

Debbie Mayfield, District 80 Florida House of Representatives

THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

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Legislative Assistant Jonothan Bellamy

District Executive Secretary
Audra Robitaille

Vero Beach Office:

1053 20th Place Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 778-5077

Tallahassee Office:

317 House Office Building 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 488-0952

Toll Free Numbers:

Phone – (866) 857-7289 Fax – (888) 544-0393



Florida's Old and New Capitols

The summer, sunshine, and beach weather has arrived, but the coming of the warmer season also brings tropical storms and hurricanes. It is important to spend quality time with your friends and family this season, but it is also important to be prepared for emergency situations. Take the time to read and learn about what you can do to be ready; it only takes one hurricane to be make it a bad hurricane season. In this issue you will find tips on how to prepare for a hurricane and other disasters, as well as information on what you can do to protect your family and yourself during such an event. Enjoy the beautiful summer we have here in Florida. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact my district office.

OUTREACH AT THE GIFFORD YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTER

I was fortunate to spend some time in Gifford over the past couple of weeks.

On June 9th, I joined over 400 volunteers working two shifts to help prepare meal packets in what was known as the "Meal Packing Day" - an event that stemmed from the effort of a local Reverend, Scott Alexander, and his "Ride to Beat Hunger." While the100,000+ bags we packed on Saturday will be sent abroad to help the disparate in Haiti, the efforts of Rev. Alexander also benefit many local food banks. Many thanks and congratulations are in order for the hard work done by local Rotary clubs, Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts, religious and civic leaders. It was truly a community-wide achievement of which I am proud to have been a part. For more information on this worthwhile cause, and to find more volunteer opportunities, please visit www.theridetobeathunger.org

On May 24th, I attended the "Day of Fun and Support" for Indian River County. It was a very informative event for the citizens of Gifford and helped to highlight some of the efforts put forward by the local community to bring opportunities to the area. The Gifford Youth Activity Center (GYAC) has a hand in many of these community events in Gifford. We are grateful for the work that they do. For more information about GYAC, please visit

www.gyac.net.



Representative Mayfield and Deputy Teddy Floyd
With a Gifford Constituent

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Email Representative

June 17th is Father's Day!

The 2012 End of Session
Summary is available now.
The report was compiled
by staff of the Florida
House of Representatives
upon completion of the
2012 Session. Click the link
below to review the 2012
Session summary
(314 pages)



Technology Corner:

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HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Hurricane season officially began June 1st. One of the most important decisions you can make is to act **before** a hurricane or any other emergency happens. Every family needs an emergency plan that is reviewed and understood by each member of the household.

Here are just a few tips to consider:

It is important to have a pre-packed bag of supplies that are easily and readily available. Here is a list of things to gather (this list is only a few of the important things you should consider): cash, cell phone (& charger), water, nonperishable food items, first aid kit, hand sanitizer, prescription medicine, batteries, radio/ clock, toilet paper, flashlights, propane/fuel, etc.



- If you decide to leave, you should have an evacuation plan. Be aware that flights will often be cancelled and airports might also be closed. Leave early and have an alternative evacuation route.
- If you do not plan to evacuate, be sure to: install shutters, find a safe place in your home for you and your family, have an out-of-town emergency contact, and keep in mind you can always go to the local Red Cross Shelter. Visit www.safeandwell.org to find more information.
- Be sure to protect your home and business both structurally and financially. Florida's Chief Financial Officer, Jeff Atwater, offers some great resources to protect yourself from common mistakes, and to ensure that you take the appropriate steps to provide yourself with adequate insurance. Please visit the <u>Division of Consumer Services'</u> website for more details. Should a tropical storm or hurricane hit, a consumer helpline, 1-800-22-STORM, will be activated to assist victims with insurance matters.
- Stay up to date with your local county and city's specific emergency guide. As an additional resource, the state has designated <u>WQCS</u>, FM 88.9, as the emergency alert system for St. Lucie and Indian River Counties.

STATE FARM AWARDS LOCAL NON-PROFIT



Representative Mayfield, Vero Beach Mayor Pilar, State Farm Agents, and Members of the Buggy Bunch at the Check Signing Ceremony I am happy to report that the Buggy Bunch was awarded State Farm's \$25,000 "Cause an Effect" grant. Local State Farm agent, Kathy Modesitt, was crucial in raising awareness about this group, and their wining was in large part due to a community effort on Facebook. Special thanks are in order to everyone who voted.

The Buggy Bunch is a local non-profit comprised of concerned moms, and it was their recent endeavor to provide shade protection in parks that won them the award. The check from State Farm will go specifically towards providing this

protection to 25% of Vero Beach parks, and the group is well on their way to raising more money for their efforts. For more information on becoming a part of the organization, or to donate, visit www.thebuggybunch.com.