

## **Good Morning!**



This past week, December 7 was the 79th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. I hope you will join me as we continue to honor the legacy of the 2,402 service members and civilians who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The patriots of the Greatest Generation led our nation through World War II so that we may live in peace and prosperity. As we teach future generations what it means to be American, they are who we look to.

We will never forget them.

I consider it a great honor to represent all the citizens and visitors of District 17. Please share this link with friends and family so that they too can sign up for the Mayfield Minute. If you or someone you know needs my assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!

#### **Governor DeSantis Announces Vaccination Plan**

Governor DeSantis attended a summit at the White House this past week to discuss his plan to distribute COVID-19 vaccines as they are made available. The Governor announced that Florida's vaccine distribution proposal calls for vaccinating seniors in nursing homes before the end of December, while also getting vaccines into the hands of "high-contact" front line health-care workers in five urban areas by the end of next week.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved the Pfizer vaccine for emergency use and approval of the MODERNA vaccine is expected in the coming days. Governor Desantis issued a statement Thursday stating that Florida will receive 179,000 doses for our initial shipment and he expects to have them within the week.

The first round of the 179,400 doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be allocated as follows:

- 97,500 doses will be sent to hospitals to administer vaccine to high-contact and high-exposure health care personnel.
- 60,450 doses of vaccine will be sent to CVS and Walgreens for use in long-term care facilities. Both companies are under contract with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to administer vaccines inside those facilities. Long-term care residents and staff members will receive free vaccinations under agreements the federal government reached with CVS and Walgreens.
- 21,450 doses of vaccine will go directly to the Florida Department of Health. We will be using strike teams from the Department of Health, the Florida Division of

Emergency Management, and the Florida National Guard to deliver and administer the vaccine in long-term care facilities.

Both the MODERNA and the Pfizer Inc. vaccine require two doses to be effective. I will keep providing updates as the State works to distribute these vaccines.

# Florida Attorney General Issues Consumer Alert

Attorney General Ashley Moody issued a Consumer Alert warning Floridians about COVID-19 vaccine product and distribution scams. Attorney General Moody released the following tips to help Floridians avoid COVID-19 vaccine-related scams:

- Do not respond to solicitations about vaccines. Once a vaccine is approved and available to the public, availability will be announced by federal and state government agencies, with clear priority tiers and distribution guidelines;
- Never send money or financial information to anyone offering a COVID-19 vaccine
  or claiming the ability to expedite the process. <u>Vaccine doses purchased with U.S.</u>
  <u>taxpayer dollars will be provided at no cost</u>; however, vaccination providers will be
  allowed to charge a administration fee. Vaccine providers may have this fee
  reimbursed by the patient's public or private insurance company or, for uninsured
  patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief
  Fund.

Report suspicious solicitations or COVID-19 vaccine-related advertisements to the Attorney General's Office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or by clicking on the link below which will take you to the consumer alerts page. From there, click on "REPORT A SCAM". Find the page here: Consumer Alerts

## **District 17 Highlights**

#### **Space Coast Lightfest**

More than 3 million twinkling holiday lights will light up the night sky at Wickham Park in Melbourne till January 3rd, 2021. The "Space Coast Lightfest" is a holiday themed drivethrough event transforming Wickham Park into a virtual winter wonderland.

This family oriented celebration features shimmering lights and animated displays, drawing more than 15,000 vehicles annually. The fun begins every night, including Christmas Eve, Christmas day, New Years Eve, and News Year Day, from 6:30 to 10:00. If you are in line at closing time, you will be allowed to continue through the park.

Tickets are \$15 per car and \$5 per motorcycle. This year Space Coast Lightfest is partnering with Toys for Kids benefitting underprivileged children in our community. Bring an unwrapped toy when buying your ticket and you will receive a discount on the price of admission.

# Florida Launches Strong Case For Space Force Command

During a Enterprise Florida Board of Directors meeting, Space Florida leaders made a strong case for the United States Space Force Command to be located at Patrick Air Force Base.

The Air Force has outlined that the command headquarters should be located within 25 miles of a military installation, be among the top 150 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas

in the U.S. and score a 50 or higher out of 100 on the American Association of Retired Persons Public Policy Institute's Livability Index.

"The growth of the commercial aerospace industry throughout the state enhances the appeal of Florida for serving as the launch pad for national security missions in space," Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez, who serves as chairwoman of the Space Florida board of directors, told the Enterprise Florida board in a video.

Patrick Air Force Base was the only Florida location to make the shortlist. The site-selection team is expected to hold a virtual meeting Dec. 21 with a final decision expected early next year.

## **SDIRC College & Career Readiness Expo**

The School District of Indian River County has announced dates for their College & Career Readiness Expo. If you or a friend has a student in high school, make sure to mark your calendar for this great event! The Expo will provide information and resources to prepare for success in life after high school. Below you will find the location and start time for both events.

January 7, 2021 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Gifford Youth Achievement Center 4875 43rd Ave Vero Beach, FL 32967

February 4, 2021 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Sebastian River High School 9001 Shark Blvd Sebastian, FL 32958

Learn about FAFSA, Bright Futures scholarships, joining The Armed Forces, college application processes, and more! For more information, contact the Indian River County School Board at 772-564-3000.

Follow me on Facebook and Twitter, and visit my Senate website



#### **Contact Information**

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