

Senator Keith Perry FL District 9

THE PERRY POST

August, 2023



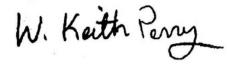




District 9

Though we have adjourned from Regular Session, my office is working hard serving the residents of District 9. If you need assistance or have any input regarding legislation, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office. Your feedback is a critical part of the decisions I make and helps me be better represent the values of North Central Florida.

Sincerely,





ICYMI



In Case You Missed It

2023-2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



2023-2024 BUDGET



Provides critical investments in affordable housing, storm recovery, infrastructure and education



Continues our efforts to preserve Florida's unique natural resources and makes critical environmental and clean water infrastructure improvements



Expands state reserves to historic levels and pays off state debt

- Florida's 2023-2024 balanced budget makes critical investments in affordable housing, hurricane recovery, education, environmental infrastructure, and many other key components of our state's operations.
- In line with our Conservative principles, this budget sets aside historic state reserves, ensuring that Florida is prepared to address any future challenges and allowing for Florida to offer historic tax relief to our constituents.
- In total, the budget dedicates \$117 billion across multiple categories including \$10.9 billion to bolster our state reserves and \$2.7 billion in tax relief for Floridians.



DISTRICT NEWS



Roof replacement and home repair funding available for Alachua County residents



State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) funding for roof replacement and home repair as part of the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation program is currently available through the Alachua County Housing Division. The funds are for low and very low-income eligible applicants who reside in Alachua County. Those living in the City of Gainesville are ineligible. This program is first come, first served.

To qualify for the funds, you must meet the following criteria:

- The assisted unit must be owner-occupied, the owner's primary residence, and located in Alachua County and outside the City of Gainesville.
- Property taxes must be paid current on the unit to be assisted.
- Homeowners must be very low or low income, depending on the funding source.
- Each unit, with the exception of emergency repairs, must meet or exceed the minimum housing code.
- Other requirements may need to be met, depending on the funding source.



Dream on Purpose hosts 6th annual college readiness workshop



GAINESVILLE, Fla. – Middle and high school students and their parents/guardians are invited to attend Cupcakes & Conversations: College Discoveries, a workshop dedicated to sharing information about the college experience. The workshop will be held at the Santa Fe College Blount Center (401 NW 6th St.) on August 26 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from keynote speaker, Santa Fe College's Vice President for Student Affairs Naima Brown, PhD, and experts on topics such as financial aid, campus admissions, and campus safety. Attendees will also engage with a panel of students as they share their college experience and visit with local resources who will provide information related to military pathways, housing/residence life, dual enrollment, and more.

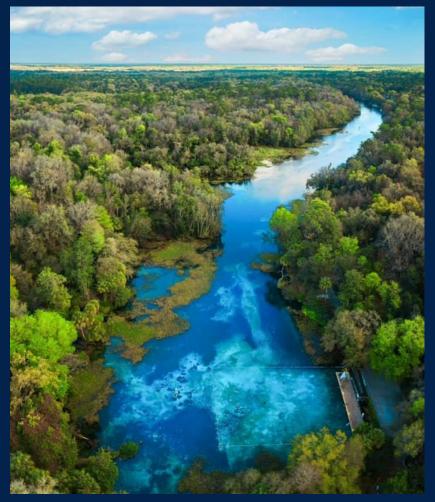
Resource kits, prizes, and light refreshments will be provided at no cost to attendees. Middle and high school students between the ages of 11-18 and parents/guardians who are interested in attending are encouraged to register for free at https://dreamonpurpose.org/events/.

Cupcakes & Conversations: College Discoveries is brought to you by Dream on Purpose, a local 501(c)3 nonprofit, dedicated to empowering youth, with a specific focus on girls between the ages of 11-18, to actualize their dreams. This event is sponsored by the Women's Giving Circle of North Central Florida, the Wagmore Foundation, Prost! Photography, and the United Way of North Central Florida and is supported by the Community Foundation of North Central Florida, The Education



Foundation of Alachua County, and the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce.

Conservation Florida, FDEP permanently protect significant property along the Rainbow River



This extraordinary conservation acquisition protects some of the last undeveloped land along Rainbow River and makes critical connection in the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

Marion County, FL - Conservation Florida, a dynamic driver of land conservation in Florida, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, have permanently protected the 135-acre Gissy Rainbow River Ranch in Marion County, Florida. This landmark conservation acquisition ensures that the largest last undeveloped piece of land along the Rainbow River stays this way - forever.

Funding was secured in January of 2023 when Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet in its role as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund allocated it to the State's Florida Forever program to complete the purchase of a conservation easement.

For more information, please visit: https://conservationfla.org/cflnews/2023/7/20/gissyrainbowriverranch



"We are living in a time of unprecedented land conservation in Florida," said Florida Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Shawn Hamilton.

"The conservation of Gissy and the protection of the Rainbow River is yet another example of Florida's commitment to preserving our natural lands through the Florida Forever program and the Florida Wildlife Corridor. We are thankful for partners, like Conservation Florida, which share our mission to conserve and protect our natural resources for generations to come."



Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday

- Generators \$3,000 or less
- Flashlights and lanterns \$40 or less
- Tarps \$100 or less
- Radios \$50 or less
- Coolers and portable power banks \$60 or less

All tax-free from August 26-September

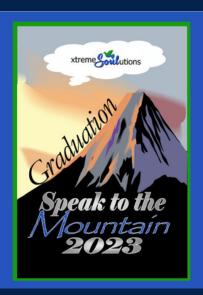


Hurricane season is well underway but there's still time to stock up on all the supplies you'll need! From August 26-September 8, you can get generators, flashlights, radios, and more all tax-free. For a full list of tax-free items, **visit**:

FloridaRevenue.com/DisasterPrep



Senator Perry joins Extreme Soulutions in celebrating their recent grads





"It was a wonderful evening to be part of Xtreme Soulutions graduation for the 42 men who have completed 21 core classes as part of this prison-based ministry."

Family members, volunteers and DOC staff attended this program.

Atreme Soulutions "provides guidance through curriculum and instruction to prepare individuals for a productive life." The three-year program helps men take responsibilities for their actions and learn to change behaviors to be successful upon release back into society.

To learn more, please visit: https://xtremesoulutions.org/





My team celebrated with this year's Alachua PACE graduating class at their ceremony. This program will change the trajectory for these young women for the better, and I am proud to have PACE in our communities advocating for our youth.

Pace provides girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training, and advocacy. It is an alternative to traditional school and can be a placement or a choice by the girl and her family To learn more, please visit:

https://www.pacecenter.org/

