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By Garfield Hyton
Orlando Sentinel

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Orange County

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By Lisa Huriash
South Florida Sun Sentinel

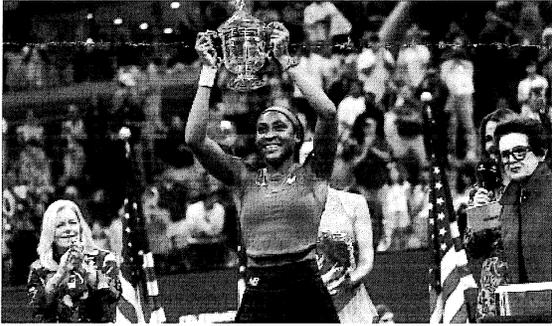
Let the partying begin: Coco Gauff, 19, made tennis history this weekend, and now her hometown of Delray Beach is going to celebrate.

Gauff defeated Aryna Sabalenka, the No. 2 player in the world, in the U.S. Open final on Saturday, making her the first American teenager to win the country's major tennis tournament since Serena Williams, then age 17, in 1999. Over the weekend, Ryan Boylston, Delray Beach's vice mayor, posted on Facebook: "Looks like we have a parade to plan. #cogauff" along with an emoji of a tennis ball.

That post got the attention of City Hall staff and kickstarted the internal planning and discussions Monday morning, Boylston said.

"In Delray Beach we have a long history of celebrating our own," he explained.

The details aren't finalized, including whether it will be a parade, festival or some other type of event, and the date isn't close to being set. Gauff is presumably probably pretty busy. "We don't



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"Even last night I was telling myself, 'You're the grand slam champion,'" she said. "And I'm like,

"It doesn't feel real at all!"

She said she felt thankful and appreciative. "It couldn't happen at any more perfect than this moment!"

Like other cities, Delray Beach often highlights the accomplishments of its local residents. And it might just be a family affair: Last month for back-to-school, the city honored Yvonne Lee, now Yvonne Odum, the first Black student to attend Delray Beach's all-white Seacrest High School. The year was 1961. And Odum is Gauff's grandmother.

"The celebration details will be ironed out as soon as possible, said city spokeswoman Gina Carter.

"The city is so excited and so proud," she said.

Gauff told the "Today" show on Monday that she had some butterflies the night before and had stayed up late talking to her boyfriend on the phone, and that helped her go to sleep. Her mother told the TV show how that Gauff's self-discipline and dedication got her to this victory.

Lisa J. Huriash can be reached at lhuriash@sunsentinel.com. Follow on Twitter @LisaHuriash

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Orange County Board of County Commissioners
Petition to Establish the Shingle Creek Transit and Utility Community Development District

DATE: October 10, 2023
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: County Administration Center
County Commission Chambers (1st Floor)
201 South Rosalind Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32801

Copies of the petition and the proposed ordinance are open to public inspection at the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County on October 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the County Administration Center, County Commission Chambers (1st Floor), 201 South Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801, to consider a petition filed by Universal City Development Partners, Ltd. ("Petitioner") to establish the Shingle Creek Transit and Utility Community Development District ("the District"). The title of the proposed ordinance is as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "SHINGLE CREEK TRANSIT AND UTILITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT" PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 190, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRICT'S BOUNDARIES; SPECIFYING THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL AND SPECIAL POWERS; DESIGNATING THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL IN ABSENCE OF TIMELY EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 190, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The proposed District is comprised of approximately 719.165 acres, generally located in the area bound to the north by Sand Lake Road, to the east by John Young Parkway, to the south by SR 528 (Beachline Expressway), and to the west by proposed Kirkman Road Extension/Tradeshow Blvd., as further identified in the map below. The Petitioner has proposed to establish the District to plan, finance, acquire, construct, operate and maintain public infrastructure and community facilities which may be authorized by the District under Florida law, including but not limited to: water and sewer utility improvements; stormwater management facilities; roadways, parking improvements, transit shelters, railway improvements (including without limitation tracks, switching, and stations), risharing facilities, and other transportation-related improvements; landscaping, handscaping and irrigation improvements; and lighting improvements.

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Any persons or affected unit of general-purpose local government, who wish to appeal any decision made by the County Commission 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 local 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. Orange County does not provide a written verbatim record.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Florida Section 266.26, Florida Statutes, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodations in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations (i.e., sign language interpreter or materials in accessible format) or individuals with Limited English Proficiency requiring language interpreters to participate in County sponsored meetings, please contact the County's ADA Coordinator, at access@ocfl.net or (407) 836-3111 (TTY Users Dial: 711 for the Florida Relay System) at least two (2) days prior to the meeting or event.

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Osceola County

Pg's Wing Restaurant And Bar at 4738 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway in Kissimmee shut down on Sept. 7. Officials found 14 violations, only one of which was a high priority for rodent activity.

That visit is the last official update on the restaurant's status.

Complaints and warnings

Orange County had the top spot for most warnings and other complaints in Central Florida, with 37.

Volusia had 22, Brevard had nine, Lake had six, Osceola had four and Seminole had seven. Warnings given with required follow-up inspections could lead to a business being shut down if problems remain.

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Trump

from Page 1

governor new fodder as he tries to generate momentum in his campaign and solidify his second-place standing.

Trump campaign spokesman Andrew Romeo distributed to reporters a roundup of conservative groups criticizing Trump and accused him of repeatedly compromising with Democrats.

"Republicans across the country know that Ron DeSantis will never back down," Romeo said.

The Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe v. Wade left the decision of whether and how to restrict abortion to the states, creating a patchwork of laws

across the country, with most Republican-led states imposing new restrictions and states led by Democrats passing protections.

Twenty-five million women of childbearing age now live in states where abortions are more difficult to get than before the ruling.

Trump has approached abortion from a political stance, saying that the Supreme Court's decision gave conservatives room to negotiate new restrictions. He has argued Republicans' push for abortion restrictions hurt the GOP in the 2022 midterm elections and that GOP candidates need to do a better job of explaining the issue.

An Associated Press-

NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll conducted in June poll found that 73% of all U.S. adults believe abortion should be allowed up to six weeks of pregnancy, which is before women often know they're pregnant. About half of Americans say abortions should be permitted up to 15 weeks.

In that poll, 56% of Republicans said abortion should be allowed in their state up to six weeks and 29% supported making the procedure legal up to 15 weeks.

In Iowa's first-in-the-nation Republican caucuses, evangelicals and other social conservatives who strongly oppose abortion make up the majority of those who

participate and decide the winner. Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds this summer signed an abortion ban similar to Florida's, which has yet to take effect because of legal challenges.

Trump has called himself "the most pro-life president in American history" and noted that three of his Supreme Court picks formed part of the conservative majority that overturned Roe.

He has so far declined to go along with some of his rivals, including his onetime vice president, Mike Pence, who is pushing for national bans that would take effect relatively early in a pregnancy.

Interviews with GOP voters and activists over the

past several months suggest a split between people satisfied with Trump's record during his term and others who want Trump to endorse a national abortion ban.

Some Republicans in some key states, including those backing his rivals, expressed displeasure after the interview.

Among them was South Carolina state Rep. John McCravy, who sponsored the most recent, restrictive abortion measure, which bans the practice in his state after around six weeks of pregnancy. South Carolina will be among the early states to choose a nominee. McCravy described himself in an interview as "certainly disappointed."

"It sounded completely

out of step with his staunch support for life while he was president," he said.

McCravy has endorsed South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott in the 2024 GOP presidential primary but told AP last week, "Trump would probably be a close second, noting his Supreme Court appointments and his attending the March for Life rally in Washington.

Kristen Waggoner, CEO of the conservative legal organization Alliance Defending Freedom, also took issue.

"Laws protecting the unborn are not a 'terrible mistake.' They are the hallmark of a just and moral society," she wrote on X. "Governors who protect life should be applauded, not attacked."

Encounter

from Page 1

records show.

Things with Wright began heating up again this year when the Beacon Center got a new board chairman who allied herself with Wright, Pye said. After months of going back and forth with board chair Carmen Ruiz over private conversations she had with Wright when a nonprofit agency withdrew its promise of funding, Pye resigned on Thursday, Aug. 31.

Wright did not return a call seeking comment for this story.

Linda Parker is the president and CEO of Women in Distress in Broward County who has a contract with the state Department of Children and Families to provide shelters with support services such as when a long-term CEO suddenly resigns. She said she contacted Rivers as soon as she heard about Pye leaving.

"We help when things escalate to a level where immediate assistance is needed," Parker said.

Rivers said DCF played a key role in getting Wright the tour of the center that he was demanding.

Zuleika "Zuly" Gonzalez-Felton, the DCF's statewide director of domestic violence, drove down from Tallahassee on Friday night

"to meet the senator and manage him," Rivers said.

She tried to get Wright into the center that night, but Rivers told her that anyone seeking a tour was required to give at least 24 hours of notice. That was one of the conditions for being a state-certified shelter.

Rivers tried to get them to push the tour to Tuesday, since Monday was the Labor Day holiday, but Gonzalez-Felton insisted it had to be Saturday.

"She said the secretary told her to deal with this," Rivers said, referring to DCF Secretary Shevaun Harris. "She told me he caused such a ruckus he got the governor involved."

DeSantis spokesman Jeremy Redfern said, "This is false. The governor wasn't involved."

DCF officials did not provide a response to a request for comment.

Gonzalez-Felton told Rivers to let Wright have his tour and they would "never let it happen again," Rivers said.

Parker said she was determined to get the residents out of the shelter for Wright's tour, given what she'd been told about his history with the center's staff. She came up with the idea of arranging a field trip for the center's residents the next day so Wright could

tour the empty facility.

Rivers said one of her staff's fathers was the athletic director at Embry-Riddle and could get the 20 residents and staff tickets to a volleyball tournament.

The next day two Volusia County school buses showed up at 11:30 a.m., one hour before the appointed time of the field trip, with Gonzalez-Felton on one of the buses, and Wright bringing up the rear in his own vehicle.

Rivers said DCF arranged for the buses, but Wright told everyone he provided them and food, Rivers said, "playing the politician. It was an entire circus."

Things didn't heat up until after the residents were loaded onto just one bus and Wright stepped onto it to talk to the driver, he told police later. Rivers stopped him, telling him it was against the law to talk to be on the bus with the abuse survivors.

That's when things got physical, Rivers said.

Fearing he was going to strike her, she said loudly enough for the women on the bus to hear, "Do not put your hands on me!"

Hearing her yell, an employee of Parker's stepped in between Rivers and Wright to intervene, she said.

"What Sen. Wright did



Sen. Tom Wright, from left, R-Port Orange, Sen. Corey Simon, R-Tallahassee, and Sen. Dennis Baxley, R-Ocala, talk on the Senate floor at the Capitol on Feb. 6 in Tallahassee. The director of a women's shelter, Jessica Rivers, has released the details of a tense confrontation with Wright ahead of a tour of the facility Sept. 2. PHIL SEARS/AP

was not appropriate," Parker said. "That is not behavior we want to see from any sitting senator. No one should ever have to feel threatened by anyone."

A video of the confrontation provided by Daytona Beach Police shows Wright, who stands a good head and shoulders above Rivers, touching her shoulder and yelling.

At that point, he started to walk away shouting something about "thanks for looking after them," Rivers said.

She responded by saying that state and federal laws prevented him from having contact with survivors in order to protect their identities.

"He came back at me shouting, 'Shut up! Shut up! Shut up!'" Rivers said.

He walked away from Rivers to confer with Ruiz and the DCF officials present.

The tour apparently was requested because Wright planned to provide funding to the Beacon Center, Rivers said. Whether it was his own money or state money, she wasn't sure.

"I've handled donations for the six, seven years I've been at the Beacon Center and I have not seen a single dollar come from him," Rivers said.

Wright got his tour, and Rivers was confined to a part of the building he was

not inspecting.

At that point, she called police and reported what happened, and officers showed up as the tour was winding down.

When they arrived, they asked for Wright, and said he needed to stay on the premises, Rivers said. But Ruiz and the DCF staff went to FastSigns, a company that Ruiz owns in nearby Holly Hill, she said.

DCF officials and Parker met Ruiz and Wright at FastSigns and the police interviewed him there.

Rivers insisted that Wright receive a trespass warning and the police did that. She said she is still seeking assault charges against Wright, even though Daytona Beach Police Department spokesman Jimmie Flynt said investigators told him charges weren't warranted.

Rivers contends the center's board of directors and DCF for protecting Wright, giving him the tour after the altercation, and then retaliating against her for insisting that Wright be held responsible for the confrontation.

"He owes me an apology," said Rivers, who now is without a job after spending years as an advocate for domestic violence victims. "I did all the right things, and they didn't, and I got sacrificed for it."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Orange County Board of County Commissioners
Petition to Establish the Shingle Creek Transit and Utility Community Development District

DATE: October 10, 2023
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: County Administration Center
County Commission Chambers (1st Floor)
201 South Rosalind Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32801

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Menendez won't resign, says cash was not bribe proceeds

By Deepti Hajela and Mike Catalini
Associated Press

UNION CITY, N.J. — Democratic U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez of New Jersey defiantly pushed back against federal corruption charges on Monday, saying nearly half a million dollars in cash authorities found in his home was from his personal savings, not from bribes, and was on hand for emergencies.

Rejecting calls for him to resign, the former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said he believed he'd be cleared of charges that he took cash and gold in illegal exchange for helping Egypt and New Jersey business associates.

"I recognize this will be the biggest fight yet, but as I have stated throughout this whole process, I firmly believe that when all the facts are presented, not only will I be exonerated, but I still will be New Jersey's senior senator," Menendez said at Hudson County Community College's campus in Union City, where he grew up.

He did not respond to questions and did not say whether he would seek reelection next year.

Addressing allegations in the indictment unsealed Friday that authorities found cash stuffed in envelopes and clothing at his home, Menendez said that stemmed from his parents' fear of confiscation of funds from their time in Cuba.

"This may seem old-fashioned, but these were monies drawn from my personal savings account based on the income that I have lawfully derived over those 30 years," he said.

Authorities recovered about 10 envelopes with tens of thousands of dollars in cash that had the fingerprints of one of the other defendants in the case on



Sen. Bob Menendez speaks at a news conference Monday in New Jersey. Menendez, a Democrat, and his wife have been indicted on charges of bribery. **ANDRES KUDACKI/AP**

them, according to the indictment.

Menendez also addressed his relationship with Egypt, which plays a central role in the indictment against him, suggesting he's been tough on the country over its detention of Americans and other "human rights abuses."

Prosecutors say he met with Egyptian military and intelligence officials, passed along non-public information about employees at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo and ghostwrote a letter on behalf of Egypt asking his Senate colleagues to release a hold on \$300 million worth of aid. He did not directly address those allegations Monday.

The state's Democratic leadership, including Gov. Phil Murphy, the state party chairmen and leaders of the Legislature, along with some of Menendez's congressional colleagues, are calling on him to resign.

But in Washington, where his party holds a bare Senate majority, some of Menendez's fellow Democratic stopped short of urging him to give up his seat, notably Majority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York, and Majority Whip Dick Durbin of Illinois.

Menendez did, however, step down as required as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Schumer said on Friday, when the indictment was unsealed.

If he seeks reelection, Menendez will face at least one challenger in a primary next year after Democratic Rep. Andy Kim announced over the weekend that he will run for the Senate because of the charges against the state's senior senator.

Menendez's reelection campaign could face significant hurdles besides the criminal indictment, the second one he has faced in eight years, in light of opposition from state party leaders.

If the Democratic Party abandons Menendez, he could lose a potent benefit of party support: the party line, or preferred ballot placement in the primary, widely regarded as a significant boost to incumbents and those with establishment backing.

Menendez has denied any wrongdoing in the federal case against him, his wife and three of their business associates.

A lawyer for his wife said she "denies any criminal conduct."



Cook Islands Prime Minister Mark Brown, left, listens as President Joe Biden speaks during a meeting Monday with Pacific Islands Forum leaders at the White House. **EVAN VUCCI/AP**

Biden, Pacific islands leaders target climate change fears

By Aamer Madhani and Will Weissert
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Monday told leaders from the 18-member Pacific Islands Forum that he has heard their warnings about the impact of climate change on their region and that his administration is committed to helping them meet the challenge.

Pacific islands leaders gathered Monday for the start of a two-day Washington summit.

Many have been critical of rich countries for not doing enough to control climate change despite being responsible for much of the problem, and for profiting from loans provided to vulnerable nations to mitigate the effects.

At the summit's start, Biden said that his administration is requesting Congress approve \$200 million in new assistance for the region, including financing to help the islands prepare for climate and natural hazards and improve infrastructure.

Biden has put a premium

on improving ties in the Pacific amid rising U.S. concern about China's growing military and economic influence.

"I want you to know I hear you, the people in the United States and around the world hear you," Biden told the leaders. "We hear your warnings of a rising sea and (that) they pose an existential threat to your nations. We hear your calls for reassurance that you never, never, never will lose your statehood, or membership of the U.N. as a result of a climate crisis."

"Today, the United States is making it clear that this is our position as well."

As part of the summit, the U.S. is formally establishing diplomatic relations with two South Pacific nations, the Cook Islands and Niue.

Later Monday, Secretary of State Antony Blinken was set to take part in signing ceremonies with Niue Premier Dalton Tagelagi and with Cook Islands Prime Minister Mark Brown to mark the new elevated relations.

Brown welcomed the elevation of U.S. relations with the Cook Islands and

said the U.S.-Pacific islands partnership could be an important tool for helping the region achieve its aspirations.

"These milestones celebrate areas of change, and demonstrate that with unshakable resolve and leadership, remarkable achievements are possible," Brown said.

The forum includes Australia, the Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Kiribati is set to sign on to a \$29.1 million partnership with the U.S.-backed Millennium Corporation Challenge. The group will assist the island country with dozens of low-lying atolls and with its workforce.

To address maritime issues, Biden announced Monday that later this year he would deploy a U.S. Coast Guard vessel to the region to collaborate and train with Pacific islands nations.

Orlando Sentinel

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Petition to Establish the Shingle Creek Transit and Utility Community Development District

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Shelters for migrants fill up across Germany

Money, patience, proper facilities becoming limited

By Kirsten Grieshaber
Associated Press

BERLIN — Dozens of people from around the world lined up on a sunny morning last week in front of a former mental health hospital in Berlin to apply for asylum in Germany.

There were two older women from Moldova. A young man from Somalia sat next to them on a bench.

A group of five young Pakistanis chatted loudly, standing behind two pregnant women from Vietnam.

The newcomers are among more than 10,000 migrants who have applied for asylum in the German capital this year, and are arriving at a time when Berlin is running out of space to accommodate all of them.

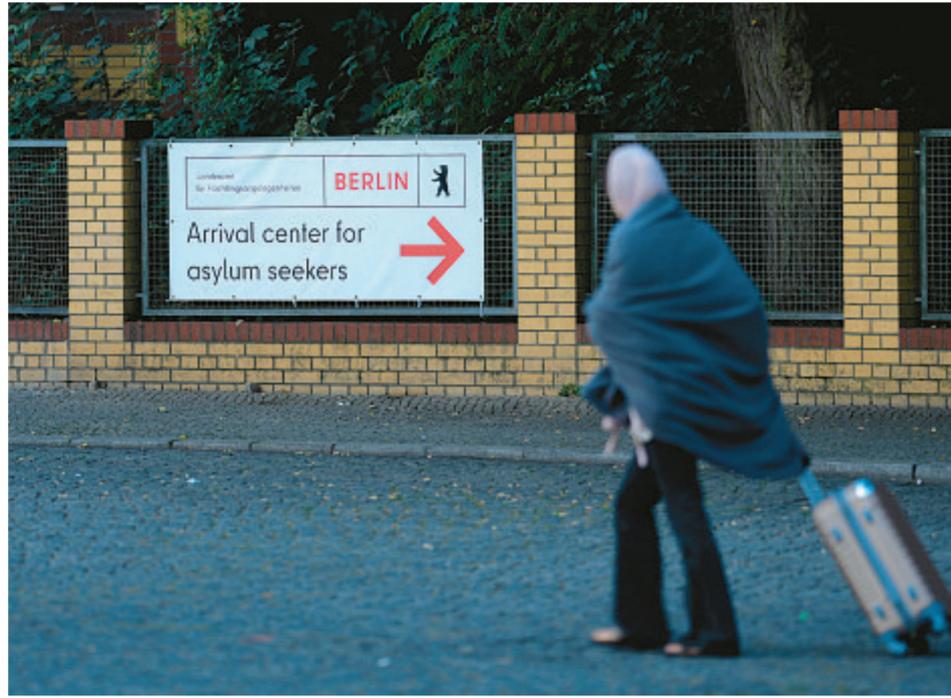
“The situation is not very good at the moment,” Sascha Langenbach, the spokesperson for the state office for refugee affairs in Berlin, said in an interview last week. “This is much more than we expected last year.”

The former mental health hospital in Berlin’s Reinickendorf neighborhood was turned into the city’s registration center for asylum-seekers in 2019 and can house up to 1,000 migrants.

But it’s full. Officials have put an additional 80 beds in a church on the premises.

Beyond that, there are another 100 asylum shelters in Berlin, but those also are at capacity.

Berlin’s state government says it will open a hangar at the former Tempelhof airport to make space for migrants, put up a big tent at the asylum seekers’ registration center, and open a former hardware store and hotels and hostels in the city to provide another 5,500 beds for more migrants that



A woman leaves the central registration center for asylum seekers Tuesday in Berlin. Some officials are sounding the alarm that they are no longer in a position to accommodate all migrants. MARKUS SCHREIBER/AP

the city is expecting will come through the end of the year.

There are also not enough places in kindergartens and schools.

In addition to the asylum seekers, Berlin has also taken in another 11,000 Ukrainian refugees during the year who fled during the war with Russia.

The lack of space and money for migrants and Ukrainian refugees isn’t unique to Berlin. It’s a problem across Germany, where many local and state officials have been demanding more funding from the federal government without success.

More than 220,000 people applied for asylum in Germany between January and August — most of them from Syria, Afghanistan, Turkey, Moldova and Georgia.

In all of 2022, about

240,000 people applied for asylum in Germany.

That’s a far cry from the more than 1 million people who arrived in Germany in 2015-16.

But Germany has also taken in more than 1 million Ukrainians since the outbreak of the war in 2022. Unlike others who arrive, Ukrainians immediately receive residency status in Germany and the 26 other European Union countries.

While Germans welcomed asylum seekers with flowers, chocolates and toys when they first arrived in 2015, and many opened their homes to house Ukrainians in 2022, the mood toward new arrivals has profoundly changed since then.

“After two years of the (coronavirus) crisis, then the Ukraine war with its increasing prices for basically everything —

heating, gas, also food — it’s sometimes pretty tough to convince people that they have to share places and capacities with people who just arrived,” Langenbach said.

Germany’s far-right Alternative for Germany party, or AfD, has been successfully exploiting Germans’ hardening attitudes toward migrants.

Polling now puts it in second place nationally with around 21%, far above the 10.3% it won during the last federal election in 2021.

AFD’s rise in the polls and the party leaders’ relentless anti-migrant rhetoric, including calls to close Germany’s borders to prevent migrants from entering, have put pressure on the national and state governments and other mainstream parties to toughen their approach toward migrants.

On Wednesday, Germany’s interior minister announced the country would increase border controls along “smuggling routes” with Poland and the Czech Republic to prevent irregular migrants from entering.

During June, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz defended plans to stop migrants from entering the EU altogether until their chances of getting asylum have been reviewed, arguing that the bloc’s existing arrangements on sharing the burden of asylum seekers among the different European countries is “completely dysfunctional.”

Germany has been taking in more migrants than most other European countries, but other countries such as Turkey and Lebanon, which shelter millions of migrants from Syria, have taken in more refugees as a percent-

age of their population.

Despite the changing sentiment toward migrants in Germany, those who make it and apply for asylum are generally grateful to be here.

Abdullah al-Shweiti, from Homs, Syria, recently arrived in Berlin and was waiting for the results of his medical checkup at the asylum welcome center. He said he was relieved to be “in a safe place.”

The 29-year-old said he had run away from home because his family’s house had been bombed in the war, and he didn’t want to fight in the army. He said he’d paid \$3,180 to smugglers who helped him get from Lebanon to Europe.

He took the Balkans route, trekking with other young Syrians north via Bulgaria through forests.

They traveled on foot, by taxi and by bus until smugglers dropped them off in the German capital.

Mirbeycan Gurhan, a Kurdish man from Bingol in eastern Turkey, said he’d fled suppression by Turkish authorities. He paid \$6,360 for smugglers to arrange a flight from Ankara to Belgrade, Serbia, and then a car to Germany.

“I hope I will have a better future here. I hope I can find work,” the 24-year-old said with a shy smile as his uncle, who applied for asylum in Berlin four years ago, stood next to him and translated.

Michael Elias, head of the Tamaja company that runs the asylum registration center in Berlin, said the arrival of migrants from all over the world is simply a reflection of the many crises around the globe, such as climate change and wars, and that Germany needs to be prepared for even more people to arrive.

“Yes, a lot of people are coming here, but look at what’s going on in the world,” Elias said. “We must simply anticipate that we’re not an island of the fortunate here, that things will reach us too.”

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