

Volume 13 Issue 5

## **Meet Brigitte Smith RN**



Volunteer Staff writer

Meet Brigitte Smith, RN, she is the Chair for the Marion County Republican Executive Committee. Brigitte read our paper and finds it to be informative. We are quite interested in how the growth this year has been. She was elected Chair January last year. On their first meeting as a new board, only 20 members in attendance, now a little over a year later, over 140 in attendance. They have had many successes.

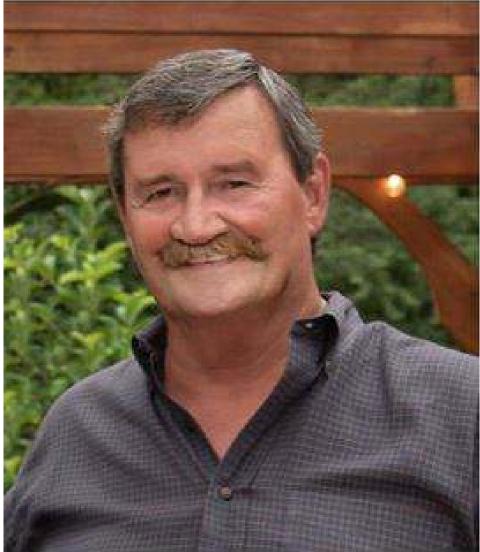
Truly, this REC is not the typical REC of past. They are known as the "red shirts" to our Marion County delegation of local and state elected officials.

They will be hosting a Judge candidate forum in May. There are 4 judge candidates confirmed. There will be an attorney who will be moderating the event.

Chair, Marion County Republican **Executive Committee** 

brigittesmith37@yahoo.com

### **We Mourn the Loss** of Harold Bevis



It is with a heavy heart we announce the passing of Morgan Harold Bevis Jr. on March 10, 2022. Harold fought a lengthy battle due to complications from surgery. His 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday would have been March 19, 2022. Harold Jr. was a wonderful person with a HUGE heart. He was raised in Key West, Florida, and has many Conch friends. He was a veteran who served two terms in Vietnam. Later, he managed his family's Chevrolet dealership until it was sold then continued to work for other dealerships for many years. Harold and his earlier wife, Connie Ann Losley, reunited, and he moved to Ocala in 2007. They enjoyed life together,

14. Palo Alto Networks CEO is an Indian. 15. Reckitt Benckiser CEO is an Indian.

- 16. Britain's Chancellor is an Indian.
- 17. Britain's Home Secretary is an Indian.

18. Britain's next Prime Minister will be an Indian

19. Ireland's last Prime Minister was an Indian...

20. and the American Vice President is Indian.

Now to take this further I think most of the CEO's are dedicated to this Country. This is not meant to talk bad about these CEO's they

and Harold Jr. especially loved boating, hunting, camping, attending church, and having lots of great times with family and friends. He leaves behind his wife, Connie Ann; daughter, Morgan Bevis; stepsons, Alex Pendleton and Andrew Pendleton; and granddaughter, Alanna Pendleton. He also leaves behind his brother, Alan Bevis, sisters Donna Sue Shirah (Richard Diaz) and Marcia Bevis Perga (Tony Perga), many nieces, nephews, and family members, and MANY friends. Harold is now home with his Lord and Savior. A Memorial Service was held in his honor along with his heavenly Birthday party.

worked hard to get where they are at. So where do we go from here. The American people must VOTE and they must ask themselves this question is your life better now than it was in the previous administration. Vote on achievements, vote on what's good for the country not the party and how it effects your family. Free stuff is not free, it don't count because if you are receiving free stuff or maybe a check every month and you can work remember where it comes from...Your neighbors pocket that is working and paying taxes!

# Who Is Pulling Big Business Strings

By TomL

Here is one thought!

I hear people / readers talk about Russia being so powerful or China being so powerful. It makes me wonder about down deep inside about our country, who is pulling the BIG BUSINESS" strings? Here is what I have...

Who has the most influence in the World???

Most of the following are American Citizens and have work hard to get where they a at:

#### 1. Google CEO is an Indian. 2. Microsoft CEO is an Indian. 3. Adobe CEO is an Indian.

- 4. IBM CEO is an Indian
- 5. TWITTER CEO is an Indian
- 6. Net App CEO is an Indian. 7. MasterCard CEO is an Indian.
- 8. DBS CEO is an Indian.
- 9. Novartis CEO is an Indian.
- 10. Diageo CEO is an Indian.
- 11. SanDisk CEO is an Indian.
- 12. Harman CEO is an Indian. 13. Micron CEO is an Indian.

### OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & **ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP**



Forward Momentum.

eight months in 2021 and involved consultations with a number of which we can and must attain if we are to experts and economists.

The plan is a continuation of its two prosperous community. successors (Moving Forward and Moving Forward – Phase II) but also broadens the engagement of the CEP in a few key areas. All of the plans 19 goals are aligned with the CEP's mission "to be the catalyst for a prosperous community." The following are highlights of a few of the goals. The complete can be found at OcalaCEP.com/the-CEP/strategic-plan/

Business Advocacy - the top goal in Business Advocacy is the Renewal of the Local Option Sales Tax. This 1% tax was first approved by voters in 2016 and then overwhelmingly renewed in 2020. The tax is the best way to fund important and needed transportation and first responder needs. The revenues can only be spent on capital needs and approximately 1/3 of the revenue is collected by tourists and commuters who are using our roads and depending on our first responders but not otherwise contributing to their support.

**Business Attraction** – the #1 goal in the plan is to secure a commitment for commercial passenger air service. As a community of nearly 400,000 the time is right for the return on local air service.

**Business Creation** – the creation of a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) is imperative to implementing our mission of a prosperous community for all. This non-bank lender would work in partnership with local lenders to increase access to capital in our three majority-minority communities of West Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, and Marion Oaks.

Business Retention – work has begun on a Workforce Participation Study to better understand the more than 50% of working age adults who are not currently in the workforce. This study, financially underwritten by CareerSource CLM and Duke Energy, will seek to identify these various group, barriers to their entering the workforce, and how those barriers can be addressed. Results from the study are expected in late summer/early fall.

Business Services – this is the area of the CEP dedicated to some of our most popular programs - Leadership, business education series, equine engagement, and networking. If we are to serve the entire Metro, then the CEP needs offices that make it easy for all businesses to access services and programs. The goal is to open at least one satellite office during this time.

Business Support - the CEP is a not-forprofit but created a Foundation in late 2019 to easier access grants and tax deductible contributions. The Foundation has had a fairly high degree of success without intentional focus. The goal in this plan is to

At the CEP's hire a Director to focus on securing grants Annual Luncheon on and corporate donations to support the 2 February, the new CEP's entrepreneurship, talent 5-year Strategic Plan, development, and leadership programming.

Finally, the three BIG goals of the plan are was unveiled to a to 1) impact the announced creation of 5,000 crowd of nearly new primary jobs with 2) wages which are 1,100 business 15% above the County average wage and leaders. The plan had 3) result in a direct capital investment in been developed over our community of \$1 billion.

These are all lofty goals but they are ones fulfill the mission of creating a truly

#### Let them PLAY! It is an unfortunate reality

that not all kids can afford to participate in paid recreation programs and summer camps. At the City of Ocala, we endeavor to ensure that every child has an opportunity to participate. You can help us continue to make constructive play time a reality for underprivileged

children by making a donation to the Let them PLAY! Scholarship Fund.

Donate online or mail a check to Let



them PLAY! Scholarship Fund, 828 NE Eighth Ave., Ocala, Florida 34470. Thank you in advance for your investment in Ocala's children.



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1-352-572-8510 **Christine Calvert** ccalvert@guidedmedicare.com

#### Ì Contactless enrollment help is available. Call to find out more.

All benefits are not available on all plans. Florida Blue is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Florida Blue depends on contract renewal. Florida Blue Medicare is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Florida Blue Medicare depends on contract renewal. Health coverage is offered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., DBA Florida Blue. HMO coverage is offered by Florida Blue Medicare, Inc., DBA Florida Blue Medicare. These companies are affiliates of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., and Independent Licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Tivity Health and SilverSneakers are registered trademarks or trademarks of Tivity Health, Inc., and/or its subsidiaries and/or affiliates in the USA and/or other countries. We comply with applicable Federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. For more information visit floridablue.com/ndnotice. © 2021 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., DBA Florida Blue. All rights reserved.

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#### Florida State Senate = DENNIS K. BAXLEY

Dear Friends, This column will be the second in a series that we plan to write, providing an overview of the 2022 Legislative Session. Last month, we brought some information to you

regarding Florida's budget and what the Legislature did with your money. This month, we will highlight two education policy bills that we passed this year

HB 1557, Parental Rights in Education by Senator Baxley and Representative Harding. By now, many of you are familiar with this bill as it received national attention and is part of broader conversation regarding parental rights going all the way back to last year. Given the slanderous moniker "Don't Say Gay Bill" by left wing media outlets, this bill expands on the Parental Rights bill passed in 2021. Let us be clear, this bill says nothing about not being able to say "gay" in schools. We are not prohibiting casual conversations. What we are saying is that children in K-3 schools do not need to be indoctrinated with gender theory instructional material and their parents left in the dark about it. HB 1557 will empower parents and families by

prohibiting school districts from adopting policies that require employees to withhold information from a parent regarding their child, unless necessary to protect the child when the school suspects abuse or neglect. Additionally, this bill ensures ageappropriate curriculum by prohibiting teacher-led classroom instruction on gender identity or sexual orientation in the primary grade levels (K-3) and Improves transparency between schools and parents by requiring school boards to notify parents if there is a change in their child's services related to mental, emotional, or physical health and wellbeing. The enforcement arm of this bill authorizes a parent to request the Commissioner of Education to appoint a special magistrate to investigate unresolved parental complaints and recommend resolutions to the State Board of Education within 30 days. Further, it establishes a process whereby parents can bring action against a school district that violates the provisions of the bill that seek resolutions for unresolved concerns

HB 7, Individual Freedoms by Senator Diaz and Representative Avila. This bill protects individual freedoms and prevents discrimination in public schools and the workplace while supporting factual,

educational discussions and materials for higher calling than serving others. our students. The bill identifies several principles of individual freedom to guide instruction and curriculum, such as: No individual is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex. No race is inherently superior to another race. No individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability or sex. Accordingly, the bill requires that instruction, instructional materials, and professional development in public schools be consistent with principles of individual freedom.

Thank you for the honor of letting me serve you in the Florida Senate. There is no

Onward & Upward Senator Dennis Baxley

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### **Bringing our community together Ocala Downtown • Seniors Voice of Ocala** Locations to pick up papers

- Elks Club (OBL meeting)
- Library Silver Springs Blvd
- VA at the west end of the Cascades Plaza
- **Senior Center 8th Ave**
- **Barbra Washington Adult Activity** Center
- **Tax Collectors building**
- **Health Department**
- Walt's Brake & More
- **Yandle's Building Materials**
- MOJO's next to Target
  - We drop off at hundreds of

businesses that get 5 papers or 10 papers along the 200 corridor and the Silver

**Springs corridor.** 

Email Tom: tloury@att.net

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Walt Krumm Jr Walt's Brakes and More President 352-629-3134





**Colin Barett Financial Advisor** Ocala Fl 352-512-9715



parish@ocalacaraudio.com



Clark Yandle Yandle Building Materials Owner 352-732-3000



Julie Bennett

Owner Brick City Flowers

352-629-1180

Tom Loury TomL Publishing **Owner/Publisher** 352-804-1223

References needed for those who would like to be in this ad. To Add Your Picture Call Tom Loury 352-804-1223

#### Page 4, Ocala Downtown/Seniors Voice - May 2022

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

### PUBLISHER'S NOTES



I'm being busted by several readers in the papers to the south, the Villages Spectator and the Lady Lake Magazine about getting information off the internet and are questioning the

validity. Here is one example of a story I got off the internet two years ago that now has validity. It seems that Hunter Biden's laptop is slowly being confirmed. The New York Post released Hunter Biden's Laptop to the FBI in October 2020. What do you think the election result's would have been if that was pick by the news as actual true information. Now the New Times has verified some of the email sent by that Laptop. It was a blazoned separation of information by several higher ups

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki was ask about the Laptop story she responded Hunter Biden does not work for the White House, the US Government and havoc, or destroy this much security and

she is not obligated to answer questions about the story. She is telling reporters to ask the Department of Justice about the Laptop. Looking back during the election when ask about the story she said it was dissimulation of fake news by the Russians to influence the outcome of the election. The Laptop in many area referred to the "Big Guy" getting his cut of the loot. The Laptop shows about influence peddling. The Laptop also mentions Family Business dealings with Russia, China, Ukraine and more.

When someone is wrong all the time, that's something else. That's not an accident, that's on purpose. That's not stupidity, that's evil. That's a plan.

This is not an accident. That's a hit job.

And that's what's going on with Biden. They are trashing the country. The Socialist are triggering systemic failures across the society and economy. They are doing it on purpose. That's the only plausible explanation. Nobody is this stupid by accident. Nobody could wreak this much

### Newspaper Deadlines Editorial & Ad Copy for June Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown Noon, May 20th Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator 12am, May 25th

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prosperity this quickly, without read! intentionally setting out to do so.

Through executive orders and disastrous decisions, The Socialist have pushed several vast national systems into calamity or collapse. Healthcare, gasoline, transportation, consumer products availability and affordability, national defense, international relationships, labor, food supply, public safety.

Every indicator is downward, so we need to get the right party in office to stop the down slide.

I am not against the Democratic party I am against the decisions being made. What worry's me is the people that elected him!

Everyone is worrying about Russia and China. The Indian are hear working and living in our country are industrious people and have elevated themselves in life as CEO's of very large company and many have become Doctors, most are very good, I have a good one, but I've seen some I might question.

Finally I would like to run this list of the equipment the USA left in Afghanistan along with all the lives lost during the withdrawl.

#### Afghanistan

The most outrageous things you may ever

Aircraft: The Taliban now ranks #26 in the world in total military aircraft, thanks to us leaving behind 208 planes and helicopters: 110 helicopters

60 transport/cargo planes

20 light attack planes

18 intelligence/surveillance planes Vehicles: You've probably seen the footage of the Taliban riding around in our Humvees.

We left a total of 75,898 vehicles: 42,604 tactical vehicles 22,174 Humvees 8,998 medium tactical vehicles 1,005 recovery vehicles 928 mine-resistant vehicles 189 armored tanks

What is your opinion tloury@attnet



### **Select Business Associates Of Ocala**

#### Where Friends Meet and Businesses Prosper

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- \* Nonprofit Group
- \* New membership takes 100% approval by members
- \* No texting & no messages

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





#### Ocala Downtown/Seniors Voice - May 2022 Page 5

#### **Brutal Murders Brutal Murders Committed by Illegal Immigrant**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The Biden Administration's dangerous immigration policies, as well as the soft on crime policies of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit State Attorney's Office (Orange and Osceola counties), have once again resulted in the needless deaths of innocent Floridians. On March 10, 2022, a man named Jean R. Macean, a citizen of Haiti and an illegal immigrant, was taken into custody for the murder of Terry and Brenda Aultman and charged with two counts of first-degree murder. Macean had previously been arrested in Orange County prior to the murders, but the charges were inexplicably dropped by the State Attorney's Office under former State Attorney Aramis Ayala. Daytona Beach Police Chief Jakari Young described these killings as "one of the most vicious attacks I've ever seen in my 20 years.

### **Students** Recognized



**Students Recognized for Science Projects That Search for Water Solutions** 

The District recently presented the Water Matters award to three Pasco County students searching for solutions to improve water quality and sustain freshwater supplies.

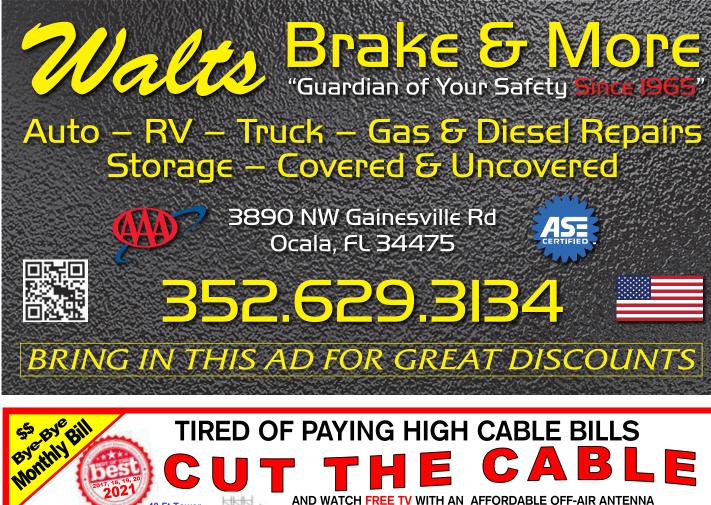
The Water Matters awards were given as part of the 2022 Pasco Science and Engineering Showcase last month. Hosted by the District School Board of Pasco

students to work through the scientific research process to explore pressing issues and problems to create powerful solutions. The student projects considered for the Water Matters award aligned with the in a water sample. The inspiration for his District's mission to protect water resources project came after concern about runoff and ensure the public's water needs are met, while also demonstrating creativity and innovation.

"It was a great opportunity to recognize the amazing work being done by students related to water resources, and we look forward to presenting the award again in the future," said Katherine Munson, senior communications coordinator.

This year's Water Matters award recipient projects focused on improving water conditions and exploring alternative water supply options. The award was presented to students from the elementary, middle and high school levels.

Jacen Bartenfelder, a third grader at Watergrass Elementary, was the Water



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County, this annual event encourages Matters elementary level recipient with his project "Removing Phosphates From Water." His project looked at the effects of different filtration materials and how they impacted the number of phosphates found polluting the lake behind his home. This experiment was designed to learn about ways to protect his local bodies of water.

Sebastian Davis, a seventh grader at Pasco Middle School, was the Water Matters junior level recipient with his project "Stopping Thirst One Drop at a Time." The project aimed to find the best method for removing mineral components from sea water. Davis observed multiple methods to determine the most effective and efficient way to cleanse sea water. His goal was to find the best way to purify salt water to increase freshwater supply.

Muhammad Shahraj, a twelfth grader at Cypress Creek High School, received the Water Matters award for the high school level. His project involved using White-Rot fungi to degrade metal pollutants in different water environment conditions. Shahraj observed the potential of the fungi in his experiment to understand how the heavy metals would break down in larger bodies of water.

To learn more about the competition, visit https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/oll/page/pasc o\_science\_engineering\_showcase

### Leesburg Man Arrested

#### Leesburg Man Arrested On **Child Pornography Charges** 04/08/2022

On April 7, detectives with the Lake County sheriff's Criminal Intelligence Unit executed a search warrant at the residence of 7448 Harbor View Drive in Leesburg regarding suspected child pornography being contained on the premises. Detectives located multiple electronic and digital media storage devices that were collected as evidence. On-scene forensic analysis was conducted on some of the devices, which revealed numerous images of the sexual performance of children ranging from infants to teenagers.

The suspect in this case, Keith Alan Wilkins (D.O.B. of 9/03/1960), was taken into custody and charged initially with 11 counts of possession of images depicting the sexual performance by a child and possession or promotion of certain images of child pornography. Further forensic review of the evidence collected from the home is being conducted, which will likely result in additional charges.

Wilkins has been employed as a facilities maintenance supervisor responsible for inspecting maintenance work conducted at davcare facilities throughout the state.

Wilkins was transported to the Lake County Detention Center and was booked in with a \$55,000 bond.



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### Tom's Letter To the Governor

Hi Governor DeSantis

Hi Bailey A Smith

I have four monthly newspapers and run a lot of your press releases. My papers are distributed in the Villages and in Ocala.

I also live in Dunnellon Florida, the residence have been informed that the turnpike extension is coming through the area most likely along the Rainbow River, one of Florida's last natural resources. People are really upset and are losing sleep wondering if the extension will destroy their farm or their land (investment), I'm one of them. The Sabal Trail Gasline has already intruded through my small farm. From what I understand there is another route that is also being studied in Citrus County which would take it away from the Rainbow River, the Withalacochee, the Barge Canal that connects to the gulf, The Blue Run and the Backwaters (Lake Rousseau). There is another choice that I have not heard anyone discussing, here it is.

Extend Turnpike to I-75 & widen, to HWY 27 clover leaf widen at HWY 27 west that would give the World Equestrian Center a very large Horse complex in Ocala a route from the west and from the east, HWY 27 west to HWY 19 widen that to the Georgia state line. I think sending the traffic to Georgia by way of HWY 19 north, Georgia was already the plan 15 years ago for the traffic when the last Turnpike extension was tried. The World Equestrian Center is one of the biggest things to ever happen in Ocala. Thousands of Horse people and visitors are visiting WEC and using this route above would help you and them for normal traffic and more important an emergency evac route out of the state.

Better yet Florida already owns the land,

Florida already have road access just build extra lanes. I also don't think we need Turnpike Authorities / Turnpike Enterprises. Extra management money extra retirement money when the Florida DOT can handle it. CUT THE FAT!

Your humble servent. TomL

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### New Breakthrough

**"Nano Powder" Battery Technology** TRUE OR FALSE? A stunning breakthrough in chemical engineering has unleashed a massive supply of renewable energy...

Enough energy, in fact, to power the entire globe.

This technology is so revolutionary, it's poised to decimate Big Oil's obscene profits, make OPEC obsolete, and hand the United States 100% energy independence.

In fact, the U.S. Department of Defense just invested \$250 million in over 60 different projects...

Google, Facebook and car manufacturers like GM, Toyota and BMW are spending billions racing to implement this technology.

And billionaires like Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates and Warren Buffett are going all in.

The International Energy Agency predicts \$48 trillion could soon flow into this sector, making it the #1 source of energy on the planet.

Goldman Sachs is already calling this phenomenon a "once in a lifetime

opportunity."

So there's no time to waste... Do you know which technology we're

talking about? Paul Mampilly's "12 Million Mile Battery"Prediction

The focus of Paul Mampilly's "12 Million Mile Battery" prediction is a battery that he claims is 25 times more powerful than any electric vehicle battery available.

Given the headline of the presentation, you might assume he was suggesting there's a battery that can go 12 million miles on a single charge, but that's not the case. Instead, he says the battery has a range of "over 9,200 miles" and can "last" 12 million miles.

"This innovation could send a Tesla across the country nearly four times — on a single charge!

It is creating the electric vehicle of the

future — a gasoline-free car that has the potential to...

 $\checkmark$  Charge in eight minutes — not hours.

✓ Drive a range of over 9,200 miles — meaning you would have months of travel between charging, instead of days.

 $\checkmark$  And last not 1, but 12 MILLION miles."

Publishers Note: As I understand this claim the battery will last 12 million miles but not the charge. The charge is suppose to last 25 times longer, which means you could travel for at least a month without a charge and then the charge would take 8 minutes. If all of this is true switching to electric vehicles might work but it takes time for all this to happen, so we need to keep the oil flowing until then. Come on Biden do the right thing!



Bee's Knees! I sold it on Ocala4sale.com and you can too!



Marion County's Internet Marketplace

### Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series

#### Indigenous

· Date: 05/06/2022 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Location: Webb Field at Martin Luther King Recreation Complex, 1510 NW Fourth St., Ocala, Florida 34475

The City of Ocala in partnership with Marion Cultural Alliance present the 2022 Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series! This series returns Fridays, April 22 through July 1 (excluding May 27), 7 to 9 p.m. at Webb Field at the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Complex (1510 NW Fourth Street).

Join us for 10 FREE concerts and 10 nonprofit intermission activities, as well as food trucks, non-profit vendors, and artisan vendors. Stay tuned for the 2022 lineup

AdviniaCare at Paddock Ridge

Bemer Independent Distributor

Black Prong Equestrian Village

Compass-The Ocala Collective

Equine Therapy International

Anodyne of Ocala

Foxfire Realtv

Business and Beyond

Epic Flight Academy

Comfort Temp Company

Aero Aggregates of North America

American Infrastructure Development

Bonnie Ciesla & Chelsea Ciesla Realtors -

release! For more information, visit www.ocalafl.org/levittamp

#### **HEADLININGARTIST: Indigenous**

The Native American blues-rock group Indigenous consists of three brothers, Mato Nanji (vocals and guitar), Pte (bass), and Horse (percussion), and their sister, Wanbdi (drums, vocals). The Nakota Nation members grew up on South Dakota's Yankton Indian Reservation and were inspired by their father, Greg Zephier, who had been a musician in the '60s and '70s and later became a spokesperson for Native American rights. The group released its 1998 debut album, Things We Do, on Pachyderm Records; the video for the title track was directed by Chris Eyre, who also

CEP Partners For the Month of March/April

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Midnight Rose Equestrian

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Lugano Diamonds

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Lotus LTO

American film Smoke Signals. The group released the Blues This Morning EP and Live at Pachyderm Studios in 1999, while winning acclaim from critics and artists like Bonnie Raitt, the Indigo Girls, and Jackson Browne. The Circle followed in 2000. The band has continued to create music and tour ever since.

**OPENING ARTIST:** Sheba the **Mississippi Queen** 

#### **The Byrne Brothers**

Peacock Capital

PRPAviation

Christian Center

Stretch Zone Ocala

The Green Pharmacist

Union Home Mortgage

Shoo-Fly Inc.

Date: 05/13/2022 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Webb Field at Martin Luther King Recreation Complex, 1510 NW

#### Fourth St. Ocala, Florida 34475

The Byrne Brothers (Celtic) The City of Ocala in partnership with

Marion Cultural Alliance present the 2022

Premier Sotheby's International

Revealing Truth Ministries Outreach

Realty/Luxury Homes and Equestrian

RANK Quality Restaurants

Rockingham Horse Farm

Southern Charm Aesthetics

directed the award-winning Native Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series! This series returns Fridays, April 22 through July 1 (excluding May 27), 7 to 9 p.m. at Webb Field at the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Complex (1510 NW Fourth Street).

> Join us for 10 FREE concerts and 10 nonprofit intermission activities, as well as food trucks, non-profit vendors, and artisan vendors. Stay tuned for the 2022 lineup release!

> For more information, visit www.ocalafl.org/levittamp

> HEADLINING ARTIST: The Byrne **Brothers**

The Byrne Brothers are a traditional Irish family band from Donegal, moved to Florida in 2018 after receiving their US permanent residency for their "Extraordinary ability in the arts" and have been taking America by storm ever since!

The Byrne Brothers are Luca 15 on Button Accordion, Finn 13 on Banjo, Dempsey 10 on Bodhrán and Tin Whistle with Tommy the dad on Guitar, Uilleann Pipes, Fiddle and Bagpipes and Julie the mammy on sound.

The boys are all County Champions several times on their instruments, Ulster Champion Irish Dancers and the youngest ever Cast Member Entertainers of Walt Disney World Florida after 12 months playing at the famous Raglan Road Irish Pub and Restaurant in Disney Springs.

#### **OPENING ARTIST: Scott Jackson**

A dentist, musician, family man and Navy veteran, Scott Jackson has carved out an enviable life playing well with others, but this decade has set the award-winning singer-songwriter on a solo course.

### 16th Annual Art in the Park Festival

May 7th, 2021

The 16th Annual Art in the Park Festival is held in the Beautiful Log Cabin Park nestled in the heart of Lady Lake just one block south of CR 466. Beautiful Oak Trees adorn the park creating a picturesque backdrop for the Art Festival.

There will be up to 80 Arts & Craft Vendors, as well as live music, food trucks, and a student art show. Show attendees are able to register to win door prizes from the vendors. This is a free event for the public. The cost for an art & craft vendor booth is \$75. Save the Date for 2022!

### War in Ukraine

— Since the war began on Feb. 24, Russia has lost 15,300 personnel, 509 tanks, 1,556 armored combat vehicles, 252 artillery systems, 80 multiple-launch rocket systems, 99 warplanes, 123 helicopters, 1,000 vehicles, three ships 35 drones.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! Let your voice be heard! Email tloury@att.net

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#### Ocala Downtown/Seniors Voice May 2022 Page 7

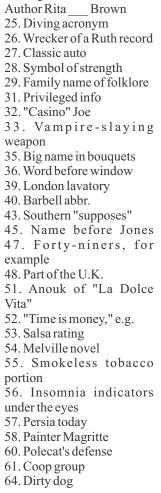
#### Page 8, Ocala Downtown/Seniors Voice - May 2022

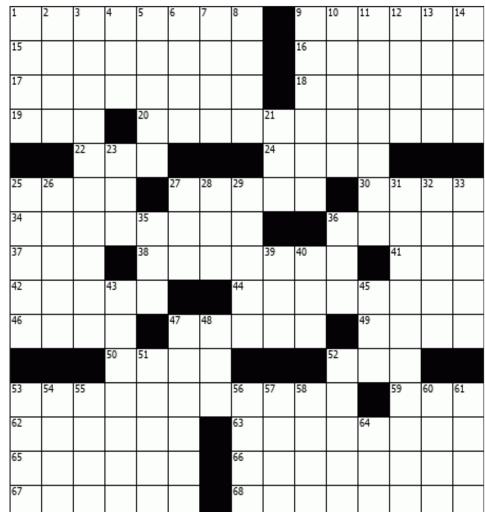


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1998 46. Heche of "John O" 47. Office slips 49. Comics canine 50. Dean of "Lois and 28. Symbol of strength Clark" 52. Reverent respect 53. See 38-Across 59. "The Simpsons" outburst 62. Entrance phrase 63. Three digits punched with the digits 65. Repair shop substitute 66. Combine against 67. Uses a divining rod 68. Lip curlers Down 1. Splinter group 2. Auth. unknown 3. Overall strategy 4. Ambulance VIP 5. Takes to heart 6. First name in jazz 7. Depend 8. Shooter of hearts 9. Decide on 10. Vivien of "Gone With under the eyes the Wind" 11. Censure 12. Gravy Train alternative 13. Will of "The Waltons" 14. Whirling water

44. Peck movie of 1956 or 21. Sugar suffix 2 3









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



### 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.











### ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



to Give States the Immigration Laws When DHS Won't TALLAHASSEE,

Fla.—Frustrated by the border crisis and the federal government's refusal to enforce its own laws, Attorney General Ashley Moody and Congressman Bill Posey today announced legislative efforts to give states more authority to combat illegal immigration. The congressional legislation, H.R. 7413, would allow state officials to demand the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security enforce federal immigration law in certain circumstances. DHS will then have the option to either enforce the law or deputize state officials to carry out the federal immigration duties.

he bill comes just days after President Joe Biden announced the termination of Title 42, a pandemic-era rule that allows border agents to quickly expel migrants attempting to enter the U.S. who traveled from a country where a communicable disease is present. DHS estimates that there might already be 25,000 migrants waiting in shelters just south of the border for Title 42 to come to an end. There are also projections that customs and border patrol agents could see up to 18,000 migrants a day after the removal of the policy.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said,

Attorney General "In less than a year and a half, the Biden M o o d y a n d administration has obliterated our southwest Congressman Posey border and it's about to get even worse as the Announce Legislation president prepares to end Title 42. We can no longer trust this administration to enforce Ability to Enforce the law. It is time for swift action to protect the American people. That is why, Representative Posey and I are taking this matter to Congress and asking the legislative branch to let the states protect our citizens by enforcing public-safety immigration laws when Biden won't."

Congressman Bill Posey said, "Maintaining operational control over our nation's borders is critical to our security and our ability to stop human traffickers, drug smugglers and other violent criminals and terrorists who mean to do our communities harm. When the federal government abdicates its role in protecting our nation's borders and refuses to enforce immigration laws allowing millions of people to illegally cross into our country states should have authority to protect their citizens.'

Under H.R. 7413, the Immigration and Enforcement Partnership Act of 2022, if a state attorney general finds that DHS is not adequately fulfilling the non-discretionary duties under title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the attorney general may request in writing that the DHS secretary do so. Such duties include the arrest, detention and removal of criminal and arriving aliens. No later than 30 days after receiving a request, the secretary shall either ensure that the duties are adequately fulfilled by officers and employees of the DHS, or authorize state officials to enforce federal immigration law. If the secretary does not comply, the attorney general may file a civil action to enforce these requirements. The bill also requires the courts to expedite proceedings on such action to the greatest extent practicable.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection encounters with illegal migrants at the southwest border totaled more than 2 million since February 2021, with deportations down 70% last year. Attorney General Moody and Congressman Posey are concerned that the federal government's seeming disinterest with enforcing immigration laws will exacerbate the opioid crisis and leave the door open for unmitigated drug and human trafficking.

It costs Florida more than \$100 million a year just to incarcerate illegal immigrates who commit crimes in the state. The cost to public safety is harder to calculate as the nation struggles with a deadly opioid crisis claiming 21 lives a day in Florida. The crisis is being exacerbated by fentanyl, a synthetic opioid 100 times stronger than morphine. According to CBP, since Biden took office, the amount of fentanyl seized at the border is enough to kill every man, woman and child in the nation more than seven times over.

According to recent reports, fentanyl is the number one killer of adults aged 18-45. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention projects that nearly 70,000 people nationwide have died from fentanyl overdose in the most recently recorded 12month period. With Mexico being the number one source of fentanyl imports into the U.S., it is important that states be able to enforce the law when the federal government does not.

Attorney General Moody and Congressman Posey are also fighting to end human trafficking in Florida. The southwest

border is a gateway for human smugglers to bring trafficking victims into the nation. Due to the chaos at the border, many are sneaking by enforcement officials. A former border patrol chief estimates more than 400,000 migrants evaded agents and crossed the border last year. The risk of being trafficked is higher with noncitizens who pay to be smuggled into the country. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials state that dangerous human smuggling circumstances are encountered every day at the southwest border.

CBP reports arrests of individuals with criminal convictions increased more than 340% in the last fiscal year. There was an 450% increase of those previously convicted of illegal drug possession and trafficking, a 585% increase of illegal immigrants previously arrested for trafficking, and a 212% increase of those arrested for sexual offenses.

In January, Attorney General Moody traveled to the southwest border in Texas to receive briefings from law enforcement officials about the dramatic overrun of the border brought on by President Biden's reckless immigration policies. Attorney General Moody joined attorneys general from across the nation for the security briefing.

Congressman Posey has been to the border and seen firsthand how open and dangerous it has been allowed to become. Congressman Posey has been a strong advocate in Congress for securing the borders and maintaining operational control over them, as well as fighting human trafficking, targeting fentanyl and other illegal drugs, deporting criminal aliens and rooting out fraud in our immigration system.



# FROM THE DESK OF GOVERNOR DESANTIS



Governor Ron DeSantis Signs Groundbreaking Legislation to Support Involved Fatherhood in Florida

On April 11, 2022, in News Releases, by Staff **ST. PETERSBURG,** 

**Fla.** — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis signed HB 7065, which includes educational programs, mentorship programs and one-on-one support to encourage responsible and involved fatherhood in Florida. The bill is tied to nearly \$70 million in funding to provide a wide spectrum of family and youth support through the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF).

"There are more than 18 million children in our country who live without a father in their home," said **Governor Ron DeSantis.** "This has a severe impact on children, and often leads to dropping out of school, crime and substance abuse. Incredibly, there are those who diminish the importance of fatherhood and the nuclear family – we will not let that happen in our state. I am proud to say we are doing everything we can to support involved fatherhood in Florida."

We cannot legislate fatherhood, accountability or character, but we can provide supports for fathers to equip and encourage them to take an active role in the lives of their children," said House Speaker Chris Sprowls, who first brought attention to the fatherhood crisis during his 2019 designation speech. "By addressing the root cause of so many of the challenges facing our sons and daughters, we will see the positive impact of this legislation send shockwaves for generations to come. To my colleagues in the Florida Legislature who worked so diligently to bring this vision to life and carry it to unanimous passage, including Reps. Altman and Alexander, Chair Burton, Senate President Simpson and the many others who stood on the steps of the Historic Capitol with us, thank you. And to Governor Ron DeSantis, a father himself, thank you for standing with us for Florida's fathers and families today and signing this first-of-its-kind legislation for any state.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are more than 18 million children – one in four – in the United States who do not have a father in their home. To read more about the fatherhood crisis and the impact it is having on our nation's children, click <u>here</u>.

Supporting the bill signing were fathers from across the state and several national and community leaders who encourage involved fatherhood, including former NFL head coach Tony Dungy, former NFL professional football player and philanthropist Jack Brewer, and Glen Gilzean, president and CEO of the Urban League of Central Florida.

"This is a crisis in America, today," said Jack Brewer, Founder and Executive Director, The Jack Brewer Foundation. "Governor DeSantis is setting an example the entire country needs to follow. With bills like this and leaders like the men here behind me, we can change this nation."

"This is going to be tremendous and such a good help to fathers in Florida," said **Coach Tony Dungy, Former Head Coach, Tampa Bay Buccaneers.** "This bill is so important. I want to thank all of the men and women that have been behind this. It is going to allow groups like All Pro Dad and people like those here today to do great things for our fathers here in Florida."

"I truly believe that education is the solution to many of the issues that we face in society," said **Glen Gilzean, President and CEO, Central Florida Urban League.** "Education comes in many forms and empowering our fathers with the knowledge they need to better themselves helps the community as a whole."

One of HB 7065's main provisions is supporting and creating mentorship programs at DJJ for at-risk youth. For many of these youth, their mentor may be the closest thing they have to a father. DJJ also hosts and supports programs for involved fatherhood, including barbershop talks and fatherhood classes.

"I would like to thank Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature for their efforts to better support Florida's fathers and to strengthen the role they play in their children's lives," said **DJJ Secretary Eric Hall**. "A supportive and committed family can help change the trajectory of a child's life, and DJJ looks forward to working with our partners to help even more Florida fathers become stronger parents and role models."

At DCF, the bill will provide a wide spectrum of family support. DCF will create a statewide awareness campaign to call attention to the importance of responsible fatherhood, and to equip fathers with resources to stay engaged in their children's lives. DCF will also support nonprofit organizations that use evidence-based parenting education to help fathers stay engaged and connect with their children, and support case managers who will help fathers find employment, transition from incarceration and manage their obligations.

"Our Department is very excited about this new fatherhood initiative, and we are so grateful for the Governor and Legislature's leadership in providing funding that strengthens families through responsible parenting," said DCF Secretary Shevaun Harris. "Studies have shown that when fathers are involved in their children's lives, there are undeniable benefits - children are statistically less likely be abused or neglected, and they have fewer behavioral and psychological problems. The Department of Children and Families is laser-focused on preventing adverse outcomes for children, so having the opportunity to work on this initiative is truly an honor."

#### Governor Ron DeSantis Signs Bill to Protect the Lives of Florida's Most Vulnerable

**KISSIMMEE, Fla.** — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis was joined by pro-life advocates and community leaders to sign HB 5, the Reducing Fetal and Infant Mortality Act, to protect the lives of Florida's most vulnerable by prohibiting all abortions after 15 weeks of gestation. HB 5 represent the most significant protections for life in Florida's modern history. Read the regret they have held for 40 years.' more on what they are saying below. "When Hope was 10 and a half

"Life is precious and children are a Godgiven gift," said Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez. "That is why House Bill 5 is so important, as it provides added protections for the unborn child. Governor DeSantis and I remain steadfast in our commitment to defending the sanctity of innocent human life and protecting the unborn."

"Every abortion kills a special and unique human being who deserves protection under the laws of this state and the chance to grow up in a loving family," said **Senate President Wilton Simpson**. "As an adopted child in a family that took in foster children, it has always been important to me that our state do everything we can to promote adoption as an alternative to abortion. Floridians can be proud that we live in a state that not only protects innocent, unborn life, but also supports children and parents. I commend Governor DeSantis for making strong pro-life, pro-child, and pro-family legislation the centerpiece of his administration."

"With Governor DeSantis' signature on our bill that respects and protects life before and after birth, we are well on our way to saving thousands of babies — and it doesn't stop there," said **House Speaker Chris Sprowls**. "Through provisions in our bill, we will continue to support babies and new moms to ensure they have the best opportunities to be healthy and safe for years to come. I could not be more proud of the tenacity, courage and resilience displayed by Representatives Grall and Persons-Mulicka in their fight for this bill and the lives of Florida's next generation."

"In the half century since the Roe v. Wade decision, science has shown us that an unborn baby rapidly develops the functions and form of a child long before viability. Having once been a scared teenage mother myself. I understand the challenge and anguish of a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy, but we have a duty to protect life," said Senator Kelli Stargel. "This bill safeguards innocent, unborn children with beating hearts, who can move, taste, see, feel pain, and whose lives should be protected under the laws of this state. Governor DeSantis is a champion for life, and I am grateful to him for signing this bill into law and protecting the right to life for unborn children across our state.'

"Today, Florida takes a big step forward in creating a culture that values, defends, and protects life," said **Representative Erin Grall**. "I am proud to have worked alongside so many great leaders, including Governor DeSantis, to pass HB 5 because I know our state values the rights of the unborn and ensures that a life remains a life, whether planned or unplanned, wanted or unwanted, in the womb or outside of the womb."

"The bill that the Governor is signing will save babies. This bill will save mothers and fathers from the lifetime of pain that I have suffered, and for that I am so grateful," said **Pro-Life Advocate Heather Grall Barwick**. "I made a mistake [to get an abortion] at 21 years old that I cannot change but I can let others learn from my mistake. I choose to share my story for my 6year-old daughter and my 19 nieces and nephews. I chose to speak up for the women who say abortion does not cause mental distress and the women in their 70s who had abortions who just now are able to testify on

#### Ocala Downtown/Seniors Voice - May 2022 Page 11

"When Hope was 10 and a half weeks gestation, her birth mother had an abortion at an abortion facility and she left that day believing she had had an abortion, but God had sparred Hope's life," said Terri Kellogg, Hope's mother Pro-Life Advocate. "At 5 1/2 months, her birth mother felt movement and at that point she chose life and adoption. She didn't know anything was wrong with her baby until she delivered two months early. When I look at Hope and I see her scar, I am reminded of how God sparred her. I am thankful for my daughter, and I am thankful for her birth mother who chose life when given a second chance. My heart is full to be here with all of you who

have done so much to stand for life." "No one wanted my daughter, her father said it's not mine, my parents wanted nothing to do with the pregnancy, my mother even took me for the abortion but when I got there, I didn't do it," said **Kelly Therrien, Pro-Life Advocate**. "I had nothing, I had nobody but I did it. My daughter will be 3 ½ on the 17<sup>th</sup>. I was prochoice but when you get in that spot and it is you personally, it messes with your mind and I am against it now, because I wouldn't have her. People say she was a mistake but no, she was a surprise. Thank you Governor for signing this."

"Being a single mother has not been easy, but I have the good fortune to be where I am now," said Agency for Health Care Administration Secretary Simone Marstiller. "When I was in college, I fell pregnant at 19. I went to a physician and was handed a referral for abortion without any counseling. I decided to keep my baby and when she was born, yelling and screaming, she was put on my chest and immediately fell silent, that is when I knew I had done the right thing. It takes courage for any woman who finds herself at a crossroads and has to make the toughest decision of their life. I hope hearing my story will encourage someone out there to make a choice and choose life, do not believe the narrative that a baby will ruin your life and that abortion is the right choice, you WILL be fine and all WILL be well."



# Page 12, Ocala Downtown/Seniors Voice - May 2022 Dunnellon High School Robotics



Your DHS robotics team went to Tallahassee over the break to compete in the FRC Tallahassee regionals. It was a very rewarding experience for the entire team. After having to deal with the pandemic and the consequences of no competition for 2 years, former experienced team members leaving after graduation, and various other personal hurdles, the team still made it happen this year. One of the many highlights of this year would be Jack Niedermayer, who went from knowing

nothing about programming a robot to having our machine up and running in roughly 8 weeks!

A special thanks to Mr. Hartey and Mrs. Slocum for helping to make the trip a fun success.

It would have been a much tougher challenge without them. Please click on the link to see team 4562 in the regional competition. There will be more highlights to come on Tigervision.

https://www.thebluealliance.com/team /4562/2022#2022flta

### Perfect Safari

(NAPSI)—After these many months of sacrifice and seclusion, isn't it time for a journey guaranteed to elevate the spirit and soothe the soul?

A luxury African safari is at the top of most travelers' wish lists and for advice on the only way to go, look no further than the readers of Travel+Leisure. The prestigious publication recently named Micato Safaris the #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter for a record-breaking tenth time in their annual survey. No safari outfitter—no tour company of any kind—has come close to landing in the #1 spot 10 times.

"In the past year, Micato Safaris has safely escorted many hundreds of guests on magical holidays through the vast plains of Africa. Our guests have been treated not only to a daily cornucopia of magnificent wildlife viewings but also to the indulgent, worry-free journey they deserve," said Dennis Pinto, Managing Director of Micato Safaris.

#### What To Expect On Safari

Splurging on a truly five-star safari removes all the stress and strain associated with budget travel. Designed for fans of the exhilarating and the luxurious, Micato safaris are fully escorted by trained guides who have achieved the highest possible certifications—with you from the moment of arrival to the day you depart. In the luxury safari business for more than 55 years, Micato's carefully vetted selection of the world's finest lodges extends from the famously lionrich plains of the Maasai Mara in

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Kenya to the (very civilized) wilds of South Africa's Kruger Park and beyond. Whether you choose to travel with a



small pre-arranged group or a fully customized safari just for you and your companions, each trip is designed around the richness of the game-viewing experience. From lions, leopards, rhinos and elephants to ostrich, giraffe, wildebeest and wild dogs, a safari led by the best in the business is the stuff of dreams.

For further information, brochures, and to arrange a safari, visit <u>www.micato.com</u>.

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