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# Treasure Coast Newspapers

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK


Indian River Press Journal  
1801 U.S. 1, Vero Beach, FL 32960  
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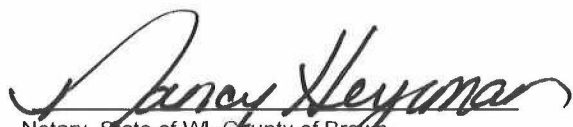
KUTAK ROCK LLP  
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TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301  
ATTN KAREN JUSEVITCH

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF BROWN

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared, said legal clerk, who on oath says that he is a legal clerk of the Indian River Press Journal, a daily newspaper published at Vero Beach in Indian River County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement was published in the Indian River Press Journal in the following issues below. Affiant further says that the said Indian River Press Journal is a newspaper published in Vero Beach in said Indian River County, Florida, and that said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said Indian River County, Florida, daily and distributed in Indian River County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that she has neither paid or promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper. The Indian River Press Journal has been entered as Periodical Matter at the Post Offices in Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida and has been for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement.

8/26/2022; 8/23/2022; 8/30/2022; 9/6/2022

  
Subscribed and sworn to before on September 6th, 2022

  
Notary, State of WI, County of Brown  
My commission expires: 5.15.23

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Ad No: GCI0928263  
Customer No: 806651  
PO#: NOTICE OF ESTABLISHMENT HEARING LP CDD  
THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE

NANCY HEYRMAN  
Notary Public  
State of Wisconsin

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Indian River County Board of County Commissioners**  
**To Consider a Petition to Establish the**  
**LP Community Development District**

**DATE:** September 13, 2022

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Commission Chambers  
Indian River County Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, a public hearing will be held by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County to consider an ordinance to grant a petition to establish the LP Community Development District ("District"), which is titled:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE LP COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 190, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING A TITLE; PROVIDING FINDINGS; CREATING AND NAMING THE DISTRICT; DESCRIBING THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT; DESCRIBING THE FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE DISTRICT; DESIGNATING FIVE PERSONS TO SERVE AS THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The proposed District is comprised of approximately 502.47 acres, generally located south of County Road 510/85th Street, west of 58th Avenue, north of State Road 60 and east of 82nd Avenue. The petitioner has proposed to establish the District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by such District under Florida law, including but not limited to: earthwork, stormwater management, sanitary sewer utilities, water utilities, roadway improvements, landscaping and irrigation, and other infrastructure.

Copies of the petition and the proposed ordinance are open to public inspection at the County Clerk's Office, 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960, during business hours. For more information, call (772) 567-8000.

All interested persons and affected units of general-purpose government may appear at the hearing and be heard with respect to the petition and proposed ordinance. All interested persons and affected units of general-purpose government may also present oral or written comments on the petition and proposed ordinance. Any persons or affected unit of general-purpose government who wish to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the proceedings. For that purpose, the person or unit of general-purpose government may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Within five working days of receipt of this notice, please contact the County's ADA Office at (772) 226-1221 or jennis@ircgove.com.



# Treasure Coast adds four monkeypox cases

Florida's total still ranks  
3rd highest among states

Jennifer Sangalang and Will Greenlee  
Treasure Coast Newspapers  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Florida reported more than 300 new monkeypox cases in one week and was still the third highest state for confirmed or probable cases.

Monkeypox cases on the Treasure Coast totaled nine, up from five this time a week earlier, according to the Florida Department of Health.

There are six cases in Martin County and three in St. Lucie County, while none have been reported in Indian River County, according to DOH data updated Sunday.

Of the nine cases, seven were reported to have been acquired in Florida; one was acquired out of the country, and it wasn't known whether one case was acquired in Florida or elsewhere.

Four of the cases are in the 35-39 age group; two each in the 25-29 and 45-49 age groups; and one is a child 4 years old or younger, data from the DOH shows.

This time last week there were four reported cases in Martin County and one in St. Lucie County.

The Florida Department of Health reported 1,266 confirmed or probable cases of monkeypox in 28 counties, according to its tracker on [healthcharts.flhhs.gov](https://healthcharts.flhhs.gov). A week ago, the state reported 938 cases — that's a jump of 328 probable or confirmed monkeypox cases here since Aug. 8.

It should be noted that the case numbers in Florida vary from what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report. The CDC, for example, shows 1,085 confirmed cases for the Sunshine State, an increase of 452 confirmed cases in a week. According to the CDC, here's a snapshot of U.S. and Florida confirmed cases in the past few weeks:

- As of Aug. 15, the CDC listed 11,777 total confirmed monkeypox/orthopoxvirus cases in the U.S. and 1,085 in Florida.
- As of Aug. 8, the CDC listed 7,510 total confirmed monkeypox/orthopoxvirus cases in the U.S. and 633 in Florida.
- On Aug. 1, the CDC had reported 5,189 confirmed cases in the U.S. and 373 cases in Florida.
- On July 22, the CDC had reported 2,891 cases in the U.S.
- A presumptive positive case was first announced in Florida on May 22.

## Top 5 states for monkeypox cases

According to the CDC, these are the Top 5 states reporting confirmed monkeypox cases and their case counts as of Aug. 15:

- New York, 2,295
- California, 1,945
- Florida, 1,085
- Georgia, 851
- Texas, 815

## Top 5 counties in Florida for monkeypox cases

According to the Florida Department of Health's tracker, these are the Top 5 counties reporting confirmed or probable monkeypox cases:

- Miami-Dade
- Broward
- Orange
- Palm Beach
- Polk

## Monkeypox cases by county

Here's a list of total cases by county with notes in increases and first case. This info is from the Florida Department of Health's reportable disease frequency report, with data range from May 22 to Aug. 14:

- Alachua, 1
- Brevard, 5 (up 1 from Aug. 8, monkeypox first was detected here Aug. 1)
- Broward, 436 (up 106 from Aug. 8)
- Charlotte, 1 (unchanged since Aug. 8)
- Clay, 2 (up 1 from Aug. 8, when monkeypox first was detected here)
- Collier, 3 (unchanged since July 25)
- Duval, 13 (up 6 from Aug. 8; cases were first detected here week of July 25)
- Escambia, 1
- Flagler, 1 (unchanged from Aug. 1, when monkeypox case was detected here)
- Hillsborough, 52 (up 15 from Aug. 8)
- Lake, 5 (up 2 from Aug. 8)
- Lee, 8 (up 2 from Aug. 8)
- Leon, 3
- Marion, 2
- Martin, 6 (up 2 from Aug. 8, monkeypox first was detected here week of Aug. 1)
- Miami-Dade, 493 (up 126 cases from Aug. 8)
- Monroe, 14 (up 1 from Aug. 8)
- Orange, 77 (up 23 from Aug. 8)
- Osceola, 8 (up 4 from Aug. 8, monkeypox was first detected here Aug. 1)
- Palm Beach, 59 (up 16 from Aug. 8; the previous week, the county reported 16 possible or confirmed cases)
- Pasco, 4 (up 1 from Aug. 8, monkeypox was first detected here Aug. 1)
- Pinellas, 48 (up 12 from Aug. 8)
- Polk, 5 (up 1 from Aug. 8)
- Santa Rosa, 1 (unchanged)
- Sarasota, 1 (unchanged)
- Seminole, 10 (up 4 from Aug. 8)
- St. Lucie, 3 (up 2 from Aug. 8)
- Volusia, 4 (up 1 from Aug. 8)
- Denotes first confirmed or probable cases for the county since the USA TODAY Network — Florida's July 25 report, using stats from the state department of health

Monroe, 14 (up 1 from Aug. 8)

Orange, 77 (up 23 from Aug. 8)

Osceola, 8 (up 4 from Aug. 8, monkeypox was first detected here Aug. 1)

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Polk, 5 (up 1 from Aug. 8)

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Sarasota, 1 (unchanged)

Seminole, 10 (up 4 from Aug. 8)

St. Lucie, 3 (up 2 from Aug. 8)

Volusia, 4 (up 1 from Aug. 8)

• Denotes first confirmed or probable cases for the county since the USA TODAY Network — Florida's July 25 report, using stats from the state department of health

## What are monkeypox symptoms?

Monkeypox symptoms are milder than those of smallpox, according to the CDC.

It begins with fever, headache, muscle aches, backache, swollen lymph nodes, chills and exhaustion. Within 1 to 3 days after fever, the patient develops a rash, often beginning on the face and then spreading to other parts of the body. Incubation period (time from infection to symptoms) is usually 7-14 days but can range from 5-21 days.

## How is monkeypox transmissible?

Possible human-to-human transmission includes:

- Coughing. If an infected person coughs, it can be spread through respiratory droplets via the eye, nose or mouth.
- Animals. The virus can be transmitted by a bite, scratch or body fluids. Rodents are the primary source.

• Broken skin. The virus can enter the body through broken skin, even if the break is not visible.



Monkeypox symptoms are milder than those of smallpox, according to the Centers for Disease Control. JAY CALDERON/THE DESERT SUN

ted by a bite, scratch or body fluids. Rodents are the primary source.

- Broken skin. The virus can enter the body through broken skin, even if the break is not visible.

## Is monkeypox a gay disease?

No. Although the latest majority of monkeypox can be transmitted through close or intimate contact, it's not required, and the virus can spread to anyone of any sexual orientation.

At least two children in the U.S. in close contact with infected family members have been diagnosed with it.

## When should I get tested?

The CDC and the Florida Department of Health recommend testing if you see suspicious skin lesions or if you've had close personal contact with someone who may have a confirmed or probable case.

## Is there a monkeypox vaccine?

Yes. The CDC states: "Because monkeypox and smallpox viruses are genetically similar, vaccines developed to protect against smallpox viruses may be used to prevent monkeypox infections. The U.S. government has two stockpiled vaccines — JYNNEOS and ACAM2000 — that can prevent monkeypox in people who are exposed to the virus. Vaccines may be recommended for people who have had or may have contact with someone who has monkeypox, or for healthcare and public health workers who may be exposed to the virus."

## Monkeypox hotline

If health care providers suspect a possible case of monkeypox, immediately contact your county health department via the Florida Department of Health website or the 24/7 disease reporting hotline at 850-245-4401.

Contributing: USA TODAY



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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Indian River County Board of County Commissioners  
To Consider a Petition to Establish the  
LP Community Development District

**DATE:** September 13, 2022  
**TIME:** 8:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Commission Chambers  
Indian River County Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, a public hearing will be held by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County to consider an ordinance to grant a petition to establish the LP Community Development District ("District"), which is filed:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE LP COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 190, FLORIDA STATUTES, PROVIDING A TITLE, PROVIDING PURPOSES, CREATING AND NAMING THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE DISTRICT, DESIGNATING THE PERSONS TO SERVE AS THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The proposed District is comprised of approximately 507.47 acres, generally located south of County Road 510/5th Street, west of SR 90, north of State Road 10 and east of 20th Avenue. The petition has proposed to establish the District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by such District under Florida law, including but not limited to, stormwater management, sanitary sewer facilities, water utilities, roadway improvements, landscaping and irrigation, and other infrastructure.

Copies of the petition and the proposed ordinance are open to public inspection at the County Clerk's Office, 1871 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960, during business hours. For more information, call (772) 567-8000.

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If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. When live working copy of receipt of this notice, please contact the County's ADA Office at (772) 278-1221 or [jenkins@icgov.com](mailto:jenkins@icgov.com).

## Primary

Continued from Page 1A

teachers, who just want to teach."

Crist, she concluded, can't beat Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis. By contrast, Crist at his appearances said the same about Fried in a race polls show is tightening amid a wave of hard-edged TV spots each Democrat is flinging against the other.

"We need somebody who goes into this job who doesn't need on-the-job training, and I certainly don't," said Crist, who is focusing mostly on DeSantis but has also pushing back against Fried's attack on his Republican past.

Crist said his spots weren't negative. "I've gone accurate," he said.

"I was hoping that it could've been more positive," Crist said of the campaign end game. "She's decided to do

what she's done. Everybody has their own style. I'm just going to make sure people know what they're getting on that ballot."

Whoever wins today's primary, Crist said Democrats will rally around the nominee, knowing who the real opponent is.

"The galvanizing part of this campaign is a guy named Ron DeSantis," Crist said.

The primary is certain to be marked by low voter turnout, with past August primaries pulling in fewer than one in three Florida Democrats. Crist has been endorsed by Florida's largest labor unions and has a larger force of get-out-the-vote support.

But Fried is banking on many late-deciding voters coming to her side, as Florida Democrats finally begin making up their minds in a contest that began 15 months ago, when the two rivals announced their candidacies to take on

DeSantis.

A University of North Florida poll released last week showed Fried with a narrow lead over Crist, on the strength of stronger support among women voters. Crist's campaign countered with its own internal survey showing him comfortably ahead.

Polls, though, show DeSantis beating either Democrat in November's general election.

But in making their final case to Democratic voters, Fried and Crist are a contrast, in gender and generation.

Fried, 44, is eagerly courting the votes of Florida women, having underscored her frequently mentioned "something new" campaign theme with a TV spot showing her striding through rows of male mannequins, symbolically separating her from past governors, including Crist, who have all been men.

A spot now airing across the state features women who made history —

from suffragettes to tennis legend Billie Jean King and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. Fried talks of "standing on the shoulders of all these trailblazing women."

Crist, 66, tends to rely on a calm delivery, unspooling highlights and anecdotes from his long history as a former state senator, education commissioner, attorney general and governor — all when he was a Republican.

He also ran unsuccessfully as a Democrat for governor in 2014, losing to Republican Gov. Rick Scott by 64,145 votes, a 1% margin. Crist has since served three terms as a Democratic congressman from St. Petersburg.

In campaigning, Crist speaks fondly of Florida, its environment and people, promotes his defense of Florida consumers against insurers and utilities, and occasionally notes the gold wrist-

See PRIMARY, Page 7A

## DeSantis

Continued from Page 1A

advance his agenda, particularly on education issues, where he has been especially active in the primary. It also carries the risk of rejection, though, with DeSantis appearing more vulnerable if voters rebuff his candidates after he spent so much energy campaigning for them.

"This governor is extremely popular with the grass-roots and rank-and-file Republicans and those primary voters look for his opinion on people to vote for," said Leon County GOP Chair and Florida GOP chairman of chairs Evan Power. "I think he's used that power to push for active conservatives who share his view of Florida. It's something Republicans have wanted for a long time, Republicans who are willing to fight for a conservative agenda."

DeSantis is doing a lot to help his preferred candidates.

The governor wrote \$1,000 checks from his political committee, Friends of Ron DeSantis, to county school board candidates he backed this year, and also is paying for mailers in their races.

At least three mailers paid for by Friends of Ron DeSantis have gone out to help his endorsed school board candidates in some counties. They encourage voters to "stand with Governor DeSantis on August 23rd."

DeSantis also toured the state to support school board candidates, with rallies in Miami, Jacksonville, Sarasota and Orlando Beach.

Florida school board races aren't typical primaries because they technically are nonpartisan. A candidate's party affiliation doesn't even appear on the ballot.

The 30 school board candidates DeSantis is backing are conservatives who, in many cases, are running against more liberal opponents. DeSantis' involvement could boost GOP turnout in the primary, which many voters overlook. Turnout is typically between 20% and 30%.

Unlike Trump's efforts to reshape the GOP, DeSantis' focus on school board contests is more about pushing his conservative education agenda, which has included legislation limiting how race, gender and sexual orientation are discussed in schools.

"I think there are two ways to look at it," said University political science professor Frank Orlando. "One is a strategic angle of investing in it, that will be beholden to him in

case of a possible 2024 run, especially if he runs up against President Trump."

Orlando added: "The other way to look at it is that he has genuine convictions about the education reforms that he has pushed beyond just electoral posturing. If this is the case, then there's no better way to do that than on the local level."

A mailer sent to Sarasota County voters says his school board candidates "will support the DeSantis Education Agenda" and "Stop indoctrination."

"It just shows that he recognizes strong leadership and the need for strong leadership in the most important race in 2022, which is the school board," said Aly Marie Legge, a conservative Hillsborough County School Board candidate endorsed by DeSantis.

The governor also has been active in traditional Republican primaries. In many cases, his endorsement of a GOP candidate was enough to ward off serious challengers.

State Sen. Wilton Simpson is running for Agriculture Commissioner with token GOP opposition after both DeSantis and Trump backed him. State Senate candidates Blaise Ingolia in Pasco County and Jonathan Martin in Lee County didn't attract any Republican opposition — and are almost certain to win their races in heavily Republican areas — after DeSantis endorsed them.

In some cases, DeSantis is getting involved in competitive GOP primaries, both by endorsing and offering financial support.

The governor's political committee gave \$50,000 to Friends of Ryan Michael, the political committee supporting Michael, a Jacksonville Republican, in a state House primary against two other Republicans. DeSantis endorsed Michael.

Even in races where DeSantis hasn't endorsed, he is playing a big role in the GOP primaries.

Many GOP candidates have touted their support for DeSantis' agenda, showing how popular he is within the party.

These include candidates for Congress down to local offices.

Republican county commission candidate Mark Smith mentions DeSantis twice in his latest mailer, saying: "Just like Governor DeSantis, we can count on Mark to protect our freedoms and liberty from government mandates and overreach."

Smith is running for the Sarasota County Commission against another Republican in a tightly contested race.

Candidates have run afoul of DeSan-

tis for touting his support when he hasn't offered it.

Last month, a lawyer for the DeSantis campaign sent a cease-and-desist letter to a Miami-based political committee backing Marta Perez, who is running as an incumbent for reelection to a seat on the powerful nine-member Miami-Dade County School Board. DeSantis had endorsed another candidate who had worked in his administration.

The political committee featured mailer ads that included a photo of her side-by-side with DeSantis and a smaller photo of DeSantis gesturing with a thumbs up.

When DeSantis does back a candidate, he has offered significant financial support.

The governor's political committee gave \$140,000 to the Jobs and Prosperity for Florida political committee, which is chaired by his lieutenant governor Jeanette Núñez. That committee has paid more than \$200,000 to a consulting firm working for two Miami-Dade County School Board candidates endorsed by DeSantis, one of whom used to work for Núñez.

It's unusual for someone like DeSantis who has a competitive reelection race to spend a considerable amount of his own campaign money helping other candidates. The governor's extraordi-

nary fundraising is allowing him to be generous with those funds. His political committee has more than \$125 million in cash on hand.

"I don't recall a governor of any state going as 'local' as Governor DeSantis has" with his endorsements and campaign support, Saint Leo's Orlando said. "Not just in Florida, but nationwide, but... he really has money to burn."

Legge has benefited from mailers paid for by DeSantis' political committee.

"It's a good help," she said. "We appreciate it."

Legge is a 35-year-old mother who has attended most Hillsborough School Board meetings over the past three years, complaining about COVID-19 policies and other issues. She is involved with Moms for America, a conservative activist group based in Missouri.

She first met DeSantis when she spoke at a press conference the governor held to sign legislation on how racial issues are taught in schools.

"It really should just be back-to-basics education, we shouldn't have these divisive topics where we're pitting children against each other," Legge said.

Follow Herald-Tribune Political Editor Zac Anderson on Twitter at @zacanderson. He can be reached at zac.anderson@heraldtribune.com

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Indian River County Board of County Commissioners  
To Consider a Petition to Establish the  
LP Community Development District

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**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
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1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

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The proposed District is comprised of approximately 502.47 acres, generally located south of County Road 510/55th Street, west of 38th Avenue, north of State Road 62 and south of 52nd Avenue. The petition has proposed to establish the District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by such District under Florida law, including but not limited to: wastewater, stormwater management, sanitary sewer utilities, water utilities, roadway improvements, landscaping and irrigation, and other infrastructure.

Copies of the petition and the proposed ordinance are open to public inspection at the County Clerk's Office, 1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960, during business hours. For more information, call (772) 561-1600.

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Indian River County  
Map 12345

## Education law

Continued from Page 1A

school officials to draw arbitrary and discriminatory lines in their attempts to implement the law."

The law, which has drawn nationwide attention, prevents instruction on gender identity and sexual orientation in kindergarten through third grade and requires that such instruction be "age-appropriate ... in accordance with state academic standards" in older grades.

Republican lawmakers filed the measure the "Parental Rights in Education" bill. Opponents labeled it the "Don't Say Gay" bill.

Opponents also have challenged the constitutionality of the measure in a federal lawsuit filed in Tallahassee against the State Board of Education, the Florida Department of Education, Education Commissioner Manny Diaz Jr. and several school boards. That case

is pending.

The lawsuit against the school boards in Indian River, Orange, Duval and Palm Beach counties was filed July 25 in federal court in Orlando. It has been assigned to U.S. District Judge Wendy Berger, who was named to the federal bench by former President Donald Trump after serving as a state appellate and circuit judge.

Attorneys for the four school boards have not filed initial arguments in the case. But in the separate case filed in Tallahassee, Attorney General Ashley Moody's office has contended that the state has the right to set curriculums for public schools and disputed that the Legislature acted out of animus against LGBTQ individuals.

"The bill reflects no governmental preference about what students should learn about sexual orientation and gender identity," the state's lawyers wrote in a motion to dismiss the case. "Those subjects must be taught appropriately and, for the youngest children, they may

be taught by parents, not in public-school classroom settings. That is a legitimate (state) interest."

The plaintiffs in the Orlando lawsuit include Jen and Matt Cousins, the parents of four children in Orange County schools; Will Larkins, a senior at Orange County's Winter Park High School who is president of the school's Queer Student Union; David Dinan and Vik Gongidi, a married same-sex couple who have two children in Indian River County schools; and the nonprofit CenterLink, Inc., which has members including LGBTQ community centers in Orange, Duval and Palm Beach counties.

They are represented by lawyers from the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Southern Legal Counsel, the Southern Poverty Law Center and the international law firm of Baker McKenzie.

In Friday's motion for a preliminary injunction, they raised a series of arguments, including that the law "impermissibly chills" speech in violation of

the First Amendment and is unconstitutionally overbroad and vague.

They also cited steps that the school districts have taken to try to comply with the law.

As an example, they wrote that the Duval, Indian River and Palm Beach school districts have reduced or eliminated LGBTQ-student support groups and anti-bullying guidance.

"In the Palm Beach County district, professional development workshops on LGBTQ+ issues were suspended and, in many districts, books with LGBTQ+ characters for students in K-12 have been removed or are being reviewed under HB 1557," the motion said. "Teachers have been encouraged to avoid anything that might generate discussion about LGBTQ+ people and have been chilled from supporting LGBTQ+ students and student groups. And, organizations that have traditionally provided LGBTQ+ training and other services to schools are being blocked from completing their work."

## ORCA

Continued from Page 1A

building possible," according to an Aug. 22 announcement from the nonprofit.

### Indian River Lagoon research

Rainone's estate donated \$500,000 toward the \$865,000 purchase price, Widder said. ORCA has collected \$921,000 of its \$1.2 million fundraising goal in a campaign it kicked off in April, Widder said.

The city assisted with renovations and in 2019 donated a defunct water quality testing lab near the airport that has become ORCA's new citizen science center, Widder said. The Vero Beach Art Club also helped by painting murals in the space.

"The city of Vero Beach has been so supportive of our efforts on behalf of the lagoon, we are feeling really great about this move," Widder said. "The community support has been phenomenal and it's an ideal location for ORCA, as its midway between the extremes of the 156-mile-long Indian River Lagoon."

The lagoon runs through five coastal counties, including Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, Brevard and Volusia.

### Why did IRSC evict ORCA?

ORCA had been based at the historic Coast Guard building on Seaway Drive in Fort Pierce since 2005, until IRSC issued a 60-day notice to vacate in May 2021.

The IRSC board in April 2021 "deemed that the facility was not being maintained to IRSC standards and was unfit for continued occupancy," spokeswoman Suzanne Seldes told TCPalm at the time.

The 1936 building was deteriorating, IRSC officials told ORCA. That baffled ORCA staff. Managing Director Warren Falls, who is a licensed contractor, said the structure was "strong" and "sound," and had passed all its fire inspections. The interior and mostly exterior had been renovated in 2018 to fix hurricane damage.

IRSC repeatedly denied TCPalm's request for inspection records detailing problems with the building.

IRSC also denied ORCA's request for more time to find next headquarters.

"The way with which they seem to need to get us out of there was quite mystifying," Widder told



TCPalm Thursday. "At the time, I begged them to let us stay a little longer."

### IRSC Hospitality Center

Once ORCA vacated, a new name appeared on the sign: "Hospitality Center." What the building will be used for remains unclear. It's too early to determine, as there is "much to do to make the building fit for occupancy," Seldes told TCPalm Thursday.

The building will remain unoccupied until an assessment, review and renovation are complete, Seldes said. She could not provide a timeline.

The building is reserved for the college's hospitality program, which focuses on the tourism industry, Seldes told TCPalm last year.

The building features Dade County pine, New England-style arches with tucked-away windows, lengthy kitchen cabinets designed for naval military officers who lived there during World War II. A third-floor ladder accesses a panoramic view of the ocean, inlet and lagoon.

Despite not having a headquarters this past year, ORCA expanded its citizen science program and continued its Indian River Lagoon research, Widder said.

"I'm looking forward to even more advancements in the coming years, when we've got this new space to depend on," she said.

ORCA is still accepting donations at

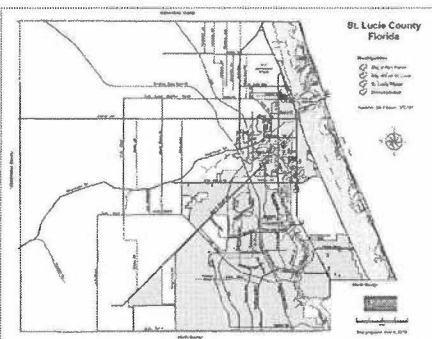
teamorca.org.

Max Chesnes is a TCPalm environmental reporter focusing on issues facing the Indian River Lagoon, St. Lucie River and Lake Okechobee. You can keep up

with Max on Twitter @MaxChesnes, email him at max.chesnes@tcpalm.com and give him a call at 772-978-2224.

Edie Widder, lead scientist and founder of the Ocean Research & Conservation Association, speaks with board members and donors on March 29 during an open house event at the organization's laboratory in Vero Beach. PATRICK DOVE/TCPALM

## NOTICE OF HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF STORMWATER CULVERT SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS



Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of St. Lucie County, Florida (the "Board") will conduct a public hearing to consider any comments on creation of the Culvert 2022-04 MSBU depicted above and the imposition of special assessment thereon to fund stormwater culvert improvements (the "Culvert Assessments"), and to authorize the collection of Culvert Assessments in not more than ten (10) annual installments on the property tax bill mailed by the St. Lucie County Tax Collector each November, commencing in November 2023. Participation in the culvert improvement program is voluntary, and the Culvert Assessments are imposed only upon the request of eligible property owners who have entered into financing agreements with the County.

The hearing will be held in the County Commission Chambers at 9:00 a.m. on September 20, 2022, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in the St. Lucie County Commission Chambers, 2300 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the creation of the Culvert 2022-04 MSBU and the imposition of Culvert Assessments thereon. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the Board within 20 days of this notice. If a person desires to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Safety and Risk Manager at (772) 462-1546 or TDD (772) 462-1428, at least seven days prior to the date of the hearing.

Copies of the County ordinance establishing the Culvert Assessment program (Ordinance No. 21-004), together with any related resolutions and the assessment roll showing the amount of the Culvert Assessments to be imposed against each parcel of property are available for inspection at the office of the County MSBU Coordinator located on the second floor of the Administration Annex at 2300 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, Florida.

If you have any questions, please contact the County MSBU Coordinator at (772) 462-2568, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Published 8/30/22

(PAGE TWO)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Indian River County Board of County Commissioners  
To Consider a Petition to Establish the  
LP Community Development District

**DATE:** September 13, 2022  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Commission Chambers  
Indian River County Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida 32990

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, a public hearing will be held by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County to consider an ordinance to grant a petition to establish the LP Community Development District ("District"), which is filed:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE LP COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 190, FLORIDA STATUTES, PROVIDING A PETITION TO ESTABLISH THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE FEES TO BE PAID BY THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The proposed District is comprised of approximately 502.47 acres, generally located south of County Road 10185th Street, west of 46th Avenue, north of State Road 16 and east of 22nd Avenue. The petitioner has proposed to establish the District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by such District under Florida law, including but not limited to: sidewalk, stormwater management, sanitary sewer utilities, water utilities, roadway improvements, landscaping and irrigation, and other infrastructure.

Copies of the petition and the proposed ordinance are open to public inspection at the County Clerk's Office, 1431 7th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32990, during business hours. For more information, call (772) 567-8000.

All interested persons and affected units of general purpose government may appear at the hearing and be heard with respect to the petition and proposed ordinance. All interested persons and affected units of general purpose government may also present oral or written comments on the petition and proposed ordinance. Any person or affected unit of general purpose government who wishes to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the proceedings. For that purpose, the person or unit of general purpose government may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeals to be based.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Within five working days of receipt of this notice, please contact the County's ADA Office at (772) 770-1221 or jennal@icgov.com.



## Patio

Continued from Page 1A

nearly empty, to the dismay of some. "We think it went very well," said Eric Behmyer, owner of Indian River Auction Gallery, which handled the auction. "A lot of it did go back to the family, the Tripsos and the Sextons, which we were happy to see. There was quite a bit that's going to be taken to other local restaurants and displayed there."

The Sexton family, descendants of well-known local architect and developer Waldo Sexton, previously owned the building. Sexton built the Patio and other icons of Old Vero: the Driftwood Inn, McKee Botanical Garden and Szechuan Palace.

For his descendants, the Patio's closure was far more bitter than sweet. For one thing, they had no idea an auction would happen at all, said Mike Sexton, Waldo Sexton's great-grandson and a local real estate agent.

The family believed the building's interior would remain untouched, but they found out otherwise when the auctioneer broke the news to them, he said.

"It was kind of a surprise," Sexton said. "But when you sell something, it's not yours anymore."

He and his father decided to buy back



Over 300 pieces of historic décor at The Patio Restaurant were displayed for visitors to inspect on Aug. 18 in Vero Beach. An auction was held for those wishing to take home a piece of Vero's history. KAILA JONES/TCPALM

some of the décor, he said, including some of the wrought-iron architecture. The family didn't take anything before they sold the restaurant because they thought the interior would be preserved, he said.

"Had I known that, I probably would have just taken some things that I wanted," he said. "But I was trying to do the right thing and leave it there for everybody to enjoy."

Real estate broker Prakas & Co. purchased the building Feb. 21 for \$600,000, according to county property records. Athan Prakas, Prakas & Co.'s owner, is leasing it to transform it into a "golf-simulator sports bar," he said.

Its interior will be redone to accommodate three virtual-golf simulators, while its exterior will remain the same, he said.

The auction cleared the way for the restaurant's transformation. More than 300 items were up for sale, ranging from the building's wrought iron fencing to its chandeliers, oil paintings and old dinner menus.

A majority of it was sold, Behmyer said, and some items, such as the French floor tile, sold for as much as \$3,500.

"We're thankful to everybody for coming out to support the history... and wanting to preserve some of that stuff,"

he said. "We are very thankful and happy to see it go to individuals rather than it being trashed."

About 50 items were still left after the auction ended Wednesday, so the Indian River Auction Gallery likely will hold a second auction later this month, he said.

Even though it wasn't the ending the Sexton family wanted, Mike Sexton acknowledged there was a silver lining: The building itself is still standing, and parts of it will live on.

"As bittersweet as it is, I'm kind of hoping maybe some of the people in the community that love that place are going to get to take a little piece of it home with them," he said.

And his wish seems to have come true. Ocean Grill and Kelley's Irish Pub will display some items, Behmyer said, while other people will get to cherish some décor in the comfort of their homes.

One couple, for example, purchased one of the Patio's signs for \$1,100.

"Her and her husband used to eat lunch there daily," he said. "They bought that and the menu, and they're going to hang it in their game room."

Thomas Weber is TCPalm's Indian River County government watchdog reporter. You can reach him at [thomas.weber@tcpalm.com](mailto:thomas.weber@tcpalm.com) or 813-545-9133. Follow him on Facebook and Twitter.

## LGBTQ

Continued from Page 4A

these groups come out of the woodwork and all a sudden they start calling you a bigot... and frankly all we are doing is bringing common sense to the equation," Ziegler said.

Christian Family Coalition Florida Executive Director Anthony Verdugo said DeSantis has taken positions on transgender issues that have broad appeal, citing his push to keep transgender individuals from playing women's sports.

"It's not misogyny. It's not sexism. It's common sense," Verdugo said.

In the process, the governor has become the darling of social conservatives.

"He's viewed as a hero," Verdugo said. "He's viewed as a leader. He's viewed as a courageous man, as a statesman. He is willing to say what others are thinking but either will not say or don't have the platform. He has gotten so much support from cultural conservatives because he's speaking their language, he's fighting back."

DeSantis' spokesman Bryan Griffin said the governor is "devoted to protecting children and empowering parents."

"To the extent that sexual topics are being injected into the education of — or marketed towards — children, the governor is standing up and pushing back," he said.

Verdugo believes DeSantis' agenda is a recipe for electoral success, saying it will appeal to suburban female voters who fled the GOP because they didn't like former President Donald Trump.

LGBTQ advocates say it's a cynical strategy.

"They are creating this phony moral panic about LGBTQ people to whip people up into a frenzy and divide people further," said Democratic state Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith, the state's first openly gay lawmaker.

Whether DeSantis wins reelection could depend in part on whether his cultural approach has crossover appeal and fires up his base more than it fires

up LGBTQ advocates and their allies, who are highly motivated to take him out.

### LGBTQ activists mobilize

DeSantis seems to believe that many people are uncomfortable with the discussion around gender identity that has taken place in recent years, and he can use that to his political advantage.

"They talk about pansexuality and all this stuff," DeSantis said during a recent rally for conservative school board candidates. "I'm just thinking... imagine what our elderly, they don't know what any of this stuff is. It's weird that you would even be talking about it."

But Smith, the head of Equality Florida, said acceptance of transgender people is growing and will only increase.

"This conversation reminds me of the conversation around marriage equality," Smith said. "We lost 38 states in a row before the tide changed."

Young people are especially sympathetic to the idea that gender identity is fluid, and have been among the most vocal in pushing back against DeSantis.

There were student led walkouts across the state in response to HB 1557. Now LGBTQ activists are trying to harness this energy into defeating DeSantis.

"DeSantis may think he's winning but let me tell you he's not," said Lakey Love, a transgender individual who co-founded the Florida Coalition for Transgender Liberation. "This generation that's coming out of these public schools are going to push people like him and his out."

Zander Moricz, the Harvard student, said he plans to visit Florida regularly this year and coordinate other campaign efforts from his dorm room.

"DeSantis has brought a lot of energy... out of youth in the state," he said. "Not out of inspiration, but out of fear and urgency."

Follow Herald-Tribune Political Editor Zac Anderson on Twitter at @zacanderson. He can be reached at [zac.anderson@heraldtribune.com](mailto:zac.anderson@heraldtribune.com)



A Brevard Say Gay Rally at Front Street Park was held in May with a march over the Melbourne Causeway. The rally was to support solidarity with LGBTQ students and families. MALCOLM DENMARK/FLORIDA TODAY

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Indian River County Board of County Commissioners  
To Consider a Petition to Establish the  
LP Community Development District

**DATE:** September 12, 2022  
**TIME:** 8:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Commission Chambers  
Indian River County Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 180, Florida Statutes, a public hearing will be held by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County to consider an ordinance to grant a petition to establish the LP Community Development District ("District"), which is filed:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE LP COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 180, FLORIDA STATUTES, PROVIDING A TITLE, DETERMINING THE LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT, DESCRIBING THE FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE DISTRICT, DESIGNATING THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The proposed District is comprised of approximately 502.47 acres, generally located south of County Road 510/85th Street, west of 58th Avenue, north of State Road 60 and east of Blvd Avenue. The petitioner has proposed to establish the District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by such District under Florida law, including but not limited to: sewer, stormwater management, sanitary sewer utilities, water utilities, roadway improvements, land clearing and drainage, and other infrastructure.

Copies of the petition and the proposed ordinance are open to public inspection at the County Clerk's Office, 1821 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960, during business hours. For more information, call (772) 367-8300.

All interested persons and affected units of general purpose government may appear at the hearing and be heard with respect to the petition and proposed ordinance. All interested persons and affected units of general purpose government may also present oral or written comments on the petition and proposed ordinance. Any persons or affected unit of general purpose government who wish to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the proceedings. For that purpose, the person or unit of general purpose government may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeals to be based.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Within five working days of receipt of this notice, please contact the County's ADA Office at (772) 276-1221 or [ada@icgov.com](mailto:ada@icgov.com).