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ROBERTO SCHMIDT AFP via Getty Images

Teresa Helm, a survivor of sexual abuse by Jeffrey Epstein, speaks at the Stand with Survivors Rally in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. The event was held to support victims of Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell.

Epstein victims say they will compile their own 'client list' and demand accountability

BY EMILY GOODIN AND JULIE K. BROWN
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WASHINGTON

After nearly three decades of silence, dozens of victims of Jeffrey Epstein massed at the foot of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, demanding the release of all government records pertaining to Epstein as well as others involved in his sex-trafficking crimes.

The survivors tearfully recounted stories of sexual abuse at the hands of Epstein, his accomplice, Ghislaine Maxwell, and powerful men they were trafficked to.

They spoke despite their fears, trauma and anxieties. Some of them said they had been silenced by Epstein and Maxwell, who had in the past threatened them and their families.

The survivors spoke for those who were too afraid to be there — and for those victims who couldn't be there, their lives cut short as a result of drug overdoses, suicide and trauma-related mental illness.

More urgently, they alleged that members of the U.S. justice system continue to cover up Epstein's crimes, thus allowing his conspirators to go unpunished and ridiculing the survivors as if the Epstein case never happened.

"It is time for us to see behind the curtain, why Jeffrey Epstein was so protected, who is still being protected, and who protected them all," said Courtney Wild, who said she was 14 years old when she was introduced to Epstein.

"This is not a hoax," Marina Lacerda, another of the survivors, said.

"The days of sweeping this under

SEE VICTIMS, 5A

Florida aims to be first state in U.S. to end all vaccine mandates

BY CLARA-SOPHIA DALY AND MICHELLE MARCHANTE
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Just weeks into the new school year, Florida Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo announced the state is going to be working to eliminate all vaccine mandates.

Ladapo, who made the announcement at a press conference Wednesday, said vaccine mandates are wrong and drip "with disdain and slavery."

He did not offer specific policy information but promised to end "every last one of them."

All 50 states and Washington, D.C., have laws requiring certain vaccines for students to attend school. Florida is the first state to publicly call for doing away with such requirements.

Florida immunization requirements for students include vaccines against polio, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B and other diseases.

While it's too early to know how ending the vaccine mandates will be implemented in schools, public-health professionals and doctors warn that eliminating vaccines for students creates a public-health risk.

Dr. Rana Alissa, president of the Florida Chapter of the American Academy



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Florida Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo says vaccine mandates are wrong and drip 'with disdain and slavery.'

MORE INSIDE

Snubbing Kennedy, three western states announce plans to coordinate on vaccines, 7A

of Pediatrics, told the Miami Herald in a statement Wednesday that vaccines are especially important inside schools where students are in close contact and diseases can spread easily.

"When children are sick and miss school, caregivers also miss work, which not only impacts those families but also the local economy."

Richard M. Carpiano, who is a professor of public policy at the University of California, Riverside and has studied vaccination hesitancy, says, "This is

SEE VACCINES, 2A

Haiti police lead raid to help orphans and retake comms hub. It's a rare win in war on gangs

BY JACQUELINE CHARLES
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A recent Haitian police-led operation to reclaim a rural area — where hundreds of orphaned children were being blocked from leaving and a critical telecommunications hub was being held by a terrorizing gang leader — started as a covert, high-stakes mission.

By the time the daring, in-the-middle-of-the-night raid in the rugged, once-peaceful mountains of Kenscoff had concluded, the government had evacuated more than 200 orphaned children to safety and taken control of an antenna vital to air traffic and internet connections.

It was a rare police victory in a country where the battle to push back armed gangs has been marked by failures and



JOHNNY FILS-AIMÉ For the Miami Herald

Haitian police confiscated ammunition and high-powered weapons during a raid on Aug. 24-25. Police also seized six assault rifles with erased serial numbers. The guns included an AK-47, three modified M16s, one M4 Bushmaster and a Galil AC-22.

MORE INSIDE

U.S. Coast Guard returns fleeing migrants to Haiti after spotting overcrowded vessel, 4A

tragedy. Already this year, at least 31 security personnel, including members of the Kenyan-led international force, have

been killed in operations against gangs. On Sunday, a Kenyan police officer lost his life and eight other members of the Multinational Security Support mission were injured when an armored vehicle overturned and

SEE HAITI, 4A

Deadly dog attack leaves Miami Gardens neighborhood grieving and demanding safety

BY AMANDA ROSA
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Doreen Richards Broadbelt enjoyed walking through her Miami Gardens neighborhood in the early morning to get to work. But, her family said, there was a problem that often bothered her: unleashed dogs.

The unthinkable happened Monday morning. Police say Broadbelt, 71, was mauled to death by at least one dog while she was walking to the nearby Walmart where she had worked for 13 years. Her body was found in the 1400 block of Northwest 196th Terrace in a field



Doreen Broadbelt



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The family of Doreen Broadbelt placed flowers near where she was killed in the area of Northwest 14th Court and 196th Terrace while she was walking to her job on Monday.

next to Norwood Elementary School. The disturbing attack shocked the neighborhood, where residents say unleashed

dogs have become a serious safety concern.

At Broadbelt's house,

SEE DOG ATTACK, 2A



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