



Pictured from left, Agent Gary Smith, Agent MacKenzie Sutton, Connie Ann Sivesind Pendleton.

What a team they won a number of award "the Million Dollar Plus sales award"

"McKenzie won the #1 Top Co-Broker for the North Florida Division of the BBF" (Business Brokers of Florida).awards. Congratulations from TomL publishing!

Democrats Have Lost Their Minds!

By TomL

They are defending the criminals illegal instead of protecting our legal citizens. They are allowing the taxpayers to suffer and they pay the illegal to stay in our country FREE. There is a delicate balance going on that most US citizens don't understand. Our country can't survive the illegal onslaught. Unless Trump pulls the rabbit out of the hat and makes the tariffs work, the United States and World will be in a bad place.

Half of the country is Trump hater's and would rather we go down with the ship rather than to co-operate. Our politician's must work together to survive. The world is on a collision course. Most of the countries want the power. A few understand they need to work together to stand up to the giants or super power. The problem is the way our country is run the other countries don't know who is going to be President next term? They made a deal with Trump! He is timing out in three yearsOr is he!

Mean while the democrat's are fighting to make a name as the front runner to run for President and they are breaking the law to do it. I think that is pretty stupid. If they set policy and half of the policy's are in agreement with Trump, that is half the battle is started right. Not imposing men in women's bathrooms, raising taxes on working families, or defending criminal illegals over American citizen. THEY HAVE LOST THEIR MINDS!

Don't fight physically unless you are in danger, then stand your ground!

Byron Donalds candidate for Governor says stand your ground. The future of our country is on the line!

Now our previous President when questioned can't remember anything. He also has cancer that and according to renowned doctors say he has had it for a while. Now the people that are running the country today want to know who was signing all the legal stuff, who decided not to tell the people that he had cancer. How did he have cancer undetected while having his examinations that he is required to go through???? MORE LIES!

Finally truth is coming out. I wonder who is behind the ghost cloak?

Stay tune! What is your opinion? floury@att.net I will print your opinion with just your initials.

Tap & Glue Scam

Tap and glue scams leverage the convenience of tap-to-pay technology at ATMs, combined with a simple but effective trick involving glue. Scammers first disable the card insertion slot by pouring glue into it, forcing customers to use the tap function. While this may seem like an easy fix, it sets the stage for the scam.

Once a customer taps their card and withdraws cash, they often forget to log out of their account. This leaves the session open, allowing the scammer to step in and continue withdrawing funds. The scam relies on the victim's unfamiliarity with tap-to-pay procedures, making it a lucrative tactic for fraudsters.

Nick and Diana Navetta



This picture was taken by Tammy Griffin at the Ocala-Marion County Veterans Memorial Park while Nick Navetta and his wife Diana were honoring two of his Soldiers who were killed in action while serving in Iraq. Sergeant Rodney Alan Murray and Sergeant Arthur Stacey Mastrapa were killed on two separate incidents. Nick Navetta is listed as the Commander of the 317th Military Police Battalion. Nick expresses his deep condolences and prays for their families.

Nick and Diana have called Marion County their home for over 50 years. Their roots in Marion County are far reaching. Nick and his wife are part of many outreach programs they are proud to be a part of. They live by the same motto as one of the organizations they belong to, the Military Officer's Association of America ---"Never

Stop Serving". Colonel Navetta Nick served in Desert Shield/Desert Storm; Operation Joint Forge in Bosnia; multiple tours of Iraqi Freedom; and Enduring Freedom.

Nick has never stopped serving. On Veteran's Day in 2009, Nick coordinated the SOCOM Parachute Team from MacDill Airforce Base to fly in and parachute into the Ocala-Marion County Veterans Memorial Park, landing in the middle of the crowd. They were men who worked under Nick at SOCOM. Enthusiastically Nick states, "That's what these guys do. They're that good!" His last duty position was the Training Division Chief for all Special Operations Worldwide at the United States Special Operations Command, or SOCOM for short.

A little of Nick's history: Nick began in

Continued page 7

CHAIR CHAT

To Kathy Bryant; Chair - Marion County Commissioners

SUBJECT: Marion County Republican Executive Committee support of revised Transportation Impact Fees

On behalf of the Marion County Republican Executive Committee (MCREC), representing more than 130,000 registered Republican voters we support the revision of cost-equivalent transportation impact fees. As an organization we support free enterprise and on-going private equity investment in our County, however a key pillar of this support is “fair share cost liability” with respect to developers and most importantly to Marion County taxpayers.

To state obvious transportation impact fees have not risen for more than a decade, 2015 last revision, subsequent to the economic downturn beginning in 2009 and prior to the Covid impacts of +2019. As a prudent step in 2015 to entice resi-dential and non-residential development, the transportation impact fees set in 2015 were discounted significantly below the actual cost impacts to County residents; only 20% for residential and 11% for commercial developments of the ac-tual impact fee. Again, both below the needed impact fee cost projections. To date, given the ten-year increase in cost for roads, services, property taxes, etc., the current transportation impact fees applied represent an even greater dis-counted fee than in 2015.

Marion County has undergone explosive residential development, and strong non-residential development, which has adversely stressed our infrastructure as seen in increases in traffic, roadway construction and utility expansion needs / costs.

Again, in a prudent measure the Commissioners hired a recognized expert firm to evaluate transportation impact fees and determine if the data would support declaration of an extraordinary circumstance to allow increasing impact fees to a current cost based on current law (F.S. 163.31801). This statute sets the required evaluation, public notices, as well as other factors for impact fee cost evaluations related to public infrastructure, roadway construction costs, public services, and County levels of service needs. The results of these studies, as required, were presented in public forums.

The result of this study is that current transportation impacts fees, held constant since 2015, have clearly not kept pace with cost increases over the past 10-years. As a point of comparison, the current Marion County transportation impact fee for a 2,000 SF home (one of the most typical sizes) is \$1,397 / home. In contrast surrounding counties have updated their fees to reflect the actual cost impact more accurately on their counties: Citrus \$3,864 / Sumter \$3,000 / Pasco +\$6,000 to +\$9,000 / Volusia \$5,464 / Alachua \$4,146

The Benesch study also presented data of the required factors to support a declaration of extraordinary circumstances that would meet current Florida requirements to increase fees by +50% to a more realistic cost basis than 10 years ago.

In addition, the study indicates the current impact fees, if not significantly

Continued page 7

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CEP CHAMBER NEWS
Forward Momemtum



'A Pivotal Time For Our Organization'
By Tamara Fleischhaker

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve as Interim CEO of the Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership. As I step into this role at a pivotal time for our organization and the region we serve, I am reminded of the enduring values that have guided the CEP's work for over a decade: bold vision, collaborative spirit, and an unwavering commitment to being the catalyst for a prosperous community.

Right now, it's not about starting over—it's about staying focused on what's working. Our mission, our momentum, and the strong partnerships we've built have all played a key role in moving us forward. Staying on track means sticking with the priorities that have helped make the Ocala Metro one of the most vibrant communities in Florida and beyond. It also means continuing to invest in the relationships that truly make a difference—whether with small businesses, major employers, local governments, schools, or community groups. These connections aren't just part of our progress—they're at the heart of it.

At the CEP, we know that prosperity doesn't happen by accident. It is built intentionally—with vision, perseverance, and the ability to bring people together with purpose. Through business attraction, workforce development, and a strong commitment to innovation, we've helped shape a local economy where companies want to invest, families want to live, and entrepreneurs can grow. That intentional work has laid a foundation we are proud of—and one we will continue to build upon.

The Board has selected Waverly Partners, a leading chamber and economic development search firm, to conduct a national search for the CEP's next president/CEO. This comprehensive process will identify top-tier leadership talent with the experience, strategic vision, and stakeholder focus to lead the CEP forward. The next CEO will continue a strong legacy of relationship-building with business and community leaders while cultivating and engaging a high-performing



team to foster collaboration, innovation, and growth.

Looking ahead, we do so with optimism and focus. The Ocala Metro is growing, and with that growth comes both tremendous opportunity and a shared responsibility to ensure continued momentum. The CEP will remain a driving force, leading with clarity, consistency, and a deep belief in the future of this region.

To our Board of Directors, dedicated staff, valued partners, and the entire business community, thank you. Your continued support, leadership, and trust are what fuel our mission and help us maintain Forward Momentum. I am proud to move forward with you, staying the course and helping to shape the next great chapter for the CEP and our entire community.

In this world I urge to do business with people not businesses! People you know or someone that is a trusted referral. Take the time to call and get their opinion and or price. Take the time to know the business people around you. TALK TO STRANGERS! They might be a customer?

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These are people who have advertised with me and I trust them!

If you are curious about how to invest your money, Call Nick 352-629-2165. email: nick.navetta@edwardjones.com

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Investment profile: Corporate bonds

Issuer name: **NATIONAL BANK OF CANADA**

Today's date: 05/20/2025

Investment features

Description: A corporate bond is a loan to a corporation. Corporate bonds are generally backed by the full faith and credit standing of the issuer.

Objective: To provide regular taxable income with a moderate degree of risk.

Suitability: These securities are appropriate as income investments in a diversified portfolio.

Regular income: A corporate bond offers a fixed rate of interest that is typically payable twice a year, but the frequency can vary by bond. For more information on a particular bond's payment frequency, contact your financial advisor.

Marketability: A corporate bond may be sold on any business day at its current market value. This value may be more than, less than or equal to the amount originally invested.

Price fluctuation: While the interest amount remains the same, the market value of a bond can always change. As interest rates change, long-term bonds are more sensitive to market price fluctuations than shorter-term investments.

Risks: Certain events can cause the quality of a corporation's earnings to deteriorate, resulting in the value of the bond dropping in price. Bond investments are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease and the investor can lose principal value.

Call features: Bonds may be callable either with stated call dates or make-whole calls. The make-whole call feature, which allows issuers to repay remaining debt early, typically provides investors with better call protection. That's because the call price on a make-whole call bond typically rises when interest rates fall, reducing the incentive for issuers to refinance the bonds.

Corporate bonds may have extraordinary call provisions, which allow issuers to redeem their bonds early because of an unusual event. This will be spelled out in the offering statement.

Investment amount: The minimum investment amount varies by bond. For more information on the minimum required for a particular bond, contact your financial advisor.

Taxation: Interest and capital gains earned from corporate bonds are subject to federal, state and local taxes.

Coupon rate	6.05%%
Maturity date	04/09/2045
Price	\$100
Yield to maturity	6.05%%
Yield to call	6.05%%
Call features	04/09/2026 @ 6.05%
Extraordinary call feature	No
Estate feature	No
Ratings*	S&P: A+ Moody's: Aa2 Fitch: AA-
Payment frequency	Annually
Markup	Yes

Yield effective 05/20/2025, subject to availability and price change.

Nick Navetta, AAMS™
Financial Advisor

814 East Silver Springs Blvd
Suite B
Ocala, FL 34470
352-629-2165

*These ratings generally represent the rating company's opinion of the bond's ability to meet its ongoing contractual obligations. They are estimates and should be one of many factors in evaluating a fixed-income investment. These ratings should not be considered an indication of future performance. N/A indicates no rating available.

Diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against loss in a declining market.

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Before investing in bonds, you should understand the risks involved, including credit risk and market risk. Bond investments are also subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease, and the investor can lose principal value if the investment is sold prior to maturity.

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



First things that Trump is doing!

Securing our southern border and removing dangerous criminals from our country! Strengthening our economy, protecting girls' and women's

wild! They are outraged!

It seems like the last three Presidents but not including Trump have chosen the dumbest Vice Presidents they could find! How did that work for them. I know how it worked for us. It's going to take four years to clean it up.

We have a new Doctor Death... Dr Anthony Fauci, and I think he was one of the top earner's in the federal government. In my opinion China strikes through him, killing our people in great numbers. He smiles and says that not true! He needs jail time. I have a correction about the COVID virus development, I just came out that Obama was allowing and help Fauci to develop the virus here in the US but then got concerned and sent for development to the WoHon lab where it was used against us. Obama took part in the beginning! I have read that they found a fully equipped lab here in the USA that no one was aware of sitting empty.

sports,

Our nation is trending in the right direction!

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, border agents seizing drones transporting methamphetamine, heroin, and fentanyl across the U.S. southern and northern borders.

Bill Clinton Democrat fired 377,000 Government Employees and there was silence???

Trump fired 30,000 and the Democrats go

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for July

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

Noon, June 25th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, June 30th

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

P.O Box 1698, Dunnellon FL 34430

Publisher: Tom Loury

Phone: 352-804-1223 | Fax: 352-489-7208

Email: tloury@att.net

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COLUMNS are the opinions of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the above named newspapers and online products. Writers are chosen to represent a diversity of views on local issues. The editorial on page 4 is the opinion of the Publisher only.

In looking at the process for VP pick's, The Democratic party pick's were all weak or had something wrong with them. Obama picked Biden knowing he could get rid of him any time he wanted to because of his extra activity's of his son. The real crisis was Obama letting Biden run for office knowing what he did. Knowing what he and his and his family did.

Biden picked someone who could not be a threat to him in Kamala Harris. Her methods on working her way to the top were not the normal way. When Biden was finally exposed to his mental statis, Biden and Kamala had raised so much money in the Biden Harris ticket they could not get rid of Harris. Biden was forced out.

Now Kamala has a choice of VP's, she does the same thing that the others did and pick someone who could never be a threat. He was so off the wall that he helped drag her down.

Yes good old "Tampon Joe". But what really help was she is a "Airhead" she talked in riddles that most people could not follow or did not make any sense. So the Democrats tried to keep her out of the lime light.

I want to point out word Prospective and what it means. Very large groups set in think tanks and try to figure out how to win over the other side. When you tell you something it better be true and you better have good intentions. One of the worst and misused actions is telling the employees your company has and open door policy. Explain to them what it means and what the results could be. Maybe the loss of their job or the

loss of some else's job. When you sit down in that meeting it could be the most important meeting of your life.

First the Company will never side with you against your supervisor, where does that leave you. The powers to be might explain it away then you are sitting there with an empty feeling and will probably leave the company anyway. The best thing management can do is just have one on one's with each and every employee. Start the conversation out on a positive note and end it on a positive note. What is aid in between won't make any difference to them. The supervisor will get the info they want without hurting anyone. Always remember the subjects they bring up are probably very important to them and not so important to you. Write the comments down.

Ron Hipner gave a talk at the Select Business Associates of Ocala about the water that being sold to us in bottles. It is both "exciting & stressful" information, it is exciting because he answered all my questions and stressful because the bottled water we are drinking out of contaminated water bottles from the factory. NOT GOOD! The studies are proving it but no one seems

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FROM THE DESK OF
CONGRESSWOMAN KAT CAMMACK



The Gators Visit Washington & Passing The Big Beautiful Bill Act

This week was the final week of four long weeks in Washington. While at the end of a long sprint, House Republicans met our goal of delivering the One Big, Beautiful Bill to the Senate. After very early morning votes and debate on Thursday morning, by 7am Thursday, we passed this important bill out of the House and sent it to the Republican Senate before it makes its way to President Trump's desk. Stay tuned for important updates on this bill after the Memorial Day recess week.

Additionally, our beloved 2025 National Champion Florida Gators visited the U.S. Capitol and the White House this week. I was honored to lead them around the Capitol for a tour before meeting President Trump at the White House for an official recognition ceremony. We are so proud of our Gators and know it's always great to be a Florida Gator. Check out some of the photos below—including Speaker Mike Johnson doing a Gator Chomp (even as an LSU Tigers fan)!

Next week is a recess week and I'm looking forward to being back in the district. We'll be making stops and visits across Florida's Third and will have more to share after all of our meetings. Stay tuned.

Finally, this Monday is Memorial Day. We take a moment to stop and honor our fallen servicemembers who gave their lives in service to our nation. Please join us in saying a prayer for our heroes and their families who have defended the Stars and Stripes.

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.

Rep. Cammack Joins Colleagues In Introducing MOMS Act To Support Expectant Mothers & Their Families

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Cammack proudly joined Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN-07) and her colleagues in reintroducing the More Opportunities for Moms to Succeed (MOMS) Act, which will provide critical support to new moms during and after their pregnancy, empower women to choose life, and help them to raise happy, healthy babies.

“For many women, finding out you are unexpectedly pregnant comes with fear, and for some, abortion may feel like the only option. I am committed to empowering all women and ensuring they feel supported in choosing life,” said Congresswoman Fischbach (MN-07). “The MOMS Act supports women before, during, and after they give birth. It improves access to resources and makes sure women have everything they need right at their fingertips to help them confidently carry to term and raise their child. As we go into Mother's Day weekend, I am so proud to introduce legislation that supports new mothers and their children.”

“I'm glad to join Rep. Fischbach and my colleagues in support of the MOMS Act,” said Rep. Kat Cammack (FL-03). “As a first-time mom myself, I'm thankful for the resources and support I've received, but know not all women have the same access to pre- and post-natal services. Providing more opportunities for mothers to receive the care and support necessary to deliver healthy babies is critical.”

This legislation has the support of a number of outside groups:

“The MOMS Act is a vital step toward ensuring that expectant and new mothers receive the comprehensive support they need during one of life's most transformative moments,” said Penny Nance, CEO and President of Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee (CWALAC). “This bill's focus on improving maternal health care access, expanding resources for postpartum care, and promoting family-centered policies is a testament to the GOP's

commitment to the well-being of mothers and their babies. We wholeheartedly support the MOMS Act and thank Representative Fischbach for championing this critical legislation.”

“We're grateful to Rep. Fischbach for reintroducing the More Opportunities for Moms to Succeed (MOMS Act). By supporting women through every stage of motherhood and expanding access to vital resources, this legislation is key to strengthening the pro-life safety net and building a culture that empowers women and supports their families,” said Hon. Marilyn Musgrave, Vice President of Government Affairs, Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America.

“As we approach Mother's Day, March for Life Action is grateful for the Representatives reintroduction of the More Opportunities for Moms to Succeed Act (MOMS Act), which recognizes the gift of motherhood with concrete steps to equip moms with the resources, information, and support they need to choose life confidently and care for their growing families. At March for Life Action, we remain committed to working alongside lawmakers to build a culture of life—one in which both mother and child are valued, protected, and empowered to thrive,” said Jennie Bradley Lichter, President, March for Life Action.

Rep. Cammack Introduces App Store Freedom Act To Promote Competition &

Protect Consumers

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, Rep. Cammack introduced the App Store Freedom Act, which seeks to promote competition and protect consumers and developers in the mobile app marketplace by prohibiting certain anticompetitive practices by dominant app store operators.

The bill supports interoperability and consumer choice by requiring large app store operators (100M+ U.S. users) to allow users to set third-party apps or app stores as default; install apps or app stores outside of the dominant platform; and remove or hide pre-installed apps. Additionally, the bill directs companies provide developers equal access to interfaces, features, and development tools without cost or discrimination.

“We must continue to hold Big Tech accountable and promote competition that allows all players to enter the field. For too long, consumers and developers have borne the brunt of anti-competitive practices on major app store marketplaces,” said Rep. Cammack. “Dominant app stores have controlled customer data and forced consumers to use the marketplaces' own merchant services, instead of the native, in-app offerings provided by the applications and developers themselves. The results are higher prices and limited selections for consumers and anti-competitive practices for developers that have stifled innovation.”

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Republican National Committee in Ocala Event



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Ocala Events

Wonder. Explore. Create.



The Discovery Center is Ocala's local children's science center! Located at Tusawilla Park, the Discovery Center is a place for kids to learn in a fun, hands-on way. From rotating exhibits to STEAM-centered classes, there is plenty of reasons to check out what's new at Discovery Center!

Center Hours

Tuesday - Saturday: 10 AM - 4 PM*

Monday & Sunday: Closed

*Please note that last entry is 30 minutes prior to closing.

<https://www.ocalafl.gov/government/city-departments-i-z/recreation-parks/discovery-center>

Patriotic Skies

Friday, July 4, 2025

6 - 10 p.m. | Free to attend

Tusawilla Park | 800 NE Sanchez Ave.

Celebrate Independence Day with an unforgettable evening at Patriotic Skies! Enjoy a spectacular fireworks display that lights up the night sky, live music to keep you dancing, and a fun-filled Kids Zone featuring games and activities for the whole family. Satisfy your cravings with a variety of delicious food from local food trucks, offering everything from savory snacks to sweet treats. Whether you're relaxing with loved ones or enjoying the entertainment, this free event is the perfect way to celebrate America's birthday in style. Don't miss out – bring your chairs, blankets, and your patriotic spirit!

Let Them PLAY Scholarships

The City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department recognizes the importance of recreation and the health and wellness benefits it provides to people of all ages, from both a physical and mental standpoint. The Recreation and Parks Department created the "Let them PLAY" scholarship program to give residents experiencing financial hardships the opportunity to enjoy recreation programs and realize the benefits of physical activity and socialization opportunities many people take for granted.

As Let them PLAY continues to grow, the strategy would be to transform the program into a not-for-profit foundation similar to other Recreation and Parks agencies. This foundation would be overseen by the department and continue to fund scholarship opportunities. In addition to scholarships funding could be used to support other programs and park projects so that "let them play" isn't just about paid programming, but also about providing a playground in a neighborhood park or funding new equipment in a recreation center.

MORE

<https://www.ocalafl.gov/government/city-departments-i-z/recreation-parks/discovery-center/science-classes/let-them-play-scholarships>



Info off the Web

By TomL

The mission of the FAA is to regulate civil aviation and U.S. commercial space transportation, maintain and operate air traffic control and navigation systems for both civil and military aircrafts, and develop and administer programs relating to aviation safety and the National Airspace System. Some air space is not monitored by them but by private organizations.

What Is the FCC, and How Does it Work? | CordCutting.com

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is an independent US government agency that regulates interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable, ensuring access to rapid, efficient, and nationwide communication services.

Most actions by the Federal Communications Commission affect television and radio broadcasters, not newspapers. But the FCC, under Chairman Ajit Pai, is working on two rule changes which could impact the newspaper industry, with the effect on individual newspapers determined by several factors including the newspapers' size, market dominance, and ownership.

Cross-Ownership Rule: One of the FCC actions that will affect the newspaper industry is changes to the commission's media ownership rules. In addition to rescinding limits on how many television stations that a single entity can own in a media market (which retain such limits for radio), the commission also voted in November to rescind a 42-year-old rule that barred common ownership of a full-power broadcast radio or television station and daily newspaper in the same market.

A newspaper owner could own TV and radio stations in other markets where it did not own a newspaper. Existing dual ownerships were grandfathered in, and over the years the FCC loosened the rules in markets with more radio and television stations. The commission also granted exemptions to the rule when combined ownership was deemed necessary for both the station and newspaper to remain economically viable.

INFO The goal of the rule was to promote diversity in media ownership, and to prevent a single entity from monopolizing the media in a particular area.

This really bothers me that a media company can push around a smaller media newspaper to push them out of their territory. I believe that is restraint of trade! If a big newspaper media group stops another newspaper from promoting, advertising them selves they should be sued.

What good is the FCC if they won't monitor large media groups and protect the small papers from restraint of Trade?

Make your voice known!
tloury@att.net



Nick and Diana Navetta

Continued from page 1

ROTC at the University of Florida. After college, he joined the military as a Second Lieutenant. He travelled throughout the world and went to places I did not want to see. As the Senior Liaison Chief for Multi-National Corps-Iraq, he served in the Bagdad International Zone where 28 friendly forces were killed within a three-month period. Nick and his guys traveled all over the Middle East and did a great job.

How did he meet his wife, Diana? Here is an interesting twist before his military career of 30 years:

My wife and I have lived in Dunnellon since about 1968 and remember shopping at a grocery store where Nick's wife, Diana, worked as the Head Cashier. I remember her! I don't remember seeing Nick, but I'm sure he was not far away. My wife and I shopped there often. It is said Nick looked for excuses to go there to shop and try to get a glimpse of her or get her attention. He asked one of the cashiers if Diana was single and here they are together 39 years later.

I find Nick to be one of the most upstanding people I know. I had met him several times, but one day Our Select Business Association of Ocala club was having a meeting and Nick sat down right next to us and we asked him to join us ---so he joined the club and has been a real source of information.

Today, he serves on five different boards which include: the Military Officers Association; the Marion County Estate Planning Council, the Marion Cultural Alliance; the Marion County Continuity of Care Council; and the Camp Kiwanis Board of Trustees. Unpretentiously, Nick admits, "It's kind of inbred in me to always find a way to give."

Chair Chat

Continued from page 1

increased, could result in a ~\$500,000,000 future funding shortfall that would either be borne by County taxpayers or increased County debt, or both.

For brevity, we have not discussed the many other factors related to impact fees that support an increase.

For simplicity, the cost of living for everyone is not the same as 10 years ago. Impact fees have a nexus to cost impacts on the County, again from a "fair justice standpoint" the cost burden should not be transferred from developers onto the taxpayers. We applaud the Commissioners for correcting this overdue impact fee "discount" as well as support free enterprise and fees set in a fair and equitable manner. We support the raising of impact fees well above 50% as needed to maintain the level of services that our residents deserve without shifting this economic liability on-to County taxpayers.

Chair Chat Part 2

SUBJECT: Marion County Republican Executive Committee support of revised Transportation Impact Fees:

On behalf of the Marion County Republican Executive Committee (MCREC), we support the revision of cost-

equivalent transportation impact fees. As an organization we support free enterprise and on-going private equity investment in our County, however a key pillar of this support is "fair share cost liability" with respect to developers and most importantly to Marion County taxpayers.

To state obvious transportation impact fees have not risen for more than a decade, 2015 last revision, subsequent to the economic downturn beginning in 2009 and prior to the Covid impacts of +2019. As a prudent step to entice both residential and non-residential development the transportation impact fees set in 2015 were discounted significantly below the actual calculated cost impacts to County residents; 20% for residential developments and 11% for non-residential developments. Again, both below the needed impact fee cost projections. To date, given the ten-year increase in cost for roads, services, property taxes, etc., the current transportation impact fees applied represent an even greater discounted fee than in 2015.

Marion County has undergone explosive residential development, and strong non-residential development, which has adversely stressed our infrastructure as seen in increases in traffic, roadway construction and utility expansion needs / costs.

Again, in a prudent measure the Commissioners hired a recognized expert firm to evaluate transportation impact fees and determine if the data would support declaration of an extraordinary circumstance to allow increasing impact fees to a current cost based on current law (F.S. 163.31801). This statute sets the required evaluation, public notices, as well as other factors for impact fee cost evaluations related to public infrastructure, roadway construction costs, public services, and County levels of service needs. The results of these studies, as required, were presented in public forums.

The result of this study is that current transportation impacts fees, held constant since 2015, have clearly not kept pace with cost increases over the past 10-years. As a point of comparison, the current Marion County transportation impact fee for a 2,000 SF home (one of the most typical sizes) is \$1,397 / home. In contrast surrounding counties have updated their fees to reflect the actual cost impact more accurately on their counties: Citrus \$3,864 / Sumter \$3,000 / Pasco +\$6,000 to +\$9,000) / Volusia \$5,464 / Alachua \$4,146

The study also presented data of the required factors to support a declaration of extraordinary circumstances that would meet current Florida requirements to increase fees by +50% to a more realistic cost basis than 10 years ago. In addition, the study indicates the current impact fees, if not significantly increased, could result in a ~\$500,000,000 future funding shortfall that would either be borne by County taxpayers or increased County debt, or both.

For brevity, we have not discussed the many other factors related to impact fees that support an increase.

For simplicity, the cost of living for everyone is not the same as 10 years ago. Impact fees have a nexus to cost impacts on the County, again from a "fair justice standpoint" the cost burden should not be transferred from developers onto the taxpayers. We applaud the Commissioners for correcting this overdue impact fee "discount" as well as support free enterprise

and fees set in a fair and equitable manner. We support the raising of impact fees well above 50% as needed to maintain the level of services that our residents deserve without shifting this economic liability onto County taxpayers.

Please contact us for follow-up / questions. Thank you for your prompt attention, respectfully.

Pope Leo XIV

By TomL

Robert Francis Prevost, 69, has become the 267th occupant of the throne of St Peter and he will be known as Leo XIV.

He Grew up as a peruvian but born in Chicago to a Spanish and Franco Italian parents. He served as a alter boy and was ordained in 1982.

He taught for years in as a local parish pastor at a seminary in Trujillo in North Western Peru. He made many trips to the US and serve as a priest and a prior in Chicago. It sounds to me like he was torn between work and building relationships in both the US and Peru.

He was well known and well liked and the first American born to become Pope. Pope Leo XIV lays out vision of papacy and identifies AI as a main challenge for humanity.

Now to add a twist to this, my wife was going through some things her father left. There was two small hard back books, kind of tattered, one was called "The History of the Bible" by the Benziger Brothers. Copy righted 1889 by the Benziger Brothers. She found the book that had been put away for 22 years. It was wrapped in brown paper bag material to keep it nice. Now while I'm watching on TV during the time the Pope was being named, she opened this book the first thing she see's is a letter inside front from the Pope Leo XIII. The book comes

from over 100 years ago.

Her father left atwo books among other things. There was two books McGuffey's Sixth Electric Reader Revised edition printed by American Book Company. Copy right 1879 and the "History of the Bible." Printed by the Benizer Brothers copy write 1881.

Pope Leo XIII, born Vincenzo Gioacchino Pecci, Vincenzo Gioacchino Pecci was the 257th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, serving from 1878 to his death in 1903. Vincenzo Gioacchino Pecci was the sixth child of a family of the lower nobility.

Pope Leo P. P. XIII

The history was Vincenzo Gioacchino Pecci was the sixth child of a family of the lower nobility. After his early education in Viterbo and Rome, he completed his studies at the Accademia dei Nobili Ecclesiastici (Academy of Noble Ecclesiastics) in Rome. In 1837 he was ordained a priest and entered the diplomatic service of the Papal States. His superiors immediately appreciated his qualities: flexibility and lucidity and great

He was known for his social teachings and his efforts to address the challenges of industrialization and modernization.

He wrote a letter that was printed in a book called the history of the bible Thanking the the book. The letter said....

We have received with thanks of devotion, which Benziger Brothers, publishers, have sent us through the Bishop of Basil, and we give our Apostolic Benediction to them and to their labors that these may always lend the good of religion.

Signed

Pope Leo P. P. XIII

She opened the book during the time this Pope Leo XIV was being chosen. What a coincidence! Neither one of us are catholic but we find the book and interesting piece of history to have from her father. I find the signature interesting with the P. P. in the signature???



Pictured is family my wife Phyllis and her two grand children Kash left and Lane right. Not sure why Kash has a

black eye but he is a speed little guy! They are holding down the booth while I was taking pictures

FAIRtax



The Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) has focused a great deal of attention on the Unimaginable waste and fraud committed by our nation's runaway spending habit. Multiple Reports have shown case after case of our elected officials squandering our tax dollars in both The United States and around the world. So what does the FAIRtax have to do with government spending? In one word: Transparency.

The FAIRtax elegantly shines the light on, and exposes aspects of, our government that no Other tax system can do. Our current income tax system includes a vast number of exemptions, exclusions, deductions, Credits and loopholes that effectively result in less tax revenue in favor of some socially desired Behaviors. This is effectively government spending since it reduces treasury inflow.

Under the FAIRtax these phantom expenditures would vanish. The U.S. would collect the FAIRtax on the retail purchase of new goods and services. A portion of taxes collected would Be remitted back to every U.S. citizen and legal resident in the form of a prebate which is a REFUND of taxes paid on the basic necessities of life and NOT an entitlement.

Government spending would be exposed

since it is separate from the FAIRtax collection System and there would be no blurred lines. If politicians want to spend more tax dollars on Their pet projects, they would have to convince the American people of it's need and benefits. The only way to do that under the FAIRtax is to:

- 1) Raise the FAIRtax rate on every American, or
- 2) Continue borrowing as long they can find willing lenders.

The FAIRtax would promote socially desirable behavior without beating it over our citizens' Heads as our current income tax system does. For example: the FAIRtax would encourage Recycling as the tax is only applied to only new goods and services. The FAIRtax encourages Legal immigration since illegals are not eligible for the prebate. The FAIRtax encourages greater U.S. employment since it eliminates the employer matching 7.65% FICA payroll taxes. The FAIRtax encourages U.S. investment and would ignite manufacturing, business and Productivity since we would be the tax haven of the world with 0% corporate tax. Although politicians on both sides of the aisle will not be automatically rehabilitated from their Spending habits, the transparency of the FAIRtax will drastically reduce their runaway Spending.

For more information, please go to FAIRtax.org

Who Gave the Land to the Indians?

One of the things the socialist and or the disrupters teach in the colleges is that the white man stole the land from the Indians. They say, you are sitting on stolen land right now! It is true that the Indians were here first. But, who gave this land to the Indian's. Today we all live in neighborhoods, homes, with close neighbors or some rural life and try to get along. Just a few Indians live on the reservation. Back in the old days settlements were being raided and many times all were killed. WHY? Because someone did not want us to hunt / fish / farm / ranch and live here in peace. Some of the big ranchers would allow the Indians to butcher a cow, but kept a strong fist over it. Of course their was greed from some white men involved, we have that same problem today. The Indian's did not want the railroad to come through the land. They called it the Iron Horse. Some Rancher / Farmers did not want the RR either.

Approximately 30,000 years ago, the Paleo-Indians, the ancestors of Native Americans, followed herds of animals from Siberia across Beringia, a land bridge connecting Asia and North America, into Alaska. By 8,000 B.C.E., these peoples had spread across North and South America. The Indians claimed the land was their heritage and claimed it was theirs. They were nomads and moved with the weather and animal migration. They did not have permanent houses. If the herd of wild animals moved onto someones settlement or territory trouble came.

Then the settlers were being accused of stealing their land, we also hunted to survive. So the Indians and the white man went to war. It was terrible. The Indians were called Braves and the White Men were

Indian hunters. Each were collecting scalps, how barbaric. The Indians did not want the gold miners to mine, hunters to hunt, settlers to settle. The railroad was an important part to settling the west. It was going through no matter what. It transported Live stock to the big cities where they needed for food. The RR brought goods, supplies to the settlers and Indians. By this time they were trading furs for what ever the Indians needed. I think if their were a person that was strong enough they could have brought peace between the Indians and the whites, died at the Alamo. But they thought it was cool to fight the Indians and the Indian's fighting the white man was a show of bravery. I guess I ask who gave this land to the Indians, could they have avoided conflict by getting along? The Indians did not want progress. Settling the west was in motion and could not be stopped, especially the Gold Rush and the dream of having your own homestead or ranch! I had some Indian friends that I went to school with. One of my close friends for a while was Harry Guy LaBree. He taught me about the Indians also as he was suppose to be a Blood Brother to one of the Osceola's. Harry wound up being the Barefoot artist. I was lucky enough to be able to hang around with him until he quit school at fifteen. We went snake hunting and Gator hunting before it was illegal. I have some great story about our boyhood. ALWAYS REMEMBER THE INDIANS WERE HERE FIRST. I'm not sure how to describe what they owned? The white man did not steal the land they settled it! It was wild and untamed and was going to become someones land, so it was tamed by people from all countries. They were called settlers!

Want to Kill the Death Tax?

Only the FAIRtax can Pull the Trigger!

Want to learn more?

Go to: FLfairtax.org or Call 352-804-0007

FAIRtax

Testament my wish

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- ATTEND OUR EVENTS: The CEP provides over 100 events per year, including networking, educational, forums and more... (ask support)
- GAIN CREDIBILITY: Receive a strong endorsement with taking on a chamber role more successful. (ask support)
- IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS: The CEP offers 3 monthly skill-building opportunities and multiple workshops each year. (ask support)
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- RECRUIT TOP TALENT: List your job openings with the CEP to recruit your next staff member. (ask support)
- GET BUSINESS SUPPORT: The CEP is your business partner - meeting needs, challenges of large & history services. (ask support)

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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.



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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 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.

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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 UTHMEIER



Attorney General James Uthmeier Partners with Commissioner of Education Diaz on Protecting Parental Rights

PENSACOLA, Fla.— Today, Attorney General James Uthmeier joined Florida Commissioner of

Education Manny Diaz, Jr., to sign a Memorandum of Agreement between the Attorney General's Office of Parental Rights and the Florida Department of Education. This agreement brings the agencies together to protect students in Florida's education system from unlawful abuses by school systems, protect parents' God-given rights to direct how their children are educated, and maintain close involvement in such processes. The Memorandum of Agreement is available here.

"With this collaboration between the Office of Parental Rights and the Florida Department of Education, we are putting the power in parents' hands," said Attorney General James Uthmeier. "The rights of parents are non-negotiable in Florida, and they deserve an education system that works for them without an inappropriate, politically driven agenda. It was an honor to sign this important agreement with Commissioner Diaz."

"Florida is the Parental Rights state, and I am proud to work with Attorney General Uthmeier to enhance the power of Florida

parents," said Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr. "I am proud to sign this Memorandum of Understanding with the Attorney General's Office today to further bolster our efforts to support the rights of parents and to protect Florida's children."

Attorney General Uthmeier also announced an expansion of the Parental Rights reporting portal, enabling parents to report businesses—such as vape shops and gas stations—targeting minors with flavored vapes or youth-focused advertising, particularly near schools. Parents can upload photos, flag suspicious products or ads, and provide business addresses directly to the Attorney General's Office for investigation, enabling faster review and enforcement.

The announcement came during a regional vaping enforcement symposium hosted by the Attorney General's Office at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Pensacola. It is the third in a statewide series—following events in Jacksonville and Tallahassee—designed to train law enforcement on enforcing new legislation aimed at vaping devices that appeal to children.

Officers are being trained to identify illegal products, seize and report them, and partner with the Attorney General's Office for civil forfeiture and destruction of seized items.

The expanded enforcement effort is funded in part by the state's \$79 million settlement with JUUL Labs, Inc., following litigation over the company's marketing tactics directed at minors. As part of the

settlement, JUUL is prohibited from targeting youth in Florida and must comply with strict advertising restrictions. Of the settlement funds, \$30 million has been allocated to the Vape Free Florida Fund, supporting ongoing enforcement and education initiatives statewide.

The Office of Parental Rights is designed to bolster the many efforts Florida has taken to protect children over the past several years, including the Parents' Bill of Rights and the Parental Rights in Education Act. To report a violation or learn more about the Office of Parental Rights, visit: MyFloridaLegal.com/ParentalRights.

Attorney General James Uthmeier Announces Takedown of Massive Central Florida Drug Trafficking Organization; Highlights SAFE Grant Program Success

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General James Uthmeier's Office of Statewide Prosecution is charging 19 individuals involved in a massive drug trafficking organization selling fentanyl throughout Central Florida. Attorney General Uthmeier, Florida Department of Law Enforcement Assistant Commissioner Lee Massey, and Orange County Sheriff John Mina announced the takedown of the criminal group at a news conference in Orlando this morning. The Office of Statewide Prosecution charged the defendants with trafficking in fentanyl, trafficking in cocaine, conspiracy to traffic in fentanyl, and conspiracy to traffic in cocaine.

"There are swift consequences for those who commit crimes in Florida, and we will support law enforcement in the fight to keep

deadly fentanyl off our streets," said Attorney General James Uthmeier. "This operation was successful due to the SAFE Grant program, which provides additional state funding to local law enforcement to conduct investigations and combat illicit fentanyl activity. These operations save lives, and SAFE Grants are vital to these efforts."

The joint FDLE and OCSO investigation uncovered the 19 group members selling fentanyl and cocaine throughout the Central Florida area. Authorities seized six pounds of fentanyl and four pounds of cocaine, worth a total of \$1.5 million.

The operation was funded in part by Florida's SAFE grant program. SAFE grants provide assistance to local law enforcement agencies conducting investigations designed to combat illicit fentanyl activity. The grant provides reimbursement for approved fentanyl-related investigative operations.

In the past year, the SAFE Grant Program has resulted in more than 1,500 arrests and the seizure of more than 170 kilograms of fentanyl and more than 57,000 fentanyl pills.

The following defendants have been arrested by authorities: Juan Carlos Oquendo, Luis Perez Guzman, Kendrick Butler, Jose Rodriguez, Wilfredo Hernandez, Denniz Andino, Jr., Edward De La Cruz Perez, McKenzie Debardeleben, Anamaria Carrasquero, Luis Galarza, Herman Toledo, Xuxa Sanes, Brian Nazario, Molly Wilson, Juan Gonzalez, Nolan Lavery, III, and Jose Ortiz.

The following defendants are still outstanding: David Santana and Valerie Multari.

The advertisement features a large blue circular graphic with a microphone in the center. A red "ON AIR" sign is positioned above the microphone. The text "Your 'SOURCE' for News, Talk, Music, Sports, Prizes, & More!" is arranged around the circle. The station's branding "WOCA 96.3 FM 1370 AM" is prominently displayed at the bottom. The background includes a blurred image of a radio station control room.

FROM THE DESK OF

GOVERNOR DESANTIS


Florida Sets New Tourism Record: 2024 Marks Highest Annual Visitation in State History

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Latest data confirms that Florida set a new all-time annual record in 2024

with 143 million visitors—an increase of 1.7% over the previous record set in 2023. This historic growth includes 130.65 million domestic travelers, 8.94 million overseas visitors, and 3.41 million Canadian tourists. And, in 2024, the State of Florida collected billions in sales tax revenue from these tourists.

Governor Ron DeSantis also announced that Florida welcomed 41.2 million visitors in the first quarter of 2025, reinforcing the Free State of Florida's position as the nation's top travel destination and a global tourism powerhouse.

"Florida's tourism industry leads the nation," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "These results are proof that our freedom-first policies work—and that Florida remains the best place to visit, work, and raise a family."

Key Highlights from Q1 2025:

41.2 million total visitors, maintaining Florida's national tourism leadership.

91.9% domestic visitation, with 37.9 million domestic travelers, up 0.2% from Q1 2024.

2.1 million overseas visitors and 1.2 million Canadian visitors, making up 5.1% and 3.0% of total visitation, respectively.

Domestic non-resident travelers: 35.8% arrived by air, 64.2% by non-air travel.

29.4 million total enplanements at

Florida's 19 major airports. Airports with the highest growth included Punta Gorda (+23.6%), St. Petersburg–Clearwater (+7.7%), and Daytona Beach (+7.4%).

Hotel performance: +2.4% increase in rooms sold, Average Daily Rate (ADR) rose to \$227.22 (+2.2%), and occupancy reached 75.7% (+1.6%).

Florida's consistent growth in tourism not only reflects the state's broad appeal but also fuels economic strength, supporting jobs, businesses, and communities across the state. With continued investment and strategic promotion, Florida is positioned for even greater success as the most visited destination in the United States.

Governor Ron DeSantis Highlights Florida's Leadership on Immigration Enforcement

TAMPA, Fla.— Governor Ron DeSantis highlighted Florida's leadership on immigration enforcement and announced that Florida is ready to do more.

"Florida has led the nation on immigration enforcement, and we're ready to do even more." Said Governor Ron DeSantis. "We've submitted a plan to the federal government to contribute new detention facilities and expanded apprehension efforts to their ongoing mission to reclaim America's sovereignty."

Florida is leading the fight on illegal immigration enforcement. Florida has more deputized state law enforcement officers under 287(g) task force deputizations than any other state in the nation. Additionally, more than 100 Florida Highway Patrol Troopers were sworn in as Special Deputy U.S. Marshals. This authority now

empowers our state troopers to execute federal warrants and remove dangerous criminals from our communities.

And Florida is ready to do even more. Florida submitted a plan to the federal government to contribute new detention facilities and expanded apprehension efforts to their ongoing mission to reclaim America's sovereignty. Florida's plan also includes a proposal to help expedite immigration legal processing by deputizing Florida National Guard JAGS as immigration judges.

Governor Ron DeSantis Celebrates Action to Protect Floridians from Chemical and Technological Interference

MIAMI, Fla.— Governor Ron DeSantis announced his support for two bills passed by the Florida Legislature aimed at protecting Floridians from unauthorized chemical exposure and atmospheric manipulation.

"I was in Miami to support SB 700, which bans local governments from unilaterally adding fluoride to public drinking water," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "In addition to this, I also reiterated in Miami that Florida is not a testing ground for geoengineering. We already do not permit this activity, and I will be signing SB 56 to prohibit the practice in our skies. The Free State of Florida means freedom from governments or private actors unilaterally applying chemicals or geoengineering to people or public spaces."

Senate Bill 700, the Florida Farm Bill, includes a provision prohibiting local governments from unilaterally adding fluoride to public drinking water. The legislation follows a November 2024 advisory by Florida Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo cautioning against community water fluoridation due to potential health risks, particularly for pregnant women and children.

Senate Bill 56 repeals the state's ability to issue permits for geoengineering and weather modification. The bill also prohibits the injection, release, or dispersion of chemicals or substances into the atmosphere for the express purpose of altering weather, temperature, climate, or sunlight intensity. Those who violate the law face third-degree felony charges, up to five years in prison, and fines up to \$100,000.

The bill also includes key enforcement provisions. Beginning October 1, 2025, all publicly owned airports must report the presence of any aircraft equipped with weather modification or geoengineering equipment to the Florida Department of Transportation. Additionally, the Department of Environmental Protection will launch a public reporting portal to identify suspected violations which will launch this summer.

These measures reinforce Florida's commitment to protecting public health, preserving individual choice, and ensuring no government or corporation can unilaterally impose environmental or chemical risks on the public.

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Reilly Arts Center Summer Event Lineup

June 2025

All About Joel: A Tribute to Billy Joel
Friday, June 13, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Tickets from \$34

Join us for an unforgettable night of music as David Clark brings his acclaimed tribute show ALL ABOUT JOEL to the stage — a stunning celebration of Billy Joel's greatest hits! With uncanny piano playing, spot-on vocals, and the charisma of the Piano Man himself, this Long Island native delivers a performance full of energy, storytelling, and nostalgia. Don't miss this heartfelt homage by a lifelong fan and seasoned performer who's shared the stage with members of Billy Joel's original band.

Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Tickets: \$28

Get ready for an electrifying night of boundary-pushing jazz as the Daniel Bennett Group takes the stage! Hailed as one of the most original voices in modern music, New York saxophonist Daniel Bennett blends jazz, folk, and minimalism into a sound that's both quirky and captivating. Joined by dynamic drummer/keyboardist Koko Bermejo and electric bassist Jeff Dinger, this award-winning trio delivers high-energy performances filled with inventive compositions and unexpected twists. Don't miss the chance to experience their 10th studio album Mr. Bennett's Mind live—an evening of music unlike anything you've heard before!

Dueling Pianos

Friday, June 20, 2025 at 6 PM

Tickets: \$27

Grab a seat at a café table in the new NOMA Black Box at the Reilly Arts Center and enjoy dueling pianos, cocktails and an evening of fun with friends. Performing sing along classics of soft rock and pop that

spans decades! Guests will be seated at tables of 4 or 6 – so bring a group of friends or meet someone new!

Dueling Pianos Uncensored

Friday, June 20, 2025 at 9 PM

Tickets: \$30

Experience an electrifying night of musical mayhem with our late-night dueling pianos show! Unleash your wild side on the dance floor as talented pianists engage in hilarious and unpredictable musical mash-ups while our cocktail servers dish up your favorite drinks. Get ready for a night of laughter, outrageous requests, and a high-energy, adults-only atmosphere that'll leave you begging for an encore.

(RENTAL) WindFM Rocks the Reilly: Smokin' & Forever Foreigner

Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Tickets from \$25

Get ready to rock with Smokin' a Tribute to Boston and Forever Foreigner a Tribute to Foreigner! This powerhouse tribute band brings together the unforgettable hits of Boston and Foreigner, two iconic bands from the 70s and 80s that ruled FM radio and packed arenas worldwide. With top-tier musicians who've shared the stage with national artists, you'll experience two epic tribute shows in one concert – reliving the magic of classic rock like never before!

Presented by WindFM

Chi-Town Transit Authority

Friday, June 27, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Tickets from \$28

Get ready for a high-energy night of classic rock as Chi-Town Transit Authority brings the legendary music of Chicago to life! This 8-piece tribute band, complete with a powerful horn section and four dynamic vocalists, delivers all the iconic hits

spanning over four decades. From soaring harmonies to unforgettable melodies, Chi-Town perfectly captures the excitement and energy of a true Chicago concert experience. Whether you're reliving your favorite memories or discovering these timeless songs for the first time, this show will have you singing along and wanting more!

Blues in the Box: Jason Ricci

Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Tickets: \$25

Don't miss a night of blazing blues and soul-stirring harmonica with four-time Blues Music Award winner Jason Ricci! Celebrated as one of the most influential harmonica players in the world, Ricci brings raw energy, unmatched talent, and a powerhouse band to the stage. Performing tracks from his Grammy-nominated album

Behind the Veil, Jason blends deep-rooted blues with rock, funk, and New Orleans grit. With soulful vocals, explosive musicianship, and a lineup of seasoned pros—including his wife and musical partner Kaitlin Dibble—this is a blues experience you won't forget!

Red, White and OSO Blue

Sunday, June 29, 2025 at 3 PM

Tickets from \$10

The Ocala Symphony pays tribute to our Independence and a celebration of all things patriotic with a special salute to our Veterans! This annual event sells out every season, so get your tickets fast! Sponsored by Grace Dunlevy & Bob Levenson | Justin Yancey – Edward Jones Financial Advisor

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