



I hope you are enjoying a relaxing Memorial Day weekend, and taking time to reflect on the sacrifices of those who gave their all so that we may be free. I am forever grateful to live in America, where the idea of freedom is deeply cherished.

On May 27th there will be many events held in District 17 to remember and honor our country's fallen heroes, and their faithful and dutiful service.

#### Brevard County

- 9:00 AM - Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Center (400 S Sykes Creek Pkwy, Merritt Island)
- 10:00 AM - Memorial Day Parade in Historic Downtown Melbourne
- 11:30 AM - Cape Canaveral National Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony (5525 US 1, Mims)
- 1:00 PM - Memorial Day Ceremony at Shady Oaks Veteran Cemetery (2701 Harbor City Blvd, Melbourne)
- 4:00 PM - Memorial Day Tribute & Parade at Cocoa Village Park

#### Indian River County

- 9:00 AM - Memorial Day Ceremony at Memorial Island Sanctuary (3280 Riverside Park Dr, Vero Beach)
- 4:00 PM - Memorial Day BBQ with Post 39 at Vero Beach Elks Lodge (1350 26th St, Vero Beach)

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!

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## Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane Season begins next weekend and the first named Atlantic storm of 2019, Tropical Storm Andrea, has already come and gone. To help Floridians prepare for these dangerous storms in advance, the Florida Legislature approved a seven-day Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday. From May 31st - June 6th you can stock up on the following essentials:

- Batteries \$30 or less (excluding automobile and boat batteries)
- Portable radios \$50 or less
- Tarps \$50 or less
- Ground anchoring systems \$50 or less
- Gas or diesel fuel tanks \$25 or less
- Portable generators \$750 or less
- Portable lights \$20 or less
- Storage coolers \$30 or less

- Reusable Ice \$10 or less

The Florida Division of Emergency Management also encourages you to have a disaster supply kit to last you and your family for a minimum of seven days. Supplies for a basic disaster supply kit should include:

- Water - one gallon of water per person per day for drinking, cooking and sanitation
- Food - at least a seven-day supply of non-perishable food
- Manual can opener for food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities

For more information about hurricane preparedness, please visit the [Florida Department of Emergency Management's website](#).

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## From the Desk of Governor Ron DeSantis

Governor Ron DeSantis recently announced that more than 35.7 million tourists visited Florida during the first quarter of 2019, surpassing last year's record high. This is a 5.8% increase from the first quarter of 2018. Most of the tourists were from other states, while 1.4 million came from Canada.

*"An all-time record quarter of visitation is exciting news for the entire state," said Governor DeSantis. "As we work to diversify Florida's economy, it is critical that we keep visitation to Florida, and the revenue it generates, healthy and robust. VISIT FLORIDA plays an important role in this goal and we will continue to support their work on behalf of Florida and our hardworking taxpayers."*

While Visit Florida does play an important role, I feel that it is important to also recognize the tremendous efforts of the local economic development partners (like the [Brevard County Tourism Development Council](#), [Indian River County Economic Development](#) and the local Chambers of Commerce) that have contributed to this milestone.

In addition to the tourism market flourishing, Florida's economy overall continues to strengthen. Positive economic indicators for the month of April revealed that Florida continues to attract and grow businesses. Florida's private-sector businesses created more than 203,000 jobs, a growth rate of 2.7%.

The Governor also **signed the following bills into law** this week:

[SB 7068: Transportation](#) establishes three regional task forces to study Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Programs within the Florida Department of Transportation. The corridors include a Southwest-Central Florida Connector (Collier County to Polk County), Suncoast Connector (Citrus County to Jefferson County), and Northern Turnpike Connector (Northern terminus of the Florida Turnpike northwest to the Suncoast Parkway). This will be the state's most significant infrastructure-building project since the 1950's. The bill also creates the construction workforce development program as a job development tool to address the current construction labor shortage and provides \$2.5 million annually over the next three years to support the program.

As a reminder, the Governor is currently reviewing the budget, also known as the [2019-2020 General Appropriations Act](#). If you have any concerns about items included in the Legislature's budget or would like to express your support for certain programs, please [contact Governor DeSantis's Office](#). Please [copy my office](#) on your correspondence related to the budget, so we can continue to advocate for projects of importance to District 17.

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## District Highlights

### Rebuild Florida

This past week Rebuild Florida completed their first repair of a Hurricane Irma damaged home in Palm Bay. The Rebuild Florida Housing Repair and Replacement Program is helping eligible homeowners impacted by Hurricane Irma by repairing, rebuilding or replacing damaged homes across the state's hardest-hit communities.

Due to limited funding, priority will be given to low income residents who are most vulnerable, including the elderly, those with disabilities, and families with children under age 18.

Residents from Indian River County and Brevard County that may be eligible for this program should contact the Rebuild Florida Center, located within CareerSource Brevard (295 Barnes Blvd, Rockledge). The Center is open Monday through Friday with case managers available to help homeowners complete the registration and application process. Homeowners can also visit [RebuildFlorida.gov](http://RebuildFlorida.gov) or call (844) 833-1010 to receive assistance.

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### 46th Space Congress

Space Florida and NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC) will be hosting the 46th Space Congress **June 4-6th** at the Radisson Resort at the Port.

"Light the Fire" is the theme for this year's gathering of industry experts. Panel discussions will cover topics like Return to Flight Lessons-Learned; Low Earth Orbit Commercialization; Evolution of KSC and the Eastern Test Range; Commercial Programs; NASA's Moon to Mars Exploration Program; Robotics and Science; Space Policy; and Innovation.

For more detailed information on the program or to reserve your seat, please visit the [Space Congress website](#).

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### FDOT Public Meeting: SR A1A Restoration

The Florida Department of Transportation is hosting a public meeting to discuss State Road (SR) A1A Hurricane Matthew Restoration Project on **Wednesday, May 29th** from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM at Sebastian Inlet State Park's Fishing Museum (14251 State Road A1A, Vero Beach).

Planned improvements will run along SR A1A from 2.3 miles south of the Sebastian Inlet, northerly 1 mile on SR A1A in Indian River County. The improvements will include:

- Constructing a vinyl sheet pile wall system on the west side of SR A1A with reinforced concrete caps, and placing rip-rap with ditch lining to protect the shoreline against the storm surge and wave action from the Intracoastal Waterway during severe storm events.
- Repairing the failed pavement areas within the southbound travel lane.
- Installing a new southbound 8-foot concrete sidewalk.
- Installing thermoplastic striping and pavement markings.

The planned construction start date is June 8, 2019, and the anticipated completion is Summer 2020.

The meeting will be an informal open house format, during which attendees may view project information, speak with FDOT team members to learn more about the design and provide input. Upon entry, please let the Park Ranger know that you are attending the meeting and the park entry fee will be waived.

Information about this project is also available online on the [FDOT District Four website](#). If you have additional questions please contact FDOT at (772) 429-4930 or email [joshua.baker@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:joshua.baker@dot.state.fl.us).

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