



Dear Friends:

It's too hot. Let's be honest; it will only get hotter every year. This extreme heat is a hazard to our public health and well-being, and it's here to stay with climate change. We have to work together as a society to face this.

The public health hazard due to heat is already here. Florida ERs are seeing a **surge of patients with heat-related illnesses**. The National Weather Service issues excessive heat warnings when the heat index reaches 113 degrees, or the air temp reaches 105 degrees. Tallahassee has had **five warnings this year, compared to only three for the past twelve years**. NWS is forecasting three more warnings for the next week alone.

We cannot keep delaying bold action. It's time for us to be honest and treat this as what it is - a climate emergency! Leon County has already committed to reducing carbon emissions from its operations by 30% before 2030 as part of our **Integrated Sustainability Action Plan**. I will support a climate emergency resolution prepared by GenCLEO youth advocates at the upcoming commission meeting. Our youth have the most to lose from ignoring the climate emergency, and they are becoming the leaders of this

## August 24th Blueprint Meeting

On August 24th at 9 am Blueprint will meet to approve the FY2024 Blueprint budget that we were supposed to approve at the May 11th meeting.

Unfortunately, that meeting devolved into a five-hour argument over the **Northeast Park**. In contrast, we didn't discuss the \$100 million increase in three roadway projects.

*Want to know what I think about it?* Watch my **video** recap from the May 11th Blueprint meeting.

Join us in person or watch online as we finally decide how your sales tax dollars will be spent.

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## Upcoming Meetings

**August 24th at 9am:** Blueprint IA Meeting in the Tallahassee City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

**September 12th at 3pm & 6pm:** County Commission Meeting & Public Hearing in the Commission Chamber located on the 5th Floor of the Leon County Courthouse.

effort.

This summer, we have opened cooling stations in our libraries during heat warnings. We need long-term thinking to change how we deal with extreme heat using all available technology and new solutions. When we make decisions about our transportation infrastructure, we must prioritize eliminating carbon emissions.

There is no avoiding the worsening effects of this climate emergency. Our health and safety will suffer from extreme weather, so it makes sense that we face this together.

Until next month, take care of yourself and your neighbors.

Sincerely,



David T.  
O'Keefe

If there are other issues you would like to discuss, contact me at **(850) 606-5375** or [okeefed@leoncountyfl.gov](mailto:okeefed@leoncountyfl.gov).

☐ Find us on social media [here!](#)



## Shelter Pet of the Month

**September 19th at 1:30pm:** Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) in the Tallahassee City Commission Chamber at City Hall.

[View the agendas here](#)



## Excessive Heat Warnings

Over the last few weeks, the National Weather Service has issued excessive heat warnings for our area. In an ongoing commitment to protect public safety, the County's Downtown Main Library (200 W. Park Avenue) operates as a cooling station during an excessive heat warning.

The County Library will offer air conditioning, comfortable seating, water access, restrooms, information and assistance, charging stations, and all the usual library activities and materials as a cooling station.

Additional heat safety tips can be found at the link below.

[Heat Safety Tips](#)

## Leon County's 9/11 Day of Service

Since 2011, Leon County had held the 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service to honor the lives and service of those we

Meet Mack! He is an American Staffordshire Terrier mix, and the staff at the shelter think he's 4 years old. Mack holds the title of being the dog who has been at the Shelter the longest - July 27th marked his one year anniversary. He's learned how to play with toys, sit, walk nicely on a leash, ride in cars, and has been on several sleepovers with a volunteer friend. He's potty trained, and is the best cuddle buddy.

**Mack loves:**

- ♥ To nap
  
- ♥ To give kisses
- ♥ To eat treats
- ♥ To hang out with humans
- ♥ To be silly

**Mack's job demands are as follows:**

- A loving home that must include walks so he can use his nose and sniff
- Hoomans who will love and protect him
- A one-time adoption fee of \$30



[Shelter pets adoption info](#)

lost on September 11, 2001. On **August 17th** County staff along with our community partners will work along side with volunteers from 8am until 1pm in a neighborhood-wide service day in the Yons Lakeside Estates neighborhood.

Volunteers can register online at the link below to participate until 5pm on Friday, August 11th. Volunteer activities include debris removal, painting, landscaping, soft washing and more.

[Register to Vounteer](#)



**HOOPLA is now available at the Leon County Library**

Leon County's Public Libraries are now offering Hoopla at all library locations. Hoopla allows you to borrow and enjoy audiobooks, ebooks, comics, movies, TV, magazines or music everywhere you have a screen.

- On your computer
- On your phone
- In your car
- In your home

Hoopla syncs along all your devices so you can stream titles immediately or wherever you're in the mood. All you need is your **library card!**

[Explore Hoopla](#)

Want to foster a shelter pet? Learn more [here!](#)



## Tallahassee-Leon County Bicentennial

In 2024, Tallahassee-Leon County will celebrate our 200th anniversary while embracing the next 100 years.

Visit Tallahassee hosts a Monthly Bicentennial Zoom Meeting to engage residents in the planning of our Bicentennial.

You can join the next meeting on Tuesday, August 15, from 12 noon - 1 pm. To join or call into the session, visit this [link](#). Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month from noon until 1 pm. Learn more about what we're planning for the Bicentennial below.

[Bicentennial Information](#)



## Read the Leon County Link

The Leon County Link is filled with useful information for Leon County citizens, including available County services and upcoming events. Read the latest edition now!

[The Leon Link](#)





Leon County Commission, District 5 | 301 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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