

COVID-19 UPDATE AS OF MAY 11

If you were celebrating Mother's Day, we hope it was enjoyable and fun, despite social distancing measures.

Within this newsletter, you'll find the following:

- DEO updates regarding claiming weeks every two weeks;
- DEO updates from Saturday, May 9, including how to check the status of your paper application;
- the link to a comprehensive resource guide from the Florida Senate;
- the link to Florida DEO's frequently asked questions guide;
- List of Feeding Sites this week & Benefits + Emergency Services from Feeding South Florida;
- Announcements from the Palm Beach County School District as well as school feeding site locations and updates;
- Re-Opening Information as it relates to Palm Beach County/Tips to Stay Safe and Observe Social Distancing;
- the link to submit a comment for Task Force on Re-Opening Florida;
- 211 Helpline;

- All PBC Testing sites;
- Op Ed from the Palm Beach Post on Monday, May 11;
- PBC Tax Collector open for services by appointment only;
- Census 2020 fill it out if you have not already (please share);
- Vote by Mail Information for August 18 Primary Election; and

My office remains committed to you and your family's well-being, so please do not hesitate to reach out for any needs you may have. We will do our best to provide you with relevant information and contacts.

Our office phone number is 561-292-6014 and e-mail is Berman.Lori.Web@flsenate.gov.

UPDATES FROM THE DEO

Governor Ron DeSantis has directed DEO to waive the work search and work registration requirements for claimants through **May 30, 2020**.

Additionally, pursuant to federal law, claimants will be required to return to the CONNECT system every two weeks to request their benefits or "claim their weeks." In so doing, claimants will confirm that they are still unemployed and acknowledge that they are able and available for work. Answers to work search questions are still required to process your claim in the CONNECT system but will not impact benefit payments.

By completing this process, a claimant's request for payment is submitted for their weeks of unemployment, even when the claim is pending for review. For weeks beginning May 10, 2020, no payments can be made on a claim unless the claimant requests their benefits. Claimants will be able to request a benefit payment for each week available.

As we have grown the capacity of the CONNECT system in recent weeks and sped up the processing of payments, we are working to ensure that benefits for claimants are verified and maximized. Claimants can help us keep their benefits on track and documented by claiming their weeks at these scheduled intervals.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Provides Reemployment Assistance Update - May 9

TALLAHASSEE, **Fla.** - Today, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) issued reemployment assistance updates on the <u>Reemployment Assistance (RA) Claims Dashboard</u>. As of May 8, DEO has paid 531,702 claimants a total of nearly \$1.22 billion (\$1,219,590,674). Of the 531,702 claimants paid, 20,579 individuals received Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. As of May 8, more than \$10.1 million has been paid to claimants for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance.

Updates:

- To comply with federal law, weeks beginning May 10, 2020, claimants will be required
 to return to the CONNECT system every two weeks to request their benefits or "claim
 their weeks." In doing so, claimants will confirm that they are still unemployed and
 acknowledge that they are able and available for work should it be offered. For more
 information, click here.
- If claimants, currently receiving Reemployment Assistance benefits, no longer wish to receive benefits, they do not need to claim their weeks, as payments will stop processing if weeks stop being claimed.
- Governor Ron DeSantis has directed the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to continue waiving the work search and work registration requirements for claimants through May 30, 2020.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance:

- The Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program provides
 unemployment benefits to those that may not otherwise be eligible under Florida's state
 Reemployment Assistance program, including independent contractors and individuals
 who are self-employed. Individuals who have been impacted by COVID-19 and believe
 they may be eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, can visit
 www.FloridaJobs.org and select "File a Claim" to apply and be considered for PUA.
 - Click here for PUA Application Process.
 - Click here for PUA Frequently Asked Questions.
 - Click here for COVID-19 Employment Scenarios.
- Applicants should utilize the following criteria when applying for PUA:
 - Individuals who applied for the state's Reemployment Assistance benefits on or after April 5, 2020, and were deemed ineligible for state Reemployment Assistance benefits will receive additional application information from the Department. They can also visit www.FloridaJobs.org/cares-act for more information regarding these programs.
 - Pursuant to the requirements of the CARES Act, 20 C.F.R. 625.4, and section 443.036, F.S., those who are self-employed, contract employees, gig workers, or others who applied for the state's Reemployment Assistance benefits on or before April 4, 2020, should apply at www.FloridaJobs.org and select "File a Claim" to request PUA.

 Unemployed Floridians who have not yet applied for any benefit should apply at <u>www.FloridaJobs.org</u> and will be considered for all existing programs, including PUA

ADDITIONAL UPDATES:

- DEO will be continuing to process claims and making payments over the weekend and will be unavailable to existing claimants. This schedule does not affect individuals that wish to file a new claim. Individuals can file a new claim 24 hours a day, seven days per week at FloridaJobs.org and select "File a Claim."
- Individuals who have general questions that are not claim specific can call 1-833 FL APPLY (1-833-352-7759) 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Claimants can log-in again starting Monday, May 11 at 8:00 a.m.

HOW TO APPLY FOR REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE:

DEO has a mobile-friendly online application for individuals filing a new Reemployment Assistance claim available here. For a step by step guide on how to apply read more here. For the Reemployment Assistance Resource Guide which includes frequently asked questions, please click here. For additional information about Reemployment Assistance benefits visit www.FloridaJobs.org/COVID-19.



Link to a Comprehensive Resource Guide from the Florida Senate

<u>Link to Florida DEO's Comprehensive Reemployment Assistance</u> <u>Guide</u>

Benefits + Emergency Services from Feeding South Florida

Feeding South Florida provides direct-service programs to individuals in need of assistance. This includes benefits application assistance, access to their choice pantry, referrals for longer-term food assistance at a partner agency, and home delivery for qualified individuals. To fill out a client services application, please click this link.

For updates on this week's distributions in Palm Beach County, please see chart below.

	nis list is updated daily at www.feeding If you plan to attend a distribution, p actualiza todos los días en www.feedi Revise el calendario e	please review this caler	ndar th rid19. L	e day-of to co as fechas, ho	onfirm the schedule. ras, y direcciones puede	
FEEDING SOUTH FLORIDA CALENDAR OF FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS These sites provide groceries in a "drive-thru" style. Estos sitios proveen alimentos al estilo "drive-thru."						
	Address	City	State	Zip Code		Distribution Time
PALM BEACH						
City of West Palm Beach	1751 Palm Lakes Boulevard	West Palm Beach	FL	33401	5.11.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
City of Lake Worth	1121 Lucerne Avenue	Lake Worth	FL	33460	5.12.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
Town of Wellington	10300 Forest Hill Boulevard	Wellington	FL	33414	5.12.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
City of Palm Beach Gardens	5343 Northlake Boulevard	Palm Beach Garden:	FL	33418	5.12.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
United Haitian	2015 Parker Avenue	West Palm Beach	FL	33401	5.13.2020	10:30 a.m 12:30 p.m.
City of Delray	1500 SW 6 Street	Delray Beach	FL	33444	5.13.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
The Villages at Royal Palm	11600 Poinciana Boulevard	Royal Palm Beach	FL	33441	5.13.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
Hope in Action	14055 Okeechobee Boulevard	Loxahatchee	FL	33412	5.14.2020	3:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.
City of Boynton Beach - Christ Fellowship	801 N. Congress Avenue	Boynton Beach	FL	33426	5.14.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
City of Riviera Beach	2409 Avenue H W	Riviera Beach	FL	33404	5.15.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
City of Greenacres	501 Swain Boulevard	Greenacres	FL	33463	5.15.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
Town of Jupiter	FAU Jupiter Campus - 5353 Parkside Drive	Jupiter	FL	33458	5.15.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
West Palm Beach PAL	600 N Rosemary Avenue	West Palm Beach	FL	33401	5.16.2020	9:00 a.m 11:00 a.m.
Hope in Action East	2341 S. Military Trail	West Palm Beach	FL	33415	5.16.2020	1:00 p.m 3:00 p.m.
BROWARD						

Feeding South Florida Food Distribution Sites

PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATES

- 1. **Summer School:** Parents received a letter on Friday regarding summer school cancellations. The letter is below, but a quick synopsis is provided. Please note we are working with local non-profits to see if any are offering summer programs at their own facilities. We hope to compile a list for parents based on the info we collect. <u>Click here</u> for more info.
 - All District-operated summer camps are canceled. (Parents will receive refunds.)
 - ESY (Extended School Year) will take place virtually. Accommodations will be provided when possible.
 - Credit and course-recovery options will be provided virtually.
 - Third grade Summer Reading Academy (SRA) is canceled.
 - Some beginning English Language Learners (ELL) students will continue with academic opportunities. Resources will be mailed home.
 - Enrichment programs for children of migrant workers will also be offered through virtual instruction along with materials mailed home.
- 2. Feeding Sites We will return to a Tuesday/Thursday feeding schedule this week (May 12 and May 14). The Tuesday/Thursday schedule will continue for the remainder of May. A list of all 51 District-operated sites is below.

51 School District Feeding Sites

- Barton Elementary
- Belle Glade Elementary
- Benoist Farms Elementary
- Boca Raton High
- C.O. Taylor/Kirklane Elementary
- Congress Middle
- Conniston Middle
- Crestwood Middle
- Crosspointe Elementary
- D.D. Eisenhower Elementary
- Egret Lakes Elementary
- Forest Park Elementary
- Glade View Elementary
- Gove Elementary
- Grassy Waters Elementary
- Greenacres Elementary
- H.L. Johnson Elementary
- Hammock Pointe Elementary
- Highland Elementary
- Hope Centennial Elementary
- Howell L. Watkins Middle
- Indian Pines Elementary
- J.C. Mitchell Elementary
- Jupiter Elementary
- LC Swain Middle
- Lake Park Elementary

- · Lake Worth Community High
- Lantana Community Middle
- Lincoln Elementary
- Loggers Run Middle
- Loxahatchee Groves Elementary
- New Horizons Elementary
- Northboro Elementary
- Northmore Elementary
- Okeeheelee Middle
- Osceola Creek Middle
- Pahokee Elementary
- Palm Beach Lakes High
- Palm Springs Community Middle
- Pine Jog Elementary
- Rolling Green Elementary School
- Roosevelt Elementary School
- Rosenwald Elementary School
- Seminole Ridge High School
- Suncoast High School
- Tradewinds Middle School
- Village Academy
- Wellington High School
- Western Pines Middle School
- Woodlands Middle School
- Wynnebrook Elementary School



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

DONALD E. FENNOY II, ED.D. SUPERINTENDENT

FRANK A. BARBIERI, JR., ESQ. BOARD CHAIR

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

3300 FOREST HILL BOULEVARD, C-316 WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406-5869 CHUCK SHAW BOARD VICE CHAIR

PHONE: 561-629-8566 / FAX: 561-649-6837

MARCIA ANDREWS KAREN M. BRILL BARBARA MCQUINN DEBRA L. ROBINSON, M.D. ERICA WHITFIELD

WWW.PALMBEACHSCHOOLS.ORG

May 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope this message finds you in good health and that your children continue to be engaged in their daily Distance Learning lessons and activities.

As the 2019-2020 school year winds down, the District is looking ahead to planned summer activities. Unfortunately, unless circumstances change, traditional programs that the District has offered for years and takes great pride in providing will be altered over the coming months.

Due to the continued health threat associated with COVID-19, summer classes operated by the Palm Beach County School District will be held virtually. Additionally, there will be no summer camps held on District property.

These two decisions are understandably disappointing for our students and families. I was holding out hope that both programs would continue as normal this summer, but that is just not possible in the midst of this pandemic. Much thought and consideration went into this decision. The safety, health, and wellness of our students and staff is the District's ultimate priority.

The District continues to follow the guidance of Federal, State, and local elected leaders and public health officials, and we will continue sharing information in a timely and transparent manner.

The PBCSD summer programs affected by this decision include:

- · All District summer camps are canceled.
- ESY (Extended School Year) will take place virtually. Accommodations will be provided to the best
 of the District's ability.
- · Credit and course-recovery options will be provided virtually.
- Third grade Summer Reading Academy (SRA) is canceled.
- Some beginning English Language Learners (ELL) students will continue with academic
 opportunities, and resources will be mailed to their homes.

- Enrichment programs for children of migrant workers will also be offered by virtual instruction, along with materials mailed to their homes.
- Additional academic opportunities will be offered through individual elementary schools.

Plans regarding extended learning and summer school opportunities will be finalized in the coming weeks. Families will be notified through your child's school. Families that already paid fees for summer camps will automatically receive refunds. No additional action is necessary on your part to receive a refund.

Those who paid by credit card will receive a refund to their credit card account. Payments made by cash or check will be refunded by check through the U.S. Mail. The District will be working with schools and their afterschool program directors to issue these refunds over the next few weeks. We appreciate your patience as this work takes place.

I understand the hardship that the cancellation of summer camps will cause, particularly if you depend on these programs as a source of childcare. For that reason, the District is currently working with our partner agencies to see what other opportunities may be available for children. More information on that is forthcoming.

You may recall that on April 18, 2020, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis announced that due to COVID-19, all K-12 school campuses in the State will remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Palm Beach County School District Distance Learning continues through May 29, which is the last day of the 2019-2020 school year.

As a parent or guardian, I understand the challenges you may be facing in supporting your child academically in a Distance Learning environment. It has never been more important to be involved with your students' lessons. Distance Learning is most successful when it is a group activity involving students, teachers, and parents or guardians.

It's important to remember that you don't have to understand your child's lessons to support them with their work. Simply sitting beside them during a class, while they do homework, or asking them to explain to you what they learned that day are all methods of empowering and supporting young learners.

Take frequent breaks to avoid frustration and maintain interest. Remember, we are ALL in this together. Your child's teachers are just a phone call or email away. You will also find updated information and resources on the District's Distance Learning website: palmbeachschools.org/distancelearning.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this difficult time. I look forward to the day when it is once again safe to welcome your children back to our campuses. We will do so with open arms and full hearts.

Respectfully,

Donald E. Fennoy II, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

RE-OPENING INFORMATION RELATED TO PALM BEACH COUNTY

Palm Beach County will begin reopening pursuant to the State of Florida Executive Order 20-112 as amended by order 20-120 effective 12:01 a.m. on May 11. Residents may provide or obtain services at the following establishments authorized to proceed to Phase 1:

- Restaurants and food establishments licensed under Chapters 500 or 509, Florida Statutes, may allow on-premises consumption of food and beverage, so long as they adopt appropriate social distancing measures and limit their indoor occupancy to no more than 25 percent of their building occupancy. In addition, outdoor seating is permissible with appropriate social distancing. Appropriate social distancing requires maintaining a minimum of 6 feet between parties, only seating parties of 10 or fewer people and keeping bar counters closed to seating.
- In-store retail sales establishments may open storefronts if they operate at no more than 25 percent of their building occupancy and abide by the safety guidelines issued by the CDC and OSHA.
- Barbershops, cosmetology salons, and cosmetology specialty salons that adopt appropriate social distancing and precautionary measures as outlined by the <u>Department of Business and Professional Regulation</u> and <u>FAQs here</u>.
- Museum and library facilities may open at no more than 25 percent of their building occupancy, however, at this time Palm Beach County will not be opening these establishments and County library services remain virtual.

For up-to-date reopening info, go to <u>PBC Reopening Plans</u>.

Palm Tran

Effective Monday, May 11, all Palm Tran riders shall be required to wear facial coverings. Palm Tran continues to limit the number of passengers on board buses to ensure social distancing.

Beaches

On the subject of beaches, County Administrator Verdenia Baker briefed the board on Friday, May 8, on the plan to open beaches. The plan includes the recommendations of a working group, input from cities, input from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and from the PBC Parks and Recreation Department.

The details of the beaches opening will be finalized at a special meeting to be held on Friday, May 15. The board voted to open all private and public beaches effective no later than May 18, by way of County Order 2020-006. Social distancing procedures

would

remain

in effect.

Funds from the CARES Act

Commissioners unanimously approved a draft list of expenditures related to a \$250 million grant from the federal Cares Act. The funds must be used by December 31 for COVID-19 related costs that were not already in the county budget. The programs funded include Emergency Food Distribution, Individual & Family Housing Assistance, Human Services Assistance, Restart Small Business Grant, Business Grants, Countywide Testing, Non-Congregate Sheltering, Re-employment Training and Broadband Enhancements

SENATOR BERMAN'S STATEMENT ON THE RE-OPENING/ PHASE ONE OF PBC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 8, 2020

SENATOR LORI BERMAN (D-DELRAY BEACH) RESPONDS TO GOVERNOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON PALM BEACH COUNTY ENTERING PHASE ONE OF RE-OPENING

Delray Beach, **FL** - "Governor Desantis' decision to allow parts of Palm Beach County to reopen is troubling. In this week alone, since Monday, May 4, there have been 482 new cases of coronavirus confirmed in Palm Beach County. This growing increase shows that Palm Beach County has not yet succeeded in flattening the curve. At best, the county is in a high plateau.

"In addition, Palm Beach County is experiencing a hospitalization rate of 17% of all cases and a death rate of 6% - 2% higher than the state death rate. One or more county residents continues to die almost every single day.

"Palm Beach County residents have respected the stay at home orders which have probably resulted in fewer new cases and fewer deaths. But we risk reversing that success with the reopening of restaurants and stores, leading to an increase or second wave of the virus and resulting fatalities.

"I have grave concerns about the decision to reopen before truly lessening the spread of COVID-19. I also question whether we truly have a robust contact tracing program in place to handle any subsequent surge. We recognize the need for a return to normal — our economy is struggling. But lives are more important than short term economic gain. Palm Beach County needs a more concrete and accessible testing regime in place before moving forward with reopening.

"I ask that everyone please exercise caution when going out. All elderly and those compromised should continue to stay at home. Whatever you decide to do, please remember that the lives of your family, friends and neighbors are at stake."

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Palm Beach County Parks Reopening Guidelines

What's Open, What's Not





Select Palm Beach County outdoor recreational facilities will reopen to the public on **Wednesday, April 29, 2020.**

Scan this code for a link to Palm Beach County Emergency Order 5.



Beach Parks (coastal and Lake Worth Lagoon beaches)	CLOSED
Regional Parks	OPEN
Natural Areas	OPEN
District Parks	OPEN
Community Parks	OPEN
Neighborhood Parks	OPEN
Boat ramps (fresh water)	OPEN
Boat Ramps (salt water – recreational)	OPEN
Boat Ramps (salt water - commercial)	OPEN
Campgrounds	CLOSED
Courts – Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, Pick- leball & Racquetball (no group play)	OPEN
Dog parks	CLOSED
Fishing (keep 10 feet apart)	OPEN
Kayak/Canoe Concessions	OPEN
Pavilions - single	OPEN
Pavilions – group rentals	CLOSED
Playgrounds	CLOSED
Restaurant / Food Concessions	CLOSED

Restrooms	OPEN
Sandbars	CLOSED
Skate Parks	CLOSED
Splash Playgrounds	CLOSED
Sports fields (no group play)	OPEN
Trails - Equestrian	OPEN
Trails – Walking/Biking	OPEN
Waterskiing and Wakeboarding	OPEN
BMX Facility	CLOSED
Golf Courses (modified rules)	OPEN
JPP Golf Learning Center	CLOSED
Jim Brandon Equestrian Center	CLOSED
Juno Beach Pier (beach park amenities closed)	CLOSED
Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens	CLOSED
Nature Centers	CLOSED
Pools / Aquatic Centers	CLOSED
Recreation Centers	CLOSED
South County Civic Center	CLOSED
Therapeutic Rec. Complex	CLOSED
Waterparks	CLOSED
	A/20/2020

4/29/202

Palm Beach County Parks Reopening Guidelines Tips for Physical Distancing Know what 6 feet looks like. Lay measuring tape on the ground. It's the distance of a surfboard, long yoga mat or adult bike. 6 ft. Avoid crowded areas. If a space cannot be enjoyed safely, go home or discover a new park in your community. Avoid crowded areas. If a space cannot be enjoyed safely, go home or discover a new park in your community.



- Do not use parks or trails if you are exhibiting symptoms.
- Follow CDC's guidance on personal hygiene prior to visiting parks or trails.
- Share the trail and warn other trail users of your presence as you pass.
- Follow all posted signage.

Help Keep Golf Safe in PALM BEACH COUNTY





Pursuant to Palm Beach County Emergency Order Number 5 – COVID-19

- If you are feeling ill do not enter premises.
- All players shall stay at least six (6) feet apart at all times. The course ranger or other staff member shall monitor player compliance on the course.
- Players will be responsible for bringing their golf equipment to a designated area.
- Staff shall not handle bags, clubs, or other equipment, or transport these items to and from parking lot.
- Players shall not touch or remove flagsticks from the cups at any time (any putts that hit the swimming "noodle" or similar device used to fill the hole, or the cup, will be considered holed).
- Rakes in all bunkers shall be removed by golf course staff: the USGA suggests golfers play preferred lie and players to "rake" with their feet.
- Play is set-up for walking, single-rider golf cart, or shared cart for families living in the same household.
- Golfers shall bring their own water bottles and personal coolers containing water for proper hydration. On-course beverage cart service shall not be available.
- Golfers are encouraged to (1) change shoes in the parking lot (2) bring their own hand sanitizer.
- All golfers shall (1) not congregate after play, (2) leave the golf facility immediately upon completion of play to eliminate congestion and gathering on the property or in the parking lot.

For additional information on safe practices and social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit CDC.gov.

Please be sure to check with your golf course or local municipality for any additional rules and requirements.

For Palm Beach County emergency orders visit pbcgov.com.

Link to Submit a Comment for Task Force to Re-Open Florida

211 Helpline

If you or someone you know is in crisis, homeless, or in need of food assistance, please contact 211, an information and referral line funded by United Way of Palm Beach County. The 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year telephone helpline/hotline service provides an array of support and assistance, including information, assessment, advocacy, referral and linkage to appropriate community agencies, as well as crisis intervention and suicide prevention. The programs, projects, and services United Way supports are registered with 211.

Just dial 2-1-1 or 561-383-1111, to get access to the many services offered in our community. You may also visit 211's website at www.211palmbeach.org for more information.

LIST OF ALL TESTING SITES IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

PALM BEACH COUNTY COVID-19 TESTING PROVIDERS

Operation Type	Operator	PHONE NUMBER	ADDRESS
Commercial	Carespot	561-740-2273	8756 W Boynton Beach Blvd #150, Boynton Beach
		561-316-2807	129 South State Rd 7, Suite 401, Wellington
Commercial	Dr. G's Urgent	561-220-1469	1425 S Congress Ave., Delray
	Care		Beach
Non-Profit	Foundcare	561-967-0365	Various days and locations
Commercial	Helix Urgent Care	561-540-4446	2720 10 Ave North, Lake Worth
		561-626-4878	3555 Northlake Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens
		561-747-4464	225 S. US Highway 1, Tequesta
Commercial	MD Now Urgent Care	561-688-5808	Check for nearest location in your area
Commercial	Med Express	561-572-3200	7593 Boynton Beach Blvd, Boynton Beach
		561-776-3090	4520 Donald Ross Rd, Palm Beach Gardens
Commercial	Riviera Beach	561-510-0471	31 W 20th St, Riviera Beach
	Urgent Care		
Commercial	Urgent Care	561-429-6109	3537 Forest Hill Blvd, West Palm Beach
	of the Palm Beaches	3	5818 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach
			11951 US Highway 1 Suite 108, North Palm Beach
Commercial	Xpress Urgent Care	1-888-726-3020	1485 Gateway Blvd, Boynton Beach
			944 S. Military Trail, West Palm Beach
Government	FITTEAM Ballpark	561-642-1000	5444 Haverhill Rd, West Palm Beach
	Health Care District	2	

Government	Lakeside Medical Center	561-642-1000	39200 Hooker Hwy, Belle Glade
	Health Care District		0
Government	Health Care District	561-642-1000	1150 45th Street, West Palm Beach
Government	Health Care District	561-642-1000	411 W. Indiantown Rd, Jupiter
Government	Health Care District	561-642-1000	225 South Congress Avenue, Delray Beach
Government	South County	561-804-0250	16700 Jog Rd, Delray Beach
	Civic Center		
	Cleveland Clinic Florida		
Government	Veterans Affairs Medical Center	1-877-741-3400	7305 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach
		* For Veterans enrolled in VA health care w/ symptoms of COVID-19.	D.
Non-Profit	Genesis Community Health	561-770-2370	900 N. Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach
3		561-767-5346	0
			as of 5/1/2020

PALM BEACH POST:

It's Wrong to Keep Florida's Medical Examiners From Revealing COVID-19 Deaths

By Senator Lori Berman

"Florida's laws have long favored transparency and open governance. We determined early on that strong public records laws and open meetings in all branches of government were integral to developing trust between us and those we elected to serve.

But in recent weeks, we have seen a subversion of this creed. Shockingly,

Florida's county medical examiners are being prohibited by state officials from releasing COVID-19 death statistics.

Recently, it was reported that the death count tallied by the Medical Examiners Commission was at one point 10% higher than the number released by the Florida Department of Health. Shortly after this discrepancy came to light, state officials cited privacy concerns to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the agency providing support to the Medical Examiners Commission, and blocked the report from further release.

But the medical examiners' list never contained the names of COVID-19 victims. They contained demographics, cause of death, and case summaries, far from private information. In a February Health Policy Committee hearing, we heard the state health department make a similar argument. When I pressed for information on COVID-19 cases by county, Dr. Scott A. Rivkees, the Florida Surgeon General, declined and vaguely cited a Florida statute many thought he was misinterpreting.

In the weeks thereafter, Gov. Ron DeSantis' administration began releasing those statistics. Under Florida law, the medical examiners must certify every COVID-19 death in Florida, including non-residents and visitors. In the absence of a specific exemption, the medical examiners list would be considered public record, including cause of death and case descriptions.

Dr. Stephen Nelson, the chairman of the Medical Examiners Commission, said state officials now plan on axing cause of death and case descriptions from the list entirely. Without an accurate depiction of the impact of this pandemic on our state, our leaders cannot make informed decisions on public policy.

By prohibiting the release of death statistics from the medical examiners, state officials are not being truthful with the public. But public trust and knowledge are mission-critical in times of crisis. Holistic data is crucial in measuring the trajectory of this disease. Transparent reporting of the true toll of COVID-19 is necessary if Florida is to live up to its reputation as The Sunshine State."

Tax Collector Gannon to Reopen Additional Offices Beginning May 4

Offices will provide limited in-person service for Palm Beach County residents.

West Palm Beach, Fla. – Constitutional Tax Collector Anne M. Gannon today announced she will reopen four more tax collector offices beginning Monday, May 4, 2020, following the agency's successful reopening of its Delray office on Apr. 27.

"This is the next step I am taking to carefully reopen our offices to provide essential services to Palm Beach County residents," said Gannon. "If clients can complete their transaction online or by mail, we cannot admit them to our office."

Gannon also emphasized that all clients must wear a face mask and only the person seeking service will be admitted inside the office. Clients will not be allowed to bring family members or guests into the office with them.

"Protecting the health of agency employees and the public is my top priority," said Gannon. "Limiting the number of people who come into our office is critical and necessary at this time."

Driver license appointments only for Palm Beach County residents will be available through May 29, 2020, at the following locations:

DRIVER LICENSE APPOINTMENTS ONLY

South County Service Center 501 S. Congress Avenue, Delray Beach, Florida 33445

Central Palm Beach Service Center 4215 S. Military Trail, Greenacres, Florida 33463

North County Service Center 3188 PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410

The agency's Royal Palm Beach and Belle Glade locations are also set to reopen May 4.

ROYAL PALM BEACH - TITLE WORK ONLY

The Royal Palm Beach Service Center located at 200 Civic Center Way will provide **title work only** for clients who must appear in person to complete their transaction. If the title work can be completed online or by mail, the client will not be admitted into the office. Appointments cannot be scheduled for title work.

BELLE GLADE - FULL SERVICE

The agency's Belle Glade Service Center located at 2976 State Road 15 will provide all tax collector services that require a client to come into the office including driver license appointments. If the transaction can be completed online or by mail, the client will not be admitted into the office.

The agency's Downtown Service Center located in the Governmental Center in West Palm Beach will remain closed until the county reopens the entire building to the public. Gannon and her Senior Leadership Team will evaluate the agency's operation daily. They will make decisions to add or adjust services based on performance.

For more information, clients may call the Tax Collector's Office at 561-355-2264 Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Updates will be posted at www.pbctax.com and on Twitter and Instagram (@TAXPBC).

<u>Link to Governor DeSantis' Executive Orders Related to COVID-19</u>

CENSUS

Less than fifty percent of Palm Beach County residents have responded to the census to date. It is critical that everyone take a few minutes to respond as soon as possible.

The federal funding allocations are based on the number of people who respond. More than ever, we will need these funds to assist with COVID-19 recovery efforts and other vital programs for the residents and businesses of Palm Beach County.

Please take a few minutes today to complete the US Census <u>here</u> and share the link with anyone who has yet to complete it.

VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS

The primary election is still scheduled for August 18th.

Request your Vote-By-Mail ballot <u>here</u>, which will allow you to securely cast your ballot without concerns for your health or the health of poll workers.

The deadline to request a VBM for the August election is no later than 5:00 PM on August 8th, 2020.

Stay healthy and remember to practice good hygiene!

Join Benn-



Our mailing address is: Suite 161 2300 High Ridge Road Boynton Beach, FL 33426