

KIRK CASE FINDINGS

FBI discovers DNA link to shooting suspect



BACKING MCDANIEL

Dolphins players stand by beleaguered coach

Two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for Public Service

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AG: Open carry is ‘law of the state’

By Jim Turner News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier on Monday said people being able to openly carry guns is “the law of the state,” after a panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal last week ruled that a longstanding ban was unconstitutional.

Uthmeier sent guidance to prosecutors and law-enforcement agencies. Some had already stopped enforcing the open-carry ban after Wednesday’s opinion. Uthmeier said in an online post that no other Florida appellate courts had considered the constitutionality of the open-carry ban after two closely watched U.S. Supreme Court decisions in 2022 and 2024. As a result, he said “the First District’s decision is binding

on all Florida’s trial courts,” A 1987 law made it a misdemeanor to visibly display guns, though exceptions existed, for example, for hunting. Floridians could carry concealed weapons. In the guidance, Uthmeier told prosecutors and law-enforcement agencies to refrain from arresting or putting on trial “law-abiding citizens carrying a firearm in a manner that is visible to others”

as Florida courts couldn’t convict such people. Uthmeier added that state law still requires gun owners to be responsible with their firearms. “Nothing in the decision permits individuals to menace others with firearms in public, nor does it undermine the state’s authority to prohibit felons from possessing firearms,” the guidance said. The appeals-court opinion

came in a challenge filed by Stanley Victor McDaniels, who was convicted of openly carrying a gun on the Fourth of July in 2022 in Pensacola. Pointing to U.S. Supreme Court rulings in Second Amendment cases, a three-judge panel of the Tallahassee-based appeals court said the ban is incompatible with

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AMY BETH BENNETT / SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

Traditional dishes

Rose Pappo Allen, president of the Sephardi Federation of Palm Beach County, makes burekitas (also called fillo), a traditional Sephardic dish, at her Wellington home. A new report offers portraits of four Sephardic communities in the United States, including Latin Sephardic Jews in South Florida. See story, Page 3

Unified front for US, Israel

Netanyahu, Rubio downplay anger in wake of Qatar strike

By Matthew Lee and Sammy Magdy Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel and the United States showed a unified front Monday in the face of growing international anger over Israel’s airstrikes on Hamas leaders in Qatar and its intensifying bombardment of Gaza City. As Arab and Muslim leaders met in Doha to condemn Israel’s attack last week in Qatar and new rounds of criticism were aired over Israeli plans to occupy Gaza City, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Secretary of State Marco Rubio stood shoulder-to-shoulder in Jerusalem and downplayed the furor that had, at least for a short time, taken the Trump administration aback. Rubio planned to pay a quick visit Tuesday to Qatar — the administration appears keen to ease tensions between its two close allies — before flying on to London to join President Donald Trump on his state visit to Britain. “We understand they’re not happy about what happened,” Rubio told Fox News. But “we still have Hamas, we still have hostages, and we still have a war. And all those things still have to be dealt with, and we are hopeful that Qatar and all of our Gulf partners will continue to add something

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Marino reveals liver disease diagnosis

By David Furones South Florida Sun Sentinel

Dan Marino, the Miami Dolphins’ Hall of Fame quarterback who now works with the team as a special advisor, revealed Monday morning that he had been diagnosed with a liver disease. Marino, who turned 64 on Monday, told People magazine he has metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis, or MASH. It was formerly known as nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. He received the diagnosis in 2007 when he went in for a routine checkup without experiencing any symptoms, outside of being “a little fatigued,” he said in his interview with People. MASH occurs when excess fat cells accumulate in the liver, which can cause chronic inflammation that leads to cirrhosis

and liver cancer, according to the Cleveland Clinic. Marino said he’s doing better by fixing his diet and returning to consistent exercise. He believes getting away from both contributed to his diagnosis. Doctors told him it was reversible but he had to lose weight. Former Dolphins teammate Terry Kirby trains Marino at his nearby gym, according to People, while his wife, Claire, joins him for nightly walks and bike rides. Beyond the exercise, Marino said he let his diet go after retiring following the conclusion of the 1999 NFL season. His doctor recommended a Mediterranean diet, and he has cut back on wine, pizza, candy and ice cream. The Dolphins great is speaking about his diagnosis and turning his health around now as part of Novo Nordisk’s Unordinary Stories campaign, where athletes



Dan Marino, Miami Dolphins Hall of Fame quarterback who is now a special adviser for the team, revealed he has a liver disease. LINDSEY WASSON/AP

share their unique health journeys. Marino retired with NFL records in completions (4,967), passing yards (61,361) and touchdown passes (420). Records which have since been broken as the passing game in the league has taken off since.

As property values rise, how high will taxes go?

By Rafael Olmeda South Florida Sun Sentinel

The Broward County Commission is poised to meet Tuesday evening to decide once and for all on a \$2 billion budget that takes effect Oct. 1. But the big question for some commissioners is whether tax rates will be rolled back so that homeowners won’t be stuck with a much higher bill than last year just because their property values went up. The tax rate determines how much property owners pay to fund county services, including the sheriff’s office, fire-rescue, parks, transportation and other local expenses. And each year, elected officials must decide if they’ll lower it, increase it or keep it the same amid rising property values. For some homeowners and property owners, it’s all but a fore-

gone conclusion that bills will be higher. During a meeting earlier this month, however, a few residents urged commissioners to provide some tax relief. No one on the County Commission is considering a so-called “rollback” rate that would keep tax revenue neutral. But any rate cut would soften the blow of the expected increase. “My goal is to start bringing the rate down a little bit,” said Commissioner Michael Udine, whose first attempt to push a tax cut through fell short two weeks ago by a 5-3 vote. Udine said he intends to try again Tuesday night. “We paid down all of the bond debt from the parks bond that we’ve been paying over 20 years,” he said. “It’s time to give our property owners some relief.” Homeowners are protected

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