



LEON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

**Rick Minor**

DISTRICT 3 NEWSLETTER



## September/October 2025 News & Updates

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Board of County Commissioners Meeting

-- Tues., Sept. 23, 2025  
-- 6:00 pm - Second Public Hearing on Final Millage Rate & Final Budgets and Special Meeting  
-- The agenda can be viewed [here](#).

#### Board of County Commissioners Meeting

-- Tues., Oct. 14, 2025  
-- 3:00 pm - Meeting  
-- The agenda will be posted [here](#) on or about October 7th.

#### CRTPA Meeting

-- Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025  
-- 1:30 pm  
-- City Commission Chambers  
-- The agenda can be viewed [here](#) on or about October 14th.

#### Board of County Commissioners Meeting

-- Tues., Oct. 28, 2025  
-- 1:00 pm - Workshop on Legislative Priorities  
-- The agenda will be posted [here](#) on or about October 21st.

Click [HERE](#) for the complete

Hello,

I hope you're doing well. Fall is bringing us some (slightly) cooler weather but that's not all... we also have several major local news stories, including the fire service fee, the proposed TMH-FSU partnership, and the ongoing Comprehensive Plan rewrite.

### FIRE SERVICE

After months of deliberation between the County and City, the Tallahassee City Commission voted 3-2 last week to terminate the fire service fee agreement three years from now. County Commission Chairman Brian Welch provides [a timeline of these events in today's Tallahassee Democrat](#). First, it's important to note that the current level of fire service for residents living in the unincorporated areas will continue through September 2028.

There has been heated rhetoric from both the County and City, but fire service discussions shouldn't be about "playing hardball". Instead, both sides must work calmly toward a resolution that is in the best interest of the entire community. Over the coming months I'll be doing my part to cool tempers and find a solution. In fact, the conversations I've had with some City Commissioners over the past few days have been very encouraging/constructive. Stay tuned!

### THE TMH-FSU PARTNERSHIP

The TMH-FSU partnership would position Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare as an academic healthcare system somewhat similar to UF Health. (For recent news articles, click [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).) While Leon County has no ownership stake in TMH and there will be no County Commission vote on the issue, I'd like to hear your thoughts. Please click [here](#) to send me a quick email with your perspective.

### COMP PLAN REWRITES... AND LAKE JACKSON

As you may know, the County and City have been working on a rewrite of the Comprehensive Plan, which is the plan for how and where our community will grow over the next 25 years. I hope you can attend the **District 3 Comp Plan Community Engagement Meeting** this Thursday (Sept. 25th) at 5:30pm at the Lake Jackson Community Center (details below). This meeting is important because **development allowances and Urban Service Area boundary changes are being proposed for the area north of Lake Jackson**. I'm meeting with staff soon to discuss these proposals in depth, and after that I'll send a more thorough update. In the meantime, though, I hope you'll attend this meeting to learn about the proposals and give us your

Below you'll find information on many other items, such as Leon County's annual report, an award for the Lake Jackson Greenway, a grant opportunity for land management, and a special, national recognition for the incredible Althemese Barnes. I hope you'll find this newsletter informative and helpful. Thank you once again for the honor of representing you at the Leon County Commission, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.



**Rick Minor**

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P.S. If you have friends and family who might be interested in receiving this newsletter each month, please ask them to sign up at [www.LeonCountyFL.gov/RickMinor](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/RickMinor). Thank you!

## IMPORTANT: Join us this Thursday (Sept. 25th) for the District 3 Comp Plan Community Meeting

COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN UPDATE



THURSDAY  
**SEPT  
25**

5:30 PM - 7 PM  
**Lake Jackson Community Center**  
3840 N Monroe Street

Join us this Thursday, September 25th, from 5:30 - 7:00 pm, at the Lake Jackson Community Center, for **the District 3 Comp Plan Community Meeting**. Learn about the latest in the Tallahassee-Leon County Comp Plan Update. You'll have an opportunity to see what is being proposed and to review maps, specific land uses, and policies.

This meeting is particularly important because development allowances and Urban Service Area boundary changes are being proposed for the area north of Lake Jackson. Rick will send a detailed update in the coming days, but come to this meeting to learn about these proposals and give us your perspective.

Can't make it on Thursday? There will be other meetings around the County. You can view the full list [here](#).

[Learn More About the Comp Plan Update Here](#)

# Leon County's 2025 Annual Report



The Leon County Annual Report looks back at the significant progress of the past fiscal year. It highlights Leon County's commitment to investing in infrastructure, creating places for people and businesses to thrive, and building a culture of innovation and co-creation – all of which make our County one of the South's Best places to live, work, and play.

We are deeply grateful to every Leon County employee for their dedication and hard work, which make these accomplishments possible.

[Read the Annual Report in its Entirety Here](#)

[Watch a Video Summary of the Annual Report Here](#)

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## Motor, Drive Systems & Magnetics (MDSM) Conference Returns to Tallahassee-Leon County



We are excited to share the news that, after [a successful 2025 event](#), the Motor, Drive Systems & Magnetics (MDSM) Conference will return to Tallahassee-Leon County on March 3–5, 2026.



The 2025 conference hosted over 260 industry leaders from around the world, featured 36 exhibitors, and showcased Tallahassee-Leon County's role as the Magnetic Capital of the World— punctuated by the unveiling of “Maggie,” the world's largest magnetically levitating sculpture.

Organizers promise MDSM 2026 will build on this momentum with more innovations, networking, and opportunities for global collaboration.

[Learn More About the MDSM Conference Here](#)

## Lake Jackson Greenway Phase 1 Award



Congratulations to everyone involved in the Lake Jackson Greenway Project Phase I for being recognized by the American Public Works Association (APWA) as the **Florida Chapter Project of the Year** in the Roadways and Highways under \$2 million category.

The Lake Jackson Greenway Project will create a 5.1-mile multimodal connection from Lake Ella to Lake Jackson Mounds Archaeological State Park. By linking the Midtown area to Northern Tallahassee through the construction of sidewalks and on-street cycle routes, the Greenway strengthens the region's commitment to expanding its non-motorized transportation network. Now completed, Phase I of the Lake Jackson Greenway Project creates a connection from Lake Ella to the Trousdell Aquatic & Gymnastics Center through new sidewalks and on-street cycle routes, significantly improving walkability,

bikeability, and safety in surrounding neighborhoods and streets.

This award looks for projects that enhance safety and connectivity. The Florida Chapter of the APWA selected Lake Jackson Greenway Phase I because the project enhances safety and overall non-motorized access across residential, commercial, and multi-family areas.

[Learn More about the Lake Jackson Greenway here](#)

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## IGNITE Tallahassee Grand Opening



Grand opening of the IGNITE Tallahassee incubator facility! Located in Innovation Park of Tallahassee, the 40,000 sq.ft. facility is designed to enable translation of new technologies from the lab to the market. Don't miss your chance to meet the current incubator companies, hear from tech startup specialists, and learn about the entrepreneurship programs available to tech entrepreneurs in North Florida!

[Register Here](#)

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## Grand Opening of Renovated Second Floor of



# the Main Library

## ***You're Invited to Celebrate a New Chapter***

Join Leon County Government for the grand opening of the renovated second floor of the downtown Main Library.

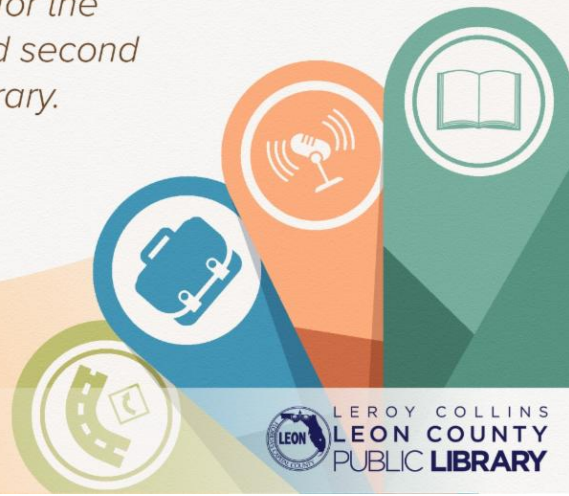
- 30,000+ sq. ft. renovated
- 15 new meeting and gathering rooms
- Workforce development hub
- Simulator lab
- And so much more!

**Friday, September 26**

10:30 a.m.

**Leon County Main Library**

200 West Park Avenue



Big things are happening at our Leon County Main Library! Celebrate the grand opening of the second floor renovations on Friday, September 26, at 10:30 a.m. Enjoy tours, refreshments, activities, and a first look at the exciting new spaces. Hope to see you there!

[Learn More About the Library Renovations Here](#)

## **Pick Up Your World Cross Country Tallahassee 26 Library Card Today!**



On January 10, 2026, the [World Athletics Cross Country Championships Tallahassee 26](#) is coming to Leon County's Apalachee Regional Park! In celebration of this once-in-a-

generation event, Leon County Government is offering limited-edition World Cross Country Tallahassee 26 library cards to all eligible Leon County residents. While supplies last, receive a new or replacement WXC Tallahassee 26 library card at no cost from any Leon County Public Library location.

[Click Here to Learn More About Library Card Eligibility](#)

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## Tall Timbers accepting applications for land management grant



There is an exciting opportunity available to property owners in Leon County and across the Big Bend. Tall Timbers, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is now accepting applications for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). This initiative provides \$25 million in federal cost-share funding for land management and conservation practices over the next five years.

Through the Florida's Big Bend RCPP, landowners in Leon County and ten other Big Bend counties can receive financial and technical assistance to implement practices that protect forests, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. These practices include prescribed fire, forest stand improvement, tree planting, and wildlife habitat restoration – all of which help improve water quality, protect at-risk species, and conserve the natural resources that make our region so special.

There is no minimum acreage requirement, but landowners with 10 acres or more are encouraged to apply.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

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## 9/11 Memorial Program and Walk





On 9/11, Rick joined the Tallahassee Fire Department (TFD), Leon County EMS, and other first responder agencies for a memorial program followed by a 1.1 mile walk to remember the fallen, symbolizing the 110 stories of the World Trade Center.

We will never forget those lives that were tragically cut short and the heroes who rose in service to respond. May we always carry their memory and their spirit of resilience.

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## Leon County's Annual 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service



Every year since 2011, Leon County and hundreds of citizens have participated in service projects to honor the victims, survivors, and others who rose in service in response to the attacks on September 11, 2001. This year's project was in the Appaloosa Run neighborhood of District 3, and Rick was proud to join with other Commissioners, staff and citizens to help transform the homes and lives of residents in that neighborhood.

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## Congratulations to Tallahassee preservationist Althemese Barnes for earning National Trust's highest award





Congratulations to Althemese Pemberton Barnes, a Tallahassee preservationist who founded the Florida African American Preservation Network (FAAHPN) and the John G. Riley Center and Museum, for receiving the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award, the National Trust for Historic Preservation's highest individual honor.

Rick wrote a letter in support of Ms. Barnes for this award. In his letter, Rick stated, "[w]hen it comes to historic preservation, Ms. Barnes is the undeniable leader in our community, and her influence extends throughout the State of Florida - and beyond. I know of no one who has contributed more to the area of historic preservation or whose contributions have touched more of our residents."

Congratulations, Ms. Barnes!

[Read more in the Tallahassee Democrat here](#)



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