

# Community News

THE COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

The Voice of Condo, Civic, and Homeowner Associations of Pasco County



## Suncoast Trail Closure

Part of the Suncoast Trail in Pasco County, between State Road 52 and State Road 54 will be closed February 27 through March 9, 2018 for repairs and resurfacing.

The project is one of Pasco County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources' scheduled maintenance plans to improve the Suncoast Multi-Use Trail. The trail will be resurfaced to repair any existing uneven areas and any deteriorating sides making the trails safer for walkers and bikers to pass one another.

The closure will include all trail access south of State Road 52 and north of State Road 54—including access points through Starkey Park and the Suncoast Lakes subdivision. Pasco County reminds everyone to stay off the trail during this construction work.

## Upcoming Elections!

If you are interested in running for an Officer position with the Council of Neighborhood Associations, please email Kelly Miller at:

[kelly@getinvolvedchca.com](mailto:kelly@getinvolvedchca.com)

## New Location Reminder!

Last month we began holding our meetings at a new location. The address is as follows:

**New Port Richey City Hall**  
**5919 Main Street**  
**New Port Richey, FL 34652**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2018 at 9:30am. County Administrator Dan Biles will be our guest speaker.

## We've Gone Digital!

In January CONA switched to a completely digital platform! We will still be publishing monthly newsletters, but they will now be available in PDF on the CONA website, Facebook page, and email blast. Make sure you follow our Facebook page for news and updates, and go to our website to sign up for the newsletter eblast!





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## Pasco's First #PascoProud Campaign: RIDPasco

Are you tired of seeing trash piled up along our roads, in our neighborhoods and around our open spaces? Pasco County Government is empowering our community members to be part of the solution through a new initiative – Be #PascoProud!

Pasco County's first #PascoProud campaign tackles illegal dumping.

"Illegal dumping negatively impacts our environment, looks terrible and costs taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars every year in clean-up costs," said Commissioner Mike Moore. "We intend to hold these criminals accountable for their actions. With all of us working together, as a community, we can all make a difference in our own backyard."

Visit the Report Illegal Dumping website for more info:  
<http://bit.ly/2Bj6CUz>

## Hazard Mitigation Grants!

The Florida Division of Emergency Management (the Division) is pleased to announce the availability of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds as a result of the recent Presidential Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Irma (FEMA 4337-DR-FL).

HMGP funding is authorized by Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act. This funding helps communities implement measures to reduce or eliminate longterm risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. The Division encourages all potential applicants to submit applications for projects that address eligible mitigation activities. The amount of HMGP funding available to the state is based on the total federal disaster assistance for the Presidential Disaster Declaration.

### Application Timeline:

Applications are currently being accepted. The application period will close August 6, 2018. Applications mailed to the Division must be postmarked on or before August 6, 2018. Hand-delivered applications must be stamped in at the Division no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on August 6, 2018. The Division encourages potential applicants to submit complete applications before the close of the application period.

Find out more about the program at:  
<https://goo.gl/b8i85L>

## Lectures on the Lawn

A series of cultural events under the stars

STARKEY RANCH DISTRICT PARK – FREE ADMISSION

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**Thursday, February 22**  
 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
**Dr. Michael Francis**  
*"New Discoveries on an Old Frontier"*  
 Presenting new research on Spanish Florida's rich and unique history.


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**Thursday, May 3**  
 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
**Florida Wildlife Corridor:**  
*"The Forgotten Coast"*  
 A documentary on Florida's incredible watershed ecosystems.

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**What to Bring:**


- Picnic blankets or lawn chairs
- Bring a picnic, if you choose
- Food vendor will be on site



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For more information contact:  
 Parks, Recreation & Natural Resources at: (813) 929-2760 or  
 Visit @PascoParksFL on Facebook for all events.



## **Possible SR-54 Underpass?**

Pasco County's transportation board wants to find out if a big dig will work at the congested intersection of U.S. 41 and State Road 54.

County commissioners and elected officials from Pasco's cities, sitting as the Metropolitan Planning Organization, agreed last week to find out how much it could cost to build an underpass taking traffic beneath the existing highways.

The push for the cost study came as the organization was about to hear recommendations from its citizens task force, which spent two years studying potential improvements to the intersection and the entire State Road 54/56 corridor. The group had winnowed 18 alternatives to four recommendations, including building elevated lanes above the intersection, at-grade improvements, and its top choice — a network of frontage roads known as a parallel-flow intersection. It did not study building new highway lanes below the intersection.

"I'm not saying it's the right option, but we need to look at every possibility," said Commissioner Mike Moore.

If an analysis determines the underpass is financially viable, then the MPO will send the proposal to the task force for additional vetting before it considers the group's final recommendations. The cost study is not expected to be completed until April.

To read the full article: <https://goo.gl/rTdwcu>



## **Community News**

### **Pasco County Fair Info**

The Pasco County Fair runs Feb. 19-25 at the Pasco County Fairgrounds, 36722 State Road 52, Dade City.

Hours: Monday: 2 to 11 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday: 4 to 11 p.m.; Friday: 4 p.m. to midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m. to midnight. Sunday: noon to 7 p.m.

Tickets: Adults: \$10; children (ages 6-12) \$5; children 5 and under are free.

Parking: Free.

For information on midway ride specials and advance sales prices, go to

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



### **Interested In More Events?**

Pasco County has more fun and exciting events right around the corner, including the Shrimp & Crab Festival and the 2018 Chasco Fiesta.

If you're feeling athletic and adventurous, there's a Foam Fest 5k and Savage race right around the corner.

For all the dates and details, visit: <http://www.visitpasco.net/events>

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