

Evaluating Super Bowl contenders and pretenders

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ANALYSIS



President Donald Trump has chosen Stephen Miller, formerly his deputy chief of staff for policy and homeland security adviser, to become his new chief of staff. EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS FILE

Republicans are split on Miller's ascension

Some in GOP think immigration policy has gone too far

María Luisa Paúl
USA TODAY

Greg Bovino has been waiting nine months for this.

As Border Patrol commander, he became the swaggering face of President Donald Trump's street-level immigration sweeps, leading agents through Los Angeles, Chicago and, finally, Minneapolis, where the killing of two U.S. citizens by federal officers in January sparked national outcry, set off a political storm and ended his time in the field. He retired in March, convinced that the administration had lost its nerve.

So when Trump announced Nov. 6 that Stephen Miller, formerly the White House's deputy chief of staff for policy and homeland security adviser, would

See MILLER, Page 2A



Former Border Patrol commander Greg Bovino said that by appointing Stephen Miller chief of staff, President Donald Trump "brought in the individual who was actually telling him the truth the whole time." SAM WOLFE/REUTERS FILE

Allies and critics alike describe Stephen Miller as the most influential force behind Trump's immigration policy for the better part of a decade. His views, they say, have barely moved.

Tacos & Tequila Cantina now open

Julie Garisto
Leesburg Daily Commercial
USA TODAY NETWORK

The company that launched the Hooters brand has brought its latest Tex-Mex venture to Central Florida.

HMC Hospitality Group opened the doors to Tacos & Tequila Cantina on Nov. 12 at 6994 Eastport Drive in The Villages.

The launch marks a major milestone in an ongoing expansion effort.

In 2025, HMC Hospitality Group signed a licensing deal with the cantina to develop new locations across Pasco, Pinellas and Hillsborough counties, as well as The Villages.

The new Eastport Drive restaurant represents the brand's sixth Florida location and its first in Central Florida.

See OPEN, Page 3A

THANKSGIVING

Consumers' cost of dinner up this year

Clayton Park
USA TODAY NETWORK - Florida

The average cost of Thanksgiving dinner nationally is 6.3% higher this year, compared to last year, according to a new report from the American Farm Bureau Federation, but the main dish will be cheaper at least in Florida.

The good news for consumers in the Sunshine State is that turkey prices in Florida are down from a year ago, according to the Florida Farm Bureau Federation. The Gainesville-based group issued its annual cost of Thanksgiving report Wednesday, the same day as the national organization.

"Grocery stores often feature whole turkeys at lower prices leading up to Thanksgiving," Florida Farm Bureau Federation spokeswoman Rachael Smith told USA TODAY Network-Florida. "The average price of a frozen 16-pound turkey in Florida (the second week of November) was $19.03 as compared to $27.16 in 2025."

See THANKSGIVING, Page 5A

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