

**Our Values  
are no longer  
tethered  
to our  
principles.**

## Freedom Our Most Precious Heritage

By TomL

I want to take you back to the 1955's. Our family lived in a small town in south Florida. People took a walk down town after church on Sunday. When first moving to Dania Florida which has been renamed Dania Beach Florida, it is one mile from the east coast.

My Father was a behind the scenes Democrat and explained to me at a very young age that Democrats represent the working people.

The town had a strong Masonic base of which my father belonged, I think he was 32nd degree? We as a family were also involved in the Optimist Club. They brought many activities for the youth as well as grown up activities.

I got involved at age twelve as a Junior Optimist, one of the activities was a Oratorical contest. A subject was picked and with assistance from directors the children would write a speech. It would hone the skills of the child in life and keep them off the streets. The activity grew to be very popular and the second year there were many entires from towns around. The second year at age 13 yrs old I won! I went to districts and came in second. As time progressed I practice

practice practiced.

Time came for the next Oratorical contest the subject was picked... "FREEDOM OUR MOST PRECIOUS HERITAGE!"

It was a time of immigrant's being shipped into the United States to Elise Island. My speech was about Freedom not "Feedom"! No one would even entertain the idea. I touch on one immigrant and a very short message about and immigrant that almost died on the way across the ocean, (Sea Sick I think). A man at the dock felt sorry for him and gave him a pack of Life Savers to help with his hunger and upset stomach. He came back later, found the man and thank him for saving his life. I WON THE CONTEST!

Well as luck would have it the districts were combined with the nationals and I spoke in Cuba! Bateista was still the dictator, there were sand bags piled up around the municipal building front doors and Castro was fighting in the hills. I competed at age 14, the youngest contestant out of 25 youths. I came in third...

That subject stuck with me all my life from the small town called Dania / Davie Florida to the Marion County today.

## SHOOTING INVESTIGATION IN UMATILLA

01/20/2021

Detectives with the Lake County Sheriff's Office are investigating a shooting that occurred at approximately 11:20 this morning at 51 Highland Avenue in Umatilla. The Umatilla Police Department requested the Sheriff's Office to conduct the investigation.

The investigation has revealed that a

black male suspect with shoulder-length dreadlocks shot the victim at the victim's residence and fled the scene in a dark-colored passenger vehicle with tinted windows.

The victim was transported to an area hospital in critical condition.

Detectives are asking for anyone with information concerning this incident to

## THE COWBOY WAY!



By Kevin Yeo

The smoke is a rising on the horizon and gun oil is in the air. The Cowboy Fast Draw Club, ".45 SideKicks" of the First Baptist Church of Lady Lake hosted a bunch of cowboys and cowgirls in January for a Snow Bird Shoot Out. This year's tournament marks not only the 3-year anniversary of the club's creation. But also highlights a unique way that the Church outreach program's shows the community that God's family does more than just get together on Sundays!!

Shooting started at 9 am, ended at roughly 1pm each day and the public is welcome. A spectator will see participants

dressed in cowboy and cowgirl garb from the 1880's era while they compete in head-to-head duels. Each gun fighter attempting to draw and fire their single action .45 caliber pistols faster than a real-life adversary. For more information about the sport which has clubs across the United States. Check out the Cowboy Fast Draw Association website at [www.Cowboyfastdraw.com](http://www.Cowboyfastdraw.com)

For more information about the shoot out or to come to one of the .45 Sidekicks Tuesday night weekly practices and see how fast you really are. Call Kevin at 605-999-7687

## CNN News Reporter Sticks Foot in His Mouth!



By TomL

I really got heated when I saw Jake Tapper on National TV make a comment about our Congressman Brian Mast. Tapper was talking about Mast. "He lost his legs fighting for democracy abroad,

although I don't know about his commitment to it here in the United States."

Congressman Mast said in case you missed it, recently CNN's Jake Tapper exercised his First Amendment right and

questioned my commitment to Democracy on live television.

His First Amendment rights - *that I lost two legs and a finger for fighting on the battlefield* - are exactly that; they are HIS First Amendment rights, that are guaranteed in the United States Constitution.

CNN reporter Jake Tapper can say anything he wants but Congressman Brian Mast did not give up his legs so the Liberal Media can silence whoever he wants.

CNN and all the other need to honor our veterans and not try to make them look weak because they are not.

please call the Sheriff's Office at 352-343-2101, or Central Florida CRIMELINE at 1-800-423-TIPS, where they could be eligible

for a cash reward. No further information is available at this time.

A.J. "Tony" Powell

## AS I SEE IT

COVID19 - so many unanswered questions!

Does the 'truth' really matter?

Why do guilty people go free, while innocent people do not?

Many times a juror has said, "Yes, there was a lot of evidence, but I don't think he did it?"

or, "He looked guilty from the first minute I saw him in court!"

Sounds to me like their decisions are based, not on what they think, (the 'facts') but, instead, on what they feel!

Does that apply to COVID?

After almost a year of worldwide death and suffering, can anyone still believe that this pandemic is fake news and a hoax?

In our area of Florida another 20 of our friends and neighbors have died from the virus, with up to 100 new infections in The Villages alone.

The last numbers I saw showed almost 1,000 deaths here and over 230,000 in the state.

Interestingly, over 25,000 of the infections are non-residents who brought the virus with them.

Apparently, testing in 'The Villages' (Sumter, Lake and Marion counties) has already found about 3,000 infections, but relatively few of the 140,000+ residents have been tested.

On wearing a mask, one resident declared, "I've got my rights! I don't care about the others!"

At least he does have the 'facts' straight!

The medics seem to agree that the typical blue fabric masks which we see every day, offer very limited protection to the wearer.

But, when I learned that you can be infected/infectious without even knowing it,

and that a mask might protect your neighbors, friends and family IF they too are wearing a mask, my opinion changed.

It's not 'fake news' for the 53 of 61 church-goers who got infected at choir practice, nor for the two who died.

Nor for the documented case of 800 infections in a dormitory.

80 cases at a music concert

65 cases traced to Zumba classes.

170 cases in 5 locations was traced to an infected 'pub-crawler'.

Researchers say that the risk of infection indoors is almost 20 times greater than outdoors.

It took too long for me to learn that a single, unmasked, unknowing, infectious person in a room of masked friends can still infect them all!

On the more hopeful side of things, some scientists claim that COVID-19 patients are most infectious for only a short time. Maybe only a few days.

As I see it, there's no need to get tested!

Regardless of what you think, or what you feel, why not assume that you are infectious, and that, at least one of the people you are looking at is too?

As for your 'rights'?

Do you have a hand-gun?

Do you have the safety off, and a finger on the trigger?

Of course not!

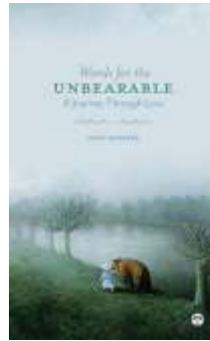
But, if you accidentally kill someone, is your excuse "Well, I didn't mean to do it!"

You would care if you killed a friend with a gun, but not with COVID?

Keep your distance, wear a mask and insist that they do too!

'til next time. . .

## Poems To Help In Hard Times



(NAPSI)—You may be able to bring some comfort to your friends and family members who have been grieving a loss in these difficult days.

### P o e t r y A n d E m o t i o n

There's a new book that can help heal the hearts and minds of people who have lost jobs, opportunities, homes, even loved ones. Called "Words for the Unbearable: A Journey Through Loss" (IngramSpark), it was written by psychologist Enid Sanders, who has had her own losses to deal with.

When her first child, Keri, died, the young mother spilled out a series of poems and put them away in a drawer. Decades later, when her husband Andrew died, she took them out and started writing again. At first she wrote for herself, for Andrew and to Andrew. A poem would rise up out of nowhere and she'd jump up and scribble it down, not knowing how it would end until she wrote the last word.

Little by little, she shared the poems with friends and fellow therapists who pushed her to turn them into a book. The title comes from a friend who read the poems and said, "These are words for me, words for the unbearable." Because it is poetry, the book reaches people at a deep level, helping therapists, patients, hospice workers, clergy, and anyone who grieves.

Yet the book is not really sad. It's helpful, engaging and even rather funny in spots because it tells the truth about grieving

without self-pity—including the fact that it can make everyone a little crazy.

Dr. Sanders also brings 34 years of experience as a noted clinical psychologist and bereavement counselor to writing this book. Having trained with internationally renowned child abuse expert Eliana Gil and specialized in helping abuse survivors for 18 years, she now focuses on helping clients negotiate grief and transition.

### Doctor's Opinions

As Dr. Gil herself put it: "I am wiping tears so that I can write...I feel as though I've been seen and heard and understood. Each poem is a picture memory, a reminder, a suggestion, a loving gesture, words that attest to the author's love. I thought only I loved so deeply and hurt so profoundly, but she's captured and clarified grief so well, it was comforting to read her words, even though many hurt like hell...Enid Sanders' words evoke strong feelings and encourage reflection, while providing the strange comfort that comes from being understood."

Added psychiatrist Daniel Kostalnick, MD: "It is rare that an author can capture both the emotional and intellectual experience of grief, but Dr. Sanders has succeeded...Most of us find it impossible to express that experience, but Dr. Sanders uses her work as a psychologist—and a poet—to help the reader identify, name, and deal with the profound and universal aspects of grief...a work of compassion and understanding that comes from the soul of someone who has loved deeply."

Many therapists recommend the book to grieving patients and it can inspire people to write their own poetry, or to paint or find another creative outlet for their feelings.

### Learn More

For further facts or to order the book go to [www.wordsfortheunbearable.com](http://www.wordsfortheunbearable.com).

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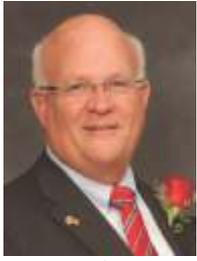
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Florida State Senate

## DENNIS K. BAXLEY



Dear Friends,  
Our first round of committee meetings in January are completed and we have begun our preparations for another three weeks in February. The 2021 Regular Session will convene on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, but much of the work happens in the weeks leading up to then. Per our state constitution, the Legislature's only duty is to pass a balanced budget and we will have that

completed by April 30<sup>th</sup>, unless a special session is called by the Senate President and Speaker of the House. We are grateful that we live in fiscally responsible state that understands that we cannot spend beyond our means. This year, due to the impact of COVID-19, Florida will have to make cuts to our budget to fulfill that responsibility and tough decisions will be made. My colleagues in the Senate, both Republican and Democrat, are united in this effort and in the past few years,



the final vote on our budgets has been largely unanimous (note: there have been years with a single member "nay" vote). In 2021, our leader on the budget will be Senator Kelli Stargel and we are very confident in her ability to lead us through the coming changes.

Last month, President Wilton Simpson appointed your Senator to The Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys. This Council was created in 2006 by the Florida Legislature to study conditions that negatively affect black males in our state. The 19-member council is housed in the Office of the Attorney General and has focused on researching strategies to reduce high school dropout rates,

recidivism, and violent crime rates. The Council hopes to establish community partnerships and help local communities establish best practices to help make a positive impact and bring awareness to the socioeconomic conditions that black males face in Florida. This will not be my first time serving on this Council, but it is honor and privilege to be able to serve again in this capacity. In America, we all have an opportunity to serve each other, encourage each other, and succeed together.

Due to issues surrounding the pandemic, our Senate President has asked us to restrict in-person meetings at the Capitol and we will honor that request until such time that he feels it is safe proceed otherwise. We are, however, available by phone, e-mail or if you wish to make a virtual appointment then we are more than happy to accommodate. Please do not let that be a reason not to contact us and let us know your thoughts and suggestions. This process does not work without you and we need your involvement. Thank you for letting me sit in your seat in the Florida Senate and fight to protect faith, family, freedom, opportunity and life.

Onward & Upward,  
Senator Dennis Baxley

## Governor Ron DeSantis

### Governor Ron DeSantis: Booster Shots for Pfizer and Moderna Vaccines Necessary Regardless of Manner of Distribution

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, as part of his ongoing efforts to put Florida's Seniors First, Governor Ron DeSantis released the following statement regarding booster shots for the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines:

Governor DeSantis said, "While there is talk at the federal level regarding how to distribute vaccine doses and whether booster shots should be 'held back,' Florida is committed to the two-dose regimen for both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. One dose seems to provide some protection, but the 95 percent efficiency has only been shown to be attained by taking the booster shot. This means that while the manner of distribution may change, the necessity of the booster shot will not. Florida wants all seniors to receive booster shots at the appropriate time."

Florida Leads the Nation in Vaccinating Seniors

On January 15, 2021, in News Releases, by Staff

Florida announces more than 500,000 seniors vaccinated to date

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis provided an update on Florida's COVID-19 vaccine distribution progress, highlighting steps the state is taking to increase vaccination sites and put Florida's Seniors First.

Among states that publicly report on vaccinations for seniors, Florida is the first state in the nation to vaccinate more than 500,000 individuals 65 years of age or older, accounting for nearly 60% of total vaccinations in the state. Due to reporting lags, this number serves as an estimate and clearly understates the total of seniors vaccinated.

Text from Governor DeSantis' video message as delivered is provided below:

Continued page 7



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

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES



By TomL

I came down with COVID-19 Then my wife came down with COVID-19. Not a fun thing!

We had a nice small family Christmas day afternoon Dinner. About one AM I got very sick

like a stomach Flu with plenty of pain. Terrible night. I thought it was something I ate did not agree with me. My energy level went to the bottom for days. Three days later my wife got sick, she slept about twenty hours. When she woke up the next day, we both went for the COVID-19 test. We tested positive! It was not a good experience but we took massive doses of vitamin CC, B-12, Iron, 500 mg Zinc, 500 mg D-3, ate soup when we could get something down and we got better. I ask if I was now amune and I think the answer is temporary the new strains can reinfect us so get your shot when you are able!

Who said Joe Biden was not religious, he raised thousands from the dead to vote for him...

I wondered how long some of our Political leaders have been in power / Office and what they have accomplished???

Joe Biden 48 years  
Chuck Schumer 39 years  
Nancy Pelosi 33 years  
What has anyone of them accomplished?  
IMPEACHMENT!

Our Values and Our Principles are no longer tethered together. They are separated by Hatred, Politics, Power and Greed! If you Build on Hatred it will not Last! In the end Justice Will Be Served!

Two years ago I predicted a Civil War. A Civil War could be verbal like what is going on right now, But let me make it clear there will be Outside Rioters Involved. Four Years ago I predicted that a third Party would come

to power. I thought it would be the tea Party. Now I think it will be the MAGA Party. 79,000,000 followers Armed and ready to defend the Constitution. There will be many Veterans young and elderly. Trump fixed a lot of problems with the VA so Veterans got better, faster care. Yes Justice is tipped in the wrong direction, but the American People has had enough and they have been waiting for a Leader, he has come!

The Caravan's really concern me. If the person truly wants to come for a job and live the American Dream, They should be given a work permit. There are a lot of people that can add something to our work force. BUT the ones that are criminals concern me. We have a lot of problems right now and don't need more added to it!

Another problem is adding to the Pandemic. There are also many deceases in these other country that they have not been inoculated for. We don't want our children to be exposed to extra deceases.

I also think that we are being contaminated from within. If you walk through the grocery store in produce and read where the products are coming from. How do you disinfect vegetables?

Keep the faith and help each other through this!

## Restaurant Reviews

**Brooklyn Back Yard Restaurant.** Interesting lunch Ocala Florida Silver Springs Blvd. We had a business lunch in the middle of the month. My business guest order a Calzone, said it was delicious. I had create a burger, no bun. Lettuce, Tomato, onion, pickles with mixed veggies and some really hot coffee! Enjoyed it and will go back soon. The restaurant is located close to Staples.

Had lunch at the **Elks Club** with our lunch group. Had a new waitress, she did a good job. The cook did a good job. All is well that ends well.

## Uniformed Services Members



**Uniformed Services Members: Help Protect Your Family With The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program**

(NAPSI)—The prospect of needing long term care may be far from your mind today, but circumstances can change. A long term care event can happen at any age, and the potential financial and emotional strain that comes with it can have an impact on you and your loved ones.

Did you know millions of Americans require long term care during their lifetime, which includes the need for either cognitive or physical assistance with simple tasks like bathing, eating, and dressing—trivial things most of us do every

Continued page 5

## Newspaper Deadlines

*Editorial & Ad Copy for March*

**Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown**

**Noon, February 12th**

**Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator**

**12am, February 17th**

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

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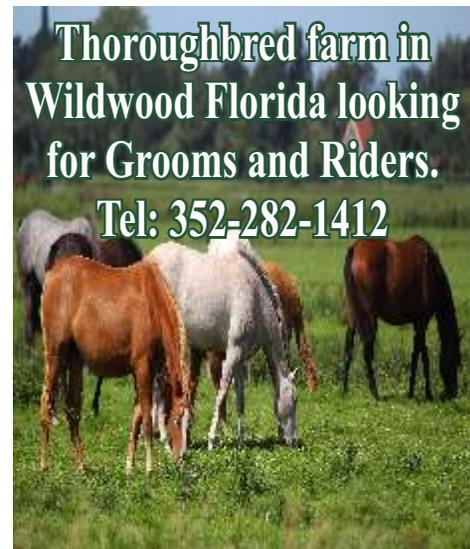
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# Service Members

Continued from page 4

day without a second thought? Unfortunately, traditional health insurance plans—including TRICARE For Life—do not pay for the chronic, ongoing assistance with daily living that is most often associated with long term care.

In fact, the long term care benefits offered through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are tied to specific triggers, including service-connected disability, available funding, and even your ability to contribute to the cost of care.

Long term care can be expensive, and service members often rely on the VA to cover the associated costs. Depending on your eligibility status in the VA program, the level of coverage available to you may not be enough. For this reason, you may want to research standalone long term care insurance like a plan offered through the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP).

Since its launch in 2002, the FLTCIP has offered active and retired members of the uniformed services the opportunity to help take control of their future long term care needs. Designed to provide solutions for a range of financial situations, this employer-sponsored program offers comprehensive coverage for more than 270,000 enrollees.

Many members of the federal family are eligible to apply for coverage under the FLTCIP, including active and retired members of the uniformed services. Certain family members, or qualified relatives, are also eligible to apply even if you do not. Qualified relatives include your spouse, domestic partner, parents and parents-in-law, and adult children.

### Coverage under the FLTCIP

The FLTCIP is designed to reimburse for

qualified long term care services and can lessen or eliminate an individual's reliance on a loved one to provide hands-on care. As you assess the FLTCIP's value, consider these important benefits:

The FLTCIP offers coverage in a variety of settings—at home or in a facility, such as an assisted living facility, an adult daycare, or a nursing center—and your choice of caregiver.

If home care is your preference, the stay-at-home benefit includes a range of services that support care in your home, helping you maintain your quality of life in familiar surroundings.

Informal care provided by friends and family members, as long as they do not live in your home at the time you become eligible for benefits. (Note: Benefits for care provided by family members is limited to 500 days.)

The program's care coordination services offer enrollees and their qualified relatives information about long term care resources, such as local care providers and relevant community programs, as well as valuable support to your family and friends.

Talk candidly with your family members and tell them about the FLTCIP. Starting the conversation prior to needing care can help you prepare for the unexpected.

Visit

[LTCFEDS.com/militaryfamily](http://LTCFEDS.com/militaryfamily) to

learn more about the benefits of applying for the FLTCIP. For personalized assistance, call 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337) TTY 1-800-843-3557 to speak with a program consultant. They are available to answer any questions you may have and can walk you step-by-step through the plan design and application process.

Note: Certain medical conditions, or combinations of conditions, will prevent some people from being approved for coverage. You need to apply to find out if you qualify for coverage under the FLTCIP.

### More about the FLTCIP

Established by an act of Congress in 2000 and overseen by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the FLTCIP is designed to meet the specific needs of the Federal family. The long term care insurance under the FLTCIP provides industry-leading benefits and offers flexible options that allow enrollees to tailor coverage to meet their needs.

The FLTCIP is sponsored by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, insured by John Hancock Life & Health Insurance Company, and administered by Long Term Care Partners, LLC.

# Sweet Potato Minestrone Soup



- 1 1/2 tsp salt, or more to taste
- 1 1/2 tsp pepper, or more to taste
- 8 c chicken or vegetable broth
- One 28-oz can diced tomatoes
- One 15-oz can garbanzo beans, drained
- One 15-oz can kidney beans, drained
- 3/4 c uncooked elbow macaroni pasta
- 3/4 c fresh or frozen peas
- 2 Tbsp chopped fresh oregano
- 1/2 c grated, shredded, or shaved Parmesan cheese

In a large saucepan or small stockpot over medium-high heat, warm the oil. Add onion and cook, stirring occasionally, for 2 minutes. Add sweetpotatoes, celery, tomato paste, garlic, salt and pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, 3 to 4 minutes. Add broth, tomatoes and beans and bring to a boil. Add pasta and peas, reduce to a simmer, and cook until vegetables and pasta are tender, about 10 minutes. Stir in oregano and more salt and pepper to taste. Serve sprinkled with cheese. For more recipes and information about California sweetpotatoes, visit [www.casweetpotatoes.com](http://www.casweetpotatoes.com).

(NAPSI)—Everyone needs delicious recipes with heaping servings of veggies. Whether you're thinking about overall health or trying to lose a few pounds, maintaining a balanced diet throughout the year is key to success.

Easy California Sweetpotato Minestrone fits the bill. A riff on the classic Italian soup, it takes a favorite that's already loaded with veggie- and legume-goodness and makes it even better by adding superfood sweetpotatoes. California Sweetpotatoes are a great source of vitamin A, plus they're full of heart-healthy potassium and fiber and antioxidants like vitamins C and E.

Serves 8

- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 lb orange- or yellow/white-fleshed sweetpotatoes, cut into 1/2-in dice (about 3 c)
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 3 Tbsp tomato paste
- 4 cloves garlic, minced

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# CHIEF ROBERT TEMPESTA.



## DISTRACTED DRIVING IS DANGEROUS

The improvement of technology in today's society has greatly benefited law enforcement and our society as a whole. However, improvements in

technology have led to a serious threat on our roadways – distracted driving.

Dialing numbers on cell phones or typing text messages requires attention that should be paid to the task of driving. There are four main types of distraction: visual (taking your eyes off the road), auditory (hearing something not related to driving) manual (taking your hands off the wheel) and cognitive (taking your mind off what you are doing). While all distractions can endanger drivers' and fellow motorists' safety, texting while driving is the most alarming because it involves all three types of distraction. Shockingly, statistics show that texting while driving is just as dangerous as operating a motor vehicle while impaired.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), it is estimated that 2,841 people were killed on our nation's roadways and more than 400,000 were injured as a result of distracted driving in the year 2018.

Texting while driving has been proven dangerous beyond dispute. Taking one's

eyes off the road for the average 5-6 second text, is enough to travel the length of a football field at 55 MPH. It is clear that the dangers of texting while driving are serious. A life is more precious than taking a call or responding to a text message. It is imperative that we put the safety of others above our own need to access technology. If you feel the need to send that message, safely pull off the roadway first.

Teens can be the best messengers with their peers, so we encourage them to speak up when they see a friend driving while distracted, to have their friends sign a pledge to never drive distracted, to become involved in their local Students Against Destructive Decisions chapter, and to share messages on social media that remind their friends, family, and neighbors not to make the deadly choice to drive distracted.

Parents first have to lead by example, by never driving distracted, as well as have a talk with their young driver about distraction and all of the responsibilities that come with driving. Have everyone in the family sign the pledge to commit to distraction-free driving. Remind your teen driver that in states with graduated driver licensing (GDL), a violation of distracted-driving laws could mean a delayed or suspended license.

The men and women of the Lady Lake Police Department are committed to keeping you and your family safe. If you find yourself reaching for your cell phone while driving, take a second to think about the

dangers you are putting yourself and others in before you pick up the phone. Ask yourself, is it really worth it? Please stay safe!

## Social Engagement



(NAPSI)—Maintaining social connections and staying mentally and physically active is key to reducing social isolation and loneliness among older adults, particularly now during the COVID-19 national health crisis.

There are many opportunities for older adults and caregivers to remain engaged and connected to their family, friends and community with and without technology during the pandemic. Here are a few suggestions all of us might consider doing during this time:

**Reach out.** Try to call a family member or friend every day, write them a note or send a card.

**Stay active, mentally and physically.** Move more and sit less. Engage in physical activity such as a walk or online group

exercise classes.

**Flex your brain.** Draw a sketch, write a poem or short story, or start journaling.

**Create connections using technology.** Use online tools to connect with friends and family. Attend virtual events and concerts or tour museums from home. Read a book online.

**Volunteer and share your skills from home.** Develop a virtual mentoring relationship with a student through a local college or connect with your local Area Agency on Aging to find opportunities to help others.

Through its website, [www.eldercare.acl.gov](http://www.eldercare.acl.gov), and national Call Center at 1-(800)-677-1116, the **Eldercare Locator** can inform and connect older adults and caregivers to local programs and services that provide a variety of ways to stay connected to others in their communities to reduce social isolation and loneliness.

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# Governor

Continued from page 3

Hi, this is Governor Ron DeSantis.

Florida is putting "Seniors First," and we are expanding Florida's vaccination site infrastructure at a rapid pace.

In fact, as a result of Florida's strategy, the CDC reversed course and is now following Florida's lead and recommending that states prioritize seniors 65 and up for vaccine administration.

Florida has now vaccinated more than 500,000 seniors – far outpacing other states in the nation that are reporting updates on this critical effort.

This accounts for 60% of all Florida's total vaccinations, and that percent is increasing with each week.

Federal supply remains limited, but when additional vaccine comes, we are ready to deploy those doses quickly.

Florida is home to 4.5 million seniors, and I'm not going to rest until every senior that wants a shot, gets a shot.

I was pleased to announce multiple expansions of my office's partnership with Publix Super Markets.

Just this week, we announced over 50 new locations and we now have more than 100 Publix locations that are offering vaccines to seniors in their community, and there's more to come.

In addition to Publix, we have been working collaboratively at all levels to increase vaccine access statewide.

This includes utilizing places of worship, state-run vaccination sites, deploying strike teams in partnership with the Florida National Guard to supplement federal long-term care facility efforts, and partnerships with senior living communities.

Once we receive next week's distribution, we'll be allocating additional supply to our higher performing sites:

We have state-supported PODs, like drive thru sites at Miami's Hard Rock Stadium and

the Villages retirement community, that are performing well and will continue to be supplied.

We are also going to expand our partnership with Publix Supermarkets. We want to bring the vaccine to even more counties throughout the state of Florida at people's local supermarket.

We are also going to continue to send vaccine to places of worship and utilize our communities of faith throughout the state.

Now, when additional doses of vaccine arrive, we are prepared to distribute the vaccine to wider populations.

To our seniors – we will continue to put you first.

Thanks, and God Bless.

## Online Learning Made Better



(NAPSI)—Lately, school districts engaged in "emergency teaching" to meet the challenge of continuing students' education during the COVID-19 pandemic. A large part of that effort was integrating digital resources into remote instruction.

### Getting A Handle On Digital Resources

The use of digital resources for teaching and learning skyrocketed during the pandemic—around the world, UNICEF reports, nearly 90 percent of pupils have been learning remotely. That's about 1.2 billion children. Even after the return to

"normal," schools will continue to use such resources to keep students connected to curiosity and to bring the outside world into teaching and learning.

### An Answer

That's where a unique collection of digital resources can come in. Discovery Education's flexible K-12 platform connects educators to a vast array of compelling high-quality, standards-aligned content, ready-to-use digital lessons, and professional learning resources.

In fact, when COVID-19 struck, Discovery Education was one of the first edtech providers to respond. On March 5, it made its flagship service—Discovery Education Experience—available, at no cost, to any school system. Over 15,000 new schools nationwide actively used it as part of their instruction.

The company constantly adds, contextualizes, and organizes exciting new content and timely resources to Discovery Education Experience each month in response to current events and the ever-evolving needs of educators. These resources, from trusted partners, are aligned to state and national standards and help educators bring the outside world into teaching and learning every day.

### An Asset For The Teacher

What's more, Experience is designed to work within school systems' existing infrastructure and workflows. Through expanded partnerships with Microsoft Teams, Google Classroom, and others, integrating it into classroom instruction is easier than ever.

The system offers high-quality digital resources for all K-12 subjects and instructional supports for educators, including more than 150 online events designed to provide educators strategies they can use to continue student learning during the pandemic. These events reached over 20,000 educators in all 50 states and 17 countries, reports Scott Kinney, CEO of

Discovery Education.

### Learn More

For further facts about the future of education, visit

[www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com).

## January Is "GO Month"



### Here's Advice For 2021

(NAPSI)—During 2020, for many Americans, home and work lives saw a major shift as people turned living space into workspace—and classrooms, and workout areas and even quarantine zones—resulting in a call for help to organize, downsize and streamline to professional organizers and productivity consultants.

### Expert Opinions

In response, for January, GO (Get Organized and Be Productive) Month, the yearly celebration of all things organized and productive, the National Organization of Productivity & Organizing Professionals (NAPO) reached out to its more than 3,000 members to find out what their 2020 was like and what they anticipate for the new—and hopefully better—year. The survey shows a majority of members say their clients have a new or increased focus on being organized, because of the pandemic.

"Our members saw a busy 2020, as  
Continued page 8

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## Go Month

Continued from page 7

families struggled to adjust to a new normal," observed NAPO President-Elect Amy Tokos, CPO who said more than 64 percent of survey respondents saw an increased focus on organizational and productivity needs due to a new COVID-driven norm. "Whether it was about recreating a home environment that worked for every family member's new needs to turning a temporary work area into a permanent one or maximizing their digital capabilities and, in some cases, actually moving to a brand-new home, 2020 was all about looking at our environments with fresh eyes as our needs changed."

### Surprising Suggestions

The survey also found that NAPO members, who routinely handle a wide range of client requests, were asked to take on some very unusual tasks in 2020, including:

Organizing one client's 387 pairs of shoes  
Overseeing the sale of a large collection

of mounted animal heads and stuffed animal bodies

Arranging the sale of 400 Steiff teddy bears

Staging a tree house for a client putting their home on the market

Packing up a client's husband's ashes to dispose of

Organizing a closet packed with hundreds of paper and plastic bags

### Future Tasks

Looking ahead to 2021, it's already showing promise to be as busy as 2020, NAPO professionals predict that the most requested services will be: decluttering and downsizing (35%); productivity coaching for an in-home work environment (17%); packing/unpacking for a move (16%); and creating a new space for work, home or hobby (13%).

"While we are all optimistic that the pandemic will come to an end this coming year, we are all still adapting to the lifestyle changes and new work-from-home norms," said Tokos. "Hiring a NAPO professional to help with changes you want to make in life is

the same as hiring a personal trainer or financial advisor. We abide by a strict code of ethics and discretion. We don't judge—we help. Who wouldn't want judgment-free support during this challenging time?"

### Learn More

If you've resolved to get more organized and productive in the new year [www.napo.net](http://www.napo.net) offers a directory to find professional organizers or productivity consultants locally or virtually.

## "Sandwich Generation"

### COVID-19 And "Sandwich Generation" Caregivers

(NAPSI)—The Sandwich Generation, named for the population of Americans caring for both their school-aged children and an aging parent or other relative, has been uniquely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a recent survey and white paper from New York Life, "Caregiving and COVID-19: How the



pandemic is expanding the sandwich generation." This is largely due to an enhanced demand on the typical type of care the generation provides as a result of the coronavirus' effect on schooling, healthcare, and everyday work and life. The survey found it was largely millennials and particularly women shouldering the burden.

### How COVID-19 has Affected the Sandwich Generation

The coronavirus is stretching both time and money thin for the Sandwich Generation, sometimes at the expense of their financial, physical and emotional well-being.

This demographic has spent thousands of dollars in total care for their dependents over time—and the coronavirus pandemic is intensifying this budget crunch. On average, 69 percent say they're paying for this care out of their own daily budgets, with 27 percent working more hours to get the extra funds, 27 percent drawing from their emergency savings, 20 percent sharing costs with a sibling and 18 percent ultimately delaying paying bills.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the data found, more than half of those in the Sandwich Generation spend more each month caring for others, as nearly one-quarter of people report spending extra each month on top of the average \$1,000. As a result, about four in 10 put less each month toward their savings and about one-third have less for their retirement, debt, or their personal well-being. Over time, these can make a big difference for a financial portfolio and create additional concerns for financial health.

"As COVID-19 exacerbates the stress on the Sandwich Generation and the economic outlook remains uncertain, preparing for the unexpected becomes critical to achieving long-term financial security," advised Dylan Huang, Head of Retail Annuities, Investment Solutions and Wealth Planning, New York Life. "While our data suggests a troubling trend of Sandwich Generation families sacrificing long-term savings for shorter term needs, the outlook is not all dark skies. This report shows that those working with financial professionals are able to improve their financial well-being and feel more confident about their financial solutions, their family's future, and their own retirement."

### What's Next

As the evolving Sandwich Generation navigates its family responsibilities and day-to-day routine, it's important to keep the financial basics in mind and prioritize time to set their family up for more success and less stress in the future. Thinking about life insurance, their emergency fund, and ensuring that their investment portfolio is diversified and within a comfortable risk tolerance, are all areas that can provide security over time and let the Sandwich Generation focus on their loved ones instead of worrying about their finances.

# Running Short?

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## Fun at Home Even With a Pandemic



by Chris Boody  
I recently found a terrific website when looking for ways to occupy adults and children who are being safe

and making the sound decision to stay home as much as possible. It IS possible to have a good time at home if we plan some fun things to do. Crafts are good of course, but there are only so much you can do on a lean budget. At <https://triviamaker.com> you can make up your own game with a **FREE** account. Templates are given for each game so you can customize to fit to age and personalities of your family and friends. You get more with a paid account, but free is an excellent choice for starting out, which allows one to make up unlimited games, with 2 teams, 4 categories, 4 rounds. See picture above for the types of games they offer.

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## Fear Inducing Website Development Myths Busted



By Dorothy York, President and CEO of North American Precis Syndicate (NAPS)

Newspaper have pivoted to digital advertising on their sites to bring their publications into the modern era with some easy, low cost improvements. With little or no technical knowledge, publishers can create a beautiful digital site in less than an hour, for very little cost or can add various optional enhancements which will help attract more readers and sell more ads.

Many are succeeding with website development while others are struggling or afraid to try. Here are several fear inducing website development myths busted, with a no holds barred strategy for tackling site upgrades, to guide publishers on the road to progress:

1- "I don't need a website."

Today, every newspaper needs to have a digital version in addition to the printed version. Even local papers often generate from 10 to 30% of total revenue from their websites. Newspaper websites have contributed significantly to the bottom line. Having a digital website means reaching a bigger audience. Only about 30% of newspaper readers read printed papers currently. That means 70% of the potential audience can only be reached online, including young people, out-of-towners and people who have cancelled their print subscriptions.

2- "I don't have time to deal with changing websites now."

With the help of a good consultant, the job is much easier. Upgrading a website involves as little as 1 hour of your time, to just a few hours, maybe four one-hour meetings, over four to six weeks, to plan and build out your new site. You can transfer everything over from your old site and set everything up on the new one, easily and quickly.

3- "Having a website will erode my print business."

Print subscriptions, which can be sold online, tend to increase when a beautiful new site is launched. In addition to generating more subscription revenue, which adds value to advertising, managing print subscriptions more efficiently online tends to help cut costs. A full website with a good pay wall can add lots of digital only, and print subscriptions from people who would otherwise never buy the paper version. Print ads can be showcased and enhanced online, to drive more traffic and increase ROI for grateful advertisers.

4- "We don't have any IT skills or web people here, so we can't do this."

There are many free online tutorials to help you, if you want to do it yourself, without needing to know how to code. A good consultant can take care of all your IT needs and may provide a platform that is easy to learn, and run, with minimal training, advice and support. You don't need any tech people to manage a fully functional digital site. Your consultant can help you learn to use the best search engine optimization strategies for your stories, what maintenance and software upgrades may be needed and which occasional tweaks to the design may help to enhance the user experience.

5- "That seems expensive and I can't afford it."

Some basic sites can be developed for little or no cost, and may be less functional. Valuable options can be added to increase the cost-effectiveness of a project, and to justify the expense. A good digital publishing platform will pay for itself by helping to grow audience and create more value for advertisers, which will help generate more ad revenue.

Here are several tools and features that can be added for better performance:

- 1- A dynamic website CMS to better showcase content
- 2- A custom design that reflects a brand and content
- 3- A robust pay wall that controls access to content and serves as an e-commerce platform too. Print or online subscriptions

can be sold on a site. Donations can be received on a site. Recurring payments and auto renewals can be set up, including sending out notices to subscribers or generating printable labels through a subscription platform.

4- A full classified platform that lets users post and pay for their ads online. A complete classified system allows for reverse publishing of ads and the option of offering paid or free online only ads.

5- A web ad server can handle lots of different kinds and sizes of advertising.

6- National programmatic ads help generate some added revenue.

7- Free content can be provided for use in print or online, which can be monetized with relevant ads.

Good websites have helped save many publications which have learned to survive and thrive in the digital age. Communities need and want news and the role of publishers with essential information has never been more important. Innovations have emerged to satisfy demand and leading newspaper publishers have responded to shifting trends, setting a shining example for the rest, by finding new paths, violating norms and listening to new ideas.

Some have become stronger, by increasing readership, boosting circulation, and ad sales by focusing on content, approach and design. After learning how easy it is to create a simple website, many publishers created a new revenue stream by offering website design as a service to their advertisers.

For more information, contact us at [info@napsnet.com](mailto:info@napsnet.com) or visit <https://mynewstouse.com/>.

## Blood Cancer Patients



**What Blood Cancer Patients Need to Know**

(NAPSI)—If you or someone you know has ever had blood cancer, a term you might have heard is "minimal residual disease," or MRD. MRD refers to the small number of cancer cells that can stay in the body during

Continued page 10

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## Blood Cancer

Continued from page 9 and after treatment. Often, these cells are present at such low levels they do not cause any physical signs or symptoms. However, they may be a sign that cancer is returning.

As one of the strongest predictors of patient outcomes in blood cancer, MRD status can help you and your doctor understand how your body is responding to treatment and how it may change over time. When your MRD status shifts, you may find that the course of your blood cancer journey changes as well.

clonoSEQ® is an FDA-cleared test used to detect MRD in bone marrow from patients with multiple myeloma or B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (B-ALL) and blood or bone marrow from patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). Testing is ordered by your doctor and performed by a licensed lab. clonoSEQ can detect very low levels of MRD—one cancer cell among a million cells (provided

sufficient sample input)—so you and your doctor can be confident in your MRD status and prepared to act quickly if the cancer returns.

**Talk to your doctor.** If you have a blood cancer, talk with your care team about your MRD status to pinpoint where you are with your disease and develop a plan that works for you. To find a specialist and learn more, visit [clonoSEQ.com](http://clonoSEQ.com) and ask your doctor if clonoSEQ MRD testing is right for you.

Routine MRD testing may help detect the return of cancer before physical signs and symptoms arise. Knowing your MRD status can help you move forward with confidence when planning for all of life's moments.

clonoSEQ is available by prescription use only. For more important information about the FDA-cleared uses of clonoSEQ, including sample types and test limitations, visit [clonoSEQ.com/technical-summary](http://clonoSEQ.com/technical-summary).

## DONATIONS NEEDED!

Lady Lake Animal Control is working hard to keep local animals safe. At this time they are helping a large number of cats & kittens and are in desperate need of donations of the following items:

- Fancy Feast Kitten Food (Chicken)
- KMR Kitten Milk
- Cat Litter
- Laundry Detergent

Donations Can Be Dropped Off at the following locations:

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978 Bichara Blvd.  
Lady Lake

**Lady Lake Area Chamber**  
106 US Hwy 441/27  
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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

The Heart of a Lion, Trump, I am certain is aware of the chance of assination, and yet he continues. For that trait alone he deserves respect. And support.

This a war between nationalism and globalism. There are several groups wanting control. I know there is a strong, widespread silent militia, waiting. I saw an article they have a store of 2 trillion pieces of ammunition. Maybe an exaggeration, but I know they have plenty. Suspect some of my Tea Party Buddies are in the militia, but they are very closed mouthed.

Hate to contemplate that it will come to that, but comforting, there is some spark of hope, we will not go down without a struggle.

There will be resistance, and only pray God is on our side.

This is the worst case scenario I can foresee. But think it will be resolves before it happens. Trump is pretty savvy when it comes to big issues.

Biden President: if it weren't so pathetic, it would be funny. He will not be my President, he is too stupid, and too corrupt.

From a Proud Trump Supporter!!!

Dear Editor:

I have just finished reading a history of Philosophy: 1000 pages. The story begins in 400B.C.

On page one their concerns were: Knowledge, Conduct, and governance. At the 900 page mark their concerns were still: Knowledge, conduct, and governance. Humans never learn.

Over the course of those 2500 years, many other points of view have been discussed and advocated. One perspective has been advocated by many philosophers: Humans want to lead happy lives, but alas it has not yet arrived. WHY?

There is one word that has never appeared

in the book: Ruthless. Ruthless people call themselves Smart, and feel entitled to rule everything, and everyone, while enjoying a happy lives for themselves.

Recently we read the ravings of a ruthless mind, Stalin. It has bothered me for decades why some people kill millions of people, and it passes virtually unnoticed. A person commits one murder, and it is a major event. In my mind people who kill millions have a genetic defect, or a mental illness.

At long last I have found it, someone named Richard Ebstein has found it, but has yet to attribute it to this particular affliction. Sounds like perfect fit. There is a study that claims to have found a link to ruthlessness.

Researchers at Hebrew University In Jerusalem found a link between a gene called AVPR10 and ruthless behavior. They use a game called the "Dictator Game". Two hundred students were used, divided into teams. One group is given money. No one is told they can share as much or as little as they please. The groups were called A and B.

The AVPR10 was looked at closely, and the shorter it was the more selfish people were.

{During the 2500 years, Ruthlessness was Characterized as the smart people, people were uneducated, what did they know? }

The Headline on the article is: Ruthless Gene Discovered. At least we might be able to forestall the oncoming Holocaust. You do know there is one on the way. We will deal with that little problem next time.

Ruthlessness endures. This time we might be able to head it off before it begins. They are broadcasting it. Who will stand up to confront it?

If someone tells you there are 8 billion people on the planet, and the surplus must go. 90 million is all that the planet can sustain. Did you get a free pass?

D.I.L.

# Nanotechnology and CBD

(NewsUSA) – The market for cannabidiol (CBD) products continues to expand worldwide, but not all products are created equal. Nanotechnology, the science of subatomic particles, is revolutionizing many areas of health and medicine. Pure Craft CBD, a southern California-based

Drop," he says. Pure Craft follows a "seed to sale," model.

The company's business starts in partnership with informed and educated cannabis farmers, and includes warehouses for the high-tech cultivation of cannabis, as well as manufacturing sites, distribution facilities, and retail outlets.

Pure Craft CBD is derived from a single strain of cannabis and all the oil is processed in a single facility to help ensure consistent, predictable, effective products.



company, has harnessed nanotechnology to make a purer line of CBD products with greater bioavailability.

When it comes to supplements, more bioavailability is better because the ingredients in the supplement products can be more rapidly absorbed by the body. Pure Craft CBD has demonstrated almost 90 percent absorbability because of the nanoparticles used in production, according to the company.

Nanoparticles help keep CBD stable as it is consumed, so it is absorbed at a consistent concentration rate.

"What sets Pure Craft CBD apart from other companies is its dedication to purity," says founder and CEO Jason Navarrete.

"Pure Craft products are 90 percent bioavailable, where most [similar] companies offer products that are no more than 18 percent bioavailable. That's why Pure Craft's slogan is 'Pure Till The Last

Each batch of oil undergoes in-house and third party testing to ensure purity. In addition, all Pure Craft products come with third-party lab COAs (Certificates of Analysis) so consumers know exactly what they are getting.

Pure Craft products contain no binders, fillers, dyes, or unknown substances. The current product line features 16 items including nanotized water-soluble soft gels and nanotized CBD-infused vegan gummies. In addition, a water-soluble nanotized CBD with melatonin is designed to help with sleep. Other products in the pipeline include a full line of nanotized water-soluble tinctures from 600 to 3,000 mg in flavors of peppermint, tropical, strawberry mojito, orange cream, blueberry, and vanilla.

Visit [purecraftcbd.com](http://purecraftcbd.com) for more company details and product information.

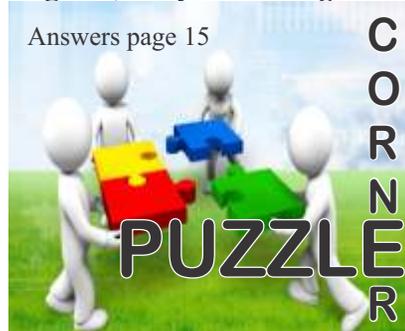
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Answers page 15

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**Across**

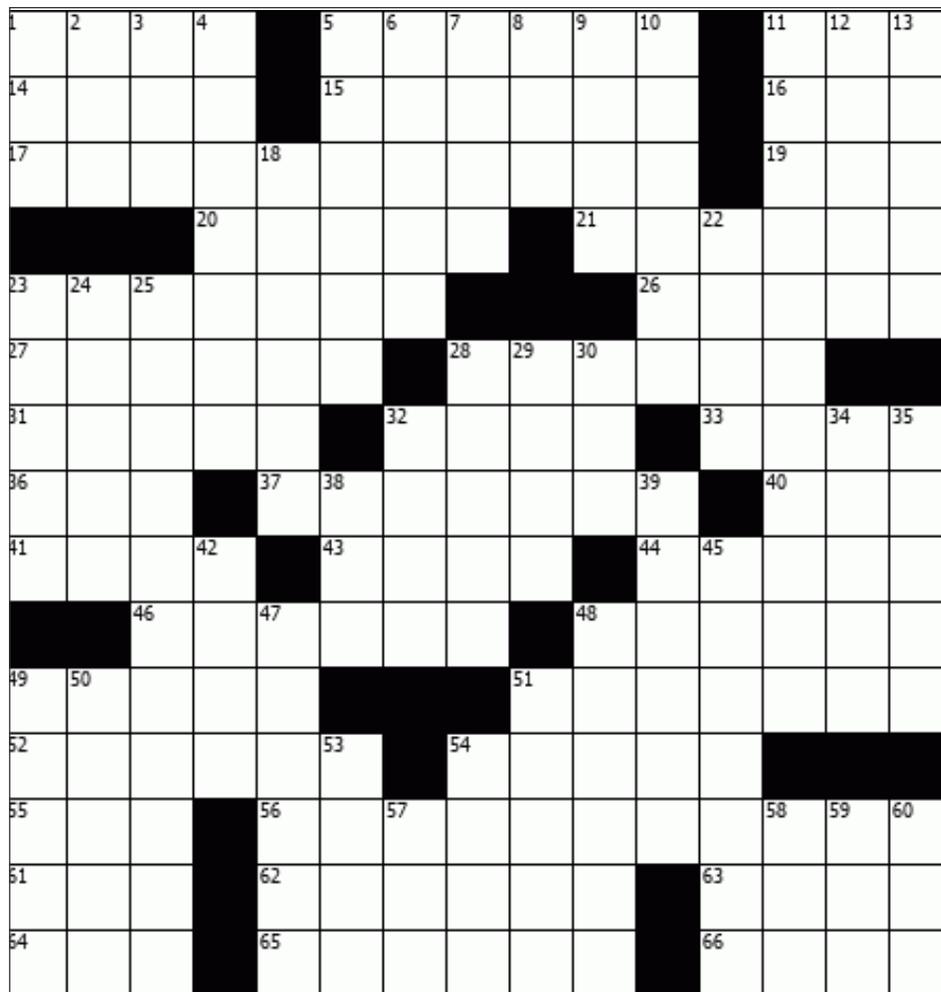
- 1. Sharp taste
- 5. California volcanic peak
- 11. Kind of temper or treatment
- 14. Controversial apple spray
- 15. Dowager
- 16. Place for a pit stop in London?
- 17. Iterative
- 19. Fleur-de-\_\_\_\_\_
- 20. Choral work
- 21. Professor's protection
- 23. Bawled out
- 26. Light in a light show, perhaps
- 27. High-society hors d'oeuvre
- 28. Expeditious
- 31. "\_\_\_\_\_ we all?"
- 32. Supplication
- 33. Times of note
- 36. Links standard
- 37. They probably think this song is about them
- 40. Tax-deferred nest egg

- 51. Water flowers
- 52. Comes to mind
- 54. Homo erectus, for one
- 55. Classic car
- 56. Hardworking
- 61. Subject of this puzzle's theme
- 62. Seattle landmark
- 63. He sang with Crosby
- 64. CIA forerunner
- 65. Physiological property
- 66. Type of matter

**Down**

- 1. Creosote source
- 2. Andy Capp beverage
- 3. Preschooler's dread, sometimes
- 4. Troublemaker of folklore
- 5. Hard hitter, biblically
- 6. Detested
- 7. "Look \_\_\_ this way ..."
- 8. Sign for a sellout
- 9. Racetrack tipster
- 10. Saint and a founder of scholasticism

- 11. Renowned
- 12. France's longest river
- 13. Short straw drawer, e.g.
- 18. So far
- 22. Scruff of the neck
- 23. Land's end?
- 24. Jeweler's 200 milligrams
- 25. Excessively distressed
- 28. Either of two noted Roman authors
- 29. Part of R&R
- 30. Nibble for a nag
- 32. Serve the tea
- 34. "\_\_\_\_\_ by any other name ..."
- 35. Some are cracked
- 38. 3.50, e.g.
- 39. Cracker factory employee or winter road worker, perhaps
- 42. Hi's mate
- 45. Exalting
- 47. Preparing to kick or drive
- 48. Chopper
- 49. "Super" one of Nintendo games
- 50. Black and white cookies
- 51. Glove thread, perhaps
- 53. Olden dagger
- 54. Melville's Billy
- 57. Place for thieves?
- 58. Row with the flow
- 59. It's in the center of Jerusalem?
- 60. Skittish



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## Volunteer to Give Back to Your Lady Lake Community

**VOLUNTEERS:**

The Volunteer Program began in August of 1996. Each department within the Sheriff's Office makes use of volunteers where ever possible. Currently, our oldest volunteer is 87 and has been volunteering since 1999. These volunteers are an important part of the daily operations of the Lake County Sheriff's Office. For an application please contact our Community Engagement Department at 352-326-8108 or fill out an application online (see application link above).

**DUTIES:**

The Volunteer program places volunteers in the Lake County Sheriff's Office, Courthouse, Detention Center, and substations located throughout Lake County. These volunteers help with tasks such as data entry, answering phones, filing,

assisting in research, fingerprinting and greeting the public. Every year volunteers with our agency contribute thousands of volunteer hours, saving Lake County taxpayers nearly half a million dollars each year.

**HOWTOAPPLY:**

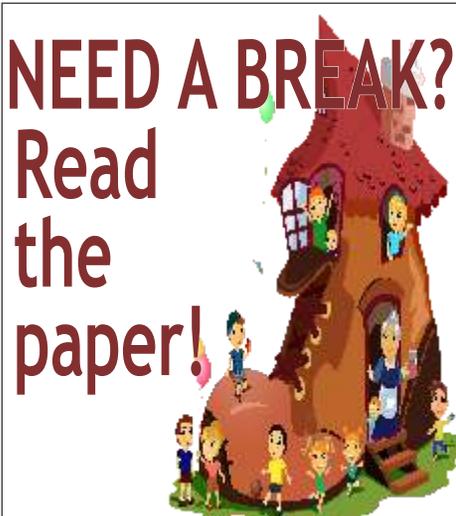
For those interested in our Volunteer Program please contact Erica Stamborski in Community Engagement at Erica.Stamborski@lcsso.org, call 352-326-8108 or click on the application link above.

**CURRENT VOLUNTEERS:**

Volunteers you can submit your activity report to Erica.Stamborski@lcsso.org.

**TO VOLUNTEER**

Go to <https://www.lcsso.org/bureaus/communityengagement/communityprograms/volunteer/>



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**FROM THE DESK OF**  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY**



**Attorney General Moody and FLHSMV Shift Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign into High Gear**  
TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Florida's Highway

Heroes campaign is shifting into high gear ahead of Super Bowl LV to enlist more teammates in the fight to end human trafficking. Attorney General Ashley Moody and the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles today launched phase two of the Highway Heroes campaign, created to enlist commercial truck drivers in the fight to end human trafficking. The joint effort between Attorney General Moody's Office and FLHSMV is funded through a U.S. Department of Transportation grant issued to FLHSMV to help train drivers and raise awareness about human trafficking on America's roadways.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "In preparation of next month's Super Bowl in Tampa, we are shifting our Highway Heroes campaign into high gear. Truck drivers play a vital role in the fight to end human trafficking. With more than 500,000 licensed commercial drivers in Florida, I am hopeful that this campaign will help us rescue victims and save lives. Thank you to all our Highway Heroes, who have been our eyes and ears on the road. With your support and participation in this lofty mission, we

can end these heinous crimes and build a Stronger, Safer Florida."

FLHSMV Executive Director Terry L. Rhodes said, "Florida's truckers go above and beyond to serve our communities every day, and it is no surprise that so many drivers have eagerly stepped up to join in the fight to end human trafficking in our communities. Our goal is simple: to train as many Florida truckers as possible on spotting and reporting human trafficking – all to achieve our vision of a Safer Florida. We greatly appreciate the support of Attorney General Moody and each of our partners in this important and life-saving effort."

Phase two of the Highway Heroes campaign includes a strategic multimedia outreach effort targeting the half a million Commercial Driver's License holders in Florida, as well as additional outreach to drivers in the Tampa area during the week leading up to Super Bowl LV. Digital messages aimed at CDL holders through strategic ad placement encourages participation in training on learning how to spot, report and end this horrific crime. As part of the campaign, Attorney General Moody and FLHSMV will continue to push these messages through the end of National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, leading right up to Super Bowl LV, which will be played on Feb. 7 in Tampa.

Last October, Attorney General Moody and FLHSMV launched phase one of the Highway Heroes campaign. The initial

phase involved a social media campaign, outreach materials mailed to Florida's CDL holders and a new website with resources to educate drivers on how to identify victims and report suspected human trafficking. In less than three months, since the launch of phase one, the Attorney General's Office and FLHSMV's delivery of educational content and training has resulted in 3,323 Florida commercial truck drivers becoming Truckers Against Trafficking-certified—adding to the growing mobile army of more than 1 million transportation professionals nationwide that are able to assist law enforcement in the recognition and reporting of human trafficking. Highway Heroes is one of the many human trafficking prevention efforts Attorney

General Moody has initiated as Chair of the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking. The council consists of 15 members from law enforcement, prosecutors, legislators and experts in the health, education and social services fields who work to build on existing state and local partnerships to combat human trafficking. For more information about the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking, go to MyFloridaLegal.com.

Commercial truck drivers are not the only Floridians who can gear up to combat human trafficking. Join the fight by learning how to spot and stop human trafficking at YouCanStopHT.com.

Anyone who suspects cases of human

*Continued page 14*

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## Attorney General

*Continued from page 13*

trafficking can contact local law enforcement and call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1(888)373-7888.

### **BACK THE BLUE ALERT: Attorney General Moody Recognizes Three FHP Troopers for Saving Car Crash Victim from Fire**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody today presented Back the Blue Awards to Florida Highway Patrol Troopers Brian Clary, Chris Folsom and David Smith for their life-saving actions in rescuing a car crash victim from a burning vehicle.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "I am so proud of the quick thinking and life-saving work of Troopers Brian Clary, Chris Folsom and David Smith at the scene of a traffic crash along I-10 in North Florida. These heroes know firsthand the many inherent dangers of responding to a traffic crash and the subsequent dangers of secondary collisions as a result. They did not allow the added personal dangers for everyone in the immediate area to deter them from attending to victims in need.

"All three Troopers put their own lives at risk and subjected themselves to the raging flames inside of a vehicle in an attempt to save a motorist. Because of the immediate actions of these heroes, a life was saved. Thank you, Troopers Clary, Folsom and Smith, for your bravery and for dedicating your careers to the protection of others. I am

grateful for each of you. Florida is a safer and stronger state because of your service."

Director of the Florida Highway Patrol Colonel Gene Spaulding said, "I am honored to serve with dedicated and courageous troopers like Trooper David Smith, Trooper Brian Clary, and Trooper Chris Folsom, who selflessly put their lives on the line and rescued Mr. Dwayne Greenhill from great peril. The Florida Highway Patrol is grateful to Attorney General Moody for honoring and recognizing these heroic troopers."

On Oct. 29, 2020, Troopers Clary, Folsom and Smith responded to a traffic crash on I-10 when a second crash occurred at the scene. The second crash resulted in a vehicle being pushed off the roadway—pinning the car between a tractor trailer and a tree. The tractor trailer then caught fire and spread to the vehicle.

The vehicle's driver, Dwayne Greenhill, was trapped inside as the vehicle became engulfed in flames. Troopers Clary, Folsom and Smith immediately rushed to Greenhill's aid and began to extinguish the fire while attempting to rescue Greenhill from the burning vehicle. All three troopers continued to fight the fire until they were able to safely remove Greenhill from danger.

Once out of the vehicle, Troopers Clary, Folsom and Smith began to administer first aid to Greenhill until paramedics arrived on the scene and transported him to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, sustaining incapacitating injuries. Because of the immediate and heroic actions of all three troopers, Greenhill made a full recovery and was able to attend today's Back the Blue Award news conference.

Attorney General Moody has made it a top priority to promote and highlight positive relationships between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve. Soon after taking office, Attorney General Moody launched a statewide Back the Blue campaign. The campaign highlights law enforcement officers, citizens and organizations taking extraordinary steps to forge positive relationships with law enforcement and local communities. Attorney General Moody has issued more than 30 Back the Blue Awards since taking office.

To nominate a law enforcement officer, citizen or organization for a Back the Blue Award, or for more information about Attorney General Moody's Back the Blue campaign, go to [MyFloridaLegal.com](http://MyFloridaLegal.com).

*Attorney General Ashley Moody's Back the Blue campaign highlights law enforcement officers, citizens and organizations taking extraordinary steps to forge positive relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Supporting law enforcement is a top priority for Attorney General Moody and the mission of Back the Blue is to commend Florida's brave law enforcement officers and Floridians who back them.*

### **Attorney General Moody Announces Multimillion-Dollar Recovery Following Investigation into Assisted Breathing Device Rentals**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody, working with state and federal partners, is securing more than

\$40 million following a nationwide investigation. Attorney General Moody's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit worked with the U.S. Department of Justice and other state MFCUs to investigate false Medicaid claims made by Apria Healthcare Group Inc. and Apria Healthcare LLC. There are more than 300 Apria branch offices across the nation, including Florida. According to the federal-state investigation, Apria submitted false claims to state Medicaid programs for the ongoing rental of non-invasive ventilators that Medicaid beneficiaries either did not use or medical professionals deemed not medically necessary.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "We will not allow bad actors to falsify forms or blatantly bill Florida taxpayers for services never rendered or not medically necessary. I am proud of the role my Medicaid Fraud Control Unit played in investigating this multimillion-dollar fraudulent billing scheme inflicted on taxpayers in Florida and across our country, and the recovery of more than \$40 million."

As a result of the investigation, Apria will pay a total sum of \$40 million, of which \$4,812,000 will go toward reimbursing state Medicaid programs. Florida's share of the nationwide recovery is approximately half a million dollars.

The investigation arose from a *qui tam* action filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York in 2017 under the federal False Claims Act and various state false claims statutes.

To read more go to: [http://www.myfloridalegal.com/newsreleases](http://www.myfloridalegal.com/newsreleases/newsreleases)

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