



Left Mike McGee who is a member of help Ocala Business Leaders helping present a Christmas check helping someone through Christmas. Tony Clayton center out going president of OBL and Right Patrick Ferguson receiving check, he and his wife Trish have ten children. WOW! Photos Taken by Tammy Portrait Artist Inc



Parish Tanner on right receiving a OBL jacket he earned by inviting business guest to the meeting. Presenting the jacket is Luke Emerson. Photos Taken by Tammy Portrait Artist Inc

## The Department Of Health In Marion County Is Now Offering Free Flu Vaccines

**Ocala, Fla.**—The Florida Department of Health in Marion County is now offering free influenza vaccines for people of all ages.

The shot for the 2021-22 flu season is available to all who are interested whether or not they have health insurance.

**No appointment is necessary.**

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, people may get a flu vaccine along with, or in addition to, a COVID-19 vaccine, which also is available for people age 5 and older at the Department of Health's main office, 1801 SE 32nd Ave., Ocala.

The Department of Health encourages county residents to obtain a flu vaccine. Our community is about to enter prime time for flu season, which typically runs between mid-December and February. The vaccine is the best method to protect yourself and your loved ones against the flu and its potentially serious effects.

Although the flu affects everyone differently, getting vaccinated can help reduce the risk of hospitalization and death. Those who get vaccinated still may get sick, but the vaccine helps reduce the severity of the illness. The flu vaccine can be especially beneficial for those with

*Continued page 3*

## To The Governor

The State of Florida / Turnpike Authority is trying to take our Land and ruining our Natural Resources!

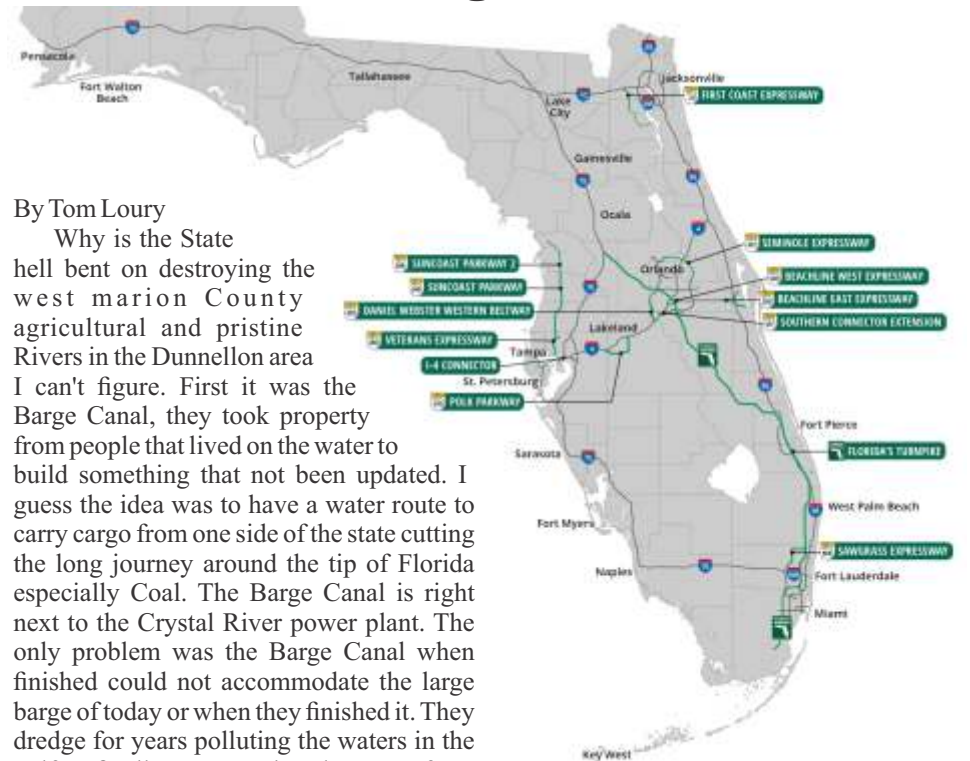
By Tom Loury

Why is the State hell bent on destroying the west marion County agricultural and pristine Rivers in the Dunnellon area I can't figure. First it was the Barge Canal, they took property from people that lived on the water to build something that not been updated. I guess the idea was to have a water route to carry cargo from one side of the state cutting the long journey around the tip of Florida especially Coal. The Barge Canal is right next to the Crystal River power plant. The only problem was the Barge Canal when finished could not accommodate the large barge of today or when they finished it. They dredge for years polluting the waters in the gulf. It finally was stop but the water front property that was taken from the residence was not return to original owners. Oh there was some hocus pocus auction that no one knew about. Bottom line they did not get their waterfront property back? I don't think it's legal to force buy property for one reason and then use it for another purpose!

Then then comes the Turnpike Extension around 1999, give or take a few years/ They announced it and the residents went nut's! They had three corridors all worse than the one before, crossing the rivers, running over springs on ranches and just taking people's land. Mean while big money people had started buying up land in Inglis and Yankee Town secretly hearing it was going there. This was before it was announced.

The state of Florida behind the scenes made a deal with Georgia. If Georgia would make major improvement on Hwy 19 from the Ga state line running north, Florida would move large amounts of traffic that way from the TurnPike which run north into Georgia. Georgia did their part and Florida did not. Interesting at that time I was hunting in Georgia every year and after 65 I was able to hunt without a license accepted by the Florida Game Laws, until this happened. Georgia stop approving 65 and over free and they doubled the Hunting fees for non-residents. At the same time they stopped recognizing Florida residents the right to carry. Someone was mad and I don't blame them. You don't make promises you can't keep.

Let's go back to the Turnpike Authority. They were created to build and maintain the Turnpike, a road 300 mile strip of improved road straight up the center of the state. Their



building has been finished for years and they have built so many exits you can't count them all. Now that the project is finished they should be turned into a road maintenance Company. OH NO we have to create more road to keep our job and importance. I got the cure disband the Turnpike Authority give all their employees a job with the Florida Department of Transportation.

At a meeting ten years ago one of the high up Authorities said and I quote, "they did such a beautiful job they would extend it." You know how I know because at a meeting in front of 100's of people I said and I quote, "yes you did a beautiful job of killing the Cypress heads all along the 300 miles. You did a good job of cutting off the water flow from the east side of the state to the west side of the state. The company trying to sell the project and they lied lied lied to me and everyone else and NOW here they come again.

In between the first effort to take our lands HERE COMES the SABAL TRAIL GASOLINE. The interesting thing was that they had three corridors, the same corridors the Turnpike Extension effort offered a few years before. Quit a coincidence don't you think.

Let me go back a few year. Here comes Sabal Trail Gasoline with the same three corridors. Some how the people did not mined it so much because it would help keep the gas prices down and the power bills down. How did they get approval for the same corridors, did the state recommend that?

*Continued page 8*

Kevin Sheilley

# OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



I am not sure how one could view 2021 as anything but an incredibly successful year for businesses in the Ocala Metro. The CEP is excited to review how our community continues to grow, diversify, and prosper.

This month and next I am going to highlight of the same important areas of growth.

### Economic Growth

The local economy continues to demonstrate very strong fundamentals. As of

the time of this writing, the local unemployment rate was only 4.7%. The Ocala Metro has consistently led the state in the growth of manufacturing jobs throughout the year with a manufacturing workforce now exceeding 10,000. Logistics, construction, hospitality, healthcare, and services all reported strong growth throughout the year. More importantly, the Ocala Metro is recording job growth while at the same time seeing wages report healthy gains.

### Industrial Spec Development

One of the most significant changes in the local business community has been the planned investment by nearly a dozen companies in the area for industrial spec development projects that will add north of 7 million sq. ft. to the local market over the next 18 months. Why is this important? Not only will each of these facilities attract new companies and jobs, but just the investment in the facilities represents a capital investment of \$700 million. As these facilities are added to the tax rolls in future years, that represents millions of dollars for local governments, our schools, and first responders. Millions of dollars in investment that benefit every citizen.

### New & Expanded Companies

Several new companies opened facilities or had new facilities under construction in

2021. Optimum RV announced in the summer they were locating their new corporate headquarters in a recently acquired office building in Southeast Ocala. This new facility allowed them to add more than 50 high-wage jobs with opportunity for more growth in the future. Cardinal LG, which already operates two manufacturing facilities and a regional office locally, opened a new Technology Center to support R&D in the laminated glass industry. This new facility is located in the Meadowbrook Industrial Park and is just down the street from the new 200,000 sq. ft. warehouse for Signature Brands.

While Ocala has long been known as a manufacturing hub, a new industry recently discovered the value of manufacturing and distributing here. Three cultivation and processing facilities (considered biopharmaceutical by the industrial rating services) are under construction for the medical cannabis industry. Over the next few years, these facilities for GTI and Green Ops will employ more than 350 people at wages well above the community average. Additionally, other companies are looking at the market in this segment with at least one more anticipated in early 2022.

On behalf of the CEP Staff and Board of Directors, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the best year yet in 2022!

## Helping The Nervous System Heal Itself



(NAPSI)—For decades, medical researchers struggled to solve the mystery of how to reverse paralysis caused by serious spinal cord injuries. Finally, hope appears to be at hand.

### Making Mice Move

Remarkable video footage shows how paralyzed mice regained some of their ability to walk again after receiving an experimental drug treatment.

The injectable pre-clinical therapy, which is designed to regenerate nerve cells in spinal cord injuries, is being developed by researchers at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

However, the scientists have yet to make the big leap from animal to human clinical trials, meaning that this drug candidate is quite a few years from potentially being approved by government regulators for commercialization.

### Clinical Trial

Another experimental therapy has achieved even more impressive results with most laboratory rodents regaining coordinated movement—even enabling previously paralyzed rats to climb tiny ladders—and it is much further along on the developmental curve.

This novel drug candidate is known as NVG-291 and is the brainchild of a

**JAN. 21 2022**

**COTE DEONATH AS ELVIS 68 TO VEGAS**

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**Tickets: [www.csculturalcenter.com/events/cote-deonath-as-elvis-68-to-vegas/](http://www.csculturalcenter.com/events/cote-deonath-as-elvis-68-to-vegas/)**

**Tickets Start at \$15 | VIP Packages Available**

Cote Deonath is an Elvis tribute artist out of Ocala, Florida. Deonath has been a tribute artist for 19 years; since the age of 4! He loves every moment of paying tribute to the man he calls, "The greatest entertainer to ever live!" Deonath has traveled the world and made it to the Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest in Memphis, Tennessee three years in a row. Deonath finished in the top 3 and became the highest-ranking American Elvis tribute artist of 2018 and placed in the top 3 in the whole world in 2019. Deonath was the 2018 world champion making him the number one Elvis tribute artist in America! Deonath says it's a dream come true to spread the love and legacy of Elvis Aaron Presley.

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Florida State Senate

**DENNIS K. BAXLEY**



Dear Friends,  
Happy New Year!  
We hope that your Christmas season was joyous and blessed. It was good to be able to get some time back home with friends and family before the 2022 Legislative

Session begins. We will return to Tallahassee to begin that work on January 11 and we plan to continue updating you on all that we will accomplish there.

These past few months, your Senator has had the privilege of traveling all over the state to be with our Governor as he continues to help keep Florida free and witness firsthand at what an amazing leader we have in him. We have Florida voters to

thank for this! Without your hard work, involvement and commitment to the cause of liberty, we could very well be living in a lockdown state like California with a drug addict Governor in Andrew Gillum. Instead, we live in a state that continues to win on every front. From election law to COVID policies and taxes, Florida is leading the way and stands as a beacon of liberty in a country where there are places still half paralyzed with fear. Our working families need the freedom to prosper and overcome challenges together, not big government bureaucrats telling them what to do. Thanks to leaders like Governor DeSantis and a republican controlled legislature, Florida will continue to move forward without lockdowns and mandates.

Another focus of our Governor has been protecting parental rights. Rights that

parents have to being directly involved in their children's education. These are not the government's children, they belong to their families and neither the state nor the federal government should have more say over what a child learns than those that care for them most. Things like Critical Race Theory have no business being shoved down our kid's throats. Teaching a child to hate America, to despise freedom and to hate people because of the color of their skin is a giant step backward. Our country is not perfect, there never has been a perfect country, but our founding principles are solid and our children should learn about that in the classroom, not CRT! We are leading on this issue, and our Governor recently announced his intentions to work on combating CRT and variations thereof.

A quick note on Redistricting. We have been very pleased so far how this process is playing out. Our legislature is doing a wonderful job moving through this without any major hiccups and our leadership in the

Florida Senate is committed to ensuring that our maps be fair and constitutional. This is not a time for politics; this is a time for doing our duty. Campaigning and political posturing can wait until we have fulfilled that responsibility.

As always, it is an honor to be your Senator and we look forward to continue serving constituents in Marion, Lake and Sumter counties.

Onward & Upward,

**Health Department**

*Continued from page 1*

chronic health conditions, women who are pregnant, and children.

Those with the flu are most contagious with the first three or four days of feeling ill. The most common symptoms of the flu include fever, cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, and headaches.

The Department of Health encourages people with questions about the flu vaccine to consult their health care provider.

Other steps that can help reduce the risk of contracting the flu include frequently washing your hands with soap and water, avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unclean hands, cleaning and disinfecting surfaces or objects that you touch frequently, and staying home if you don't feel well.

Flu vaccines also are available at many health care providers' offices, pharmacies, and urgent care facilities throughout Marion County.

For more information about the flu vaccine, contact the Department of Health in Marion County at 352-629-0137.

**Find out more**

Visit [marion.floridahealth.gov](http://marion.floridahealth.gov), [marionflcovid.org](http://marionflcovid.org) and [twitter.com/flhealthmarion](https://twitter.com/flhealthmarion) for the latest information on COVID-19 and vaccinations. Visit [floridahealthcovid19.gov](http://floridahealthcovid19.gov) and use the Vaccine Locator and Testing Sites tools to find vaccination and testing sites near you

**Get The Facts**



**Get The Facts About Fertility, Pregnancy, And COVID-19 Vaccines**

*by the We Can Do This COVID-19 Public Education Campaign*

(NAPSI)—Questions and misinformation about the effect of

COVID-19 vaccines on fertility and pregnancy have left some people uncertain about getting vaccinated if they are pregnant or hoping to get pregnant, but the facts should be reassuring.

"It's understandable that parents and those who hope to become parents are cautious about COVID-19 vaccines," said Dr. Steven Gordon, Chair of the Department of Infectious Disease at Cleveland Clinic. "However, it should be comforting to know that the vaccines are safe and effective during pregnancy. Growing data and science demonstrate that the benefits of getting vaccinated far outweigh any risks and we have a long history with vaccines that makes

*Continued page 5*

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References needed for those who would like to be in this ad.  
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Tom Loury Tom Loury Long time member of CEP/Ocala Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Ocala Business Leaders and current member, Co-Founder and past President of Select Business Associates, Past President of the Lady Lake Chamber and current member.

### PUBLISHER'S NOTES



The Supreme Court looks like it is in favor of Roe versus Wade.

A Sheriff in California is being sued by the ACLU for reporting Illegal Immigrants????? The Border Patrol is now arresting thousands of Illegals and the Supreme Court deemed Biden's executive Order Unconstitutional. The Law clearly says they must stay in the country that they are in for the time being.

Hillary Clinton is accused of Influence-Peddling. In my opinion Hillary Clinton, Fauci and two others were investing money into the COVID-19 came from.

2018 New records just released shows that Fauci requested a grant and was approved. To extract RNA from Bats for genetically manipulate the SARS-CoV1 strain. It appeared a couple of years ago on the internet but quickly disappeared because the other two are heavily vested in the

internet. I think Vauci plan was to develop a serum and have the only serum of it's kind. No one ever thought that Trump would create "Warp Speed" which led to multiple serums. When investigations are finished It will be "the biggest Crime of the Century." Notscandal CRIME!

Also I believe that Obama has had something going on behind the scene's. He started going on the record by telling Fauci to stop the investment that the United States was giving to the Lab. Faci did not stop. Obama would love to dictate our Country for the rest of his life. not as the President but as a ruler.

I heard on the news that the United Nations was helping and coaching the illegal caravans. NOT TRUE! The story was that China was behind the Illegals receiving \$400 a week gift card. It was spread by a phony website. Another Facebook story. I say wear is all the fresh new close come from when they appear at the Border?

\*\*\*\*\*

## Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for February

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

Noon, January 14th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, January 19th

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

P.O Box 1698, Dunnellon FL 34430

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

I had International put up a antenna to get the free channels for my office. I need something to look at away from the computer once in a while. Hundreds of channels and the picture is sharp. Can't ask for anything more than that. Of course I have to figure out to get FOX channel .

\*\*\*\*\*

I love sea food, we had some company, they wanted to go to the Blue Gator to eat U-peel shrimp. That was fun, they serve one pound devained shrimp, a little messy but was very tasty. I'll do that once a month.

A couple of weeks later my wife were out delivering newspapers we went Ocala's Ocean Buffet. I think it was \$8.95 senior discount. They had everything thing, all kinds of Sea food a big ham you slice off what you want. The same thing with a large Beef Roast the whole leg and again slice of what you want. A great desert table your choice and shrimp almost every way you could think of including U-peel shrimp.

\*\*\*\*\*

Let me talk about our back page. The prime position, the customer we had on there finished their contract so it is open. If you want all four newspapers it is \$ 1116.00. Two in Ocala and two in the Villages. Just call TomL 352-804-1223.

\*\*\*\*\*

The last time the Turn Pike Extension we blocked it, the people fought it. I think if they should started a vote to disband the Turnpike Authority, it could happen. They were started to build the Turnpike. They did that and also adding into the mix at least a thousand exit's and lot's of cloverleafs. Running out of roads to build they are pressing hard for a new project. I think they should disband the Florida Turnpike Authority and send those employees to the Florida Department of Transportation. I know they are trying to create jobs and widening the roads we already have will do that.

As I look at this, here is my suggestion. Widen I-75 from the Turnpike north which is already connected and as you go north at SR 27 clover leaf half the traffic on to SR 27 widen it that as needed. The good part is they already have the land and would not be taking land from the farmers and ranchers. Remember Florida need to have groceries to survive. The other good thing is the new huge complex "The World Equestrian Center." Sr 27 would give a access road to help move that traffic.

\*\*\*\*\*

Someone needs to find the oil dip for the United States and give it to our President. There are at least 15 major sources of oil reserve untouched, but our administration has block many. WHY?

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

## Nervous System

Continued from page 2

renowned neuroscientist, Dr. Jerry Silver, who has licensed his technology to a Canadian life sciences company, NervGen Pharma Corp.

Five years ago, Codi Darnell, the daughter-in-law of Dr. Harold Punnett, a co-founder of NervGen, fell and became a complete T-11 paraplegic. Dr. Punnett discovered a revolutionary nerve regeneration technology in Dr. Jerry Silver's work at Case Western Reserve University which resulted in the formation of NervGen.

Dr. Silver's innovation offers renewed hope for the estimated 300,000 to 500,000 North Americans who dream of one day regaining sensation and motor function in their paralyzed limbs. This is similarly the case for more than a million Americans who have debilitating peripheral nerve injuries.

With no approved pharmaceuticals for spinal cord injury, it is heartening that NVG-291 is undergoing Phase 1 clinical trials, aimed at demonstrating its safety and lack of toxicity in healthy human trial volunteers.

This drug candidate is primed for important studies in patients in 2022. This is when its efficacy will be put to the test for the first time in humans afflicted by a range of debilitating spinal cord injuries and other nerve damage. Dr. Silver says he expects to get impressive results due to the surprising similarity between the central nervous systems of rats and humans.

His advanced-stage research work has taken on a greater urgency as the pharmaceutical industry has yet to bring to market any drugs that are able to repair injured nerves and let patients regain or improve key bodily functions. Unfortunately, current treatments that simply slow down or mitigate the debilitating effects on the human body resulting from the mass death of neurons in the brain or spine do not work in spinal cord injury.

Accordingly, Dr. Silver envisions that NVG-291 has the potential to revolutionize the treatment of spinal cord injuries. This is because it is designed to heal nerve damage by unleashing the body's natural ability to repair itself. NVG-291 doesn't just repair nerve cells, it creates new neural pathways via the extraordinary process of neural plasticity.

This work has been independently replicated in a German laboratory by other scientists, who also used rats. Interestingly, they used doses of NVG-291 that were 50 times higher than used by Dr. Silver. The study achieved even better recovery outcomes, while noting no toxicity issues with the rats from experiencing such comparably high doses.

Dr. Silver says, "It is our hope that this technology can improve the lives of the many people living with debilitating nerve damage. And we're very confident that we're on the right track."



## ONE PERSON'S OPINION LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor  
SLAVERY COMES IN ALL COLORS, FLAVORS, SHADES, FORMS AND DESCRIPTIONS.

It is perpetrated by the ruthless on sheeple. When the sheeple aid and abet the abusers. Data Collection is a form of control.

Because sheeple embrace it, they aid in their own enslavement. Data collection is power and money, control and enslavement. Slavery can be physical, economic, social, political, educational, moral, intellectual.

D.I.L.

## Get the Facts

Continued from page 3

it clear they do not affect future fertility."

Here are key facts about fertility, pregnancy, and the COVID vaccines:

**Getting vaccinated protects you during and after pregnancy.** COVID-19 can be especially dangerous for people who are pregnant or have recently been pregnant as cases during pregnancy are more likely to be severe. COVID is dangerous for the unborn child too. A recent study found COVID infections are associated with an increased risk of stillbirth. Safety monitoring systems and studies have shown that the COVID vaccines are safe for people who are

pregnant, and vaccination reduces the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death. Growing data continues to reinforce that the risks from getting COVID-19 at any stage of pregnancy are far worse than potential side effects from vaccines.

**Getting vaccinated protects your unborn or nursing child.** Data from safety monitoring systems continues to show vaccines are safe for pregnant people and their babies and getting vaccinated is much safer than contracting COVID. If you're breastfeeding, getting vaccinated could even help protect your baby, as recent reports have shown that some breastfeeding parents have antibodies in their breast milk after they've been vaccinated.

**COVID vaccines will not interfere with getting pregnant.** No evidence exists of COVID vaccines causing problems with fertility. In a recent study, people who had gotten the COVID vaccine had the same pregnancy success rate as people who had not been vaccinated. Vaccines are carefully studied and monitored, and it is clear they are safe for people who are pregnant or who want to become pregnant. If you are trying to become pregnant, you do not need to avoid pregnancy after receiving a COVID vaccine. If you get pregnant after your first shot, you should get the second shot and a booster on schedule for the most protection possible.

Knowing the facts about COVID vaccines can provide confidence and comfort. Anyone with concerns should ask questions of a trusted health professional, such as a family physician, pharmacist, or nurse. The benefits of vaccination far outweigh potential risks. Vaccines are the best way of getting this pandemic under control.

For more information and to find a vaccine, visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov).

## Reduce The Need For Masks



### New Invention May Reduce The Need For Masks

(NAPSI)—A new approach to indoor ventilation has been developed that can significantly decrease the risk of COVID and influenza outbreaks in schools, offices and other indoor environments, and even speed a reduction in mask wear.

The innovative invention captures and cleans individuals' breaths within seconds, before potential viruses have a chance to be dispersed throughout a room, improving overall indoor air quality. Current methods, including upgrades to existing HVAC

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FROM THE DESK OF

## GOVERNOR DESANTIS



### History of Ronald DeSantis

“Ronald Dion DeSantis was born on September 14, 1978, in Jacksonville, Florida, the son of Karen (née Rogers) and Ronald

DeSantis.

[1] He is of Italian descent.

[2] His family moved to Orlando, Florida, before relocating to Dunedin, Florida, when he was six years old.

[3] In 1991, he was a member of the Little League team from Dunedin National that made it to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

[4] After graduating from Dunedin High School in 1997, DeSantis attended Yale University. He was captain of Yale's varsity baseball team and joined the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

[5] On the Yale baseball team, DeSantis was an outfielder; as a senior in 2001, he had the team's best batting average at .336.

[6] He graduated from Yale in 2001 with a B.A. magna cum laude in history.

[7] He then spent a year as a history teacher at the Darlington School.

[8] DeSantis then attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 2005 with a Juris Doctor cum laude.

[9] DeSantis received his Reserve Naval officer's commission and assignment to the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) in 2004 at the U.S. Naval Reserve Center in Dallas, Texas,

while still a student at Harvard Law School.

[10] He completed Naval Justice School in 2005.

[11] Later that year, he received orders to the JAG Trial Service Office Command South East at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, as a prosecutor

[12] In 2006, he was promoted from lieutenant, junior grade to lieutenant. He worked for the commander of Joint Task Force-Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO), working directly with detainees at the Guantanamo Bay Joint Detention Facility.

[13] In 2007, DeSantis reported to the Naval Special Warfare Command Group in Coronado, California, where he was assigned to SEAL Team One and deployed to Iraq with the troop surge as the Legal Advisor to the SEAL Commander, Special Operations Task Force-West in Fallujah. [14] DeSantis returned to the U.S. in April 2008, at which time he was reassigned to the Naval Region Southeast Legal Service.

[15] The U.S. Department of Justice appointed him to serve as an Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Middle District of Florida.

[16] DeSantis was assigned as a trial defense counsel until his honorable discharge from active duty in February 2010.

[17] He concurrently accepted a reserve commission as a lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the US Navy Reserve.

[18] He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps

Commendation Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

Well obviously, he is NOT qualified to be a Democrat, or serve in a senior political position in our nation's capital.

He would just be a trouble maker! Worse than Trump.

Who does he think he is anyway?

### Governor Ron DeSantis Highlights New Preventative Monoclonal Antibody for Immunocompromised Patients

OCALA, Fla. — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis was joined by Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo to announce a new long-acting COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapy from AstraZeneca will be available for moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals, such as cancer patients and transplant recipients, at numerous health care provider locations in Florida, upon allocation from the federal government.

“This monoclonal is a new tool for some of our most vulnerable Floridians and we are happy to make this available throughout the state,” said Governor Ron DeSantis. “Florida has been a leader in advocating for early treatment of COVID-19 and the availability of this new monoclonal is a continuation of the state's efforts. Florida will continue to use a comprehensive approach to respond to COVID-19 and promote healthy living through *Healthier You*.”

Governor DeSantis also discussed *Healthier You*, the Florida Department of Health's new initiative which serves as a one-stop shop for Floridians to access resources to promote a healthy lifestyle.

“According to clinical trials, recipients of this new monoclonal antibody therapy saw a

77 percent reduced risk of developing COVID-19,” said State Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo. “Under Governor DeSantis' leadership, Florida continues safeguarding vulnerable populations and providing protection options to all. Beyond COVID-19, our *Healthier You* initiative bolsters efforts to improve Floridians knowledge of how to best support their overall health.”

From staying active to learning new recipes and boosting your nutritional intake, the Florida Department of Health works through [Healthier You](#) to educate the public on ways to improve habits and overall health. This is a resource that encourages Floridians of all ages to get active, go outside, improve nutrition, including vitamin D intake, or learn about [COVID-19](#).

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for AstraZeneca's Evusheld for the pre-exposure prophylaxis (prevention) of COVID-19 in certain populations 12 years of age and older.

AstraZeneca's Evusheld is authorized for:

- Individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised or are taking immunosuppressive medications and may not mount an adequate immune response to COVID-19 vaccines.

- Individuals with a history of severe adverse reactions to COVID-19 vaccines and/or components of the vaccines or its ingredients.

**Eligible patients should contact their health care provider if interested. Locations that will administer this monoclonal antibody therapy can be found at**

[FloridaHealthCOVID19.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19/evusheld)

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FROM THE DESK OF

ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



Along with the Florida Retail Federation and law enforcement leaders, I announced the launch of Florida's first statewide task force to combat large-scale retail theft,

as well as a new tool designed to help better coordinate prevention and prosecutorial efforts.

The new tool called FORCE, or Florida Organized Retail Crime Exchange, is an interactive database that will help law enforcement and retailers spot trends, identify suspects and take down massive, organized retail theft rings.

Videos from major cities across the country show mobs of criminals ransacking department stores—burglars smashing display cases and running away with ill-gotten gains.

A recent study by the National Retail Federation showed that nearly 70% of store owners nationwide reported an increase in crime over the past year—most alarmingly, retailers report gangs are more aggressive and violent than in years past. About 65% of respondents noted an increase in violence.

While many of the violent cases are taking place outside our state, in cities that entertain anti-police, pro-chaos policies, we continue working hard to ensure diligence against crime to protect our communities.

In addition to FORCE, I am assembling a task force of law enforcement, statewide prosecutors, state attorneys and retailers to help us examine the data from a secure online portal.

Making connections between similar cases, law enforcement agencies will have the ability to piece together information, giving them the tools to consolidate multiple investigations into one and increase penalties for criminals.

By using this new crime-fighting tool, we can prevent these violent crime sprees from taking root in our state and build a Stronger, Safer Florida.

**Ashley Moody recovers \$11M from pandemic scams, cancellations**

The Consumer Protection Division took on a travel company that left thousands stranded without travel arrangements.

Attorney General Ashley Moody announced Tuesday Florida has recovered more than \$11 million lost by consumers in pandemic-related fraud, scams and cancellations.

Moody said her Consumer Protection Division is spearheading the ongoing recovery effort. To date, the division has addressed thousands of consumer complaints including reports of price gouging and wrongful cancellations, among others.

“We have secured millions of dollars in relief for consumers nationwide following reports to my office about cancellations, purchases and scams related to the COVID-19 pandemic,” Moody said. “My Rapid Response Team worked with a sense of urgency to quickly address reports of price gouging and other unfair trade practices in real time to reduce harm to consumers and increase awareness about potential price gouging and other financial matters arising from the pandemic.”

Most recently, the Division took on a travel company that left thousands stranded without travel arrangements.

In a press release, Moody said the travel company — BookIt — offered to book flights, hotels and rental cars for consumers despite not having the funds to do so.

The Division recovered roughly \$7 million from BookIt after the company failed to refund stranded consumers.

“Throughout the pandemic, we worked closely with Floridians to ensure they were not being taken advantage of, and through that process we heard from consumers nationwide about thwarted travel plans and other issues they were experiencing with BookIt,” Moody said. “I am pleased that our involvement in this matter has resulted in millions of dollars in relief for those affected.”

In all, the Attorney General's Office has contacted more than 12,000 businesses about reports of price gouging, scams or a failure to give refunds.

Price gouging, Moody notes, carries stiff penalties. Violators may face a \$1,000 fine per penalty, with a maximum sum of \$25,000 within a 24-hour-period.

Price gouging laws only apply during a state of emergency. The COVID-19 state of emergency expired on June 26.

creating the potential for contagion.”

According to Dr. Rama Rao Amara, Emory University School of Medicine: “We know that COVID, as well as many other viruses, are airborne, meaning they spread through the air in microscopic, aerosolized particles. So, it makes sense that these particles can be easily pulled by the room's HVAC system or larger air purifier. To stop COVID and other pathogens, such as influenza or even the common cold from spreading in indoor environments, it is vital to capture an exhaled breath before these aerosols have a chance to journey around a room. We need to re-evaluate how indoor air quality is managed.”

Called Air-Clenz, the new technology has been customized for classrooms so teachers can see students as they did in pre-COVID settings. The size and positioning of the unit on the desk or cafeteria tabletop let students place their computers, textbooks or lunch trays within the air collection unit, so exhaled air is captured and cleaned of viruses or other pathogens while a student studies, eats or works.

“Capturing exhaled air close to the face before it becomes dispersed has been totally overlooked,” said Stuart Sheldon, CEO of Air-Clenz Systems. “Except for a face mask, which most individuals would not want to wear for the rest of their lives, there is no known system in the world that captures even 50 percent of one's exhaled air without also cleaning 100 percent of the air in a room or enclosed space. There are literally hundreds of different commercial air purifiers and HVAC system options, but none come close to achieving what Air-Clenz can achieve.”

The technology adds to the HVAC system for even cleaner air.

Dr. Anita Broach, Air-Clenz's Chief Scientist, adds: “Research demonstrates that Air-Clenz' technology typically captures and cleans more than an estimated 85 percent of a person's exhaled breath in approximately three seconds. The captured air is then cleaned to a 99.9 percent level before being recirculated.

**Masks**

*Continued from page 5*

systems, have proven somewhat ineffective as COVID outbreaks continue to create disruptions in indoor settings throughout the United States.

“Existing ventilation systems in schools, offices and elsewhere were not built for virus control. Not only does better ventilation decrease the risk of catching COVID, it has been shown to also improve work productivity and school performance,” said Larry Schoen, P.E., Fellow ASHRAE, Principal Engineer for Schoen Engineering Inc. “And even after upgrading a traditional HVAC ventilation system with better filters, it still allows virus-laden air to affect others in a room,



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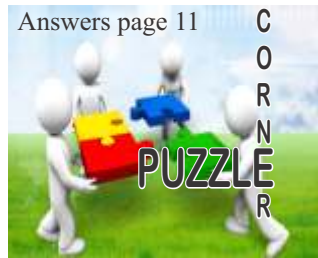
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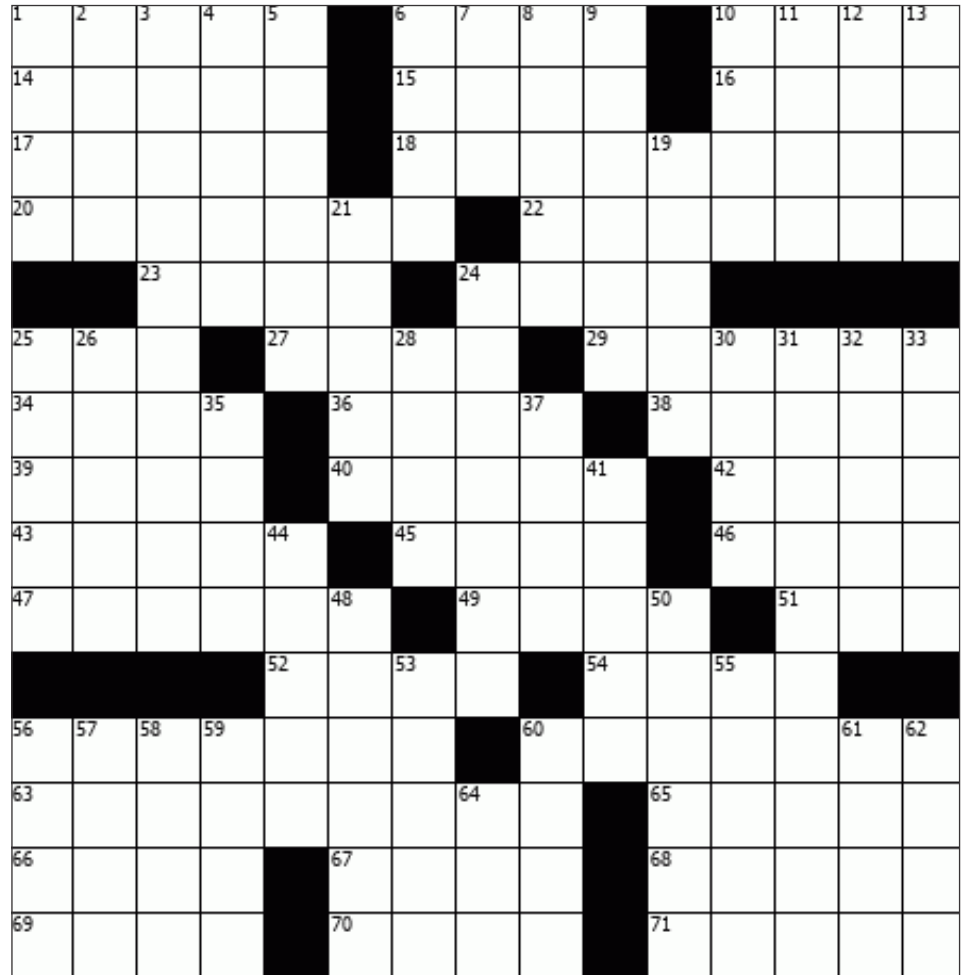
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- Answers page 11
- Across**
- Pre-birth period
  - Riot queller
  - Lifeline locale
  - "\_\_\_ by any other name ..."
  - Unholy figure
  - They're big in Australia
  - Chefs' protectors
  - Street sign
  - Flat-bottomed rowboats
  - One behind the wheel
  - Take it easy
  - Take seriously
  - Parisian article
  - Novel ending?
  - Searches for water
  - Goldberg and Field played them
  - It's straight from the horse's mouth
  - Brown tone
  - Third man
  - Per \_\_\_
  - Places for flowers

- Down**
- "The \_\_\_ of God"
  - Song from "Turandot"
  - Traffic jam
  - Path start
  - Secondhand transaction
  - Flirtatious woman
  - "Without further \_\_\_"
  - Thicket
  - Pleased as punch
  - Small Chinese dog
  - Mideast prince (Var.)
  - Debussy's "Clair de \_\_\_"
  - Fr. title of respect
  - Makeovers
  - To extremes
  - Odious
  - Not appropriate
  - Region from the Nile to the Red Sea
  - Pavilion
  - Friday on TV
  - Highway sign
  - Where to get down?
  - Flip, in a way
  - Fruit of the blackthorn
  - Small lumps
  - Image-maker's tool
  - Takes a spill
  - Drunk as a skunk
  - Twenty Questions category
  - Basra native
  - "Crazy" singer
  - William Wallace, for one
  - Stuff
  - Learning by memorization
  - Part of the NAACP
  - Tomba's transportation
  - Home in the woods
  - "Here \_\_\_ nothing!"
  - Big brute



# Turnpike

Continued from page 1

We have been promised by our State, County, and City Governments it was over and don't worry about it. Think back and remember the politicians that promised that. Here the Turnpike Authority again, I ask is, it legal to take land that the masses don't want it taken for a project they don't want? Can the state Florida Turnpike Authority confiscate land from the people if they don't want the project in their area. We can't

possibly hold all the people that are coming into this state without some really good planning by the Governor's team and not just let them rape our land to lay asphalt everywhere.

The Turnpike Authority is like a Steam Roller running over the land and people like ants (the people) of Marion County need to stand up. The County all over the state that don't want this project need to stand up. It certainly sounds like the masses don't want this!

Here my idea to solve this stupid dilemma.

The Turnpike runs to I-75, widen I-75 they already own the land then at the junction of I-75 and at Hwy 27 cloverleaf lanes to Hwy 27 they already have their right land and it goes to Hwy 19 the famous road that everyone is trying to move traffic to. Hwy 27 would be widened to how ever many lanes needed. All done by the Florida Department of Transportation. Important...down size or disband the Florida Turnpike Authority. Their job is done!

I say to you Governor DeSantis I have endorsed you at every turn but I can't on this

our lives, our farm and more important our natural resources. PLEASE ACT NOW! What say you the readers? [tloury@att.net](mailto:tloury@att.net)

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## Love is just a leash away!!



*The HSMC is here for you and the animals who depend on us. We wanted to share that we will continue to be here to help unwanted pets during this pandemic while following all Marion County and Florida state guidelines.*

As this situation is constantly changing, we ask that you continue to visit our Shelter using the safety guidelines in place.

### How can you help?

**Pet Food Bank:** Help stock our Pet Food Bank with pet food and supplies for people who cannot afford them due to job loss or other reasons. You can also bring donations to our Shelter daily from 10-6. Masks required please! *If you need help keeping your pet with you during this time, our Happy Paws food program is here for you.*

**Volunteer:** A small number of volunteers have returned to help in various departments. We are accepting volunteer applications but do not yet know when we will schedule orientations for new volunteers. Please contact us for more information about volunteering. We are currently working on a digital orientation.

**Opt to adopt:** According to the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization, there is no evidence that companion animals such as cats and dogs can spread the virus that causes COVID-19.

**Donate:** We know there is a lot of uncertainty right now but homeless and unwanted animals still need us. Donate to help the Humane Society of Marion County so we continue our lifesaving work and make them feel safe and loved.





**Bilbie**

Bilbie is a 14 weeks old male brought to the HSMC with her brother Wombat! We believe they could be Xolintzuimti, or Xolo, which is Mexican hairless dog breed.



Fuchala is a 15 week old paralyzed kitten full of love.



Ninja is paralyzed in his hind legs but enjoys runs with his wheels.

*Your donations make it possible to provide medical care, food and shelter to animals in need. On behalf of all the animals, thank you for caring.*



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TAMPA, Fla. – **First Lady Casey DeSantis announced Governor DeSantis is recommending \$100 million for cancer research and care in his 2022-2023 budget**, an increase of \$37 million, or nearly 60%, over prior year funding. The funding will be used to forward cancer care and research at three cancer institutes in Florida — Moffitt Cancer Center, University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, and University of Florida Health Cancer Center. View the full roundtable [HERE](#).

“Florida offers some of the best cancer care and research in the nation, and I’m proud that we are proposing historic investments in our leading cancer centers,” **said First Lady Casey DeSantis**. “The Governor and I are committed to helping every cancer patient that we can through innovative research and high-quality care.

While we increase this important funding, I also urge Floridians to go through appropriate cancer screenings. Cancer is the second-leading cause of death in our state and now is not the time to delay care. I was honored to join experts in the cancer field today to discuss the urgency of cancer screening and to hear about the incredible innovative solutions our institutes are putting forward.”

First Lady DeSantis made the announcement during a roundtable at Moffitt Cancer Center with Florida Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo and representatives from the center.

“The Florida Department of Health fully supports the First Lady and Governor in their request for comprehensive funding to support the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute Centers Program,” **said Florida Surgeon General Dr. Joseph Ladapo**. “Florida’s cancer institutes are critical in providing treatment that saves the

lives of patients with cancer. This funding will also continue supporting advancements in cancer research and treatments that can potentially lead to new cures. Thank you for your continued dedication to protecting Floridians now and into the future.”

“The funding announced today will greatly benefit our three homegrown Florida cancer centers — Moffitt, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami and UF Health Cancer Center — enabling these institutions to recruit the best and brightest from around the globe. It will allow us to bring teams and grant dollars to Florida to better support cutting edge discoveries, research and patient care, and make progress in the prevention and cure of cancer,” **said Dr. Patrick Hwu, President and CEO of Moffitt**. “We can’t thank the governor and of course the first lady enough for all their support in the fight against cancer.”

In 2014, the Florida Legislature established the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute Centers Program to enhance the quality and competitiveness of cancer care in the state. The initiative funds three cancer institutes in Florida that are or are seeking to become National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated.

Moffitt Cancer Center (designated National Cancer Institute comprehensive cancer center)

University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (designated National Cancer Institute)

University of Florida Health Cancer Center (applying for National Cancer Institute designation)

Over the last three years, the Consortium

has provided treatment to more than 67,000 newly diagnosed cancer patients, educated nearly 32,000 current and future clinicians and scientists on the latest advancements for cancer diagnosis and treatments, and shared research findings through 75 distinct collaborative publications. Florida also provides funding for separate initiatives that support pediatric cancer research, and grants that support cancer research at other institutes that are not NCI designated.

Funding for Cancer research and treatment programs has become even more important in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a [study released](#) in May by the University of Kansas Medical Center, nearly 9.4 million screenings for breast, colon, and prostate cancers did not occur in the U.S. over the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The disruption in cancer screenings highlights the importance of increased funding for treatment and research in the FY2022-2023 budget.

# Statewide Classifieds

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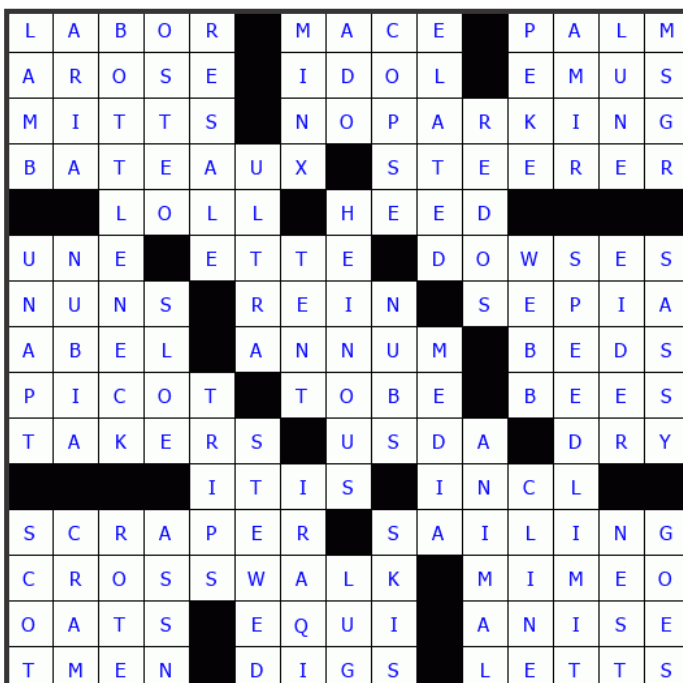
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