



Good Morning!

Happy Super bowl Sunday! The Tampa Bay Bucs will face off against the Kansas City Chiefs tonight at 6:30. This will be the first time a team has played at their home stadium. The Governor has predicted a Bucs win, so lets join him in rooting for a Florida win tonight!

Please sign up for mobile alerts through your county, so you are informed of COVID-19 vaccine appointments as they are made available. Brevard County will be participating the statewide Sharecare program. Individuals can pre-register for vaccine appointments and be notified when appointments are available in their area by visiting myvaccine.fl.gov.

If you live in Indian River County, you may join their new registration waitlist system by clicking [here](#). If you need assistance with signing up, you may call the County at 772-226-3900 and they will help you. Appointments are scheduled based on availability of the vaccine and the date an individual registers. Registrants will only be notified when doses of the vaccine have been received by the DOH in Indian river County and there is an available appointment.

I consider it a great honor to represent all of the citizens and visitors of District 17. Please share [this link](#) with your 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!

Space Coast Improvements

Governor Ron DeSantis announced the final signing of Florida's \$90 million Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant. This grant agreement will be used to enhance the connectivity and mobility of Florida's Space Coast.

The state of Florida, led by Space Florida and supported by FDOT, was named an INFRA Grant award recipient by the U.S. Department of Transportation in a partnership with NASA and FHWA for both the Indian River Bridge Replacement and roadway improvements to Space Commerce Way.

The \$126 million bridge project includes new high-level fixed bridges that replace the current twin draw bridges built in 1964. Bridge enhancements will provide critical support for large vehicles that are necessary for future space launches. The new bridges will also serve as a public access route between the mainland near Titusville and North Merritt Island as well as a hurricane evacuation route for residents of the barrier islands in the area.

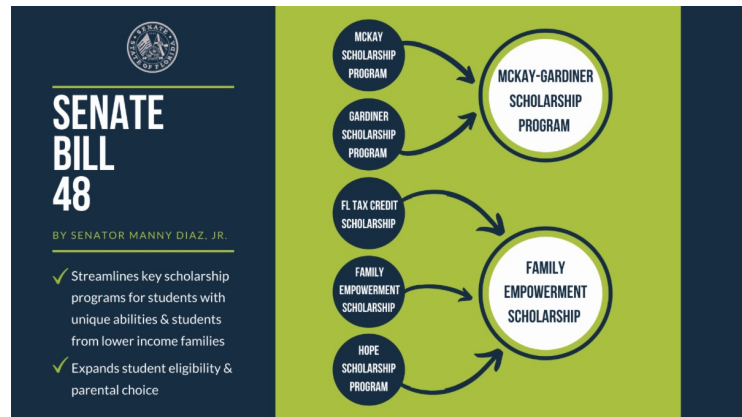
Also included in the grant funding is widening approximately 2.7 miles of Space Commerce Way to four lanes. Improvements along this corridor offer enhanced access for the public and commercial traffic, which helps to ensure critical commerce through the area, benefiting all businesses including those in the space industry. Roadway improvements on this corridor total an additional \$24 million.

Construction of the new bridges is anticipated to begin in late 2021 and estimated to be

complete in 2025. Construction of the improvements to Space Commerce Way is expected to be begin in late 2022 and estimated to be complete late 2024.

Committee Week 3 Update

The Senate Committee on Education chaired by Senator Joe Gruters, passed Senate Bill 48: Educational Scholarship Programs, by Senator Manny Diaz, Jr., This legislation further empowers families to design the academic experience that best fits their needs. SB48 aims to streamline existing school choice scholarships and expand program eligibility for lower income families and students with unique abilities.



The Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES) is expanded to incorporate the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) and the Hope Scholarship to serve students from lower income families and victims of bullying and harassment. The consolidated scholarship programs will operate as Education Savings Accounts to provide families with even more flexibility to foster the most beneficial situation for their child's education. This legislation increases access to a McKay-Gardiner Scholarship or FES, gives priority to support Florida's students who are most in need, enhances accommodations for virtual school students, and allows tax credit contributions to be deposited directly into a designated fund for K-12 education to be dispersed through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP).

The Senate Committee on Judiciary, chaired by Senator Jeff Brandes, approved Senate Bill 88: Farming Operations, by Senator Jason Brodeur. This legislation increases protections for our farmers by modernizing Florida's Right to Farm Act. Our state has experienced tremendous growth since Florida's Right to Farm Act was originally passed in 1979. SB88 seeks ensure existing farm work and complimentary agritourism activities are protected.

Patronis Identity Theft Warning

CFO Jimmy Patronis released five tips to help reduce the risk of becoming victim to identity theft. The Federal Trade Commission said they have received 1.4 million reports of identity theft, which is double the number of reports from 2019.

With tax season upon us, please review the following tips so that you may remain vigilant of scams:

1. Practice Safe Internet Use: Delete spam emails that ask for personal information and keep your anti-virus and anti-spyware software up to date. Shop online only with secure web pages (check the bottom of your browser for an image of a lock or look for "https" in the address bar). Never send credit card numbers, social security numbers and other personal information via email.
2. Destroy Private Records: Tear up or shred credit card statements; ATM, credit, or debit card receipts; bank deposit receipts; loan solicitations; and other documents that contain private financial information.
3. Secure Your Mail: Empty your mailbox quickly and get a mailbox lock. When mailing bill payments and checks, consider dropping them off at the post office or a secure mailbox.
4. Be Careful with Your Social Security Number: Your social security number is a major

target for identity thieves because it can give them access to your credit report and bank accounts. Never carry your card with you. Instead, memorize your number and keep the card in a secure place at home or in a safe deposit box. Never write or print your social security number on checks.

5. Check Your Credit Report: At least once a year, obtain and review your credit report for suspicious activity. You can request a free copy of your report at www.annualcreditreport.com or by contacting any one of the three major credit reporting agencies.

District 17 Highlights

Brevard Heart Foundation

Brevard Heart Foundation, a local nonprofit dedicated to improving and promoting quality healthcare in our local community through scholarships and initiatives, wants to recognize these invaluable frontline workers through their “Heart of a Hero” campaign.

To participate, please share your stories of how a local Brevard healthcare worker has made a difference in your life or the life of a family member or friend. Along with highlighting each hero and their story on their social media pages, the Foundation will randomly draw one nominee per quarter to win a \$50 gift card.

The nomination form can be found at: www.brevardheartfoundation.org/heartofahero.

Indian River State College

Indian River State College is now accepting applications for their two year Law Enforcement Academy Track program. During this program, students will complete an Associate in Science Degree in Criminal Justice and the Law Enforcement Basic Recruit Academy.

The final semester of the two-year degree program will include the Florida Law Enforcement Basic Recruit Academy. Participation in this final phase of training will be solely dependent on the student successfully completing the Selection Center process as required by all persons prior to entrance into the Basic Law Enforcement Recruit Academy. Upon successful completion of the Academy, the student will be required to pass the State of Florida Law Enforcement Officer Certification Examination.

Class begins in August and The Law Enforcement Academy Track Program is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once an application is turned in and it is determined that the applicant qualifies, they will receive a seat in the upcoming available class. Seats are limited.

To view all requirements and to complete the application, please click [here](#).

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