying connected with someone after you meet is key. Follow-up with a thank you email or card, and continue to check in. Congratulating them on a success, a new job, or a life milestone will help build a long-term purposeful relationship.

Ready to put these directives to the test? Join fellow chamber members for an Open (Regional Business Connections) RBC Group on **Wednesday, July 13 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** at the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Held monthly on the second Wednesday of every month, the Open

RBC Group is a unique opportunity to connect with other businesses in a small group setting. Unlike a traditional RBC Group, the Open RBC Group is not limited to one business per category in attendance. Any Daytona Regional Chamber member in good standing may attend this meeting and grow their network, highlight their business, and share ideas with like-minded business owners.

Advanced registration is required, but there is no fee to attend.

Daytona Regional Chamber members can register online, or you can contact Samantha Crouch, Vice President of Small Business Development, at 386.523.3678 to reserve your spot.

Thank You for the Referral

The Daytona Regional Chamber would like to thank Ambassador Committee member **Terri Shurdom from Blanchard Insurance** for connecting us with Lifewave; **Kim Niskey** for connecting us with Morgan Stanley; Ambassador Committee Member **Nina Guiglotto**

with Lohman Daytona Memorial Park & Funeral Home for connecting us with The Gallery at Port Orange; **Tracy Marino with Team Volusia** for connecting us with FitRev and Ambassador Committee Chair **Echo Karras from Vision HR** for connecting us with Spectre

Powerboats as they became members.

If you know of a business that would benefit from a Daytona Regional Chamber membership, connect them with Lori McMullin, APR, Director of Business Development, at 386.523.3680.

BALGOBIN

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part of creating a strong local workforce, to better assist our business partners to become good corporate citizens by providing them with opportunities to volunteer time at our schools, and to provide the schools with the benefit of being able to receive tangible and intangible assistance from the private sector.

Phelps: *What is the top strength of Volusia County Schools?*

Balgobin: The top strength of the Volusia County Schools is the diversity within our students and the community we serve. This unique diversity must be the driving force behind the re-thinking of budgets, curriculums, and access in order to benefit all students.

Phelps: *What aspect of the district will have your immediate focus in terms of an area that needs improvement?*

Balgobin: Communication. Internal and external communications must be improved as soon as possible. Our ability to keep the district and the community accurately informed at all levels will ultimately have a positive impact on our students. With that, I plan to spend all the time needed listening and learning from all our stakeholders. Additionally, we must also ensure that all students and teachers feel safe and secure while providing them with a learning environment that accelerates the instructional momentum in our schools, particularly for students who experienced an interruption to their learning during the pandemic.

Phelps: *What message would you like to share with the Daytona Regional Chamber membership?*

Balgobin: I am very appreciative of the great relationship between the Daytona Regional Chamber and Volusia County Schools. Our partnership is based on mutual respect, collaboration, and the responsibility we share for the community we both serve. Please know that “We are Open for Business” so let’s continue this work, side-by-side, in making Volusia County the premier destination for the current and future workforce.



DR. TOM LOBASSO, PRESIDENT, DAYTONA
STATE COLLEGE
ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The goals of the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce and Daytona State College are tightly aligned as education and training allow everyone to reach their full potential and become successful, productive citizens.

The College offers an opportunity for everyone, no matter their background, to pursue their dreams through education, and the Chamber works every day to create a business environment that supports making those dreams a reality.”

New Group to Balance Growth & Environment

With the level of development occurring in the Daytona Beach region, the Volusia County Council has focused on how best to manage this growth. An April 12, 2022 workshop on Growth Management presented several options for modified land development regulations to ensure the protection of our environment including water bodies, trees, and protected species. The Council met again on June 14, 2022 at a Special Meeting to take action.

The public engagement process is crucial when determining what quality of life is acceptable to those who live and work here. The Council, understanding the need for a diverse array of stakeholders to input, voted to approve the creation of an Environmental and Natural Resources Advisory Committee (ENRAC). The ENRAC will include members representing both environmental and development interests and seeks candidates with technical expertise to address issues such as wetlands, tree preservation and sea level rise. The ENRAC will provide recommendations on over 30 items compiled by staff, that will either maintain or change the standards for environmental protection. Key in

this discussion is whether these standards will apply only to unincorporated parts of Volusia County or to city jurisdictions, as well. According to the County Charter, cities must conform to the environmental protection standards established by the County Council. If the Council desires to apply standards to the cities, it will require a high level of collaboration between the County and its 16 cities to implement.

The Volusia County Association for Responsible Development (VCARD), an affiliate of the Daytona Regional Chamber, is actively engaged in monitoring the convening of an ENRAC. For those interested in applying to serve, the Council must first approve a resolution creating the ENRAC which is tentatively scheduled for a July County Council meeting. Applications will then be accepted. VCARD will continue to keep the community informed on this important process. Reach out to Kerry Karl, VCARD Executive Director, at 386.320.6292, with further questions.

ADVOCACY & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Candidates for Volusia County Council to Talk Policy at Upcoming Forum

Candidates for Volusia County Council Districts 2, 3 and 4 have been invited to an upcoming special Eggs & Issues Candidate Forum. This will be the second in a two-part series which has featured the Volusia County Council District races.

The Daytona Regional Chamber believes hearing directly from those seeking elected positions is critical to getting out the vote. Understanding where a candidate stands on issues related to growth and development, tourism, and other topics impacting

the community can help an individual determine who they will vote for this year. Candidates presenting at this forum will face a series of questions and provide their comment to the audience. The questions have not been provided to the candidates ahead of time so that hopefully the most honest perspective is provided.

Invited candidates include Danny Fuqua and Matt Reinhart for District 2. Ted Noftall and Danny Robins have been invited as

candidates for District 3. And all four candidates for District 4 including Troy Kent, Rob Littleton, Mike McLean and Kenneth Smith have been invited, as well.

The forum will take place on **Thursday, July 14 from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** at Halifax River Yacht Club in Daytona Beach. Members can register for \$20 until July 14 at which point it will be \$24. Non-members are \$40 and breakfast is included for all attendees. For questions contact Shawn Richmond at 386.255.7174.



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At Florida Power & Light Company we are working together with the communities we serve to make Florida an even better place to raise a family and do business.



CHANGING THE CURRENT. FPL.



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

The Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce has some fun, unique locations coming up in the next months for business after hours. Please see below a list of those locations including the NEW time of 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 19
Pointe Grand Apartment Homes

Tuesday, August 16
Volusia Mall
*Joint Business After Hours with
Ormond Beach Chamber*

Tuesday, September 20
Speedway Indoor Karting
*Joint Business After Hours with
Volusia Hispanic Chamber*

Tuesday, October 18
**City of Daytona Beach at Yvonne
Scarlett Golden Center**

Tuesday, November 15
Streamline Hotel

If you are interested in hosting, or have any questions please contact Shanna Coley Hughes, Program Manager at 386.523.3672.

Welcome New Members

Congratulations to the following who chose to become new members:

Citicom
FitRev
Good Trouble Hustle LLC
The Gallery at Port Orange
iatricSystems
J. Chisholm Global Consulting, LLC
Lifewave
Lightspeed Voice
Meta Tech FL
Morgan Stanley
Servpro of North Daytona Beach/
Ormond Beach
Spectre Powerboats
Spot
T3 Technologies LLC

Your membership supports our efforts to strengthen the business community. If you too are interested in becoming a member, connect with Lori McMullin, APR, at 386.523.3680 for a customized membership or Samantha Crouch at 386.523.3678.

VYPG Upcoming Events

July Summer Lunch & Learn – “The Sea”

Tuesday, July 12th
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Dunes Brewing
59 Dunlawton Ave, Port Orange
\$5 for VYPG Members and \$15 for Non-Members

July VYPG Social at The Parched Oak

Thursday, July 21st
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
The Parched Oak
145 N Woodland Blvd., Deland
\$5 for VYPG Members and \$15 for Non-Members

Register at volusiaypg.com

Daytona Regional Chamber Upcoming Events

Open RBC Leads Group

Wednesday, July 13th
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Daytona Regional Chamber
Open ONLY to any active member
For further information contact
Samantha Crouch, Vice President
of Small Business Development,
at 386.523.3678.

Eggs & Issues Breakfast: Volusia County Council Candidate Forum Part II Dist's 2, 3, & 4

Thursday, July 14th
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Halifax River Yacht Club
General Admission \$24
Non-members \$40
For further information contact
Shawn Richmond, Director of
Advocacy, at 386.255.7174.

Hotel Roundtable

Tuesday, July 19th
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
By invitation only
For further information contact
Janet Kersey, Executive
Vice President and COO at
386.523.3676.

Business After Hours Pointe Grand Apartment Homes

Tuesday, July 19th
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Members \$10/Future Members \$35
For further information contact
Shanna Coley Hughes, Program
Manager, at 386.523.3672.

Non-Profit Roundtable

Friday, July 22nd
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
By invitation only
For further information contact
Shanna Coley Hughes, Program
Manager, at 386.523.3672.

CAUGHT ON CAMERA



Volusia County Council At-Large candidates Sherrise Boyd, Jake Johansson, Andy Kelly, and Douglas Pettit respond to questions at the Eggs & Issues Candidate Forum



Attendees looking to be informed listen to speakers at the Volusia Public School Board Candidate Forum



VYPG members at their June Lunch n Learn



Mixing it up at the Volusia Chamber Alliance Mega Mixer



David Jimenez of Launch Credit Union speaks as the presenting sponsor for the Volusia Public School Board's Candidate Forum

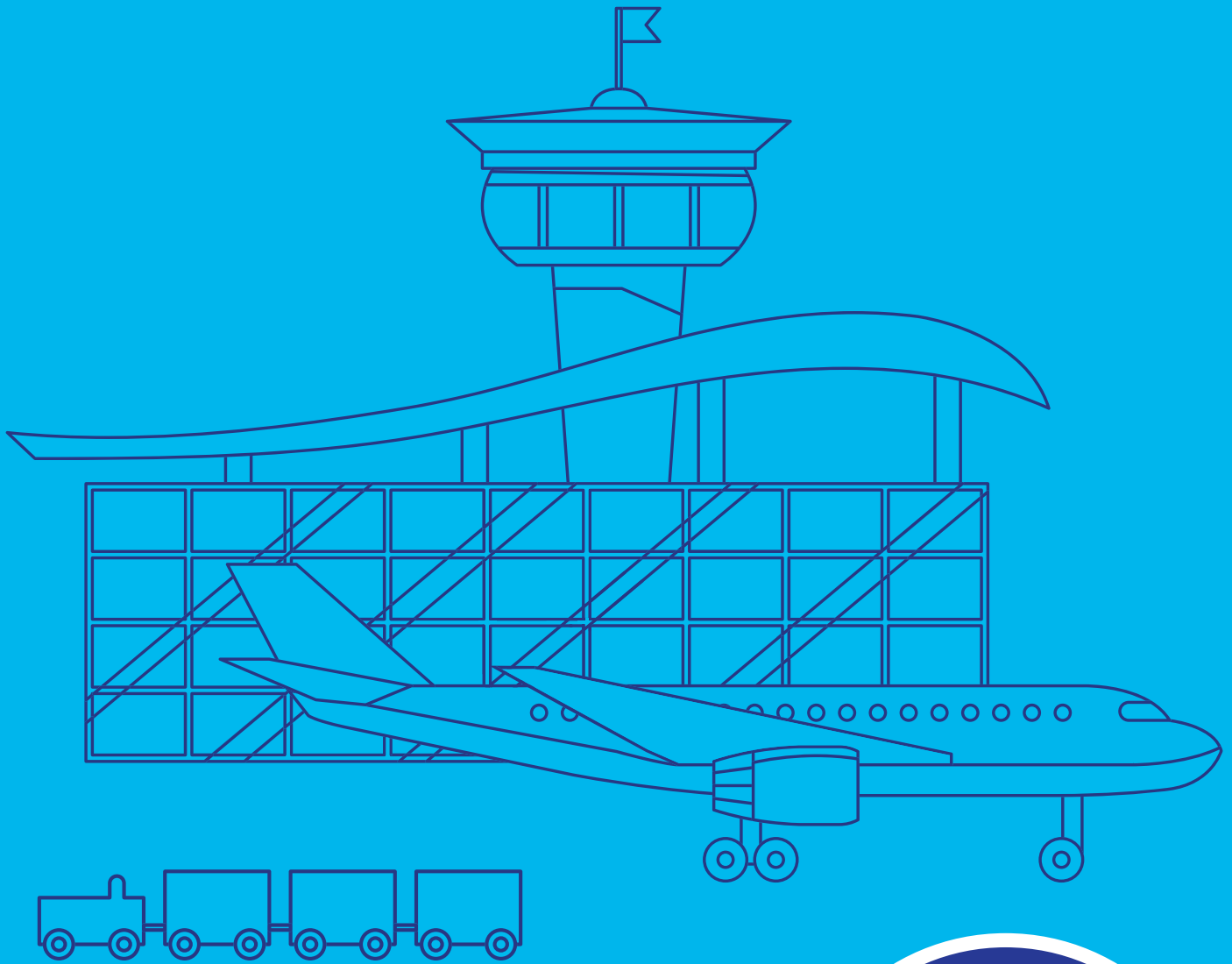


Members of VYPG enjoy each other's company while at their Social at Persimmon Hollow in Port Orange



Ribbon Cutting at US Simulation in the Volusia Mall

READY TO FLY!



Daytona Beach International Airport (DAB) has made health and safety enhancements so passengers can feel more at ease when they are Ready to Fly. Don't drive over an hour to Orlando just to catch a flight. Fly out of DAB and skip the trip before the trip. With flights offered by Delta Air Lines and American Airlines, you can reach your destination from an airport that's only a few minutes away.



Right airport. Right here.SM

FlyDaytonaFirst.com