



Happy Father's Day!

I hope you are having a relaxing Father's Day sharing memories and making new ones. Father's Day is an opportunity to tell the father figures in our lives how much we truly love and appreciate them. When asking my own father what he would like for father's day, his response is always, "spending time together is enough." I hope you can connect with your father, or the father figure in your life, on this special day.

"A father is neither an anchor to hold us back, nor a sail to take us there but a guiding light whose love shows us the way."

I consider it a great honor to represent 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!

From the Desk of Governor Ron DeSantis

The [2020-2021 General Appropriations Act](#) has been sent to Governor Ron DeSantis for his consideration. The Governor has the authority to reject the budget, as well as line item veto authority which can be used to delete any specific budget item within the Appropriations Act. Once the Governor has completed his review, he will then sign the General Appropriations Act into law, establishing the statewide budget for the next fiscal year.

Governor DeSantis has committed to delivering as many budget priorities as possible, despite the fiscal challenges the state faces due to the COVID 19 pandemic. At a recent press conference Governor DeSantis stated that he feels the legislature did a good job under difficult circumstances and he remains optimistic that Florida will recover more quickly than previously thought.

The following bills, which I sponsored during the 2020 Legislative Session, have also been sent to the Governor for his signature:

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 712: Clean Waterways Act](#) takes action based on the recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force in order to stop excess pollution and restore our waterways. This legislation addresses many sources of environmental pollution by transforming policy related to septic tanks, biosolids, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and agriculture. SB 712 also doubles the fines for wastewater violations. I am proud to have sponsored this bill to improve water quality throughout Florida.

[SB 1414: Fish and Wildlife Activities](#) increases the number of free fishing days from 4 to 6 days, to allow more anglers to get out and experience our state's natural resources. This legislation also expands the list of Conditional Nonnative species to include the Green Iguana and Black & White Tegu.

[SB 1742: Home Medical Equipment Providers](#) exempts licensed physicians and chiropractic physicians who sell or rent electrostimulation medical equipment supplies to their patients, from the requirement of an additional sales license.

If you have any concerns or would like to express your support for this Legislation, or an item included in the Legislature's budget, please contact [Governor DeSantis's Office](#).

SCAM ALERT: COVID-19 Grant Scam Targeting Seniors

Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody recently issued a Consumer Alert to warn Floridians about a new scam targeting seniors with offers of fake COVID-19 grants. Scammers are contacting seniors via Facebook Messenger, email and text message to offer these sham grants and request upfront payment as insurance for the expedited delivery of grant money.

"This scam appears to involve an international criminal organization utilizing a multifaceted communications plan to deceive seniors," said Attorney General Ashley Moody. "These criminals are hacking Facebook accounts to send messages to targets from a friend's profile—creating the illusion that the grant program is being promoted by an acquaintance. Once contact is made, the criminals request personal information, bank account numbers and insurance payments purportedly to help ensure the safe delivery of thousands of dollars in federal grant money, and of course, the money is never sent."

To avoid this new COVID-19 federal grant scam:

- Know that the federal government is not contacting seniors and offering them grants to stay at home and stop the spread of COVID-19;
- Remember, requests for upfront payments of any kind, including through gift cards, money orders, wire transfers, bitcoin or insurance fees in exchange for a grant, loan or government benefit are red flags of a scam;
- Be wary of any COVID-19 related offers received via Facebook, even if the offer appears to come from a familiar account. Hackers can hijack social media accounts and send the account holders' friends or followers deceiving messages;
- Never click on links sent in unsolicited messages. These links could contain malware or connect the target to a website set up to obtain personal or financial information for nefarious purposes; and
- Watch out for websites or messages containing typos, grammatical mistakes or awkward word choices. Many sham websites are created by foreign scam artists struggling with the English language. Typos and grammatical mistakes in messages purporting to be from the government are red flags that a message is from an imposter.

To report grant scams or any other COVID-19 related fraud, contact the Florida Attorney General's Office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or visiting [MyFloridaLegal.com](#).

District 17 Highlights

City of Melbourne COVID-19 Assistance Program

The City of Melbourne is offering assistance to residents that have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Rental, Mortgage, and Public Utilities Assistance Program provides temporary assistance for up to three months of rent, mortgage and/or public utilities payments for Melbourne residents.

The City has allocated \$233,590 from the federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) to fund the program. The maximum monthly assistance will be \$1,600 and will be made directly to the creditor.

The Assistance Program is open to City of Melbourne residents with a household income at the time of application that does not exceed 80% of the area median income, adjusted for family size. Additionally, a household must have experienced a verifiable loss of income due to the impacts of COVID-19, such as a layoff, furlough, or reduction of hours. At the time of application, the applicant must be delinquent on monthly rent, mortgage or public utilities payments after March 1, 2020, and have less than \$5,000 in liquid assets.

Those interested in applying should call (321) 608-7530 to complete a pre-screening checklist to verify all required information before they start the application process.

Treasure Coast 2-1-1 Helpline

Since 2005, 2-1-1 Treasure Coast has been assisting Indian River County residents. 211 is a confidential, community helpline and crisis hotline service providing immediate guidance and support for individuals and families who find themselves without answers to problems they may face on a daily basis.

Residents can call, text or chat with an area 211 community resource specialist to assist with available services and resources including supplemental food and nutrition programs, shelter and housing options, utilities assistance, emergency information and disaster relief, employment and education opportunities, services for veterans, health care, vaccination and health epidemic information, COVID-19 resources, and addiction prevention and rehabilitation programs.

Resource Specialists are available 24-hours a day to listen and provide information to assist residents in times of stress and trouble as well. To connect with them simply dial 2-1-1 or visit www.211.org.

Florida Civics & Debate Initiative

Stone Magnet Middle School and the Space Coast Junior/Senior High School were among 60 schools chosen to participate in the first phase of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI). The Initiative elevates civic knowledge, civic skills and civic disposition for middle and high school students through speech and debate programs.

Each participating school in FCDI will receive funding to start their debate teams, tournament transportation, coach stipends and membership in the National Speech and Debate Association.

Additionally, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is preparing for a civics standards review in the 2020-2021 school year. The review is a result of House Bill 807, which was signed by Governor DeSantis in June 2019. This legislation required FDOE to conduct a complete review of the statewide civics education standards by December 31, 2020.

The standards revision can be found at FLDOE.org. Public input on the civics standards is encouraged through an online survey platform accessible at FloridaCivicsReview.org. This online platform provides all stakeholders with open access to participate in the review process until August 5, 2020.

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