



Pictured are **Lady Lake Chamber Business Luncheon** members discussing business at the Lady Lake More pictures on page 9.



8th Annual Business to Business Expo a great success. The Chamber says we appreciate the businesses that participated. We thank you! Pictured here is a door prize drawing and the Life South lady having fun posing! Everyone had fun at the Expo Explaining to each other what and how their business works. More pictures on page 8. Photos by CKJ-13 Kay Johnson

Celebrate National Coffee With a Cop Day

The community is invited to celebrate **National Coffee with a Cop Day**

The Lady Lake Police Department, in partnership with McDonald's, will host Coffee with a Cop on Wednesday, Oct. 4 from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. The community is invited to join the department for a free hot or iced premium roast coffee at McDonald's, located at 452 U.S. Highway 27/441 in Lady Lake.

The public will have the opportunity to join Chief Steve Hunt and several officers for a casual chat with no agenda. The goal is to allow residents and police officers to get to know each other and discover mutual goals for the community in which they live in and serve.

The mission of Coffee with a Cop is to

break down the barriers between police officers and residents. Coffee with a Cop is dedicated to encouraging communication and positive interactions between law enforcement agencies and the public. Coffee with a Cop Day is celebrated nationwide and is one of the most successful community-oriented policing programs in the country. McDonald's supports local law enforcement agencies and is committed to being a safe community center in local service areas.

To stay up to date with Town news and events, visit

www.facebook.com/TownofLadyLake.

Elisha Pappacoda, Communications Director



Recovering From Hurricane Idalia

Dear Neighbor,

The last two weeks have been trying in North Central Florida—first with the expected hurricane and then with the aftermath. After visiting all of our communities and hearing from emergency management officials, small business owners, residents, and leaders, one thing is clear: our district is strong and resilient.

In Cedar Key and Horseshoe Beach, homes and businesses were washed away in just a couple of hours. Further inland, extreme wind and water damage ripped buildings from their foundations and flooded homes. Our agricultural producers—some of the hardest-hit after Idalia—saw fields flooded, crops demolished, and equipment damaged. Despite all of these challenges, we're so proud of how our neighbors worked to support each other. We have a long way to go, but we are stronger when we work together.

On Thursday, our teams were in Cedar Key and Horseshoe Beach alongside teams from the Small Business Administration, FEMA, and the Florida SBDC to help

residents file claims and get the necessary support to get back on their feet. On Monday, we'll be in Yankeetown, with more mobile office hours throughout the coming weeks soon to be announced. We hope you'll join us in-person or reach out to our team in Gainesville at (352) 505-0838 or via email at kcammack.hurricane@mail.house.gov.

Please read below to see more from these affected areas and to learn about resources available through the SBA, FEMA, and USDA to help folks recover. As always, our team is standing by to help.

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

For Freedom, Congresswoman Kat Cammack

Proudly Representing Florida's Third Congressional District

Not Too Scary Halloween

Have a hauntingly good time at Lady Lake's Not Too Scary Halloween LADY LAKE - Join the Town of Lady Lake for a delightful, but Not Too Scary Halloween, packed with family-friendly fun on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 6-8 p.m. at the Guava Street Athletic Complex, 221 W. Guava St. Revelers will enjoy Halloween-themed games that'll tickle your funny bone and

challenge your skills. Trick or treat with our community sponsors and fill your bags with goodies at various stations throughout the event. Show off your most creative and fabulous costumes for a chance to win amazing prizes! This year, the Lady Lake Library is having a costume contest with all new categories. The winner in each of the following categories will take home a \$20 Target gift card, sponsored by The Friends of the Lady Lake Library. Baby (0-2) Preschool Age (3-5) School Age (6-17)

Continued page 6



Operation: Poison Control

Lake Sheriff's Undercover Detectives Charge 21 in Operation: Poison Control

The Lake County Sheriff's Special Investigations Bureau, in conjunction with the City County Investigation Bureau, recently concluded a six-month investigation dubbed *Operation: Poison Control*. The goal of the operation was to target mid- to high-level drug traffickers distributing fentanyl throughout Lake County.

As the investigation progressed, detectives encountered an assortment of illegal narcotics being distributed throughout Lake County. As a result of the operation, undercover detectives were able to successfully purchase trafficking amounts of fentanyl, as well as trafficking amounts of methamphetamine, cocaine, and MDMA from multiple drug traffickers throughout the county. Undercover detectives were able to obtain arrest warrants for 21 individuals, for a total of 50 charges.

It should be noted that some information obtained for this investigation was developed through information received from the public. In addition, the investigation was a joint effort between several law enforcement agencies, to include the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Leesburg, Eustis, Mt. Dora, and Clermont Police Departments. Such support from our citizens and inter-agency cooperation is what makes these investigations successful.

"Operations like this and the many we have done in the past save lives. I'm proud of the dedication and commitment of our undercover agents to keep Lake County safe." -Lake Sheriff Peyton Grinnell

As a result of the operation, arrest warrants were issued for 21 subjects. A warrant round-up was conducted last week; 15 are in custody at the time of this release, and 6 are still wanted.

If you have any information concerning the whereabouts of these six individuals, you are encouraged to call the Sheriff's Office or Central Florida CRIMELINE at 1-800-423-TIPS, where you can remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a cash reward.

Attached to this release are photo boards of the involved subjects. Booking photos and specific charges for each individual arrested will be available on the Sheriff's Office website at www.lcso.org.

Operation Safe Kids

Florida Sheriffs Task Force Announce Successful Completion of Operation Safe Kids in Lake County

Lake County, Fla. (September 12, 2023)

—Today, the Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA) Task Force released the results of Operation Safe Kids, a strategic initiative in 42 Florida counties that called attention to traffic safety in and around schools to ensure that children had a safe return to school from Summer Break. During the Task Force Operation Safe Kids, Florida's sheriffs issued 7,218 warnings and 5,171 traffic citations, dedicated 5,900 hours during the enforcement period, delivered 5,520 educational messages and posted 80,674 social media messages throughout the state.

"Safeguarding Florida's future through youth-focused programs and services is a key objective for law enforcement statewide. This goal has been achieved today by identifying and monitoring high-risk areas, issuing warnings and citations, and educating the public on the importance of school zone safety," said **FSA President and Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper**. "The implementation of this program highlights Florida sheriffs' strong commitment to upholding the security of families and local communities in our state."

The following are the specific totals numbers for Lake County:

- Warnings Issued: 110
- Traffic Citations Issued: 88
- Educational Messages Delivered: 36
- Social Media Messages Posted: 8
- Human Resource Hours Dedicated: 55

Trump Says...

I recently sat down for an interview with Megyn Kelly.

She said, "[you could be] enjoying this beautiful golf course, Mar-a-Lago, your lovely family. You don't have to be running for President, sitting for 4 criminal trials, some civil and possibly looking at jail time. Is it worth it?"

My answer is simple: **America is always worth it.**

Because if we don't win the 2024 election, we won't have a country anymore.

Amen!

Lady Lake Police Chief Steve Hunt was Honored to join tri-county first responders at MISSION BBQ's 9/11 ceremony. Chief Hunt spoke of making this day personal and sharing in the grief felt by so many, as well as encouraging people to show kindness to one another.

"We remember those who sacrificed 22 years ago on that day and those who have

suffered from the ramifications of that day," he said. "I ask that we just have a little more tolerance for one another and really reflect on the things that are important, to honor those who gave their lives so we can live a better life. I am so thankful for those who served and for the men and women who are answering the call today."

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Florida State Senate

DENNIS K. BAXLEY



Dear Friends,
We sincerely hope that all of you made it safely through Hurricane Idalia. As we near the end of hurricane season, we have officially made it to the beginning of committee meetings, which started on October 9th. As a reminder, The committees that I have been assigned to are Agriculture, Appropriations, Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice, Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, Children, Families, and Elder Affairs, Community Affairs, Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security, and Rules.

To better prepare for the upcoming legislative session, the Lake County Legislative Delegation held their annual legislative delegation meeting on August 22nd. This annual public meeting is an opportunity for citizens, elected officials, cities and local governments, and other civic organizations to address the delegation before the start of the next legislative session. This meeting was inspiring and fruitful. It is always encouraging to see the community come together to express their ideas and to take an active part in their government. Since Senate District 13 covers all of Lake County and West Orange County, we will also be attending the Orange County Legislative Delegation meeting on November 29th for further insight into the concerns and needs of our constituents.

On another note, we have begun the implementation of one of the many important pieces of legislation that was passed during the 2023 Legislative Session – House Bill 1: Education. In a show of good faith, incorporating recommendations from the Florida Association of District School

Superintendent s, led by former Senator Bill Montford, this bill took the first step towards reducing onerous and excessive regulations on public schools with several immediate revisions to Florida's Education Code. For example, the bill reduces hurdles to a 5-year temporary teacher certificate for anyone with a bachelor's degree and for those with three years of effective or highly effective service. The bill repeals the requirement that a student take one online course in order to graduate from high school, which is not currently required in private schools. The bill also offers districts flexibility in facility costs for new construction, and offers student transportation flexibility to improve efficiency, while maintaining student safety. To reduce additional regulation on public schools, the next step in implementing HB 1 is for the State Board of Education to review the entirety of the Florida Early Learning-20 Education Code for potential repeals and revisions to be considered during the 2024 Legislative Session. HB 1 requires the Board to consider input from teachers, superintendents, administrators, school boards, public and private postsecondary institutions, home educators, and other entities, and that process is ongoing.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We hope that it will encourage you to attend your local legislative delegation meeting as well as shed some light on an important legislative priority that the Florida Legislature will continue to focus on during the next session.

Onward and Upward,



Lake County Events

OCT 6
Lake County Museum of Art 4th Annual Bubbles & Brews
Help the LCMA continue its mission of promoting art education to build culture and enrich our community by enjoying an evening with an Itzhak Tarkay art exhibit, food, live music, auctions, raffles, a mechanical bull, and, of course, Bubbles & Brews!

OCT 6
Exploration Hike
Join staff and explore the habitats and species of Ferndale Preserve.

OCT 7
CleanUp Eustis
11/412/201/602/303/204/605/406/807/6
CleanUp Eustis is having our next CleanUp group event, and we need YOUR help! Grab your community groups and neighbors and help for an hour or two! Supplies and Bright Future Hours Provided.

OCT 7
Salute to Glen Campbell
Jeff Dayton's 15 years as bandleader and guitarist for the legendary Glen Campbell

were filled with touring, adventures, and stories as they traveled and recorded together. Jeff and the band perform all the hits the same way they were done live.

OCT 7
Four Corners 1st Saturday Food Truck
Band, crafters, food trucks, bounce house, and more! Bring the family and join us for a fun evening.

OCT 7
Lake Apopka Loop Trail Birding Hike
Join park staff on a 3-4 mile hike along the Lake Apopka Loop Trail while surveying the birds along the way. Insect repellent is strongly encourage.

OCT 8
Exploration Hike
Join staff on an early evening adventure to explore the park while getting some exercise.

OCT 11
Remembering Ed Sullivan Show #2
Pay homage to two country music legends as we celebrate the music of Kenny Rogers and Hank Williams, Sr. Let their heartfelt melodies and storytelling lyrics

whisk you away to the heart of Nashville.

OCT 11
Spooktacular 5K Night Run
A Spooktacular 5K Night Run in the spirit of Halloween! The race starts & finishes at Victory Point. All new Spook Zones this year will line the out and back course on the South Lake Trail or Lake Hiawatha Preserve Costumed runners will compete for lots of great prizes!

OCT 12
Ecology of the Pine Meadows Conservation Area
Perfect for homeschool adventures! Join staff as we explore the changing habitats of this watershed.

OCT 12
Dade Battlefield Seminole Wars
See Flyer

OCT 12
Friends of the Umatilla Public Library
Support your hometown library by joining Umatilla's Friends of the Library. Friends members raise funds to support library projects, programs and book purchases.

OCT 13
Home, Garden & Recreation Expo
Exciting event for your whole family. There will be plants, home improvement, parks & trails information, guest speakers and exhibits. Spaces still available for vendors.

OCT 13
Mount Dora Art in the Alley
Support local, emerging artists with your purchases every 2nd Friday of the month at Mount Dora's Art in the Alley from 6-9pm. Who knows? You might discover the next Van Gogh. Held on Royellou Ln alley between 3rd and 5th Ave.

OCT 14
Second Annual Down The Hill a Soap Box Derby Event
Whether you're a participant or a spectator, this event promises a great time for all. Watch as racers zoom by, showcasing their creativity and engineering skills. Bring your family and friends along for a memorable day at this soap box derby event!

OCT 14
ROCKTOBERFEST featuring SISTER HAZEL & The Ries Brothers
Join us for our 5th Annual ROCKTOBERFEST & Monster Splash Seaplane Fly-In featuring SISTER HAZEL & The Ries Brothers! Admission is FREE! Seating is limited, please bring a chair or blanket. Follow the City of Tavares Facebook Event page for more info

OCT 15
Wildlife of PEAR Park
Join staff and explore the habitats and species of PEAR Park and learn about the natural communities and restoration projects.

OCT 20
Double Run Paddle
Tucked away on Little Lake Harris is the Double Run Spring where naturalists will lead paddlers in exploration of this hidden

paradise and search for the wildlife that call this area home.

OCT 21
Four Corners Fall Festival
Fall Festival for the whole family. Costume Contest with prizes, crafters, food trucks, music, games, bounce houses, train rides, little farm animals, horse rides, pumpkin patch and more. Small fee for horse rides, train rides and pumpkins.

OCT 21
Leesburg Community Cleanup
You're Invited! The City of Leesburg and Keep Lake Beautiful are sponsoring a community and trails cleanup day on Saturday, October 21. Come out and join us as we work together to make our green spaces in Leesburg more beautiful places!

OCT 21
Homeschool Workshop
Homeschool parents! Come to Trout Lake Nature Center for this Homeschool Workshop and learn about nature activities that you can use to enhance your child's learning. For more information and to register visit <https://bit.ly/homeschoolworkshop2023>.

OCT 21
Not Too Scary Halloween
Join the Town of Lady Lake for a delightful, but Not Too Scary Halloween, packed with family-friendly fun on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 6-8 p.m. at the Guava Street Athletic Complex, 221 W. Guava St.

OCT 25
Restoration of Lake May Reserve
Join staff in an open discussion on restoration processes, Rx fire techniques and wildfire mitigation in the Wildland Urban Interface.

OCT 28
Mount Dora Craft Fair
10/2910/2610/27
Ranked #1 All Time Favorite Craft Festival in America in 2021 by Sunshine Artist Magazine in their 50th anniversary edition. The downtown streets come alive with more than 400 of the best exhibitors in the country.

OCT 28
Rod Stewart Tribute Concert
Rob Caudill is a seasoned performer who has been entertaining audiences across the country for over 25 years. In his tribute show to legendary rocker Rod Stewart, he brings to life the energy, style, and unforgettable hits of the iconic artist.

OCT 28
Heart of Florida Chorus show: Songs From The Heart
Join the Heart of Florida Chorus, international champion quartet Signature, and the Sunshine Harmony Chorus on Saturday, October 28 for a celebration of barbershop harmony! Two showtimes at 3 pm & 6 pm.

SEND US YOUR
EVENTS
TLoury@att.net

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



Bidenomic's has put America in Decline. Biden is not in control he is being used and does not always follow directions. Some times he act's unaware and other times he seems sharp, Hypnosis? He has a story for everything and if he does not, he will make one up. I believe Obama / Nancy Pelosi / Chuck Shumer and the Green squad are controlling him because they know what he has been doing and he is compromised. He has to go along or go to jail. He has made no effort to find out who or how the COVID started. But he can control the masses if they have to wear mask and work at home. He will say mask for the children at school's. Then the people will vote by mail in ballots and that is what they need to win the election. Just the same way they stoled the last election. Now we have prosecution or persecution? It is easy to see the political move on Trump is TRUMPED UP! At this point most Americans don't care what they say about Trump, they want him to run the

country and the Democrats who lost still have some power and would rather ruin the country than let him be president. HE IS CLEANING THE SWAMP! Do you think they would be investigating Hunter Biden if Trump has not used the words CLEAN THE SWAMP! We the American people need to help him do that. Coming soon there be an election, they will call it that but I think it is a movement. The Trump train is rolling and the Dem's can stand in the way if they want, it will not work for them. We the people have decided!

Hunter Biden has been indicted, do you think for a minute that he will see punishment (Jail time). If he does he will turn on Joe Biden and it will be all over. The level of corruption will be the biggest, worst, act's every seen. I hope Trump has a top notch security team!

We need him healthy, he is sharp as a tack and will dig us out of poverty the first year. Then we will be on track for recovery. That's when I would like to see DeSantis run.

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for November

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

Noon, October 20th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, October 25th

Village Spectator / Lady Lake Magazine

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You hear people say the state or the county don't help. I found them very cooperative. Dunnellon FL at the north end of the high school road, people have been driving across sr 40 and running into the embankment across SR 40. I called the State Road Authority's and they gave me the local contact person's phone number. I explained the problem. they pulled up the satellite image and saw that there use to be reflectors but they were gone. They came out the next day and put up new reflectors facing high school road because the road is heavily used when school opened. I also called the county road department and they went out and check the rumble strips and check for reflectors. They did some work out there right away. Each of the contacts got back to me and informed me on what they found and what they did. I found them very helpful!

My sons business "Loury Land Services" went to the aid of someone in Live Oak. They have all American made equipment John Deere excavator, Skid Steer, Dump Trailer, 4 wheel drive John Deere tractor with grapple on front, John Deere Bulldozer and all the attachments that go with the equipment. They went to the aid of someone, the National Guard would not let them in. They did finally get the resident out of his home who had been trap in for days. They are up there trying to help, I suggested talking go the local Sheriff. We'll see how this all works out, but they are and trying to help.

Great phone call yesterday, Nick Navetta of Edward Jones called and ask what do you want me to do with this interest check? The money we earn on our CD's continue to earn more than the bank's. Thank you Nick! Nick is a trusted friend call Nick, see the ad in this paper.

Good news again Christine Calvert has block out some half page ads for the next three months and maybe more. Christine is a trust friend and my Healthcare Insurance provider. Christine says there are some new

things coming (Positive benefits) that she can't talk about until they are announced. If you need to ask for advise about healthcare check the Humana ad in this paper. Christine is an independent Healthcare broker.

FairTax continues with us in the newspaper. Elaine Maiellaro is my contact person. Thank you Elaine.

I say keep your friends close to you! THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU GUYS DO!
TomL

Rant

By TomL

I have to keep the location out of this story. It is an incident still colmenating.

In September I complained in writing to a persons a email address that no one else would see, about a persons educate that effected a small group of people. Basically this small group of people stand in the drizzling rain were waiting in line for their turn and another person butted ahead of them. I complained to the person by email. Signed my name and with my phone number. A guy who was a friend of his did not like what I had to say. While ranting at me on the phone he mentioned he did not care how big I was, how long a body part is, who I knew bla bla bla and then he called me a CONSERVATIVE I said what? How dare you! I answered when the guy took a breath and said I am a hard core Republican Conservative!

At the end about ten minutes we agreed to disagree. That afternoon I looked up conservative. The dictionary missed a few thing that describe me.

One place it says holding traditional values, again I agree in favoring private enterprise, private ownership and social traditional ideas. It also says right-winger reactionary, diehard. On the internet it says...

Conservatives are group of individuals, mostly republicans who have a different view or philosophy in the political world. Conservatives have both a political and social philosophy that allows traditional

Continued page 6

Reverse Mortgage Explained

October 10, 12:30pm

The Standard Coffee Lounge, 1552 Bella Cruz, The Villages

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

**Learn the History, Myths, Facts
and How Reverse Mortgages Work.**

**Presented by:
Dan Kapellen
NMLS 2302495**

**Certified Reverse Mortgage
Specialist
Resident of The Villages**



**PLEASE
SUPPORT
THE WOUNDED
WARRIORS!**



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

FAIRTax

FAIRtax
SIMPLE • EFFICIENT • VISIBLE

I've often heard people say that the FAIRtax is unfair to the poor and the wealthy won't pay their fair share. That is NOT true. I've also heard that it is unfair that the wealthy get the same prebate as everyone else. Again, NOT true. Let's also remember that the "net" tax rate differs greatly from your "effective" tax rate (the rate you actually pay).

Let's look at a billionaire under the FAIRtax and assume he is married with no children. If he spends \$10,000,000 he is paying \$2,300,000 in taxes and gets a prebate of \$4,697 then his effective tax rate as a percentage of spending is 22.95 percent.

Now let's look at a middle-income married couple with no children under the FAIRtax. If they spend \$50,000 they pay \$6,803 net of their prebate for an effective rate of 13.6 percent. The effective rate increases as spending increases, but never exceeds 23 percent.

In contrast, if the same couple earns \$50,000 in wages today under the current

income tax system, they pay \$4,093 in income taxes and \$3,825 in payroll taxes for a total of \$7,918 or 15.8 percent. That's a tax burden 14.1 percent higher than under the FAIRtax. In addition, their employer pays another \$3,825 in payroll taxes. Most economists agree that the employer payroll tax is actually borne by the employees in the form of lower wages. Looking at it this way, this couple is paying \$11,743 (23.5 percent) in taxes today which does not include the hidden taxes they pay every time they purchase an item.

Finally, let's look at a low-income couple that spends at the poverty level under the FAIRtax. They pay no net FAIRtax at all as the prebate effectively eliminates their taxes on spending up to the poverty level. However, under today's income tax, this couple not only pays 15 percent in payroll taxes but also pays the hidden taxes arising from corporate taxes, private sector compliance costs and payroll taxes passed on to consumers and embedded in the price of everything they buy.

The FAIRtax is fair to all levels of income. To learn more go to FAIRtax.org.

Coping with Dementia



Coping with Dementia Conference to open with French horn concert

The Coping with Dementia Care Partner Conference scheduled to take place in the Savanna Center on October 30th will open with a welcoming concert performed by Cornocopia, a French horn trio of accomplished musicians who live in The Villages.

The trio will consist of Tica Lossee, who

taught music in the Baltimore City Public Schools for 32 years; Karen Buckley, a post-graduate piano and horn student at the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester and the University of Connecticut; and Lesan Van Sickle, a Bachelor of Music in horn performance at Baldwin-Wallace College, and Master of Music at the Manhattan School of Music who played professionally for 13 years.

Doors open for the conference at 9:30 a.m. where the trio will perform while attendees are visiting the educational presentations of more than 30 Resource Partners. Music will continue until the speaking program begins at 10 a.m.

The performance by Cornocopia has been made possible by the sponsorship of Joan Bender and Dick Boyden of Our Moment Café Inc., an award-winning Memory Café program conducted twice a month at two venues in The Villages. Our Moment Café will have an information table at the conference, along with several other dementia adult day and social therapy programs.

Want to Kill the Death Tax?
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Want to learn more?
Go to: FLfairtax.org or Call 352-804-0007

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Rant *Continued from page 4*

institutions to be upheld and maintained in the government

BUT they left out a few thing.....

I believe in family, god, and country, friends and my right to bare arms. I guess I need to learn how to back up a little but so far unless the odds are outrageously high I

won't. I would not want to get someone else hurt! I have been known to shut up which some times is best. You know...It does not matter how much you argue when you are wrong you are wrong and I told him about his Assets. oops wrong spelling. I think you got the idea.

YES I AM A CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN!(HARD CORE)

Not Too Scary Halloween

Continued from page 1

Family Homemade The event is presented by Lady Lake Parks & Recreation. For more information or to learn how to be a part of this popular annual event by providing a promotional business booth with

games or candy, contact Parks & Recreation Director Mike Burske at (352) 430-0451 or visit ladylake.org. Bring your family and friends for a hauntingly good time! Let's celebrate Halloween together in a way that's fun for all ages! Best of all, it's free to attend.



Colonel Robert Long, Space Force

Colonel Robert Long, United States Space Force, Ret. as New President and Chief Executive Officer

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Today, Space Florida, announced the selection of Colonel Robert Long, United States Space Force, Ret. as its new President and Chief Executive Officer. With an extensive background in the military and space industry, Colonel Long will further drive Space Florida's mission to advance the aerospace industry and solidify Florida as the global hub for aerospace. The vote to select Colonel Long took place during a Space Florida Board of Directors meeting on September 19, 2023.

"I am honored to welcome Colonel Long as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of Space Florida," said **Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez, Chair of the Space Florida Board of Directors.** "Throughout the selection process, Colonel Long laid out a compelling long-term vision that will ensure Florida's dominance in the space industry. Together with the Board of Directors, Space Florida will continue to expand Florida's footprint and focus on business investment, research and development, national defense, manufacturing, workforce, and more. As Florida's aerospace ecosystem continues to rapidly grow, I am confident that Colonel Long will serve the state with great distinction and use his proven track record and visionary leadership to propel Space Florida into a new era."

"I want to thank Lieutenant Governor Nuñez and the entire board for the trust they have placed in me to lead Space Florida into the future," said **Robert Long, newly selected President and CEO, Space Florida.** "I look forward to working

alongside the exceptional Space Florida team and our stakeholders and partners to solidify Florida as the global leader for aerospace commerce. From infrastructure improvements and business development to spaceport operations, I am committed to driving the future of the industry here where it all began more than 70 years ago."

Colonel Robert Long most recently served as Commander at Space Launch Delta 30 and Western Launch and Test Range at Vandenberg Space Force Base. Colonel Long has held numerous operational, staff, and command assignments in ICBM, satellite, and launch operations, including duties in the National Reconnaissance Office, Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space Staff, and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research & Engineering. He earned a master's degree in aerospace engineering and is a graduate of the College of Naval Command and Staff, the School for Advanced Air and Space Studies, and the Eisenhower School.

The announcement follows a national search after current President and CEO Frank DiBello announced his retirement earlier this year. DiBello has successfully led Space Florida for 14 years, and under his leadership, Space Florida has achieved significant milestones, fostering the growth of the aerospace industry across the state.

"It has been an incredible privilege to lead Space Florida and work alongside some of the brightest minds in the industry," said **Frank DiBello, President and CEO of Space Florida.** "I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together, and I am confident that Space Florida will continue to thrive under Colonel Long's capable leadership."

Why Join The Lady Lake Area Chamber?

- **Networking Opportunities**- Connect with business professionals
- **Visibility** - Get noticed in your community
- **Credibility**- Membership raises your business reputation
- **Discounts**- Take advantage of member- only discounts
- **Learning**- Member only speaker series on business topics
- **Give Back**- Volunteer on committees to help the community

Contact us today to be added to our email list and stay connected to local businesses & events!



A Look Into the Eye



Help Kids See Their Way To A Good Education

(NAPSI)—If any of the approximately 74 million schoolchildren in the U.S. is someone you care about, here's something you may want to look into: According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), visual health can have a great influence on students' academic performance. Visual disorders, the NIH says, are one of the best predictors of educational success.

A Look Into The Eye

The eye is literally an extension of the brain. It is estimated that more than 60% of the brain has some duties associated with vision input, the American Optometric Association points out. Because of this, any condition that hampers vision or the processing of vision may result in learning problems. When diagnosed and treated early, however, most individuals have a better chance of learning efficiently.

That's one reason the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force recommends children between the ages of 3 and 5 get vision

screening to reveal problems that may lead to blindness without early treatment.

So, many students, teachers, and parents may be glad to learn about an improved way to test children's vision.

Seeing Vision Problems Clearly

A handheld, portable device called the Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener by Baxter has been designed to help quickly and easily detect the risk factors of amblyopia and other vision issues in children as young as six months, all done from a non-invasive, three-foot distance. A bright touchscreen displays instant results, indicating whether measurements are in range or a complete eye exam is recommended.

The machine objectively measures refractive errors and alignment between the eyes, which helps identify six risk factors of amblyopia. Select photo screening devices can examine both eyes at once and can take only a few seconds to perform the screening.

Results are easy to interpret and can be shared with family and other eye care specialists. It can easily be used in pediatric offices, schools and community vision screenings. The American Academy of Pediatrics and American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus recommend the use of photo screening instruments in young children.

The Effectiveness of Photo Screening

A study performed by researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University found that photo screening correctly identified more students in need of a comprehensive eye exam than an ordinary screening could. The study also showed that instrument-based screening is time efficient and can be performed in a quarter of the time of visual acuity screening.

One Family's Story

The Malpass family, based in Washington

State, includes two active boys, Miles, 12, and Parker, 8, who love to play all sorts of sports and are avid readers. When Miles complained that he could not see well out of his right eye, their parents had both boys looked at with a Spot Vision Screener. It was discovered that each boy's eyes were slightly different sizes, causing a refractive error in the bad eye. The brain prefers to use the dominant eye, which made the vision worse in the non-dominant eye. An ordinary eye chart test at school had failed to catch the problem. Fortunately, it was correctable and both boys now wear glasses and see well at school and on the playing fields and ski slopes.

Learn More

To read stories about the importance of vision screening, visit

www.hillrom.com/SVS-Testimonials.

How Climate Crisis Affects You



— And What You Can Do About It

(NAPSI)—Families across the country cope with the effects of the climate crisis as extreme storms, wildfires, heat and floods

grow in frequency and intensity. In fact, one of the nation's leaders in disaster relief, the American Red Cross, now responds to nearly twice as many large disasters across the country as it did a decade ago.

National Preparedness Month in September is an important reminder to help your family and pets stay safe by taking action now with three simple steps: Get a kit, make a plan and be informed.

Get a Kit

Build your emergency kit with a gallon of water per person, per day; non-perishable food; a flashlight; and a battery-powered radio. Also include a first aid kit, medications, supplies for infants or pets, a multi-purpose tool and personal hygiene items. Don't forget to add copies of important papers, cell phone chargers, blankets, maps of the area and emergency contact information.

Make a Plan

Plan what to do in case you are separated from your family during an emergency and need to evacuate. Make sure to coordinate your plan with your child's school, your work and your community's emergency plans.

Be Informed

Find out what disasters or emergency situations may occur where you live, work and go to school; how officials will contact you during a disaster; and how you will get important information, such as evacuation orders.

Depending on your household's needs, you may have additional considerations as part of your emergency planning. Visit redcross.org/prepare for more information and tips.

How to Help Others

Continued page 11



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Lady Lake Chamber Business to Business Expo

We want to extend a huge thank you to all the businesses that participated in our 8th annual business-to-business expo! We appreciate your support and dedication to making this event a success. We strive to make each event we host valuable to those who participate, and we are delighted to hear that you found it valuable as well.

We understand that some businesses were disappointed not to win a door prize, even though they

provided one. To minimize this, we are implementing a new rule for next year's event. Only one representative from each business that provides a door prize will be eligible to win a door prize. We hope this new rule will help ensure that everyone has a fair chance to win.

We also want to express our gratitude to all of the volunteers who generously donated their time and

energy to make this event possible. Without your help, we could not have achieved such a successful event.

Once again, thank you for participating in our expo. We look forward to seeing you all again next year and making the event even better!

**Photos by
CKJ-13 Kay Johnson**




Chamber Luncheon at Eaton's Beach


Lady Lake Chamber business luncheon was a success. It is a success any time you get a group of business people together to discuss business. This luncheon was held at Eaton's Beach right on the lake front. Janet Fraley was running around making everything ready and of course Jeannie was there helping. Leslie was at her Fall Conference. I had a window seat

the best of two worlds. Look out at the lake, enjoy business people and taking pictures. Lot's of door prizes were given out. It was a perfect day. The Chamber has a luncheon's almost every month so watch for them and attend.





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Climate Crisis

Continued from page 7

The increase in large disaster responses also means that more people need help across the country. As a part of this, the Red Cross is calling for new volunteers to help grow its disaster workforce—90% comprised of trained volunteers—to deliver shelter, food, health and mental health support, and one-on-one recovery assistance. Learn more and become a volunteer at

[redcross.org/VolunteerToday](https://www.redcross.org/VolunteerToday).

Weather Affects the National Blood Supply

Blood and platelet donations that go uncollected due to climate-related events, such as hurricanes, wildfires and extreme heat, can put further strain on the national blood supply. As extreme weather events are worsening, the Red Cross—which provides about 40% of the nation's blood supply—is seeing that translate into more blood drive cancellations. In 2022, over 1,300 blood drives were canceled due to weather—about 23% higher than the average of the prior nine years.

Fewer donors than needed have given blood this summer, drawing down the national blood supply and reducing distributions of some of the most needed blood types to hospitals.

People depend on the generosity of blood donors. To ensure the nation's blood supply is prepared for all emergencies, the Red Cross urges individuals to schedule an appointment to donate today using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767). If you are unable to give blood, you can volunteer to support blood collections at [redcross.org/VolunteerToday](https://www.redcross.org/VolunteerToday).

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month



... With Love And Pride

(NAPSI)—Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 through October 15, celebrates legacies from past generations. In many Latino cultures, that includes lessons mothers share with their children on taking care of the home and family. That's one reason this month (and all through the year), many people like to recognize mothers and the Hispanic-owned brands that are dedicated to helping them keep a wonderfully clean home.

For example, AIEEn USA is the North American subsidiary of one of the most recognized companies in the household cleaning products category in Mexico: Industrias AIEEn S.A de C.V (Grupo AIEEn). Since its beginning in 1949, Grupo AIEEn has pioneered well-known consumer brands popular in Mexico.

For many Hispanic moms, fragrance is a top priority when it comes to a clean home. They feel nothing says “te amo” like soft, fresh smelling laundry, and Ensueño Max fabric softener will ensure that everything from socks to sweatshirts has a long-lasting scent and that your fabrics stay soft and wear well.

One product many Hispanic families have

in their cleaning cabinet is Pinalen Original, a pine oil-based cleaner that degreases, fights stains, shines floors, and more. Not only does Pinalen Original have the highest percentage of pine oil compared to any other pine-based cleaner on the market, the manufacturer harvests the pine oil from a sustainable, company-owned plantation in Mexico.

As for the well-loved surfaces in Mom's home that could use some elbow grease, there's Cloralen Multipurpose Cleaner. It eliminates stains and grease in even such tough-to-clean spots as bathroom tile, kitchen counters, toilet tanks and more.

Then your mother and entire family can enjoy a clean kitchen in which to cook and share a festive meal.

Global Spotlight: Brazil

Brazil: Deforestation of Amazon reduce by more than 30 Percent

by [Kontrast.at/Marco Puehringer](https://www.kontrast.at/Marco-Puehringer)

For years, the Amazon rainforest was cut down. The concern: the unique ecosystem could collapse. The deforestation in Brazil is a huge environmental problem. But the election of Lula da Silva as president gave hope. He announced that he would end the deforestation of the Amazon. In fact, the first steps followed a few days after taking office. The encouraging result: in comparison to the previous year, deforestation was reduced by more than a third.

“BRAZIL IS READY TO RESUME ITS ROLE I THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND PROTECT ALL ECOSYSTEMS, ESPECIALLY THE

AMAZON. OUR GOVERNMENT ONCE MANAGED TO REDUCE FOREST DESTRUCTION BY 80%. NOW LETS ALL FIGHT TOGETHER FOR ZERO DEFORESTATION!” SAYS LULA DA SILVA, PRESIDENT OF BRAZIL.

The BBC reports first successes in the fight against rainforest deforestation. Compared to the first half of the previous year, deforestation was reduced by 33.6%. In June 2023, as much as 41% less forest was destroyed than the previous year. Brazilian Environment Minister Marina Silva attributes this to Lula's successful environmental policy.

Lulas potential to reduce deforestation by 89 percent

Lula's goal of ending deforestation by 2030 is a major challenge. Under his predecessor, Jair Bolsonaro, deforestation took on alarming dimensions. The new conservation plan, which President Lula published at the beginning of June 2023, aims to achieve this goal. Among other things, it provides for the confiscation of half of all illegally used land within protected areas, as well as higher penalties for illegal logging.

Furthermore, the Brazilian president calls on other countries, especially the rich West, to contribute financially to saving the “green lungs of the earth” in order to combat the climate crisis globally.

A study confirms that Lula's plans actually have the potential to reduce deforestation in the Amazon by 89 percent. In any case, Lula will not have it easy: The left-wing president still faces a conservative majority in parliament.

Under Bolsonaro, the Amazon shrank by more than twice the area of Vienna – per month

This is sorely needed, because the

Continued page 15



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Rep. Cammack Joins Colleagues To Support Florida's Request For Federal Fishery Disaster Declaration

GAINESVILLE, FL
— Hurricane Idalia
severely impacted

Florida's fisheries, a significant contributor to Florida's economy. These small businesses need assistance to recover from this Major Hurricane.

On September 5, 2023, the State of Florida requested the U.S. Department of Commerce to declare a federal fishery resource disaster to support fishery businesses affected by Hurricane Idalia.

Rep. Cammack joined U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) and colleagues in sending a letter to U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo supporting the State of Florida's request.

“Florida's iconic fisheries are foundational to the economy and way of life of many of the communities that have been devastated by Hurricane Idalia. A timely and robust response by the Department of Commerce, through the declaration of a fishery disaster in support of Florida's fishing industries, is required to help these communities recover.”

To Rein in Biden, Look To Florida's Example

President [Joe Biden](#)'s regulatory assault on American families is easily the worst in American history.

It's driving up grocery prices, utility bills, and the cost of everyday life, leaving people paying a lot more while getting a lot less. If [Republicans](#) truly want to fight back, they should look to the states for

inspiration—especially our home state of Florida. The Sunshine State is rolling back red tape at a record pace, thanks in large part to a unique policy that empowers lawmakers to block new mandates. Republicans in [Congress](#) should rally around a similar law to stop President Biden's rule by administrative fiat.

Compare what's happening in D.C. to what's happening in Florida.

At the federal level, President Biden proposed and enacted new regulations costing a [staggering \\$201 billion](#) in his first year alone. That's more than three times the burden imposed by President [Barack Obama](#) over the same timespan, and 40 times that of President [Donald Trump](#).

In his second year in office, President Biden shows no signs of slowing down. He's dictating everything from the [**cars we can drive**](#) to the [**lightbulbs we can buy**](#). If anything, the president's spree of red tape is only going to grow, especially if Republicans retake Congress this November. He'll use what President Obama famously called his "pen and phone" in ways no chief executive ever has before.

Compare that with what's happening in Florida.

The Sunshine State proposed the lowest number of regulations in modern history last year, according to [new research from the Foundation for Government Accountability](#). It follows years of regulatory repeal and relief by governors and lawmakers alike.

This sustained progress puts Florida well ahead of its competition. California now has more than twice as many regulatory restrictions. New York has about 75% more, and Illinois 65% more. Even Texas has a larger regulatory burden than Florida.

The chasm between these states is set to grow even deeper. The overall number of regulatory restrictions is still falling in Florida; it's growing in nearly every other state.

Why is Florida cutting red tape so quickly and effectively? One of the biggest reasons is a [2010 law](#), passed over then-Gov. Charlie Crist's veto, that says the state legislature must approve all rules that cost \$1 million or more over five years. If lawmakers don't affirmatively approve such a regulation, it doesn't go into effect. This policy ensures that the people's representatives have a say on new mandates.

Unsurprisingly, lawmakers have stopped new mandates that would jack up costs on Florida families. That includes stopping a [proposed rule](#) this year from the agriculture commissioner to ban styrofoam in grocery stores, saving families from higher costs.

Florida's policy is the definition of common sense—but the federal government takes the opposite, and nonsensical, approach. President Biden can force Americans to pay hundreds of billions of dollars in higher regulatory costs because there's no real check on his administration's ability to propose new rules. Congress gets no say in the matter, even though the Constitution invests the House and the [Senate](#) with sole lawmaking power. Lawmakers are bystanders when they should be referees.

At the start of the current Congress, one of us (Rep. Cammack) [introduced](#) a federal version of Florida's law. It's called the REINS Act and it requires the House and Senate to vote on all federal regulations that impose at least \$100 million in costs annually. This policy would have given Congress the chance to stop a significant portion of President Biden's regulatory spree; it would have put [Democrats](#) in the tough spot of voting for mandates that make prices higher and life more painful for working families.

But the current REINS Act wouldn't

necessarily have stopped all the president's use and abuse of the federal bureaucracy. Like Obama before him, President Biden has also relied on executive orders and agency "guidance," including the [recent 25% boost to food stamp payments](#). This approach has the de facto effect of regulation absent formality, meaning Congress couldn't always vote to stop it.

We're therefore partnering to introduce an expanded version of the REINS Act to close this loophole. If this policy is enacted, Congress will be required to vote on essentially every major action coming out of the executive branch. By stopping new mandates like President Biden's, lawmakers could save Americans untold billions of dollars, and even help tame runaway inflation in the process. Most important, it will put citizens back in the position of holding accountable their duly elected representatives—not unelected bureaucrats.

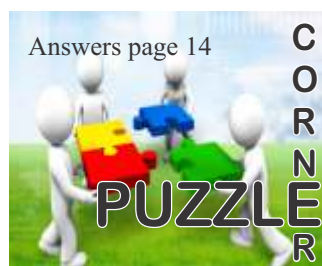
Florida proves this policy works. The state's economy is booming, with new residents moving here every 50 seconds and 1,800 new start-ups setting up shop every day. The state's light touch on red tape, driven by the governor's and lawmakers' willingness to stop costly new rules, is undoubtedly contributing to the [Sunshine State's ever-brightening outlook](#). Republicans in Congress should fight to bring that approach of accountability and affordability to Washington, D.C.

Kat Cammack represents Florida's Third Congressional District and serves on the House Agriculture Committee. Tarren Bragdon is president and CEO of the Foundation for Government Accountability and resides in Naples, Florida.



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1. Monopolizes
5. Not appropriate
10. Hudson and Green
14. Sword, Juno, Gold, Omaha and ____
15. "When pigs fly!"
16. Medicinal succulent
17. Monster lizard
18. Silk with a wavy pattern
19. Eye infection
20. "He may try to cover up his ..."
23. Possessive pronoun
24. Emmy winner Ruby
25. Nickname of the 30th U.S. president
28. Hawaiian instrument (Var.)
32. ____ del Plata (Argentinean resort)
35. Snooty
37. Levesque of Quebec
38. Use hip boots, e.g.
39. "He may be hiding out at his ..."

42. ____ out (just made it)
 43. Raw silk color
 44. Sea of the Solomon Islands
 45. Hankering
 46. Like some modeling substances
 48. Playable serves
 49. ____-Wan Kenobi
 50. Mosconi's pride
 52. "He will hide his identity with an ..."
 61. Cubby holes?
 62. Wee one in Glasgow
 63. Not the best place for a thorn
 64. Social starter?
 65. "The sky's the ____"
 66. L X W
 67. Sounds from a milk container?
 68. Mournful poem
 69. 2000, for one
- Down**
1. Good things to give your kids
 2. Ear-relevant
 3. Lavish celebration
 4. Lamb Chop's handler
 5. Reveal
 6. Gaudy night light
 7. Like fanatical sports fans
 8. Sassy
 9. Ran the old sewing machine
 10. Thanksgiving Day chore
 11. Range between soprano

- and tenor
12. Ma the musician
13. Gets an eyeful
21. Thanksgiving Day chore
22. Site of the first stroke?
25. Shrewd
26. How great minds think
27. Pontî's wife
29. Author Jong
30. Having that doubtful feeling
31. Listlessness
32. A language of New Zealand
33. Spot maker?
34. Lively dances
36. Like Methuselah
38. "___ goes there?"
40. Trustworthy
41. Hebrew school (Var.)
46. TV network letters
47. Hardly plentiful
49. Desert watering hole
51. Test format, perhaps
52. Man with an apple named after him?
53. He's after the news
54. "Out of the frying pan, ___"
55. Tooth partner
56. Word with store or novel
57. Icebox, informally
58. The Emerald Isle
59. The embryo of an invention
60. Snookums

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FROM THE DESK OF

ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



Attorney General Moody Encourages Floridians To Remain Vigilant During National Preparedness Month

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—This National

Preparedness Month, Attorney General Ashley Moody is urging Floridians to remain vigilant. National Preparedness Month raises awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. September also marks the peak of hurricane season. Currently, there are multiple tropical systems in the Atlantic Ocean, including Hurricane Lee. Florida just endured the effects of Hurricane Idalia late last month and recovery efforts will be ongoing for the foreseeable future. To help Floridians solidify storm-readiness plans, Attorney General Moody is highlighting the 2023 Hurricane Preparedness Guide.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "In emergency situations, proper preparations can make all the difference. As we recognize National Preparedness Month, move through the peak of hurricane season, and see heavy storm activity in the Atlantic, I encourage all Floridians to take another look at our 2023 Hurricane Preparedness Guide to solidify storm preparations."

The Atlantic Hurricane season peaks between mid-August and mid-October. Hurricane Lee and Hurricane Margot are both strong storms currently moving through the Atlantic Ocean, and thankfully not forecasted to reach Florida. However, Floridians should still be prepared. On Aug. 30, Hurricane Idalia hit Florida's Big Bend region, and residents are still recovering from the storm that caused [billions of dollars](#) in damage.

Below is a graph from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration showing hurricane and tropical storm activity from 1944 to 2020.

Preparedness tips provided in the guide include:

- Know evacuation routes and shelter locations;
- Stock up on enough food, water and emergency supplies for the entire household for at least seven days or more;
- Check that storm-related products are hurricane-proof or impact-proof before purchasing;
- Research recovery charities before donating;
- Beware of unsolicited contractors and extremely low or high prices for quotes; and
- Report price gouging during a state of emergency, including online or on the free No Scam app.

Floridians can stay informed about serious storm events using the Florida Division of Emergency Management's website, [FloridaDisaster.org](#). Floridians can monitor a storm's progression and the latest weather alerts using the NOAA's Hurricane Center by visiting [NHC.NOAA.gov](#).

In the event of an incoming tropical storm or hurricane, Floridians should look for further guidance from local officials and emergency managers.

To report potential price gouging during a declared state of emergency, use the No Scam app, call 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or file a complaint online at [MyFloridaLegal.com](#).

AG MOODY AND FLORIDA CRIME STOPPERS TEAM UP WITH FORMER HOST OF AMERICA'S MOST WANTED FOR STATEWIDE CRIME-FIGHTING INITIATIVE

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody and the Florida Association of Crime Stoppers are teaming up with John Walsh from "America's Most Wanted" and "In Pursuit with John Walsh" to fight crime. At the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office today, Attorney General Moody, Walsh and Crime Stoppers announced a new partnership to encourage Floridians to use **TIPS, the state's anonymous crime tip reporting line. The crime-fighting trio are encouraging Floridians to be proactive in helping law enforcement solve cases by reporting information related to crimes. Over the past three years, PBCS received more than 2,000 tips from Crime Stoppers, with more than 400 tips leading to an arrest.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "John Walsh has been the relentless force behind America's Most Wanted and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children—I am excited that he is helping us recruit Floridians to join our fight against crime. Through this new partnership with Florida Crime Stoppers, we will be spreading the word about **TIPS and encouraging Floridians to anonymously report information to help law enforcement solve crimes."

John Walsh said, "I have dedicated my career to locating missing children and fighting crime. The **TIPS tipline will give Florida law enforcement an advantage over criminals in hard-to-crack cases. Solving a case can be a miracle for a family and help make communities safer. I praise Attorney General Moody for her efforts in supporting law enforcement and encouraging Floridians to actively help officers stop crime."

President of the Florida Association of Crime Stoppers, Frank Brunner said, "Our statewide network of 27 Crime Stoppers chapters throughout Florida is excited about John Walsh joining our team of crime fighters. This new partnership, along with our current partner, the Attorney General's Office, will encourage public engagement and help increase awareness on how people can anonymously share their critical information and assist law enforcement with making our state a stronger, safer place."

Attorney General Moody, FACS and Walsh are releasing a video message for Floridians to assist law enforcement in making their communities safer. The informational video highlights the **TIPS tipline—a number anyone in the state can call from a cell phone to reach the nearest Crime Stoppers office. Individuals can submit information on crimes and remain anonymous. If the tip leads to an arrest, the

caller may receive a cash reward.

Attorney General Moody and FACS first launched [**TIPS](#) in October 2020. Before the tipline's creation, Floridians needed to look up the specific region's Crime Stoppers number to report a crime—there are 27 different offices each with separate phone numbers. Now, by simply dialing the six-key tipline on a cellphone, citizens are automatically rerouted to the nearest regional Crime Stoppers office.

In February 2022, [Crime Stoppers USA](#) adopted the phone number for nationwide use. Now, anyone in the United States can report crime anonymously with this easy-to-remember number and possibly collect a reward for tips that lead to an arrest.

In 2021, Attorney General Moody and FACS announced a [near-doubling](#) of award money for anonymous tips in murder cases that lead to an arrest. The increase takes the maximum allowable award amount from \$5,000 to \$9,500 for tips provided to FACS.

John Walsh is known internationally as a crime fighter, victims' advocate and host of "America's Most Wanted," the reality program that helped law enforcement capture fugitives. Walsh currently hosts "In Pursuit with John Walsh," and co-founded the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that helped bring home more than 50 missing children. Over the past three [decades](#), through "America's Most Wanted," Walsh helped bring to justice more than 1,200 fugitives—including 17 people off of the FBI's Most Wanted list.

If there is an emergency, dial 911. To report tips anonymously about unsolved crimes, simply dial **TIPS.

AG MOODY UNCOVERS BIDEN'S SECRET PLAN FOR MASS-RELEASE QUOTAS FOR MIGRANTS STOPPED AT THE SW BORDER AMID IMMIGRATION SURGE

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody continues to uncover evidence of the Biden administration's intentional destruction of the nation's border with Mexico. Recently-obtained U.S. Border Patrol emails outline new proposed "bookout targets" for field chiefs and deputies to "bring in-custody numbers to manageable levels."

U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Acting Deputy Chief emailed the new targets on Aug. 8, following a field leadership call to discuss "in-custody numbers." During the call, CBP leaders revealed that "the rate of daily encounters continues to surpass the daily permanent bookouts and the in-custody numbers

continue to rise."

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Biden and Mayorkas have become so brazen that they are now implementing mass-release quotas for immigrants surging into our country. As a federal judge already recognized, these releases are unlawful, yet the Biden administration is ordering Border Patrol to release even more immigrants into the interior. This latest email is further proof of the disastrous cycle created by Biden's intentional destruction of our border with Mexico. Biden cuts resources, opens the border, and then releases detainees while claiming there is not enough detention capacity to prevent the unprecedented flood of migrants entering the country because of his terrible policies. With every passing day it is becoming more obvious that the border crisis is being intentionally orchestrated by the Biden administration. We will continue to do everything in our power to push back and let the American people know of Biden's devious plan."

While the email Attorney General Moody obtained from CBP references new "daily bookout targets," the actual release quotas were redacted for unexplained reasons.

According to reports, CBP is currently detaining nearly 20,000 migrants with agents [reporting nearly 6,000](#) new encounters daily.

Since President Biden took office:

- [More than 6 million](#)
- migrants have surged across the border;
- [More than 50,000](#)
- pounds of fentanyl has been seized, enough to kill the U.S. population more than 35 times over; and
- [259 people](#)
- on the terrorist watch list have been identified, including 146 so far in fiscal year 2023.

With the current surge and mass-release policies in place, states as far north as New York and Massachusetts are feeling the effects. [Massachusetts is under a state of emergency](#) while struggling to house an influx of illegal immigrants.

Florida beat the Biden administration in federal court earlier this year, obtaining a ruling that called the current border "[little more than a speed bump](#)," a ruling affirming what Attorney General Moody has been saying for years, that Biden's immigration policies are unlawful.

Last month, [a federal trial](#) in Texas began, challenging Biden's Humanitarian Parole Policy allowing 30,000 immigrants from select countries automatic access into the U.S. every month. Florida is a party to the case.

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GOVERNOR DESANTIS



'First Lady Casey DeSantis Highlights the Expansion of CarePortal to Support Floridas Vulnerable Adults

Through the Hope Florida program, Hope Navigators use

the CarePortal to help Floridians access services available within their own communities

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — First Lady Casey DeSantis highlighted the expansion of Florida's CarePortal platform to meet immediate needs of vulnerable adults including persons with disabilities, veterans, the elderly, and any other individual in Florida needing assistance. CarePortal was initially created to support children and their families in need and is a platform that connects individuals and families in need with faith institutions and local businesses willing to help. This expansion builds on the success of the portal to date, which has led to nearly 500 churches and over 5,000 community members helping nearly 13,400 children and their families since 2020.

“One of the best ways to uplift our community is to ensure that our vulnerable populations have access to the resources they need to live successful lives. Whether that is children, adults, or families, we must make sure that we have the correct tools in place to put our drive to serve into action,” **said First Lady Casey DeSantis**. “We have worked alongside the CarePortal team to expand quickly in Florida and connect people with available resources beyond government available in their own communities. I am thankful to those who have answered our call to action and made their services available on CarePortal so that together, we can build a stronger community.”

“I want to thank First Lady DeSantis for taking bold action to make community-based care-sharing happen at scale,” **said CEO of CarePortal Joe Knittig**. “And I want to honor the Care-Sharing Network — the social workers, Hope Navigators, organizations, churches, and businesses — who use CarePortal to sacrificially care for their neighbors in unity together. They are the real heroes.”

“Since day one, First Lady DeSantis has been the fiercest advocate for vulnerable children and adults in our state,” **said Department of Children and Families Secretary Shevaun Harris**. “Through the Hope Florida initiative, and our partnership with CarePortal, Florida has truly revolutionized the way our state responds to families in crisis and transformed the activation of community resources and services. At the heart of the program is communities helping communities, and with this expansion, we will be able to accelerate our efforts in connecting more vulnerable individuals in need with those who want to give back.”

“We are so grateful for First Lady DeSantis' tremendous advocacy and partnership that allows us to serve even more families in Florida,” **said**

Department of Elder Affairs Secretary Michelle Branham. “CarePortal is a unique and innovative platform that offers Florida's faith-based organizations and community members the opportunity to support vulnerable seniors throughout our state, in conjunction with the resources and services that our aging network provides. We are extremely excited and honored to be part of the First Lady's vision in transforming the way we serve and expanding how we reach those who need us. I truly look forward to witnessing the results of this innovative and collaborative expansion.”

“Under the leadership of First Lady Casey DeSantis, the Hope Florida program has begun to bridge the gap between our communities' most vulnerable and the resources they need to succeed,” **said Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Secretary Eric Hall**. “Through Hope Florida's Pathway to Potential initiative at DJJ, we have already seen the profound impact Hope Navigators and the network of resources they employ can have on the lives of our youth and families. The latest expansion of the CarePortal platform will enable even more Floridians of all ages and backgrounds to connect with these life-changing services.”

As more state agencies have joined the Hope Florida initiative, the needs identified throughout the state have increased exponentially. This first in the nation expansion of CarePortal will allow Hope Florida to positively impact the lives of more Floridians than ever before. Hope Navigators will now be able to use CarePortal's innovative platform to meet immediate needs of not only families with children, but also persons with disabilities, veterans, the elderly, and any other individual in Florida needing assistance.

If you are in need of services, you can connect with a Hope Navigator by calling 850-300-HOPE.

To learn more about joining CarePortal's Care Network visit www.HopeFlorida.com and click “I Want to Help.”

Governor DeSantis Hosts Discussion About COVID Boosters with State Surgeon General and Health Experts

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Governor Ron DeSantis held a discussion with State Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo and public health experts about the recently federally approved COVID-19 mRNA boosters. While there, the Surgeon General announced new COVID-19 booster guidance advising against the use of COVID boosters for individuals under the age of 65. This recommendation was based on the fact that the newly FDA approved COVID boosters lack a human clinical trial and evidence of benefit or efficacy. The federal government has spent more than \$30 billion on COVID-19 vaccines, including boosters, which have shown little to no benefit to prevent COVID-19 infection.

“I will not stand by and let the FDA and CDC use healthy Floridians as guinea pigs for new booster shots that have not been proven to be safe or effective,” **said Governor Ron DeSantis**. “Once again, Florida is the first state in the nation to stand up and provide guidance based on truth, not Washington edicts.”

“Once again, the federal government is failing Americans by refusing to be honest about the risks and not providing sufficient clinical evidence when it comes to these COVID-19 mRNA shots, especially with how widespread immunity is now,” **said State Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo**. “In Florida, we will always use common sense and protect the rights and

liberties of Floridians, including the right to accurate information.”

Today's announcement builds on actions taken by the DeSantis administration to push back on the FDA and CDC's rushed approval and mandates of COVID vaccines since 2020, even when the evidence doesn't line up

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Brazil

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Amazon has been badly affected in recent years. When Lula first moved into the presidential palace in 2003, he launched an ambitious program to save the rainforest. He and his successor Dilma Rousseff, who like Lula comes from Brazil's leftist Workers' Party, succeeded in reducing deforestation by 80 percent to a historic low. But when Bolsonaro came to power in 2019, Brazil did an about-face on environmental policy.

Bolsonaro readily awarded concessions to allow corporations to clear rainforest for soy and palm oil farming, as well as cattle ranching and mining. Illegally cleared areas were legalized by Bolsonaro, and forest fires were fought only half-heartedly. Clearing jumped by 70 percent under his government.

For the first time, the Amazon emits

more CO2 than it can absorb

Under Bolsonaro, the Amazon's climate balance had turned around: For the first time, it emits more CO2 than it can absorb. This was shown in a study by researchers from the French National Institute for Agronomic Research. The scientists mainly analysed satellite data documenting the plant biomass in the rainforest and its deforestation. The result: the Amazon basin released about 16.6 billion tons of CO2 into the environment, but only absorbed about 13.9 tons. This 2.7 billion ton difference is roughly Austria's consumption for 35 years.

Without well-maintained Amazon rainforest, the whole ecosystem could topple over

Currently, the Amazon has a perfectly functioning water cycle: regions inland actually have too little rainfall for a tropical rainforest. But the trees suck the groundwater upwards, it evaporates and

rains down again over the huge forest area. This cycle could be permanently disrupted by further deforestation. The rainforest would slowly die, turning into savannah and changing the climate around the world.

This process would release as much CO2 as the entire world consumes in seven years. The unique ecosystem that is home to 10 percent of all species would be irretrievably lost, and with it the CO2-binding effect of the rainforest. Scientists assume that this tipping point is reached at a deforestation rate of 20 to 25 percent. Currently, we are at 18 percent.

Deforestation in Brazil: Raids after taking office

Within days of taking office, Lula's government took action, conducting checks in the rainforest against illegal logging. As Reuters reports, controls were carried out in areas all within the Cachoeira Seca indigenous reserve, where deforestation is strictly prohibited.

While deforestation is decreasing, the number of fires continues to increase, satellite monitoring shows. Whether due to natural causes or arson cannot be determined.

More at
<https://scoop.me/deforestation-brazil/>

Respiratory Virus Season

(NAPSI)—Here's news to help you breathe easier: Although respiratory virus season is upon us, you can protect yourself and your loved ones. How? Make sure you're up to date on all of your vaccinations. Following vaccination, it takes time for your body to build protection against the flu, COVID-19 and RSV, so it's recommended that you get the vaccines you're eligible for as soon as possible to support your health and the health of your community.

Vaccinations help prevent the flu, COVID-19 and RSV

Getting a flu shot is the best way to protect yourself and your family from the flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends getting vaccinated early in the fall, before flu season begins, ideally before the end of October. It's especially important to protect at-risk populations—adults 65 and older, those with certain immunocompromising or chronic medical conditions, infants or children under 5 and pregnant women—from severe illness.

The CDC also confirmed that you can receive any of the currently authorized COVID-19 and RSV vaccines at the same

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Virus Season

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time as the flu vaccine. It's recommended that adults 60 or older get an RSV vaccination as they're at greater risk for serious complications from RSV because immune systems weaken with age. CVS Pharmacy is also now administering the updated COVID-19 vaccine, recently authorized by the FDA and recommended by the CDC.

Seniors have additional options when it comes to vaccinations

Seniors are at a greater risk of developing severe illnesses from flu, COVID-19 and RSV, and according to a CVS Health consumer survey, of those who indicated they plan to get vaccinated, seniors are the demographic most likely to do so (74% of seniors). CVS Pharmacy and MinuteClinic offer specific CDC-recommended offerings for seniors aged 65 and above, which include:

- **Fluad:** An adjuvanted influenza vaccine that helps the body elicit a better immune response.
- **Fluzone HD:** A high-dose vaccine that contains four times the antigen as the regular flu vaccine and is intended to create a stronger immune response for seniors.
- **An RSV vaccine** for adults 60 and older

with greater risk for serious complications from RSV because immune systems weaken with age.

Common flu shot myths

- **Myth:** You should wait until flu season peaks to get the vaccine.

Fact: It's best to be vaccinated before flu begins spreading in your community—ideally in September or October.

- **Myth:** The flu shot gives you the flu.

Fact: Flu shots are made of either inactivated viruses or with proteins from the flu virus—so you can't get the flu from the vaccine.

- **Myth:** The flu is only spread by coughing and sneezing.

Fact: Flu viruses are largely spread this way, but a person might also get the flu by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose or eyes. That's why you should wash your hands frequently with soap and water or an alcohol-based cleanser.

A one-stop shop for your vaccine needs this fall

At CVS Pharmacy, you can conveniently schedule a flu shot and COVID-19 vaccine in the same appointment for yourself and your family via digital scheduling through CVS.com or the CVS Pharmacy app. Walk-in appointments are available for people of all ages, seven days per week, with evening

and weekend hours. Anyone who receives a CDC-recommended vaccine through the end of the year will get a \$5 off \$20 in-store CVS Pharmacy coupon.

Learn More

Visit www.cvs.com or www.minuteclinic.com for more information on the vaccines offered. Certain immunizations have age and location restrictions.

Duct Cleaning

(NAPSI)—There may be a problem lurking in your house that you can't even see: dirty ducts. But that doesn't have to be.

The Issue

Even with the proper use of filters, your home's heating and cooling system gets really dirty through normal, everyday use, just as surfaces in your home get dusty over time.

All sorts of contaminants and air pollutants—bacteria, pet dander, dust, skin cells, mold, tobacco smoke, even chemicals—get pulled into an HVAC system and recirculate through the home several times a day, building up in the system.

Worse, rodents and insects can chew their way into the ductwork to travel throughout your home, build nests and leave droppings.

Telltale signs include chewed materials, unpleasant smells, and bacteria contaminating the air you breathe.

All this can contribute to poor indoor air quality and major health issues, especially for those with respiratory conditions, autoimmune disorders, asthma, or allergies. The EPA says poor indoor air increases your risk of pneumonia and causes irritated eyes, nose, and throat, headaches, dizziness, and fatigue.

In addition, when the system is clean, it doesn't have to work as hard so it lasts longer and uses less energy, lowering electric bills

A Second Issue

Getting your ducts cleaned, however, can mean another problem: Scams. The HVAC system cleaning industry is plagued with fraudulent “duct cleaners” who cause more harm than good by agitating rather than removing dust, debris, and pollutants or who charge for unneeded add-on services.

A Solution

Fortunately, you can trust the members of the National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA). They have technicians on staff with advanced training and certification in HVAC system cleaning, and they're required to follow higher standards.

To find qualified and certified air duct cleaning professionals, visit breathingclean.com.

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