

## LLPD New Body Cameras



Lady Lake Police Department embraces modern policing with new body cameras

LADY LAKE - Demonstrating a commitment to modernize policing practices, the Lady Lake Police Department has implemented body cameras, a technology aimed at protecting both law enforcement officers and the community.

"When I arrived, I noticed we were lacking something in the field of contemporary police work," said Police Chief Steve Hunt. After consultations with peers, Chief Hunt discovered that many agencies in the area already had body cameras.

He shared these concerns with the Town Commission, which wholeheartedly supported efforts to purchase body cameras

during the 2023/24 budget process. The initiative is budgeted over five years and covers not only the new Axon brand body cameras, but also upgrading outdated TASERS and introducing a dash cam system to all police vehicles this spring. Bundling the technology and maintenance will save the Town significant money over time.

Chief Hunt emphasized the importance of these advanced tools in improving accountability, evidence management, and officer behavior modification, with the hopes of leading to increased trust within the community. The new technology has already been well-received by the department.

"Video is able to show the event as it transpired through the eyes of the police officer," Chief Hunt explained. "It is important to capture interactions as they actually occurred for the sake of investigations, training and transparency."

Additionally, the evidence management software that is part of the body camera package plays a crucial role in investigations. Recently, the software proved to be a valuable tool in a recent armed robbery where surveillance video from a store was directly uploaded into system and later shared with the public.

Looking ahead, Chief Hunt expressed enthusiasm about installing dash cameras to complete the implementation of the full program.

"The approval of the purchase of this equipment demonstrates the Commission and the Lady Lake Police Department's commitment to uphold modern policing standards and ensure the safety and well-being of our officers and the community," said Chief Hunt.

## Vice Mayor Treva Roberts



Vice Mayor Treva Roberts graduates from Institute for Elected Municipal Officials course.

LADY LAKE - The Town of Lady Lake is proud to announce that Vice Mayor Treva Roberts, Commissioner, Ward 1, recently graduated from the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO), a course from the Florida League of Cities' premier educational program designed specifically for Florida's elected municipal officers.

Vice Mayor Roberts, who was elected in 2023, completed the first level of IEMO training, which is tailored to officials with less than one year in office. The comprehensive 16-hour course provides participants with an intensive academic program focusing on numerous aspects of municipal government such as government structure, revenue components, accounting for cities, intergovernmental relations, and council relationships.

"The training was excellent - packed full of relevant topics, well-paced and

## Infinity Medical Institute Announces Opening



Pictured from left is Kat Montemurro, Mike Montemurro and Dr. Cynthia Joseff.

Infinity Medical Institute has opened in the Villages. They announced it at the Lady Lake Chamber Business Luncheon. Dr. Cynthia Joseff is the local doctor in the Villages office. They are here to help the local people.

They Pioneers in Integrative Medicine, Infinity Medical Institute is a company dedicated to bench marking health in concert with breakthroughs in education through science. Understanding where individuals are in their "Life Cycle" as opposed to treating symptoms that are often an expression of a greater challenge they are experiencing with their bodies at the cellular level. A new approach in health and wellness based on recently made available research, allowing us to understand the differences in Biological Age as compared to Chronological Age.

Most of us fail to realize that our personal health is the result of the "aging process" complimented and/or penalized by the manner in which we take care of and/or misuse ourselves. Our consumption patterns combined with normal aging and physical activities directly affect our quality of life.

Our approach to wellness is based on meeting people where they are in their personal life and developing an individualized plan of action in and around nutrition, supplementation, and lifestyle.

Kat Montemurro co-founded Infinity Medical Institute in 2009 to provide optimal health and longevity oriented services, therapies and products for the Tampa Bay metro area. Her diverse health and beauty background includes experience in the aesthetics, therapeutic and medical cosmetic arenas. Kat's passion for beauty and style transcends to her ability to assist Infinity's patients in both feeling great and looking

*Continued jpage page 6*

meaningful," said Vice Mayor Roberts.

IEMO classes are small, allowing participants to network and share ideas in a personal group setting. By creating an environment in which challenges and best practices are shared, IEMO graduates have been able to develop solutions to local problems.

"The League's IEMO course is the only statewide opportunity to get this caliber of education," said FLC President Greg Ross, Mayor of Cooper City. "We are proud of the positive impact IEMO has in helping to inform, support, and provide the tools that Florida's local elected officials need to become even better leaders for their municipalities. I applaud the IEMO graduates for their commitment to expanding their education and congratulate them for successfully completing this course."

Created more than 30 years ago, the program grew out of a partnership between FLC and the John Scott Dailey Florida Institute of Government.

## Look Who is Paying For This!

By TomL

Our administration has gone totally Bonkers. at the beginning of the trump Presidency the Veterans were not being taken care of. They were backlogged something terrible. Trump solved it by opening up the regular hospitals to the veterans. Today there is over 300,000 backlog again, because they have the VA at Biden's directive to0 writing checks and sending Immigrant's to the VA hospital's???? What is wrong with this picture? Our Veteran come first and we should not be paying healthcare for people from other countries.

In the past the Senate of Veterans Affairs approved \$79 million for healthcare to treat Illegal Immigrant's. Now the committee approved over \$90 million. Jon Tester is the Chair person for the committee and is currently running for office. It's time you

*Continued page 7*



Erik Lehane

## THE GAITWAY GROUP



few extra repetitions each time. Apply the same approach to any activity where you've identified a red flag. By doing so, you'll regain mastery over these activities and significantly enhance your future quality of

life.

**ACTIVE SENIORS:** Take a Peek into Your Future and Do Something About It"

<https://youtu.be/Eh-TMzjxFHAW>What if you could catch a glimpse into your future without relying on mysticism or fortune-tellers? Surprisingly, you can — it's right in front of you every day, if you're willing to look.

For active seniors who aspire to live their later years on their own terms, enjoying passions and relationships to the fullest, it's crucial to take stock of any warning signs lurking in their lives.

These warning signs, or "red flags," indicate that functional decline may be on the horizon. They're signals that essential abilities for maintaining quality of life and independence are slipping away. As a seasoned physical therapist, I can spot these red flags from a mile away. While they may start subtly, dismissing them as natural effects of aging is a mistake. Left unaddressed, they can quickly lead to falls, loss of independence, reliance on assistive devices, and a host of health issues. Moreover, if illness or injury strikes on top of these red flags, functional loss can escalate dramatically.

Red flags are hidden in plain sight and often manifest in daily activities like standing from a chair, dressing, stairs, getting up off the floor or walking. If you're finding these tasks increasingly challenging or requiring more assistance, you may be in the early stages of a downward spiral.

A straightforward way to test for red flags is what I call "The Elevator Test." The Elevator Test, because of the space and time required. If you're pain-free and have no medical contraindications, I strongly recommend performing The Elevator Test weekly, preferably with a supportive friend nearby as a backup.

Here's how it works:

1. Find an open area.
2. Slowly lower yourself to the ground and lie on your back.
3. Turn to one side.
4. Turn onto your stomach.
5. Get up on all fours (hands/knees).
6. Stand up.

If you're unable to complete The Elevator Test, it's a clear indicator of red flags in your life.

Early detection is key. If you spot a red flag, address it immediately. Ignoring it will only worsen the issue over time, making it harder to correct.

The solution to a red flag often lies within the problem itself. If you struggle with stairs, practice climbing them more frequently. Use each encounter with stairs as an opportunity to improve, performing a

Don't make the mistake of attributing red flags to old age. Aging doesn't mean becoming feeble or losing independence. While we may never recapture our 25-year-old selves, we all have the capacity to improve, regardless of our current baseline. At the very least, we can strive to maintain independence in our daily activities well into our later years.

The future is ours to shape, but we can't afford to wait until tomorrow. The time to act is now. As Eleanor Roosevelt wisely said, "The future is literally in our hands to mold as we like. But we cannot wait until tomorrow. Tomorrow is now."

\*Erik Lehane, a dedicated physical therapist with expertise in preventive care, is the visionary founder behind The Gaitway Group ([thegaitwaygroup.com](http://thegaitwaygroup.com)). Through this venture, he empowers active seniors with the knowledge and tools to "add life to their years." For inquiries, contact Erik at [erik@eriklehane.com](mailto:erik@eriklehane.com).

# NEED A BREAK? Read the paper online!

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then click on  
back-issues



## Lake County Detention Center

### Public Booking Log

See the frequently updated public booking log of those recently charged in Lake County. Go to:

<http://tomlpublishing.com/category/villages-news/lady-lake-police-dept/>

Or go to [Tomlpublishing.com](http://Tomlpublishing.com) and click on **Lake County Sheriff** on right side under "Contributing Editors".



## LEESBURG BLUES BROTHERS

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**FRIDAY, MARCH 29th  
7:00 PM**

**Wildwood Community Center  
6500 Powell Rd Wildwood, FL**

**(doors open at 6:30)**

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# DENNIS K. BAXLEY



Dear Friends,  
It has been yet another great month in the Florida Legislature. I am honored to be able to represent the constituents of District 13 here in Tallahassee.

With Session coming to an end, here are a couple of key pieces of legislation that we have had the pleasure of working on.

Firstly, The Florida Senate passed Senate Memorial 598, sponsored by Senator Blaise Ingoglia (R-Spring Hill), with bipartisan support. This memorial urges the federal government to enforce current immigration laws and secure our southern border.

The willful and systemic refusal of the Biden Administration to enforce immigration laws has allowed for a crisis to unfold at our southern border. This crisis impacts every community, not only across the State of Florida, but across the entire country as illegal immigrants overrun our southern border with those associated with drug cartels bringing weapons, fentanyl, and other contraband that devastates families and communities. Further, the influx of illegal immigration has placed a significant financial burden on Florida's taxpayers.

Not only has the Biden administration been an abject failure in enforcing existing border security measures, but Joe Biden has exacerbated the problem by suspending construction of a border wall, increasing the number of illegal immigrants released onto the streets of our country, limiting the authority of our border patrol agents, and utilizing our unique court process to block states from addressing this historical humanitarian crisis. These intentional and disastrous policy decisions have led to a surge in violent crime, gang activity, human trafficking, an ever increasing threat of terrorism and massive drain on taxpayer dollars and resources. It is well beyond time for the federal government to act and stop the invasion at our southern border.

Secondly, The Senate Appropriation s Committee on Education passed Senate Bill 1396, sponsored by Senator Joe Gruters (R-Sarasota), with unanimous support. This legislation establishes a program to provide security funding for Jewish Day Schools.

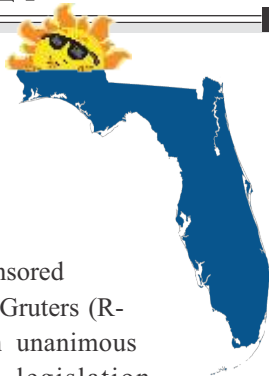
Senate Bill 1396 builds upon House Bill 7C, passed during the 2023C Special Legislative Session, to enhance security measures at Jewish Day Schools and send a clear message that Florida stands with our Jewish neighbors. House Bill 7C provided \$25 million in funding for Jewish Day Schools to enhance hardening and nonhardening security measures.

Senate Bill 1396 empowers the Florida Department of Education and Jewish Day Schools across the State of Florida through recurring funding that can be used for security cameras, shatter-resistant glass, fencing, security personnel, and other hardening or nonhardening security measures.

Since the barbaric attacks on Israel by Hamas on October 7, 2023, America has seen an exponential increase in vile acts of antisemitism across the country, especially in education. Being a student is a time of growth, learning and a fuel for passions and interests and no student should feel unsafe when they enter the classroom, and the Florida Senate is absolutely dedicated to keeping all students safe.

We can't wait to share more with you as we conclude the 2024 Legislative Session. Thank you for your continued engagement in your government and for investing your energy in helping us continue to protect faith, family, freedom, opportunity, and life.

Onward & Upward,  
Senator Dennis Baxley



## Lake County Events

**MAR 6 Kids Crafts**  
3:00 PM - 4:00 AM Umatilla Public Library in Umatilla  
Relax with crafts. For elementary school students.

**MAR 6 Ecosystem Warriors**  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Hickory Point Recreational Park in Tavares  
Learn more about our wetlands. Explore the wetland habitat and identify animals and vegetation on a scavenger hunt. Limited to 15 students 6th-8th grades.

**MAR 8 Umatilla Literary Society**  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Umatilla Public Library in Umatilla3/84/125/10  
In Literary Society book lovers get

together and discuss whatever they are reading. They compare notes, make lists of new titles to try, and encourage ...

**MAR 8 Groveland Star Party**  
5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Cherrylake Tree Farm in Groveland  
? Shine with us at the Groveland Star Party! This stellar educational experience is where guests can view Groveland's night sky like it's never been seen.

**MAR 9 Herman's Hermits Starring Peter Noone**  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Clermont Performing Arts Center in Clermont  
By popular demand, Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone, will return to our

Mainstage Theater. Hear them sing all their hits.

**MAR 9 Stories in the Sand**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM PEAR Park Wildlife Conservation Area in Leesburg  
Wildlife uses the trails of PEAR Park just as the humans do. Can you identify the tracks and signs left by the wild residents?

**MAR 9 Quarterly Bird & Butterfly Survey**  
7:30 AM - 11:00 AM PEAR Park - WCA in Leesburg3/94/139/711/23  
Assist Park Staff with surveying the birds & butterflies that inhabit Lake County's conservation lands.

**MAR 9 Handbell Concert at First Presbyterian**  
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM First Presbyterian Church Mount Dora in Mount Dora  
Handbells concert featuring 4 area hanbell choirs - the Jubilate Choir of First Presbyterian Mount Dora, Highest Praise Choir of GraceWay Church and more.

**MAR 13 Water Wednesday**  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Hickory Point Recreational Park in Tavares  
Learn about manatees and the importance of the water cycle while making a water cycle dial. Take home a manatee coloring book. Limited to 15 children, P...

**MAR 14 Friends of the Umatilla Public Library**  
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Umatilla Public Library in Umatilla3/144/115/9  
Support your hometown library by joining Umatilla's Friends of the Library. Friends members raise funds to support library projects, programs and book ...

**MAR 15 Mike Masse & Jeff Hall: Epic Acoustic Classic Rock**  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Clermont Performing Arts Center in Clermont  
With over 160 million channel views on YouTube, Mike Massé has become a true icon in the music industry. Mike's acoustic arrangements are praised for th...

**MAR 15 Shamrockin Craft BBQ & Beer Festival**  
5:00 PM - 11:00 PM Main Steet in Leesburg  
Enjoy the tastes of BBQ, beer & wine and celebrate the Irish with a weekend of live music, food, drinks and fun! It's a street party

**MAR 16 Shamrockin Craft Beer & BBQ Festival**  
12:00 PM - 11:00 PM Historic Downtown Leesburg in Leesburg  
Shamrockin Fest starts out celebrating the Irish with a parade down Main Street. At 2PM vendors, bands, bars, food trucks, & the competition field opens...

**MAR 16 Open House**  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Ellis Acres Reserve in Paisley3/164/205/186/15 PLUS MORE  
The Nature Center will be open and a naturalist will be on site to answer questions.

**MAR 16 Crooked River Paddle**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Crooked River Preserve in Clermont  
Participants will paddle through Crooked River to Lake Louisa and land along the shoreline to embark on a hike around the interior of Crooked River

**MAR 16 Umatilla Garden Club**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Umatilla Public Library in Umatilla3/164/65/4  
Connect with local garden enthusiasts and cultivate your green thumb!

**MAR 16 Saturday in the Gardens: Pressed Flower Art**  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Lake County Extension in Tavares  
The art of pressing flowers to form decorative images originated in the 1500s & is called Oshibana.

**MAR 16 Mount Dora Spring Festival of Arts and Crafts**  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Downtown Mount Dora in Mount Dora3/163/17  
Downtown streets come alive with an eclectic display of Fine and Fun Arts and Crafts by more than 200 exhibitors. It's a fun, FREE, two-day, open-air event.

**MAR 16 Citrus Tower Family Food Truck**  
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Citrus Tower in Clermont3/164/205/18  
Family food truck night with live music, food trucks, classic cars, kid zone and crafters. Rides to the top of the Citrus Tower available for a small fee

**MAR 18 Florida Friendly Landscaping (UF/IFAS Master Gardener)**  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Umatilla Public Library in Umatilla  
Are you having issues in your landscape? Are you looking to convert to more sustainable landscape practices?

**MAR 20 Reading with Naturalist**  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Hickory Point Recreational Park in Tavares  
Come join the Naturalist for a reading of "Kobee Manatee: Heading Home to Florida". Learn about manatees visiting our Lake County waters.

**MAR 22 Comedian Rob Little**  
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Clermont Performing Arts Center in Clermont  
Don't miss your chance to witness Rob Little's hilarious and uplifting performance.

**MAR 22 Downtown Clermont Wine Strolls**  
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Downtown in Clermont3/224/205/176/14 PLUS MORE  
Explore historic Downtown Clermont while sampling 25 different wines at participating shops. Wine sampling starts at 6:30pm at each of the 20+ locations...

**MAR 23 The Habitats and Natural History of Snakes**  
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM PEAR Park Wildlife Conservation Area in Leesburg  
Welcome to a discussion about the myths, natural history and importance of both venomous and non-venomous snakes.

**MAR 23 Lady Lake Christmas Parade**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Snooky Park in Lady Lake  
Get ready for an egg-citing Easter Eggstravaganza in the charming town of Lady Lake! Join us for a hopping good time at our annual Easter event, where...

**MAR 23 102nd Groveland Founder's Day Celebration**  
1:00 PM - 9:00 PM Lake David Park in Groveland  
Weekend the Groveland way at the city's 102nd Founder's Day anniversary party! This free family and pet-friendly event will include live concerts, food.



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



By TomL

I attended a Marion County Builders Association lunch meeting. Met some old friends and met some new business associates. Very friendly group of Business people.

Michael Cassidy was charged after destroying a Satanic display statue. Apparently he is charged with a class D felony for destroying the display at the Iowa State capital building. He is accused of beheading the Statue on the display and throwing into the garbage can. The veteran of the navy apparently did this just before Christmas. How many people out there think Michael should be prosecuted??? NOT ME! tloury@att.net

I was reading a comprehensive informational story the DA Fani Willis who is prosecuting Donald Trump. The story list all the people who donated to her election that have made money from the Fulton

County District Attorney's office.

Now Willis is accused of dating her Prosecuting Attorney and has given the Law Firm he is in partners with donated to her campaign. The story list many people who donated to her campaign have and are right now making money as they have been hired for services for very large amount coming out of the blue collar working people taxes.. I wonder why the same state that Donald Trump had trouble with on election day have broken some many laws or rules. Should this trial be shut down. tloury@att.net

By the way, has everyone out there seen "Two Thousands Mules"???

If you have not please do. It shows that two thousand people who were hired by persons unknown were monitored by phone positions and by videos at ballot boxes being stuffed. A few were prosecuted and jailed by fingerprints on envelopes of ballots being stuffed. The next day everyone on video were wearing gloves. What a surprise. Look up the video, "Two Thousand Mules"

The senate veterans affair committee approved \$79 million to pay for migrants healthcare back in 2021. Now they are budgeting \$90 million for migrant healthcare of those who are coming across the border now. What about our veterans that are waiting for care? or their families? Sounds like things are upside down! Let's clean this administration out and put people that are loyal to Americans first!

The United States / the current administration has already spent all the tax money collected and is well into the red, so here is what is happening they are trying to pass legislation spending more money. Yes Biden wants to just print more or barrow from China. From here on out the current government is operating on money borrowed. Let's borrow money to fight wars in other country's, borrow money to feed & house & provide healthcare to people who broke the law to get into our country. I know Veterans who can't get help to house them and their children. Who is the guy that says Americans first? You don't have to search to far they are trying to put him in jail.

I was listening to a Rane Paul interview and he has been telling us the same things. I

have put in this column. He told us about COVID and the money behind it! Now they are using the money allocated for COVID to house the Illegals.

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352-804-1223  
tloury@att.net**

## Newspaper Deadlines

*Editorial & Ad Copy for April*

**Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown**

**Noon, March 22nd**

**Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator**

**12am, March27th**

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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.

## Update on Reverse Mortgages

**Tuesday, March 12, 12:30pm**

The Standard Coffee Lounge, 1552 Bella Cruz, The Villages

**Register: 352-462-0636 or [www.RMexplained.com](http://www.RMexplained.com)**

**Learn the History, Myths, Facts  
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**MARCH 23, 2024**  
**WILDWOOD**  
**Millennium Park**  
**11:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

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**alzheimer's association**  
**AUTISM AWARENESS**  
**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**

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Support Our Veterans  
We Endorse The Constitution**



# FAIRtax



How much does government cost? That is a powerful question and the answer is: nobody really knows. The government has no money of its own. All they have is tax money extracted from the citizens and so many taxes are hidden that no one can say for sure just how much the government costs. Each year we spend money, time and

energy to fill out income tax forms to find out how much it costs us individually to keep government running and fulfill our national and international obligations. The Income Tax is so convoluted that most individuals need to spend money on tax preparers or tax software to complete these forms. An entire industry has arisen to help people combat the I.R.S. if they get audited. In

my opinion, any law that spawns such an industry to get around it, is a bad law to begin with and should be repealed. However, if you repeal the Income Tax you need to replace it with something better and that is the FAIRtax.

Under the FAIRtax, individuals know

how much they are contributing to the government because it is shown on their receipts. You can choose how much tax you pay by your spending habits. Remember, under the FAIRtax, once an item is taxed once it is not taxable again. "Used" items are not taxed. You are anonymous (just like with the state sales taxes) so there will be no individual audits. In fact, there will be no need for the IRS at all, saving millions of dollars each year in government costs. And as an added bonus, you will be paying for items with pre-taxed dollars as there will be no federal withholding from paychecks under the FAIRtax.

The FAIRtax is fair to all income levels, easy to understand and allows for a transparency that the income tax cannot match. For more information please go to FAIRtax.org and browse our website, listen to our podcasts and watch our videos. Once you understand it, you will demand it!

Bringing our  
community together...  
Call/Email Tom:  
352-804-1223  
tloury@att.net



Ocala Downtown  
Seniors Voice of Ocala  
Village Spectator  
Lady Lake Magazine

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Youth

MARCH

Lady Lake Library

Hours:  
Monday: 9am-7pm  
Tuesday-Friday: 9am-6pm  
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AARP will be here every Tuesday and Thursday to file your federal tax return. You do not need to be a member of AARP or a senior citizen to use this service. To make an appointment visit <a href="http://villagestaxaide.com">villagestaxaide.com</a> .				<b>Baby Storytime</b> 1 @10:30am <b>Video Games</b> @3:30-4:30pm
4 Craft Kits Available! While supplies last.	5 Tiny Tots @ 10:30am Family Crafting @ 3:30pm	6 Storytime 10:30am Read with Scarlett 3:00pm-4:00pm	7 	8 Lego Masters @ 3:30pm
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Adult

MARCH

Lady Lake Library

Hours:  
Monday: 9am-7pm  
Tuesday-Friday: 9am-6pm  
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AARP will be here every Tuesday and Thursday to file your federal tax return. You do not need to be a member of AARP or a senior citizen to use this service. To make an appointment visit <a href="http://villagestaxaide.com">villagestaxaide.com</a> .				1
4 Remember Then Oldies Tunes. Dave DeLuca of Black Tie Talent. Room 204 @2-3 pm	5	6	7 Poisonous Plants and Your Pets Room 204 @ 2-3 pm	8 BestBuy iPhone/iPad @ 9:30am
11	12 Book Discussion @ 2-4pm Ocala Wildlife Rescue Room 204 @3-5 pm	13 SHINE @2-4pm	14 Crochet and Knitting Hangout @ 2-3:30pm sign up required	15
18	19	20 Authors Round Table @ 2-4pm	21 Bingo! @2-3:30pm sign up required	22 BestBuy iMac @ 9:30am
25 Friends of the Library Meeting @10-12 pm Room 152	26	27 SHINE @2-4pm	28	29

# Infinity Medical

Continued from page 1

amazing. Outside of Infinity Medical Institute, Kat enjoys spending time with her husband and two daughters, facilitating Christian youth mentoring programs, fitness training and outdoor activities.

Mike Montemurro is the founder and the visionary behind Infinity Medical Institute's optimal health concept. His relentless quest to identify and implement, result proven, "Quality of Life" improvement therapies to make patients feel younger, stronger and sexier. Mike's passion is to assist Infinity's patients to succeed in meeting their personal health, fitness, appearance and wellness goals, even where other providers have failed them. In 2009, Infinity Medical Institute opened their doors as the first hormone therapy clinic in Tampa. Today, Infinity has grown from treating its first patient to successfully providing over 50,000 treatments. When not at Infinity Medical Institute, Mike enjoys spending time with his family, golfing and fitness.

Over the years Mike and Kat have had an amazing experience with Infinity Medical Institute. Their goal was to establish Tampa Bay's premier health and wellness clinic while providing personalized care in a family type environment. The true rewards for Mike and Kat have been the creation of long lasting and genuine relationships with their patients. They have had the distinct honor of helping their patients both individually and as couples. Through their exclusive therapies, Infinity has been able to restore marriages and relationships, re-center struggling individuals and provide overall wellness and beauty to its highly valued patients. Many patients have experienced amazing, permanent "Quality of Life" improvement both physically and intimately. Through their determination and integrity they have empowered their patients to achieve their personal and wellness goals.

## Cheesecake Pinwheels

LOW CARB! YUMMY!

How to make it:

- Preheat oven to 425 (or can use an air fryer)
  - Spread cream cheese on a low carb tortilla,
  - Add peanut butter
  - Top with low carb sweetener liketruvia or allulose.
  - Scatter sugar free chocolate chips in a single layer.
  - Roll tightly,
  - Brush with butter & slice into pinwheels.
  - bake 8-10 min in 425F oven or Air fry @ 400F for 6-8 mins
- Pro tip: After brushing with butter, add extra sweetener!



Watch Rick Wiggins' video at <https://www.instagram.com/reel/C3dDwvBOZ4G/>



## Who is Paying?

Continued from page 1

take care of this with our vote...The president can go to his VA hospital and go right in but our Veterans who fought and survived heavy combat must wait his or her turn after illegals.

There are so many criminals let into our country they are assaulting and killing police officers, while the fat cats in Washington make laws for us to abide by but the laws are not for them. Look at what is going on with the Biden's.

I must put something in this story about old age. Biden's age is not the problem it is his mental capacity to retain information in this time zone. I know plenty of people older than him that have very good thought process and memory. Remember with age comes wisdom, so we have to decide which is more valuable, and which one is present when he speaks. Don't write off all of the elderly!!! When Biden starts ad-libbing his brain doesn't ad-lib in the same time zone. He wants people to think he is cool, famous and smart. He is famous! He broke the laws of our country and this memory thing just does not fly with me! Up to now he has hidden the information of him and his son! So you wonder why he is doing what he is doing, his handlers are running the country and when he wonders off from them he blunders & blunders, the handler don't want to loose their power. So now that they have run the country into the ground they can play the "Blame Game," Biden's is it! He deserves it!

Last but not least, the administration is trying to sell that there could be some criminals that will try to attack our Power grid, our food, our water supply. I think we have a ghost Army in out country to attack when they are told too. I believe in God, Family, Country and I believe in YOU. I

hope your keeping your powder dry!  
I pray for us!

## Family Calendar

(NewsUSA) When your morning starts off with questions like, "do I have school today?" or "how many more sleeps?" it may be time to introduce a family calendar.

A family calendar can be utilized by children as early as age two if it includes pictures of the activities. Around age three, children's growing executive function and working memory skills expand, which means words like "yesterday" and "today" now have meaning for your little one.

Knowing what's coming next can allow a child to better self-regulate emotions as they'll know what to expect. Check out these four tips for introducing a calendar for your family:

**1. Determine what type of calendar works best and secure a central location.** This could be in the kitchen, living room or a hallway. Make sure it's in a central location that the whole family can locate and access. Calendars can be formatted in a weekly or monthly style and can be paper, dry erase or digital.

**2. Make it visually pleasing.** Try using different colors as a differentiator. If you have multiple children, allow them to have their own identifier. Use a visual "day" marker, such as a magnetic frame or arrow to showcase "today" and "tomorrow." If your child is younger, be sure to use age-appropriate stickers or pictures to portray what's coming next. Refer to the calendar often so it becomes a daily or weekly tool for them. They could also be involved with moving the markers before bed or each morning.

**3. Use it as a balanced measure.**

Keep it positive by including events and happenings such as extracurricular activities, family game nights, holidays, play dates, etc. Be sure to also include unpreferred activities like medical appointments, new events or at-home responsibilities. The calendar should be a tool to help reduce anxiety around the unknown for your child.

**4. Make it personal.** Tailor the calendar to your family's needs. You know your children best, so be sure to include them each time the calendar is updated. If your child needs additional support, or if they live

in a two-home family, you could have an extra small calendar on hand that stays with your child in their backpack or room so they can always see what's upcoming.

A family calendar will not only help your child determine what's coming but also help introduce organization to them at a young age. For more resources, visit [KinderCare.com](https://www.kinderCare.com).

Article Link

<https://about.newsusa.com/4-tips-for-introducing-a-family-calendar-to-your-kids>

## Why Join The Lady Lake Area Chamber?

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

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



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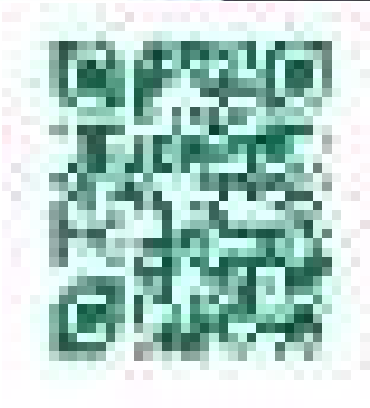


# Lady Lake Chamber Business Luncheon






# Lady Lake Chamber Business Luncheon







**LADY LAKE  
ANIMAL  
CONTROL**



**DONATIONS APPRECIATED!**

Lady Lake Animal Control works to protect and care for local animals within the town. The department is in need of:

- Dawn dish soap
- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Dog and cat food
- Towels

Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Lady Lake Animal Control  
136 Skyline Drive, Lady Lake

Special thanks to Lady Lake Magazine

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Marion County Builder of the year: Belac Homes



Marion County Builders President's Award for "Sebastian VI" model

## Financial Literacy

### Five Terms to Improve Financial Literacy

(NAPSI)—Money can be a stressor for many—but you don't have to be among them. Creating a game plan and understanding five key terms can help improve your financial health:

#### Credit Score

A credit score is a three-digit number that represents your general creditworthiness, calculated based on your personal financial history. Lenders use this number to assess your ability to repay a loan, establish your credit line and to determine your interest

rate. A good credit score can help you save money on loans, credit cards and insurance, and can also make it easier to rent an apartment, buy a car or purchase a home.

#### Credit Cards:

##### General Purpose vs. Store Cards

Credit cards have become an indispensable part of financial life, with 82% of American adults—and nearly all people with incomes of \$100,000 or more—owning at least one credit card, according to 2022 data from the Federal Reserve. With the convenience, security and rewards that today's credit cards offer, many consumers now see the value in using multiple cards. Indeed, the average U.S. consumer has three

to four credit cards, according to a 2021 report by Experian.

But credit cards are not all the same. General-purpose credit cards work at most locations in the world where credit is accepted and often come with rewards, promotional financing or introductory offers. However, an individual who is new to credit cards might need to build a credit history before being approved for a general-purpose card.

Many people start building their credit score with a store credit card, which can be used only at one specific store, or a group of stores, such as a furniture or department store. These cards are often available to those

who have a lower credit score, limited or no credit history and can offer the chance to build good credit in a relatively short time. Store cards traditionally have lower credit limits, given you can only use them with that specific retailer, which also helps you manage your credit exposure. They may also offer low or no annual fees, which some traditional general-purpose credit cards charge, but sometimes higher annual percentage rates.

Synchrony is a premier consumer financial services company that has hundreds of thousands of partnerships with retailers offering store credit cards.

*Continued page 15*



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**1410 AM & 95.1 FM**

***"The Voice Of Lake County"***

**[www.WQBBQ1410.com](http://www.WQBBQ1410.com)**



FROM THE DESK OF

CONGRESSWOMAN KAT CAMMACK



Advocating For People With Disabilities & Fixing Biden's Export Ban

It was a big week in Washington. The House finally impeached DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas for the utter negligence at the southern border. We will continue to hold him accountable and push for stronger border security that puts an end to the crisis.

In the Energy & Commerce Committee, we made meaningful headway in gathering support for the Charlotte Woodward Organ Transplant Discrimination Prevention Act. I am a proud sponsor of this bill and had the chance to speak about it during a legislative hearing with the bill's namesake in the audience. Advocating for the sanctity and quality of life for people with disabilities is our responsibility and one I take seriously.

Additionally, I spoke on the House Floor this week about the Biden administration's LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) export ban. The House also passed H.R. 7176, the Unlocking Our Domestic LNG Potential Act, to reverse this LNG ban to protect our American energy jobs and our economy.

READ FULL ARTICLE AT <https://tomlpublishing.com/florida-news/advocating-for-people-with-disabilities-fixing-bidens-export-ban/>

For the Republic, Congresswoman Kat Cammack Proudly Representing Florida's Third Congressional District

Back In The District Working For You! Dear Neighbor, This week I was back home in the district after three long weeks in Washington! It is always great to be home working with my team to best advocate for the policy issues that impact and matter the most to you. This

week, we visited Alachua, Marion, and Gilchrist Counties to meet with folks and hear from them about what's most on their minds. We're looking forward to sharing more details and photos from those stops next week.

While back home in Florida, I joined a letter with 80 of my peers to demand President Biden take a cognitive test. America is the greatest and most powerful country in the world, and the chief executive must be mentally and physically equipped to tackle the challenges we face. We're concerned about President Biden's mental fitness and are united in ensuring the president—no matter the party—is up to the job.

Additionally, the 2024 Congressional Art Competition is now open. I am so proud of the art our students produce in Florida's Third, and I can't wait to see what this year's competition has in store. Interested applicants can about submitting their artwork here. The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 5 at 5pm ET

READ THE FULL ARTICLE AT <https://tomlpublishing.com/florida-news/back-in-the-district-working-for-you/>

For the Republic, Congresswoman Kat Cammack Proudly Representing Florida's Third Congressional District

Congresswoman Cammack Tapped To Join Speaker Johnson's New House Task Force On Artificial Intelligence (AI)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — This week, Speaker Mike Johnson and Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries announced the establishment of a bipartisan Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to explore how Congress can ensure America continues to lead the world in AI innovation while considering guardrails that may be

appropriate to safeguard the nation against current and emerging threats. Congresswoman Kat Cammack was tapped as a member of the new group along with three other Republicans from the Florida delegation.

Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries have each appointed twelve members to the Task Force that represent key committees of jurisdiction and will be jointly led by Chair Jay Obernolte (CA-23) and Co-Chair Ted Lieu (CA-36). The Task Force will seek to produce a comprehensive report that will include guiding principles, forward-looking recommendations and bipartisan policy proposals developed in consultation with committees of jurisdiction.

"Because advancements in artificial intelligence have the potential to rapidly transform our economy and our society, it is important for Congress to work in a bipartisan manner to understand and plan for both the promises and the complexities of this transformative technology," said Speaker Mike Johnson. "I am happy to announce with Leader Jeffries this new Bipartisan Task Force on Artificial Intelligence to ensure America continues leading in this strategic arena."

READ FULL ARTICLE AT <https://tomlpublishing.com/florida-news/congresswoman-cammack-tapped-to-join-speaker-johnsons-new-house-task-force-on-artificial-intelligence-ai/>

This popular community event will take place from 10 a.m. to noon at a new location this year - among the oaks and palm trees at Snooky Park, located at 120 W. Lady Lake Blvd.

Sponsor participants are invited to contribute their time, a kids' game, and candy as their fee for being part of this family-friendly event. The Easter Eggstravaganza aims to bring joy to approximately 1,500 children, making it a fantastic opportunity for local organizations to engage with the community. Creativity is encouraged, and sponsors are asked to make their games easy to maintain, considering the large number of children expected over the two-hour event.

Sponsor participants are welcome to display banners with their business information and distribute literature, creating a valuable, low-cost advertising opportunity. However, the primary focus should remain on the children, fostering a positive and community-oriented atmosphere. It's important to note that sponsor participants are not permitted to sell products at the event.

A limited number of tables are available for use, and organizers ask sponsors without tables to notify them in advance. For those interested in participating or seeking additional information, contact Lady Lake Parks & Recreation Events Coordinator Amy

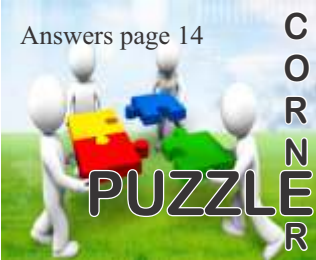
Annual Easter Eggstravaganza

Lady Lake invites local organizations to sponsor annual Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt

LADY LAKE – The Town of Lady Lake is excited to announce the call for local civic groups, businesses and faith-based organizations to sponsor booths for the upcoming annual Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt, scheduled for Saturday, March 23.

RELAX! LEAVE THE ADVERTISING TO Us!

Email Tom: [tloury@att.net](mailto:tloury@att.net)



- Answers page 14
- CORNER PUZZLE
- Across
1. Partakes in a Halloween activity
5. Divine Bette
10. Room off an ambulatory
14. Words after step
15. Communion site
16. Diez X diez
17. "\_\_\_ silly question"
18. Alternate tactic
19. "When I Was \_\_\_" ("HMS Pinafore" song)
20. Space-saving steps?
23. Q's value in Scrabble
24. Mauna \_\_\_, Hawaii
25. Professional obi wearer
26. Film genre
28. Mouth, slangily
31. Provide food, uptown
32. What a joke may break
34. Giant, to Jack
36. Commuters' lines

37. Ringlet
42. Kind of artist
43. Notwithstanding, for short
44. "The Raven" monogram
45. "... \_\_\_ of meat from the king" (2 Samuel 11:8)
48. Proud-peacock link
50. Sunday song
54. Remedied a badly installed carpet
56. Common article
58. Lead-in for Bravo
59. Gyrating Muslim monk
63. Superlative
64. 1988 Olympics setting
65. Just the facts?
66. Hook's sidekick
67. Yawning gap
68. From the start
69. Towel embroidery
70. Pimlico garb
71. Extract a tooth
- Down
1. Lacks humility
2. With no profit guarantee
3. Beach wear
4. Have the lead
5. Syrup source
6. "You're darned right!"
7. At bats or runs, e.g.
8. Capital of Yemen
9. Character in gangster

- film spoofs
10. Spiny bush
11. Rectangular column
12. Beachcomber's find
13. Makes lovable
21. "I Get \_\_\_ Out of You" (Cole Porter)
22. Tape-player button
27. Christmas tree type
29. Jackson Five features
30. "The Tell-Tale Heart"
33. Suffix in the Guinness book
35. Member of the flock
37. Plea to Lassie
38. Stand-up's staple
39. When repeated, a ballroom dance
40. Prank
41. FedEx alternative
42. Service station sideline
46. Calcutta clothing (Var.)
47. The "S" of RSVP
49. In the early evening
51. Richards of "Jurassic Park"
52. Lend an ear
53. Eye-catching haircut
55. Spinal column features
57. Wheels at sea
60. Radar's favorite pop
61. Aim
62. War's end

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## FROM THE DESK OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY



ATTORNEY GENERAL MOODY'S OFFICE OF STATEWIDE PROSECUTION CHARGES MAN FOR STEALING MORE THAN \$28,000 IN

FRAUDULENT BARCODE SCHEME

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution charged a man for stealing more than \$28,000 worth of electrical wire in a fraudulent barcode scheme. According to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office investigation, Edrey Santo Rojas stole rolls of wire through fraudulent sales and returns from multiple Lowe's and Home Depot stores in 15 counties throughout Florida and the Southeast United States. In a seven-month period, Rojas fraudulently used authentic barcodes from lesser-priced electrical wire to purchase expensive rolls of wire. Rojas then conducted fraudulent returns by taking products in the store that matched the receipt from the prior purchase to customer service for a full refund. Rojas is charged with multiple felony counts of retail theft.

**Attorney General Ashley Moody** said, "This thief stole more than \$28,000 worth of wire rolls from home-improvement stores throughout 15 counties in a fraudulent barcode scheme. He committed more than 70 different thefts crossing multiple judicial circuits. Thanks to law enforcement and our Statewide Prosecutors, his spree is wired shut and now he faces multiple felony charges."

READ FULL ARTICLE AT <https://tomlpublishing.com/florida-news/attorney-general-moodys-office-of-statewide-prosecution-charges-man-for-stealing-more-than-28000-in-fraudulent-barcode-scheme/>

Attorney General Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution charges man for stealing more than \$28,000 in fraudulent barcode scheme

**TALLAHASSEE** — Attorney General Ashley Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution charged a man for stealing more than \$28,000 worth of electrical wire in a fraudulent barcode scheme. According to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office investigation, Edrey Santo Rojas stole rolls of wire through fraudulent sales and returns from multiple Lowe's and Home Depot stores in 15 counties throughout Florida and the Southeast United States. In a seven-month period, Rojas fraudulently used authentic barcodes from lesser-priced electrical wire to purchase expensive rolls of wire. Rojas then conducted fraudulent returns by taking products in the store that matched the receipt from the prior purchase to customer service for a full refund. Rojas is charged with multiple felony counts of retail theft.

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READ FULL ARTICLE AT <https://tomlpublishing.com/florida-news/attorney-general-moodys-office-of-statewide-prosecution-charges-man-for-stealing-more-than-28000-in-fraudulent-barcode-scheme-2/>

Attorney General Moody Secures 30-Year Prison Sentence for Real Estate Investment Fraudster

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution secured a 30-year prison sentence for a man operating an elaborate real estate investment scheme. **Miguel Angel Perez** defrauded more than 20 victims out of retirement and life savings through a scheme involving real estate pitches and false promises of wealth made from investments. A Pasco County jury found Perez guilty of 22 felonies, including racketeering, grand theft, exploitation and mortgage fraud. The judge sentenced Perez to 30 years in prison.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "This real estate schemer claimed to be a successful investor but instead stole people's hard-earned money, leaving many in deep debt and with poor credit. He tricked more than 20 victims, including senior citizens, to gain millions in investment funds all to fund his own lavish lifestyle. Now, thanks to our law enforcement partners and Statewide Prosecutors, his next real estate venture will be relocating to a jail cell."

According to the investigation, Perez held free investment seminars and showed attendees how to purchase and convert single-family residences into assisted living facilities for a profit, in exchange for the attendees' investments. Perez claimed to garner great success in real estate investments, and accumulated millions in net worth—promising to help attendees attain a similar lifestyle.

READ FULL ARTICLE AT <https://tomlpublishing.com/florida-news/attorney-general-moody-secures-30-year-prison-sentence-for-real-estate-investment-fraudster/>

## Pastrami-Spiced Veal Burgers



(NAPSI)—Whether you're feeding your family or entertaining guests, a delightful way to keep things cosy yet special during the cold weather season is with a delicious

dish such as this one, made with Trusted Veal from Europe.

Pastrami-Spiced Veal Burgers

Yield: 6 servings

### INGREDIENTS

12slices Smoked Gouda, sliced thinly  
2cups Sauerkraut, rinsed and drained  
¾cup Mayonnaise  
1oz Fresh breadcrumbs  
4 oz Milk  
2tsp Salt  
2lbs Ground veal  
2tsp Black peppercorns  
2tsp Coriander seeds  
½tsp Mustard seeds  
1tsp Sweet paprika  
1tsp Onion powder  
½tsp Garlic powder  
1tsp Brown sugar  
½cup Whole grain mustard

### INSTRUCTIONS

Place the breadcrumbs, milk, and salt in a bowl and soak the breadcrumbs until softened. Mix the veal with the breadcrumb mixture and combine to form six patties. Toast the peppercorns, coriander, and mustard seeds in a dry pan. Let cool and grind them with the paprika, onion powder, garlic powder, and brown sugar. Coat the burgers with the spice mixture. Heat a grill on medium-high heat. Grill the burgers to desired doneness but at least 71°C (160°F) for food safety, adding a slice or two of cheese to each burger towards the end, to slightly melt. Spread the bottom of the bun with the mayonnaise, and top with whole grain mustard. Place the burger on the bottom, top with sauerkraut, and top with the bun.

As easy to make as they are enjoyable to eat, one reason these burgers are better is that they're made with genuine European veal. Desired for its light color and delicate taste and texture, European veal has long been held in high regard among chefs around the world. What's more, European Union (EU) Legislation means high animal welfare standards are practised and enforced so consumers worldwide can feel confident about Trusted Veal from Europe, considered simply the best in taste and tradition. Fortunately, a wide selection of high-quality European veal is available throughout Canada. Ask your local retailer for European veal.

## Retrain Your Emotional Brain

A Natural Alternative to Weight Loss Drugs

(NewsUSA) - Weight loss drugs are proving to have serious side effects, and they are not a long-term solution. When the injections stop, the weight loss stops. But who wants to go back to dieting?

Laurel Mellin, PhD, a health psychologist, nutritionist, and New York Times bestselling author, is the founder of Emotional Brain Training (EBT). She has written a new book, 1-2-3 JOY! to show readers why the missing link in treating obesity is to switch off the stress causing the cascade of internal chemicals that increase appetite, causes cravings, and blocks weight loss. Using the skills of EBT, they can lose weight naturally.

Dr. Mellin says, "I wrote 1-2-3 JOY! because of the increased use of weight loss drugs, as they have serious side effects including nausea, muscle wasting, stomach paralysis, and increased risk of kidney,



pancreas, and thyroid problems. I wanted more people to have a healthy alternative to these weight loss drugs and diets."

"I developed EBT initially as a young faculty member at the University of California San Francisco, in part because I personally understood the frustration of being out of control of my eating and finding that the current methods didn't help me. The tools I developed were effective, but it was not until two decades later that my collaborators and I realized why they worked: they were switching off the stress response, which controls the chemicals – cortisol, dopamine, and insulin – that cause overeating and weight gain."

The effectiveness of EBT is backed by scientific research, with studies of the method's effectiveness published in peer-reviewed journals showing improvements in weight, blood pressure, anxiety, and depression. Obesity researcher John Foreyt states, "EBT is the first method to show lasting weight loss after treatment ends." Already, more than 500,000 people have used EBT.

Dr. Mellin states, "The silver lining of the weight loss drug frenzy is that it validated that chemicals drive overeating. EBT is a drug-free method for switching off those chemicals to make weight loss easier and more lasting without the negative side effects. For those who are using weight loss drugs, the EBT skills can help them wean off the drugs."

The EBT tools are easily integrated into daily life. Use them before eating or when stressed to switch off those chemicals. Over time, they retrain the emotional brain's neural pathways to make peace with food and promote lasting weight loss.

Dr. Mellin states, "That freedom from eating and weight issues is life-changing, returning people to their natural state of joy so they can focus on living a life of joy and purpose. That is why I want everyone to have these skills."

Her new book, 1-2-3 Joy!, is now available on Amazon.

Article Link

<https://about.newsusa.com/retrain-your-emotional-brain-a-natural-alternative-to-weight-loss-drugs>



FROM THE DESK OF

# GOVERNOR DESANTIS



**Governor Ron DeSantis Deploys More Florida Personnel to Secure the Southern Border**

**PENSACOLA, Fla.** — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis deployed more National Guardsmen and Florida Highway Patrol Troopers to Texas to assist Texas officials as they work to secure our southern border. Fifty National Guardsmen departed Pensacola in this wave, alongside 76 Florida Highway Patrol Troopers.

“The Biden Border Crisis has made every state a border state, requiring the states to step up and defend our territorial sovereignty,” said Governor Ron DeSantis. “I want to extend my sincerest thanks to every law enforcement officer, National Guardsman and member of the State Guard who is serving in Texas.”

Since 2021, Florida has sent more than 2,400 law enforcement officers to assist Texas at the southern border. With those officers, the state has also sent more than 600 assets including boats, command buses and ATVs.-

**Governor Ron DeSantis Announces \$25 Million for Workforce Development Initiatives**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** — Governor Ron DeSantis announced an investment of nearly \$25 million from the Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program to either create or expand 19 programs dedicated to strengthening workforce development across Florida. The initiative underscores Florida's dedication to equipping students statewide with the essential skills required for success in high-demand occupations.

Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant funding provides Florida students with opportunities for hands-on educational experiences in a broad range of career and technical education programs such as automotive maintenance and light repair, digital video and technology, allied health assisting, criminal justice operations, entrepreneurship, emergency medical

responder and many more.

“In Florida we have become the number one state in the nation for talent development by making strategic investments in our workforce,” said Governor Ron DeSantis. “We will continue to equip students in our state with the skills they need to succeed, without being burdened by debt.”

“Under Governor DeSantis' leadership, Florida is strategically investing in workforce development, ensuring that our state remains at the forefront of innovation,” said Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr. “This funding reflects our dedication to equipping students with the skills necessary to excel in an increasingly competitive marketplace.”

**ICYMI: Florida Welcomes Israeli Technology Companies for Pitch Day at the Capital**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** — Today, the Department of Management Services and FloridaCommerce hosted “Pitch Day at the Capital” in collaboration with SelectFlorida, the Florida Opportunity Fund, and the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator. Highlighted by multiple Memoranda of Understanding and historic trade missions led by Governor Ron DeSantis, Florida and Israel share a unique economic relationship, particularly in the technology sector.

Attendees included representatives from the Florida Governor's Office, Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of State, Florida Department of Revenue, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Division of Emergency Management, and Space Florida.

“In addition to our one-of-a-kind economic relationship, there is no greater friend to Israel and the Jewish people than the DeSantis administration,” said Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez. “Bringing more Israeli businesses to Florida cements both our economic and cultural ties at a time when our partnership has never been more important.”

Following remarks from Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez and Deputy Consul General Mike Driquez, 30 technology companies delivered pitch-style presentations to state agency leaders and procurement officials.

Companies in the infrastructure, supply chain, cybersecurity, and healthcare industries presented ideas and technologies that could further bolster the resources and capabilities of state entities.

“Today's event was an opportunity to strengthen the bond that Florida and Israel share by linking groundbreaking tools with the state that's on the forefront of cybersecurity resilience,” said Department of Management Services Secretary Pedro Allende, who previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure, Risk, and Resilience Policy at the U.S.

Department of Homeland Security. “Israel has a long history of innovation, and we're excited to find opportunities to collaborate.”

“Florida is number one in the nation for entrepreneurship and talent development. By getting Israeli businesses in key industries and decision makers in the same room we help support allies in meaningful ways,” said Secretary of Commerce J. Alex Kelly. “Thanks to Florida's dedicated programs, business climate, and strategic policies, businesses of all sizes across the globe have the opportunity to expand and grow like nowhere else in the nation.”

“Florida is a destination for health care, offering groundbreaking treatments, strong partnerships, and an innovative environment for health research and development,” said Agency for Health Care Administration Secretary Jason Weida. “Under Governor DeSantis' leadership we will continue to strengthen our health care system to better serve our citizens.”

“In partnering with the State of Florida, we are not just bridging markets,” said Florida-Israel Business Accelerator Co-Executive Director Rakefet Bachur-Phillips. “We're creating a vibrant nexus where Israeli innovation meets Florida's dynamic tech landscape, paving the way for dynamic cybersecurity solutions.”

Technology and National Security

THE ASHCARTER EXCHANGE

ON INNOVATION & NATIONAL SECURITY

**Join the Conversation on Technology and National Security**

(NewsUSA) - The United States is at the opening of a critical window in time: between now and 2030 a constellation of emerging technologies including AI will continue to transform our national security, economy, and society. Is America ready?

Be part of the conversation at the second annual Ash Carter Exchange, an event concurrent with the first-ever AI Expo for National Competitiveness.

The Ash Carter Exchange honors the impact of Dr. Ash Carter, who served as Secretary of Defense from 2015-2017. Dr. Carter's visionary recognition of technology's role in national security guides our preparation for the emerging challenges. The event is hosted by the Special Competitive Studies Project (SCSP) and Mrs. Stephanie Carter, and is designed to promote the exchange of ideas. This year's Ash Carter Exchange takes place in Washington, D.C., on May 7 and 8, and is set to continue the extraordinary discussions and connections made during last year's unforgettable gathering.

Attend this year's event and become part of a dynamic environment for an exchange of groundbreaking ideas, formation of strategic collaborations, and to learn about the advancements that are transforming our security landscape.

“As we carry forward Dr. Carter's critical mission, we bridge the essential gap between cutting-edge innovation and the safeguarding of our national security,” according to the SCSP.

“Last year's Exchange was a testament to

the power of collective expertise, bringing together esteemed leaders from the government, industry, and scientific spheres for engaging dialogue. This year, we are poised to delve even deeper into the conversations that shape our national defense.”

Last year's lineup of experts included Charles Q. Brown, Jr., Frank Kendall, Eric Smith, Robert M. Gates, Leon Panetta, Condoleezza Rice, Eric Schmidt, Michele Flournoy, H.R. McMaster, Mark Milley, Jen Easterly, Anne Neuberger, Nate Fick, Alex Younger, Kathleen Hicks, Doug Beck, Will Roper, Kim Budil, Robert O. Work, Shirley Ann Jackson, and Maria Zuber.

SCSP is a nonprofit and nonpartisan initiative with a goal to make recommendations to strengthen America's long-term competitiveness as artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies reshape national security, the economy, and society.

For more information, visit [scsp.ai](https://scsp.ai).  
Article Link  
<https://about.newsusa.com/join-the-conversation-on-technology-and-national-security>

## Clean Energy Transition



**National Grid: Improving Jobs with the Clean Energy Transition**

(NAPSI)—Addressing climate change is an all-hands-on-deck undertaking. It requires a smarter, stronger, and cleaner energy grid that provides affordable, reliable power when and where people need it. The grid of the future will have to be at least twice the size of what it is today—most likely even bigger.

That means jobs—thousands and thousands of them across a wide variety of industries, from manufacturing technology, such as batteries and wind turbines, to electric vehicle construction and maintenance to consumer sales. The impacts on the workforce across the state and nation, and the economic effects on local communities, will be significant.

According to a 2023 U.S. Department of Energy (USDO) employment study, the energy workforce grew by nearly 300,000 jobs over the previous year—a faster rate than the overall U.S. workforce. Clean energy jobs specifically grew by 114,000, with every state seeing growth.

These new jobs present an opportunity to diversify the energy workforce and open doors to individuals who might not have previously considered the sector for a career. Women made up more than half of the energy jobs added last year, according to USDOE,

*Continued page 15*

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## Clean Energy

*Continued from page 14*

and veteran employment outpaced that of the overall U.S. economy.

Examples of jobs necessary for a successful clean energy transition include:

- Offshore wind farm servicers
- Renewable energy engineers
- Solar panel installers and technicians
- Solar sales representatives
- EV production technicians
- EV charging station maintenance technicians
- Sustainable construction workers
- Robotics maintenance workers

The federal government offers a wealth of clean energy workforce development assistance. That includes a Clean Energy Corps with opportunities for engineers, attorneys, public policy specialists and other professionals, as well as career mapping tools that help people understand the roles available across energy sectors and their skills requirements.

New York is third in the nation for the most clean energy jobs, according to national business group E2, and state officials anticipate significant job creation in the coming years to help support climate goals. As of 2022, there were 165,200 clean energy jobs across the state.

The state Climate Action Council sees the potential for an additional 189,600 net jobs to be created by 2040. Resources such as New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) Clean Energy Workforce Development and

Training platform provide labor opportunities to New Yorkers and organizations interested in contributing to the clean energy future.

And the state aims for a more robust, resilient, and reliable grid to enable more electrification and renewable power sources, utilities including National Grid also play a key role in creating economic opportunities in the clean energy future.

The Grid Collective supports this work with training through the Business Performance Institute (BPI) and other certified sites to help workers gain skills that align with New York's clean energy goals and allow them to take advantage of green economic opportunities at both the city and state level. That's in addition to workforce training programs and partnerships like:

Coordination with five free SUNY Online Training Centers to provide young people more resources for their future education and careers, including \$3 million in gateway grants to students transitioning to the working world;

Certified energy efficiency training in incubation and accelerator programs in partnership with Ascend Long Island and Bloc Power; and

Grid for Good programming through which National Grid employees volunteer to help connect young people with employment opportunities and green technology job training.

Ultimately, with the right workforce in place, New York—and the nation—can make major strides in tackling the climate

crisis and providing an equitable, economically viable, and reliable energy future.

"From Montauk to Buffalo, the clean energy transition will impact every single New Yorker, and our ability to attract and train a new generation of workers is the key to ensuring this undertaking is a success," National Grid New York spokesperson Karen Young said. "Our focus is on providing equitable access to jobs in the clean energy industry and ensuring all customers maintain reliable, affordable access to energy now and into the future."

## Financial Literacy

*Continued from page 11*

"Our cards offer consumers financing with top brands to bring them more choices, flexibility and convenience," said Max Axler, Chief Credit Officer at Synchrony. "Store credit cards are a powerful option to take advantage of special offers, promotional financing and perks while shopping at your favorite retailers."

### Interest Rates

A credit card's interest rate is the amount you will be charged on your unpaid credit card balance that is due. The interest rate is calculated as a percentage of the outstanding balance. For example, if you charge \$1,000 on a credit card that does not have any outstanding balance and pay it off before the monthly due date, you typically won't incur any interest charge. You'd simply pay \$1,000, and the balance would be satisfied.

However, if you didn't pay it all off—or paid any amount that was less than the full \$1,000—you would be charged interest based on your average daily balance.

### Annual Percentage Rate (APR)

The yearly interest rate charged on your balance due is called the Annual Percentage Rate. You pay this interest rate on any balances not paid in full each month—in other words, if you don't pay your bill in full when it's due every month, the amount you do not pay is subject to interest. It's important to note that your credit card may have more than one APR: One rate for purchases, another for balance transfers and yet another for cash advances.

Understanding these terms can empower you to manage your finances in the best way to meet your needs and borrow responsibly, and properly managing your credit can lead to higher credit scores and more access to credit for your financial needs.



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