

ocala

A free publication serving the people of the Ocala area

DownTown

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FREE

Volume 7 Issue 7
July, 2016



Walt's Brake



About 40 to 50 Chris Blair supporters assembled outside the courthouse the day of his arraignment. Blair's attorney was the only one that had to appear to deliver a not guilty plea.

In talking to people at the courthouse on the sidewalk and citizens throughout Ocala, it is agreed that the timing is suspicious. The Sheriff has been embattled by the local States Attorney's office since the primary election 3 1/2 years ago. This was when information was released by the States Attorney's office about Blair that was not proven facts, just rumored. I did not think the States Attor-

ney's office could legally do that, by getting involved in an election process like that. It has been suggested that Blair was entrapped. I always thought we were innocent until proven guilty but it seems to be working backwards in this case.

The people on the street were chanting, "we want our Sheriff back now, we want him back today!" Only time will tell! He is running for Sheriff and we know he is not part of the establishment. It is said that is why he is facing charges.

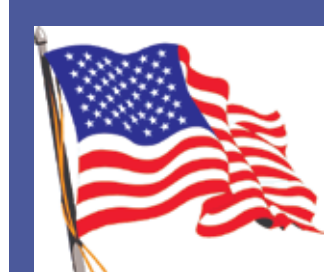
Ocala Business Leaders member, and a representative of Walts Brake & More, Eric Hennman gave a talk on vehicle maintenance. As you probably know the mechanics today have to constantly go to school to keep up with technology's ever-changing parts and systems.



Local County and State officials, Veterans Day coordinators and more honor veterans on Memorial Day at Highland Park.



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DENNIS K. BAXLEY



President Coolidge once said the chief business of the American people is business. The U.S. government's role in business is as old as the country itself; regulation, taxation, consumer protection. Yet, despite the fact that the private sector continues to be this country's chief

economic force, our government has begun to work against its small businesses.

Since the beginning of time, it's been entrepreneurs that drive the creation of innovation. True breakthroughs have been the result of an individual or small team who had an idea and the determination to see it through to fruition. In many cases, ignoring advice and the lack of what many would call standard market research/validation. While we enjoy the fruits of the rapid pace of innovations, it is the entrepreneur, slaving away alone or within a small firm, who is invent-

ing the future. It's these entrepreneurs and their dreams that create economic opportunity for cities, regions and countries.

I've been a small businessman my whole life, but the closest I ever came to closing my doors was because of the federal government. This is an all too common situation in

this country, and it's got to stop. We need to work to cut taxes and red tape, overhaul the IRS, and keep the federal government off our back. Our small businesses are job champions. Standing up for them will keep America strong.

FedEx Expands

Hiring workforce for FedEx Ground Ocala, Fla. (June 23, 2016) – CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion will help FedEx hit the ground running when it opens its new distribution hub by hosting two hiring events next month.

The hiring events are set for July 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and July 7 from 5-8 p.m. at the College of Central Florida Klein Conference Center, 3001 SW College Road, in Ocala.

FedEx Ground is hiring 500 packers and package handlers, full- and part-time, for its 400,000 square-foot facility located in the Ocala/Marion County Commerce Park just east of I-75 and north of US 27. Starting pay is \$11 - \$12 an hour, with incremental increases within the first six months of employment.

The company provides flexible schedules, with differential pay based on early/late shifts, as well as paid time off, health/dental insurance and tuition reimbursement for employees after 1,000 hours on the job.

Interested applicants must be at least 18

and register with the HYPERLINK "http://www.employflorida.com" \t "_blank" Employ Florida Marketplace (EFM). More details can be found on the Calendar of Events at HYPERLINK "http://www.careersourceclm.com" \t "_blank" careersourceclm.com or by calling 800-434-JOBS, ext. 1471.

FedEx Ground is a leader in small-package ground shipping throughout the United States and Canada. The company, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa., moves an average of 7.5 million packages each day through its network of 90,000 employees, 33 distribution hubs, more than 500 local pickup-and-delivery stations and 45,000 vehicles. The company reported 2015 annual revenue of \$13 billion.

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is the local, business-led nonprofit connecting employers with qualified, skilled talent and job seekers with employment and career development opportunities. Last year, CareerSource CLM provided fee-free services to more than 3,600 businesses and nearly 40,000 job seekers.



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How do we know we can trust Dennis Baxley? He's proven it. Baxley's been on the front lines of every major policy battle. He's fought to cut spending and balance the budget, he's opposed sanctuary cities for illegal immigrants, and for his efforts on defending our Second Amendment rights, he was awarded the NRA's prestigious national Defender of Freedom Award.

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BAXLEY

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Tom Loury

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



Marion County Sheriff's Office

I'm sure the temp Sheriff Gainey is well qualified, here is what he said: I am "disappointed, discouraged and quite frankly, a bit angry" after reading the report, which

said Blair set a tone for the agency in which excessive force was inevitable. The other

time I got a twinge was when he said "MY MEN" for some reason I had a problem with that term ,My Men, when he had just dismantled half the department and at least nine or ten heads rolled.

During his Press Conference there was never a mention until the end of the meeting when I asked. In our country you are innocent until proven guilty. When the Sheriff and his top supervisors are found innocent how in the world could you fix this??? The answer was lame, something like that is for the States Attorney's Office to take care of.

Take note the timing of this indictment, during the last election the local States Attorney's Office released information that was not proven to be true to stop the process of making Blair Sheriff back then. The people said no!

Our political system is full of people who think they know what is best for us and no matter what we say they will make the decisions. I can only hope that we will come out of this with a strong Sheriff with strong leadership skills because trouble is coming and we had better be ready.

King of Jordan

It seems that ISIS captured a Jordanian pilot, put him in a cage, poured gas on him and burned him while filming it to show the world how evil they are. Now King Abdullah vows to fight ISIS to the end. You see the King is a pilot and has flown missions against ISIS.

Just looking out the front window.

Another first on the Loury Farm, actually three firsts. I watched a mama rabbit fight with a very large crow. The rabbit

would jump straight up in the air and strike out with her front feet, then the crow would jump up kind of backwards but then go back and try to peck the rabbit. This went on for about five minutes, then a second crow started moving in from behind the rabbit. I opened the front door and broke it up. Two on one is not fair.

A couple of days later a peacock that used to visit came across the pasture where we have a young painted colt. The peacock tried to go around the colt and the colt would not let the peacock come in the yard to get a handful of corn we normally feed it. The peacock finally had to fly up in the tree where he stayed until it was safe for him to go home. He never made it to the yard. A guard colt not in my yard you won't.

Last day of the month two male Red Birds tangled in mid area and fell to the ground. I jumped up to see what happened and there they were still on their sides tangling with each other fighting. After a minute they had both enough.

Minutes ago I saw two Deer in the driveway, I am so lucky to be able to see all these animals interacting.

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Editorial & Ad Copy for August

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown
12am, July 20th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator
12am, July 27th

Ocala DownTown

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Kevin Sheilley

OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



By the time you read this column, we will be half-way through 2016. At the CEP, this means we are now 42 months into our five-year Moving Forward initiative focused on impacting the announced

creation of 3500 new jobs, that those jobs will pay 115% of the county average wage, and that it will result in an announced capital investment of \$225 million in our community. Business Attraction is one of our five

focus areas and one which most directly impacts these goals, though all of our focus areas play significant parts.

Business Attraction Activities through the first six months of the year, our Business Attraction team is currently working with 40 active projects. A project is a prospect that has been qualified as being 1) financially viable or at least potentially viable enough to move a project forward, 2) having a product or service which could be market viable, and 3) would be a good fit for our community.

It is this last criteria which occasionally catches our audience off guard. However, it is our strong belief that companies which are a good fit for our community will be the

ones which will be the most successful long-term. This may mean that we focus on companies which fall in one of our target sectors or complement existing companies. An example of a prospect we would not qualify as a project is one which recently contacted us asking to respond to a request. The company led with requesting information on incentives. In fact, they wanted the community to GIVE a facility to them. Good projects (especially for our community) are ones where incentives are a part of final discussions never as an opening. A mentor of mine once said, "Incentives will not make a bad deal good, but they can make a good deal great." Needless to say, we passed on responding to this request.

Incentives are an important part of the discussion. They are a tool which must be in our toolbox if we are going to be successful. We focus on incentives which meet a partic-

ular competitive need or address a local gap and are tied to performance. This has been the case with the approximately two dozen new and expanding projects which have located to the community during the last three and half years. In each case, the return on investment to the community far exceeds the incentive making it a great investment for the community.

Progress

With 18 months to go on our Moving Forward campaign, we are excited about the progress we are making on our goals. To date, we have impacted the announced creation of 2976 new jobs (85% of goal). Those jobs on average will pay 117% of the county average wage (exceeding goal). Finally, these projects will result in an announced capital investment of \$260.1 million (115% of goal). While these are great accomplishments we will continue to work hard until each of our goals are met and so we can keep our community Moving Forward!

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- **Implemented award-winning crime prevention programs using latest technologies**
- **Improved recruitment standards and implemented mandatory physical requirements**
- **Implemented merit-based promotions**
- **Unprecedented agency transparency through active interaction with community, FaceBook, Citizens Academies, Town Hall meetings and open door policy for citizens and employees**
- **Rallied funding in excess of \$200,000 for local charitable organizations through community partnerships**

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Political advertisement paid for and approved by Chris Blair, Republican for Sheriff of Marion County



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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Loury,
The Flip Side of the Story
Snail Drivers.

If you are not capable of driving the speed limit for one reason or another, that is your problem, and your responsibility to deal with it.

Making it our problem by snailing along on the road does not sit well with competent drivers. Why should your problem be our burden?

I have alternate plans on hold when it happens to me. Does not seem to be any time soon.

During 69 years of driving I have never had an accident or a ticket, while driving a 300 horsepower car approximately 20 times around the circumference of the earth.

There is a different perception in driving different types of cars. Had a small size loaner, once, and it was a shock driving that car. The feeling of speed is different. Fifty in the large car feels like snailing. Fifty in the small car feels like Daytona.

My bucket list has one item: Sprinting off against Mario Andretti .

Not everyone ages at the same rate. Genes are genes are genes.

Some are turtles, and some are hares. Turtles are as big a problem as hares.

Ladies and gentlemen: Start your engines!!!! Try to be mannerly on the road. Best we can do.

D.I. L.

Dear Mr Loury

This past week I spent some time at Walt's Brakes and More, one of your advertisers and a most reliable one at that.

I was able to read your May and June of

the "Ocala DownTown" and realized how "deprived" I am not seeing it on a regular basis. I don't see it on the few times I'm in Town or just not at the places I frequent. Therefore I am enclosing a small check hoping you can mail me a copy each month.

There is more common sense information and personal agreement in ti in quite a contrast with the Ocala Star Banner to which I no longer subscribe, (I do how ever buy the

Sunday issue). Reading it every day would be detrimental to my health! Blood Pressure that is!

I am praying daily for Sheriff Blair who is getting such bad press from all sides and I am wondering just who or how many are behind it. Having lived in Marion County for forty years I am aware of much of the politics in many areas of our Governing Depart-

(Continued on Page 8)



HEART & SOUL Café Down Town Ocala just two doors down from the Ocala Police Department. They are open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. Owners Cathy Espey and Lori McNab love their Restaurant. I sat down to talk to them and they make you feel welcome. While I was there Chef Bryan made me some Garlic Parmesan Wings, they were wonderful! Go and experience their Home Style Southern Cooking with a New York flare. 352-368-3663



To be the catalyst for a prosperous community.

The Ocala/Marion County Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation are **Moving Forward!** and have unified to create the Ocala/Marion County Chamber & Economic Partnership (CEP).

The CEP will serve as the central resource for all businesses in Marion County: new, relocating, existing, large, small and budding entrepreneurs!

The forward momentum of this vibrant organization will focus on economic growth while maintaining the beauty and quality of life in Ocala and Marion County.

We invite you to get acquainted at a complimentary, no-obligation
"GET GOING! New Partner Orientation"

This 60-minute overview is a casual format for you to learn more about the CEP and how partnership in this progressive organization will provide you with additional resources, connections, and advocacy to help in YOUR business development and growth initiatives.

For more information and the date of the next session, please contact:
Felecia Prather at 352-629-8051 or felecia@ocalacc.com

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<p><i>Bought Print Ad Last 30 Days:</i></p> <p>Real Estate..... 2.5%</p> <p>New/Used Vehicle..... 11%</p> <p>Home Contractor..... 3%</p> <p>Job change ads..... 12%</p>	<p><i>Craigslist:</i></p> <p>Visited Last 30 Days 38%</p> <p>Placed Ad on Craigslist 17%</p> <p>Responded to Craigslist Ad.. 21%</p>

* Survey Conducted June 30, 2013

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SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MOVIES FOR JULY, 2016

8th AVENUE - TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, JULY 12TH & 13TH, 2016 AT 1:30 PM BARBARA G. WASHINGTON - THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, JULY 14TH & 15TH, 2016 AT 1:00 PM

“RISEN” STARRING: TOM FELTON, CLIFF CURTIS, JOSEPH FIENNES, MARIA BOTTO AND ANTONIO GIL-MARTINEZ

Clavius, a powerful Roman Military Tribune, and his aide Lucius, are tasked with solving the mystery of what happened to Jesus in the weeks following the crucifixion, in order to disprove the rumors of a risen messiah and prevent an uprising in Jerusalem. RATED PG-13

8th AVENUE - TUESDAY AND

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26TH AND 27TH, 2016 AT 1:30 Pm BARBARA G. WASHINGTON - THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, JULY 28TH AND 29TH, 2016 AT 1:00 PM “RIDE ALONG 2” STARRING: ICE CUBE, KEVIN HART, KEN JEONG, BENJAMIN BRATT AND OLIVIA MUNN BENJAMIN BRATT AND OLIVIA MUNN

Not content to work as a beat-cop, Ben, a recent academy graduate, now aspires to be a detective like his soon-to-be brother-in-law. However, James still doesn't think that he has what it takes for the job. With the wedding approaching, the accident-prone rookie is laser-focused on planning but wants to join his mentor on what should be a routine trip from Atlanta to Miami. At Angela's request – and Lt. Brook's begrudging

permission – James reluctantly takes Ben with him to Miami to follow up on a lead connected to a drug-ring case he's been trying to crack. PG-13

Reservations must be made at the Center of your choice. Seating is limited to 8 persons per video. Please call the 8th Avenue Center at 629-8545 or Barbara G. Washington Center at 629-8357 to reserve your seat.

COMING EVENTS FOR JULY, 2016 AQUASIZE: WATER AEROBICS FOR ADULTS

When: Thursdays, July 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th and August 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, 2016

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 PM Cost: \$15.00 per participant for 4 sessions

Where: Hampton Aquatic Fun Center, 255 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Ocala

What: Class activities include: stretching, cardio, toning, strength training and ab-

dominal workouts. Buoyancy equipment is used. Modifications will be demonstrated for all fitness levels. For more information, please call Diane at 401-3916.

AQUABILITY

When: Wednesdays, July 13th, 20th, 27th, and August 3rd, 2016

Time: 5:30 to 6:30 PM OR 6:30 to 7:30 PM Cost: \$25.00 per person for 4 week session

Where: Hampton Aquatic Fun Center, 255 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Ocala

What: An Adaptive Aquatic Program for individuals with Disabilities of all ages. For more information and registration, please call Diane at 401-3916.



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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 6)

ments. Men like Rep. Dennis Baxley are far and few between. Sheriff Blair was a God sin after his previous :leaders" If Mr Dean should it would be a sad state of affairs.

Thank you for yours views on the subject and continued gratitude and prayers for your decision to publish not edit!

Sincerely JV.

PS I have called and written to many in D.C. concerning the "Waste Report" items you noted and others. It's never too late to try to make change for the better!

PUBLISHERS NOTE Read us online Ocaladowntown.com To JV

Thanks for the letter and your views. We appreciate all of our readers even if they don't agree sometimes. It is refreshing to see people involved with the issues and governing heads. I think we are in agreement about Blair. I have talked to many people and it seems the opinion is that the States Attorney has been trying to make this happen for years, first in the Primary election 3 1/2 years ago and again now. Looking at the whole picture one bad guy took down five deputies and four administrators. The bad guy did not do this alone!

Of course I agree that Dennis Baxley is a pillar of this community and the communities around us. Every time I look around there he is putting forth his effort to help the

communities he is involved in. He is a dedicated person.

Finally, I can't receive money for the paper. It would put me into a different category. I will void this check and mail your papers. If you wish to help, do it for our wounded service men and women. Thanks for being a reader. Keep sending your views.

TomL *****

To the editor

We live in a Bizarro World where facts have no meaning and liberal hype is accepted as truth!

The NRA is all about gun safety and *proper* use of guns. It's against the law to shoot people at random. NRA members despise that type of gun use, as do all normal people.

Ron *****

NO PORK?????

There was an article in the local paper last week that I was reading, about these wonderful people who send packages to our troops in Afghanistan and you can donate things our Soldiers need or lack over there. Like toiletries, snacks etc., then it says No Pork items Please. I wondered about this, after all many snack items contain pork. We asked around and found that word came from above and I know it wasn't from the Lord that we didn't want to offend the country where OUR SOLDIERS ARE FIGHTING to help make that place safe. If I had the money I would send a herd of Swine over there before you could bat an eye.

Wake up America Please!

Pmum *****

Your article in the June issue (Volume 7, Issue 6) was correctly titled "Transgender Problem"! I wholeheartedly agree there is indeed a problem.

Although the publisher is entitled to his/her own political opinion, it seems the June issue on this topic was very one sided. We should ALL be outraged as taxpaying citizens that the majority of the Marion County School Board is willing to forsake an estimated 53 million dollars in federal funding, and is willing to potentially spend tens of thousands of dollars of our money in litigation over lawsuits that cannot be won. Most incredulous is that the school board has taken a stand that clearly violates civil rights.

B. S. *****

Dear Editor:

What's the matter with the American people and "we" women in particular? Are we so anxious to have a woman president that we are willing to vote for someone who is a liar and totally corrupt. Someone who has received millions of dollars from foreign countries and Wall Street for herself and the Clinton Foundation while she was not only Secretary of State but also once she left. Foreign countries and huge corporations don't give millions of dollars and not expect something in return. Don't get me wrong, I would love to see a woman president. The right woman and Hillary is definitely not that woman. I always tell my girls that you can accomplish anything if you are honest, have integrity, work hard and have strong work ethics. How can I expect them to look up to a woman, who could possibly be president, who got where she is by deceit, corruption and lying? Who not only plays the woman card whenever she can but also panders to certain groups of people. Of all the issues in this election the two that concern me the most are jobs and security. When my children graduate from school, I would like for them to be able to get jobs. How many businesses has Hillary run and how many jobs has she created? None zip zero. What about security for my family and community? Hillary couldn't protect Ambassador Stevens and three other Americans in Benghazi, while she was Secretary of State, how in the world is she going to protect over 300 million people in the United States? There have already been terrorist attacks in the United States. Look at what happened in

(Continued on Page 9)

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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 8)

Orlando, San Bernardino, the Boston Marathon, etc. and yet the borders are wide open and she is an open border advocate. Do we even know who is coming in or how to vet them? It's time we put America first.

LN

Dear Editor:

Big headlines in the Wall Street Journal, "Democrats Stage Sit-In Over Gun Bills." What in the world are we dealing with here a college campus, a kindergarten class or

spoiled brats who have the mentality of if you don't do it my way, "I'm taking my ball and going home." Legitimate gun owners have rights too. We elected these people to Congress and they stage sit-ins. Come on. If they can't act like the adults we elected to Congress by working together, they should all be fired. I don't know about you, but I am sick and tired of this do nothing Congress.

JB



Former Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans honored during Memorial Day Ceremony.

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Temporary Sheriff



At a press conference, held by Temporary Sheriff Gaineley in front of twenty or so TV cameras, Gaineley started talking about all the things that were being dismantled and it made me sick. Near the end of the press conference after some DA kept trying to label the Sheriff and his supervisors the four Horseman, I raised my hand and said,

in this country we are innocent until proven guilty which does not apply here. When the Sheriff and his men are found innocent, how in the world will you ever be able to fix this? There a moment of silence and Gaineley said "we will leave that up to the States Attorney's Office." That is exactly who started this in the first place.

Four Tips For Protecting Your Family From Fire

(NAPS)—According to the National Fire Protection Association, more than 350,000 home fires occur each year—but you can

help your family stay safe. Fire Safety Suggestions Keep your family safe by:

1. Having at least one fire alarm on each floor of the house and in each bedroom.
2. Checking the batteries monthly and replacing them at least once a year, more often if necessary.
3. Helping kids identify what items are safe to play with in the house. "Many children who play with fire do so out of curiosity or a desire to emulate their parents," explains Dr. Robert Cole, President of Fire-proof Children and spokesperson for BIC's play safe! be safe! fire safety education program. "Eliminate temptation by keeping lighters and matches out of sight and reach and by supervising playtime."
4. Helping your youngsters understand fire safety. Children learn best when they feel comfortable. The play safe! be safe! program (www.playsafebesafe.com) provides teachers, parents and those who care for young children with the tools they need to teach kids about fire safety and prevention by sharing basic facts, playing games and visual storytelling.

Consider this: Parents know that birthday candles, when left unattended, can quickly start a roaring fire. Young children, however, cannot understand what could happen if they play with an unattended candle.

The first step to keep families safe is teaching children how to react to a fire emergency. Adds Dr. Cole, "Many young children are scared of strangers and loud noises. When a siren goes off and unfamiliar firemen in 'scary' masks enter their house to rescue those inside, a child's first

instinct will be to hide. Parents should teach their children what to do if they hear the fire alarm or see a firefighter coming to help."

Parents and children can learn fire safety from an entertaining, educational website: www.playsafebesafe.com.

Parents can most effectively help their children overcome fear through positive messaging and reinforcement. Interactive games, such as the ones featured on the www.playsafebesafe.com site, let children learn in a safe, fun and rewarding way. Picture books, both fictional and nonfictional, can also be great learning tools. When children are able to see images of firefighters and their "scary-looking" gear in a safe and calm setting, they are less likely to panic in times of danger.

Since the program's inception in 1994, BIC Corporation has distributed more than 114,000 fire safety education kits and more than 184 workshops with community leaders. Each play safe! be safe! kit includes a 20-minute multilingual video (in English, French Canadian and Spanish), colorful story cards, activity boards, a card game and a comprehensive teacher's manual.

Learn More

For a look at the program, including how to bring it to your community or to play the interactive games with your kids, go to www.playsafebesafe.com.

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