



Memorial Day at the Veterans Park in downtown Ocala. This photo is a soldier setting up the wreath in honor of the fallen. Our deadline held us back from having photo's in our June issue but we have plenty in the July issue. CKJ-13 Kay Johnson went out and took pictures for us and it made me feel like I was almost there. Many of the World War two veterans were attending and showing support their brothers in arms. Honoring those who did not come home, and remembering. A lot



Meet BeBo CJ Johnson Photographer new puppy. I ask Kay if she had any photo's she would like to share. She said she has a picture of her new puppy named BeBo. Just look at this photo BeBo is cute as a button. The photo of course was excellent. CKJ-13 Kay Johnson takes great photos for us. We are blessed.

Photo by CKJ-13 Kay Johnson

Was it JUST a Dream?

I Had a Dream! Not I have a dream! I had a dream about what is going on in the world and our country.

Remember the song “Just a Dream / Just a dream. All our Plans and all our Schemes?????”

The way the dream started was right after the Trump verdict I could not sleep. I sat down in my recliner that night with Fox News on slept and woke up every once in a while and it seemed the news was part of my dream. Scholars and legal analyst came from everywhere saying the trial was not real, maybe it was just a dream. Mine was a dream! So what comes next? Do they finish crucifying him, or do they want to drag him through the streets of New York some more. Do they want to lock him away out of hearing and out of sight. I think the cause would just keep growing!

Well that happened to me. Once up on a time there was a man who loved his Country and as he was serving his cause and helping his country, he realized many were trying to use politics to benefit themselves and attack him. Then he realized he needed to dedicate himself to the cause not the benefit. The cause was to make all men and women equal under the law. Let's make something clear men are men and women are women and some are trying to force themselves into the opposite sex category, they want to be winners of tournaments and compete in life where they could win. Others are the Gay Rights and thats their life to live. As my dream continues I remember waking up from time to time and hearing Fox News on TV and then the Dream continues... Back in the days there were Kings and they had all the power the King not wanting the people thinking the person fighting for justice was more popular than him so started to under mine him, but It did not work because he had a cause. Remember in Biblical times? They drug him thru the streets of New York a place he was born. raised and helped build to crucify him in the eyes of his followers. Remember this is “Just a dream” The King found him guilty of charges that did not ever exist. So they created them.

His followers have appealed to his supreme rulers, Our Supreme Court and they stayed silent. Many scholars from everywhere say the ruling was illegal but the Supreme Court stays silent. In a very short time his followers grew to a tremendous following for this cause, raise million's of followers for what the King did to him, he was “Martered!” the king made up what was against him and making the cause out of

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



THE 2024-2025 OCALA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SEASON ANNOUNCED

OCALA, Fla. (June 18, 2024) – The Ocala Symphony Orchestra is pleased to announce their 2024-2025 season with timeless masterworks, world premieres, and stellar soloists under the baton of Maestro Matthew Wardell. The season begins June 30, 2024, with Red, White, and Ocala Symphony Orchestra Blue, and subscription performances begin October 2024. The upcoming season will feature six subscription concerts and seven special concerts for guests of all ages. Unless otherwise indicated, events are held at the Reilly Arts Center located at 500 NE 9th St. Ocala, FL 34470.

OFR Responds

OFR Responds to Plane Crash at Ocala International Airport

Ocala Fire Rescue responded to a plane crash at the Ocala International Airport on Saturday, June 8, at 7:51 p.m. The initial dispatch included Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF), Engine 4, Squad 7, Battalion Chief 11, and a Safety Officer, following a distress call from a pilot who reported his aircraft had crashed.

Upon arrival at 1770 SW 60th Ave., crews discovered an experimental aircraft with its tail elevated, nestled against a tree line just outside the airport's fence line. The pilot, who was the sole occupant of the aircraft, was alert but unable to exit the plane due to its precarious position and the surrounding trees.

Given the challenging offroad location, first responders utilized a smaller vehicle to reach and extricate the pilot. Once the pilot was assessed and stabilized by emergency personnel, he was carefully helped out of the wreckage and escorted to a waiting ambulance for transport to a medical facility.

Engine 6 and Rescue 6 were initially added to the response but were cancelled prior to arrival. Marion County Fire Rescue, Ocala International Airport Personnel, and the Ocala Police Department also responded.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the State Warning Point were notified.

Make your voice known!
tloury@att.net

Turning 65 or new to Medicare?

Big news: There's a 5-star Medicare Advantage plan in Lake, Marion, & Sumter Counties



Easily switch to a top-rated plan

We're proud to offer you our Humana Gold Plus H1036-146 (HMO) plan, which earned 5 out of 5 stars—the highest quality rating—from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. It's available for a premium of \$0.

And from Dec. 8 until the end of the following November, you could switch to this plan during a special enrollment period. More stars in a plan's rating indicates higher quality and performance. Better care begins with listening to the people we serve, and our Star Rating reflects our commitment to doing just that.

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Kevin Sheilley

OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



While the CEP hosts literally hundreds of events each year, there is one series which stands above the rest. Our exCEptional Mornings breakfast

presented by HCA Florida Ocala Hospital is designed to foster connections, inspire growth, and cultivate success for everyone involved.

The CEP started our exCEptional Mornings breakfast more than a decade ago and the reason was to create an event that once a month would provide an opportunity to bring the business community together. It allows us to share information with them that is valuable to our community and to bring a speaker who is of significance to the local business community. Our most recent speakers have included Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody, Marion County Board of Commissioners Chair Michelle

Stone with the State of the County, and Robert Long, CEO of Space Florida. It is a great mix of elected officials, agency leaders, and business executives. In fact, those are often our most popular when we have one of our local business executives who talks about their business.

Many times, businesses get focused on what they are doing and what is happening inside of their business. They do not know these incredible stories of success that we are seeing in our community, which can be inspirational but also create new opportunities for businesses. They want to hear these speakers, but they also want this opportunity to network. They know that the people they want to see will be there. I know many people have told me, "Yes, I make sure I am at breakfast because I know I will see people I need to talk to there."

The breakfast this highly sought after event. The event has grown steadily over the years. After selling out our previous home at Church of Hope for 22 straight months, we moved in January to the Reilly Arts Center where we regularly host more than 400 attendees for the event. Make sure to secure your spot for the next gathering in July.

Register today at OcalaCEP.com.

For the CEP, it is a chance to share valuable information: whether that is a program, event, or initiative of the CEP; something happening within local government; or to celebrate a success. It has really been exciting to watch how this program has grown and allows us to share all that is exceptional about living, working, and playing in this community.

**YOUR OPINION
MATTERS!**
Email tloury@att.net

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Financial Advisor

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Tom Loury 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



Think about what your going to do on election day. You will get all kinds of pressure to vote for a curtain person. Ask yourself how did he preform while he was in office. Was your life better for it?

What will happen if Trump wins? Oil drilling will increase right away. the Auto Industry will bounce back, the coal industry will open back up, people will actually have

jobs they can be proud of. We will have new refinery's. We will close the border the same day. We will make a decision about the immigrant's in this country. Most will go. The really bad ones will go to prison or go back to the prison they came out of.

If Biden wins? OH MY GOSH! More of the same. Social Security might disappear. Healthcare will suffer. Remember Socialist don't believe the elderly should be alive. The very young and the very old is none productive. The immigrant's are over running our country now I can't imagine what it will be like in five months or next



PUBLISHER of TOML, Tom Loury... I don't text!

I email back and forth to Government officials, clients and personal friends. **All ads should be in PDF format!** JPEG has a tendency to get weak when you enlarge or reduce them. If you send a PDF ad the fonts are embedded in the ad and will not change. Photos must be in focus and clear. No guarantee that they will run. We will try. TomL

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for August

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

Noon, July 19th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, July 24th

Seniors Voice of Ocala/Ocala Downtown Products of TomL Publishing, LLC

Publisher: Tom Loury
Phone: 352-804-1223 | Fax: 352-489-7208
Email: tloury@att.net

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year. Hunter will go back to his old tricks.

On the debate stage Biden is going to say I am debating Trump is a convicted Felon and Trump will say I'm debating someone that is to old and to senile to prosecute. Then there will be chaos.

Trump is coming and the working people are coming with him. I mean the black, whites, Espanic's, all the people Biden has lied too all these years. There will be a few hard decisions to make and some fighting but the patriots of America will win! They won't have to die on a foreign beach head.

Read your doctor report asking "Is a Drug with 32 side effects right for you?"

I have exceeded the limits of my doctors prescription drugs.

Do you see all the immigrants coming across the border with cell phones in their hands????

It's a Federal Program that is legal for them to use as a solution for them to receive information that pertains to Status in US, Healthcare, housing, EBT Entitlement, notification and information. The funding is tucked away in bill, appropriated by some

existing law or Executive order.

Regardless it's a bunch of wasteful spending of our Government. The Wireless Industry was lobbying the House to approve or appropriate \$7B for 2024 to provide Tablets to Entitlement Families. It didn't get approved.

Commander, the President Biden Family dog bit just Secret service personnel over 20 times. The white house staff who knows how many times. Many White House service personnel have adjustd their schedule to avoid the dog.

Going across our nation are movements about hating our country. Get the hell out of our country. You did not make it what it is our ancestors did. You think it's cool to be a part of a movement. Well I have a movement every morning if I'm lucky. Some times it's a great task.

Send us a letter to the editor. PO Box 1698 Dunnellon Florida or email me and put your phone number at the end of the letter so I can verify you sent it. Last name will not be used

Update on Reverse Mortgages

Tuesday, July 9, 12:30pm

The Standard Coffee Lounge, 1552 Bella Cruz, The Villages

Register: 352-462-0636 or www.RMexplained.com

Wednesday, July 17, 12:30pm

Bob Evans, 360 Colony Blvd, The Villages

Safely Apply Home Equity to Your Financial Security

Lunch provided with Reservation

Presented by:

Dan Kapellen

NMLS 2302495

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Specialist

Resident of The Villages



Pacific Lending Group
Mortgage Bankers



Select Business Associates Of Ocala

Where Friends Meet and Businesses Prosper

- * Exclusive Categories One Per Industry
- * Dues are \$40 a year and you buy your own lunch.
- * Nonprofit Group
- * New membership takes 100% approval by members

We meet every Wednesday at different restaurants weekly throughout the year. To get invited to our referral club Call Tom Loury 352-804-1223

Categories Taken:

**Social Media | Automotive Repair | Banking | Newspaper
Fair Tax | Printing | Financial Advisor
Insurance | Business Broker**



**God Bless our Troops
Support Our Veterans
We Endorse The Constitution**

Florida State Senate

DENNIS K. BAXLEY



From the Desk of
Senator Dennis
Baxley---

Good morning
friends-

With the elections
just around the corner,
I wanted to share with
you the constitutional
amendments that will
be on the ballot for the
General Election on November 5th, 2024.

Amendment One – Partisan Election of
Members of District School Board – HJR 31
passed by the Legislature 2024...This will
require members of a district school board
to be elected in a partisan election rather
than a nonpartisan election and to specify
that the amendment only applies to elections
held on or after the November 2026 general
election.

Amendment Two – Right to Fish and
Hunt – CS/HJR 1157 passed by the
Legislature 2024...Preserving the forever
fishing and hunting, including by the use of
traditional methods, as a public right and
preferred means of responsibility managing
and controlling fish and wildlife.

Amendment Three – Adult Personal Use
of Marijuana – Allows adults 21 years or
older to possess, purchase, or use marijuana
products and marijuana accessories for non-
medical personal consumption by smoking,
ingestion, or otherwise; allows Medical
Marijuana Treatment Centers, and other
state licensed entities, to acquire, cultivate,
process, manufacture, sell and distribute
such products and accessories. Applies to
Florida law; does not change, or immunize
violations of, federal law. Establishes
possession limits for personal use.

Amendment
Four – Limit
Government
Interference
with Abortion

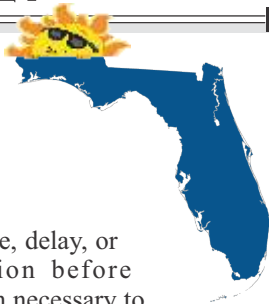
– No law shall
prohibit, penalize, delay, or
restrict abortion before
viability or when necessary to
protect the patient's health, as
determined by the patient's healthcare
provider. This amendment does not change
the Legislature's Constitutional authority to
require notification to a parent or guardian
before a minor has an abortion.

Amendment Five – Annual Adjustments
to the Value of Certain Homestead
Exemptions – Requires an annual
adjustment for inflation to the value of
current or future homestead exemptions that
apply solely to levies other than school
district levies and for which every person
who has legal or equitable title to real estate
and maintains thereon the permanent
resident of the owner, or another person
legally or naturally dependent upon the
owner is eligible. This amendment takes
effect January 1, 2025.

Amendment Six – Repeal of Public
Campaign Financing Requirement –
Repeals the provision in the State
Constitution which requires public
financing for campaigns of candidates for
elective statewide office who agree to
campaign spending limits.

It's not too early with the primary coming
up on August 20, 2024, to make sure your
voting registration is in order and you know
where your voting precinct is located.

Onward & Upward



Rainbow Springs
State Park

Babe it's HOT outside! That means
Rainbow Springs State Park is getting very,
very busy. This news letter is going to be a
reminder to everyone about the dos and
don'ts of the park weather your new to our
area or here year-round, it's always good to
review. The weekends are extremely busy
and as most have seen Hwy.41 north and
south bound lanes are backed up. This
creates a very dangerous situation.
Therefore, you will notice a Sheriff Officer
monitoring the park, the park entrances and
exits on the weekends to ensure safety . To
keep the traffic flowing, off of Hwy 41, you
might be redirected out. So don't be
surprised when we have reached capacity
and the park is closed that you are informed
of this. Plan you day early as there are many
times we reach capacity within 1-2 hours
and may not reopen. We do this for safety
reasons. In our swim area the water is very
deep so be prepared with either a life vest,
which MUST be worn, you cannot use it to
float on top of. Styrofoam noodles not
plastic noodles are the only floatation
allowed in the water. No tubes, rafts,
Kayaks or paddles boards are allowed in the
swim area. If you are on a vessel you can
dock it at the boat ramp rental area and walk
to the swim area to swim. No swimming is
allowed outside of the swim area , no scuba

diving is allowed in the State Park aquatic
area. Please remember we are an aquatic
preserve. If you swim outside the area you are
disturbing the underwater life and growth.
Infants can be in the 2 holed tube float and
handicapped individuals can use their
approved handicapped device. The swim
dock is small so we ask that no chairs,
strollers, tables and personnel belongings are
on the dock , no sun bathing as well as this
becomes a trip hazard. Leave you radios up
on the lawn area and not on the swim dock.
Parents, please keep an eye on your children
we do not have life guards and things can
happen quickly. Lastly, do not hang on the
rope lines, when you do this it wears away the
coating on the ropes causing them to stretch,
and then the ropes sink to the bottom. Do not
climb on the big orange buoys. Boats that are
powered by gas and trolling motors are not
permitted in the River of the State Park.
Trolling motors must be lifted and you must
paddle into the aquatic area. Our Patrol Boat
has an electric motor and that is how we are
able to patrol the water. Rainbow Springs
State Park welcomes you and we want you to
have a great memorable time so please help
us to keep you safe as well. We are looking for
volunteers on our Boat Patrol, Wednesday
crew , parking and gift shop. If you have just
a few hours please contact
Thea.M.Knott@FloridaDep.gov.
Office:352-465-8518.

Laura Fronk
Volunteer Liaison

Ocala Events



Patriotic Skies: A Fourth of July Drone
Experience
Thursday, July 4, 2024 | 5 - 10 p.m. | Free
to attend
Tusawilla Park | 800 NE Sanchez Ave.

Experience an unforgettable Fourth of
July celebration like never before! Join
us for a stunning drone show that will
light up the night sky in a dazzling
display of patriotism and creativity.
Marvel at the synchronized movements
of 300 drones as they paint the sky with
colors and shapes, creating a truly
mesmerizing experience for all ages.

After Dark in The Park-- SPACE JAM
Date: 07/26/2024 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Mary Sue Rich Community
Center at Reed Place
1821 NW 21st Ave., Ocala, Florida
34475

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Call to reserve while space is still available

ONE Memorial Day at Veterans Memorial Park

Photos by CKJ-13 Kay Johnson



ONE Memorial Day at Veterans Memorial Park

Photos by CKJ-13 Kay Johnson





This is a photo by CKJ-13 Kay Johnson of the Florida National Cemetery. It is the resting place of my mother-in-Law and Father-in-Law Wilbur & Mary Standen. A

great couple. Wilbur was in World War two and lived to be 90 yr old Mary made it to 95. They lived on our farm after retiring and saw their grand children.

Private School Choice

One Million Students Now Using Private School Choice

(NAPSI)—Here's news many parents may be interested to learn: According to the most recent data available, 1,038,487 K-12 students are currently enrolled in an education savings account (ESA), voucher, tax-credit scholarship, tax-credit ESA, or refundable tax credit program. While some states provide data for the most recent school year, others lag behind, so actual participation is likely higher.

"When Milton and Rose Friedman founded EdChoice in 1996 to lead the way for universal education freedom, there were about 10,000 students participating in choice programs," said EdChoice President and CEO Robert Enlow. "Today, that number has grown a hundred-fold. Over 1 million students can learn in the environment of their family's choosing thanks to policies that empower parents with the freedom and

flexibility to be in the driver's seat of their child's education."

Trends in Education

Participation in these programs has grown steadily in recent decades, with rapid growth taking off around 2020, and roughly doubling since. At the same time, policymakers across the country have been increasing student access to private school choice programs at record pace. In 2021, West Virginia created the nation's first school choice program with universal eligibility, and the following year, Arizona made its ESA program available to all students. Today, 12 states offer educational choice programs for all or nearly all students. Nationwide, there are 75 school choice programs spread across 33 states, plus Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.

In all, nearly 22 million students, or 40%, now have access to a private school choice program. With so many families gaining

eligibility to programs in only the last few years, participation is expected to rise. This school choice momentum, which was building for years and years, exploded after the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents took what was solid growth and supercharged the movement for educational freedom. Prior to the pandemic, many state choice programs, although broad, were limited in who could apply.

"We know from survey data that parents aren't getting what they want in their child's learning environment," Enlow said. "More than 60% say, if given the opportunity to choose something other than their local public school, they would. Yet, only about 20% are doing so. As states increase access to school choice programs, we know the gap in parent preferences and actual enrollment will continue to close, and students will be happier and more successful because of it."

Storm Power Outage

1. Before a storm identify which equipment could be needed. Chainsaws or pole saws can trim and clear limbs and shrubs that may break off or get damaged by high winds. String trimmers, pruners and chainsaws can remove other material from around your home that may make it vulnerable to wildfires.

A portable generator powers key appliances and charges cell phones when utilities go down. A whole house generator can keep the lights and appliances on and running. Before an outage, plan where the generator will be set up (never in a home or garage, and always away from your home and any air intake) and determine how to secure it if needed. Buy and install a carbon monoxide detector. Get outdoor-rated extension cords for portable generators and consider adding an approved generator cover

for rainy weather.

Water pumps can get water and muck out of basements and homes. Be sure you know how to operate the pump. Never pump substances that your equipment is not designed to cope with. Pay attention to avoid overheating and follow all safety precautions.

A utility type vehicle can transport people and supplies quickly in an emergency. Keep the vehicle stable and drive slowly. Do not turn mid-slope or while on a hill. Consider taking a UTV safety course.

2. Always read and follow the safety and usage recommendations provided by outdoor power equipment manufacturers. Never disable safety features. Practice how to operate equipment before you need it. Follow all recommended safety measures on the product as well as in the owner's manual.

3. Have the right fuel on hand and charge batteries ahead of bad weather. Most gasoline-powered equipment uses E10 or less fuel and most manufacturers recommend adding a fuel stabilizer. Fuel that is more than 30 days old may phase separate and cause running problems, so it's important to purchase fuel just ahead of a storm. Store fuel safely and only use an approved fuel container. Only use manufacturer-recommended batteries.

4. Pay attention to your energy level and health. Preparation for bad weather, a power outage and storm cleanup can be taxing. Do not operate power equipment when tired or overly fatigued. Drink plenty of water and take regular breaks. Always use safety gear such as chaps, gloves, eye protection and hearing protection when operating equipment.

5. Always keep children and pets away from operating outdoor power equipment. Outdoor power equipment are not toys, and should never be used in a manner not intended by the manufacturer.

FAMILY OR GROUP PHOTOS

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAY PARTIES

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PICTURES

BABY REVEAL PHOTOS

ENGAGEMENT

BUSINESS OR ID PHOTOS

PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EVENTS

REUNIONS AND RECEPTIONS

NO WEDDINGS

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER PERMIT FOR SHALOM PARK.

CKJ Photos 13

Professional Photographer

C KAY JOHNSON
THE LADY WITH THE RED CAMERA!
EMAIL: CKJPHOTOS13@YAHOO.COM
PHONE: 352-299-3870
(LEAVE A MESSAGE)
FACEBOOK.COM/CKJPHOTOS13

CEP OCALA / MARION COUNTY
CHAMBER & ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP
MISSION: To be the catalyst for a prosperous community.

INVEST. ENGAGE. GROW.

BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP

GAIN AN ADVOCATE
The CEP is a simple, strong, unified voice that advocates publicly for your business. Gain support!

EXPAND YOUR NETWORK
Join the CEP & add hundreds of professionals to your network. Increase visibility. Get engaged!

ATTEND OUR EVENTS
The CEP produces over 100 events per year, including networking, educational, forums, and more... Get engaged!

EARN CREDIBILITY
Research shows businesses who belong to a Chamber are more successful. Raise your reputation!

IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS
The CEP offers 3 monthly skill building opportunities and multiple workshops each year. Gain knowledge!

INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY
Listings in our online & printed directory, mailing lists, and advertising opportunities. Be seen!

SAVE MONEY
Get discounts on office supplies, printing, and more. Plus, this service is exclusive discounts. Start saving!

MAKE MORE MONEY
Build your brand. Expand your business. Referrals & recommendations pay. Grow your bottom line!

GET BUSINESS SUPPORT
The CEP is your business resource—meeting rooms, Conference of Origin & Trade missions. Attract tenants!

RECRUIT TOP TALENT
List your job openings with the CEP to reach your next staff member. Expand your team!

Your partnership in the CEP is an investment in your business and your community. By taking advantage of the CEP's many programs, events, and services available exclusively to CEP partners, we are confident that you will find a substantial return on your CEP investment.

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Jennifer Madden, Director of Partner Relations
352.629.8051 Jennifer@OcalaCEP.com
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OCALA DOWNTOWN MARKET

Join us at the Ocala Downtown Market (ODM) to purchase a diverse array of products from farmers, artisans, craftspeople, food trucks! A true destination location, ODM is set just blocks off the Ocala Downtown square, in a beautiful open-air Market Pavilion. Besides permanent roof cover the facility it also has large overhead fans, restrooms, a nearby ATM, and water fountains. The Market Pavilion is also available for rental.



Interested in becoming a vendor?
Visit www.ManageMyMarket.com

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VOLUNTEER WITH HABITAT**



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BUILD DAYS ARE EVERY TUES.
THURS. & SAT. FROM
7:30AM-12:30PM**

**TO VIEW OUR CURRENT
CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE, VISIT
HABITATOCALA.ORG**

**WE OFFER
COMMUNITY
SERVICE HOURS!**

RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY

**FOR MORE INFO, VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT HABITATOCALA.ORG**



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**TYLER STARR
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
(352) 351-4663
TSTARR@HABITATOCALA.ORG**



Love is just a leash away!!

The HSMC is here for you and the animals who depend on us. We wanted to share that we will continue to be here to help unwanted pets during this pandemic while following all Marion County and Florida state guidelines.

As this situation is constantly changing, we ask that you continue to visit our Shelter using the safety guidelines in place.

How can you help?

Pet Food Bank: Help stock our Pet Food Bank with pet food and supplies for people who cannot afford them due to job loss or other reasons. You can also bring donations to our Shelter daily from 10-6. Masks required please! If you need help keeping your pet with you during this time, our Happy Paws food program is here for you.

Volunteer: A small number of volunteers have returned to help in various departments. We are accepting volunteer applications but do not yet know when we will schedule orientations for new volunteers. Please contact us for more information about volunteering. We are currently working on a digital orientation.

Opt to adopt: According to the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization, there is no evidence that companion animals such as cats and dogs can spread the virus that causes COVID-19.

Donate: We know there is a lot of uncertainty right now but homeless and unwanted animals still need us. Donate to help the Humane Society of Marion County so we continue our lifesaving work and make them feel safe and loved.



Bilbie

Bilbie is a 14 weeks old male brought to the HSMC with her brother Wombat! We believe they could be Xoloitzcuintli, or Xolo, which is Mexican hairless dog breed.



Fuchsia is a 15 week old paralyzed kitten full of love.



Ninja is paralyzed in his hind legs but enjoys runs with his wheels.

Your donations make it possible to provide medical care, food and shelter to animals in need. On behalf of all the animals, thank you for caring.



Humane Society of Marion County
PO Box 1542 Ocala, FL 34478
Mail check or complete the credit/debit card payment form.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Payment enclosed: \$ _____

Visa ☐ M/C ☐ Discover Card # _____ Exp date: _____ Code: _____

Donations to the Humane Society are tax-deductible. Check with your accountant for more information. No goods or services have been provided to the donor as a result of this gift.



FROM THE DESK OF

ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



**AG MOODY
URGES
FLORIDIANS TO
SEND IN AWARD
NOMINATIONS
FOR 2024 HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
SUMMIT AS
DEADLINE
RAPIDLY**

APPROACHES

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—As the deadline for award nominations rapidly approaches, Attorney General Ashley Moody is urging Floridians to submit applications and sign up to attend the 2024 Human Trafficking Summit. Friday, June 28, is the final day to submit nominations. Awards will be presented at the summit to individuals who made a difference in the past year to fight human trafficking in the state of Florida.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “Each year, we recognize outstanding Floridians for their extraordinary work in the fight to end human trafficking. The deadline to submit award nominations is rapidly approaching, so don’t delay! You can learn more about each award and submit nominations, as well as reserve your spot for our virtual event, by visiting HumanTraffickingSummit.com.”

The Florida Attorney General’s Office presents the following awards every year during the Human Trafficking Summit: Survivor Advocate of the Year, Community Advocate of the Year, Prosecutor of the Year and Law Enforcement Official of the Year.

The Department of Children and Families and the Department of Juvenile

Justice also recognize an individual from there

The 2024 Human Trafficking Summit will launch virtually on Oct. 1. Registration is free of charge and includes sessions covering recent updates and developments in the subjects of legal, service delivery, and education and awareness.

To learn about the signs of human trafficking and how to properly report suspicious activity to law enforcement, visit YouCanStopHT.com.

**AG MOODY ANNOUNCES ARREST
OF SIX FRAUDSTERS FOR
STEALING NEARLY \$250,000 FROM
SENIORS THROUGH
GRANDPARENT SCAMS**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody’s Office of Statewide Prosecution today announced the arrest of six fraudsters for stealing nearly \$250,000 from Florida seniors through grandparent scams. The Miami-Dade Police Department’s Vice Intelligence Squad reports that the defendants contacted seniors posing as lawyers or legal representatives of one of the victim’s grandchildren. The fraudsters told the targets that the grandchildren were arrested after hitting a pregnant woman with a vehicle and needed bail money, then arranged for the victim to send payment.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “These fraudsters know that most grandparents would do anything to help a grandchild in need, and through a convincing imposter scheme they used fear

Continued page 11

FROM THE DESK OF

GOVERNOR DESANTIS



**DeSantis Commits
Increases to Teacher
Pay**

HIALEAH, Fla.—Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced his commitment to approving a historic teacher salary funding increase of \$1.25 billion in the budget for Fiscal Year 2024–25. Since 2019, Florida has invested over \$4 billion in teacher pay increases and has raised starting teacher pay by nearly \$10,000. To learn more, click [here](#).

“Florida’s education system is number one in the nation, and we want to make sure good educators are attracted to Florida with attractive compensation,” said Governor Ron DeSantis. “I am proud to have invested more than \$4 billion for teacher pay increases since the beginning of my time in office, and I will continue to push for increased funding for Florida’s teachers.”

“I want to thank Governor DeSantis for his steadfast commitment and unwavering dedication to Florida’s education system throughout the years,” said Florida Department of Education Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr. “Florida continues to attract some of the best educators in the country and it is a testament to the work that Governor DeSantis has done to support education and raise teacher pay. Florida is the education state and with investments like this, we will continue to lead the nation for years to come.”

For the 2023–2024 school year, Florida’s average starting teacher pay is over \$48,000, and the average teacher salary exceeds

\$54,000.

Before Governor DeSantis took office, there was no dedicated, recurring funding for teacher pay increases. In 2020, the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation was established in the budget and has risen from \$500,000,000 to more than \$1.25 billion approved today for the upcoming year. Thanks to the work of Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature, Florida has the highest average starting teacher salary in the southeast United States.

DeSantis Highlights Coral Reef

MARATHON, Fla.—Today, Governor Ron DeSantis highlighted Florida’s investments in coral reef protection and announced enhancements to the 2024 Lionfish Challenge and 2024 Lobster Mini-Season. Through the FY 2024–2025 Focus on Florida’s Future Budget, the Governor invested a historic \$57 million for coral reef restoration and coastal protection, bringing the total investment in these efforts in the Governor’s second term to over \$114 million.

The Governor also highlighted \$5 million in funding to create additional artificial reef habitats through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). This funding will support the establishment of an innovative framework for installing, overseeing, and preserving artificial reef habitats in the Florida Keys.

And earlier this year, Governor DeSantis allocated \$9.5 million to Florida’s Coral Reef Restoration and Recovery Initiative.

Advertisement for WOCA radio station. The central graphic is a blue circle with a microphone icon. Inside the circle, the text reads: "ON AIR" (on a red sign), "THE SOURCE", "News-Talk-Music-Sports", "96.3 FM", "1370 AM", and "WOCA". Surrounding the circle are various phrases: "Your 'SOURCE'", "Home of the Florida", "News, Talk, Music, Sports, Prizes, & More!", and "TUNE IN".

AG Moody

Continued from page 10

and family to extort Florida seniors—stealing nearly a quarter of a million dollars. Working with our great law enforcement partners in South Florida, we were able to shut down this far-reaching grandparent scheme and now six fraudsters will have to answer for their crimes.”

Miami-Dade Police Department Director

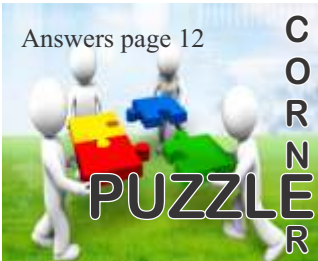
Stephanie V. Daniels said, “I am immensely proud of the Miami-Dade Police Department's Vice Intelligence Squad, for their exceptional collaboration with the Florida Attorney General, and federal agencies in successfully apprehending individuals involved in extorting the elderly population. Their dedication, expertise, and unwavering commitment to protecting our community's most vulnerable population are truly commendable.”

After telling the targets the falsified story about the grandchildren in jail, the fraudsters pressured seniors to provide bail money. According to the investigation, the defendants directed the victims to obtain the bail amount in cash, then place it into a box to be picked up by a courier. The couriers—unknowing ride-share drivers booked by the criminals—picked up the cash and transported the money back to the scammers at an arranged rendezvous spot.

Connect with
your
community



Answers page 12



CORNER
PUZZLER

Across

- 1. Hit, as with a whip
- 5. Seagoing vessel
- 10. Arid
- 14. Bone near the elbow
- 15. High home
- 16. Cat's weapon
- 17. Big win, say
- 20. Frat party staple
- 21. Knitting need
- 22. External
- 23. Zilch
- 24. Is a nuisance to
- 26. Like two-digit number systems
- 29. Male and female
- 30. Portent
- 31. Throat trouble
- 32. Like the Hatter
- 35. Democratic principle
- 39. Disgusted, with "up"
- 40. Mimics
- 41. Beer

Down

- 1. Prepare for an ambush
- 2. Toward the sheltered side
- 3. Stocking ruiner
- 4. Owns
- 5. Household warbler
- 6. Nostalgically fashionable
- 7. Elvis ___ Presley
- 8. Pine family tree
- 9. Golf course area
- 10. Pack members
- 11. Upper crust
- 12. Soap Box Derby entrant
- 13. Wide-spouted pitchers

- 18. Court hearing
- 19. Noted Nez Percé chief
- 23. Author Grey
- 24. Pmt. coupon tear-off lines
- 25. COO, for one
- 26. Box office smash
- 27. Nagy of Hungary
- 28. Lack
- 29. Put away for later
- 31. Refine, as ore
- 32. Sorvino of "Mimic"
- 33. Winning cards
- 34. Like morning grass
- 36. Showy perennial
- 37. Mayberry lad
- 38. Follow orders
- 42. Felonies, e.g.
- 43. Knights' expeditions
- 44. Silver State inst.
- 45. Dumbbell
- 46. Advertising awards
- 47. Usher's beat
- 48. Blender button
- 50. Went down
- 51. Make angry
- 52. Sorbet relatives
- 53. Obligation
- 55. Porker's hangout
- 56. ___ man: unanimously
- 57. Choose

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and you can too!

Ocala 4sale.com

Marion County's Internet Marketplace

FROM THE DESK OF

CONGRESSWOMAN KAT CAMMACK



Rep. Cammack Applauds Wins For Florida Producers In 2024 Farm Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Early this morning, the House Agriculture Committee completed its full committee markup of the 2024 Farm Bill, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024. Congresswoman Cammack voted to pass the bill, joining her colleagues for a final bipartisan vote of 33 to 21.

Congresswoman Cammack spoke during the opening remarks for Members during the markup, lauding the bill's provisions that will support Florida's farmers, ranchers, and producers. View her full comments here.

Included in the bill are several wins for Florida's specialty crop producers, including the establishment of a specialty crop committee, funding for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative, more funding for specialty crop mechanization and automation research. Additionally, the bill ensures AGI (adjusted gross income)

waivers for disasters and eliminates the AGI limitation for farmers who make more than 75 percent of their income from agriculture.

The Farm, Food, and National Security Act also includes the standing block grant authority for specialty crops, which stems from one of Congresswoman Cammack's leading legislative initiatives before the House Agriculture Committee.

While citrus producers continue to struggle with citrus greening, Rep. Cammack helped reauthorize the Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program.

For agricultural labor, Rep. Cammack secured a groundbreaking program for precision agriculture and improves precision agriculture practices and their accessibility for producers.

The Livestock Indemnity Program is updated within this bill to increase the payment rate to 100 percent of the fair market value of the animal. Rep. Cammack's effort to secure this provision will help Florida's ranchers continue their way of life in the 21st century.

Florida's rich timber industry will be able to maintain its health with the Forest

Service's authority to expand existing programs to address wildfire.

Finally, Florida's commodities received a critical voluntary base acre update and a commodity price raise.

Rep. Cammack praised the work of the Committee, saying:

"The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 is the culmination of a lot of hard work and listening to producers from around the country. The crafting of this bill has been no easy endeavor, and we still have a long way to go in getting this across the finish line. However, to secure so many critical wins in this base text for Florida farmers, ranchers, and producers is a big relief. Knowing the tremendous pressures our agriculture community has been under in the Sunshine State, it was said all along that Florida had both the most to lose and the most to gain in this bill and I am so glad that we came out on the favorable side of that equation.

"Florida will remain a strong and competitive production agriculture state because of this work and I am so thankful for the many people and organizations that helped along the way. I am especially proud of my team and my local producers who took so much time over the years to help craft this thoughtful and impactful policy. We are looking forward to the next steps of bringing this bill to the House Floor for a full vote and ultimately, to the President's desk."

Rep. Cammack Joins Colleagues In Bipartisan Resolution To Memorialize Officers Lost In Line Of Duty

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, Rep. Cammack joined a bipartisan delegation of members to introduce a resolution which seeks to honor and

memorialize law enforcement whose lives were lost in the line of duty.

H. Res. 1226 expresses unwavering support for law enforcement across the nation and recognizes the importance that police officers have all the equipment and resources necessary to keep our communities safe in order to protect them while they tirelessly protect us.

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Ocala Business Leaders
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