

Parade of Senior Services

Pictured is Maggie Middleton (middle) of the Heaolth Department and two volunteers posing for the photographer at the Parade of Seniors Services Expo. They were out recruiting volunteers.

Parade of Senior Services was held March 16, 2012. Its purpose is to provide seniors with literature, answer questions and offer services to the Senior Citizens of Marion County about Tax Aid, Health Care, Recreation, City, County, State & Federal

Government services, Social Services and much more. Over 50 agencies were presenting. Hundreds of seniors trolled through the aisles stopping to talk to the different vendors, occasionally picking up a free gift at

(Continued on Page 9)

KGB Investigator to be Hired at **Marion County Public Schools**

By Jackie Porter

Lookout school teachers and employees Superintendent Yancey and his staff have recommended another district level administrator be added to a high paid position and won't be teaching at our schools and not assigned to any classroom for our children.

The Title: Employee Relations Investi-

The Pay: \$65,500.00 plus full benefits, total per year \$85,000.

The Primary Responsibility: Internal investigations

The position was eliminated from the

staffing plan several years ago with the budget constraints. What has changed with the budget? Marion County Public Schools still talk about budget constraints, no money to fully fund classroom and school programs, but now there is money for this "investigator" to be hired to investigate staff. So the stupidity continues on at the taxpayers' expense. It's no wonder there is no money left in the reserves!

The school district already has a full time person to conduct investigations as part of his job description. The Coordinator of Safe

(Continued on Page 12)

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Ocala Marion County Expo



by Tom Loury

Ocala Marion County Chamber of Commerce Expo was held March 10, 2012. The areas of focus for the Expo included Health & Wellness providers, Nutritionists, Recreation & Fitness providers, Health Food

Suppliers, Insurance Carriers, Assisted Living Facilities, Home Health Assistance, and Alternative Medical Providers.

Over a hundred and twenty exhibitors and thousands of mall patrons attended the

(Continued on Page 8)





GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS IN GOD WE TRUST

Gas Prices

By Charlotte Poss

It seems that no matter how a person tries to economize, they just cannot get ahead. People are still driving their cars and trucks but trying to drive a little less. The gas prices do not seem to matter to the big gas companies, prices keep going up.

Why is it whenever there is a crisis somewhere on this planet it effects the price of gas? It is not as if these large oil companies are losing money, the hikes go in on speculation.

Every holiday that comes around the gas, prices go up. Spring break is happening around the nation and people travel, so what happens, prices go up. Easter is almost here and the prices will stay high through that time. If that is not bad enough summer is almost here and the prices of gas will go up

again, to those who travel for their vacations will get hit in the pocket book again.

We are being told that the prices would come down if they could drill wells along and off the coastlines. People wake up we have oil under our ground. There are oil wells in many states that are capped off but still could be productive. They, the Oil Companies do not want to open these capped wells they just want to keep drilling new wells or raise the prices.

We the people have control over what happens and everyone has to help solve this problem. Start hitting the oil companies where it hurts them the most in their pockets and profits. Travel less, in place of going out to the store or other places a couple times a day try to get everything done in one trip. Car pool whenever you can. Using

public transportation is another option for some people. Those that have multiple vehicles should start cutting back on using two or more at the same time.

We have been told on the news what profits the oil companies make and even with the disasters that come along, these oil companies are still making money. The oil companies seem to like disasters, it gives them an excuse to hike up the prices. Some of these price hikes come before a disaster

even strikes. You hear that a hurricane could be forming off the coast and the price of gas goes up, then the hurricane dissipates and the prices is still there and just maybe in a month or so it will come down one cent after a six cent hike.

Will there ever be an answer to getting gas prices down? I doubt it very much. The rich get richer and the oil companies are the rich ones.

Genealogical Society

The Marion County Genealogical Society will meet on Thurs April 19th at 2:00 pm at the Marion County Library, 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala. This month's program will feature Judy Wright who will answer questions about Family Tree Maker

2012. The public is cordially invited and there is no cost involved. For further information, please contact Barbara Jones at (352) 897-0840, MarionGenealogy@gmail.com, or http://MarionGenealogy.tripod.com http://mariongenealogy.tripod.com/.

Bring the Harvest Home Program

On February 16th the Ocala Palms Worship Community sponsored a Food and Clothing Drive to benefit Interfaith Emergency Services in support of Interfaith's "Bring the Harvest Home" program. The church has held multiple drives through the past years specifically for IES and the response of the Ocala Palms residents has been positive and very generous. An Interfaith truck, staffed by volunteers from the church, was in the Clubhouse parking lot. The volunteers coordinated by Craig Cotton and Gary Nelson were on hand to load

the truck and offer assistance. By day's end, a record 7,730 pounds of clothing and food had been donated for distribution to IES clients.

Craig Cotton and Gary Nelson, volunteers for Interfaith,s "Bring the Harvest Home" program challenge other Marion County retirement communities (who are not presently involved) to participate in this rewarding program. For information on organizing a food drive, call Craig Cotton at 351-8297 or Gary Nelson at 867-8901.







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From The Governor's Desk

Statement from Governor Rick Scott Regarding Brevard County Sheriff's Deputy Barbara Pill

Tallahassee, Fla. – "Brevard County Sheriff's Deputy Barbara Pill gave her life in the service of her fellow Florida citizens today. My sincerest condolences go to her family, as well as her fellow brothers and sisters in uniform in Brevard County and across the state. Law enforcement officers all over Florida risk their lives every day to ensure that our state is the safest place to live. When officers lose their lives in the line of duty, it is a solemn reminder of how

grateful we should all be for their service. May we always show the honor and gratitude these brave men and women deserve."

STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR SCOTT REGARDING PASSAGE OF KEY COMPONENTS IN JOB CREATION PACKAGE HB 7027 and HB 7023 Complete Passage of Governor's Jobs Agenda

TALLAHASSEE - "I am grateful for the unwavering support of the Florida Legislature in passing the remaining two pieces of important legislation from my Job Creation and Economic Growth Agenda. The legisla-

tion, which provides tax relief to businesses and helps job seekers get back to work through a reemployment system, are important steps in continuing to move Florida's economy in the right direction. My seven-point jobs agenda, coupled with \$1 billion for K-12 education, will have a tremendous impact on the lives of all Floridians."

Governors message from his radio broadcast:

Weekly Radio Address Friday, March 9, 2012

This week, I would like to congratulate the Florida House and Senate on another successful legislative session. At the beginning of the session, I called on lawmakers to increase K-12 funding by \$1 billion. This

was my top priority.

I would like to thank Speaker Cannon and Senate President Haridopolos, as well as the entire Legislature, for putting Florida's children first.

Lawmakers also passed key components of my 2012 Jobs and Economic Development Package, including:

- · Turning our unemployment system into a re-employment system.
- · Making workforce boards more accountable.
- · Delivering business and property tax relief.

Like me, lawmakers realize that private companies create jobs, not government. I look forward to signing legislation that strengthens Florida's business climate and invests in our children.

STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT ON 'PIP' AUTO INSURANCE FRAUD REFORM

"This is a triumphant moment for the residents of Florida. Members of the legislature heard our call to put Floridians ahead of special interests and combat the fraud that has become a billion dollar tax on drivers. I applaud Chief Financial Officer Atwater, Speaker Cannon, Senate President Haridopolos, Representative Boyd, Senator Negron and Senator Richter and the many Florida newspapers and media outlets for uniting the legislature behind a solution to the auto insurance fraud problem.

"This is a bill that delivers on my promise to reduce the cost of living in this state by reducing fraud, stopping the growing cost related to accident fraud and ultimately saving Floridians money that otherwise would have found its way into the pockets of fraudsters, unethical providers and trial lawyers. I applaud the legislature for this decision that will help every Floridian policyholder.

"With the passage of auto insurance fraud reform, my job creation agenda and \$1 billion for K-12 education, it is safe to say this session has been a victory for all Floridians."

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Governor Rick Scott Appoints Neda Koehnemann to Board of Psychology

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Neda C. Koehnemann to the Board of Psychology.

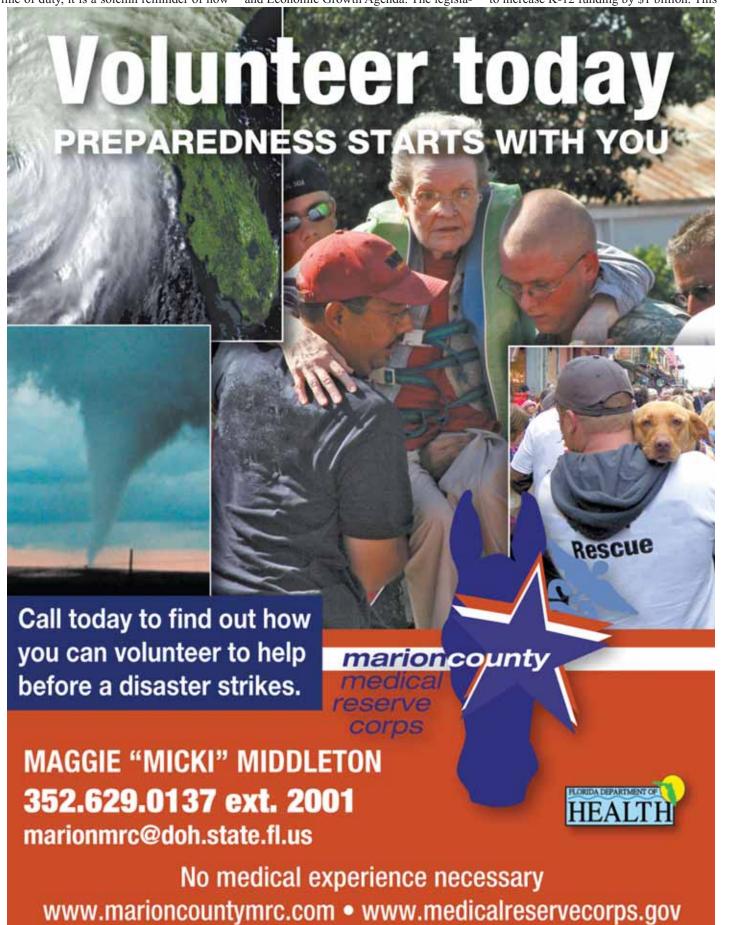
Koehnemann, 56, of Panama City, is a self-employed psychologist. She is appointed for a term beginning March 13, 2012, and

(Continued on Page 10)

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Tom Loury

Publisher's Notes

Believe it or not? Drugs in Marion County

I am really stressed about what is going on with the management of the Marion County Sheriff's Department. I sat in a meeting the other day and listened to a business woman talking about the presence of a drug dealer in her neighborhood. The neighbors are concerned for their safety, so the Sheriff's nonemergency number was called to inform them of the problem. According to this lady, someone from the Sheriff's Department told her to get evidence for them and they would take them down.

Clearly this is not the way to handle the problem. A citizen shouldn't be told to do a job that would put them in harm's way.

Maybe the re-organization of the Sheriff's office to work around the Hatch Act is effecting the ability to police the drug problem. Maybe that lady should call the State Drug Enforcement. Maybe they would as they say "Take Them Down". Maybe we have run out of money and don't have enough officers on the street. There have been stories that sixteen of the top officers

were promoted and given raises this year. Maybe the department is getting a little top heavy. Maybe, maybe, maybe. What ever is wrong it needs to be fixed now. If a citizen gives the Sheriff Department good information, it needs to be acted on right away. It might only take one night or a few hours of surveillance by trained officers to bust the Bad Guys.

While I am on the subject, I was told that the non-emergency number at the Sheriff's Department is on an answering machine. Citizens should always be able to get to a real live person when they call the Sheriff's Department. A non emergency could turn into an emergency in the matter of a second. Even the non-emergency number should be manned 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Marion County Board

Superintendent of School's Jim Yancey and the Marion County School Board, or maybe four of the School Board, is recommending to put on another District Level job which will cost the Tax payers \$85,000 per year. The new job title is Employee Relations

Investigator. What in the world, is that like an internal auditor? Maybe that's what the taxpayers need. We need the school board audited. As far as I can tell, Jackie Porter is the person doing auditing on her own and sometimes the powers to be are reluctant to give her the records in a timely fashion.

Marion County Board

Happened while you were sleeping... Wake up! The Marion County School Board just added two people to the payroll, one at \$65,000 a year, plus secretaries pay.

Public Education Foundation Executive Director salary plus benefits at \$65,000. per year, paid for with Marion County taxpayers money. Also includes a full time taxpayer secretary. This was recommended by Superintendent Jim Yancey for the school board to vote at the March 13, 2012 meeting. Passed with a 4-1 vote, Porter voting no. Jackie Porter recommended reducing the administrative salary to \$25,000. per year due to the struggling economy and budget constraints. This position has been handed over to Judi Zanetti the School Board chairwoman who decided to take this high paying job instead of returning to the kindergarten classroom she left to run for office back in 2004.

The Athletic Director at Oregon State was going to fire the Basketball Coach Craig Robinson. The Undersecretary of Education Martha Kanter was dispatched to Corvallis / Oregon State with \$17 million in stimulus money for the university. Thank god Michelle Obama's brother's coaching job was saved. See stimulus money does work.

Air Force One flew 172 times, almost every other day in 2010. They claim 2012 will need to be many more times.

Obama's neverending presidential campaign, Obama's travel pace will not likely slacken. The Force estimated \$181,757 per flight hour (not to mention the additional

travel costs of Marine One, Secret Service, logistics and local police overtime). It's \$80 Million every time it lands & takes off. Obama spends nearly half his presidency outside Washington .

We need to restrict his ecessive travel.

An old West Virginia Hillbilly saying: "You cannot get the water to clear up until you get the pigs out of the creek."

Wisconsin's biggest employer moved out. General Electric is planning to move its 115-year-old division from Waukesha, Wis., to Beijing, China. In addition to moving the headquarters, the company will invest \$2 billion in China and train more than 65 engineers and create six research centers. This is the same GE that made \$5.1 billion in the United States last year but paid no taxes-the same company that employs more people overseas than it does in the United States. So let's get this straight.

Obama appointed GE Chairman Jeff Immelt to head his commission on job creation (job czar). Immelt is supposed to help create jobs.

Obama forgot to tell him in which country he is supposed to be creating those jobs.

If this doesn't show you the total lack of leadership of this President, I don't know what does.

http://www.snopes.com/politics/business/ge.asp

33/gc.as

40 years and 40 trillion tax dollars ago

Untold trillions have been spent since the '60s on welfare, food stamps, rent supplements, Section 8 housing, Pell grants, student loans, legal services, Medicaid, Earned Income Tax Credits and poverty programs designed to bring the poor community into the mainstream.

IN THE MUSLIM RELIGION, dogs are (Continued on Page 13)



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Ocala DownTown

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COLUMNS are the opinions of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the SENIORS VOICE, and are chosen to represent a diversity of views on local issues. The editorial on page 4 is the opinion of the Publisher only.



Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for May
Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown
12am, April 18th
Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator
12am, April 25th

■—ONE PERSON'S OPINION =

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Loury:

ME vs WE

Are you a Me voter, or a WE voter? Will your vote be determined by a \$20 SS raise, or a hedge fund, derivative dividend, or by the need to secure our liberty?

As long as we have Liberty you will receive a SS check, and will be able to invest. Lose our Liberty, and it is bye bye to SS checks, and investment dividends

Does your vote center around "Me", or around "WE"? When a government promises everyone everything they want, for free, I call that the: Plummet like a Rock Theory.

government or country has enough resources to give everyone everything for free. There are not enough resources to make heaven on earth for everyone. Just not possible. Someone has to work to produce something of

There are those at the top and bottom, who feel entitled, while those in the middle always tote that barge, and lift that bale. The middle is being squeezed harder than ever, as the top, and bottom want more, and more.

If we lose our liberty, those at the bottom, and top will still want it all, and the middle bears the brunt. Nothing gets better if you worse, if the new elites think they know what is best for everyone but themselves. They dictate vs liberty. Is that an acceptable trade off? Does an extra \$20 equal a fair trade for our liberty? Not mine, thank you very much.

Changing a few laws would cure the ills at the top, and bottom. But the will does not exist to fix anything. Finding smart caring legislators is near impossible. People cannot see the need for fairness. They can all be bought off. We, humans are indeed a sorry

D.I. L.

Dear Mr. Clark:

What would life be like under a smaller government?

If we took all of the corruption out of government. You cannot begin to imagine how much money is wasted. Read: The Creature from Jekyll Island, and Enemies: The history of the FBI, just to get a smattering of what goes on in Washington. Then multiply that by the number of agencies, and departments in D,C. Mind numbing.

What could "We the People" do with all that money? It is our money.

No need to overthrow our government, just fix it, intelligenty, and peacefully. Read and you will see what needs to be fixed. The Federal Reserve CARTEL must go. Cannot dislodge them without legislators of good character and stamina.

Get us out of the UN, IMF, and World Bank. All we are is their piggy bank, and for that we get manured.

We are being financially raped every day. When is enough, enough? What will it take to make you screaming mad? What do you have against keeping your money, and spending it as you please?

If taxes were lower, wages could be higher, and we can put in a regulation of that sort. They regulate everything else. Why not wages? If businesses get a tax break, they should give higher wages.

Obesity is a problem not just for citizens, but for our government especially. Think it is the 50,000 pound pig. Should we put it on a diet? I think that is a splendid idea. What do you think?

D.I. L.

Dear Editor,

If you are a Catholic, you know that the teachings of the Catholic Church regarding contraception and abortion has never changed. Does that mean Catholic women don't use contraception. Of course not, that is their personal conscientious choice. This has nothing to do with banning or limiting access to contraceptives since they are readily available and inexpensive. This is not even about the Catholic Church or other Churches with the same beliefs and teachings, however, those other Churches should also be concerned. This is about the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services forcing private religious health plans to provide coverage for sterilization, contraception and abortions, which is against Church

(Continued on Page 13)

teachings. Effectively shutting down re-

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References Provided

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SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EVENTS FOR APRIL 2012 Continuing tax help

When: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, April 2nd thru April 16th, 2012

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Cost: Free

Where: 8th Avenue Adult Recreation Center, 830 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

What: AARP Tax Help is available on these days. Please bring all your necessary documents including SS Card, W-2 Forms, 1099 Forms, last year's taxes, driver's license and some other form of ID.

INCOME TAX HELP @BGW Senior **Recreation Center**

When: Tuesdays ONLY April 3rd and

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Cost: Free

Where: Barbara G. Washington Adult Recreation Center, 210 NW 12th Ave., Oc-

New Address

7821 West Highway 40

622-5748

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What: AARP Tax Help is available on Tuesdays only. Please bring all your necessary documents including SS Card, W-2 Forms, 1099 Forms, last year's taxes, driver's license and some other form of ID.

SENIOR FISHING DERBY

Sponsored by Ocala Marion County Recreation Department and TomL Publishing / Seniors Voice.

When: Monday, April 2, 2012 Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Where: Tuscawilla Park

Cost: Free

What: The fishing fun goes on for our senior citizens. Hook up with us for a few hours of fishing at Lake Tuscawilla. Lunch, bait and cane poles are provided. Pre-registration is required. Limited to 125 participants, so call Grace at 629-8357 for more information and to register.

SENIOR TRIP - ST. AUGUSTINE

When: Wednesday, April 11th, 2012

Where: St. Augustine, Florida

Time: Leave 8th Avenue Adult Recreation Center at 8:00 AM Return 6:30 PM Cost: \$42.00 per person

What: St. Augustine, the nation's oldest city, also holds the distinction of being one of the most charming. One hour features 22 stops and over 100 points of interest. Town trolley allows you to get off and on at any of the convenient stops.

MOVIES: APRIL 2012

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH & 11TH AT 1:30 PM "FOOTLOOSE" STARRING: KENNY WORMALD, JULI-ANNE HOUGH, DENNIS QUAID, ANDIE MacDOWELL, MILES TELLER AND OTHERS. This is a musical romance about a big-city teen who moves to a town that has

outlawed dancing. Uprooted from Boston and reluctantly transplanted to the small Bible Belt town of Bomont, Ren MacCormack (Wormald) finds himself in a repressed community still reeling from a devastating loss. Shortly before he arrived in Bomont, five local teens perished in a tragic car accident following a local dance. As a result, the upstanding Reverend Shaw Moore (Quaid) and the local councilmen passed a strict ordinance outlawing both dancing and excessively loud music. Convinced that the new law is hopelessly misguided, rebellious Ren puts on his dancing shoes and wins the heart of Reverend Moore's daughter, Ariel (Hough), while showing his fellow classmates that it's perfectly normal to blow off a little steam with some loud music and good friends. RATED PG13

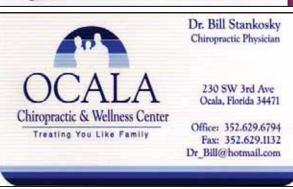
TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH & 25TH AT 1:30 PM "MONEY-BALL" STARRING: BRAD PITT, JO-NAH HILL, PHILIP HOFFMAN AND OTHERS. Billy Beane (Pitt) is a one-time phenom who flamed out in the big leagues and now works as the GM for the Oakland Athletics, a franchise that's about to lose their three best players to a free agency. Because the team isn't in a financial position to spend as much perennial favorites like the Yankees and the Red Sox, Beane realizes he needs to radically change how he evaluates what players can bring to the squad. After he meets Peter Brand (Hill), an Ivy League economics major working as an

(Continued on Page 7)

Marion County Referra

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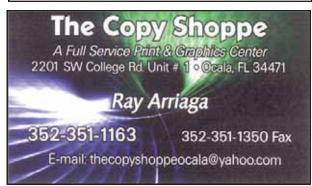


















SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(Continued from Page 6)

executive assistant for scouting on another team, Beane realizes he's found the man who understands how to subvert the system of assessing player's that's been in place for nearly a century. However, as the duo begin to acquire players that seem too old, injured, or inept to play major-league baseball, they face stiff resistance from both the A's longtime scouts and the team manager Art Howe (Hoffman), who outright refuses to allow Beane's more-nontraditional acquisitions to play. RATED PG13

COMING IN MAY: "MIDNIGHT IN PARIS" "WE BOUGHT A ZOO"

The latest videos are shown two times per month. Reservations must be made at the 8th Ave. Senior Center. Seating is limited to 8 persons per video. Please call the Center at 629-8545 to reserve your seat.

ELDER OPTIONS - SNAP PRO-**GRAM FOR SENIORS**

Elder Options would like to inform you of our telephonic Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the food stamp program that allows anyone over the age of 60 and residing in the following counties: Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, lake, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee and Union to call in to the state's Elder Hotline, 1-800-96-ELDER, Monday-Friday, 8-5 PM, and complete a SNAP application over the phone.

FINAL- NEEDS OPTIONS SEMI-

When: Thursday, April 12th, 2012 Time: 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Where: 8th Ave Adult Recreation Cen-

What: Join us for a complimentary seminar providing valuable information about final-needs options, financial considerations, planning and more! Lunch served following the seminar. Door prize drawings will also be awarded. Registration is required, so please call the Center at 629-8545 to register for this informative seminar. Sponsored by: Roberts Funeral Homes

Dental Poster Contest

STUDENTS COMPETE IN HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S FIRST DENTAL POST-ER CONTEST

Area dentists help sponsor competition for students from seven area schools

OCALA - The Marion County Health Department has joined forces with seven elementary schools for the department's first National Children's Dental Health Month Poster Contest.

Second-grade students from schools all across the county are competing at the classroom and school level to design the best poster based on this year's theme, "Rock Your Smile."

More than 670 students from 35 classrooms are participating in the contest. Each participant will receive a smile pack with a tooth brush, floss, toothpaste and instructions. Students who win at the classroom levels will receive \$10 gift certificates, and school-level winners will receive \$20 gift certificates. The countywide poster contest winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate.

Dentists from the Marion County Dental Association have helped sponsor the contest, as well as the Heart of Florida Health Center and the College of Central Florida.

The countywide winner will be announced at an awards ceremony 6:30 p.m. March 15 at the College of Central Florida's Hampton Center.

Schools:

Dunnellon Elementary School

East Marion Elementary School, Silver

Eighth Street Elementary School, Ocala Fessenden Elementary School, Ocala Sparr Elementary School

Ward-Highlands Elementary School,

Wyomina Park Elementary School, Ocala

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Dr. Paul Petsche. Petsche Orthodontics

Dr. Juddson Reed

Drs. Michael and Rebecca Tarver, Polliwog Dental

Heart of Florida Health Center College of Central Florida

Each year, the American Dental Association sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral health.

Your • opinion matters to us!

Let us know what you think about the Seniors Voice and DownTown. 804-1223



Family Picnic & Corn Boil

Saturday, May 5, 2012

11 am to 7 pm \$10⁰⁰ per person — \$30⁰⁰ per family of Southeastern Livestock Pavilion

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If you would like to be a participant in this event, please call 352-208-9194.

Ocala Marion County Chamber Expo



(Continued from Page 1)

annual event. We handed out hundreds of newspapers and bags of hard candy. We visited with a lot of our readers and made some new contacts with the vendors and scheduled some new advertising.

Lots of freebies were given away. Some were carrying more than one bag full. Don't miss next year! I'll see you there.



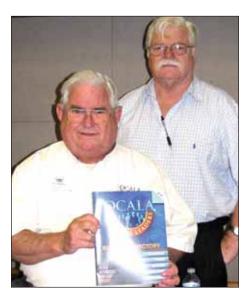








Parade of Senior Services



(Continued from Page 1)

the different tables.

The Parade of Senior Services is held every year in March. Watch for the advertisement in this newspaper next April.

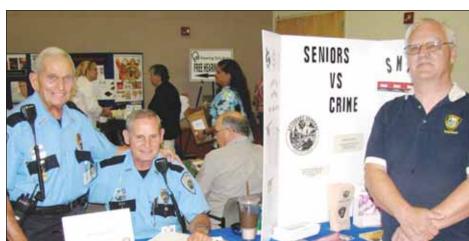
We handed out 100's of newspapers and several bags of candy for those with a sweet tooth and we did a little business.

Sponsors were Ocala Recreation & Parks, Seniors Voice of Ocala, On Air SOURCE 93. Better Home Healthcare Professionals, Sunny 720 Radio, OFMC Ocala Family, Ocala Health SSystem, Ocala Business Leaders,

Universal Healthcare, Clay Electric, Inc., Edward Jones, Marion House Health Care Center























Governor Rick Scott =

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 3)

ending October 31, 2012.

The appointment is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

Florida Drug enforcement teams strike down prescription drug abuse

Tallahassee, Fla. - Florida's Drug Enforcement Strike Force Teams have put a dent in the out-of-control distribution and abuse of prescription drugs in Florida. Created by Governor Rick Scott last March, the teams have taken almost half a million pills off of Florida's streets. They have also made 2,150 arrests – including 34 doctors – and seized 59 vehicles, 391 weapons and \$4.7 million.

"These teams are accomplishing exactly what they were created for by targeting the prescription drug abuse problem at its source - the pill mills, pain clinics and unscrupulous doctors that contribute to the illegal distribution of legal prescription drugs. The strike force teams are getting drugs off our streets and saving lives," said Governor Scott. "We've sent a clear message that Florida will not be known as the state that tolerates criminal drug distribution and abuse."

In 2010, Florida was known as the place for criminals to come and get their pills. Ninety of the nation's top 100 Oxycodone purchasing doctors and 53 of the nation's top 100 Oxycodone purchasing pharmacies were located in Florida. Over the last year, the number of doctors has been reduced by 85 percent, down to 13, and the number of pharmacies has declined by 64 percent, down to just 19. In addition, the number of pain clinics has declined from 800 to 508 clinics in the state.

"With seven Floridians dying per day due to prescription drug abuse, we had to take action and shut these pill mills down," stated Attorney General Pam Bondi. "We have made exceptional progress, and we will continue these efforts that save lives.'

The 2011 Interim Drugs Identified in Deceased Persons Report shows the number of prescription drug deaths fell nearly eight percent compared to the same period in 2010.

"In one year, we've gone from being known as the Oxy-express to being a role model for other states dealing with this problem," said FDLE Commissioner Gerald Bailey. "While we have made tremendous strides, we're just getting started. Prescription drug trafficking remains a significant concern for Florida law enforcement."

Health officials have played a key role in the fight against prescription drug crime by cracking down on unscrupulous doctors, pharmacies and pain clinics.

"The Florida Department of Health realizes the severity of this epidemic, and will

help lead the fight to stop the inappropriate prescribing of highly addictive controlled substances to patients, and stop senseless deaths that come from this practice," said Florida Department of Health Interim Surgeon General Dr. Steven Harris.

The statewide strike force, under the coordination of FDLE, works with seven regional teams, each led by a police chief and

"Law Enforcement has teamed with city and county government, state regulatory agencies and federal representatives to use all the tools in our toolbox to fight this battle," said Winter Park Police Chief Brett Railey. "Investigating doctors, pill mills and drug trafficking organizations can often be long and costly. One important tool has been the availability of strike force funding. Many of the cases would go unaddressed without these funds."

"The Florida Sheriffs Association is pleased to be part of successfully cutting-off the illicit supply of prescription pain killers and making our communities better and safer for law-abiding, hardworking Floridians," said Steve Casey, executive director for the Florida Sheriffs Association.

To learn more about Florida's Drug Enforcement Strike Force Teams, visit: http:// bit.ly/wvh0FT.

Governor Rick Scott Appoints Two to Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board Tallahassee, Fla. - Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the reappointment of

(Continued on Page 11)

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Governor Rick Scott =

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 10)

Michael J. Rogers and the appointment of Evalyn F. Oreto to the Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board.

Oreto, 60, of Hudson, is a staff appraiser at Bank of America/Landsafe Appraisal Services. She is appointed for a term beginning March 16, 2012, and ending October 31, 2015.

Rogers, 56, of Pensacola, is the president of Rogers Valuation and Acquisition Inc. He is reappointed for a term beginning March 16, 2012, and ending October 31, 2015.

The appointments are subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

Statement from Governor Rick Scott Regarding Death of Sgt. Ruben Thomas

Tallahassee, Fla. – "I am saddened to learn of the tragic death of Sgt. Ruben Thomas last night at the Columbia Correctional Institute annex. My deepest condolences go to his family and fellow correctional officers in Columbia County and across Florida. A second officer, William Brewer, was also assaulted during the attack, and I pray for his quick recovery.

"It is always troubling when members of our law enforcement community lose their lives in the line of duty. These brave men and women dedicate themselves each day to ensure Florida is a safe place to live. We all need to remember the sacrifices and heroic efforts of our officers."

Governor Rick Scott Appoints Matthew Carter to

Board of Governors of the State University System

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Dr. Matthew M. Carter to the Board of Governors of the State University System.

Carter has been a senior staff director in the Florida Senate since 2010. He has extensive experience as a senior policy manager in both legislative and executive branches of Florida state government. Previously, he served on the Public Service Commission from 2006 to 2009, serving as chairman for two years. His management experience includes the Florida House of Representatives from 2001 to 2005, the Florida Department of Management Services from 1999 to 2001, the Florida Department of Insurance in 1998 to 1999, the Florida Department of Transportation from 1992 to 1995 and 1997 to 1998 and the Florida Department of Business Regulation from 1989 to 1991.

Carter's other professional experience includes practicing law with Carter and Associates Law Firm in 1989 and as general counsel for Martin and Associates from 1991 to 1992. He was a stockbroker and financial consultant from 1982 to 1985. He founded Carter Ministries Inc. in 1997 and has held part-time leadership positions with several area churches and regional church organizations since 1989. His community involvement includes serving as a board member of the Steele-Collins Middle Charter School from 2003 to 2008.

Carter served in the United States Army, both active and reserve duty, from 1971 to 1974 and 1978 to 1983. He received an associate degree from Tallahassee Community College, bachelor's and law degrees from Florida State University and a doctoral degree from Gulf Coast College and Seminary. He succeeds Frank Martin and is appointed for a term beginning March 23, 2012, and ending January 6, 2019. The appointment is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Filiberto Valero as chair of the Early Learning

(Continued on Page 12)



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Governor Rick Scott =

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 11)

Coalition of Hillsborough County.

Valero, 46, of Tampa, is a financial centers manager for Fifth Third Bank. He is appointed for a term beginning March 21, 2012, and ending April 30, 2013.

Governor Scott Appoints Phillip Pena to the Alachua County Court

Tallahassee, Fla. - Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Phillip Pena, of Gainesville, to the Alachua County

Pena, 41, has been an assistant state attorney with the State Attorney's Office for the Eighth Judicial Circuit since 2001, except in 2010 when he practiced with the Keller Law Office. Previously, he was an assistant state

attorney for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit from 2000 to 2001 and the Twentieth Judicial Circuit from 1996 to 1999. In 1999, he practiced with Dell Graham. Pena received a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and a law degree, with honors, from Florida State University.

"Phillip has an excellent reputation as a skilled, hardworking and fair prosecutor," Governor Scott said. "I am confident that he will bring these qualities to the bench, along with a deep respect for the role of the judiciary and the rule of law. He will serve the people of Alachua County well."

Pena will fill the vacancy created by the appointment of Judge Robert K. Groeb to the Eighth Judicial Circuit.

KGB Investigator to be Hired at Marion County Public Schools

(Continued from Page 1)

Schools has a total yearly salary plus benefits of \$99,000. The school district also allocates \$700,000 per year for Safety Resource Officers from the Sheriffs department and local police departments to be at our schools to investigate on a daily basis and to protect our kids.

This new administrative position has received the good graces of the other three

school district administrators who are Candidates for the Superintendent's office. More administrative positions created instead of reducing administration. Who might this position be for, someone's family member or friend? I can only imagine! The school district administration really knows how to boost moral among employees. Institute an Employee Investigator!

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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 5)

ligious individuals and entities. This is a serious threat to our religious freedom and liberty when the Government can force the Church to do something against its beliefs. Every American regardless of whether you are Republican, Democrat, Independent or have No Party Affiliation should be concerned about this mandate.

How very clever for the Government knowing that they unleashed a political firestorm, effectively switching it to blaming Republicans for waging a war on women. We are being told that access to contraceptives, on demand abortions and sterilization is what motivates women and any obstruction to public funding and accessibility constitutes oppression. What a bunch of nonsense and I for one am not going to listen to such rhetoric. I think of a song by Helen Reddy, "I am Woman" and some of the lyrics go like this. "I am woman hear me roar, I am strong, I am invincible, I am woman." To the Government I say stop scaring women and using us as scapegoats or you will hear us roar.

KR

■ Tom Loury

Publisher's Notes

(Continued from Page 4)

considered unclean and not allowed to travel in the same vehicle. Bo has never traveled in the same means of transportation with the First Family. BO the dog, was flown on a separate smaller jet to Maine for one of the Obama family vacation's.

Believe it or not.



Gluten-Free Recipes for a Better Brunch

(Family Features) Brunch turns an ordinary morning into a celebration of food, friends and fun. But the sweet breads, muffins and waffles often served can be problematic for anyone with gluten sensitivity. Fortunately, there are many gluten-free options that can bring plenty of flavor to your table. Here are two easy to prepare, gluten-free recipes from Boar's Head that you and your guests will love.

This recipe for an Asiago Cheese, Bacon and Egg Tart mixes the rich, smoky flavor of Boar's Head Fully Cooked Bacon with fresh mushrooms and chives to create a crustless tart with European flair.

If you're looking for something sweet and savory, try Chicken and Sweet Potato Egg Nests. This recipe combines tender chicken and creamy mustard into sweet potato cups for a bitesized treat that will have guests coming back for more.

Here are some additional ideas to round out your gluten-free brunch:

- * Gluten-free bread served with a selection of fresh sliced premium deli meats. Serve them open-face, giving your brunch the look and feel of a European spread.
- * Fresh fruit is always a hit. Make a beautiful platter of straw-berries, kiwi, mango, blueberries and pineapple. Serve alongside honey or agave nectar to put a bit of splash on your brunch table.
- * Roast a variety of vegetables, stuff your favorite mushrooms, or create a hearty salad topped with strips of premium deli meats and

(Continued on Page 14)



Gluten-Free Recipes for a Better Brunch

(Continued from Page 13)



chunks of flavorful cheeses.

For more recipes to help you incorporate safe products into your gluten-free, healthy lifestyle, visit www.boarshead.com.

Asiago Cheese, Bacon and **Egg Tart**

6 large eggs

1 1/2 cups heavy cream

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon fresh ground pepper

7 slices Boar's Head Fully Cooked Naturally Smoked Bacon

2 tablespoons butter

8 ounces button mushrooms, thinly sliced

1/4 cup chopped chives

1 1/2 cups Boar's Head Provolone Cheese, shredded

1/4 cup Boar's Head Asiago Cheese, shredded

Preheat oven to 375°F. In food processor, combine eggs, cream, salt and pepper.

Lightly spray a 10-inch pie plate with non-stick cooking oil spray. Heat bacon as directed on the package; crumble into egg mixture.

In small skillet, heat butter over medium heat and sautÈ mushrooms until tender; add to egg mixture. Mix in chives and dium heat and cook onion until provolone cheese.

Pour mixture into pie plate and sprinkle asiago cheese on top. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes or until tart is set and top is golden brown.

Chicken and Sweet Potato Egg Nests

20 tablespoons olive oil

1/2 cup yellow onion, sliced

1 pound sweet potatoes, shredded

1 tablespoon Boar's Head Delicatessen Style Mustard

4 large eggs, lightly beaten

Oven Roasted Chicken Breast, finely diced

1 teaspoon thyme, minced

Preheat oven to 350°F. In large nonstick skillet, heat oil over mesoft and golden.

Mix shredded sweet potatoes with sautEed onions and mustard. Mold mixture into separate cups in a muffin tin.

Bake for 30 to 35 minutes or until crisp; cool in the pan. (This



can be done a day ahead of time. 1 cup Boar's Head EverRoast Cover the cooled cups and wrap in plastic; refrigerate.)

> Scramble eggs with chicken, and when cooked, evenly divide among the sweet potato cups. Top with thyme and serve.

Source: Boar's Head

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