

WHY

By TomL

Why did Biden Pardon his family?

Brother Francis, Retired Gen. Mark Milley: Jan. 6. Committee members

Bennie Thompson, D-Miss. Liz Cheney, a Wyoming Republican,

Zoe Lofgren, Adam Schiff, Pete Aguilar, Stephanie Murphy, Jamie Raskin

Brother James Biden and his wife, Sara. Sister Valerie and her husband, John Owens

Why did Biden Pardon Fauci, Mark Miley, Marcus Garvey, Don Scott, Cheney, Bennie Thompson, Zoe Lofgren, Adam Schiff, Pete Aguilar,

Stephanie Murphy, Jamie Raskin, Elaine Luira?

Why did the Committee wipe all the information clean on the January 6th insurrection or was it an insurrection? Some say no it was made up!

Because they are all know it did not happen! I hope there is something Pam Bondi can do to look into it and reverse the pardons or charge them with obstruction.

The past president Biden is not competent! They said that is why they did not investigate him! My understanding is if they get any of these people under oath and they lie they can get them on perjury.

How many pardons have the past presidents given?

George W. Bush (2001-2009) 200
Barack Obama (2009-2017) 1927

Donald Trump (2017-2021) 237

Joe Biden (2021-2025) 8064

Something is wrong here. The Republicans have a couple hundred but the democrats are in the thousands. Someone needs to ask the Supreme Court for a ruling about if there is anything that can be done? Is there a limit on how many people you can pardon or what you can pardon them for?

I guess try to get them under oath and ask them questions?

These people will show up again!

BIDENS LAST DITCH EFFORT TO HURT AMERICAN PEOPLE!

Why Denie America's energy independence, Joe Biden issued a sweeping ban on offshore oil and gas drilling across 625 million acres of federal waters. If this is Federal Waters **why** is Biden allowing China drilling there? **Why** is Russia drilling there? **Why** is the Green environmentalists celebrate, the energy sector warns of increased reliance on foreign oil

Why is Biden selling the Trump Wall for penny's on the dollar. Texas stopped him the wall supply's stay in storage. Biden last ditch effort to OBSTRUCT TRUMP **Why** is Biden trying to get the Guantanamo Bay prison as close to empty as possible.

Why did Biden Bar off shore drilling and in US parks land.



Select Business Associates are in the news again. Here are the people who attended our meeting on the 15 of January. The Club donated \$500 to the ORA Clubhouse. ORA has a building fund and sponsorships. It is a place that people with mental health can go for help to talk to someone that can help them through their current crisis and get long term help.

A little bit about the Select Business

Associates, it was founded some years back by three business people that wanted a referral club that was special. The rules are you must be invited to join. One person per category so you won't have competition. The member help each other in business. We meet every first / third / fifth Wednesday of the month at noon at MOJO's next to Target. We have a private meeting room.

Pictured at presentation from left Elaine

Maiellaro, Christine Calvert, Nick Navetta presenting, Leda Perez ORA Executive Director, Connie Sivesind-Pendleton, Katholeen Bogolin, Sue Fullerton back row Ron Hipner & Frank Turner. Not pictured Tom Loury President behind the camera. Missing members Eddie Levin, Tamara Hutto, Walter Krumm, Grace Vazul. For more information email Tom Loury tloury@att.net

Parade of Senior Services Coming

Join us for the 41st **Annual Parade of Senior Services** on **Friday, March 21, 2025**, at the **Ewers Century Center at Central Florida Community College** in Ocala from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

We anticipate over 45 agencies and organizations participating in this special event for our Senior Citizens; providing the opportunity to hand out literature, answer questions and offer their services. Once again, the event will be held at The Ewers Century Center a beautiful facility that will accommodate it very nicely.

Bluegrass Festival

Join us for the second annual Brick City Bluegrass Festival
Saturday, Feb. 1 | Citizens' Circle, 151 SE Osceola Ave. | 1 to 7 p.m.

This outdoor music festival offers a mix of nationally acclaimed and local bluegrass acts, creating a vibrant atmosphere for all ages to enjoy. Indulge in delicious fare from various food trucks and refreshments available for purchase, all while soaking in the sounds of bluegrass music. Bring your own seating and get ready to groove the day away at this exciting event.



Lindsay Loury decided to show her sons Lane and Kash ice cycles so she turned the sprinkler on and the results were great. I shot this picture from inside the front door of my house. It has been under freezing for four mornings in a row, WOW. I dumped some ice out of my cooler four days ago and it is still there in the yard. To

cold for me to go out. Good job Lindsay, the boys have something to remember! The Polar Ice blast came and took over the weather in north central Florida last week and we don't know when it will warm. Maybe tomorrow?

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Advance tickets: Dec. 1 through Jan. 31 - \$25

Day-of tickets: \$30
Veterans and children 8 and under are free! (Please register for a complimentary ticket)

For ticket information: [Brick City Bluegrass Festival](#) | [EventHub Ticketing](#)

Sunset Songs Series Madwoman

· **Date:** 02/12/2025 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
· **Location:** Downtown Square, [1 SE Broadway St., Ocala, Florida 34471](#)

Sunset Songs Series

Music lovers of all ages will enjoy Sunset Songs Series! This free concert series on the downtown square brings you the best local and regional artists performing funk, blues, reggae, and country originals as the sun goes down. Kick back and soak in the melodies with the perfect Wednesday night activity. If you love music and sunsets, the Sunset Songs Series is for you! End your day on a melodic high note at these not-to-be-missed community concerts.

- Monthly concerts September through May featuring top-notch musical talent
- All concerts are 100% free - just bring your lawn chair or blanket!
- Unwind and discover great new music in a gorgeous outdoor setting
- Grab a bite to eat at one of our many amazing local downtown restaurants

Headlining Act: Madwoman

MADWOMAN is a six-piece indie-psych pop band born from the swamps of Gainesville, Florida. The band blends live instrumentation with electronic elements, creating a genre-defying sound that is both thunder and lightning. Known for their energetic yet intimate live shows, they've performed at major festivals like Hulaween, Gasparilla Music Festival, and Okeechobee. With a commitment to pushing musical boundaries and remaining authentic, MADWOMAN is quickly becoming a standout in Florida's vibrant music scene.

Opening Act: Surface Dwellers

Surface Dwellers is the culmination of over 10 years of friendship and music based right here in Ocala. Blake (Vocals/Ukulele), David (Drums), Daniel (Guitar/Vocals), & Jenna (Bass) have explored the music world together as teenagers playing in various projects over the years, and in 2021 the 4 of them came together to form Surface Dwellers, the first project that involved all 4

Continued page 3

Turning 65 or new to Medicare?

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



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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



From the Publisher: I came across this column of Kevin Sheilley Way back 2019 when he was explaining the structure of the CEP Marion County Chamber of Commerce. At

the top was a very youthful picture of Kevin. It started out...

Where Do You Work?

During this holiday season, I am often asked at parties "Where do you work?" While many people are aware of the CEP, I find a number of people are confused by our initials and who we are. It is easy to assume everyone knows who we are and what we do, but that is not always the case. The CEP is an acronym for the Ocala/Marion County Chamber & Economic Partnership (now you know why we use CEP!). We are the community's chamber of commerce as well as its official economic development organization. The CEP was formed just over six years ago with the merger of the former

Chamber and Economic Development Council. While this version is only six years old, our roots go back 130 years to the founding of the Ocala Board of Trade in 1887.

The driving factor behind the merger of the two organizations was to create a unified, single voice for the business community. One entity that could assist businesses locating to our community, growing in our community, starting in our community, and thriving in our community. In fact, the basic structure of the CEP is with teams dedicated to Business Attraction, Business Retention, Business Creation, Business Advocacy, and Business Services. It was this approach in part which lead to the CEP being named Florida's Chamber of the Year 2018 and a finalist last year for National Chamber of the Year.

While you might not recognize these names, you may recognize some of companies and projects we have assisted. The CEP was the lead entity in recruiting new companies to our community such as FedEx Ground, McLane, AutoZone, Chewy.com, Mestizo Foods, and eResources among others (Business Attraction). We have assisted existing local companies to grow and expand here such as

Cardinal LG, Wells Pharmaceuticals, and RealTruck (Business Retention). We lead the very successful Power Plant Business Incubator and the Ocala Downtown Market (Business Creation). The CEP led the effort to successfully pass the renewal of the 1 mil for the School System which funds classroom reduction, school safety, and Career & Technical Education among other areas (Business Advocacy). Programs such as Leadership Ocala Marion, Leadership Ocala Marion Youth, Young Professionals of Ocala, and Business After Hours are among the staples of our efforts to provide training and networking for our business community (Business Services).

Attracting new businesses, helping existing businesses grow and expand, and nurturing start-ups are key activities of the CEP as well as actively working to engage and involve our community. Together, we can work to keep our community Moving Forward!

Kevin Sheilley 2019 Ocala Chamber of Commerce

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Madwoman

Continued from page 2

of them at once. A very collaborative project, Blake's song writing brings more elements of pop and indie, while Daniel's song writing brings more elements of punk and grunge, when those get tied together with David & Jenna's experience it creates a new type of indie music influenced by living in the horse capital of the world with songs to make you dance, sing, and call your mom and tell her you love her. Their past experience playing together makes their stage presence and charisma as a band both inspiring and fun to watch. Having released 2 EP's in the time since they formed, they plan on adding to their catalog in 2025 and have some exciting new songs to share at the Sunset Song Series

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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. If you want to make contact with the newspaper / Tom Loury email tloury@att.net

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



It is a new year and very unusual. For the elderly that have **house payments**. Your payment has gone up again this year. Last year it was \$100 increase and this year it is \$150 more increase. When the

county revalues your house at a higher rate, so they get more taxes from you. When your house is worth more your house insurance goes up. So all the planning you do and decide your fixed rate and monthly payment has other things to consider. Your County taxes and your house insurance. So in two years my monthly has gone up \$250 where does it stop. Who has the right to charge you more money every year? The Social Security has not covered enough of it. **Auto Insurance** has tripled, WHY? Now you are paying another 2400 per year or \$200 more per month for auto insurance. So if you put

these increases together the elderly is paying \$450 per month. A lot of them can't do that, they could lose their home! Our government need to put a ceiling on the increases. They are being forced into poverty unententially.

The Glenn Beck radio was discussing new information about the Assassination's of the Kennedy's and Martin Luther King. There must be new information about that or information that was being covered up. Trump signed a release for us to see it. I am proud of what he is doing, he just pardon some pro-life people that were sitting in front of the door praying at the abortion Clinic and they were given two years in federal prison.

The FBI I'm sure has bugged Trump. There are laws against that and especially a candidate for President you have to have the approval from the top. Do you think they got it approved?

Well what do you know. There is a report out that Bill Clinton ask Biden for a pardon for Hillary???? I'm not sure they got it. Is

that true and could she go scot free of everything she did? What say you the readers? I am really proud of our small referral group. We donated \$400 to the Marion County Canine for vest. Our member bought complete set of clothes for 8 children for Salvation Army and we just donated \$500 to ORA Club House a place for people to go when they are having mental problems. Trained people will help them. It is for tier building fund. Not bad for a small group of business people. They all honestly like each other and help each other. That is the way a business group should be, no hatred over politics. Just Optimism, Hope, friendship and help each other.

We welcome Ocala Business Brokers into our papers, thank you Connie. I would like to tell you you should try these people (Select Business Associates of Ocala) if are looking for someone you can trust. Look for the ad in this paper. I personally endorse every one.

Looks like we kept our Sheriff. Those

guys in the Marion County Sheriff office is a pretty good team. I endorse them also.

I dropped into a Marion County Commission meeting the other day. They were listening to one right after another requesting funds for various non-profits. Some sound like good ideas.

Please give me your opinion
tloury@att.net



Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for March

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

Noon, February 21st

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, February 26th

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

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Publisher: Tom Loury

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Email: tloury@att.net

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Record-breaking Snow in Florida!



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All ads are 4 color! All ads must be in PDF format Jpeg has a tendency to get weak when you change sizes. When you send a PDF ad the fonts are embedded and will not change. Run of editorial Photos, clubs, events, etc, submitted must be in focus and clear. No guarantees to get them in but we will try! TomL to submit ads and news copy. email tloury@att.net

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Hills Dale College

From Bill Gray
To Thomas Loury

It's cold and quiet in Hillsdale, Michigan. I hope you're staying warm, and that you and your family are doing well. Our students have headed home for a much-needed break, and I wanted to send you a quick note as we approach the close of 2024.

The end of one year and the beginning of another is a natural time to reflect. When I think back over the year that was, I never could've predicted we'd be where we are today. Did you think we'd see...

Campus protests, legacy media censorship, wars in Europe and the Middle East, and multiple assassination attempts of a presidential candidate?

I certainly didn't!
At the same time...

This year ended with so many

Americans showing they haven't given up on this country. A renewed hope is in the air. There is a feeling that we can and will accomplish great things again.

I don't know about you, but when I remember America and its leaders in my prayers, I am so grateful to God to live in a country where the people can still choose those leaders and where we can enjoy so much personal freedom.

Even with the events of the last few years, our country remains "the last, best hope on earth," to quote one of our country's greatest presidents—Abraham Lincoln.

Like America in Lincoln's time, our country is once again going through a time of crisis and division. That's why next year if we're going to restore liberty, we must educate all who wish to learn. We must make it possible for them to do so for FREE if it is within our power.

And that means that you and I must do

all we can to teach the next generation the principles of liberty, something that Hillsdale does better than any other college in America.

We're committed to doing this no matter the cost because it's part of our 180-year-old mission to preserve "the blessings of liberty" we enjoy in America.

Our extensive Project to Revive and Preserve Liberty through Education is one of the most effective ways to engage the far-Left on the battlefield of education.

Through ImprimiPUBLISHER s, free online courses, the Hillsdale College Podcast Network, and classical K-12 educational outreach, we are "developing minds and improving hearts," one community, one school, one classroom, one student at a time.

And this is multiplied by thousands and thousands...

If possible, could you consider making a

generous tax-deductible gift before December 31? Hillsdale's mission is so important, and I know you stand with us. Your timely donation will help us continue to expand these programs in this critical time for our nation while helping us reach our ambitious year-end fundraising goal.

If you're able, please make your best tax-deductible gift of \$50, \$100, or even \$250 before midnight on December 31.

We still have not reached our \$6,000,000 goal, and time is running out.

I've included a secure link for you to see our progress and to make your gift safely:

Please know how thankful I am to have you as a friend. Together, we can educate for liberty in America. Enjoy the rest of your day!

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Bill Gray, '01

Vice President

TomL says SHOW ME A QUIET CAMPUS!



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Kat Cammack & Speaker Johnson

Our local Congress woman with speaker Joh. She is one of our favorites. If you look you can see she is taking the picture. I think this was when they were voting to keep Johnson

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Ocala, FL – HCA Florida Ocala Hospital and HCA Florida West Marion Hospital announced a \$10,000 donation to Interfaith Emergency Services to fight hunger in the Ocala/Marion County community.

For the 2024 Healthy Food for Healthier Tomorrows Food and Nutrition Drive, HCA Healthcare hospitals nationwide were encouraged to get creative and build sculptures with cans and boxes of food donated by their colleagues. The winner in each division received a \$10,000 grant from the HCA Healthcare Foundation for a food bank serving its community. HCA Florida Ocala Hospital is the winner for HCA Healthcare's North Florida Division and selected Interfaith Emergency Services' food bank for the \$10,000 donation.

Nursing managers at HCA Florida Ocala

Hospital built a food structure in the shape of a smiling turkey to recognize the importance of helping neighbors during the holiday season.

"HCA Florida Ocala Hospital is grateful to be able to assist Interfaith Emergency Services in the battle against food insecurity and to help our less fortunate neighbors have a pathway to a healthier tomorrow," said Alan Keesee, chief executive officer of HCA Florida Ocala Hospital. "I'm also very proud of our hospital colleagues who made this donation possible with their creativity, ingenuity, and desire to give back to our community."

"Interfaith Emergency Services is honored to receive this generous donation of \$10,000 from the HCA Healthcare Foundation," said Karla Greenway, chief executive officer of Interfaith Emergency Services. "This means more to our ministry than you can imagine!"

According to Greenway, this donation allows Interfaith to fund one driver and a refrigerated truck, allowing the agency to pick up donated food from local grocery vendors. This food is free, but Interfaith must provide transportation to distribute it to recipients.

"This \$10,000 will keep our truck and driver funded for five months and in those five months we will pick up approximately 365,000 pounds of food. This includes fresh produce, dairy, meats and nonperishable items, which are passed on to households in need within 48 hours," Greenway added.

"This amount of food will provide a week's worth of groceries to 3,652

households. With an average of three persons per household that feeds over 10,000 people. We can't thank HCA Florida Ocala Hospital and HCA Florida West Marion Hospital enough for ensuring that we can sustain this ministry for the upcoming months. Words cannot express our gratitude."

Food insecurity, the lack of consistent access to enough food to have an active, healthy lifestyle, affects 1 in 9 American families. The United States Department of Agriculture reports that [18 million U.S. households were food insecure](#) at some point in 2023.

Antique Stoves for Sale



Three pictures on the left are Antique wood burning stoves. Need cleaning & stove black paint. Not pictured is antique stove square front. I think there are

threaded pipe fittings & assorted other heaters - 1 kerosene and 1 propane buddy. Far right picture is a six foot outdoor heater. **Call Tom 352-804-1223**

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Vape Detection Canine



Vape Detection Canine Helps Law Enforcement Officers Discover Stolen Firearm in School

Just one week ago today, Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody honored our School Resource Unit and its vape-detection canine, Samba, with the Back the Blue Award for Samba's outstanding performance in detecting vapes and THC in our schools. Today, Samba and her handler, Erica Stamborski, who also received the Back the Blue Award, again proved Samba's value and demonstrated why she's deserving of such a prestigious honor!

Earlier today, K9 Handler Stamborski and Samba responded to Leesburg High School for a routine scheduled visit to proactively walk areas of the campus. K9 Samba alerted to a backpack in the media room, which was absent of any students at the time, in an area

where students typically leave their belongings. A search of the backpack was conducted, and located inside was a loaded Glock 9mm handgun, which was later determined to be stolen out of Lake County. This alert led to a felony arrest of a student by officers with the Leesburg Police Department.

In addition to locating the firearm, Samba also found three vapes and a cigar in other backpacks. We are incredibly proud of K9 Samba's and Handler Stamborski's efforts and their unwavering dedication to ensuring a safe learning environment for children in Lake County.

(Pictured left to right: Handler Erica Stamborski, K9 Samba, Attorney General Ashley Moody, Captain Michael Marden, and Sheriff Peyton Grinnell)

Rep. Cammack Third Term

Rep. Cammack Sworn In To House of Representatives For Third Term, Introduces Two Bills On First Day To Hit Ground Running

WASHINGTON, D.C. —Congresswoman Kat Cammack was sworn in to serve her third term in the House of Representatives during the 119th Congress. She introduced two pieces of legislation on the first day of the Congress, the REINS Act and the USA Act.

The Regulations by the Executive In Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act, Congresswoman

Cammack's signature legislation, would return legislative power to Congress, check federal overreach, and ensure Americans have the tools to defend their rights. The REINS Act requires Congress to approve major federal agency rules and rules with an impact of \$100M or more before they take effect. An earlier edition of the REINS Act passed the House of Representatives during the 118th Congress on June 14, 2023.

The Unauthorized Spending Accountability Act (USA Act) establishes a budgetary level reduction schedule to start in fiscal year 2026 for any authorized program or activity listed in the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) annual report. The bill also reduces the budgetary

Continued page 8

CEP
OCALA / MARION COUNTY
CHAMBER & ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP

MISSION: To be the catalyst for a prosperous community.

ATTEND OUR EVENTS
The CEP provides 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. Make 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, making leads, and advertising opportunities. Be heard!

SAVE MONEY
Get discounts on office supplies, shipping, and more. Plus, shop parties for exclusive discounts. Start saving!

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

GET BUSINESS SUPPORT
The CEP is your business advocate—leading, coaching, mentoring, and more. Get the support you need to succeed!

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

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

EXPAND YOUR NETWORK
Join the CEP & add hundreds of professionals to your network. Network! Get involved!

INVEST. ENGAGE. GROW.

BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP

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.

Ready to Move Your Business Forward?
Jennifer Madden, Director of Partner Relations
352.629.8051 | Jennifer@OcalaCEP.com
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Nick Navetta	Edward Jones	Tamara Hutto	
Eddie Levin	Life Insurance	Sue Fullerton	Travel
Elaine Maiellaro	Fair Tax	Connie Pendleton	Business Broker
Ron Hipner	Kangen Water	Grace Vazul	Grace Vazul
Frank Turner	Promotions	Leda Perez	Mental Health
Walter Krumm	Walts Brake & More	Tom Lousy	Digital Newspapers

FAIRtax



Unlawful emigration has been in the news for a long time and some have asked me how will the FAIRtax help or hinder the control of illegals flooding into our country. Perhaps I can explain how it will help stem the flow of illegals. Remember, the FAIRtax REPLACES the federal income tax and payroll tax system with a national retail sales tax plus a prebate which makes spending up to the poverty level tax free.

This means that those living at or below the poverty level will pay the FAIRtax rate of zero percent. A person spending twice the poverty level would pay a spending tax rate of 11.5%, a person spending three times the poverty level would pay an effective rate of 17.3%, and so on. Your tax rate is determined by you and by how you spend. The FAIRtax will, for the first time, tax undocumented workers who now evade the income and payroll taxes.

Under the FAIRtax, all persons living in the United states will pay taxes, whether they are here legally or illegally. Under the current system, many illegals do not pay income and payroll taxes even though they are here earning wages and are legally required to do so. They may also be receiving benefits in the form of health care,

education, housing, roads and much more.

Under the FAIRtax, both lawful and unlawful residents will pay taxes when they purchase new goods and services for consumption here;

however, only lawful residents are eligible to receive the FAIRtax prebate which effectively eliminates taxes on spending up to the poverty level. Unlawful residents will be paying a rate of 23 cents on every dollar they spend since they are not eligible for the prebate.

The only way to get the prebate is to become a legal resident or citizen. In this way, the FAIRtax helps promote legal emigration. It also ensures that unlawful residents contribute to the cost of providing the services they receive. For more information please go to FAIRtax.org

Trump's First Week In Office!

President Trump took his Oath of Office in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. While we were disappointed that our constituents were unable to witness the ceremonies in-person due to the cold weather outside, we were so pleased to see all of our visitors from Florida's Third in town to celebrate with us.

After an incredible morning of festivities and an afternoon packed with indoor

parades, President Trump got to work right away and immediately signed an impressive list of executive orders.

Of the orders, he declared:

a national emergency at the border;
a national energy emergency;
an end to discriminatory DEI

practices;

the United States' withdrawal from the World Health Organization;
And more!

The president and his team have not been shy about the America First Agenda and we're thrilled to be part of all of the amazing work over the next four years.

This week the Laken Riley Act was passed by both the House and the Senate and is now awaiting President Trump's signature. We must take a stand against the national emergency raging at our border and protect our citizens to ensure what happened to Laken never happens again.

We hope everyone enjoys the weekend and stays warm! With all of the cold weather in the Sunshine State recently, we're grateful for our first responders and hardworking plow trucks keeping our roadways and communities safe.

With all that's happening this new Congress, it is my greatest honor to represent you and hear from you about the issues that matter most. You can read below about what we've been up to this week, and as always, you can stay up to date with us here, on our website, and on X, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

For the Republic,

Congresswoman Kat Cammack

Proudly Representing Florida's Third Congressional District

Rep. Cammack

Continued from page 7

level for unauthorized programs by an amount equal to ten percent of the funds appropriated for the program in the expiring fiscal year.

"It's an honor to serve the Third Congressional District of Florida in the House of Representatives," said Rep. Cammack. "We have worked hard over the last four years to represent North Central Florida and make it the best place to live, work, and raise a family. With President Trump taking the Oath of Office in just over two weeks, I'm looking forward to reinvigorating our economy, securing our southern border, and making our communities safe again. With Republicans in the House, Senate, and White House, we are well positioned to take action on President Trump's agenda and deliver for the American people. I look forward to moving these bills across the finish line."

Rep. Cammack returns an experienced senior staff team, including Larry Calhoun as Chief of Staff, Jessica Norfleet as Deputy Chief of Staff and District Director, Joshua Woodward as Deputy Chief for Policy, Adeline Sandridge as Deputy Chief for Communications and Operations, Ruth Clark as Director of Operations, and Dorothy Richardson as Director of Constituent Advocacy and District Operations.

Stay tuned for more announcements about the 119th Congress in the coming weeks.

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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 Xolaitzcuinli, or Xolo, which is Mexican hairless dog breed.



Fuchsla 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
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FROM THE DESK OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



A G M o o d y Releases New Scams at a Glance: Grandparent Gifts Resource During Senior Protection Event

Attorney General Ashley Moody today hosted a Senior Scam Seminar at the On Top of the World Cultural Center in Marion County and released a new senior-protection resource. Attended by more than 500 Florida seniors, the educational symposium focused on senior fraud and how to avoid becoming a victim of cybercrime and schemes related to cryptocurrency, financial crime and exploitation. At the symposium, Attorney General Moody released *Scams at a Glance: Grandparent Gifts*. This new resource aims to help Florida seniors know how to avoid and properly report grandparent schemes. In these schemes, imposters pose as a grandchild and call a target claiming to be in an emergency situation and then request money.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Today, we held a Senior Scam Seminar to educate hundreds of older Floridians about common and emerging scams. During the seminar, we released our *Scams at a Glance: Grandparents Gifts*. This new resource explains grandparent scams and provides tips to help older Floridians spot and avoid these imposter scams."

Joining Attorney General Moody as speakers at the Senior Scam Seminar were Marion County Sheriff Billy Woods,

representatives from the State Attorney's Office from the 5th Judicial Circuit and Marion County Sheriff's Office's Fraud Team, as well as representatives from Attorney General Moody's Cyber Fraud Enforcement Unit, Seniors vs Crime and Senior Protection Teams.

Grandparent scams begin with a call from someone pretending to be the grandchild of a target. The scammer may speak softly or make an excuse for sounding different. The scammer, posing as the victim's grandchild, will then claim to be in trouble and need money. The fraudster may urgently demand payment and beg the senior to keep it a secret. Once the victim sends money to the scammer, victims are often unable to get the money back.

To help combat grandparent scams, Attorney General Moody is releasing *Scams at a Glance: Grandparent Gifts*. The resource offers the following tips:

- Resist the urge to act immediately. Hang up and check with the grandchild or other family members directly;
- Know that anyone demanding payment in the form of a gift card, cryptocurrency or wire transfer is probably a scammer—never send money to solicitors through these means;
- Be aware that scammers may use information found on a victim's family members' social media platforms to appear credible; and
- Scammers may request to meet and receive the money in person. If this happens, hang up and call local law enforcement immediately.

To view *Scams at a Glance: Grandparent*

Gifts, click [here](#). To view the resource in Spanish, click [here](#).

To learn more about other types of scams, visit the [Scams at a Glance homepage](#).

Since taking office in 2019, Attorney General Moody has secured:

- Nearly \$700 million in Consumer Protection recoveries, including relief and restitution;
- More than \$9.5 million in Senior Protection Team recoveries; and
- More than \$5.75 million in realized gains through the Seniors vs. Crime team thanks to Senior Sleuths volunteering more than 107,000 hours.

Attorney General Moody is committed to protecting seniors. While in office, Attorney General Moody:

- Launched the Senior Protection Team, consisting of members from the Office of Statewide Prosecution, Consumer Protection Division, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and Office of Citizen Services;
- Released the [Scams at a Glance outreach program](#) to inform Floridians about common and emerging schemes through online, easily-printable brochures;
- Published the [Consumer Alert webpage](#) that educates Floridians about emerging scams, fraudulent activities and deceptive practices. The program also notifies Floridians about available refunds, restitution and claims resulting from actions taken by the Consumer Protection Division;

Following Report Showing Alarming Increase in Hate Crimes Against Jewish Floridians, AG Moody to Host Law Enforcement Training to Combat Antisemitism

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Following the latest Hate Crimes in Florida Report

showing an alarming increase in hate crimes against Jewish Floridians, Attorney General Ashley Moody will be hosting a law enforcement training to address antisemitism on college campuses. The recently released report detailed an alarming 94% increase in hate crimes against Jewish Floridians from 2022 to 2023. The report also noted that the Jewish community has been increasingly targeted on college campuses since the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel in October 2023. Florida stands with the nation's ally, Israel, and Attorney General Moody is proud to announce an upcoming training designed to help law enforcement and investigators combat hate crimes and antisemitism on college campuses.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Florida is a law-and-order state, and we have taken extraordinary steps to protect the Jewish community since the October 7th attacks. While law enforcement continues to vigilantly protect Jewish Floridians, we are seeing an increase in reported antisemitic hate crimes. That is why we are hosting a training to help combat antisemitism on college campuses."

Following the Oct. 7, 2023, terrorist attacks on Israel, antisemitic incidents [more than tripled](#) across the United States. The epicenter of much of the antisemitic activity is college and university campuses. Attorney General Moody previously reached out to higher education officials in 2023 and 2024 advising them of Florida's zero-tolerance policy against antisemitism and provided information on state statutes that outlaw antisemitic hate crimes and supporting terrorist organizations.

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Governor Ron DeSantis Announces Proposals for Immigration Special Session

Governor Ron DeSantis announced proposals for Florida's upcoming Special Legislative Session.

The proposed actions will position Florida to quickly carry out President-Elect Donald Trump's mandate to combat illegal immigration.

"Florida is ready to lead," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "With President Trump taking office, Florida has a unique opportunity to help facilitate the end to America's immigration crisis."

Proposed legislation includes:

- Mandate maximum participation in the 287(g) deportation program, with penalties for non-compliance, including suspension of officials;
- Establish a state crime for entering the U.S. illegally and a process for self-deportation;
- Appoint a dedicated officer to oversee coordination with federal authorities and the Unauthorized Alien Transport Program (UATP);
- Expand UATP to detain and facilitate the deportation of illegal aliens from the U.S.;
- Broaden the legal definition of gang-related activities to include more groups of dangerous illegal aliens;
- Repeal in-state college tuition for illegal immigrant students;
- Require voter registration affirmation of U.S. citizenship and Florida residency;
- Increase penalties for unauthorized aliens

committing voter fraud or providing false voter registration information;

· Mandate identity verification for foreign remittance transfers; and

· Create a rebuttable presumption that illegal aliens are flight risks and deny bail.

Governor Ron DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis Establish Hope Florida Office within the Executive Office of the Governor

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.— Governor Ron DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis established the Hope Florida Office within the Executive Office of the Governor to oversee and administer the growing Hope Florida Pathway to Prosperity Initiative. Established in 2021, Hope Florida is a first-of-its-kind initiative that maximizes support from community partners outside government—predominantly non-profits, faith-based organizations, and private sector business partners. Utilizing a personalized navigation model, Floridians seeking government assistance are provided a Hope Navigator who utilizes those aforementioned entities to meet immediate needs and guide them on a Pathway to economic self-sufficiency. In fact, Hope Florida has already led to more than **30,000** Floridians decreasing or eliminating reliance on public assistance. Estimates show that Hope Florida could save taxpayers nearly \$1 billion dollars over the next 10 years. Under the Hope Florida model, government serves as a convener and collaborator between good people who need help and good people, outside of government, who are willing to help. Government is uniquely positioned to make the connection and thus reduce its role in assisting people in need, while also

providing preventative navigation that aims to prevent Floridians from reentering or becoming dependent on the "government system."

Celia, a mother of three, was a graduate student who was struggling with student loans, rent, and childcare. While deciding between leaving school and applying for government assistance, Celia was introduced to Hope Florida. Through Hope Florida, Celia was connected with daycare resources, enabling her to finish school and land a full-time job. Her Hope Navigator encouraged her to continue her education and helped her develop a sustainable financial plan.

"Hope Florida is the alternative to government dependency," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "Thanks to Hope Florida, Floridians will receive better services that lead to self-sufficiency through this one-of-a-kind program."

"Hope Florida is revolutionizing the way state governments meet needs," said First Lady DeSantis. "By bringing together existing resources outside of government and pairing those in need with a navigator to guide them through all of the available help, Hope Florida is using government as the connector and then getting out of the way. In short, Hope Florida is help finding help."

Since Hope Florida's creation in 2021, more than 150 Hope Navigators across the state have referred over **100,000** Floridians for assistance, established **5,600** Hope Florida partners, including over **2,000** faith-based partners into the Hope Florida network.

The newly established Hope Florida office within the Executive Office of the Governor will work closely with state agencies to deepen partnerships with the public and private sectors to optimize Hope Florida's effectiveness across the state. Erik Dellenback, who currently serves as the Governor's Liaison for Faith and

Community, will lead the Hope Florida office as Executive Director.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in this new role, but more importantly to steward the bold vision of the Governor and First Lady for Hope Florida," said Erik Dellenback. "Through Hope Florida, I believe we are standing witness to an incredible model of simple yet profound connection that will change our state and sweep across the nation."

In August, Governor DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis announced "Activate Hope," an expansion of Hope Florida to serve Floridians recovering from the impacts of disasters.

Governor Ron DeSantis Announces School Choice Success

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.— Governor Ron DeSantis announced Florida has surpassed 500,000 students participating in Florida's school choice scholarship program. Additionally, more than 30,000 students are participating in the New Worlds Scholarship Accounts Program, with an additional 18,000 students utilizing the transportation stipend created by House Bill 1 (2023).

"Florida is the number one state for education because of our commitment to providing every student with the option that works best for them," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "I am proud that we have enabled over 500,000 students to access a high-quality education that fits their individual needs."

"Under Governor DeSantis' leadership, Florida continues to lead the way in providing the best educational opportunities for every student," said Florida Department of Education Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr. "I am proud to see how many Florida families we are helping through school choice programs."

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FROM THE DESK OF

CONGRESSWOMAN KAT CAMMACK



Rep. Cammack Introduces Resolution To Prohibit Members From Bringing Or Displaying Flags of Foreign Nations On The House Floor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Yesterday,

Congresswoman Kat Cammack reintroduced her resolution to prohibit Members of the House of Representatives from bringing or displaying a flag of a foreign nation on the floor of the House.

The prohibition shall apply to a flag of a foreign nation regardless of the size of the flag. Exceptions include a flag of a foreign nation worn as a lapel pin by a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner, and the depiction of a flag of a foreign nation used as part of an exhibit during a speech or debate under the rules of the House of Representatives. The Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives is responsible for enforcement of the prohibition.

Following the passage on H.R. 8035 on Saturday, April 20, 2024 during the 118th Congress, lawmakers waved the flag of Ukraine on the floor of the House of Representatives, eliciting frustration from Rep. Cammack and colleagues.

"On the floor of the United States House of Representatives, there should only be one flag on display: ours," said Rep. Cammack. "We make serious decisions on behalf of the American people and their taxpayer dollars on the House floor. This business should be carried out beneath no other banner than our stars and stripes to remind us of who we represent and why this nation is the greatest in the history of the world. I'm glad to have earned the support of dozens of my colleagues who join me in standing up for the American people and putting our nation before all others."

Rep. Cammack Announces Her Energy & Commerce Committee Subcommittee Assignments For The 119th Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, Congresswoman Kat Cammack announced her subcommittee assignments for the Committee on Energy & Commerce.

This Congress, Rep. Cammack will serve on the following subcommittees:

- Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
- Subcommittee on Health
- Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade

The Subcommittee on Health is a new subcommittee assignment during the 119th Congress.

"I'm excited to continue our great work on the Committee on Energy & Commerce this Congress," said Rep. Cammack. "We accomplished some outstanding policy wins last Congress and I'm looking forward to continue that momentum for the American people and the amazing people of Florida's Third Congressional District."

"Energy and Commerce Republicans are ready to hit the ground running, delivering for President Trump's America First agenda to restore the American Dream," said Energy & Commerce Chairman Brett Guthrie.

Stay tuned for more announcements about the 119th Congress in the coming weeks.

Rep. Cammack Co-Sponsors Reps. Smith & Moran's Family and Small Business Taxpayer Protection Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, Congresswoman Kat Cammack joined Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE) and Rep. Nathaniel Moran (R-TX)'s legislation, the Family and Small Business Taxpayer Protection Act. The bill would prevent the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from using the balance of the Biden-Harris administration's massive, \$80 billion infusion of taxpayer dollars to increase audits on middle-class families while preserving funding for customer service and IT modernization at the IRS.

The members released the following statements:

"In their 2022 Inflation Act spending spree, Democrats' attempted to supersize the IRS with 87,000 new enforcement agents. Since then, TIGTA has reported the IRS has struggled to find new hires, targeted middle-class families with the majority of new audits, and neglected to update its own antiquated technology," said Rep. Smith. "I have fought hard to successfully reclaim much of these taxpayer funds, and now it is time to finish the job. A broken IRS doesn't need more taxpayer dollars thrown at the problem. It needs to focus on serving Americans. This bill would hold the IRS accountable while preserving funding to improve IRS taxpayer service and systems."

"Families and small businesses have suffered enough under burdensome IRS regulations," said Rep. Moran. "I'm proud to join Congressman Adrian Smith in introducing the Family and Small Business Act. This bill will protect middle-class families from audits they cannot afford and to prevent the IRS from using its massive infusion of taxpayer dollars to harass and squeeze more revenue out of American families and small businesses."

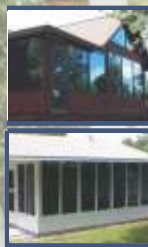
Rep. Cammack Co-Sponsors Rep. Thomas Massie's H.R. 24 To Audit The Fed

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, Congresswoman Kat Cammack joined Congressman Thomas Massie as a co-sponsor of his reintroduced H.R. 24, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2025, also known as "Audit the Fed." The bill would require the Comptroller General to conduct a full examination of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Reserve Banks.

"The American public deserves more insight into the practices of the Federal Reserve," Rep. Massie said. "Behind closed doors, the Fed crafts monetary policies that devalue our currency, slow economic growth, and make life harder for the poor and middle class. The American people benefit when we work to increase government transparency."

Former Representative Ron Paul (R-TX) long championed this cause, originally introducing "Audit the Fed" legislation in 2009.

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