



September 2018

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# September 2018

- Dads Take Your Child to School Day
- Families Prepare for Disaster
- September is Baby Safety Month
- Child Passenger Safety Tips



[Click to read the September issue.](#)

## N-E-W-S

Early learning highlights from North, East, West and South Florida

### ***VPK: Picture it!***

**Coalition shows a picture is worth 1,000 words.**

The [Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida](#) has a new photo wall that puts VPK "in the picture." When families come to the Fort Myers office, they can choose a frame and make a memory of their visit to take home and share through their social media. There is a twofold goal: to raise awareness of the statewide program and to encourage other families with 4-year-olds to register their child.



### ***ELC publishes new issue of popular magazine***

**NextGen Magazine continues its recipe for success**

The [ELC of Manatee County](#) has been producing a magazine for families for a number of years. The grew from an idea to build awareness of early learning and what the coalition does. The magazine is distributed through the public school district and goes to all families who have children in school. Now a fixture in the community, it has proven to be a success at a time when much media has turned digital.

See the next issue [here](#)..



## ***Mommy and Me Story Time Benefited Coalition***

**Guest reader shared stories with shoppers at Bloomingdale's...**

The [ELC of Orange County](#) invited people to shop at Bloomingdale's for a few hours while their children had a chance to listen to a guest reader who also showed them how to do yoga. Bloomingdale's donated 10 percent of supporters' store wide sales from 1 to 4 pm on Saturday, Sept. 8, to the coalition.



## ***Pilot Club Helps Child Safety Program for Coalition*** **Check means car seats for needy families**

The Gulf to Lake Pilot Club contributed to the Child Passenger Safety Program at the [ELC of the Nature Coast](#). The group has provided financial support since the program began to help protect children from injury in motor vehicle crashes by providing them with safe, new car seats. The Pilot Club focuses on helping those with brain injuries and supporting programs that help prevent brain injury. Children who ride in an appropriate car seat that is installed correctly have [less risk of brain and spinal cord injury common in motor vehicle crashes](#). With donations from organizations like the Gulf to Lakes Pilot Club, the Child Passenger Safety Program provides safe, new car seats and booster seats at low cost for financially eligible families. The funds also allow the program to provide education on correct use of child safety seats for all caregivers in the community at car seat check-up appointments.



## ***Great Food for a Great Cause*** **ELC uses food to raise funds**

There is a saying that the way to a person's heart is through their stomach. For the [ELC of Seminole County](#), tasty food is a way to raise funds. On Friday, Sept. 26, from 11 am to 4 pm, 20 percent of all sales from the Panda Express in Altamonte Springs will go to benefit the Seminole ELC. The public can order online using the promotional code 254605 or download this [flyer](#).



## ***Tallahassee Runners Race for Readiness***

**It's "tricky" when it comes to running on Oct. 27!**

Runners and walkers alike from around Tallahassee will put on their running shoes for the [ELC of the Big Bend Region](#)'s 5th Annual Race for Readiness. It's at Tom Brown Park and includes a Halloween costume competition. The run starts at 8 am with registration beginning at 7:30, Saturday, Oct. 27. There's a 5K race and a 1 mile fun run. Kids under 5 are free.



[Click here for tickets.](#)

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