

Ocala Chamber of Commerce BUY LOCAL!!!



Expo Pictures & Story Page 8



Meet Jane Moerlie

Insurance Agent
American General Life & Accident Insurance Co.

Born and raised in Suriname, South America, Jane Moerlie obtained her bachelor's degree in law before immigrating to New York City in 1991. Living in the United States presented fresh opportunities for Jane and in order to provide for her family, she entered the field of engineering and construction. She began as a secretary and worked her way up to superintendent, then construction management, where she acquired extensive experience and completed various large-scale commercial and residen



Jackie Porter Discusses Budget

From the desk of Jackie Porter
I am happy to see the withdrawal of the .25 mill tax increase by the Superintendent. I was not in support of the increase and the withdrawal is a victory for taxpayers providing much needed relief to the local economy. In addition to my opposition to the tax increase I also had several other oppositions to this year's budget. At the September 14, 2010 School Board meeting I proposed three amendments to the budget.

1) I opposed the appropriation of \$2.6 million dollars for new buses. The District

Fleet currently has a fleet of 420 buses with only 350 routes leaving 70 buses in reserve. I proposed an amendment to the budget to hold off on the purchase of \$2.6 million dollars in buses this year. The rest of the board voted in support of my amendment proposal.

2) I also opposed the appropriation of \$21.5 million dollars for a new Elementary School. The revenues to build the school were generated by the .5 cent sales surtax. I proposed an amendment to the budget to

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued on Page 6)

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**GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS
IN GOD WE TRUST**

From A Legal Immigrant

As a LEGAL immigrant, who brought his family from England in 1957 to settle in Florida, I am getting just a little ticked off about what our government is doing or not doing with the millions of illegals who flood the country, taking jobs from legal residents and in many cases getting welfare benefits and other “freebies” from the American taxpayer. Let me tell you what legal hoops we had to jump through to qualify to come to the land of the free, the home of the brave.

The first item on the list was that we had to have an American sponsor. This was easy in our case, since my sister had married an American serviceman during World War II and he was more than happy to sponsor us. Then we had to make two visits to the American Embassy in London from our home in Birmingham, at which time we had to get physicals, learn about the Constitution and some facts about America, swear that we would not engage in acts detrimental to our adopted country, and then wait for our quota numbers to come up. I assume that quotas still exist at the immigration department, not that that matters to the hordes that are continuing to stream across our border almost, it seems, without hindrance. Eventually the happy day arrived, some five years after we got here, on which we were sworn in as legal citizens of this great country.

It seems that things have got more than a little lax since those days, when the immigration authorities (ICE), having arrested thousands of illegal aliens who committed a crime against the laws of the country by just BEING HERE, have decided, in their infinite, liberal, wisdom, to let most of them go back to living here rather than doing the right thing by deporting them. I wonder where the director of ICE got his orders from?

And now the ultimate in arrogance and flouting of the law has shown up in Vermont, where the developers of a resort are inviting foreign investors to put their money in the project in return for which they will be granted a GREEN CARD, which would allow them to live anywhere they wished in the U.S. It seems that the preference of most of the investors so far is to live in Florida! Nice choice!

All I can say is – roll on November 2, and let us hope that an infusion of good old common sense is injected into a government that is currently out of control, does not know what it is doing, and has no idea as to how to cope with illegal immigration other than to grant amnesty to people who have absolutely no right to be here.

Oh, and by the way, to you who were lucky enough to be born here – I’m sure glad we came!

Jackie Porter Discusses Budget

(Continued from Page 1)

amendment. In summary, all of my proposed amendments to the budget appropriations would have left over \$28 million dollars in the fund balances for future use. The past several years’ financial reports show a rapid depletion of the overall fund balances and these proposals were my attempt to stop the freefall. Based on the most recent financial report the total fund balances fell by \$24.3 million dollars for 2009-2010 alone. More detailed information can be viewed on www.JackiePorter.com with over 30,000 hits since the website was launched in June. Thank you for your continued support! – Jackie Porter, Marion County School Board Member, District 2.

3) I opposed the appropriation of \$4.1 million dollars for roofing projects this year. I proposed an amendment to the budget to remove the appropriation so each roofing project would be thoroughly researched and the roofs repaired on an as needed basis. The board again did not agree with this

Scandinavian Club

The Scandinavian Club of Marion County invites people of Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish descent to join us at our next meeting at 11:30 AM on Saturday, October 16, 2010.

We will meet at The Hilton Hotel, 3600 SW 36th Ave., Ocala. Meal will be Swedish meat balls, boiled potatoes, veggie, salad, bread, beverage and dessert. Cost is

\$15.00 per person and reservations and advance payment is required. Payment must be received by Wednesday, October 13. Send payment to Jim Neate, 643-A Midway Drive, Ocala, FL 34472.

Entertainment will be presented by the Ocala Accordion Club. For further details call Jim Neate 687-1580, Don Clauson 861-1235 or Peggy Jones 629-3443.



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Ellen B. Wilcox

MONEY MATTERS

Most folks don't plan to fail; they just fail to PLAN!

With the first month of this New Year now behind us, it's time for a "reality check" to measure, and perhaps tweak, our Goals, aka New Year's Resolutions. So let's be brutally honest here and take a good hard look in our mirrors!

If any of my twelve suggestions noted in last month's column were among your goals, I sincerely hope that you recognized those important to your own financial well-being, and did, in fact, commit to at least a few of them.

After more than 29 years in the business of helping individuals and small business owners set, pursue and achieve their financial goals, I continue to be amazed at how many of those I counsel really have no specific and measureable goals. This fact alone, I believe, accounts for most financial failure.

I always liken the absence of specific goals to that of planning a trip. Planning a trip begins with a destination and/or a purpose clearly in mind. It truly is impossible to plan a trip to "somewhere" or "anywhere." This is a powerful analogy to the absence of

clearly defined financial goals. How does one embark on a financial journey without a destination? It simply isn't possible!

Measuring progress toward a specific goal is equally important; it keeps us on track and focused on the goal. Measurement is visible and each step forward improves our self-esteem and encourages our resolve to remain on the pathway to the goal.

Remember that all goals need to be attainable and reasonable. One doesn't become financially healthy overnight! The road to financial success and true financial independence is filled with potholes and detours, and often even multiple red lights! One "secret" to reaching stated goals is to break a large or formidable goal into what I like to call "bite-size" pieces. When a strat-

egy to do this is in place, even a seemingly impossible goal become achievable. Measuring progress, no matter how small, nips off one of those "bite-size" bits and moves us closer to fulfillment of the goal.

Psychologists note that the vast majority respond best and longest to visual stimulation rather than auditory or kinetic stimulation. With this in mind, it may be helpful to create some sort of "thermometer" to chart progress. I recently suggested this to my daughter who has embarked on an accelerated and highly concentrated Master's Degree program. She made a thermometer drawing and marks off each course as she completes it! She is currently half way to her goal, and admits that the drawing is a strong motivating instrument! I challenge each of you to determine what your thermometer will depict!

As many of you already know, I have two books in progress, and I invite you to be part of one of them. Just send me your answer to this question: "What is the most important thing you know about money?" A short answer is needed. Email your reply to Ellen@ellenwilcox.com, or contact my office at 352-259-1547.

Be sure to tune in to my weekly radio show, Money Matters for Women, every Tuesday just after the noon news on Heartbeat Radio for Women, 1410 on your AM dial. You may also send me your personal financial questions. Use the email or phone number above, or contact the radio station's show hostess, Best Life Barb, at barb@heartbeatradiousa.com .

Here's to great goal setting, and total achievement of those goals!

*Ellen B Wilcox is a Registered Principal with, and securities offered through, LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Ms Wilcox is President and CEO of Wilcox Wealth Management, A Registered Investment Advisor.

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**College of Central Florida Humanities & Social Sciences Department
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A PUBLIC FORUM THE FUTURE OF WORLD RELIGIONS AND THE CHARTER FOR COMPASSION



**Monday, Nov. 1, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Ewers Century Center
CF Ocala Campus
3001 S.W. College Road**

Moderator Dr. Scott A. Olsen, TIA president

**Panelists: Dr. Yousef Elyaman, assistant imam, Islamic Center of Ocala
The Rev. Peggy Hostetler, Oakbrook Center for Spiritual Living
Dr. Harold Jaye, rabbi, Temple B'nai Darom
Richard Kirk, member, First Presbyterian Church**

Discussion will take place within the context of the Charter for Compassion, which was formulated by Dr. Karen Armstrong, British religious studies author, in conjunction with representatives of the three Abrahamic religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. To view the charter, visit www.charterforcompassion.org.

"The panel will discuss whether or not the world religions can look forward to getting along together, meaning not just tolerating each other, but can we truly develop a deep respect for one another? Our future may hinge upon this." — Dr. Olsen

For information about the forum, call Olsen at 352-854-2322, ext. 1236, or visit www.interfaithalliance.org. For information about CF, visit www.CF.edu.



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Tom Lory

PUBLISHER'S NOTES

The 9-11 coverage brings back a lot of chilling memories. I was home that morning when the first plane flew into the first tower. I had meetings to go to but could not pry myself from the TV. At that point it seemed to be an accident. News crews were clamoring to find out what happened. When the second plane flew into the second tower we knew there was no mistake, we were under attack. The entire nation was put on alert! Was there more coming? YES! So sad to say there was more. As the day went on the media covering about the death, heroism, destruction went on and I asked myself when

will it end?

In the aftermath in the days after they were pulling survivors from the wreckage, mourning the dead and telling about the heroes who rescued people and the ones that died trying to rescue people. It should be in all our minds forever. Beware of what type of building and businesses go into that five or six block radius. It will be watched closely and will be in the history books forever. Did the Terrorists know the building would fall? I don't think so, I think they wanted to take out a few floors. President Bush vowed to hunt down the guilty parties and we have.

We are still under attack and probably will be until we make them understand there is no retirement program and the bad die young also.

Months later the nation was raising funds and as always the American people dug deep. My company chose to help with the college for the children of the fallen. I did get some reports about the progress of some of those students and some stats. It made me feel all warm and fuzzy to know we helped a little. Let's keep our thoughts and prayers on the day this happened, it changed the world. I believe this day 9-11 also contributed to the financial problems we have today. A lot of records/data were also lost that day. Crooks and ruthless politicians took advantage of that opportunity and used lost records to their advantage. I don't think that has been said but it had to affect the present problem.

I was listening to a radio talk show and heard one of the hosts say, "President Obama is good at making promises, but does not know how to keep them". The host that said that did not mean that he did not keep the promise because he did not want to but he did not know how to keep, he just did not know how to make it happen. Ya! If you believe that I got a bridge I want to sell you. Some would argue about bringing the troops home but it's pure politics. He may have very well put the troops left behind in harms way, I mean masses of troops.

As I understand that Iran is behind financing of the bounty on troops at a \$1,000

per head if they kill them and \$5,000 per vehicle. I wonder who else is involved in the money gathering? We hear all these stories about funds coming from people in the United States. Freeze all the money moving back and forth.

We need to let the people of the United States know who is funding the cash flow in these countries. Cut them off and/or put sanctions on them. How long are we going to let this go on? One of the top military strategists said they have known about the bounty for six or eight years. I say make a better offer. Make yourself a list of people costing our troops lives and offer \$1500 dead or alive. Every time a new person of interest appears put them on the list.

It is hard to understand why we don't give them a bit of the same thing they are doing to us. Throw away the book on fair play, don't take prisoners - then we won't be spending tax payers money to try to convict them. How much money have we spent on GITMO? Promises were made to close it down. Many previous masterminds have decided it is the best place to house them. Our new president has made promises because it has been turned into a political football. There is no better place right now and they come under military law because most are prisoners of war or suspects in federal cases, terrorism which are proven enemies of our country.

Meanwhile our politicians put us in further in debt and we are moving closer to the de

(Continued on Page 5)

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Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown
 12am, October 20th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator
 12am, October 27th

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Tom Loury

PUBLISHER'S NOTES

(Continued from Page 4)

scription of what a one-world government looks like. Americans are the last holdout. Someone said to me, the plan is break the financial backbone of our country, then creating turmoil so that martial law could be called. I don't believe that could or will happen, but if it did it would be a real test of the POWER OF THE PEOPLE! Our troops would never go against the American people.

A gentleman called and emailed me about some errors that were in the newspaper "As per Snopes." These two articles came from

the same source. Sometimes I find that when there is a problem like this if you read deep enough into the writings you will find at least part of the information is true. Not sure if that's the case in the two you question, I will attempt to check it out and set the record straight.

If you had been reading my publications last year you would find that snopes is not a big organization that you would expect. In fact, last year it was a husband and wife. YES verify your source first. Snopes has blocked out some of Obama's information and things about his wife's college years where she wrote a senior thesis. So if they

would block information what else would they do. You come to your own conclusion!

I do respect your opinion and am willing to put it in print with or without your name in print. You have the right to see your opinion in print. That is what my editorial stance is.

TomL Publishing stands for, "if you are one person standing against many or just one against four as in the Marion County School Board, I will give you a free voice unlike some of the big dailies."

I have lost advertising money for giving people the right to voice their opinion, because they said something that the good 'ole

boys did not agree with. Most of the advertisers that are in our papers can see the big picture and continue to advertise because right or wrong I have given everyone the right to see their opinion in print. History will tell you that some of the greatest Americans have voiced an unpopular opinion and took great pains for their cause. I want to be in their corner!

Could this be true?

Barack Obama, During his Cairo speech, said: "I know, too, that Islam has always been part of America's history."

Rebrand America

Let's take America back to 30 or 40 years ago when our constitution was in tact and everything was working. Our Constitution works when followed and allowed to work. Let's go back in history where we knew what we were doing was working and what was not. We can mirror image it and make it work. Everyone thinks they could do a better job by changing the meaning or verbiage of laws. Our bureaucratic system has swelled so big that we add all kinds of attachments while rewriting a bill.

Let's get a REBRANDING movement

going in this country and we will be headed in the right direction. How about it Tea Parties - are you up to the task? Let's REBRAND AMERICA back to what it was!

While we are at it - let's list every pork barrel project that has been tagged to as bill that has passed and bill the state and the politician for the money back, that is stealing. Make them pay for stealing taxpayers' money and our future generation's money!

Anyone who tags on a pork barrel in the future - loan them the money with interest. Make it a crime to attach things to bills.

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Elections Time Again

By Charlotte Poss

I am sure that by now you are as tired of all the mud (calling it mud is mild) slinging as I am. A person has to be out of their mind to want to run for any office. Maybe, I am being naïve, but I will say it anyway. Why in the world would someone spend 12 or more million dollars for a position that pays about a hundred thousand a year?

A politician raises funds to run for an office and some politicians even spend mega dollars of their own money. Why? If a person running for an office has no conscience about wasting millions for that position, what will keep them from wasting millions of our tax dollars after they get into that of-

office.

It is time the people took a stand and start voting for the little guy who spends the least on their campaign.

What a waste of money seeing who can sling the most mud at the other. I get tired of hearing, so an so took this company for billions of dollars, yet he is spending millions of our dollars to tell us the other guy is no good.

In today's society the average person cannot run for a political office. The average person cannot afford to run for an office. If you are not a millionaire you may as well forget any aspirations of ever being a politi-

The only way that things can be changed is by our votes. We have to start showing these candidates that if they have no respect for the way they spend then they do not deserve our vote.

Let's all stand up for what is right and stop the waste. Vote these fat cats out and do not vote the fat cats in. Let us start voting for the little guy who does not waste

money. If they, the candidates do not have the respect of looking out for overspending now, how can we trust them after they are in office.

Think about it and vote for the little guy who cannot afford to throw money away. Only you the voters can keep foolish spending down.

Meet Jane Moerlie

(Continued from Page 1)

tial projects.

In her search for spiritual growth and connection, Jane became actively involved in the New York Hindu Association through Arya Samaj USA. She worked on several fundraising projects as well as providing guidance and counseling. Her experience as a legal assistant was of great value in reaching out to families in need of advice and help. In 1996 the Temple decided to sponsor Jane and her family to obtain legal status in the United States, and finally in 2009 Jane was naturalized as a US citizen.

In 2002 Jane moved to Ocala, Florida, where she worked as a design consultant, contracting superintendent, until her life changed dramatically. Overnight she became a widow with 3 dependent children. She became acutely aware of the emotional and financial trauma a family endures when it comes to replacing lost income and the need for proper financial planning concerning those we love and care for.

Today Jane is a certified insurance agent with American General Life & Accident Insurance Company, representing the Quality of Life...Insurance product that includes benefits to offset the cost of dealing with a critical, chronic or terminal illness such as a heart attack, stroke or invasive cancer while you are alive. She remains active in community work as a member of Ocala's Widowed Service Support Group, the Indian Association, the First Congregational Church of Christ and other social and networking groups.

Jane Moerlie

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People create jobs, not government. I believe government's role in economic recovery must be to help create an environment where businesses can succeed and grow. When government, with its bureaucracy and red-tape, spends too much and raises taxes, the results are paralyzing to businesses and stifling to job creation.

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Buy Local Expo 2010

By Tom Loury

The Ocala Chamber of Commerce brings you the “Buy Local Expo 2010” Located at the Holiday Inn & Suites, Ocala Conference Center (3600 SW 38th Ave) Tuesday, September 14, 2010

The expo theme is “Buy Local”. The exhibitors showed some of the businesses and services available in Marion County and surrounding areas.

The showcase opened at 2 p.m. and ended at 7 p.m.

At 2 p.m. the crowds converged immediately. The crowds were many especially around the food vendors.

SCORE provided FREE speed counseling sessions throughout the show.

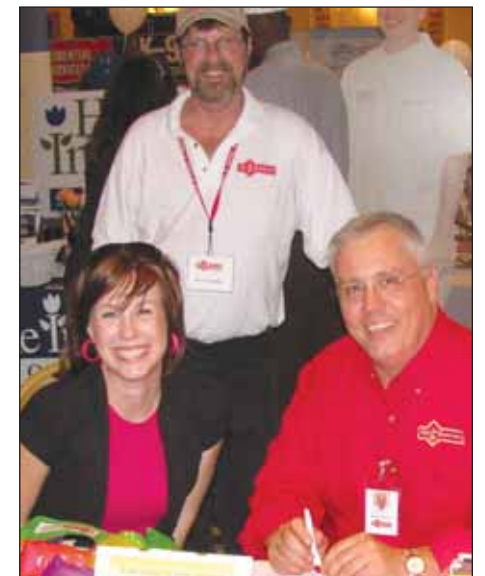
The Chamber gave away door prizes from 2 pm until 7 pm donated by the vendors with the DJ Action Jackson announcing door prizes and give aways.

The Ocala Chamber of Commerce mis-

sion is to improve the business climate, economy and quality of life in Ocala and Marion County.

In this writer’s estimation the Expo was a great success. It brought awareness to the community of the services and businesses

close by and it gave exposure to the businesses and vendors showing their stuff. Don’t miss next year’s. Watch for the announcement in this newspaper.



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THE OMBUDSMAN

Each year, Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program partners with the Office of the Governor to proclaim October as "Residents' Rights Month." In observance of this special month, the Withlacoochee Long-Term Care Ombudsman Council will be hosting the first annual district-wide Resident Council Meeting.

When: October 11, 2010.

Where: Marion County Planning Dept.-Conference Room on Silver Spring Blvd., in Ocala.

Time: 9:00 a.m. – to 11:00 a.m.

This is an opportunity for residents from the different facilities to share their experiences and express their thoughts on resident's rights.

Invitations were sent out to the LTC facilities asking that they have representation from their Resident Councils at this important event. The RSVP's are coming in and a large turn out for this first annual event is evident. The LTCOP is looking forward to hearing from the residents' who are living in these facilities.

October is Residents Rights Month.



Ocala Christmas Parade

Ocala Christmas Parade Applications Available.

The Ocala/Marion County annual Christmas Parade will be held on the second Saturday December 11, 2010 at 5:30 p.m., on East Silver Springs Blvd. The parade is sponsored by The Friends of the Christmas Parade, Inc. and the theme for the event is "Christmas in Our City" submitted by Christian Guyton of

Dr. N. H. Jones School.

Applications can be downloaded at www.ocalamarionchristmasparade.com for the five classifications with instructions and rules. Deadline for applications to be received is Wednesday, October 20th at 5 p.m.

For other information, contact Phyllis Hamm at 352-595-2445 or hammcubs@aol.com.

Veterans Park Memorial

By Ken Tipper

The quarterly memorial reading of the names of local veterans who have passed away during the last three months will take place at the park located at Fort King Street and 25th Avenue, Ocala, on Saturday, October 2, at 10 a.m. The names will be read by six veterans of World War

II.

The Marion County Young Marines will present and retire the colors, and the Marion County Sheriff's Office squad will perform the 21-gun salute. Audience members will be seated under the roof of the rotunda where the ceremony will take place.

Library

Fairy Tale Extravaganza!

Saturday, October 30, 1 p.m.

Dress up as your favorite character, practice your archery and jousting, and play chess. Special guests include Greenwood Morris dancers and fairy tale author John Cech. Children ages 0-12 with caregiver. Call 671-8551 for program information.

CREATE (Colossal Reading Entertain-

ing Artsy Teen Event)

Saturday, November 13, 10 a.m.

Celebrate the talented teens of Marion County! Join us for this showcase of teen artists, including a Film Festival, a Fine Arts Show, a Young Writers Workshop featuring local teen author C.T. Douglas, and a Teen Talent Show!

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SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MOVIE TIME

When: Tues. & Wed., October 12th & 13th at 8th Ave. Sr. Center "BACK UP PLAN" Thurs. & Fri., October 14th & 15th at BWSAC "BACK UP PLAN"

Starring: Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin and others. Zoe (Lopez) is well aware that her biological clock is ticking, but she just can't find the type of guy she'd want to settle down with. Eventually, she makes the decision to become a single mother. The very same day that Zoe follows through with her plan, she meets Stan (O'Loughlin), a single charmer whom she thinks would make a great father. While at first Zoe struggles to hide her condition from Stan, before long there's no denying the truth and she decides to spill the beans. Much to her surprise, Stan responds enthusiastically, announcing that he's in it for the long haul. Over the course of the next nine months, Zoe and Stan enter into a whirlwind romance, begin drawing up wedding plans, and mapping out the rest of their lives together. **RATED PG 13**

When: Tues. & Wed., October 26th & 27th at 8th Ave. Sr. Center

"CRAZY HEART" Thurs. & Fri., October 28th & 29th at BWSAC

"CRAZY HEART" Starring: Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Robert Duval, Colin Farrell. A worn-down country singer and a burgeoning journalist form an unusual bond. His spirit broken by multiple failed marriag-

es, too much time on the road, and too many nights with the bottle, Bad Blake (Bridges) had started to feel like he was headed down the path of no return. When probing young writer Jean (Gyllenhaal) digs deep enough to unearth the broken man behind the legend, however, Bad realizes that redemption may not be such a long shot after all. **RATED R**

Time: 1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. at 8th Avenue Senior Center - Telephone: 629-8545*

Time: 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. at Barbara G. Washington Senior Activity Center - Telephone: 629-8357

What: Enjoy a free movie in a comfortable setting. Please call the center of your choice to reserve your seat.

Note: The Ocala Senior Activity Senior Center has been re-named. It is now the Barbara Gaskin Washington

Senior Activity Center. It will be abbreviated as BWSAC in the calendar.

COMING IN OCTOBER:

"THE LAST SONG"

"COP OUT"

SPORTSABILITY OCALA 2010

When: Friday & Saturday, October 1st & 2nd, 2010

Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Where: Friday at MLK Recreation Complex & E.D. Croskey Recreation Center, 1510 NW 4th St., Ocala

Saturday at Carney Island, 13275 SE 115th Ave., Ocklawaha

Cost: Free

What: This two day event will enable individuals with disabilities the opportunity to experience a variety of recreation and leisure activities. Discover the latest in equipment, trends & resources designed to encourage participation regardless of age or ability level. For more information, please call

Diane Leaf at 401-3916.

TRIP:

HUDSON DINNER THEATER*

When: Thursday, October 14th, 2010

Time: Leave - 9:00 AM Return - 6:00 PM

Where: Hudson Dinner Theater Leave from 8th Ave. Sr. Center Cost: \$64.00 per person.

What: Show: "Oklahoma" Set in a Western Indian territory just after the turn of the century, the high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provides the colorful background against which Curly, a handsome cowboy and Laurey, a winsome farm girl play out their love story.

FLU SHOTS

When: Monday, October 18th, 2010

Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Where: 8th Avenue Senior Center

Cost: Medicare, Private Insurance or

Cash

What: To receive your Flu Shot, please call the center at 629-8545 to register. A guest speaker will be present to talk about Cholesterol, the Good & the Bad. Bring a brown bag lunch and learn how you can control your cholesterol.

FISHING DERBY

When: Monday, October 25th, 2010

Time: 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

Where: Lake Tuscawilla on NE Sanchez Avenue, Ocala

Cost: Free

What: "The Search for Moby Dick" fishing derby will be held on Monday, October 25th from 9 AM to Noon at Lake Tuscawilla on NE Sanchez Ave. Poles, bait and lunch provided.

Prizes will be awarded. Reservations required. Co-sponsor TomL Publishing, Newspapers Ocala DownTown / Seniors Voice of Ocala

COMING IN NOVEMBER:

"Fall" into Better Health - Mini Senior Health Fair

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ONE PERSON'S OPINION
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor Tom Loury
 AMENDMENT 4
 It's interesting to examine who's supporting and who's opposing Florida constitutional amendment #4, the controversial land use change proposal pioniards by Florida Hometown Home-crony that will appear on our November ballot.

A couple of newspaper article/stories from the fall of 2007 [yes, FHD has been trying to get this amendment onto their ballot for four years] were headlined "Proposed amendment pits ~ builders against voters", and "Businesses look to defeat Home- -town Democracy". The latter headed a story by syndicated columnist Carl Hiasen of the Miami Herald, and it observed that of \$841,000 raised to keep this amendment off of this November 2008 ballot (it succeeded), major contributors were the National Association of Home Builders, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, and U.S. Sugar Corporation.

Closer to home, at least 10 letters on this have been published during the past few months in Marion County's daily newspaper, with about twice as many for as against. Most of the "For" letters have come from educators, environmentalists, house wives, and retirees like myself, while four of those "against" have been specifically identified as having come from the office manager of a local home builder, an office worker for another home builder, an employee in an

architectural office, and the _ owner of a small building supply store.

Sort of makes you wonder.
 Thank you very much,
 Howard from Ocala

Publishers note.....
 95% of the voters do not know what amendment 4 is. It started with Home Town Democracy years ago. A group of people who lived in south Florida got upset when the county was all built out. I believe it was West Palm. So after the fox was in the hen house they started declaring that the state of Fla was was going to fill up and the Florida residents needed to stop it and so amendment 4 was born. The way it is written it will slow growth and jobs will decline and unemployment will rise. Governing bodies in city, county and state will have their hands tied and nothing will get done to help unemployment and growth.

Citizens at County Commisioin meetings, City Hall meetings would be the deciding vote for anything and everything. For instance a resident from the east side asks for a varience and a resident from the west side says NO - I was denied last month so why should you get approved. Nothing would ever get done. That is why we vote polititians to do the job for us. The voters can't make those decisions, there are too

(Continued on Page 13)

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ONE PERSON'S OPINION LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 12)

many. One opinion will shut whole projects down or slow them to where it is not worth it any more. I say vote NO to amendment 4.

Dear Editor

What price FREEDOM? What price do you place on your freedom? Thirty pieces of silver? A healthcare policy? A free house? A free car? A free education? A free what-ever?

The thought of selling my freedom never occurred to me. Silly me, I thought freedom was a priceless commodity. That, we rare humans in America are the only people in the history of mankind to ever enjoy freedom. Bought with the life, and blood of so many fellow patriots.

Now, some have so easily forgotten this fact, and they cannot wait to sell their freedom for peanuts.

How, did freedom suddenly become a throw away commodity? What kind of mind thinks freedom is some kind of liability, or hindrance to humans? Why did humans

strive for millennium to achieve freedom?

What is the advantage to selling it? And so cheaply? Give me freedom, or healthcare, education, a house, a car, etc. NO DEAL!

Scrubbing floors on my hands and knees is a small price to pay to retain my freedom, or whatever it takes. How, about the rest of you? What is your freedom worth to you? Think about it before you no longer have a luxury of thinking about it. When freedom is gone, good luck trying to get it back. Not in this lifetime. Throwing off the shackles of a controlling government is hard {impossible} to do.

Someone who realized the value of freedom {Patrick Henry} once said:

"GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH."

FREEDOM it is worth fighting for. We can still do it at the ballot box, and even that seems to be too hard for some of us. Patrick would be appalled.

Today, someone gave their life fighting for freedom. Food for thought.

D.I. L.

Business Tips from TomL

The right activity brings the right results. People will buy into your leadership if you're leading by example.

The belief level of the sales team makes a big difference.

If you know you can do it - You can - So do it!

These are some of the saying that you hear. It's easier said than done. How do we start? Practice smiling and sticking your hand out. A firm hand shake and a smile will give you a great start. Ask questions and listen to the other person with interest. Let them talk about their kids and it will come around to the business. When it does take notes on all of it, children, business so that you can remind yourself about what to ask questions about and how things worked out. Wisdom is money! If you are one of those people that

can remember everything said you are truly lucky. Only when you feel you know a lot about their business and a little about the family can you feel you are friends. When that friendship blossoms you will know it. You can say JACK / JILL whoever - I think it's time we talk about your advertising efforts. Then make honest opinions on how you can help.

Be conservative, set up a one year plan, large enough to get the job done and small enough that they can continue for a year. Consistency works, brand your business, offer things that your competitors don't. Actually service the customer, DO WHAT? Yes service your customer. How many people would go to a gas station that had an attendant pumping your gas and checking oil? SERVICE with a smile.

5th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival

The 5th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival will be held Saturday, October 9, 2010, from 9 am – 2 pm at First Baptist Church of Ocala, 2801 SE Maricamp Road in Ocala.

Over 45 vendors are participating. Free

parking and admission. Food and drinks are available for purchase. Free giveaways during the event. For information please call 629-5683.

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Unemployment Rate Increase

Unemployment Rate Increase in Citrus, Levy and Marion Counties

Today's release of unemployment data for Citrus, Levy and Marion Counties from the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) indicated an increase in unemployment rates in the three-county region for August 2010.

Workforce Connection's region posted a 14.2 percent unemployment rate, up .3 percent from last month and a full percentage point higher than last year at the same time. Florida's rate inched up .4 percent to 12.4 percent during the same reporting period. The nation's current unemployment rate is 9.5 percent, a drop of .2 percent from July 2010.

Marion County posted a 14.4 percent unemployment rate for August 2010, an increase of .3 percent from July 2010 and nearly a full percentage point higher than August 2009. The Ocala Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is currently ranked fourth highest in Florida for unemployment, down from third highest the previous month.

Citrus County followed with a rate of 14 percent, an increase of .3 percent from the previous month. Levy County posted 13.6 percent, an increase of .2 percent from July 2010. Both Citrus and Levy counties unemployment rates are 1.2 percent higher than in August 2009.

The Ocala MSA's August 2010 nonagricultural employment increased by 1,100 jobs or 1.2 percent from July, but decreased

by 1,200 jobs or 1.3 percent from the previous year, posting the steepest rate of decline in the state.

The number without jobs in Marion County increased from 19,029 to 19,616 from July to August. The number of unemployed individuals increased from 7,748 to 7,942 in Citrus County and from 2,190 to 2,227 in Levy County.

At the same time, 469 more people were employed in August than in July in Marion County, 134 more in Citrus and 40 more in Levy.

Rusty Skinner, Workforce Connection's chief operating officer, said that while there have been gains in the total number of people with jobs in region, those gains are offset by expansion of the labor force.

"It's hard to put your finger on where we're going as an economy when looking at these numbers," he said. "There are some positive gains in the overall economy but it's a mixed bag. The fact is we're seeing an uptick in the number of people looking for work and not finding it."

He added that job gains at this time of year are typically due, in part, to teachers returning to the classroom. However, Skinner said more workers are also entering the labor force as Census jobs continue to be phased out. From July to August, the number of Census workers in the three-county region dropped from 558 to 198.

Skinner noted that Workforce Connection continues to partner with the Ocala/Marion

County Economic Development Corporation, the Ocala/Marion County Chamber of Commerce, the Citrus County Economic Development Council and Nature Coast Business Development Council to bring new businesses to the area and help grow local businesses.

He also encouraged job seekers to visit

Workforce centers each week to take advantage of job training and other programs.

To get a full copy of the August 2010 Unemployment Data or to find out more about upcoming events and services, go to www.clmworkforce.com or call toll free 1-800-434-JOBS and speak to a Workforce Representative.

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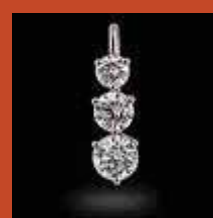
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