

# IN THE NEWS...

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## MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR BUSH



Economic development was our focus this week, as we celebrated the diversification and strengthening of Florida’s economy. On Monday, I attended the World Trade Center Miami dinner, at which I highlighted the enormous benefits Florida reaps as the Gateway to the Americas. Florida now has over \$70 billion in international trade every year, which employs over 500,000 Floridians. We are the #1 trading partner of every Latin American nation except Mexico, and our economic ties are being strengthened there as well. I pledged to continue to support free trade agreements with Chile and for the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA), and will continue to fight strongly to have Miami named the home of the permanent secretariat of the FTAA.

Also on Monday, I joined business and government leaders in acknowledging how our high-tech economy and our international trading economy work together and strengthen each other. Terremark, the same company that developed and built the NAP (network access point) of the Americas, has announced plans to build similar NAPs in Madrid, Spain and Sao Paulo, Brazil, which will link with the NAP of the Americas to make Florida a center for international internet connectivity. Also this week, Florida received good news from the 2002 Cyberstates report, which documented that Florida rose to third in the nation in high-tech exports. Future high-wage job growth in our state will expand from our growing high-tech sector, particularly those that interface with our international trading partners.

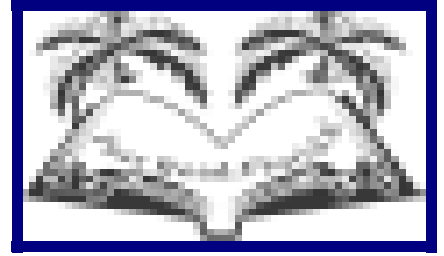
On Tuesday our focus returned to domestic security. In Fort Lauderdale, I visited a “tabletop exercise” undertaken by the Southeast Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force to test our bioterrorism response procedures. Each of our seven regional task forces now has performed such an exercise, which brings together officials from public health, law enforcement and emergency management to coordinate response plans. This regional approach is proving to be most valuable, and field exercises are scheduled in each region later this fall.

Another top domestic security priority is protecting Florida’s seaports, so later that day I visited Port Everglades to highlight the nearly \$20 million in federal grants Florida’s ports recently won to improve physical access security and video surveillance. Florida won such a large share of the federal dollars available because of our statewide security standards that were in development even prior to September 11.

On Thursday, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Cleveland school choice program in a 5-4 decision. The court’s ruling affirms the constitutionality of school choice programs and allows parents the option to send their child to a more successful school, including those with religious affiliations. This is wonderful news for children who were trapped in some of the worst performing schools in America, and for their parents, who had no choice but to send them there.

Lastly, this week we held a Cabinet meeting in Miami as part of Capital For A Day. This is part of our ongoing commitment to bring state government closer to the people of Florida and make it more accessible. Thank you for your support.

## **“READING FIRST” GRANT AWARDED TO STATE**



Governor Jeb Bush announced this week that the U.S. Department of Education has awarded Florida \$45.6 million in federal funds to help the state reach the Governor's goal that every child read at or above grade level by 2012. Florida is one of just three states to be the first grant recipients of President Bush's Reading First initiative, the cornerstone of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige today announced that the Reading First application submitted by Florida on May 1, has passed a rigorous review by an expert panel. As a result, Florida, along with Colorado and Alabama, will receive the grants to help schools and school districts improve students' reading achievement. Florida will receive \$45.6 million the first year and a total of \$300 million over six years. The six-year total is subject to the state's successful implementation and demonstrated increases in students' reading achievement. Reading First funds become available on July 1. The purpose of the Reading First grant is to assist Florida districts and schools to implement proven methods of scientifically based reading instruction in classrooms to prevent reading difficulties in grades K-3. A competitive subgrant process will ensue for Florida school districts that meet the eligibility criteria prescribed within the Reading First grant application. School districts will be able to use Reading First funds to improve reading instruction through professional development, assessments, implementing a learning system or program based on scientifically based reading research, and reading coaches. **Just Read, Florida!** is consistent with scientifically based reading research that underlies Reading First. For more information on this grant and Governor Bush's Just Read, Florida initiative, please visit [www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com).

## **FLORIDA-BASED FILM ON HBO**

Governor Jeb Bush congratulated producer and director, Paul Sirmons, on the HBO debut of *The First of May*, a feature film produced entirely in Central Florida. With a nationwide debut set for July 1<sup>st</sup>, the film is based on the teen novel "Golden Days" by Stetson University professor Gail Radley and was adapted for the screen by writer Gary Rodgers of DeLand. The film features locations in Lake Helen, DeLand, Volusia and Orange counties, and was housed at Pyramax Studios in DeLand. The film stars Julie Harris, Dan Byrd, Mickey Rooney, Charles Nelson Reilly, Dan Byrd, and baseball legend Joe DiMaggio. It won top awards at seven film festivals, including the Chicago International Children's Film Festival, the Heartland Film Festival, the Burbank International Children's Film Festival, and Ale Kino!, Poland's only film festival for children. It has also received the Poland Film Advisory Board's distinguished Award of Excellence. Airdates and times for *The First of May* on HBO are: July 1, 6:30 a.m., July 14, 6:00 a.m., July 26, 8:00 a.m., July 30, 6:15 a.m.

## **CATCHING UP WITH FLORIDA'S FIRST LADY**

First Lady Columba Bush participated in the 2002 ACE Summer Leadership Conference, "**Arts Achieve! A Renaissance**," at the Downtown Marriott Hotel in Orlando on Monday. The 2002 ACE Summer Leadership Conference integrated resources, ideas and people from schools, community arts groups, local arts agencies, businesses, teachers, artists and community builders to improve and enhance art education in Florida's schools and communities. The conference focused on how the arts can be an integral part to citizens leading more successful and satisfying lives. In collaboration with the not-for-profit organization Arts for a Complete Education/Florida Alliance for Arts Education (ACE/FAAE), the First Lady visits at least two school arts education programs a month throughout the state. These programs exhibit excellence in teaching, program comprehensiveness and quality, student achievement, inclusion of students with disabilities, school site administrative support and community involvement. The vision and mission of ACE/FAAE are for every child in every school in Florida to receive a well-rounded education that includes a comprehensive, sequential and high-quality program of arts instruction. To learn more about Florida's First Lady and these organizations, please visit [www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com).

## **TECHNOLOGY GOOD NEWS**

Governor Jeb Bush joined business and government leaders from the United States, Spain, and Latin America on Monday in recognizing the critical role that the Network Access Point (NAP) of the Americas has played in establishing Florida as the Internet connectivity capital of the world. The Governor joined the group at the headquarters of Terremark Worldwide, the company responsible for the construction and development of the NAP of the Americas. NAP's are major intersections of the Internet, where the networks of local and regional access providers meet Internet backbones and pass Internet transmissions from one network to another. These public exchanges transmit enormous amounts of data to and from each connected network. To date, Terremark has attracted more than 70 customers to the NAP of the Americas, and additional Florida communities are developing their own plans for network access points. The Governor was joined in Miami by Governor Geraldo Alkimin, São Paulo, Brazil and representatives from the Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid (an organization composed of 179 municipalities in Spain), Cámara de Comercio e Industria de Madrid (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madrid), and São Paulo's Research Foundation for the tour of the facility. In June 2000, Governor Bush signed legislation, which supports development of a Florida-based NAP. The Governor has placed a priority on creating more high-tech jobs and opportunities in Florida. During the 2002 legislative session, lawmakers passed a proposal by Governor Bush to create Centers of Excellence in Florida as part of a strategy to increase technology research and development at the state's universities.

Following Monday's event, Governor Jeb Bush applauded Florida's success in achieving top rankings in the American Electronics Association's (AeA) *Cyberstates 2002* report. The annual report includes a state-by-state comparison of the nation's high-technology industry. According to the report, Florida maintained its ranking as the state with the fifth largest high-tech workforce in the nation with a \$12.7 billion total payroll. Most notably, Florida passed Massachusetts becoming the state with the third largest total of high-technology exports totaling over \$9 billion. Since Governor Bush took office in 1999, the Sunshine State has excelled in creating an attractive environment for high-tech industries. From strategically focused incentive programs to attract IT businesses, to the development of a highly skilled workforce, Florida has appealed to national and international businesses alike. Governor Bush acknowledged, however, that Florida must continue to do more if it is to overtake California, Texas, and Massachusetts in other areas. "If you look at the new level of competitiveness that Florida has reached, you will see that the only states that stand between us and the top spot in almost every area are those that have built a high-tech economy around a university or consortium of universities," continued Governor Bush. "With the creation our new Centers of Excellence I am confident Florida will experience a renewed growth in the high-tech field."

For more information on Governor Bush's commitment and strategies to increasing technology development, please visit [www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com)

## **HELPING FLORIDIANS GET BACK TO WORK**

Governor Jeb Bush announced this week that Florida will be awarded a \$5.2 million National Emergency Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The grant will assist Florida in responding to the economic impacts that caused a rise in unemployment following the terrorist attacks of September 11. This grant supplements an earlier award of \$3.4 million that was provided to the state. The National Emergency Grant will allow an additional 1,632 Floridians to access employment and training services under Operation Paycheck. Of the total \$5.2 million, \$4.1 million will be placed in Operation Paycheck. The remaining \$1.1 million will be used to provide reemployment services to additional participants in Regional Workforce Board 23 covering Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, which were hardest hit by the loss of jobs in the airline and tourist industries. Operation Paycheck, part of Governor Bush's Economic Stimulus Package, has been an unqualified success, serving as a national model of retraining and reemployment for people who were put out of jobs by the terrorist attacks. Since its inception, the program has accepted over 7,000 Floridians, with nearly 600 more awaiting enrollment. The program is helping them find not just new jobs, but new careers. Sixty-nine percent of Operation Paycheck clients have enrolled in high-tech training that is equipping them for 21st century jobs.

# **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR PRESS RELEASES**

*For Immediate Release...*

[CLICK HERE to view these releases](#)

1. Governor Bush Touts Florida As Global Internetlink
2. Governor Bush Highlights Local Reading Program
3. Florida First Lady Columba Bush Participates in 2002 ACE Summer Leadership Conference Arts Achieve! A Renaissance
4. Governor Bush Honored with “Florida’s International Achievement Award” by World Trade Center Miami
5. Governor Bush Focuses on Domestic Security
6. Governor Bush Announces \$45.6 Million Grant
7. Governor Bush Congratulates Florida Director for Debut of Florida-Based Film on HBO
8. Governor Bush Applauds Florida’s 3rd Place Ranking in High-Tech Exports
9. Daytona Beach International Airport Receives U.S. DOT Grant to Enhance Services
10. Statement from Governor Jeb Bush Regarding the U.S. Supreme Court Ruling in the Cleveland School Choice Case
11. Lt. Governor Brogan Commends Local Community for New Affordable Housing Development
12. Statement from Governor Jeb Bush Regarding the U.S. Supreme Courts Decision in the Death Penalty Cases of Linroy Bottoson and Amos King
13. Governor Bush Welcomes New Minute Maid Facility to Polk County
14. Governor Bush Announces \$5.2 Million Federal Grant To Help Get Floridians Back to Work
15. Appointments Made by Governor Bush the week of June 28, 2002

## **NEWSPAPER CLIPS OF INTEREST**

[Click on the article to view](#)

1. Governor’s One Florida Gives Minorities a Needed Boost—Tampa Tribune 6/22
2. Bush: Telecom Hubs Making State a Global Internet Center—Naples Daily News 6/25
3. Bush Says \$19.7 Million Will Enhance Port Security—Daytona Beach News Journal 6/26
4. Citizens Discover Government as Miami Becomes Capital for a Day—Naples Daily News 6/26
5. U.S. to Give State \$300 Million for Reading Program—St. Petersburg Times 6/26
6. Governor Praises NAP—South Florida Business Journal 6/27
7. Vouchers Allowed for Religious Schools—St. Petersburg Times 6/28

## **ON DECK...**

### **Governor’s Schedule For Next Week**

**Monday** Governor’s Office - Tallahassee  
**Tuesday** Personal Day  
**Wednesday** Personal Day  
**Thursday** *Tampa*  
**Friday** Personal Day

### **Lt. Governor’s Schedule For Next Week**

**Monday** Lt. Governor’s Office - Tallahassee  
**Tuesday** Lt. Governor’s Office - Tallahassee  
**Wednesday** Lt. Governor’s Office - Tallahassee  
**Thursday** Personal Day  
**Friday** Personal Day

## **GOVERNOR’S POINTS OF LIGHT AWARD**

After the loss of his wife, Gloria, Nick Silverio wanted to continue charitable deeds in her memory and spirit regarding young children. The Gloria M. Silverio Foundation established an organization called “A Safe Haven for Newborns” in response to the tragedy of newborn abandonments. The founding purpose and continuing mission of “A Safe Haven for Newborns” is to save the lives of newborns in danger of abandonment and to help preserve the health and future of their mothers. The organization takes a comprehensive approach to publicizing the program throughout each Florida community by providing a crisis hotline; developing and distributing materials; working with hospitals, fire rescue stations and the Department of Health regarding policies and procedures; and working with the community to promote and maintain awareness of the program. Nick Silverio is this week’s Points of Light winner. Congratulations, Nick!

*Want to nominate an outstanding volunteer in your community? Simply [click here](#) to download a nomination form or call (850) 921-5172*