

Good Morning!

It was a great week in District 17. I had the opportunity to visit with constituents and meet the new President of Indian River State College Dr. Timothy Moore.

Dr. Moore is the fourth president in the College's 60-year history, succeeding Dr. Edwin Massey. He has a diverse background and a wide range of experience in higher education. I look forward to working with him to support our community's higher education goals.

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!

President Trump Extends Ban on Florida Offshore Drilling

Recently, President Donald Trump visited Jupiter Florida where he signed a presidential order extending a moratorium on off shore drilling off the southern Atlantic coast.

The original moratorium banned drilling in the eastern part of the Gulf of Mexico, which stretched roughly 125 miles off shore, and was set to expire in 2022. This order extends the ban to June 30, 2032 and also included the coasts of Florida, South Carolina and Georgia.

"The Sunshine State is truly one of the most beautiful places on Earth," said President Trump. "I love it. And together we will preserve its breathtaking natural splendor for generations to come."

As a reminder, in 2018 Florida voters approved Constitutional Amendment 9, which prohibited drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries.

Florida Child Abuse Hotline

While children were home from school during the COVID-19 pandemic, calls to the Florida Abuse Hotline dropped significantly. Despite the drop in calls, abuse is still occurring. Now that children are starting to go back to school, calls to the Abuse Hotline have begun to increase again.

If you know or suspect that child abuse is occurring, I encourage you to call the Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-962-2873. For more information regarding child abuse reporting, visit MyFLFamilies.com/service-programs/abuse-hotline/.

Additionally, the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) has launched MyFloridaMyFamily, an online hub of resources to connect Florida families in need to local faith institutions and community organizations that are eager to help.

The website also provides information about the newly-established Florida's Foster Information Center, a hotline staffed with current or former foster parents who can answer callers' questions based on their own experiences and provide information about fostering one of the 23,000 children throughout the state who are currently in out-of-home care.

For more information about MyFloridaMyFamily, please visit www.myfloridamyfamily.com.

District 17 Highlights

Melbourne Approves Homeless Housing Program

The City of Melbourne has launched a new program to help some of our most vulnerable homeless citizens. The program will provide immediate temporary housing -- with a path toward permanent housing for homeless individuals and families.

The Street to Home Bridge Housing program is the first emergency temporary sheltering program of its kind in Brevard County. In addition to helping homeless residents, the program will benefit Melbourne-based accommodation businesses (such as hotel/motels) and will provide public health and safety benefits to the broader Melbourne community, including the Downtown Melbourne business community.

The program will provide immediate temporary housing for 30 homeless individuals and/or families in local hotels and motels. It will prioritize the most vulnerable among Melbourne's homeless citizens, including those who have chronic health conditions and those who are most at risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission. After they are placed in temporary housing, a case manager will work with them to help them secure permanent housing.

The Street to Home Bridge Housing Program will be administered by Steadytown and operated by Daily Bread. Brevard Health Alliance will be providing COVID-19 testing and medical care. Funding for the temporary housing is being provided by federal Coronavirus Relief Funds. Federal Emergency Solutions Grant funds for COVID19 relief administered by the Brevard Homeless Coalition will be pursued to provide coordinated resources for accessing and maintaining permanent housing.

Indian River County PPE Distribution Program

In an effort to support and promote local businesses most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, Indian River County has launched the "IRC CARES" Program from the Intergenerational Recreation Center (iG Center).

Through the IRC CARES Program, Indian River County is distributing a package of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to representatives from small businesses located within Indian River County. The purpose of the IRC CARES Program is to assist small businesses in their heightened efforts to perform the enhanced cleaning procedures required to stay open for business while keeping employees and customers safe and healthy.

Each CARES package includes the following:

- 2 boxes of 50 disposable masks
- 1 box of 100 latex gloves
- 2 bottles of 8.5 oz hand sanitizer
- 4 cloth masks
- 2 Indian River County masks
- 1 package of 60 sanitary wipes

CARES packages are available from the iG Center (1590 9th Street SW, Vero Beach, FL) each weekday between 7:30am and 6:00pm, while supplies last.

In order to expedite picking up CARES packages, business representatives should call 772-226-1732 to arrange a time to pick up the package. For more information about the IRC CARES Program, please visit IRCgov.com/coronavirus or call (772) 226-1732.

Space Coast Economic Development Commission

This past week I was honored to receive the 2020 Manufacturing Champion Award from the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast (EDC) Regional Manufacturing Association (MASC). I am proud to support valuable workforce education programs and hands-on learning opportunities in our community.

During the 2020 Legislative Session, the Brevard Delegation was successful in securing funding for local workforce development programs to help meet the critical demand for high-skilled, high-wage labor. This includes another \$250,000 for the EDC's Talent Asset Pipeline. We have also been successful in securing millions of dollars over the last few years to support workforce education programs in our schools such as the Astronaut High School Welding program, Bayside High School's CNC Machining Technology lab, and Cocoa High School's construction program.

The EDC is a countywide, not-for-profit partnership between the Brevard County Commission and the Space Coast business community. The EDC works to attract new business and expand existing industry throughout the Space Coast, while also supporting efforts of local military installations. With more than 500 manufacturers calling Brevard County their home, the EDC Regional Manufacturing Association serves as the succinct voice for Brevard County's robust and diverse manufacturing base through action oriented efforts.

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