

[View this email in your browser](#)



The 2021 Legislative Session has officially begun! Stay up-to-date by watching committee hearings, public testimony, and bills being presented on the Senate and House floor live on the [Florida Channel](#).

As always, it is a great honor to serve and represent you and the members of District 8. Share this newsletter with your friends and family so that they too can stay informed with our community updates, district-wide achievements, and future legislation.



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Florida Senate](#)



[Email](#)

COMMUNITY UPDATES

ALACHUA COUNTY YOUTH FAIR & LIVESTOCK SHOW



The Alachua County Youth Fair & Livestock Show is a non-profit organization that holds public fairs and exhibitions of livestock,

poultry, crafts, youth projects, and farm products. Find more information about exhibits, sponsors, and vendors [here](#).

WHEN: March 5-9, 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: 23100 W Newberry Road, Newberry, FL.

WHAT: Alachua County Youth Fair & Livestock Show

WHO: Alachua County 4-H and FFA youth ranging in age from 8-18

OCALA FUTURE LEADERS ACADEMY



The City of Ocala has announced its summer youth employment program, Ocala Future Leaders Academy 2021. This program is designed to create on-the-job training in preparation for future roles within the county, this program is open to all City of Ocala residents ages 16-19, with a total of 25 applicants being selected.

Individuals selected will learn about personal and professional growth, financial literacy, and technical job skills with certification through training seminars. Additionally, each participant will be paired with a mentor, who will assist with learning job assignments, improving interpersonal skills, and enhancing self-confidence. Participants will be paid \$10 an hour and are expected to work 20-25 hours a week. Transportation assistance is available in the form of a SunTran bus pass, which will only be good during the program period.

Applications must be submitted by March 26th at 5 p.m. Qualified applicants will be interviewed via Zoom in April, paid training will take place June 1-11 and department work assignments will occur June 14-July 23. Applications may be submitted online in the employment section of the City of Ocala's website. Please contact the City of Ocala Human Resources department at 252-629-8359 for more information.

EARLY VOTING IN GAINESVILLE BEGINS TODAY!

Early voting for the 2021 City of Gainesville regular election begins today with four polling locations across town. The polls are open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through March 13th.

Here's a list of the locations:

- Supervisor of Elections Office, 515 N. Main St., Suite 100
- Millhopper Branch Library, 3145 NW 43rd St.
- J. Wayne Reitz Union on the University of Florida campus, 655 Reitz Union Drive, ground level of the Career Connections Center
- Martin Luther King Jr. Multipurpose Center, 1028 NE 14th St.

STATEWIDE UPDATES

FROM THE OFFICE OF
GOVERNOR
RON DESANTIS

@GOVRONDESANTIS | WWW.FLGOV.COM | 850-717-9282 | MEDIA@EOG.MYFLORIDA.COM

E.O. No. 21-47: EXPANSION OF COVID-19 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

During the first phase of vaccine administration, all providers administering any COVID-19 vaccine shall only vaccinate the following populations:

- Long-term care facility residents and staff
- Persons 65 years of age and older
- Health care personnel with direct patient contact
- K-12 school employees 50 years of age and older
- Sworn law enforcement officers 50 years of age and older

- Firefighters 50 years of age and older

In addition to hospital providers, physicians licensed under Chapters 458 and 459, Florida Statutes, may also vaccinate persons whom they deem to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19, and advanced practice registered nurses, and pharmacists, may vaccinate persons determined by a physician to be extremely vulnerable to COVID- 19.

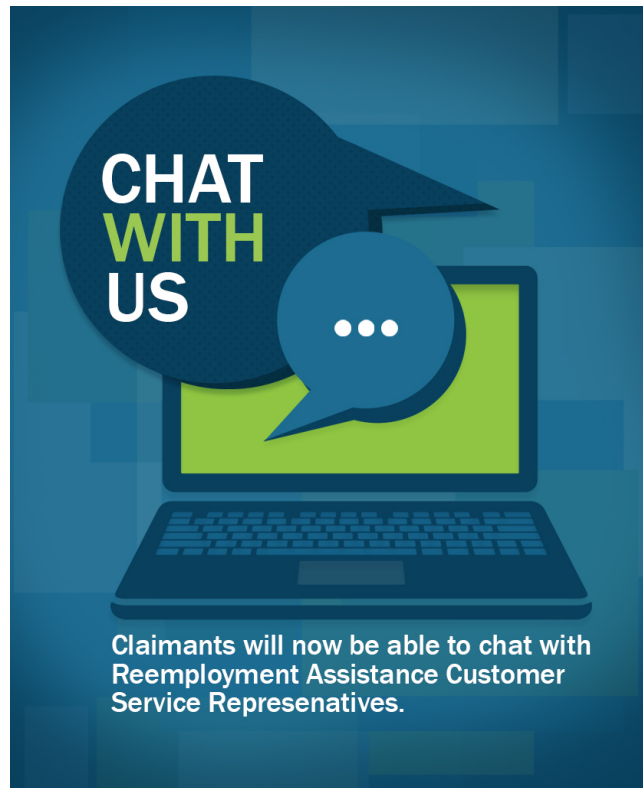
You can read more about Executive Order No. 21-47 [here](#).



Thank you Governor Ron DeSantis for your continued leadership and dedication to Floridians. Marion County will administer an additional 3,300 Pfizer vaccines over the next three days at a pop-up vaccine clinic in Ocala.

Click on the image to watch today's press conference in Ocala.

REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE



The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity recently launched a chat feature to assist Reemployment Assistance claimants with questions regarding their claims. To chat with a representative, please visit the [Reemployment-Assistance-Service-Center](#).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



Click on the image to join me in celebrating 176 years of
statehood in the Sunshine State!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 1, 2021

Contact: Megan Ramba
ramba.megan@flsenate.gov
850-487-5008

**Senator Keith Perry Files Bill to Grant Full Restoration of Civil Rights for
Non-Violent Offenders**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.— Today, Senator Keith Perry (R-Gainesville) filed Senate Bill 1932, to allow non-violent offenders to regain full restoration of their civil rights, including the right to vote, the right to sit on a jury, the right to hold public office, and the specific right to possess or use firearms, upon completion of all terms of their sentence.

“I believe we can make the process even more efficient for non-violent offenders to regain all of their civil rights and help them successfully reenter into society. This will result in a reduction of recidivism rates and costs borne by taxpayers relating to the criminal justice system,” said Senator Perry.

Nearly 1.5 million individuals in Florida, whose voting rights could be restored under the 2018 Amendment Four, must still submit an application through the Florida Commission on Offender Review (FCOR) to receive full restoration of their civil rights. This includes the additional right to sit on a jury, the right to hold public office, and the specific right to own or possess a firearm. Senate Bill 1932 waives the requirement to submit an application to FCOR for certain non-violent offenders to regain the full restoration of their civil rights.

“We are all familiar with a study by the Florida Parole Commission that found ex-felons who had their full rights restored were less likely to recidivate or commit new offenses and the recidivism rate for this group decreased significantly,” said Senator Perry. “We have an opportunity to further improve the process and efficiently restore the basic constitutional rights of individuals with a prior criminal record who have paid their debts to society.”

If every individual who qualified under Amendment Four were to automatically receive a full restoration of their civil rights without having to separately submit a clemency application through the FCOR, this would generate a potential cost savings of hundreds of millions for taxpayers.

For more information about Senator Keith Perry, visit FLSenate.gov.

###

SB 1412 TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

BY: SENATOR KEITH PERRY

As the Vice-Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee,
I understand the importance of prioritizing pedestrian safety and
focusing on proactive safety measures across the entire state of
Florida. This year, I have filed Senate Bill 1412 related to Traffic and

Pedestrian Safety. This legislation would require crosswalks to be coordinated with traffic control signal devices and enforce signage that a vehicle must come to a complete stop before pedestrians are permitted to enter a crosswalk.

The current design of most mid-block crosswalks unfortunately provides pedestrians with a false sense of security. According to [Smart Growth America](#), Florida ranked #1 in pedestrian fatalities from 2008 to 2017. I am proposing all existing crosswalks with traffic control devices that flash yellow be replaced with red flashing lights. Most individuals are aware of the universal language: stop at red, proceed with caution on yellow, and go on green.

SB 1412 is to be cited as the “Sophia Nelson Pedestrian Safety Act”, in remembrance of twelve-year-old Sophia Nelson who was fatally struck when crossing a crosswalk on A1A. Sophia Nelson’s accident, and the recent tragedies on West University Avenue in Gainesville, have caused many heavy hearts across the entire state of Florida. We must ensure pedestrian crosswalks are equipped with the features necessary to safely guide pedestrians across a busy street or highway.

Florida is and always will be a beautiful place to live and travel to, and we want to encourage people to continue to safely explore Florida whether it be by car, by bike, or on foot. This good piece of legislation will work to increase safety measures and create proactive solutions for pedestrian safety.

[Click here to see SB 1412 Full Bill Text](#)

Updates on University Ave.

Do you want to stay up-to-date with FDOT future improvements to University Avenue in Gainesville? Email d2.communications@dot.state.fl.us and ask to subscribe to the Florida Department of Transportation's mailing list.

FDOT is providing educational resources for pedestrian safety. Individuals will be walking corridors, speaking with pedestrians, and

providing educational flyers and materials to engage with community members about pedestrian safety.

NEWSWORTHY

SENATOR KEITH PERRY IN THE NEWS

- [Sen. Keith Perry and Rep. Bobby Paynes' legislative spotlight on pandemic issues](#)
- [Sen. Perry files a bill to grant full restoration of civil rights to non-violent offenders](#)
- [State senators want more rehabilitation for inmates and incentives to shorten prison sentences](#)

Do you have events, accomplishments, or local news that you wish to share with members in District 8?

Please email your submissions to Perry.Keith.Web@flsenate.gov

It's an honor to represent you in the Florida Senate. Thank you for your continued support, input, and patience as we work together to make lasting impacts in our community. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, concerns, or thoughts at any time. We are here for you!

Sincerely,



Tallahassee Office:

404 South Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
(850) 487-5008

District Office:

2610 NW 43rd St. Suite 2B
Gainesville, FL 32606
(352)-264-4040

Marion Office:

115 SE 25th Ave.
Ocala, FL 34471
(352) 732-1249

Copyright © 2021 Keith Perry, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

