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## August 2023

### **Friends and Neighbors:**

We hope you're doing well and enjoying your summer. Don't forget to stay hydrated and wear sunscreen during these hot and humid days!

### **Office Updates**

Our office will be saying goodbye to Chief of Staff Abby Ross. Abby has been with Senator Berman for twelve years. We wish her well on her next journey, and are so thankful for her years of service not only in our office but to the State of Florida.

### **Constituent Services**

You may not know, but we have two offices to serve our constituents. Our main office is in Boynton Beach and our satellite office is located in Belle Glade. Some of the issues our office may help you with include unemployment, food stamps, Medicaid, DMV-related matters and many other areas handled by state agencies. Please do not hesitate to reach out to either office. We will be sure to assist you and point you in the right direction.

To schedule an appointment with a caseworker in Boynton Beach, please call my office at 561.292.6014. Our Belle Glade office is managed by Khadeidra Willis. Office hours in Belle Glade are held on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:00am-3:00pm. Please call Khadeidra at 561.873.5090 to schedule directly.

Our office has seen an uptick regarding passport renewals. Please be advised that

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these are handled at the federal level so we encourage you to reach out to our U.S. Senate partners, [U.S. Senator Marco Rubio](#) and/or [U.S. Senator Rick Scott](#).

**Best wishes,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Berman" followed by a horizontal line.

**Lori Berman**

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### **Summer Sun Safety Tips**

We have seen record temperatures this summer! Please be aware of the heat and take steps to ensure you are keeping yourself safe. Adults are recommended to consume at least 64 ounces of water a day. For more information on sun safety visit [https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/skin/basic\\_info/sun-safety.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/skin/basic_info/sun-safety.htm)

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# SUMMER SUN SAFETY TIPS

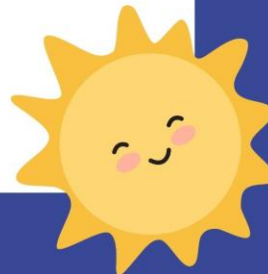
Reapply sunscreen every two hours to stay protected!



During midday hours of 11am-3pm, stay in the shade



Sunglasses and a hat are a must.



**Back to School Sales Tax Holiday**  
July 24 - August 6, 2023  
January 1 - 14, 2024  
For a list of qualifying items, visit [floridarevenue.com/backtoschool](http://floridarevenue.com/backtoschool)



**BACK TO SCHOOL**

As we embark on a new school year on August 10, try and take advantage of the Sales Tax Holiday for all your back-to-school supply needs. Consumers can purchase qualifying back-to-school supplies exempt from tax during the 2023-2024 Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday. Passed by the Florida Legislature, the sales tax holiday begins Monday, July 24 and extends through Sunday, August 6. For more information please

visit <https://floridarevenue.com/backtoschool/Documents/2023/2023-24%20Back-to-School%20Sales%20Tax%20Holidays%20-%20External%20FAQs%20-%20Consumers.pdf>

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### **Vote-by-Mail Ballots: Information from the PBC Supervisor of Elections**

If you received a Vote-by-Mail ballot in 2022 and you have not renewed your request since November 9th, your mail ballot request has expired. New Florida Laws require voters who are interested in voting by mail to request a new mail ballot after each General Election cycle.

If you want to receive a Vote-by-Mail ballot for the 2024 elections, you will need to complete a new [request](#).

There are three upcoming elections in 2024 in which voters will have an opportunity to cast their ballot, including a Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) on March 19th, a Primary Election on August 20th, and the General Election on November 5th. The Presidential Preference Primary on March 19th will coincide with local municipal elections. If you want to vote by mail for any of these elections, please request your mail ballot today.

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FLORIDA SENATE DEMOCRATS PRESENT

# PROPERTY INSURANCE VIRTUAL TOWN HALL SERIES



**LAUREN BOOK**  
*Senate Democratic Leader*



**JASON PIZZO**  
*State Senator (Hollywood)*

## FEATURING:

Members of the Senate Democratic Caucus

Paul Handerhan, President of the Federal Association for Insurance Reform

Sha'Ron James, Insurance Expert & Government Affairs Consultant with Gunster Law Firm

...and more!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26TH

6:00 PM

**Homeowners Insurance 101:**

**A Guide for Insurance Coverage**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17TH

6:00 PM

**Insurance Crisis:**

**Is There An End in Sight?**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22ND

6:00 PM

**Your Tax Dollars at Work:**

**State Resources**



WATCH AND PARTICIPATE AT:

**FACEBOOK.COM/FLSENATEDEMOCRATICCAUCUS**

## Property Insurance

I invite you to attend the **Property Insurance Virtual Town Hall Webinar Series** being hosted by the Florida Senate Democratic Caucus. The series will be streamed live on the [Senate Dems Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/flsenatedemocraticcaucus) . These webinars are open to the public and are intended to answer your questions on the property insurance crisis. Below is more information, I hope you will join us!

**Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**  
Insurance Crisis: Is There An End in Sight?  
Focus will be on legislation, impact and potential solutions for relief for Floridians.

**Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm**  
Your Tax Dollars at Work: State Resources  
Focus will be on state agencies, groups and resources – from Citizens to OIR to the CAT Fund.

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### **Hurricane Preparedness**

Hurricane Season is upon us! Here in the State of Florida, the peak of hurricane season occurs between mid-August and late October, when the waters in the equatorial Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico have warmed enough to help support the development of tropical waves. I encourage you to be adequately prepared to ensure safety during this time!

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# HURRICANE PREP

## CHECKLIST

Be ready for hurricane season. Take action TODAY to be better prepared for when the worst happens. Understand your risk from hurricanes, and begin pre-season preparations now. Make sure you understand how to interpret forecasts and alerts, and know what to do before, during, and after a storm.

### Gather Emergency Supplies

- Gather food, water and medicine. Stores and pharmacies might be closed.
- Go-Kit: at least three days of supplies that you can carry with you.
- Include backup batteries and chargers for your devices (cell phone, CPAP, wheelchair, etc.)
- Stay-at-Home Kit: at least two weeks of supplies.
- Have a 1-month supply of medication in a child-proof container and medical supplies or equipment.
- Keep personal, financial and medical records safe and easy to access (hard copies or securely backed up).

### Learn Emergency Skills

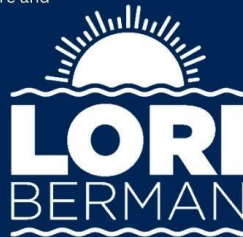
- Learn First Aid and CPR.
- Be ready to live without power. Utilities may be offline. Be ready to live without power, gas and water.
- Plan for your electrical needs, including cell phones and medical equipment.
- Talk to your doctor. Plan for backup power.

### Securing Your Home

- Cover all of your windows, either with hurricane shutters or wood.
- If possible, secure straps or clips to securely fasten your roof to the structure of your home.
- Make sure all trees and shrubs are trimmed and clear rain gutters.
- Reinforce your garage doors.
- Bring in all outdoor furniture, garbage cans, decorations, and anything else that is not tied down.
- If winds become strong, stay away from windows and doors and close, secure and brace internal doors.

### Get your car ready

- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Move cars and trucks into your garage or under cover.
- Always keep an emergency kit in your car.



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Attending events around district 26:

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Check out these additional events in the western communities

**Mind Your BUSINESS!**  
 4TH ANNUAL YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM  
 Presented by the Palm Beach County Office of Equal Business Opportunity  
**AUGUST 5, 2023 | 9AM - 2PM**  
 301 N. Olive Avenue  
 6th Floor  
 West Palm Beach

**CALLING ALL FUTURE CEOs  
 Ages 8 - 18**

**WORKSHOPS**

- ABCs of Business Start-up**  
with Gerald Hearn | *Brick by Brick Academy*
- 123s of Financing Your Business**  
with Jason Pritt | *Bank United*
- Network or Not Work**  
with Ed Chase | *Palm Beach County Intergovernmental Affairs and Community Engagement*
- The Brand Identity**  
with Maiah Andrews | *Lifestyle Brand Group*

**PANEL DISCUSSION MODERATOR:**  
 Tevin Ali / *Talk with Tevin*

**REGISTER NOW!** <https://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/MYB-Youth-Entrepreneurship>

**Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners**  
 Craig E. Wilco, Mayor; Maria Sachs, Vice Mayor  
 Mark G. Spivey, Michael A. Bryant, Mario Woodward, Sara Easter, Mack Bernard

**OEOB**  
 OFFICE OF EQUAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY  
 SMALL BUSINESS IS BIG BUSINESS

**SMALL BUSINESS IS BIG BUSINESS**  
 ASmith5@pbcgov.org  
 (561) 614-6840  
 www.pbcgov.com/oeb

**Palm Beach County**  
**Office of Equal Business Opportunity**  
**Glades-Area Small Business Workshop Series**

- Are you an entrepreneur or a new business seeking to take your business to the next level?
- Are you an existing business interested in learning about opportunities with Palm Beach County?

Prepare your business for growth and success. Join us as we help start-ups and existing businesses navigate the County's registration and certification process. Get key tips on how to do business with Palm Beach County.

Entrepreneurs/Start-Up Businesses	Existing Businesses
July 24 & 26, 2023 Community United Methodist Church Jameson Hall 401 SW 1st St., Belle Glade, FL 33430 10am-noon	August 3 & 10, 2023 Community United Methodist Church Jameson Hall 401 SW 1st St., Belle Glade, FL 33430 6-8pm

**REGISTER TODAY**  
<https://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/OEBO-Small-Business-Workshop-Series-The-Jackson-Moore-Group>

**PRESENTED BY THE JACKSON-MOORE GROUP**



### District Office

2300 High Ridge Road  
Suite 161  
Boynton Beach, FL, 33426  
(561) 292-6014



### Tallahassee Office

216 Senate Office Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 487-5026



### Email

berman.lori.web@flsenate.gov

## CONTACT US



### Facebook

facebook.com/loribermanfla



### Twitter

@loriberman



### Instagram

@senloriberman

