

Business Buzz

Columbia County's Economic Development Newsletter

August 2026

BACK TO SCHOOL!!!

As the summer comes to a close, parents all over the county are preparing for back to school. This issue is dedicated to the community efforts for back to school.



BACK TO SCHOOL

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NORTHSTAR
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
Partnership for Strong Families

COMMUNITY BARBERS

Annual
BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH

Free! **BACKPACKS
SCHOOL SUPPLIES
HAIRCUTS***

**COMMUNITY RESOURCES
HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, DRINKS
WITH MUSIC BY DJ HEAVY SMOOTH**

Richardson Community Center Gym
255 NE Coach Anders Lane
Lake City, FL 32055

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026
STARTING AT 3 PM
(WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)**

*Free Haircuts provided by Community Barbers.

PLEASE REGISTER BELOW!



NorthStar Family Resource Center (NSFRC) is excited to announce its partnership with local hairstylists in Lake City to co-host the 2026 Back2School Bash. This event is scheduled for Sunday, August 2, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Richardson Community Center, located at 255 NE Coach Anders Lane, Lake City, Florida 32055. Our target this year is to distribute at least 800 backpacks. Additionally, we will offer free haircuts, food, and music for everyone in attendance.

We also invite company and local community donations to support this initiative on the following website.
<https://partnershipforstrongfamilies.networkforgood.com/projects/254172-general-support-psf>

With online donation, make sure you select "Resource Center" on "Where To Apply Your" tab. Rest assured, 100% of all donations will directly benefit these deserving students.

JAN 21 2026	
2026 – 2027	
COLUMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR	
SCHOOL BOARD	
Wednesday, July 1, 2026	Fiscal Year Begins
Monday, July 6 - Tuesday, July 7	District Holiday All Personnel - System Closed
Thursday, July 23	196-Day Paraprofessionals Report
Wednesday, July 29 - Thursday, July 30	New Employee Orientation
Monday, August 3	Begin Five (5) Day Work Week
Monday, August 3	190-Day Paraprofessionals Report
Monday, August 3 - Friday, August 7	Pre-planning (5 Days)
Thursday, August 6	180-Day Paraprofessionals Report
Monday, August 10	First Day of Classes 2026
Monday, September 7	Labor Day - Legal Holiday All Personnel/Students
Wednesday September 23	Student Early Release Day
Monday, September 28	Student Holiday - Professional Development Day
Monday, October 5 - Friday, October 9	FTE Week
Friday, October 9	End of 1 st Grading Period
Monday, October 12	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday (Instructional Virtual)
Wednesday, November 11	Veterans' Day - Legal Holiday All Personnel/Students
Monday, November 23 - Tuesday, Nov 24	Non-Working/Non-Paid Days for All Personnel/Students Except 12 Month (Reserved Makeup Weather Days)
Wednesday, November 25	System Closed-All Personnel/Students
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving - Legal Holiday All Personnel/Students
Friday, November 27	District Holiday All Personnel/Students - System Closed
Friday, December 17	Last Day Before Holidays / End of First (1 st) Semester
Monday, December 21 - Monday, January 4	Holiday Break - System Closed
Tuesday, January 5	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday (Instructional Virtual)
Wednesday, January 6	First Day of Classes 2027 / Begin Second (2 nd) Semester
Monday, January 18	MLK, Jr. Day - Legal Holiday All Personnel/Students
Monday, February 8 - Friday, February 12	FTE Week
Monday, February 15	Student Holiday - Professional Development Day (Reserved Makeup Weather Day)
Wednesday, February 24	Student Early Release Day
Tuesday, March 16	End of 3 rd Grading Period
Friday, March 19	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday (Instructional Virtual)
Monday, March 22 - Friday, March 26	Spring Break - System Closed
Monday, April 19	Student Holiday - Professional Development Day (Reserved Makeup Weather Day)
Friday, May 14	Last Day for Seniors CHS and FWHS
Thursday, May 20	FWHS Baccalaureate
Friday, May 21	FWHS Graduation
Wednesday, May 26	Last Day of Classes, Last Day Paraprofessionals (180 Day)
Thursday, May 27 - Friday, May 28	Post-planning (2 Days)
Thursday, May 27	CHS Baccalaureate
Friday, May 28	CHS Graduation
Friday, May 28	Last Day Paraprofessionals (190 and 196 Day)
Monday, May 31	Memorial Day - Legal Holiday All Personnel
Monday, May 31	Begin Four (4) Day Work Week
Monday, June 7	Summer Reading Camp
Monday, June 7	Secondary Credit Recovery Begins
Thursday, June 24	Summer Reading Camp/Secondary Credit Recovery Ends

For information about your school, bus schedules, parent paperwork, and other needs, check out the Columbia County School District Website at: https://www.columbiak12.com/43806_1

Did you know?

The Florida Agricultural College (FAC), founded in Lake City in 1884, was the first land-grant college in Florida. it is officially recognized as one of the core predecessor institutions of the modern University of Florida.



Outreach in Columbia County

Our Community Cares Coalition

On June 25, 2026, Our Community Cares Coalition summer camp spent the day with Noah Walker. This included a walk through to several businesses here in Lake City, including the Economic Development Department. We were so pleased to see these young people get out and learn about the community and how it works. Thank you to the OCC and Mayor Walker for giving these youth a chance to see business from the inside out.



Hunger Fight

Hunger Fight serves communities across multiple counties and states annually. This year's event is scheduled for December 12th at Parkview Baptist's Gymnasium at 9:00am. Their goal is to pack 75,000 meals in 2 hours.

11TH ANNUAL COLUMBIA COUNTY Community Outreach Event

\$1,000 • 2,175 meals • 75 books	\$2,000 • 4,350 meals • 150 books	\$5,000 • 10,875 meals • 375 books
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Each \$1,000 donation provides the opportunity for 10 volunteers to attend the 2 hour event

Reserve Your Spot Now!

Scan or Text:
Text **11COLUMBIA**
to **904-736-7755**

Date
Saturday, December 12th, 2026

Time
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Location
Parkview Baptist Gymnasium,
268 NW Lake Jeffery Rd,
Lake City, FL 32055

Join us for the 11th Annual Columbia Community Outreach Event and help us fight hunger and illiteracy in our community. Every table sponsored and every volunteer team assembled helps provide weekend meals for 16,000 children and age-appropriate books for 4,200 preschoolers. Your business, church, or organization can make a measurable impact.

Partner with us. Bring a team. Change the future for local kids.

Mike Foreman

352-538-2938

mike@hungerfight.org

Business Spotlight

Creamy Colada

Making Happy Memories One Smile at a Time!

located at the old Ed n Barbs donut shop

What was once a handicap-accessible van became the beginning of a dream. In October 2020, Ronald and Deneil Timmons founded ****Creamy Colada**** with a simple mission: to bring joy to their community, one smile at a time.

During a season when COVID-19 restrictions left many people feeling isolated, lonely, and discouraged, Ronald and Deneil were inspired to create moments of happiness throughout Columbia County. What began as a mobile business serving refreshing frozen treats in neighborhoods quickly grew into something much bigger.

Known for their delicious Italian ice, creamy milkshakes, and premium ice cream, Creamy Colada soon became a local favorite. The business has been invited to birthday parties, corporate events, private gatherings, community celebrations, and local festivals, serving more than ****3,000 smiling faces**** throughout Columbia County.

After years of traveling from neighborhood to neighborhood and building lasting relationships with customers, Ronald and Deneil decided it was time to put down roots. They transformed the former ****Ed & Barb's Doughnut Shop**** into Creamy Colada's first brick-and-mortar location through an extensive renovation.

On ****July 11, 2026****, Creamy Colada proudly celebrated its Grand Opening. When the doors opened at 11:00 a.m., customers poured in, eager to experience the shop they had grown to love. By the end of the day, more than ****300 people**** had visited the new Lake City location to see what all the excitement was about.

Today, Creamy Colada remains a family-owned and operated business committed to providing exceptional customer service, premium-quality frozen desserts, and an atmosphere where families and friends can create lasting memories together.

As Creamy Colada continues to grow, one thing remains unchanged: their mission to bring joy to the community. Every scoop, every shake, and every Italian ice is served with gratitude and the hope of creating another happy memory—one smile at a time.



— ♥ SWEET TREATS. GOOD EATS. GOOD VIBES. ♥ —

MILKSHAKES

14. oz \$7.49	16. oz \$8.99
Banana Pudding Dream	Pina Colada
Cookies & Cream	Lemon Lovers
Mango Tango	Mocha Madness
Strawberry Shortcake	Coconut Creme
Red Velvet Crunch	Peachy Peach
Rum Raisins (Non-Alcoholic)	Vanilla

SMOOTHIES

14. oz \$6.49	16. oz \$7.99
Mango Tango	Strawberry Banana
Pina Colada	Peachy Peach

ITALIAN ICE

14. oz \$5.99
All Flavors Available

MINI DOUGHNUTS

12 Mini Doughnuts (Classic)	\$5.49
12 Mini Doughnuts (Specialty)	\$6.99

ICED COFFEE

16 oz Iced Coffee \$5.49
Flavors (Includes):
Vanilla • Mocha • Caramel
Add-Ons: Extra Flavor +\$0.75 | Whipped Cream +\$0.75
Black Coffee \$1.00 | Espresso Shot +\$1.25

ICE CREAM

CUPS	CONES
Kiddie (1 Scoop) \$3.49	Single Scoop \$4.99
Single Scoop \$4.99	Double Scoop \$6.49
Double Scoop \$6.49	Triple Scoop \$7.99
Triple Scoop \$7.99	Waffle Cone Upgrade +\$1.25

SOFT SERVE CONES/CUPS

Small \$3.49 • Vanilla & Chocolate • Large \$5.49
Toppings: Rainbow Sprinkles • Caramel • Oreo
Waffle Cone Upgrade +\$1.25

SUNDAES

Classic Sundae	Mini Doughnut Sundae	Banana Nana
Vanilla ice cream, hot fudge, whipped cream, cherry \$6.49	Mini doughnuts, vanilla ice cream, chocolate or caramel, whipped cream, cherry \$7.99	Banana, vanilla ice cream, chocolate or strawberry, whipped cream, cherry \$9.99

SUNDAE TOPPINGS

Sprinkles \$0.50	Strawberry Topping \$0.75	Whipped Cream \$0.50
Hot Fudge \$0.75	Crushed Cookies/Candy \$0.75	Cherry \$0.25
Caramel \$0.75	Chopped Nuts \$0.75	

HOT DOGS

All Beef Hot Dog	\$4.99
Chili Dog	\$5.99
Chili Cheese Dog	\$6.49
Bunless Bites	\$4.99

PIZZA

12" Cheese Pizza	\$12.99
12" Pepperoni Pizza	\$14.49

ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS \$1.50 EACH

COMBO DEALS

Hot Dog + 14 oz Italian Ice	\$9.99
Hot Dog + 14.oz Smoothie	\$10.99
2 Hot Dogs + 14 oz Italian Ice	\$13.99
12" Cheese Pizza + Two 14 oz Italian Ices	\$23.99
12" Pepperoni Pizza + Two 14 oz Italian Ices	\$25.99
12 Mini Doughnuts + 14.oz Milkshake	\$13.99

MADE FRESH. MADE HAPPY.
See you again soon!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LOCAL!

FOLLOW US!   @CREAMYCOLADA

