



The Galleria of Fine Jewelry!

Bob's Coins & Jewelry celebrated the grand opening of its new showroom at 15843 S US Hwy 441, Unit 1 in Summerfield on June 3rd. The event

welcomed guests into an expanded space featuring private buying rooms, a public repair viewing area, and state-of-the-art laser engraving. With three generations

of in-house jewelers, the family-run shop continues to offer expert service in custom jewelry, rare coins, appraisals, and repairs. Open Tuesday–Friday 9–5

and Saturday 9–2. Learn more at bobscoinsandjewelry.com or call 352-347-7900. See pictures page 7 for more photos

Letter From Trump!

10 YEARS OF MAGA!
Patriot,
Ten years ago today, I launched the MAGA movement and declared my candidacy for President of the United States.
It all started at the top of that Golden Escalator in Trump Tower. After all the indictments, witch hunts, hoaxes, campaigns, assassination attempts, I must say that I regret nothing! I had the audacity to say what others wouldn't:
AMERICA WAS GONE!
Open Borders, Major Crime, Unsafe Cities, No More American Jobs... Obama spit in the face of Americans.
I COULDN'T STAND BY WHILE OUR ONCE GREAT COUNTRY DISAPPEARED!
So, when I descended the Golden Escalator and launched the greatest political

movement in American history - THE MAGA MOVEMENT - I did it because of you. The forgotten men and women of America would be forgotten no longer.
I AM DONALD TRUMP, and I became, and still am, your voice! The farmers, the factory workers, the police, the moms and dads, our great TROOPS - I LOVE YOU!
Let this letter serve as a reminder to you and everyone else, in America and across the globe: DONALD J. TRUMP WILL NEVER SURRENDER!
I make this solemn promise to you: I will never stop fighting to SAVE AMERICA for the Golden Age of America is just beginning! It's all thanks to you...seriously.

INSIDE THIS EDITION
Page 6 Inside Trump Tower
Page 7 Bob's Coins & Jewelry Grand Opening

Have a Safe July 4th

CHAIR CHAT

The no King's protest in Ocala was scheduled on June 14th, which is a day to celebrate the red white and blue, Flag Day. It was also the 250th birthday of the United States Army! Instead, the left is trying to encourage riots in Florida, as what is occurring in LA. We will not permit that in Florida, we enforce law and order. We salute the Ocala police department for their continued service and support of our community. The Marion County Republican executive committee attended the Williston watermelon festival to promote our President's achievements, economic vitality, innovation and economic agility and adherence to constitutional principles. We are a Republic! The real reminder that the REAL No Kings day has been Independence Day, July 4, since 1776!

See picture on page 12

Friends of Ocala Library

Friends of the Ocala Public Library is holding its next clearance book sale beginning on Friday, August 1 for Friends members only, (but memberships are available at the door) from 1:30 pm-3:30 pm, and then opens to the general public on Saturday, August 2, 10 am-2 pm. Sale is held in the Ocala Public Library headquarters meeting rooms, 2720 Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala.

Proceeds of the sale benefit children and adult programs, materials, audio and ebooks, and staff development at Ocala main, Reddick, Ft. McCoy, and Sankofa branches of the Marion County Public Library system.

All childrens books and all paperback books are 25 cents each, and all hardbacks are 50 cents each. Cash and checks only.

Ocala Business Leaders

Ocala Business Leaders is a group of local professionals who provide a wide range of quality goods and services to our community. Each business strives to maintain the highest level of professional integrity and customer satisfaction. When you're looking for goods or services, call a member of Ocala Business Leaders.



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CEP CHAMBER NEWS

Forward Momeentum



Ocala Metro Chamber And Economic Partnership Named Finalist For Prestigious Chamber Of The Year Award

Ocala, FL — The Ocala Metro Chamber and Economic Partnership has been named a finalist for the 2025 Chamber of the Year award, presented by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). ACCE is an association based in Alexandria, Va., with over 1,600 chambers of commerce and related business and economic development organizations as members, representing more than 9,000 professionals in the industry.

The award, sponsored by GrowthZone, is the most prestigious and competitive award in the chamber industry, recognizing excellence in operations, member service and community leadership. Those honored with the Chamber of the Year designation have demonstrated organizational strength and impacted key community priorities, such as education, transportation, economic prosperity and quality of life.

“This year's finalists represent excellence in the chamber industry,” said ACCE President & CEO Sheree Anne Kelly. “Each has shown how chambers can lead as community partners, forward-thinking leaders and problem solvers to drive growth and make a lasting impact on regional prosperity. We congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition.”

Chamber of the Year winners will be announced on Wednesday, July 23, during the Awards Show, presented by Comcast Business at ACCE's Annual Convention in Philadelphia.

“We're incredibly proud to be recognized among the nation's top chambers,” said Tamara Fleischhaker, Interim CEO of the Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership. “This honor is a testament to our team, our business community, and the strategic partnerships that are moving Ocala Metro forward in meaningful and measurable ways.”

Chambers of commerce interested in competing for the award must first qualify by participating in a vigorous multi-stage process. Organizations entering the Chamber of the Year competition must meet minimum thresholds in at least three of five key performance areas in ACCE's Annual Chamber Operations Survey, including net revenue and assets, membership account retention and membership dollar retention.

Qualifying chambers enter the

competition with a written application addressing all aspects of organizational operation and programmatic work. Applications are scored by peer chamber executives to determine finalists. The finalists then move on to an interview before a panel of experienced chamber professionals.

To ensure the fairest competition, applicants are grouped into four categories based on annual revenue, membership, staff capacity, area population and other factors. A strong conflict of interest policy signed by all volunteer judges, ensures a competitive and fair playing field for all applicants.

About the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives

Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) is the professional

society supporting the women and men who lead local, regional, statewide and international chambers of commerce and related business and economic development organizations. Our membership includes more than 1,600 business/civic organizations worldwide. We provide our members with information resources, thought leadership, education programs, original research, benchmarking, retirement security, and access to a network of peers.

About the award sponsor GrowthZone

GrowthZone is association software that helps organizations grow and retain membership, engage and inform members and prospects, and streamline tedious tasks. It unlocks the full potential of member-based organizations and seamlessly integrates with core processes, providing the foundation for

an organization's strategy. Learn more about GrowthZone at <https://www.growthzone.com/>.

About the Ocala Metro Chamber and Economic Partnership

The Ocala Metro Chamber and Economic Partnership (CEP) was created to be a one-stop hub for the community's business attraction, creation and retention efforts. The CEP's mission is to be THE catalyst for a prosperous community. The 2020 ACCE National Chamber of the Year, the CEP has directly impacted the announced creation of nearly 11,000 new jobs and more than \$1.6 billion in capital investment and is seeking an additional 5,000 jobs and \$1 billion in investment by 2027. For more information, visit: www.OcalaCEP.com

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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



By TomL

God I want to do business with you! I think you have sent me several signs, but life is moving so fast it is hard to tell. My goal is to spread truthful information. In our speed along life world

we are going to fast to react to some of the things happening today.

AI is a force to be controlled and no one is sure how to do it. I say it is here and we can't stop it so use it as a tool and don't let it make your decisions, but use it to inform yourself of useful information then make your own educated decisions. I think you should message AI that you made the decision not AI. AI only know's what we teach it and of course there are those that will try to weaponize it. Right now AI is sectionalized to certain businesses or activity's. Like Publishing, war, religion,

here is one I think we need to endorse religion to AI and tell it not to make it's own designs but a board make decisions.

Someone needs to teach AI about religion and god from the Bible with the agreed meaning of things. Not to analyze it but believe it! Study what you teach it with a panel Religious scholars not one person.

There aren't enough hours in the day? Back when Dinosaurs walked the earth there was only 23 hours in the day. The Earth's rotation has been slowing down for billions of years (at least until recently; more on that below).

Young men are turning away from the Democratic Party, citing perceptions that it is weak, out of touch, and dismissive of their concerns, according to new findings from a major research initiative reported by Politico.

The legal citizens that came here legal and got their citizenship papers are joining the

Trump effort to get rid of the illegals.

Judicial Watch made history last month when new developments in landmark legal actions led to the inactivation, processing, or removal of more than five million ineligible names from voter rolls nationwide. "Judicial Watch's clean-up of over five million dirty names from voter rolls is a historic achievement for clean elections," said JW President Tom Fitton. "I have no doubt that Judicial Watch's election integrity heavy lifting helped stop the steal in 2024. But there are millions of more names to be removed from voter rolls."

We're not watching the future. We are standing in it!

According a Sheriff talking about the Rioters and paid agitators he said on Fox News TV he thinks that some are being funded by WalMart Heiress. If it is true, how can we stop the flow of money? These gladiator Agitators don't work free. Let's put them in jail and put the person paying them in jail.

DeSantis Passes CS/ HB 4067 - Special Beverage Licenses for Equestrian Sport Facilities in Marion County.

Florida with a \$1.7 trillion economy, Florida has been ranked the #1 state economy in the nation for two years in a row, providing a strong foundation for growth in aerospace, defense, and advanced manufacturing. DeSantis will visit France during their Paris Air Show to attract industry for creating high paying jobs. Some two dozen exhibitor from Florida will showing their wares.

As I continue my journey forward, I can't help to think, Trump and Musk are having a planned fight so that the radicals will leave the teslas allow. Maybe Elon should put his robot out to guard the teslas dealerships and armed them with stun guns. Look out Terrorist! The robots might be more lethal than you think.

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for August

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

Noon, July 22nd

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, July 27th

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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FROM THE DESK OF CONGRESSWOMAN KAT CAMMACK



Reps. Cammack and Hern Introduce Legislation to Protect Patients in Federal Health Programs

WASHINGTON, D C — Today, Representatives Kat Cammack (FL-03) and Kevin Hern (OK-01)

introduced the *Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act* to ensure that Americans with disabilities, chronic illnesses, and rare conditions are not devalued in federal health care decisions. This legislation prohibits the use of Quality-Adjusted Life Years (QALYs)—a metric that assigns lower value to lives with disabilities—in federal programs like Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and ACA exchanges.

"The use of so-called cost-effective measures like QALYs threatens access to lifesaving care for the most vulnerable Americans," said Congresswoman Cammack. "I am honored to lead this legislation alongside my colleague Rep. Kevin Hern to ensure that no patient is denied treatment simply because a mathematical formula decided their life is worth less. Every American—regardless of disability, chronic illness, or rare condition—deserves equal access to care."

"QALY measurements strip humanity away from a patient, leaving only dollar signs and data points. That has no place in our health care system. Every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect and given the best care available," said Congressman Hern. "I am proud to join Congresswoman Cammack on this bill to ban QALY measurements in all federal health care programs."

"I am excited my colleagues Representatives Cammack and Hern have reintroduced the Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act," said Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Guthrie. "We owe it to Americans – no matter the age, disability status, or measure of health – to provide high-quality care under federal health care programs. I'm thankful to both of my colleagues for

reintroducing this sensible legislation that stops the immoral practice of placing arbitrary value on human life within our health care system."

BACKGROUND:

Last Congress, this legislation passed the House with strong Republican support under the leadership of House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), House Ways and Means Committee Chair Jason Smith (R-MO), Rep. Michael Burgess, M.D. (R-TX), and Rep. Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M. (R-OH).

In the 119th Congress, the legislation will again receive a dual referral to both the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

Hurricane Preparedness

Building An Emergency Supplies Kit

Being prepared means having your own food, water and other supplies to last for at least 72 hours. **A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency.** ***

[Download the FEMA app](#) to receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service.

[Sign up for community alerts](#)

in your area and be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) - which requires no-sign up.

Visit [Ready.gov/hurricanes](#) or [Ready.gov/es/hurricanes](#) (en Español) for more readiness tips.

Basic Preparedness Tips

- Know [your zone](#).
- If you are ordered to evacuate, know the local hurricane [evacuation route\(s\)](#) to take and have a plan for where you can stay. Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.
- Snap photos of important documents and save them online or in a secure place you can access during an emergency

- Put together a go-bag: disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, medications, and copies of your critical information if you need to evacuate

- If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate and you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.

- Make a [family emergency communication plan](#).

- Many communities have text or email alerting systems for emergency notifications. To find out what alerts are available in your area, search the Internet with your town, city, or county name and the word "alerts."

Preparing Your Home

- Hurricane winds can cause trees and branches to fall, so before hurricane season trim or remove damaged trees and limbs to keep you and your property safe.

- Secure loose rain gutters and downspouts and clear any clogged areas or debris to prevent water damage to your property.

- Reduce property damage by retrofitting to secure and reinforce the roof, windows, and doors, including the garage doors.

- Purchase a portable generator or

install a generator for use during power outages. Remember to keep generators and other alternate power/heat sources outside, at least 20 feet away from windows and doors and protected from moisture; and NEVER try to power the house wiring by plugging a generator into a wall outlet.

- Consider building a [FEMA safe room](#) or ICC 500 storm shelter designed for protection from high-winds and in locations above flooding levels.

Customer Safety Reminders

Duke Energy Florida urges its more than 2 million customers to consider the following safety tips:

- Do not walk, swim or drive through floodwaters.

- If rising water threatens your home or business – or if you evacuate due to flooding – turn off your power at the circuit breaker panel or fuse box.

- Never replace a fuse or touch a circuit breaker with wet hands or while standing on a wet or damp surface.

- Stay away from power lines that have fallen or are sagging. Consider all lines energized as well as trees or limbs in contact with lines. Report all power line hazards to Duke Energy at 800.228.8485 or contact your local emergency services department or agency.

More at [cammack.house.gov/hurricane-preparedness](#)

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Inside Trump Towers

Our traveling reporter went to Trump Tower covering the Trump Mobile Announcement. The pictures that were provided were taken in real time during

the Announcement and Interviews Monday. Trump Mobile is operated by the Trump Organization by Eric & Donald Jr. Trump Mobile provides voice, text and

data on all three major carriers. Other options and features as unlimited International calling to over 100 countries, phone service to 200 international

destinations, telehealth, towing services and optional insurance for mobile devices. Customer service is US based available 7 days a week 8:00am-9:00pm central time.



THE GALLERIA OF FINE JEWELRY!



FAIRTax



Many Americans have been celebrating the ascendancy of the first American Pope, Leo XIV. However, that

ascendancy highlights some problems with the Internal Revenue Code and brings to light an additional reason why we need to eliminate the federal income tax. In an article in Tax Notes, the following information was provided:

* Beyond saving souls, the new pope might need to save his receipts in the event of an IRS audit.

* A primary question arises over the treatment of his papal salary. We don't know exactly how much the pope earns, although it's rumored to be in the vicinity of \$400,000 per year.

* It's unclear whether the pontiff has chosen to accept or decline the salary or to accept and donate the funds to charity. For US tax purposes, a decision to decline salary may not be sufficient to prevent the earnings from being treated as gross income.

* Additional concerns involve the application of section 107 (rental value of parsonage), section 119 (meals and lodging furnished for the convenience of employees), section 170b (percentage

limitations on charitable deductions), section 911 (the foreign earned income exclusion) and section 6039F (the duty to report gifts from non U.S. persons)

* Another batch of issues include compliance with the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, the Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts Report regime and Form 3520 (Annual Return to Report Transactions With Foreign Trusts and Receipt of Certain Foreign Gifts).

* It matters little that the pope is a nonresident of the United States. That's because he's a citizen of the only country in the world that relies on citizenship-based taxation. Most of the rest of the world relies on residence-based taxation.

* What would transpired if people simply declined to file a U.S. tax return and neglected to file an FBAR (Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts)?

* Would the IRS dare to issue a statutory notice of deficiency? Would it slap the pope with extensive FBAR penalties, claiming a willful violation because he is effective owner of the Vatican accounts?

Presently, if you are an American citizen living abroad earning \$400,000 per year and controlling foreign bank accounts, you have an obligation to file a tax return, pay federal income tax and disclose information about those foreign bank accounts. If you

don't then you are subject to significant penalties. If the IRS is going to enforce the law equally, don't they need to hold the pope to the same standard as any other American citizen?

The above information has most likely confused and angered you but it perhaps allows you to understand just how abominable and burdensome our income tax system has become. However, there is

an alternative that eliminates the burden on individual citizens and reduces the burden on businesses by 90%. This alternative is the FAIRtax - a simple, transparent and efficient consumption tax on the retail purchases of new goods and services. It's time to eliminate the federal income tax system and enact the FAIRtax.

For more information please go to FAIRtax.org



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CEP Ocala / Marion County CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP
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INVEST. ENGAGE. GROW.

BENEFITS OF PARTNERSHIP

- ATTEND OUR EVENTS**
The CEP produces over 100 events per year, including networking, educational, forums, and more... Get engaged!
- EARN CREDIBILITY**
Research shows businesses who belong to a chamber are more successful. Maximize your reputation!
- IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS**
The CEP offers 24 monthly skill building opportunities and multiple workshops each year. Gain knowledge!
- INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY**
Listings in our online & printed directory, mailing lists, and advertising opportunities. Be seen!
- SHOP CEP SAVE MONEY**
Get discounts on office supplies, shipping, and more. Plus, shop online for exclusive discounts. Work smart!
- MAKE MORE MONEY**
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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.



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.



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FROM THE DESK OF ATTORNEY GENERAL UTHMEIER



Attorney General James Uthmeier Supports Bay County Sheriff Tommy Ford in Takedown of Illegal Alien Driver's License Scheme

Lynn Haven, Fla.—Attorney General James Uthmeier joined Bay County Sheriff

Tommy Ford to announce the takedown of an illegal alien driver's license scheme, with eight individuals arrested so far. A joint BCSO and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) operation uncovered two compromised DMV employees offering illegal aliens driver's licenses in exchange for cash.

"Florida's Sheriffs are on the front lines of our state's fight against illegal immigration, and Sheriff Ford is rooting out the corruption they bring into our state," said Attorney General James Uthmeier. "My warning to any illegal alien coming to Florida to commit further crimes: we are going to find you, hold you accountable, and then send you back to where you came from."

"We appreciate our partners that keep our state safe," said Bay County Sheriff Tommy Ford.

Over the course of the investigation, authorities learned that two DMV employees were issuing an unusually large number of driver's licenses. When investigators reviewed the in-house video at the DMV, they confirmed that the individuals receiving the licenses bypassed

the required tests to obtain a license legally. These individuals traveled across Florida to Bay County to receive their driver's licenses.

The investigation also uncovered that the individuals coming to the compromised DMV employees to obtain licenses were doing so through a third party operating as intermediaries and were paying Velazco and Smith either in person at the DMV or online through a cash app.

Those arrested include Bancelie Velazco, Demetrius Smith, II, Niurbis Rosales, Leonardo Gutierrez, Hung Du, Isbrieta Parra, Zoila Gonzalez-Pena, and Mirna Fernandez. Charges range from DMV employee issue unlawful driver's license, official misconduct, and unlawful possession of a driver's license.

The investigation continues, and additional charges for the defendants are pending.

Attorney General James Uthmeier Stands with Federal Immigration Enforcement Officers; Announces New Program to Protect Florida's Protectors

Titusville, Fla.—Attorney General James Uthmeier is warning would-be rioters and doxers that violence and intimidation against ICE and Border Patrol officers will not be tolerated in Florida. Over the past several days, violent displays of aggression against those officers occurred in and around Los Angeles, California, where leftist mobs obstructed major roadways, set vehicles on fire, and looted stores.

"Florida is the anti-riot state, and unlike California, we support law enforcement,"

said Attorney General James Uthmeier. "Border Patrol and ICE agents enforcing immigration law deserve protection from leftists trying to harm them. If the left doxes these agents, we will have their backs. Whether you make the poor choice to riot or publish an agent's personal information online to bring harm, you are committing a crime in Florida. We will find you and hold you accountable."

"Peaceful protest is part of our democracy and when it's done right, we will make sure you have a safe environment to do it in!!" said Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey. "But if you let it turn violent, you're gonna find out real quick what Brevard County is all about as the crap you see taking place in other parts of the country ain't gonna happen here!!"

"The only sanctuaries in Florida are to protect animals, not criminals," said Florida Highway Patrol Colonel Gary Howze. "Florida is not a sanctuary state."

"Here in Florida, we're going to honor, respect and protect our federal partners and their families," said State Board of Immigration Enforcement Executive Director Larry Keefe.

Attorney General Uthmeier directed the Florida Highway Patrol to partner with federal law enforcement to ensure that if an agent or officer stationed in Florida has private information leaked online by a "doxer," the agent will have a direct line of communication with local FHP leadership. FHP troopers will conduct routine welfare checks on the agent's residence to ensure the safety of the agent and the agent's family.

Attorney General Uthmeier also announced that Florida is the first state in the union to be assigned a 287(g) liaison officer by U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement. This partnership strengthens Florida's immigration enforcement efforts and provides a direct line of communication between ICE and state and local law enforcement.

Attorney General Uthmeier Announces 44 Statewide Organized Retail Theft Arrests as Part of Nationwide Blitz Operation

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General James Uthmeier is announcing the statewide results of Florida's participation in a nationwide organized retail theft blitz operation. Working with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, authorities made 44 arrests, including three illegal aliens, and recovered more than \$207,000 in stolen assets. The Florida Organized Retail Crime Exchange (FORCE) played a significant role in this crackdown. The nationwide blitz operation targeted criminals, and organized crime rings that prey on retailers. "Due to great coordination among our state law enforcement and Florida Organized Retail Crime Exchange, 44 criminals were arrested as part of a nationwide organized retail theft blitz," said Attorney General James Uthmeier. "The rule of law means something in Florida; this is another example of our state working with law enforcement to stop criminals."

"FDLE was proud to take part in the National Organized Retail Crime Blitz in support of Attorney General James Uthmeier's initiative to crack down on retail crime across the state," said FDLE Commissioner Mark Glass. "We are a law-and-order state, and together with our local and state partners are committed to protecting Florida's businesses and communities."

Advertisement for WOCA radio station. The central graphic is a blue circle with a microphone in the background. Inside the circle, the text reads: "ON AIR" (on a red sign), "THE SOURCE" (in large white letters), "News-Talk-Music-Sports", "96.3 FM" and "1370 AM", and "WOCA" at the bottom. Surrounding the circle are handwritten-style phrases: "Your 'SOURCE' for News, Talk, Music, Sports, Prizes, & More!".

FROM THE DESK OF

GOVERNOR DESANTIS



Governor Ron DeSantis Signs Legislation to Protect Children Against Sexual Crimes

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed legislation aimed to

strengthen protections for children against sexual crimes. “Florida has zero tolerance for criminals who exploit children,” said **Governor Ron DeSantis**. “Throughout my time in office, we’ve worked with the legislature to strengthen penalties for child abuse, hold predators accountable, and ensure that Florida remains a safe place to raise a family.”

Governor Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 777, House Bill 1351, House Bill 1455 and House Bill 1161 into law; and committed to signing Senate Bill 1804 into law in the coming days.

House Bill 777 Offenses Involving Children strengthens Florida’s laws against luring or enticing children. The bill:

- Expands victim age: Applies the offense to any child under 14, instead of a narrower age group.
- Expands offense scope: Includes luring or enticing a child out of a structure, dwelling, or vehicle—not just into one.
- Eliminates certain defenses: Ignorance of the child’s age, misrepresentation of the child’s age and bona fide belief about the child’s age.
- Enhances Penalties: First offense is raised from a 1st-degree misdemeanor to a 3rd-degree felony and second or subsequent offenses are raised from 3rd-degree felony to 2nd-degree felony.

House Bill 1351 Registration of Sexual Predators and Sexual Offenders enhances registration, reporting, and verification requirements for sexual predators and

offenders in Florida. The bill:

- Enhances initial registration information of sexual offenders. The bill requires registrants report their occupation, business name, employment address, and employment phone number.
- Expands ongoing reporting requirements for sexual offenders. The bill specifies that sexual offenders and predators must report in-state travel residences within 48 hours either online through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)’s online system or in person with the sheriff’s office.
- Establishes address verification by local law enforcement. The bill also establishes that local law enforcement agencies must conduct address verifications of sexual offenders at least one time per calendar year and sexual predators four times per calendar year to ensure the accuracy of the information.
- House Bill 1455 Sexual Offenses by Persons Previously Convicted of Sexual Offenses provides mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for specified sexual offenses when committed by registered offenders or predators. The bill:
 - Specifies that a person sentenced under these conditions must be held to the mandatory minimum sentence, even if the sentence exceeds the maximum authorized sentence.
 - Specifies that a person sentenced is not eligible for any form of discretionary early release, other than by pardon or conditional medical release, before serving the full minimum sentence.

House Bill 1161, called “Brooke’s Law” in honor of the brave young woman who joined us today to share her experience as the victim of AI-generated explicit imagery – protects victims of digital sexual abuse by providing a clear, enforceable, and swift process to remove exploitative deepfake material from online platforms.

The bill:

- Protects victims of digital sexual abuse by ensuring victims of deepfake exploitation have a clear, enforceable process to remove damaging material.
 - Holds platforms accountable by establishes a basic duty of care for platforms that profit from user-generated content.
 - Requires covered platforms (for example, websites and online services) to remove altered sexual depictions and copies of such depictions from their platform upon request of the victim within 48 hours.
 - Prevents legal overreach by maintaining platform immunity for good-faith compliance, avoiding chilling effects on speech or over-moderation.
 - Finally, the bill gives platforms room to design their own processes, while enforcing a baseline level of accountability.
- Senate Bill 1804 Capital Sex Trafficking establishes ‘Capital Human Trafficking of Vulnerable Persons for Sexual Exploitation’ as a new felony offense that carries the harshest possible penalties under Florida law. Adults who profit off the sexual exploitation of children under 12, or individuals who are mentally incapacitated, will face life imprisonment or the death penalty. The bill:

- Ensures maximum accountability for the worst crimes. Individuals who orchestrate the most egregious forms of sexual exploitation face the harshest penalty under Florida law—including life imprisonment or death.
- Specifically targets trafficking crimes involving young children and persons with disabilities, who are least able to protect themselves or seek help.
- Includes a robust sentencing framework and closes dangerous loopholes.

Governor Ron DeSantis to Lead International Trade and Business Development Mission to France and the 55th International Paris Air Show

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — From Monday, June 16, through Wednesday, June 18,

Governor Ron DeSantis will lead an international trade and business development mission to France. The mission will highlight Florida’s status as a global hub for aerospace, aviation, defense, and emerging technologies, while promoting expanded trade and investment opportunities for businesses interested in Florida markets.

As part of the mission, Governor DeSantis will attend the 55th International Paris Air Show—one of the world’s premier events for aerospace innovation. The show features more than 2,500 exhibitors from 48 countries and draws over 300,000 visitors annually. More than two dozen leading Florida-based companies will be in attendance, showcasing the state’s cutting-edge capabilities in aviation, aerospace, and defense.

“Our next trade mission delegation is headed to France and the 55th International Paris Air Show,” said **Governor Ron DeSantis**. “Florida’s focus on manufacturing, aviation, and the space industry already makes it a global leader in aerospace. Our efforts on this trip will be to promote further investment in our state and bring more high-paying jobs to Florida.”

“Our presence at the Paris Air Show underscores Florida’s commitment to attracting high-value industries, supporting high-wage job creation, and expanding our global reach,” said **Florida Secretary of Commerce J. Alex Kelly**. “With a \$1.7 trillion economy, Florida has been ranked the #1 state economy in the nation for two years in a row, providing a strong foundation for growth in aerospace, defense, and advanced manufacturing.”

“There has never been a better time to invest in the Sunshine State,” said **Secretary of State Cord Byrd**. From the Age of Exploration to the present, Florida’s longstanding relationship with France is built upon shared values and culture. On this trip we look forward to promoting Florida on the global stage as an international trading partner and the premier destination in the U.S. for investment.”

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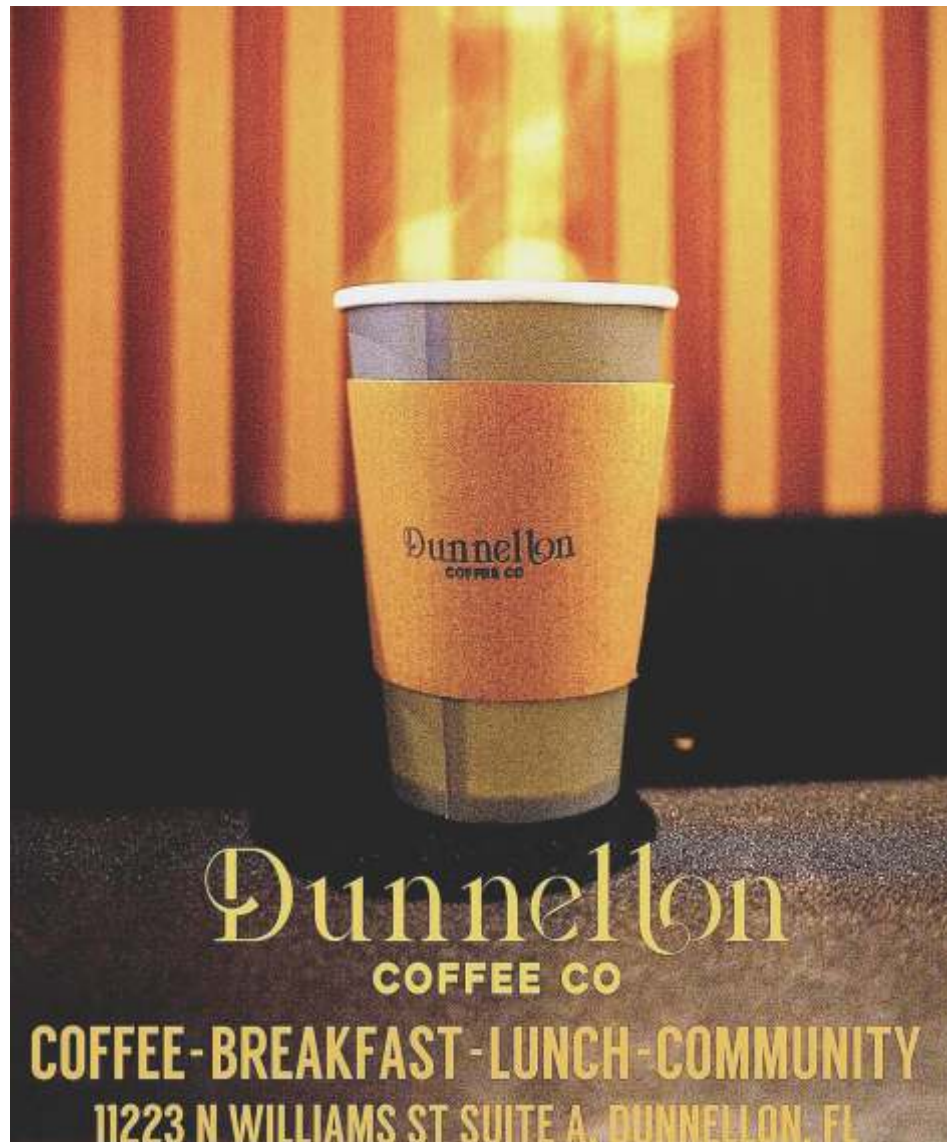
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