

## Florida Turnpike Extension Sixty Nine Year Old Project Finished?



The Florida State Turnpike Authority was authorized by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Dan McCarty as the Turnpike Authority Act on June 11, 1953. The Authority was reorganized and incorporated into the newly formed Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in July 1969.

In 1953, Costar led a lobbying group that resulted in the state legislature creating the "Florida Turnpike Act", which Governor Dan McCarty signed into law on July 11, 1953.

A History of Providing Safe and Convenient Transportation. Construction on Florida's Turnpike began in the mid-1950s, and the first 110-mile stretch was completed in 1957.

As I understand the turnpike extends 264.666 miles. When the Turnpike lobbying was going Florida Residents were promised

all kinds of things it would only be a toll road to pay for the construction of and so and so forth. Some of the problems did not come up till a little later.

The Turnpike cut off the water flow from east to west, Cypress heads (trees) were drying up and it was having effect on the everglades and the Lake Okachobee area. Today we have Red Tides in the western side of the state, some say it is cause by construction. I think the turnpike had a lot to do with because of the water flow.

My problem with it is I'm seeing long time Floridian stressing out over this extension. It keeps showing up and I think it's because we created this powerful money making Organization and it need projects to prove it's existense. So they come to central and north central florida and want to take our land or run thru it. Some of the corridors were dangerously close to our rivers. Why you ask? Follow the money, it's because it's the most valuable land we have and someone wants it.

For example people who found their little bit of heaven on the river had to move because of the Barge canal and when it was not used for what it taken away for they did not get their land back. It was turned into a recreational area after ruining those peoples lives.

The turnpike today has construction areas all over it and they are dangerous at night, when wet it's really dangerous. There is predatory auto cost. predatory fast food and etc.

They have just paused the project. They should widen I-75 widen 27 going west and forget the extension. The Turnpike Authority has finished it's project!



The Lady Lake Chamber of Commerce has a monthly networking luncheon. This month it was a Eatons Beach, great setting, great food, Great service, great

door prize's and great company. Leslie Decesare and Janet Fraley did a great job organizing it! It was well organized. Thank You Ladies!

## To Governor DeSantis

I am a small publisher of monthly newspaper. I am continuously trying to bring attention to the stress the Turnpike Authority brings to Central and North Florida residents / Ranchers / Farmers.

I live near the Rainbow river, our lives have been riddled with attempts from the state to build through this area. Big business have been speculating on how they can make money on these events.

I ask when the Turnpike Organization was started it's job was to build a road. They built the road, they built bridges, they built Exits. They are running out of thing to do so here they come again with the Turnpike Extension. Oh no it's political season so let's pause it and come back later.

What happens the people in this area are

being harassed by this project. They are selling their house got get away from the stress of it all. IT"S NOT FAIR! We are tax paying citizens and don't deserve the pressures put on by these project.

Finally the gasoline came through my property, that stress is over or is it. What happens if it leaks or blows up. Not likely well it's possible. Now the property is devalued, people don't want to live next to a gasoline.

So please consider this before you allow the Turnpike to proceed again. I am told that people were told what they wanted to hear for now. Tomorrow it will come again unless you stop it for good!

Thomas Loury, TomL Publishing LLC  
Seniors Voice of Ocala, Village Spectator,  
Ocala DownTown, Lady Lake Magazine

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A.J. "Tony" Powell

## AS I SEE IT

-Air B&B in The Villages?

Apparently, many residents feel that short-term rentals in The Villages should be stopped. Over-all management of residential districts and amenities in The Villages is controlled by several 'CDD's.

These 'Community Development Districts' are appointed by the Developer.

Obviously, that being the case, their primary function is to protect the best interests of the 'Developer/Ownership/Management.

So far they have not addressed the short-term rental market issue.

But, obviously home-owners and residents in The Villages are concerned about the effect of transient visitors on their lifestyle and their property values.

Many say that, they too started out as 'renters' before they finally purchasing a home here. But some of the short-term renters are coached to lie to their neighbors about who they are. For example, "Tenants are to say that they are 'friends of the owners' and 'don't tell anyone that you are here for just a few days'.

The truth is that there have been both long and short term rentals in The Villages going back to when it started out as 'Orange Blossom Gardens' (Now referred to as 'The Historic Side).

I remember when residents would regularly rent their neighbors home for the visiting friends and family from 'up north.'

I don't remember them, (or myself) ever being aggressively challenged

for an 'ID'.

Those visitor/guests would use the old 'hill top' golf course, (getting in line with 'HS' and others), the 'Paradise Pool', sitting by and chatting with 'HS' and freely walking through the Sales/office/Rec Center, always welcomed. (but that's another story!).

Are short-term rentals really a problem?

If, so, is there a solution?

I saw one comment where the writer suggested that The Villages should increase the cost of the Guest/Visitor ID's.

Like DISNEY - maybe \$55.00/day.

Which brings up the question, 'Is The Villages legally obligated to issue Guest Passes at all?'

Are Home-Owner/Residents , in fact, guaranteed that their House Guests are entitled to an ID?

Does The Villages, in fact, issue 'Resident ID's to 5-day visitors?

Is it a fact that even 'legal' guests have to be accompanied by the Home-Owner/Resident to use or even access the amenities?

That can't apply to Air B&B and the like, can it?

My guess is that it all comes down to money.

Which is more profitable?

Deny ID's to short-term visitors?

How would that be profitable?

Or issue ID's to any home-owner who requests one?

Which creates more 'occupants; more visitors, more investors, more buyers.

Seems simple enough to figure out!

'til next time. ....

## LAKE SHERIFF'S CYBER CRIMES

### DETECTIVES ARREST SIX IN UNDERCOVER OPERATION

Detectives assigned to the Lake County sheriff's Cyber Crimes Unit recently concluded a 4-day operation targeting subjects online attempting to meet children for sexual activity. The investigation, dubbed Operation Welcome to Detention, resulted in six arrests for various sex-related crimes.

Detectives conducted the operation August 24-27, during which time they posed online as either a 13- or 14-year-old child. The subjects traveled to the predetermined location with the intent to have sex with whom they thought was the child and were taken into custody upon arrival. All suspects were arrested without incident.

This operation would not have been possible without the cooperation and support from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and other member agencies of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

## Lake Deputies Arrest

### LAKE DEPUTIES ARREST 16-YEAR-OLD FOR POSSESSING A FIREARM ON A LAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BUS

A 16-year-old male student from Lake Hills Academy in Mascotte was arrested today for having a handgun on a Lake County school bus this morning. The school's administration was notified after another student on the bus saw the student with the gun. By that time, the bus had already departed from the school.

Deputies had reason to believe that the

gun was left on the bus and not brought into the school. They quickly began investigating the claim and responded to the bus parking lot located on Golf Links Avenue in Eustis. Upon searching the bus, a Glock handgun was located on the back seat, concealed in a sweatshirt. The gun was holstered and unloaded; no ammunition was found.

Deputies continued investigating and were able to review footage from the bus's security camera, which showed 16-year-old Trace James Richardson removing his sweatshirt and leaving it in that same seat.

ased upon witness statements and the video evidence, Richardson was arrested and charged with possessing a firearm on school property. He will be detained by the Division of Juvenile Justice.

Lake Hills Academy is an alternative school located at 513 Albbrook Street in

## Death Investigation

### DEATH INVESTIGATION IN ALTOONA

Lake County sheriff's detectives are investigating an incident that left two people dead from apparent gunshot wounds last night (August 25) in the northeast part of Lake County. The incident occurred at 45918 Pennsylvania Road in Altoona at approximately 9 p.m.

Deputies responded to the residence after receiving a report of two people at the home being shot. Upon arrival, two male victims were found deceased. The deceased victims have been identified as 34-year-old David Thomas Mikell of Umatilla and 41-year-old Shane Eugene Clements of Altoona.

Detectives have developed leads and are following up on the information. The shooting was not a random act and the two

*Continued page 3*



District Helps Plant City Celebrate Opening of Demonstration Facility

Plant City recently celebrated the opening of its One Water Demonstration Facility. The site will test water purification technology for a potential full-scale project to create a drinking water supply. District leaders were on hand to applaud Plant City's innovative step in exploring the opportunities recycled water could provide in ensuring the area's future drinking water supply. See [www.swfwmd.state.fl.us](http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us) for more.

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Florida State Senate

DENNIS K. BAXLEY



Dear Friends,  
"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually

in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood..." This quote, from President Theodore Roosevelt, was in a speech he gave titled "Citizenship in a Republic" and it is one of my favorites. Given in France after he had left the office of the Presidency, Roosevelt's speech so resonated within the hearts of free loving people that it is still quoted by U.S. Presidents and other world-leaders more than 100 years later. It is a good reminder to me and many others that our freedoms in this country are not kept easily. That the American dream of self-determination and individual responsibility will come at a price. That it is the duty of every citizen of our great republic to be ready to do battle in the arena, to strive valiantly, and not sit idly by while the attacks rain in from those who would seek to do us harm. Enemies, both foreign and domestic.

Our leader in Florida, Governor Ron DeSantis, he is the man in arena. The daily attacks from left wing media groups and the Democratic Party hit him daily but he still stands firm. Not only that, but those groups are being soundly defeated on every front. Whether it is defending parental rights, securing elections, protecting unborn life, combating critical race theory or banning woke indoctrination in our schools, our Governor and legislative majority are winning big! In the August primary elections, thanks in part to support from Governor DeSantis, Florida voters flipped the Miami-Dade School Board from a 4-1 democrat controlled board, to a 3-2 republican majority. Miami-Dade Schools is now the largest school district in the country

with a conservative majority on the school board. Florida's citizens (parents, in particularly) are fully engaged in this battle, and hundreds more are joining you and me in that arena with each passing day. That is just one example of many. Races like these serve as a bellwether for how our November elections will go. Every major poll that we have seen shows that we can



expect a very big win, not just in Florida, but also across the country.

Thank you for letting this country undertaker serve you in the Florida Senate and for allowing me to fight these battles with you and with our Governor. We have known many victories and some defeats over the past few years, but we remain firm in our resolve to never, never, never give up. We press on, in hope and in prayer that our children and grandchildren will have the same America that we were given and that they too will have the opportunity to be "the man in the arena".

Onward & Upward,  
Senator Dennis Baxley

# Death Investigation

*Continued from page 2*

persons of interest do not reside at the residence.

The investigation is active; therefore, no further information is being released at this time. Further details will be provided once they become available.



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Tom Loury Long time member of CEP/Ocala Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Ocala Business Leaders and current member, Co-Founder and past President of Select Business Associates, Past President of the Lady Lake Chamber and current member.

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES



I had to rewrite my column from the Ocala newspapers. I have been worried about a young friend who had a substantial 401K. In watching the market I kept thinking this man could be losing everything he has in the 401K. I got into a conversation with him the other day, I said to him every time I see the stock market going crazy I thought of you and was worried about you losing all you gained in the past years. He said I gained \$400,000 while Trump was in office. Then comes Biden I lost \$50,000 the first year before I could put it in a save fund without disturbing the 401K. So he said he lost some of what he gained which would probably help with his children college education. A loss of 25% of investment because Biden's hate for Trump and his poor decisions first year. The young man did not say anything nasty but I did!

To the general public out there and here,

vote for people who want to bring back America's economy and if a politician lied to you don't believe them a second time. Don't let them buy your vote. If they paid your college debt they will get it back from you some way. The United States is in crisis so look and pay attention of how you vote and don't forget the past.

The current administration is flooding our country with people who want free money. They are fleeing socialism remember that. Bidon, Harris, Palosy, Shumar, Sorros, Clinton are taking us into socialism. Under Socialism your job will be picked for you, you will never go any further in life but the job they choose. You won't work your way up the ladder in a company. So be smart don't let your vote be bought.

You young people who are voting age, look at what has happen to our country in just two years. They have weaponized the largest justice system that has always been above reproach. CAUTION! VOTED SMART!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Newspaper Deadlines

*Editorial & Ad Copy for November*

**Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown**

**Noon, October 14th**

**Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator**

**12am, October 19th**

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Are you a success? Are you Significant? Which is more important to you. I know we all wish for both.

If you do a good thing for someone and they mention how good that was and it help them in life. That is Significant! If you are making money and have a number of employees and making a profit. That is success! Even if you have a small business and you and your significant other are happy that is Success! But to be significant you have to go over the edge to see what is on the other side. Helping others is very important. To go back to the roots of society God and Family are both first. Now it's God / Family / Grocery's / Gas.

I recently got a note from someone saying "Wow" --- "thank you for the great publicity," Tom!

I appreciate all that you do for our community! To me that is Significant!

\*\*\*\*\*

A lot of people are fleeing their state because of the crime, taxes and many other reasons. Don't vote for what you fled! Vote for who did a good job where you fled to. If you fled to Florida you have agreed that Governor has done a good job otherwise you would not be coming here.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have a problem, don't complain, fix it!

\*\*\*\*\*

Show the other person appreciation and give them recognition. It helps them have energy to help more people.

\*\*\*\*\*

Terrible Headline... Woman mugged in a safe neighborhood. Well I guess it is no longer a safe neighborhood. I don't think there are many safe neighborhoods, look over your shoulder and be cautious, be ready.

\*\*\*\*\*

Documents that were previous sealed have been release, and top IRS aides admit that they knew the Tea Party was eligible for tax exemption before Obama reelection in 2012. This proves there was Government misconducted. Does this serve in the public interest?

\*\*\*\*\*

I love the way this guy talks! John Kennedy says... "The water is not going to clear up in Washington until we get the pigs out of the Creek and no one is coming to save us but ourselves."

\*\*\*\*\*

Thirty three Senators sign a letter asking Attorney General Garland to appoint a special counsel to investigate Hunter Biden.

\*\*\*\*\*

Apparently there was a secret meeting between Mayorkas and the Soros-funded Groups during trip to address Migrant Crisis.

\*\*\*\*\*

I do business with people first and businesses second. Get to know the person your doing business with it will pay off for you in the future.

## No-Bake Graham Cracker Squares



### Ingredients

Cooking spray

2 cups coarsely chopped graham crackers (from 8 graham cracker sheets)

2 cups uncooked quick-cooking oats

3/4 cup dried cranberries

1/2 cup chopped dry-roasted peanuts

1/4 cup unsweetened shredded coconut

1/4 teaspoon kosher salt

1/2 cup honey

1/4 cup packed light brown sugar

1/2 cup creamy peanut butter

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Lightly coat an 8-inch square baking dish with cooking spray. Stir together chopped graham crackers, oats, cranberries, peanuts, coconut, and salt in a large heatproof bowl.

Bring honey and brown sugar to a boil in a small saucepan over medium-high, stirring constantly; remove from heat. Stir in peanut butter and vanilla until smooth. Pour over graham cracker mixture in bowl; stir until coated.

Press mixture into prepared baking dish; chill 30 minutes. Cut into squares.



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## FROM THE DESK OF CONGRESSWOMAN KAT CAMMACK



WASHINGTON, D.C. Congresswoman Kat Cammack (R-FL-03), a member of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced the Justified Action for

Securing Our Nation (JASON) Act. The bill is named after a Customs and Border Protection agent who inspired the legislation and has dealt with the influx of migrants at the southern border for the last 21 months.

The bill would explicitly provide the Secretary of Homeland Security with the authority to prevent the entry of aliens in the event of a surge in apprehensions at U.S. land borders; a public health emergency in the U.S. due to any outbreak that could qualify as a pandemic; the dissolution or failure of a national government in the western hemisphere; or an imminent foreign terror threat to the security of the U.S.

"Our Border Patrol agents are facing an unprecedented crisis at the southern border with almost 3.6 million encounters and over 900,000 known gotaways since this administration took office. Narco-terrorist cartels have taken advantage of the situation and ramped up their drug and human smuggling efforts. This has to end," said **National Border Patrol Council (NBPC) President Brandon Judd**. "I thank Rep. Cammack for working with Border Patrol agents and understanding the situation we face. The JASON Act will give the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to prevent entry into the country when there are border surges and for other situations concerning national security. This is a

brilliant and commonsense tool that will hold the Secretary accountable while giving our agents on the line a much-needed policy to secure the border."

"We applaud her for introducing legislation to explicitly prescribe conditions when a suspension may be declared and extend this power to the Secretary of Homeland Security, which could help overcome an obstinate President. This would be a step in the right direction for protecting American families and alleviating the burden on our heroic Border Patrol, and we urge swift passage," **Stein added**.

The bill's cosponsors at the time of introduction include Reps. Brian Babin, Jim Banks, Ken Buck, Dan Crenshaw, Byron Donalds, Glenn Grothman, Yvette Herrell, Clay Higgins, Nicole Malliotakis, Beth Van Duyne, and Randy Weber.

Rep. Cammack Joins Rep. Kim, Colleagues In Bipartisan Letter Urging President Biden To Deny Iranian President Raisi Entry Visa To U.S.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Kat Cammack (R-FL-03) joined Rep. Young Kim (R-CA-39) in sending a bipartisan letter to President Biden urging his administration to deny Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and his delegation entry into the United States for the United Nations 77th General Assembly in New York later this month.

President Raisi was a member of the Tehran "death committee" responsible for the 1988 organized mass execution of 30,000 Iranian political prisoners, most of which were members or supporters of the

People's Mojahedin of Iran (MEK/PMOI). His regime continues supporting terrorism abroad and attempts to kill American citizens and Iranian political dissidents on U.S. soil.

"As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, this is without a doubt a dire national security issue," said Rep. Cammack. "To allow an admitted terrorist to not only enter into our country is not something we can allow as a country that values free, democratic principles and human rights. Especially considering that the 77th General Assembly is scheduled to start just two days after the anniversary of 9/11, it would be completely insensitive and thoughtless for the Biden administration to ignore this pressing matter."

"Given Ebrahim Raisi's record of supporting terrorism and violating human rights, he should not be afforded the privilege to step onto American soil nor the privilege to address the United Nations General Assembly," the members wrote. "We cannot turn a blind eye to perpetrators of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights and cruel regimes that endanger both their people and Americans. We urge you and your administration to carefully consider this matter of national security and to use your authorities under the INA to deny Ebrahim Raisi and his delegation entry into the United States."

Rep. Cammack Joins Sen. Rubio, Rep. Lawson, Colleagues In Petitioning USTR To Protect Florida Growers From Mexico's Unfair Trade Practices

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Kat Cammack (R-FL-03) joined Sen. Marco

Rubio (R-FL) and Rep. Al Lawson (D-FL-05) in petitioning U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai to initiate a Section 301 investigation of fruit and vegetable imports from Mexico, and to secure trade relief for Florida growers.

For more than 20 years, Mexico has leveraged heavy subsidies and low wages in a scheme to conduct a "conquest of external markets" and displace Florida's seasonal and perishable agricultural industry from the domestic U.S. market.

"I'm proud to join my colleagues on this effort to address Mexico's unfair trade practices," said **Rep. Cammack**. "As the only Florida Republican on the House Agriculture Committee, I've seen the way our farmers are suffering from the labor shortages, supply chain issues, and inflationary costs we've been experiencing over the past several months, notwithstanding competition from foreign exporters. Our growers in Florida need immediate relief, which is why my colleagues and I are demanding an investigation into Mexico's export targeting scheme that is directly harming our domestic supply chain."

"The Biden Administration has affirmed its intention to protect and reinvigorate critical supply chains within the U.S., including agricultural supply chains," **the members wrote**. "Mexico's export targeting scheme, which is affecting U.S.-grown produce during the winter and spring months, is a direct threat to this objective. As this petition discusses, and as various government entities, including the U.S. Trade Representative, have confirmed, seasonal and perishable industries such as

*continued page 7*

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**Date, Time & Location on Registration Page**

Presented by  
Dan Kapellen  
Resident of The Villages

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Habitat for Humanity Harper Family Dedication



Dunkin Grand Re-Opening and Ribbon Cutting Aug 26th  
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1572 Bella Cruz Dr, The Villages



Iron Dragon Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Sept 2nd  
at the Lady Lake Community Building, 237 W Guava St., Lady Lake.

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## Lady Lake Police

### CHIEF ROBERT TEMPESTA.



Walking is a part of many of our trips each day, and for some it is their primary mode of transportation. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,

October is Pedestrian Safety Month. The goal is to increase awareness around pedestrian safety and remind drivers to watch for pedestrians every time they are behind the wheel. There are many

residential neighborhoods, shopping plazas, and other areas where pedestrians become drivers and vice versa. Here are a few tips as a reminder of how you can remain safe and keep others safe as well.

#### Everyone Is a Pedestrian

At some point in the day, everyone is a pedestrian. Whether it's walking to your car, walking to the office, or walking for exercise. Everyone deserves to get to their destination safely.

#### To do this, drivers must:

Look for pedestrians. Children and teens can be less predictable and run out into the roadway without looking. Be especially careful around schools, residential neighborhoods, and near parks and

playgrounds. Buckle up, watch the posted speed limits, focus on the driving task, and drive sober. Lives depend on it.

#### Safe Speeds

Slower speeds save lives. In fact, the chances of a pedestrian surviving a crash rapidly decreases when the vehicle speed is above 30 mph. Obey all posted speed limits. They aren't suggestions and are designed to keep all on the roadways safe.

#### Safe Vehicles

Most vehicles on our roads include equipment for safety like air bags and seat belts, which are designed to keep occupants safe. Newer vehicles also include technology that keeps other vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, safe.

Technologies such as pedestrian automatic emergency braking, rear backup cameras, and better headlights for identifying pedestrians at night are just some

of the technologies keeping pedestrians and others outside the vehicle safe.

The men and women of the Lady Lake Police Department remind you to be safe out there!

## Rep Cammack

*Continued from page 5*

Florida's generally do not enjoy access to trade remedies. The provisions of Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, however, are uniquely suited to investigate Mexico's trade-distorting practices and policies and provide urgently needed relief to Florida's growers."

# STAY INFORMED!

### Why Join The Lady Lake Area Chamber?

- **Networking Opportunities**- Connect with business professionals
- **Visibility** - Get noticed in your community
- **Credibility**- Membership raises your business reputation
- **Discounts**- Take advantage of member- only discounts
- **Learning**- Member only speaker series on business topics
- **Give Back**- Volunteer on committees to help the community

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call (352) 633-4623 for assistance.**



# Lady Lake Chamber 7th Annual Business to Business Expo

Lady Lake Chamber held it 7th Annual Business to Business Expo at the Water Oak Recreation Center. It is a huge room holding all our vendors. Almost every booth had a great door prize to give out during the drawing. Our Chamber Executive Director was out sick, Janet Fraley her assistant did a good job running the event with a lot of volunteers to help with the event. We

have some 38 pictures to show you. Each vender got two minutes to present a speech about there business. Some did not need that much time and other needed twice that time. It really went well. After listening to everyone's speech we had a couple of breaks, then the Water Oak Residents were invited to come in for the last hour. It was a good show! Don't miss next year.





# Lady Lake Chamber 7th Annual Business to Business Expo





### Lady Lake Magazines & Village Spectator Newspaper Pickup Points

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- Lady Lake Chamber  
Downtown  
441 S, Lady Lake
- City Hall 441  
N Lady Lake
- Legion Hall  
466, Lady Lake
- Recreation Plantation  
466 Lady Lake



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## DONATIONS NEEDED!

Lady Lake Animal Control is working hard to keep local  
animals safe. At this time they are helping a large number  
of cats & kittens and are in desperate need of donations of  
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- Fancy Feast Kitten Food (Chicken)
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Lady Lake Area Chamber

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Lady Lake



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strength, stability, self-reliance and  
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## FROM THE DESK OF GOVERNOR DESANTIS



### Governor Ron DeSantis Appoints Four to the College of Central Florida District Board of Trustees

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis

announced the appointment of Russell Branson, Fredrick Roberts Jr., Charlie Stone, and Dr. Michael Torres to the College of Central Florida District Board of Trustees.

#### Russell Branson

Branson, of Ocala, is the President of SouthState Bank. He is a board member for AdventHealth Ocala Hospital, Marion County Hospital District, and Marion County Public Policy Institute and the Treasurer of the United Way Marion County. Branson earned his bachelor's degree in finance from Florida State University and his master's degree in banking from Louisiana State University.

#### Fredrick Roberts Jr.

Roberts Jr., of Ocala, is a Partner and Attorney for Klein & Klein, LLC. He is a board member for Oak Hammock at the University of Florida and a member of the Marion County Bar Association. Roberts earned his bachelor's degree in economics from University of Florida and his juris doctor from Stetson University.

#### Charlie Stone

Stone, of Ocala, is the President and

Owner of Stone Petroleum Products, Inc. He was previously a House Member for the Florida House of Representatives from 2012-2020 and a Marion County Commissioner from 2004-2012. Stone is a member of the Chamber of Economic Partnership and the Marion County Roadbuilders Association and is the Past President of Silver Springs Rotary Club.

#### Dr. Michael Torres

Dr. Torres, of Ocala, is the Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of AdventHealth. He is veteran of the United States Air Force. Dr. Torres earned a certificate in military leadership from Air War College, his master's degree in business administration from Touro University International, and his Doctor of Medicine degree from Spartan Health Sciences University.

These appointments are subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

### First Lady Casey DeSantis Highlights Success of Continue the Mission Initiative to Recruit Veterans to Care for Florida's Most Vulnerable Children

On September 13, 2022, in [News Releases](#), by Staff

*Continue the Mission recruits veterans, military spouses and former law enforcement officers to serve as CPIs, APIs, DCF case managers and mentors*

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** — Today, First Lady Casey DeSantis highlighted the success of her Continue the Mission

initiative, which launched in June 2022 to recruit veterans, military spouses and former law enforcement officers to be child and adult protective investigators and case managers, as well as mentors to children in need, new case managers and child and adult protective investigators. Since the start of the initiative, nearly 250 individuals have applied to work to protect Florida's most vulnerable children. This follows several recruiting events hosted by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and successful marketing with local partners. To learn more about this program, Visit:

<https://www.myflfamilies.com/continuethehmission/>.

"This initiative is an incredible opportunity to introduce our veterans, their spouses and retired law enforcement to the many rewarding career paths that are available to protect and serve Florida's children," said **First Lady Casey DeSantis**. "We hope these opportunities provide a continued sense of purpose for those who have already done so much for our great communities, state and nation."

"Our hiring fairs have been a successful first step in recruiting veterans, military spouses and former law enforcement officers, and in the coming months we will expand the initiative's reach," said **Department of Children and Families Secretary Shevaun Harris**. "Working in child welfare is an extremely rewarding career path, and with this expansion, we look forward to having an influx of talented new employees that will bolster our staff as a whole and allow us to better serve Florida's children and families."

Through DCF, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, other state partners, local veterans' organizations and community groups, the initiative serves as a call to action for veterans, military spouses and former law enforcement officers who still have a desire to serve their communities. Together, the agencies are actively recruiting to fill flexible career opportunities in the child and family well-being system. Additionally, the program identifies candidates to serve as mentors for children in need, new case managers and child protective investigators.

Hiring fairs have been held in Pensacola and Tallahassee. Upcoming events are planned for Fort Walton Beach, Pensacola and Jacksonville. Beginning in October, the initiative will expand throughout Florida.

More information about Continue the Mission, including upcoming hiring fairs, can be found here:

<https://www.myflfamilies.com/continuethehmission/>.



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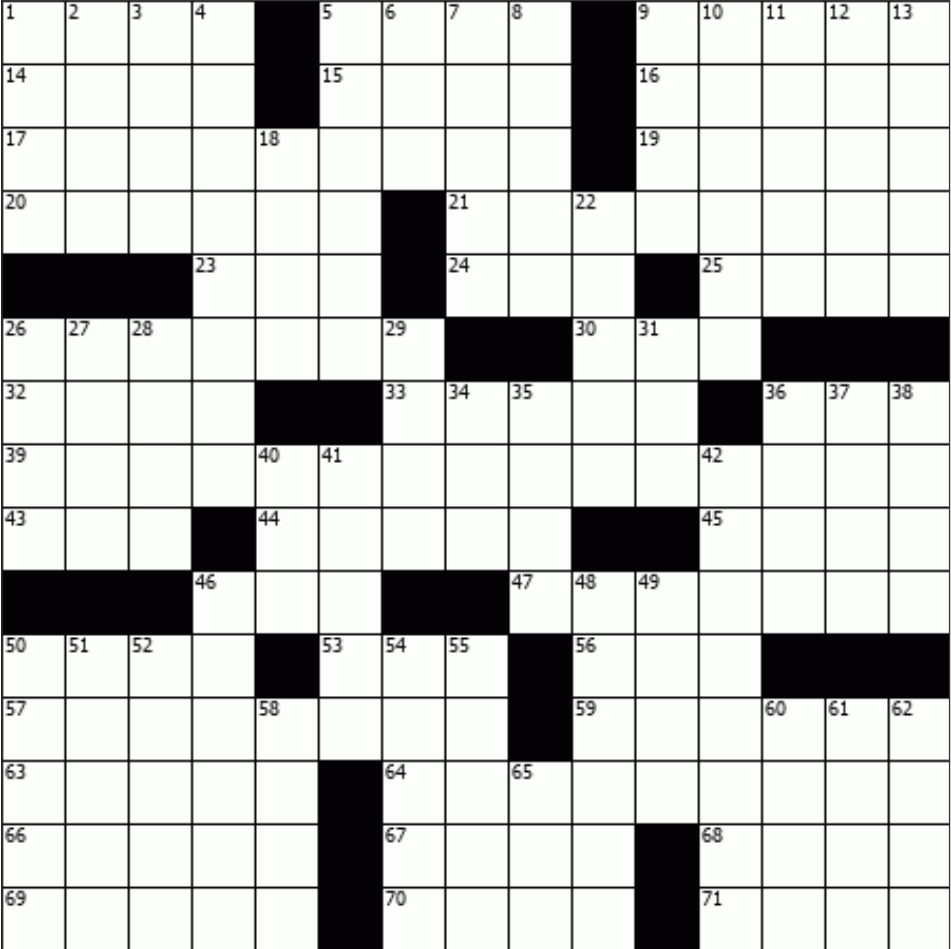


- Answers page 16

**Across**

  - Corsica neighbor
  - Lobbyist for srs.
  - Blanc and Rainier
  - Spot for some hen pecking
  - Algonquian tribe
  - Jostle
  - Pants feature
  - Put on a pedestal
  - At a bargain
  - 0, in some measures
  - Buttons of note
  - Slip up
  - Authentic
  - Maintains
  - Deviations from 100
  - Nutcase
  - "Maids a-milking" group
  - NATO ratification signer
  - Inch along
  - Something to bank on?
- Down**

  - Utter stupidity
  - Yearn for
  - Somewhat
  - Plastic ingredient
  - Advantage
  - War, to Sherman
  - Ledger entry
  - Saxophonist's need
  - Driver's payment
  - Rebounding sound
  - Butcher's offering
  - Conks
  - Manifest
  - Knuckle under
  - Couples' craft
  - Singer-actress Della
  - Sellers of Hollywood classics?
  - Sound of thunder or laughter
  - Ones meriting respect
  - Outranking
- Divided country
  - Great!
  - First name in fashion
  - Israel's Sharon
  - Sea lettuce, e.g.
  - Booty
  - Sandy soil
  - Branches on the family tree
  - Oil amts.
  - A dance, when doubled
  - Communist leader of Yugoslavia
  - Gloriole
  - Traumatize
  - A score has two
  - Discovery cry
  - Seasonal worker
  - Make amends
  - Wonder of the music, world
  - Like many bookie joints
  - Hand lender
  - Ghana's capital
  - Reveals
  - Next stop for a Boston sr., perhaps
  - Out-and-out
  - Hollow, crystalcontaining rock
  - Forty-day period
  - Lunch box treat
  - Space inside a pen
  - Shriek
  - Insurance concern



# Allergy Season



**Prepare For Allergy Season This Fall**  
 (NAPSI)—More than 50 million\* Americans suffer from allergies each year and for many of them, there are some added anxieties. For example, many people don't realize allergies can be deadly. Or that eating local honey, living in a dry climate or avoiding cut flowers won't cure allergies or prevent an allergic reaction. And these days, there's often the question: Is it allergies or is it COVID-19? Fortunately, there are tests

doctors can perform that can help them make that distinction. Here are a few facts that can help you, too.

- What To Look For**  
 Allergy symptoms can include:
- Watery Eyes
  - Congestion
  - Runny Nose
  - Itchy Eyes
  - Vomiting and/or stomach cramps
  - Wheezing
  - Shortness of breath
  - Dizziness or feeling faint
  - Pale or blue skin
  - Weak pulse
  - Hives
  - Repeated cough
  - Tight, hoarse throat, trouble swallowing, swollen tongue

**What is an Allergy?**  
 Allergies are the sixth leading cause of chronic illness in the U.S. An allergy is an overreaction of the body's immune system to an ordinarily harmless substance. Allergies exist throughout the year, indoors and out, and affect people of all ages. Animal

continued page 14

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## FROM THE DESK OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



**Ashley Moody Calls on Floridians to be Ready for Hurricanes During National Preparedness Month**

State **Attorney General Ashley Moody** recognized

**National Preparedness Month** by encouraging Floridians to be ready to face potential hurricane strikes.

National Preparedness Month raises awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. As the second—and usually more active—half of hurricane season begins, Moody highlighted the **2022 Hurricane Preparedness Guide** to aid Floridians in developing storm-safety plans.

Moody weighed in on the guide on Tuesday.

“We’ve been lucky that it’s been a relatively calm hurricane season—so far—but it wouldn’t be prudent to let your guard down. In recognition of National Preparedness Month, I am urging all Floridians to reevaluate their storm preparations and make needed adjustments to keep their families, pets and homes safe,” Moody said.

The theme of this year’s National Preparedness month is: “A Lasting Legacy. The life you’ve built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family.” Floridians

should take stock of current hurricane-safety plans in order to protect loved ones and property. Moody’s 2022 Hurricane Preparedness Guide contains information and tips for staying safe before, during and after a storm.

Preparedness tips provided by the guide include:

Know evacuation routes and shelter locations;

Stock up on enough food, water and emergency supplies for you, your family and pets for at least seven days;

Verify that storm-related products are hurricane-proof or impact-proof before purchasing;

After the storm, be wary of contractors who solicit door-to-door, quote extremely low prices for repairs, demand large and upfront payments with no return date to do work, or offer to perform repairs at a discount with leftover supplies from another job; and

Research recovery charities before giving. As solicitations increase following a disaster, so do charity scams designed to profit off the goodwill of others.

After a storm strikes, recovery can be a grueling process that scammers may attempt to exploit. To help Floridians avoid falling victim to scams that may occur in the aftermath of a hurricane, Moody released “**Scams at a Glance: After the Storm.**”

**Attorney General Moody and Truckers Against Trafficking Train Bus Drivers and Casino Workers to Spot and Report Human Trafficking**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla—Attorney General Ashley Moody, Truckers Against Trafficking, the Florida Department of Transportation and Busing on the Lookout are teaming up to train more than a hundred Florida workers within the gaming and passenger transportation industries to spot and report human trafficking. Today, Attorney General Moody and TAT hosted the Florida Bus & Casino Coalition Build Out—a virtual training event enlisting more soldiers in the fight against human trafficking. The event invites key bus, transit and casino industry stakeholders to join local leaders, law enforcement and government agencies to receive training on how to spot human trafficking and discuss efforts to stop this atrocious crime.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “Excited to co-host this important training to enlist even more soldiers in our fight to end human trafficking. Transportation and casino workers can play a key role in helping rescue trafficking victims, so it’s vital that we provide expert training to make sure they know how to spot and where to report suspicious activity.”

Truckers Against Trafficking Senior Director of Programs and Strategic Initiatives Annie Sovcik said, “Human trafficking is a global crime, but fighting it effectively requires local strategies. Truckers Against Trafficking is grateful to the law enforcement, passenger transportation and casino gaming stakeholders in the state for Florida for recognizing the importance of building public-private partnerships to combat human trafficking – and for dedicating their time and resources to coming together around this issue.”

Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared Perdue, P.E. said, “The Florida Department of Transportation is committed to the prevention of human trafficking throughout Florida. FDOT understands the role we can play in preventing our transportation network from being used to exploit the vulnerable. We work to educate our employees, partners and the general public to know the signs of human trafficking and what to do to prevent it. FDOT applauds Attorney General Moody for her hard work in bringing awareness to this issue and we are proud to be a partner in her efforts.”

Members of the bus and casino industries can play a key role in the fight against human trafficking if aware of the common signs of the crime. There are 17 casinos in Florida. Normal casino-hotel activity—with patrons transiting from the adjacent hotel to the casino floor and back again, as well as the frequent exchange of cash—could help conceal human trafficking.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics lists Florida as one of the top states that employs bus drivers. Public transit operators in Florida transported 156 million riders on fixed routes in 2020. According to the American Bus Association, human traffickers use bus terminals and bus stops as recruiting areas when looking for vulnerable people to exploit, and use busing to transport victims. Bus drivers and station employees, who are properly trained to spot suspicious activity, could alert law enforcement and save lives.

Today’s virtual training features a Human Trafficking 101 presentation by Katie O’Rourke, a victim-services program specialist with the Florida Attorney

General’s Office. There will also be a training session dedicated to bus and casino companies, a presentation by a survivor-leader/field trainer and a moderated law enforcement panel. Panel members include Assistant Statewide Prosecutors Mary Sammon and Nicole Phillips, along with Sgt. Bradley Bakeman with the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation, City of Orlando.

More than 150 participants registered for the virtual event co-hosted by the Florida Attorney General’s Office, TAT, FDOT, Hard Rock/Seminole Gaming, American Gaming Association, Florida Public Transportation Association and Florida Motorcoach Association.

In addition to this latest training endeavor, Attorney General Moody previously partnered with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to launch the Highway Heroes initiative. Through this program, more than 6,400 drivers have received TAT-certified anti-human trafficking training. These drivers are equipped to help keep an eye on Florida’s 12,000 miles of highways and report suspicious activity to law enforcement..

Registration for the upcoming 2022 Human Trafficking Summit is now open. The summit brings together local, state and national leaders working to eradicate all forms of trafficking. It is being offered virtually starting Tuesday, Oct. 4. To register, visit

[HumanTraffickingSummit.com](https://www.humantraffickingsummit.com).

To learn the signs and how to report human trafficking, visit

[YouCanStopHT.com](https://www.youcanstopht.com).

**Attorney General Moody Encourages Floridians to Be Ready for Potential Hurricane Strikes During National Preparedness Month**

Attorney General Moody is highlighting the 2022 Hurricane Preparedness Guide to aid Floridians in developing storm-safety plans.

Preparedness tips provided by the guide include:

- Know evacuation routes and shelter locations;
- Stock up on enough food, water and emergency supplies for you, your family and pets for at least seven days;
- Verify that storm-related products are hurricane-proof or impact-proof before purchasing;
- After the storm, be wary of contractors who solicit door-to-door, quote extremely low prices for repairs, demand large and upfront payments with no return date to do work, or offer to perform repairs at a discount with leftover supplies from another job; and
- Research recovery charities before giving. As solicitations increase following a disaster, so do charity scams designed to profit off the goodwill of others.

After a storm strikes, recovery can be a grueling process that scammers may attempt to exploit. To help Floridians avoid falling victim to scams that may occur in the aftermath of a hurricane, Attorney General Moody released *Scams at a Glance: After the Storm*.

Floridians can stay informed about serious storm events using the Florida Division of Emergency Management’s website, [FloridaDisaster.org](https://www.floridadisaster.org).

**At Wildwood Community Center**



**Christmas In The Villages**

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**NOV 19, 2022**  
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**6500 POWELL RD**

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## Allergies

*Continued from page 12*

dander, house dust mites, foods, grasses, trees, weeds, and molds can all trigger an allergic reaction.

### Autumn Allergies

Some allergies are seasonal and more likely to occur at different times of the year. The most common culprit for fall allergies is ragweed, which grows wild almost everywhere, generally between August and November. A number of plants that thrive during cool nights and warm days also trigger fall allergies.

### Who is Affected?

Twenty to 40 percent of the population—including at least one of every four children—suffers from allergies\*.

People with allergies are often sensitive to more than one allergen. Prevention or treatment can make the difference between chronic illness and a productive, healthy life.

### Diagnosing Allergies

Unfortunately, many of these also show up when someone has a cold, the flu or even COVID-19 but doctors do have ways to tell the difference. The first step is to identify allergen-specific antibodies called Immunoglobulin E (IgE). This can be done two ways.

**1. Skin Prick Testing:** Commonly performed on the forearm and sometimes the back, the skin is cleaned with alcohol and an allergen extract is pricked into the skin. If an allergy is present, a small itchy bump and surrounding redness often referred to as a “wheal and flare” will appear in about 15 minutes. This indicates the specific allergen.

**2. In-Vitro Testing:** The doctor simply draws a small amount of blood and has it tested in a lab. It is a less invasive method and receives test results within 24 hours. Many professional medical societies recommend also using in-vitro tests such as the OPTIGEN® Allergy Test.

So, once you know you have allergies, what can be done? Here are some options.

### Treatments

Allergy management falls into three main categories: avoidance, medication and immunotherapy.

**Avoidance:** Once the source of an allergy is identified, a solution may be to simply avoid it. This is most effective with food and animal allergies.

**Medication:** Prescription drugs can reduce allergy symptoms. Many are effective immediately, though some may have side effects or not work for everybody.

**Immunotherapy:** Allergy shots are given frequently in scheduled doses of gradually increasing concentrations using extracts containing relevant allergens. The idea is to slowly desensitize the body to the offending

schedules and longer to-do lists, but you shouldn't let your annual flu shot fall to the bottom of that list.

### What You Can Do About The Flu

With flu season approaching and COVID-19 cases still prevalent, Sandra Leal, PharmD, MPH, FAPhA, offers the following tips to help you fight the flu this season:

**Get your annual flu shot as soon as possible:** Getting your flu vaccine is the best way to help prevent the flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends getting your vaccine as early in the fall as possible, ideally before the flu season begins. Not only can you help protect yourself from getting sick but you can help protect your family, friends and at-risk populations such as those who are 65 and older, people with certain immunocompromising or chronic medical conditions, infants or children under 5 and pregnant women. CVS Pharmacy and MinuteClinic locations nationwide administer the flu shot every day, with evening and weekend hours. New this year, you can schedule flu vaccination appointments for up to four family members at the same time for added convenience by visiting CVS.com, through the CVS app or by texting FLU to 287898.

**Stay home if you're sick:** It's important to know what the early symptoms of the flu are, such as fever, cough and body aches. If you experience them, you should stay home and away from others and, if you are sick, you should limit your contact with others as much as possible to stop the spread.

**Practice good health habits:** Beyond staying up to date with your vaccinations, you should wash your hands frequently, get

plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food. These are all healthy habits that can help support your immune system during flu season.

**For seniors, take advantage of your vaccine options:** For those over age 65, CVS Pharmacy and MinuteClinic offer three senior dose flu vaccines—Fluzone HD, Flublok, and Fluad. They may help create a stronger immune response and are preferred for seniors because they are at greater risk of developing severe flu-related illnesses. For protection against COVID-19, the CDC has also confirmed that patients can get any of the currently authorized COVID-19 vaccines at the same time as the flu vaccine, so don't hesitate to get your flu shot and COVID-19 booster simultaneously during your next visit.

### Learn More

Certain immunizations have age and location restrictions. For additional information on vaccines, visit

[www.CVS.com](http://www.CVS.com) and

[www.MinuteClinic.com](http://www.MinuteClinic.com).

## Flu Season



**Don't Let Flu Season Sneak Up On You** (NAPSI)—Get the facts, not the flu. For many people, the start of fall means busier

## Maintaining A Healthy Smile

**Tips For Maintaining A White And Healthy Smile**

(NAPSI)—Taking care of your smile with a daily brushing and flossing routine is the best way to keep teeth clean and healthy. But more and more people in search of an ultra-bright smile are turning to the growing number of over-the-counter teeth whitening products—leaving many confused about

*Continued page 15*

# Lady Lake Realty Inc

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(Drivers and Helpers)

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### Lake Port Square Senior Living

(RN, LPN, Unit Manager, Supervisors)

### Brownwood Hotel and Spa

(Management, Servers, House Keeping & More)

### Mid-Florida Agencies Florida Blue

(Receptionist)

### Comfort Keepers

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### Molly Maid

(Join the family)

### Dignity Memorial Life Celebration Center

(Pre-Planning Advisor)

### Outback Steakhouse: SIGN-ON BONUS

(Back of House Positions)

### Dignity Memorial Life Celebration Center

(Family Service Counselor)

### ReCharge Clinic

(Accountant/Tax Preparer)

### East Coast Capital

(Part-Time Virtual Assistant)

### ReCharge Clinic

(Licensed Mental Health Counselor)

### First Baptist Church of Lady Lake

(School & Nursery Teachers)

### SIMEDHealth

(Full and Part-Time Opportunities)

### Freedom Pointe at The Villages

(RN, LPN, CNA)

### Slezak Financial Security Agency

(Work from home opportunity)

### Goodwill Industries of Central Florida

(Cashiers, Clerks, Donation Attendants, & More)

### Texas Roadhouse

### Town of Lady Lake

(Pop Up Job Fair)

### Insight Credit Union

### Trustco Bank

(Assistant Branch Manager, Teller)

### Just Dandy Pet Parlour

(Experienced Groomers)

### United Southern Bank

(All Jobs)

## Healthy Smile

Continued from page 14



the most effective methods and if ongoing use can damage teeth.

“Whitening products contain one of two tooth bleaches, which break stains into smaller pieces, making the discoloration less concentrated and your teeth brighter,” said Kyle Dosch, DDS, a licensed dentist and Delta Dental of Washington’s dental director. “There are several methods of bleaching, including in your dentist’s office or by using over-the-counter bleaching products and whitening strips. As with most medications, patients should use caution and not overuse whiteners. Excessive overuse of these bleaching agents may damage tooth enamel or gums, so always follow directions and talk to your dentist to brighten your smile safely.”

### Teeth Whitening—What You Need To Know

When deciding the best way to get your teeth whitened (also known as bleaching), consider these points, and have a conversation about your whitening goals with your dentist.

**Do whiteners work on all teeth?** Whiteners may not correct all types of discoloration. Whitening is only effective on natural teeth and does not work on veneers, caps, crowns or fillings, or tooth discoloration caused by medications or an injury.

**What are my teeth bleaching options?** Whitening options include stain removal toothpastes, in-office bleaching, at-home bleaching, over-the-counter bleaching products, and even LED lights. For the safest and quickest results, most dentists recommend professional whitening performed in-clinic by a licensed dentist or with at-home kits available through your dentist, which use custom bleaching trays molded to fit each person’s mouth. While over-the-counter trays are available, they often fit incorrectly, causing the bleaching agents to spill onto soft tissues or to be ingested.

### Is whitening toothpaste safe to use?

Whitening toothpastes are more abrasive to help with surface stains, but they can be damaging to enamel over time. It’s important to discuss with your dentist and, if using, be sure to limit use. Similarly, many whitening chewing gums contain abrasives which scrub the surface of teeth to help remove some surface stains. Because of potential abrasion over time, sugar-free whitening chewing gum should be used only in moderation.

**Everything from mouthwash to rinses to dental floss are now offered with whitening ingredients, do these really work?** Because effective teeth whitening results from the length of time teeth are in contact with active bleaching agents, mouthwashes, rinses and dental floss are a less-effective whitening choice. Similarly, rinsing with hydrogen peroxide is dangerous if ingested, and therefore is not recommended.

**Do natural alternatives such as charcoal really whiten teeth?** Activated charcoal whitening products are becoming increasingly popular as people aim to reduce their exposure to chemicals in health and beauty products. As a short-term solution to whitening, it can come with serious long-term damage and is not recommended. With its abrasive properties, it may lead to enamel erosion which may cause tooth sensitivity and make your teeth appear more yellow in color because it will expose the dentin of your teeth. The potential enamel deterioration can also lead to increased susceptibility to cavities.

**Will I have side effects from teeth whitening?** You may experience tooth sensitivity when beginning to use whitening products. In that case, stop using the product and have a conversation with your dentist about a better approach for you and your teeth. Temporary tooth sensitivity and gingival inflammation are the most common adverse effects of teeth whitening.

There are many reasons for teeth discoloration, including what you eat and drink. Coffee, tea and red wine are staining agents that can affect the white enamel portion of your teeth. Tobacco use, which includes tar and nicotine, can also stain teeth. Aging, some medications, and even injury or trauma to a tooth, can all make our teeth more yellow and less white.

Luckily, some surface stains can be removed during a regular cleaning and don’t require additional whitening treatments. To keep your smile bright and healthy, schedule regular visits to your dentist, maintain a daily dental health routine with brushing and flossing, and avoid foods that can stain your teeth.

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Spain: Free Rail Travel for commuters for 3 months

The Spanish government of Socialist Pedro Sánchez wants to do everything to “relieve the middle class and workers”, says the Prime Minister. From September 1st, rail travel in Spain will be free for local and medium-distance trains for three months. In Germany, 52 million 9-Euro tickets were sold in the summer, saving 1.8 million tonnes of CO2, according to the Association of German Transport Companies.

A 0-Euro train ticket for commuters is available in Spain from 1 of September to 31 December. More than 300,000 people in Spain have already bought a free ticket for rail travel. The railways expect that there will be more than half a million travelers in total. The government of the socialist Pedro Sánchez wants to promote public transport and reduce energy consumption. Above all,

however, the goal is to relieve people financially in view of high inflation in Spain.

The 0-Euro-Ticket is financed by the excess profits tax for energy suppliers and banks, which is supposed to bring in 3.5 billion euros per year. In addition to the commuter ticket, the money will flow into public housing and scholarships for students.

Rail saves 70 to 80 percent CO2 of a car journey

Greenpeace endorses the campaign because each journey by train saves 70-80 % of the CO2 emissions of a car journey. In Germany, the 9-Euro-Ticket enabled people to travel by bus and train for only 9 euros per month for three months. Due to the high petrol prices even enthusiastic car drivers take the train: people bought over 52 million tickets, according to the Association of German Transport Companies (VDV). Every fifth buyer had never travelled by

public transport before. Therefore, the ticket significantly increased the demand for public transport. According to the VDV, Germany saved 1.8 million tonnes of CO2 with the 9-Euro scheme.

The Spanish 0-euro ticket is a bit more complicated than the 9-euro ticket in Germany. For the ticket, you have to register online and pay a deposit of 10 (short-distance) or 20 euros (medium-distance). You get the deposit back if you use the ticket at least four times a month.

From the Internet

During a highly publicized Mexican border visit to address the record-breaking migrant crisis, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas secretly met with influential open border groups including nonprofits funded by leftwing billionaire George Soros and another operated by a former Hillary Clinton and Obama advisor, according to records obtained by Judicial Watch. The Biden administration deployed Mayorkas on the mission in mid-August of last year as part of an ill-fated effort to reassure the nation that the immigration chaos was under control as startling Border Patrol figures revealed that agents shattered a 21-year-old record in July with 212,672 apprehensions, a 13% increase over June.

Mayorkas, shamefully ousted as a Bill Clinton U.S. Attorney after orchestrating the pardon of a big-time drug dealer, put on his game

face, met with Border Patrol officials in south Texas, placated and schmoozed local leaders and publicly suggested that the border is under control. In a press conference delivered in Brownsville, Texas the DHS secretary confidently promoted the administration's plan to deal with the crisis, including spending tens of millions of dollars to address the root causes of migration in Central America, an increase in law enforcement operations with our Mexican partners and a vague strengthening of enforcement with additional personnel. Mayorkas also explained that “worsening conditions...including poverty, a rise in violence, and corruption” were responsible for the rise in migrant encounters. He described the situation as a tough and complicated challenge that involves vulnerable people.

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