

LOCAL

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Volusia to offer mortgage help

County will begin accepting applications Monday for up to \$1,500 a month

By Casmira Harrison
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Homeowners in Volusia County who are worried about making their mortgage payments over lost wages due to the coronavirus pandemic have somewhere to go for help next week.

Starting Monday at 8 a.m., the Volusia County

Stay up to date

NJ Get the latest information on the coronavirus pandemic at news-journalonline.com.

Community Assistance department will begin accepting applications from homeowners for financial help of up to \$1,500 per month per Volusia County household to help those who have been adversely impacted by job loss due to the epidemic. "This program is designed

to assist eligible homeowners with payments of their mortgage from one to three months," said Carmen Hall, director of Volusia County Community Assistance. "This includes past-due payments, current payments or, if they remain eligible, future payments."

Hall said applicants must be able to document a loss of income "as a direct result of COVID-19" and provide a recent mortgage statement that was current as of March 2020.

Household income must be at or below 120% of area median income level, Hall explained during a Volusia County Emergency Management press conference on Thursday afternoon.

"For example, a family of four would have an annual gross income that could not exceed \$51,900," said Hall.

The program is similar in scope to the Volusia County COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program, which also is capped at \$1,500 per month per household and offers between one

and three months of financial help for renters. Unlike the mortgage program, the rental assistance program excludes rentals within the boundaries of Deltona and Daytona Beach, whose cities are providing similar assistance to renters in those areas.

Applications for the rental assistance program and the Volusia County COVID-19 Mortgage Assistance Program can be found at Volusia.org. The applications can be submitted through the website or by mail, said Hall.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

8 new Volusia cases, 3 in Flagler

Statewide total approaches 39,000 with 1,600 deaths

By Nikki Ross
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An additional 826 coronavirus cases were announced in Florida Thursday, including eight in Volusia County and three in Flagler County, according to the Florida Department of Health.

The state's total is now 38,828; of those, 37,813 are Florida residents and 1,015 are non-residents, according to the FDOH.

Sixty-one coronavirus deaths were announced statewide on Thursday, bringing the state's death toll to 1,600.

Volusia County now has 534 coronavirus cases. The youngest case in the county was announced Thursday, listed as a 0-year-old boy, and it's unknown if he had contact with a known case.

The other seven new cases in Volusia include one unknown, four women and three men ranging in age from 36 to 71. One had no contact with a known case and or recent history of travel. It's unknown how the others contracted the virus.

In Volusia, 314 of the positive cases are male and 207 are female. White residents make up 60% of the cases in the county, while black residents make up 20%; 19% of the cases are other races or unknown.

See PANDEMIC, D6



Volunteers from Food Brings Hope, ICI Homes, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Sodexo food services hand out groceries Thursday during a food distribution event at Mainland High School in Daytona Beach. [NEWS-JOURNAL/NIGEL COOK]

Bags brimming with hope

Staff Report

DAYTONA BEACH — Volunteers from Food Brings Hope, ICI Homes, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Sodexo food services were on hand Thursday at Mainland High School to distribute 500 food bags to local residents.

According to officials with Food Brings Hope, the event helped feed 340 families and approximately 1,375 individuals.

"We had an amazing number of volunteers today, specifically from ICI Homes, to help Food Brings Hope distribute 500 food bags to individuals and families in the community," said Judi Winch, executive director of Food Brings Hope.

She added: "Today was truly an example of the community coming together to help those in need!"



By car or bike, residents were eager to take advantage of the food giveaway that took place at Mainland High School. [NEWS-JOURNAL/NIGEL COOK]

More online

NJ Check out our gallery for more photos from the event at news-journalonline.com.

The giveaways will continue every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or

until all the food has been distributed, at the school at 1255 W. International Speedway Blvd. in Daytona Beach. Cars should enter through the east entrance and travel through the bus loop.

If you'd like to donate, go to FoodBringsHope.org.

FOOTNOTE

Pro baseball in Daytona turns 100



Mark Lane

Professional baseball began in Daytona Beach 100 years ago Sunday, when on May 10, 1920, George Strenk, second baseman for the Orlando Caps, stepped up to the plate at what was then City Island Ballpark and hit a single to center field.

The games have been going on at the same field, with sad gaps now and then, ever since. An amazing thing.

A hundred years is a long time in a state that was only starting to urbanize in the 1920s. A long time in a city that moves fast and often forgets where it was.

This milestone makes it all the sadder the ballpark, now named for Jackie Robinson in honor of his history-making game played there in 1946, has not yet seen this year's opening day. The coronavirus has put all of baseball on rain delay.

Neither the Florida State League nor the Minor League Baseball organization has set a 2020 season start date. And the league's All-Star Game, planned for Jackie Robinson Ballpark for the first time in more than a dozen years, was

See LANE, D6

OUR NURSING HEROES

About this series

We are celebrating National Nurses Week and The News-Journal is honoring local nurses working on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the next installment in our series.

Halifax nurse grew up in hospital's shadow

By Zach Dean
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Gabriellia Calapiz grew up in the shadow of Halifax Health Medical Center.

She's lived in Daytona Beach since she was 1, was a Mainland Buc for all four years of high school, and spent her college years across the street at Daytona State College.

For nearly a decade, she would



Calapiz

See HALIFAX, D2

look up and see the hospital on her way to class. When she was 21, Calapiz decided to finally make the leap.

"It was right after my 21st birthday," she remembered. "The next week I started working at Halifax

ER nurse tackles pandemic challenges

By Ashley Varese
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With less than a year of nursing under her belt, Heather Herzog's time as a paramedic has prepared her for working in the ER during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I've always cared for people and want to help them in any way I can," Herzog,



Herzog

See ADVENT, D2

an ER nurse resident at AdventHealth DeLand, said. "I was a paramedic prior to becoming a nurse, so it seemed like a natural transition."

Heroes Work Here

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HEALTH

Thank You Nurses

National Nurses Week 2020