



The K-12 school year has officially begun in Florida! It's exciting to see our students, teachers, and parents gearing up for another year in our exceptional schools. The knowledge and experiences gained in K-12 are the building blocks for higher education, job opportunities, and beyond.

This month, I've had the opportunity to visit some of the invaluable resources in our community that promote education and community health. Without a strong K-12 foundation in Alachua, Marion, and Putnam counties, these institutions and organizations would not be possible.

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## Back-to-School Traffic Safety



As we welcome back students for the new school year, please use extra caution while driving. Remember, under Florida's [new road safety law](#), drivers may only use hands-free wireless communications devices while in active school zones. To better protect our students and families, handling personal electronic devices in active school or construction zones is now a primary offense.

## University of Florida's Norman Hall Renovation



The impressive renovation of the University of Florida's Norman Hall is coming to life! Students will soon be able to enjoy technology upgrades, configurable classrooms and meeting spaces, and more space for research.

Norman Hall is the academic home of UF's College of Education. The building was originally built in 1934 to house the college's new P.K. Yonge K-12 Laboratory School. Norman Hall was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.



## Appleton Museum of Art



The Appleton Museum of Art, managed by the College of Central Florida, is one of Ocala's cultural gems, bringing world-renowned collections and art experts to our community. The Appleton joins the nation's top 3% of museums by earning accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums.

The Appleton has featured artwork by Picasso, Van Gogh, and Monet. I was proud to join our delegation to ensure our museum has the resources to continue to expose Central Florida to these timeless pieces. Thank you Senator Bradley and Representatives Stan McClain, Charlie Stone, and Brett Hage!

## Access to Comprehensive Healthcare



I had the pleasure of meeting the wonderful folks at Ocala Health and Rehabilitation Center! They are doing a great job providing Marion County families with premier short- and long-term care.

This week, I joined Representatives Stan McClain and Charlie Stone at Ocala Regional Medical Center. ORMC facilitated a constructive conversation about all we accomplished last session, while discussing how we can build on these successes.



Mental health treatment plays a crucial role in providing comprehensive healthcare. We hosted a roundtable with the Gainesville Opportunity Center to learn how they are showing individuals just how much they are personally capable of, while helping them return to the workforce.

### Upcoming Delegation Meetings

Please feel free to join us at the following delegation meetings. We would love to hear from you and discuss any concerns you have for our community.

**Marion County (Ocala)**  
College of Central Florida, Klein Center  
Tuesday, September 10th  
1:00 to 5:00 pm

**Alachua County (Gainesville)**

Santa Fe College, Fine Arts Hall

Monday, September 23rd

1:00 to 5:00 pm

**Putnam County (Palatka)**

Putnam County Board of County Commissioners Boardroom

Wednesday, September 25th

2:00 to 4:00 pm

For more information, please contact [McGuire.Suzanne@flsenate.gov](mailto:McGuire.Suzanne@flsenate.gov)

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It's an honor to represent you in the Florida Senate. Thank you for your continued support, input and patience as we work together to make lasting impacts in our community. I'm eager to hear from you so we can hit the ground running for District 8 next Session!

Sincerely,



Senator Keith Perry



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