

Commissioners Sworn In



Doug Moore

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (Nov. 20, 2012) – Newly-elected county commissioners David Moore, 42, and Earl Arnett, 65, have officially joined the rest of the Board of County Commissioners. Judge David Eddy swore Moore and Arnett into office at Tuesday’s county commission meeting. Returning Commissioner Stan McClain, 51, also took the oath of office. The trio joins Chairman Kathy Bryant and Vice Chair Carl Zalak III, on the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.

Moore replaces former commissioner Mike Amsden for the District 1 seat. Arnett replaces former commissioner Charlie Stone for the District 5 position. This is the first time Moore and Arnett have held elected office.

“I look forward to working with the commission to impact the challenges of our community in a positive way and continue to build a confidence in our citizens, so that as we move forward we can be also confident that we have their support with a mutual achievement that can be shared by all,” Moore said. Moore campaigned on budget discipline focusing on essential and emergency services, job creation through business-friendly practices and protection of water resources. Moore is a Citrus County native and decade-long Marion County resident and has worked in the financial field for 14 years.

Arnett, a U.S. Army veteran and owner of Earl’s Tint and Signs, is a Washington, D.C., native and decades-long Marion County resident. During his commission race, Arnett campaigned on economic growth through reduction of duplicative mandates and regulations, as well as budget efficiency through streamlined operations.

“My focus will be on maintaining the financial solvency of our county by helping to develop an environment where businesses can develop, grow and thrive,” Arnett said.

McClain is serving his third term on the board. “I am honored to continue to serve,” McClain said. “I hope to be able to continue a tradition of fiscal responsibility and honor the families of Marion County.”



Earl Arnett



Stan McClain



Ocala Assistant Fire Chief Achieves 30 Years of Service

(OCALA, Fla.) November 21, 2012 – Assistant Fire Chief Brian Stoothoff was recognized during a city council meeting on November 20th, for his 30 years of service with Ocala Fire Rescue. He has seen many changes over the years, and was hired three decades ago when there were few paramedics in the State of Florida. Chief Stoothoff is a firefighter paramedic, who previously served as a fire equipment operator, captain,

battalion chief, public education specialist and public information officer for the department.

Chief Stoothoff states he looks forward to continue serving the citizens of Ocala and the city of Ocala.

In the inserted photo, Assistant City Manager Catherine Cameron presents a watch and 30 year pin to Stoothoff as Fire Chief Bradd Clark looks on.

Turmoil About News Story

Publisher’s Note: This was posted on Ocala.com in response to a news story implying a picture of Chris Blair greeting a woman with a hug was a woman in the Under Sheriff scandal. The Ocala Star Banner also did not report the facts correctly and the story sounded slanted against Chris Blair. Chris, by the way, is a Republican. The following is from a concerned citizen who wanted to clean up the errors made by the daily newspaper. The Chris Blair triple fund raiser. By the way, Chris Blair is the only one I know who gets bashed by the Ocala Star Banner while raising money for several charities during his campaign.

From a concerned citizen:

LETS RECAP THE NIGHT: First of all this was a Community Open Event/Triple Fund-raiser which, by the way, has never

been done in the history of Marion County for a candidate to host fund-raisers during election evening. Fliers were posted throughout the county, it was announced on the radio, in the newspaper and through social media. Over \$4,000 was raised that evening for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer through the Ford Drive Event. In fact, because of that night, Marion County is now the Nation’s Leading County for the Ford Event (A real noteworthy story). 34 of a full size van was filled with canned foods

(Continued on Page 8)

Tom’s Picks

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Look For Holiday Recipes on Pages 10-13

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Mark DuShane, Senior Vice President

ECONOMIC AND MARKET REVIEW



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How is inflation measured?

The United States government through the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) uses the CPI, or Consumer Price Index, to measure inflation or the change over time that consumers pay for a basket of goods and services.

The CPI reflects spending for consumers and wage earners in rural settings (which represent 87% of the U.S. population). It is determined from data provided by people and their purchases. The most current CPI data is collected from tracking 7,000 households from across the country regarding their quarterly spending habits. Another 7,000 families keep and provide diaries on their purchases over 2 week periods to gather data on more frequently purchased items such as food. So over a year spending information is provided by 28,000 households on a quarterly basis not to mention the bi-

weekly diaries. The CPI covers all goods and services and is subdivided into eight major categories:

Food and Beverages: (breakfast cereal, milk, coffee, chicken, wine, full service meals, snacks)

Housing: (rent of primary residences, owners equivalent rent, fuel oil, bedroom furniture)

Apparel: (men's shirts and sweaters, women's dresses, jewelry)

Transportation: (new vehicles, airline fares, gasoline, motor vehicle insurance)

Recreation: (televisions, toys, pets and pet products, sports equipment, admissions)

Education and Communications: (college tuition, postage, telephone services, computer software and accessories)

Other Goods and Services: (tobacco and smoking products, haircuts and other personal services, funeral expenses)

The broadest and most comprehensive measure of CPI is the All Items CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes thousands of CPI indexes each year. One you may have heard mentioned quite often is the All Items less Food and Energy. This index is often reported and is designed to remove the more vola-

tile components of food and energy. However, food and energy are always calculated and reported in the All Items CPI. CPI data is published by BLS and is available free of charge through the BLS website.

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I'm Thankful

To Tom
I'm Thankful for my Years on Planet Earth

Though I still feel good, I'm thankful for the years on planet Earth (and look forward to many, many more!)

I'm Thankful for 26 Years in Business.

I'm Thankful for 32 Years with My Fantastic Wife.

I'm even more thankful that God smiled on me when I saw my wife for the first time over 34 years ago (and I am also thankful that my selling skills were up to the task to convince her to be at my side for 32 fantastic years.)

I'm Thankful for so Many Other Things. There are so many other things I am thank-

ful for... The best parents in the world (who left this planet far too young), great sisters (who I don't call or see often enough), my "crazy" aunt, my dogs their gone, but not forgotten, predecessors), my best friend and mentor of 45 years, the luxury to get up every morning and do what I love... SALES!

For all of that, and so much more, I am truly thankful and, I am Most Thankful for America.

I am most thankful for having the unbelievable good fortune of being born and raised in the greatest country that ever existed, America.

I'm thankful my German and Norwegian ancestors had the desire, the guts and the perseverance to leave their world behind

and make America their home.

I am so thankful they gave their all to make this their home so ultimately it could be my home (and I am ever so grateful my wife's ancestors did the same so somehow we could meet that fateful day in Chicago nearly 35 years ago.)

Please Share What You are Thankful for with Your Loved Ones.

Though I am a conservative "hard-nosed" guy, as I get older, I get more sentimental. So, please, take a moment this Thanksgiving to really share what you are thankful for with those around you and to silently thank the people who are no longer here for what you have.

Publishers Note: The names and the business was edited.

—Governor Rick Scott— FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

Gov. Scott issues statement on thanksgiving

Tallahassee – Governor Rick Scott issued the following statement for Thanksgiving:

"As families throughout Florida gather with their loved ones to eat turkey, watch football and offer thanks for the year's blessings, it's important we remember the service of more than 6,000 Floridians who are currently serving abroad to protect our American freedoms. It's because of these courageous men and women that Floridians can enjoy the blessings of the holiday season. While many of these soldiers won't have the opportunity to enjoy a home cooked Thanksgiving meal with their loved ones, we are keeping all of them and their families in our thoughts and prayers this holiday season."

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Tom Loury

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



What I am Thankful For!

I am thankful that I live in the greatest country in the world. Why is it the greatest country? Because of the people! We have a free society of industrious people. But now the balance of people demanding checks are about the same size as the people working for checks who are paying the taxes to provide the checks to people who can't work or won't work. As people and company taxes become too big to burden businesses will fold, some of the checks will have to stop. The first choice from our current government will be Social Security. When they raid about 1/2 of that and when the checks are reduced to half, seniors are dying early for lack of health care, then and only then will the government cut back on some of the other checks. I think unemployment would be next. The last to be cut will be the people on welfare who won't and don't want to work. Somehow the unions will come into play, but I'm not sure how.

Speaking of unions, while in a club meeting, I was listening to business people telling what they were thankful for. One said he was thankful because his brother who was in hospice care was able to come the day before. One lady touched my heart. She said she was thankful for being able to see her son and his new baby. She went on to say she was pissed off that people working for WalMart were going on strike because they had to work on Thanksgiving and Black Friday, instead of being thankful they had a job. Her two sons are in Afganestan for Thanksgiving being shot at while they are striking. Is there something wrong with that picture. Publishers comment... When you go to work for WalMarts and other big department stores, you know upfront that you will be working on holidays and special sale days. Every person that strikes should be unexcused. My wife is working Thanksgiving, it's just something you expect on certain jobs.

Back to what I am thankful for. First my family, I am thankful that they are well, working, happy and I am happy they sat down at the dinner table for Thanksgiving with us at 6pm that night. I am thankful for our extended family, inlaw and outlaws. I pray that they and I have the wisdom and the health to get through the years coming.

I am thankful for the customers that help keep our newspaper running. Our purpose for the newspapers is greater than you think. Our purpose is to give you an avenue to see your opinion in print.

Thanks to all our friends, YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!

Our local newspaper is back doing its creative writing again. Some stories are very factual and others are pure creativity. Please don't believe everything you read. Check the facts. The political writings are flying everywhere and some have NO TRUTH to them. When you do run into the truth it should be clear. The truth never came out on the Superintendent of Schools, several people should be in jail over things done. I think every race in Marion County had challenges, but you don't have to cross the line to win.

Now late breaking - Earl Arnett is being

sued or challenged for the claim he is not living in his district. He rented a house in his district and has been living there before he was sworn in. The problem is anyone can sue anyone for anything with no recourse. If you sue someone and it costs the courts and the defendant legal money and you lose, you should have to pay those costs. The same thing with the Blair things, there has been a lot of legal preparation, pain and suffering over an anonymous phone call. First Blair has the right to face his accuser and knowing him would. If you have the gall to accuse then do it to their face.

What am I thankful for? Every day I am thankful for waking up in this great country. What are you thankful for? tloury@earthlink.net

ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am concerned. As a concerned citizen I am unable to fathom Harry Reid (D-Nev.) Senate Majority Leader's refusal to allow a select committee be formed in the U.S. Senate to investigate the martyrdom of American Ambassador Stevens and death of American heroes in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11, 2012.

Retired General David Petraeus had an affair and subsequently lost his job. Former President Bill Clinton had multiple affairs while in the White House and had a song named for Clinton: "Stand By Your Man."

Ms. Rice followed orders. This is a mirrored smoke screen. What is significant is the shielding of U.S. Ambassador Stevens and American heroes' deliberate assassination, its willful cover-up and is there a "Syria Fast and Furious?"

If you are a concerned citizen, contact your U.S. Senator demanding a full public disclosure ... why was Ambassador Stevens, based in Tripoli, sent to Benghazi, Libya, and what was his Mission.

Submitted by: R K

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for January

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

12am, December 17th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, December 19th

Ocala DownTown

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Elections Have Consequences

Congratulations to Marion County voters on a great turnout for the 2012 election cycle. The road ahead is challenging as we look to stabilize our economy, grasp our

fiscal responsibilities, and restore prosperity. America has made some decisions and we must hold each other accountable to work together for solutions.

The national debt and barriers to prosperity are real and we are dependent on our national leaders to find bold solutions and make them work. Meanwhile, the conservative leadership in Florida was preserved: We

will maintain the fiscal discipline of living within our means and moving that group of policies forward that will make Florida the best place to do business and restore prosperity for our people. Despite criticisms, more people voted in Florida than have ever voted in an election and awareness has been raised that public policy matters in our personal lives. Now the challenge is to stay engaged and continue to communicate with elected leaders on those issues and ideas that you have about how we best restore our nation, our state, and our communities.

While we have some disappointments and concerns about the election results, it is still a great country and your communication with elected leaders is an essential part of the process.

Onward and Upward,
Dennis K. Baxley

Your Opinion matters to us!

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



I was excited to see Steve from Mojo's catering at the International Food Festival. They offer some tasty delights but they were also offering a very affordable lunch. I had the pork and, as usual, it was delish! Mojo has two restaurants; one in Belleview and one in Ocala. Look them up!

Unique Treasures and Gifts Show

The Women's Club of Dunnellon will be sponsoring a very different and creative event to welcome in the Holiday Season. The Unique Treasures and Gifts Show will be held on Friday, Dec .7th and Sat. Dec. 8th from 9 am to 4 pm at the Women's Club building located at 11758 Cedar St., Dunnellon.

The show will feature varied treasures and gifts available from many vendors including: jewelry, floral arrangements, candles, pottery, wood carvings, purses, gift cards, photography, art, painted gourds, cypress knee

Santas, and much more. Many types of food will also be represented including: Amish jams and jellies, produce, BBQ sauces, and designer cakes.

Mini facials and chair massages will ease the stress of holiday preparing. Biscuits, sausage gravy, and jellies will be available for breakfast as well as hot dogs, chips and drinks for lunch.

Celebrate the season with this very unique show. For directions/questions please call Pat @ 352-489-6708.

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SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MOVIES

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 11TH AND 12TH, 2012 AT 1:30 PM

“THE LUCKY ONE” STARRING: ZAC EFRON, TAYLOR SCHILLING AND OTHERS

An Iraq War veteran searches for the woman from a mysterious photo that he credits with saving his life during three tours of duty. U.S. Marine sergeant Logan Thibault (Zac Efron) was serving his country overseas when he happened across a discarded photo of a beautiful woman. An inscription

on the back read “Keep Safe”, yet the photo revealed no clues about either the subject or her whereabouts. Upon returning home to civilian life, Logan conducts his own research and discovers that the woman’s name is Beth (Taylor Schilling) and that she cares for dogs at a small-town kennel. Before long, Logan manages to get a job at the kennel, and sets his sights on winning Beth’s heart. But it won’t be easy because Beth’s past experiences have made her wary of relationships. Meanwhile, as Logan works to earn Beth’s trust, a dark secret from her past threatens to derail his hope for a happy fu-

ture together. RATED PG 13

COMING IN JANUARY 2013 “MEN IN BLACK 3” AND MIRROR MIRROR

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.

ATTENTION:

The 8th Avenue Senior Center will be closed December 21, 2012 through January 1, 2013 for the Holidays and building maintenance. The center will re-open on Wednesday, January 2, 2013. For more information call the center at 629-8545.

The Barbara G. Washington Senior Ac-

tivity Center will be closed December 24 & 25, 2012 and January 1, 2013. For more information call the center at 629-8357

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2012

SANTA ON THE SQUARE

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, December 4th, 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, and 20th

Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Where: Downtown on the Square

Cost: Free

What: A favorite family holiday program including a visit with Santa, music, snacks and hayride. Open to all ages. Don’t forget to bring your camera for that unforgettable photo.

PSC Approves Progress Energy Florida Recovery Rates

TALLAHASSEE — Florida’s Public Service Commission (PSC) today approved inclusion of \$327.6 million in Progress Energy Florida’s (PEF) 2013 fuel factor projections for potential insurance recoveries related to the utility’s delamination event at Crystal River 3. This decision resolves outstanding issues from the Commission’s annual recovery clause hearing and finalizes PEF’s 2013 customer rates.

By Florida Statute and established Commission policy, electric utilities may recover certain expenses from customers through cost recovery charges adjusted annually by the PSC. Cost recovery is allowed on fuel and purchased power, capacity (including nuclear), conservation, and environmental requirements. Utilities may not, however, earn a profit on fuel charges.

Charges related to fuel and purchased power are included in the fuel charge on customers’ bills. All other approved charges are included in the energy charge, which also includes the utilities’ base rate charge.

PEF customers also have nuclear cost recovery amounts, approved on November 26, included in the energy charge.

Starting in January 2013, monthly bill charges for a PEF residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) follow:

The current bill of \$123.19 will decrease to \$116.06, a reduction of \$7.13.

PEF recovery amounts include: fuel and purchased power \$33.93, capacity \$17.38, conservation \$3.06, environmental \$4.94, and Gross Receipts Tax \$2.90.

Recovery charges for Tampa Electric Company, Gulf Power Company, and Florida Public Utilities Company were approved on November 5 during the PSC’s annual recovery clause hearing. Recovery charges for Florida Power & Light Company will be determined following the Commission’s decision in its pending rate case.

For additional information, visit www.floridapsc.com.

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Gallery East Artists Reception

The next fun and informative event at Gallery East will be on Friday, December 14th from 5-7 p.m. which is the next Artists Reception. Please join us for the fun. The gallery has original artwork by over 45 artists. The gallery is also open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The link here is to a video of our November reception which was well attended. http://youtu.be/ZE-xbD_AA80

Also Gallery East received an award from the City of Belleview Chamber of Commerce for best improved business from

curb appeal and property improvement. The mural on the north end of the building was being honored.

Gallery East is always your best place to find new and exciting art classes and workshops. We have professional, award-winning artists teaching these classes. We have a variety of topics, as you can see from our website <http://www.galleryeastfl.org>. New classes are being added all the time. Contact the gallery at (352) 245-2781 for more information.

PSC Approves Nuclear Cost Recovery for FPL and PEF

TALLAHASSEE — To help secure a diversified and stable energy future for Florida, the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) today approved cost recovery amounts for construction of planned nuclear generating plants and additions to existing nuclear plants for Progress Energy Florida (PEF) and Florida Power & Light Company (FPL).

PEF's approved recovery of approximately \$143 million includes costs associated with construction of its proposed nuclear power plant, Levy Units 1 and 2, and adding capacity to its existing Crystal River 3 (CR3) nuclear generating plant. CR3 recovery in-

cludes only prudent 2011 uprate costs, since the Commission approved PEF's motion to defer 2012-13 CR3 project cost recovery to next year. When completed, PEF's nuclear projects are projected to add approximately 2,380 megawatts (MW) of new nuclear base load generation to its system, enough energy to power 1.3 million homes.

FPL's approved recovery of approximately \$151 million recovery includes costs associated with construction of its planned Turkey Point Units 6 and 7 and adding capacity to existing Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 and St. Lucie Units 1 and 2. When completed, these projects are projected to add approximately 2,722 MW of new nuclear base load generation to FPL's system, enough energy to power 1.4 million homes.

Estimated 2013 residential nuclear cost recovery, based on current sales forecast, is about \$4.79 per month for the first 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) for PEF customers and about \$1.69 per month for the first 1,000 kWh for FPL customers. Approved amounts for both PEF and FPL customer bills will be recovered through the fuel and capacity cost recovery charge on customer bills beginning in January.

To encourage the development of nuclear power, the Florida Legislature enacted a law in 2006 to permit utilities to recover some nuclear plant project costs during the construction process. The PSC then adopted a rule on how to evaluate those costs annually. Annual PSC nuclear cost recovery hearings, held this year in September, allow Commissioners to hear testimony from the utilities and consumer groups on recovery of actual and estimated project costs.

For additional information, visit www.floridapsc.com.

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PSC Approves FPL Rates for Added Nuclear Generation

TALLAHASSEE — Completed nuclear Extended Uprate Projects (EPU) at St. Lucie Units 1 & 2 and Turkey Point Unit 3 has added 367 megawatts (MW) of clean, nuclear generating capacity to Florida Power & Light Company's (FPL) energy portfolio. Since the projects are now serving FPL customers, the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) today approved a base rate increase to cover increased operating costs as allowed by rule.

Because nuclear power is low cost, the added capacity will benefit Florida's customers. Over the life of the projects, savings are estimated to be \$3.8 billion. These figures also include the EPU project currently

underway at Turkey Point Unit 4, which will add 123 MW of capacity upon completion next year.

Across the United States, nuclear uprate projects are considered a cost-effective way to increase energy capacity, since there are currently 16 EPU projects waiting for Nuclear Regulatory Commission approval.

Through Florida Statute 366.93, enacted in 2006, FPL can increase existing nuclear reactor capacity and petition for revenue recovery through a base rate increase when the project is placed in commercial service. The statute allows for project carrying costs to be recovered during construction, lowering the utility's base rate increase request when

a project is completed and put into service. FPL's approved \$246 million revenue increase represents a base rate increase of \$2.59 per month on a typical 1,000 kilowatt hour residential bill beginning in January.

For additional information, visit www.floridapsc.com.

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Turmoil About News Story

(Continued from Page 1)

and other perishable items that were donated by those attending the event for Brothers Keepers' Food Pantry (Another noteworthy story). Angels of 2013 (a calendar of local breast cancer survivors) were present and sold numerous calendars... those proceeds will also go to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer (Another noteworthy story). This evening was created by Chris Blair but not for his benefit... For the benefit of the community. As far as news coverage, one

station, Channel 9 chose to stay the entire night so they could capture the whole event which by the way, included the fact that Chris Blair earned 73% of the vote. There were Kuhn supporters and DeCastro supporters also present. Videos of Sheriff-Elect Chris Blair's acceptance speech were published on numerous Face Book pages by the supporters of other candidates. If Melissa Cook would have been within arms distance of Chris Blair or on the stage, it would have been captured. My question is: Mr. Bill Thompson, how come you were not there capturing the event nor participating in the fund raisers for the community? Over 100,000 citizens voted for Chris Blair. Stop publishing articles based on "anonymous tips" and "rumors" and let the Sheriff Elect start his mission with bringing unity back into the MCSO and let the fine deputies do their jobs without this unfounded drama. One favor please do the community a favor and do something honorable by supporting Chris Blair's Food Drive for Brother's Keeper seeing that you didn't take the time to do so that evening. I think that you should try to do the right thing and ask every employee of the Ocala Star Banner to do their own food drive to support Brother's Keeper by delivering 10 cans of non-perishable food items per employee. We would like for you to take the lead and accomplish this for our community. Please keep us informed as to your progress, we would like to see you report a story on the outcome of this food drive. Thank you in advance.... PS: One more thing, in order to stop the deception of the photograph attached to your article, don't you think it would be a fair thing to print a clarification that the woman hugging Chris Blair is NOT Melissa Cook?

<http://www.ocala.com/article/20121115/articles/121119804>

Another post by Concerned Citizen:

The OSB dedicated 4 pages to this issue yet missing drugs from the agency got a few paragraphs and no follow-up. If Mrs. Cook was "warmly" greeted on stage by Mr. Blair and reporters from the OSB and local TV were present why not a single photograph of the event? I don't know if Mrs. Cook attended the event or not and don't care. It was a public event and she like anyone has a right to attend. People are taking small truths and turning them into big lies. I expect that from people especially those so hurt and betrayed by Mr. Kuhn, however, for the local newspaper to materially participate in the deception while ignoring vital issues in the community is demoralizing and wrong. 70% of this county supported either Chris Blair or Dan Kuhn. I doubt anyone could find work in this county that is not owned or managed by someone that supported either one. Everyone including Mrs. Cook and Dan Kuhn deserve the right to get a job in this county where... each has children and live their lives. Mr. Kuhn's unethical, illegal and im-

(Continued on Page 9)



Brody, a pre-kindergartener, left his Christmas tree decorating friends to catch up on the local news.

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Turmoil About News Story

(Continued from Page 8)

moral activities cost him his job and office but he still deserves the ability to work just as Mrs. Cook does. I think they both made mistakes and they have both paid for them to some degree. I frankly don't care how or why Mrs. Cook came forward. I am glad that the agency will not be led by someone that has most likely commented fraud, perjury and theft. Kuhn supporters have raised many complaints that have been reviewed and investigated and unfounded. FDLE will conclude this investigation and make a determination on relevant facts. I am confident that allegations of election law violations will be unfounded just as they were by the

State Attorney's office. At that point the community can move on. This high school gossip reporting makes me ashamed to live in this county and it shouldn't. Everyone should put aside the political fighting, name calling, lies and anger. We all live in this community and have families. Is it not more important for things to get better then to simply be right? Do you think that last person to get a good comment in wins? No we just all slowly lose. If you have facts relevant to this situation truth demands you bring it up. But if all you have is rumor and speculation you should stay quite. OSB you owe it to this community to be better than this. We all owe it to our families and this county to be better

than this. I ask that everyone think more of this community's future then your own petty emotions. Let's give FDLE the chance to do its job and resolve this pending issue. Simply destroying anyone's ability to led the agency in the future without this shadow of lies and corruption hurts everyone.

Publishers Note: While talking to Earl Arnett, he mentioned that his seat is being challenged. It seems Arnett accusers say he was not in the house in his district before he

took office. I know he was! In an article the daily newspaper stated the reporter had tried to look into the windows of the new Arnett house which he rented, they could not see in because the window shades were down. What is wrong with this picture? Oh, by the way, Earl Arnett is a registered Republican. Another republican being bashed! SHAME ON YOU!

What do you think? tloury@earthlink.net

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Happy Holiday

ENTERTAINING

(Family Features) Host a holiday party that's simple and festive with a combination of pre-made and homemade delights from the celebration experts at Wilton.

For starters, a cookie pan does double duty for holiday-shaped homemade Crispy Cheese Crackers. Serve these aromatic rosemary treats, made into Christmas trees, snowmen and stockings, alongside a colorful assortment of fresh vegetables and made-from-scratch fire-roasted jalapeño dip.

"Guests will think you spent hours baking in the kitchen when you wow them with a seasonal selection of hand-decorated gingerbreads," says Nancy Siler, vice president of consumer affairs at Wilton.

Easy to assemble with all the trimmings included, there's a ready-to-decorate gingerbread kit to fit any yuletide gathering. Complete with pre-baked gingerbread, each kit contains decorating accessories like candies and icings to personalize your own mini village, Christmas tree, gingerpop cookies and more.

For another fun twist on a traditional gingerbread house, Siler recommends getting the kids involved. They'll love the marshmallow-y Holiday House Treat made of cinnamon toasted oats cereal. Once the house is built, watch the kids decorate their

yummy creation with a variety of gumdrops, licorice, icings and candies.

To cater to a more sophisticated palate, Siler suggests Salted Caramel Bacon Cordial Cups. A lavish blend of vanilla pudding, crisp-cooked bacon and whipped cream is flavored with caramel ice cream topping and piped into edible, dark cocoa Candy Melt cordial cups. They're bite-sized holiday

bliss.

Don't forget eggnog. This year, give your favorite prepared eggnog a chocolate kick and serve Eggnog Hot Chocolate garnished with peppermint Candy Curls.

For more holiday recipe project and decorating ideas, or to purchase gingerbread kits, visit www.wilton.com.

Holiday House Treat

Makes about 12 servings

6 cups cinnamon-flavored toasted oats cereal

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter

1 bag (10 ounces) mini marshmallows

1-1/2 teaspoons ground ginger

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon



Assorted Tube Icing, Decorating Gel, Sprinkles, Colored Sugars, Icing Decorations and other favorite candy

Prepare Wilton Stand-Up House Pan with vegetable pan spray.

Place cereal in large bowl. In large saucepan, melt butter; add marshmallows, ginger and cinnamon. Cook and stir constantly until melted. Pour over cereal and mix well. Spread cereal mixture into prepared pan. When cool to touch, remove from pan; secure to foil-wrapped cake board with icing. Decorate as desired with icing, sprinkles, sugars, icing decorations and candy.

Crispy Cheese Crackers

Makes 16 to 20 crackers

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened

3/4 cup (about 2 ounces) finely grated Asiago cheese

1 ounce (about 1/4 cup) toasted pine nuts, finely chopped

1-1/2 teaspoons minced fresh rosemary

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour

Preheat oven to 350°F. Prepare Holiday Cookie Pan with vegetable pan spray.

In medium bowl, beat butter, cheese, pine nuts, rosemary, garlic powder, salt and pepper with electric mixer until creamy and well combined. Add flour; beat until mixture looks sandy and holds together when squeezed in your hand. Press into prepared

(Continued on Page 11)



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Marion County's Internet Marketplace

Happy Holiday

ENTERTAINING

(Continued from Page 10)

pan, filling cavities 1/2 full.

Bake 13 to 15 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Cool in pan 5 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely.

Eggnog Hot Chocolate

Makes about 4 servings

2 cups milk

2 cups prepared eggnog

1 cup Dark Cocoa Candy Melts Candy

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Whipped cream

Candy Curlys

In large saucepan, cook milk and eggnog on medium heat until the mixture is hot; turn off heat. Whisk in Candy Melts candy and vanilla extract. Continue whisking until candy is melted and mixture is smooth.

Pour into mugs; garnish with Candy Curlys.



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Fire Roasted Jalapeño Onion Dip

Makes about 1-3/4 cups dip

4 jalapeño peppers

1 package (5.7 ounces) onion soup mix

1 cup sour cream

1/2 cup mayonnaise

Preheat broiler.

Place peppers on non-stick cookie pan; broil, turning at least once, 6 to 7 minutes or until blackened. Let stand 10 minutes. Remove stem and seeds; coarsely chop.

In large bowl, stir together onion soup mix, sour cream and mayonnaise. Fold in peppers. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.

Serve with cucumber and zucchini slices, celery, carrot sticks, sliced bell peppers and other favorite vegetables.

Note: For spicier dip, include seeds from peppers.

Salted Caramel Bacon Cordial Cups

Makes about 24 filled cordial cups

1-1/2 cups Dark Cocoa Candy Melts Candy

3 containers (3.2 ounces each) vanilla prepared pudding

1/2 cup finely chopped crisp-cooked bacon

1 tablespoon caramel ice cream topping plus additional for drizzling

1/2 cup heavy whipping cream, whipped
Sea salt

Fill cordial cup candy mold 1/3 full with melted candy. Using a decorator brush, paint the candy up the sides of each mold to the top edge. Coat mold so that no light can be seen through the shell. Refrigerate until firm, about 5 minutes. Repeat if needed. Carefully remove shells from mold.

In medium bowl, combine pudding, bacon and 1 tablespoon ice cream topping; mix until thoroughly combined. Fold in whipped cream. Refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Using tip #33, pipe filling into candy cordial cups. Drizzle with additional ice cream topping and sprinkle with sea salt.

Follow instructions on package of each kit:

- Deluxe Gingerbread Kit
- Gingerbread Tree Kit
- Gingerbread Boy Cookie Decorating Kit
- Gingerpops Cookie Kit
- Gingerbread Mini Village Kit

Bob's will be closed Dec 23rd through Jan 1st to give his employees time with their families for creating joyous holiday memories. ♥

very merry holiday bites

(Family Features) Holiday parties should be fun — so why not serve up some tasty appetizers with a creative seasonal twist that will be sure to spice up your gathering?

These clever bites start with versatile party favorites Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies — and then the fun begins. Start off with an impressive — and edible — wreath for the centerpiece and serve with a cranberry-barbecue dip. Next, dress up your cocktail links with some delicious fare: simmer your Smokies in a zesty sauce; wrap them up in crispy bacon; make a splash with pineapple and edible flowers; dip and fry to make your own mini corn dogs; and turn them into tasty reindogs. With these fun-tastic appetizers, not only will you give guests plenty of food to eat, you'll give them plenty to talk about.

For more recipes to add merriment to

your celebrations, visit www.hillshire-farm.com.



Holiday Appetizer Wreath

Yield: 16 servings
Prep Time: 30 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes
32 Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies
1/2 cup whole berry cranberry sauce
1/2 cup barbecue sauce
1 can (8 ounces) refrigerated crescent dough rolls

Optional: Roasted bell pepper strips, cherry tomato halves and fresh rosemary for garnish

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Open package of sausages and drain off liquid.

Combine cranberry sauce and barbecue sauce in a small saucepan; heat over low heat, stirring until smooth and hot.

Unroll dough, separate at perforations, creating 4 rectangles. Press perforations to seal. With knife or pizza cutter cut each rectangle lengthwise into 8 strips, making a total of 32 strips.

Wrap 1 strip of dough around each sausage. Place crescent-wrapped sausages with sides touching on ungreased cookie sheet or round baking stone in a circle, forming a wreath shape.

Bake for 11 to 15 minutes or until golden brown. Cool slightly.

Carefully remove wreath onto serving platter, if desired. Garnish wreath with bell pepper strips to form a bow, and cherry tomato halves and rosemary sprigs for ornaments, if desired.

Serve with cranberry-barbecue sauce.



Lit'l Party Delights

Yield: 9 servings
Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes
1 package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies
3/4 cup chili sauce
3/4 cup grape jelly
1 tablespoon red wine
1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 1/2 teaspoons soy sauce
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Open package of sausages and drain off liquid; set aside.

Combine remaining ingredients in medium saucepan. Heat, stirring occasionally, over medium heat until jelly is melted and

(Continued on Page 13)

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very merry holiday bites

(Continued from Page 12)

mixture is smooth.

Add sausages; heat 10 minutes or until hot.

Reindogs

Yield: 20 servings
Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 2 to 3 minutes

1 package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies

Pretzel twists

Mustard

Ketchup

Heat sausages according to package di-



Corn Doggies

Yield: 20 servings

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 2 to 3 minutes

1 package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies

1 package (8.5 ounces) corn muffin mix

2/3 cup flour

1 egg, beaten

1 cup milk

Vegetable oil for frying

Preheat oil to 375°F. Open package of sausages and drain off



rections.

Break a small pretzel twist in half. Stick a pretzel half into both sides of sausage to resemble antlers.

Use 2 small drops of mustard for eyes and a small drop of ketchup for the nose.

any liquid. Insert wooden toothpick into tip of each sausage.

Mix corn muffin mix, flour, egg and milk in a large bowl until well combined. Working quickly, dip 4 to 5 sausages in batter.

Fry for 2 to 3 minutes, or until golden brown and batter is cooked in the center.

Drain on paper towels. Repeat with remaining sausages.

Pigs in Heaven

Yield: 20 servings

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 20 minutes

1 package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies

1 package thick sliced bacon

Preheat oven to 400°F.

Open package of sausages and drain off any liquid.

Cut each

b a c o n

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W r a p

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Lit'l Luaus

Yield: 20 servings

Prep Time: 5 minutes

Cook Time: 3 minutes

1 package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies-

Canned pineapple (1 can)

Edible flowers

Heat sausages according to package di-

rections.

Cut 1 pineapple ring in half.

Wrap two halves of pineapple around each sausage.

Garnish with edible flowers.



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