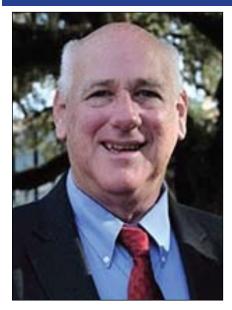
A free publication serving the people of the Ocala area



PUBLISHER'S CHOICE

Meet Ellie Hancock



Earl Arnett County Commission Dis 5

I endorse Earl Arnett as a stand businessman in the community. He is a family man and a business man. We have shared being in some of the same clubs in Ocala for ten plus years. Earl has always been just in all cases. He has a conservative business sense and wants to create jobs in the county. Here are some of the other people endorsing him: Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #145, Republican Business Council Straw Poll Winner, United Christians of Florida. Earl is a Lifelong Republican Christian, conservative, and is Pro-Life.

Earl has been a business owner and operator for over 40 years, 30 here in Marion County, Commercial pilot and flight instructor, Private investigator in Marion County for 13+ years, Owned Cable TV Marketing company in the 1970s traveling to over 40 states and 100s of cities designing and implementing marketing plans, MAD DADS patrol member in the 1980s, Member of

(Continued on Page 6)



Jackie Porter Superintendent of Schools

From the Publisher

As the owner and publisher of four local news media publications, I am pleased to endorse Jackie Porter, Republican for Superintendent of Schools. I have followed her career owning and operating Porter's Nurseries. Jackie Porter is the only candidate in the Superintendent's race who has been a Chief Executive Officer of her own multimillion dollar company for over twenty years as well as being a School Board Member for four years. Government overspending has plagued our school system and the only way to tackle this problem is to change the leadership and replace the current administration.

Jackie Porter is not part of "the Good Old Boy system" I find this refreshing and exciting. She is a business leader who has stepped up to serve the children and citizens of Marion County. We all talk about and know about cronyism in the political arena.

(Continued on Page 6)



Chris Blair Marion County Sheriff

As Publisher of four local Newspapers and a 45 year resident of Marion county, I have seen many people come and go. I have had several run-ins with law enforcement over elderly abuse and the very young being mishandled. Chris Blair is one of the bright Stars in our community and I am one of many that is proud to endorse Chris Blair for Sheriff. He is a true Lawman. He has spent 35 years of his life keeping citizens in Marion County safe. His opponent has been in the Sheriff's department for six years which is nothing compared to the experience that Blair shoulders.

Blair and his wife have lived in Marion County for many years working and raising a family while Chris was climbing the ladder of success in Law Enforcement. Now is his time!

Rep. Dennis Baxley said it right, "Chris Blair is dedicated to protecting and serving the residents of Marion County."

(Continued on Page 6)



Photographer Extraordinaire by Charlene R. Johnson

Eleanor Hancock Photography and Wonder Pics are the products of a young lady who attended Forest and Vangaurd High Schools in Marion County. Originally from Lexington KY, she received her AS in Photographic Technology from Daytona State College and launched her career when she was 16 years old.

"Ellie," was exposed to the dynamic thoroughbred industry at an early age. The beauty and animation of the horse and the industry captured her, so she captured it in her earliest photography; shooting races like the Kentucky Derby and the Breeders' Cup and being sent to Pisa, Italy by the Florida Equine Publications.

Her photography soon showed up in books, on telephone book covers, Longhorn Steak House advertising and billboards nationwide. Ellie has won many awards such as the Crystal Reel Award from the FL Motion Picture and Television Association as well as the Florida Press Association weekly

(Continued on Page 4)

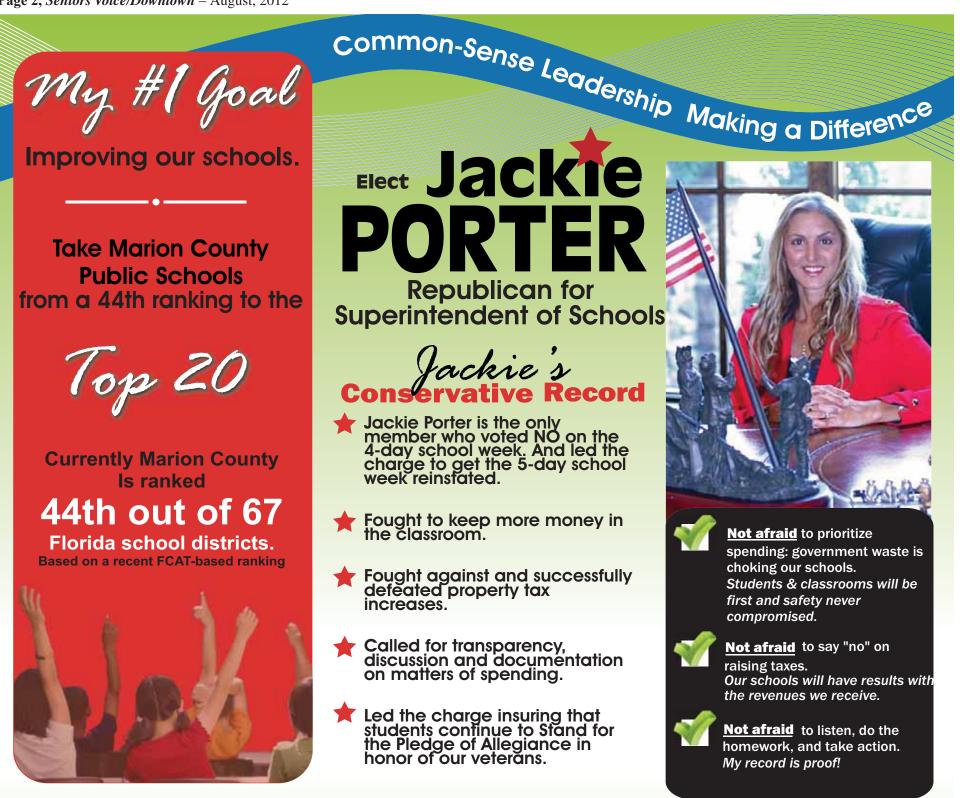
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Back to School



- Jackie has the experience-As a school board member, Jackie has voted on all the major issues that a Superintendent must face. No other candidate has this experience.
- **Jackie** is fiscally conservative-Jackie is the most fiscally conservative with over 20 years of business and financial experience.
- **Jackie** has no personal agenda-When elected Jackie will not be beholden to contractors or special interests.
- **Jackie** is student focused-Jackie will improve student performance by making sure they have the tools they need to succeed.
- **Jackie** is a proven leader-Jackie will lead Marion County Public Schools with the strongest standards of ethics and integrity.

www.JackiePorter.com

Paid for by Jackie Porter, Republican for Superintendent of Schools, Marion County, FL

Mark DuShane, Senior Vice President ECONOMIC AND MARKET REVIEW



Information brought to you by Advance Capital Management Second Quarter 2012 Economic and

Market Review After a robust first quarter with a renewed sense of optimism, the

second quarter brought us back to reality. The combination of the ongoing debt saga in Europe and softer growth in the U.S and China, were enough to sour the mood for many investors. It is quite clear that investor sentiment is being driven by the volatile nature of these issues and their still uncertain outcomes. There are a multitude of questions surrounding the potential of Greece exiting the European Union and mounting debt problems in larger European countries such as Spain, Italy and Portugal. This has put additional strain on the entire financial system in the region and further hampered rescue plans. As we are learning, the problems are not contained to Europe alone. In a globalized economy, the struggle of one country tends to infect others around the world. While there are positive economic signs domestically, the resiliency of our recovery will continue to be tested in the quarters ahead if these global headwinds persist. Still, while the second quarter was challenging, both stocks and bonds remained positive for the year. In total, the European Union is the largest economy in the world as measured by Gross Domestic Product. As these governments attempt to balance growth with austerity, it has led to subpar growth and anxiety among its citizens. Many parts of the region have fallen into a recession and problems could persist for years, absent a viable long-term solution. The interconnectivity between Europe and other developed nations is evident, as a mild slowdown has reached the U.S. and China over the past few months. While the Chinese economy remains robust, the annualized growth rate has slipped to around 7.5 percent, the slowest pace in eleven quarters. In the U.S., growth has slowed to about a 1.9 percent clip, compared to over 2.6 percent for all of 2011. At the core of this softness is an over-stretched consumer with dwindling discretionary income and bleak employment prospects. In May, the labor market added the fewest workers in a year and the unemployment rate ticked higher. Since February 2009, the unemployment rate has exceeded 8 percent, the longest stretch since monthly records began in 1948. Not surprising, the absence of meaningful job creation has led to weak retail sales over the past few months. Eight of the thirteen major retail categories showed sales declines in May, led by building materials, service stations, and general merchandise stores, according to the Commerce Department. The subdued growth outlook has not gone unnoticed by policy makers or investors. After fairly successful action by the Federal Reserve over the past

few years to use unconventional tactics to jump start growth, they appear ready to take further actions if conditions deteriorate further. While additional stimulus might help, it may fall short of adding the necessary fuel to reignite growth and bring down the unemployment rate. Short of dropping money from a helicopter, the consequences of our debt-laden economy will take many years to successfully work through with fits and starts along the way. The economy and capital markets can still prosper in this environment if corporate earnings are healthy, consumers balance debt reduction with spending and central bankers coordinate stimulus programs. With this as a backdrop, what do we expect for the remainder of the year? Although the recent news on the economies of the developed world is tenuous, there appears to be sufficient impetus among central bankers and policy makers to address the problems. While this may take longer than desired with some short-term pain, the longer-term underpinnings will benefit if positive actions occur. As this unfolds, the investing environment is likely to confound, confuse and surprise investors. We acknowledge the schizophrenic nature of the market over the past few years and realize it is a bit uncomfortable for some, especially in light of the recent macro uncertainty. By staying

Seniors Voice/Downtown - August, 2012 Page 3

diversified, taking advantage of opportunities as they present themselves and adjusting portfolios when necessary, investors will have the best chance at long-term investing success.

Article was written by Chris Kostiz, President of Advance Capital Management. Advance Capital has been in business since 1986 and provides financial planning and investment advice to over 5,000 brokerage and investment advisory clients, who have entrusted our firm with more than \$2 billion of their assets. Please join us at the Lopez Legacy Restaurant for our next seminar on August 7th to learn more. RSVP at 352-259-1154.

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ENDORSEMENTS	FORMER SHERIFF DON MORELAND, CITY & COUNTY FIRE, FOP LODGE 145 & 129, & THE POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION	ON AUGUST 14 TH

Tom Loury

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



OUR GOV-ERNMENT

You know there is a parallel to what is happening in our country. I recently received an email that gives us a parallel

If you visit with any Cuban family

that fled Cuba 50 some years ago you will get the parallel. When Castro took over the country, the American people were asking if Castro was a good guy or a bad guy. We did not know, the Cuban people did not know right away. He was a patriot fighting in the hills,,, NO,,, he was a communist. In this country right now we don't know who the good guy is.

In Cuba once Castro took over the country he said the fighting is over so turn in your guns, then he took over the sugar industry, started nationalizing healthcare, then slowly he took family businesses that had been in the family for generations. The government came in and said "you don't own this business any more it belongs to us". The next move was when the government said "this home is no longer yours you will share it with others", or in some cases the family was made to move into a smaller house. Share your house and give up your business to people who did not buy it or work for it. It's called sharing the wealth!

DOES ANY OF THIS SOUND FAMIL-IAR?????

I was in Cuba when Castro was fighting in the hills. The Cuban people did not know if Castro was a friend or a foe, they were caught up in the thought of being free. They would soon find out. In our country right now if we don't vote out the person at the top, we will soon find out.

The government will take over industries, place restrictions on us, take our businesses, take our guns and we will be like Cuba. The people are starving and have no freedom as we know it. Who is the enemy? We better wake up. Politicians, if you don't get this guy out you will lose your jobs also. Do you think he will let you help him run the country. NOT!

Sheriff's race Marion County Florida

I have been in this county for 45 years and have seen things change for the good and change for the bad. I have seen people in office think the laws were not written for them.

In the past, several good law enforcement candidates ran for sheriff against our current

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Ocala DownTown

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sheriff. They were forced to quit their job to run and then things were made very difficult by the current administration.

Some time back, like six years ago, Sheriff Dean was looking at retirement, the smart thing to do is bring in the guy who will take your place and endorse him. So an attorney was brought in. As you know, Dean is an attorney. But there was a problem; according to the written qualifications, this attorney did not qualify to be a supervisor. Someone at the top changed the qualifications, not sure who but you make your own decisions.

When it was time for Dean to retire his under sheriff, who is an attorney, had been there for 6 years. Hatch Act says he will have to quit his job to run for office like ev-

Meet Ellie Hancock

(Continued from Page 1)

newspaper contest with the North Florida Herald.

She has excelled above all in the field of youth sports photography. For 10 years she has been the official photographer for the South Eastern Youth Fair, and for the last two years, for the 12u Softball World Series. eryone else has done in the past, NOT! That law does not mean ME! The sheriff's administration changed his duties so that he would not be supervising areas that used Federal monies (Hatch Act). The judge had already ruled he would have to quit to run for office, now they changed his job description, repealed and he won. Now all he has to do is change his shirt to do campaign business. He is being paid by YOU while running for office. Again the laws were not written for the Sheriff, just the citizens.

This race has become a very big race because of all the power that comes with it. We need to make sure the right person gets in. WAKE UP AND VOTE!

Publishers Note: I have been watching Ellie take pictures at the South Eastern Youth Fair for 10 years. I remember watching and wondering how she could take pictures from morning till sometimes after midnight several days in a row and come back the following week and do it again for days in a row. A truly talented and dedicated women.

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LET'S RESTORE AMERICA BY RESTORING HER BROKEN SCHOOLS

NANCY Stacy School Board, Dist. 1

•Retired business owner for 30 years: \$500,000,000.00 flows through the school board. Bad business decisions directly effects the classroom. Children have only ONE chance for an education.



Governor Jeb Bush Endorsement

"For 20 years I witnessed Nancy's passion for education," said Jeb Bush, Governor of Florida from 1999-2007. "Nancy will make a great addition to the school board. She and I share a zeal for reform and belief that all children can learn.

*SCHOOL CHOICE: Our only high school with 100% graduation rate happens to be our only "Choice" high school. *"I rest my case on why I will be the largest school choice advocate ever elected to the school board.*"

*NO SPECIAL INTEREST PACS: Did not answer or return the teacher's union endorsement questionnaires. I did not send my completed teacher's union document to them for endorsement but instead posted it on my website for YOUR review.

*PROVEN LEADERSHIP: Archives of the local newspaper over the last 20 years has many articles about this business woman by day and "parent education activist" by night. Under my leadership we won every battle saving taxpayers MULTI MILLIONS and stopped unsound education fads in their tracks. Educators can not stop this train of failure that began in the 1960s because the ADMINISTRATORS are caught up in the trap of political correctness and "path of least resistance". Dr. Wayne Dyer (famous author/Psychologist) says "You can not solve problems with the minds that created them". School bureaucrats simply are not listening to GOOD teachers thus teachers have become the scapegoats of a failed education system. I have a 20 year long history proving I walk the walk for students, good teachers and taxpayers.

*OPPOSED TO SCHOOL TAX ON AUG. BALLOT: No bank would advance funds to a business where product favorability is less than 50% and sadly less than 50% of Marion County's 10th graders are considered proficient in reading.

*DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS: Educators obviously can't fix this because it is a parenting problem. My successful "parent mentoring curriculum" works and from my school board seat I will lead this program. Parents CAN be taught to RESPECTFULLY be their child's education advocate. I will take this training to the neighborhoods and projects like I have done successfully for 20 years.

*PATRIOTISM: Founding father John Adams instructed us "Children should be educated and instructed in the principles of freedom." So, I will find funding to place framed Constitutions in every school.



CONSTITUTIONAL CONSERVATIVE

Attend the Tea Party meetings regularly Proud member of Marion County Republican Executive Committee for 13 years.

My happy day with Lloyd and Amy who are part of the founding cast of the cross country traveling Tea Party Express bus. Amy was Sean Hannity's first "go to" person for his Tea Party Information.

"My final goal...."Return teachers to their rightful place as pillars of our community"

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Married to Rocky Stacy for 41 years. We have three children, Major 31 (graduate engineer), Blake 26 (math major) and Teal 24 (graduate engineer). Attended Trinity Baptist Church for 32 years

QUALIFICATIONS:

**Spent 20 years of my life and thousands of my own dollars leading education reform in Marion County saving taxpayers multi millions of dollars while giving students back their only chance at an education. I did not lose a single battle I waged on behalf of teachers, students and taxpayers over those 20 years.

**This is a boardroom not a classroom. I have watched the school board meetings for 20 years. I honestly only remember one time when the board voted on an academic issue and that was because of my work as a civic activist in the schools. Many teachers and parents in the band, art, music and drama classes contacted me to help them get rid of a wasteful class mandated by the school board. It took me 10 months to get it done but would have taken 1 month had I been on the school board back then. All 9th graders county wide totally wasted half of a high school credit on that class for years before teachers asked me to get it out of the high schools. I don't drop the ball on kids who have only once chance to get an education. This school board position is a policy making body and we have 3000 educators employed for board members to call on for academic advice when we need it.

**Retired owner and COO of a commercial construction company. Since nearly 20% of the \$480,000,000 Marion County School Board Budget is the capital budget which totally funds construction projects it is obvious that my expertise is invaluable to taxpayers.

**I was the only parent appointed to the "District Improvement Team" back in the 1990s where I served for several years.

**Served on the school board's "code of conduct" committee.

**Served on the advisory council at my child's school.

**Served on the Chamber of Commerce "Governmental Affairs" committee

**Served for 4 or 5 years on the Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade committe in charge of the horse units. On year 3 the parade committee went under its own umbrella.

**Corporate member of the Marion County Builders Association.

Publisher's Choice

(Continued from Page 1)

Earl Arnett County Commission Dis 5

Central Christian Church since 1982, North Central Florida Region, Optimist International, Lt Governor 1992-92, Republican Business Council Charter Member.

Earl Arnett is not tied to any special interest group – he has one agenda – what is best for the citizens of Marion County. His main goal is to encourage growth by removing deterrents that would inhibit business growth and expansion – we need jobs here in Marion County . He is a life-long Republican and holds to the beliefs of his party – less taxes, family values, smaller government, encouraging free enterprise. Earl's background has distinctly qualified him for the County Commission. Earl has the experience Marion County needs: Common Man with Uncommon Leadership!

Jackie Porter Superintendent of Schools

is not part of this cronyism. She has proven this throughout her four years on the Marion County School Board as an elected leader. Her decisions and votes have not been influenced by any political agenda or special interest groups. She produces factual information to backup her votes and decisions. I have seen her data personally.

She has fought for local businesses in the



bidding process, she has fought for accountability from vendors of the school system, and she has voted NO to any tax increases all four years.

She has requested finances be prioritized to better serve our students and has voted to allocate more money into the classrooms.

In speaking with Jackie Porter, you immediately hear and feel her passion and commitment to lead Marion County Public Schools representing the children, parents, employees and taxpayers.

Chris Blair Marion County Sheriff

Other Chris Blair endorsement lists are long: Former Sheriff Don Moreland, Fraternal order of police, Marion County Lodge 145 and Ocala Lodge 129, representing active and retired Law Enforcement Officers, endorsement requested by 1st District Vice President, Manly Bolin, President Robert Altman, Professional Fire Fighters of Ocala local 2135, President Robert Graff, Professional Fire Fighters of Marion County, Local 3169. Florida Police Benevolent Asso-

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ciation Inc. North Central Florida Chapter endorsed Blair. If I left someone out or misspelled a name I apologize but that is quite a list.

Marion County is losing patrolmen right and left to other Sheriff departments. They need backup and more pay. The counties around us are paying patrolmen more than we are. Blair promises to flatten the organization having less supervisors and more patrolmen, which will help redistribute funds to hire more patrolmen and get the pay scale up. Many departments that Blair developed are still in use at the Marion County Sheriff Department. There are many things that need changing and Chris Blair is the person to change them.

When asked what would he do on his first day, he said "On the drive to work on the first day he will make sure someone is answering the 911 number at all times." It is the life line to the citizens in trouble. This is not the end it's just the beginning to changes in Marion County Law!

GO CHRIS BLAIR!





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Sheriff Debate

by Tom Loury

I was invited to the Sheriff's debate thursday the 12th, at the OBS Ocala Breeder Sales. It started out with disappointment when the Under Sheriff refused to come. It was disappointing because I had some good questions. Anyway Chris Blair and Bernie DeCastro showed. My assessement of the candidates are as follows.

DeCastro was late, about 25 minutes, kept 200 people waiting, Strike One!

DeCastro said he had never been a Lawman. Strike Two!

DeCastro said when asked how he would cut expenses he said he would release inmates, non-violent offenders out early, because the jail was too full. Strike three your

out!

Jury Trial experience is the most relevant gualification for a County Court Judge. With over 28 years of civil

Do you know how many people are killed every year because of the early release programs? Example, an early release inmate invaded the home of a publisher, beat the publisher/husband tied him up, raped his wife in front of him and his daughter, then pistal whipped the mother, left her for dead. The intruder then stole the family car, took the daughter, raped her for days and threw her out on a rural road, left her for dead, because the jail was too full. Bernie admitted he has been on both sides of the law. I guess that means he has served time in jail. Bernie said he wants to be a constitutional Sheriff, but with no law enforcement experience. I guess my main question is, why would Bernie even run for Sheriff?

Again the two candidates that showed up were very pleasant about not attacking the MIA candidate, Dan Kuhn.

Chris Blair was very clear about what needed to be done, he has a plan of action, it's going to break up the routine. When asked what would you do on the first day he said and I quote, "my first day while driving to the office I will make sure someone is answering the 911 calls." This writer has met several people that dialed 911 and got no answer. I dialed 911 and got no answer. I waited a couple of minutes and called again and got someone on the eighth ring. Blair said this can't wait til I get to office, it needs to be fixed immediately. Second thing will be to get the officers on duty a backup system. Without backup the officers are risking

their lives every time they go on duty. Blair said he will call everyone in, ask for input from the front line officers, and make decisions to cure the problems. He will reduce cost by reducing the amount of supervisors and use that money to put more patrolmen and women on the street. He will continue to cut costs and hiring front line officers until he has enough officers that will give each officer backup.

In a political move to make the department look good the current Sheriff returned money not spent, while many police cars have over 200,000 miles on them and officers sometimes have to drive them over 100 miles per hour, putting their life in danger. Blair says he wants to make officers as safe as he can. Good equipment and good training is a must!

Marion County Officials 'Zip the Canyons'

(Ocala FL - July 18, 2012) Marion County's newest adventure attraction played host to several county officials recently. County Commission Chairman Charlie Stone, County Administrator Dr. Lee Niblock, as well as County Parks & Recreation Director Gina Peebles, displayed their adventurous spirit by sailing on the zip lines high above the pristine lakes formed from limerock excavation long ago.

The Canyons Zip Line and Canopy Tours www.zipthecanyons.com <http://www. zipthecanyons.com/> opened their "doors" last November. They quickly linked up to the Marion County Parks & Recreation calendar and invited county officials to test it out. Niblock, Stone, and Peebles "took the plunge" recently.

In addition, the Canyons and County Parks and Rec have set up a mutual discount. If you bring evidence of completing the Canyons you get a discount on a "wild caving experience" offered by the County, and those participating in the County's wild caving get a discount at the Canyons.

For Commissioner Stone and his wife it was their second after doing one in Jamaica, and said, "I highly recommend it to anyone. They're totally safety-conscious and firstclass.'

"The Canyons Zip Line ranks first and second to several locations my wife and I have experienced in the Caribbean," said Dr. Niblock. "No one comes close to the thrill of this experience. They give you instruction, not just put the harness on you and send you off. We are leveraging this unique local asset (abandoned limerock mines) to draw tourists to our county, particularly sports and youth tourism."





Vertin - U.S. Army Soldier Mary - 3rd yr. law student Susannah - college student Jack - 9th grader



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Elks Lodge #286 Supports Arnette House Youth at Christmas

(OCALA, FLORIDA) – July 19, 2012 Though it is only July, Elks at lodge #286 are already preparing for Christmas for the children that call Arnette House home. With caring hearts and giving hands Elks Lodge #286 continues to support the incredible work that Arnette House, Inc. has been doing in Marion County for over 30 years. Securing a national grant has allowed Lodge #286 to provide clothing and a new pair of shoes for each child in the Emergency Shelter at Christmas time. Elks Lodges bring so much more to their communities than just a building, golf course or pool. They are places where neighbors come together, families share meals, and children grow up. Elks invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drugfree, by undertaking projects that address unmet needs, and by honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans. Arnette House often serves at-risk youth that have no family other than Arnette's caring, compassionate staff. Community organizations such as Elks Lodge #286 provide irreplaceable support and compassion for the youth at Arnette House. For more information on the Elks contact Mike Mongeluzzo with Elks Lodge #286 located at 702 NE 25th Avenue Ocala, FL 34478 (352) 732-7091. To find out ways you can impact local at-risk youth in Marion County visit http://arnettehouse.org/ or contact Adam Copenhaver Community Development Coordinator 2310 NE 24th Street Ocala, FL 34470 (352) 622-4432.

About Arnette House, Inc.

Arnette House, Inc.'s mission is to provide safe and effective programs to strengthen youth and families. As a 501(C)(3) charitable nonprofit, Arnette House, Inc. has

provided emergency shelter services, family counseling and transitional living programs to at-risk youth and their families for over 30 years. As part of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services, our combined efforts extend from the Florida Panhandle to the Florida Keys. Helping thousands of families each year, Arnette House allocates funding provided by federal, state and local grants. However, Arnette relies heavily on contributions made by local businesses, private individuals and eager fundraising efforts. For additional information, visit www. arnettehouse.org <http://www.arnettehouse. org/>



God and Country Day



Arnett Camp



Marion County Tea Party



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Region Hits Expected 'Spring Slump' Unemployment inches back above 10 percent

(OCALA, Fla.) – Workforce Connection's regional unemployment rate was 10.2 percent in June, up 0.5 percent from May. There were 21,009 jobless out of a labor force of 205,570. Florida's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.6 percent in June, the 11th highest in the nation, and the United States rate was 8.2 percent.

Workforce Connection CEO Rusty Skinner said the increase over the month was not unexpected and reflects end-of-school year cuts in education-support personnel – something that is experienced statewide with all but one of Florida's 67 counties showing an increase in unemployment rates.

The June 2012 unemployment rates, re-

leased by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, were 10.2 percent in Marion County, up 0.4 percent over the month; 10.3 percent in Citrus County, up 0.5 percent; and 9.7 percent in Levy County, up 0.6 percent.

"It's another month that we're bouncing around here, that's an indicator of the economy," Skinner said. "We had seen a bump in the number of employed and now it's flattened back down again."

When it comes to gauging economic recovery, Skinner said it is important to track the trend, not the month-to-month fluctuations. The region's June rate was 2.2 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 12.4 percent when there were 25,749 jobless and 3.1 percentage points lower than June 2010 when 27,108 were out of work.

Skinner noted that the labor force expanded from April to June in Citrus, Levy and Marion counties and the number of those with jobs increased in Marion County.

Confirming Skinner's analysis, Rebecca Rust, DEO's chief economist, said Friday that, "What's important is the trend. When you look at small changes every month, sometimes it's better, then it's not, then it's better, then it's not ..."

Rust said the state has hit the "soft patch" or "spring slump" in its economic recovery as it did the same time last year and in 2010.

"It's a slow recovery but we're still moving forward ... When you look at the same month a year ago, you see the business cycle clearly, you see recovery," Rust said. "When



you look over the month, that's seasonality. Throughout the state, all schools are out; education-related employment is down."

Across the region, the labor force shrank slightly by 151 to 205,570, the number of unemployed increased by 973 and the number of those with jobs dropped by 1,124 over the month.

Marion County's labor force grew by 469 to 133,431, the number with jobs dropped by 162 to 119,768 and those unemployed increased by 631 to 13,663. In June 2011, there were 16,914 without jobs.

In Marion County, Skinner said that what may be happening is that more people are "coming back in looking for jobs, optimistic and feeling better about the economy" due to announcements for jobs that have not yet materialized. He pointed to Sitel which is in the process of hiring 150-160 for its new call center in Ocala.

"We've had some job announcements that may have created some enthusiasm, ignited interest again," Skinner said.

The interest was evident during Workforce Connection's job fair on July 19 when 824 job seekers turned out to meet with 23 area employers with jobs to fill.

Citrus County labor force decreased by 474 to 55,314, the number of employed fell by 716 to 49,608 and those without jobs increased by 242 to 5,706. One year ago, there were 6,856 unemployed.

Levy County's labor force also decreased by 146 to 16,825, employment is down by 246 jobs to 15,185 and the number of unemployed rose by 100 to 1,640. In June 2011, there were 1,979 jobless.

Marion County's unemployment rate dropped from ninth to 12th while Citrus County's moved up from 11th to 10th and Levy County dropped back one place to 17th. The Ocala Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) fell from the fourth to fifth highest among the state's 23 MSAs, behind Palm Coast with 12.3 percent, Sebastian-Vero Beach with 11.3 percent, Port St. Lucie with 10.9 percent and Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall with 10.3 percent..

In June, nonagricultural employment in the Ocala MSA was 89,700, an increase of 0.4 percent over the year.

Five major industries gained jobs over the year for the led by leisure and hospitality and education and health services (+400 jobs), professional and business services (+300) and manufacturing and other services (+100 jobs each).

Job gains were offset by losses in mining, logging and construction (-500 jobs); trade, transportation and utilities (-300 jobs); and government (-100 jobs). Information, financial services remained unchanged over the year.

For the fourth consecutive month, Workforce Connection ranked among the top 10 regional workforce boards for reported job placements, placing 753 people in jobs in June, of which 199 were receiving reemployment insurance (RI) benefits, formerly referred to as unemployment compensation.

Since November, when the state's 24 regional workforce boards began reporting placements to DEO, Workforce Connection has found employment for 4,661 job seekers of which 1,107 or 23.8 percent had been collecting RI.

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

Tallahassee, Fla. – Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment Jeffrey L. Oody to the Santa Fe College District Board of Trustees.

Oody, 43, of Starke, is the president of Community State Bank. Previously, he was president of Capital City Bank from 1997 to 2012. He is a member of the Bradford Education Foundation and has served on the City of Starke Pension Board since 2001. Oody received an associate degree from Santa Fe Community College, a bachelor's degree from the University of North Florida and a Master of Business Administration degree from Liberty University. He succeeds Richard C. Solze and is appointed for a term beginning July 18, 2012, and ending May 31, 2014.

The appointment is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

Governor Scott 'Gets to Work' at Florida State Park

As park ranger for a day, Governor Scott welcomes visitors, registers campers and conducts inspections at Hillsborough River State Park

THONOTOSASSA – Continuing his focus on job creation and promoting Florida as a premier tourism destination, Governor Rick Scott spent his 11th 'Let's Get to Work' Day working as a park ranger at Hillsborough River State Park today. Governor Scott's workday began at 7:30 this morning, where he worked alongside Florida Park Service Director Donald Forgione and Hillsborough River State Park staff to conduct landscaping maintenance and an archeological dig. Park staff routinely conducts archeological digs when new signs or structures are needed to ensure no cultural resources are damaged in the process.

Governor Scott continued his workday by opening the ranger station and greeting visitors. Later, he checked on campers, ensuring guest safety by monitoring the pool area and working with a concessionaire to serve food and rent equipment to park visitors.

In the afternoon, Governor Scott conducted a tour for park guests of the Fort Foster Historic Site with park rangers. Fort Foster is the only standing replica of a Second Seminole War Fort in the United States. Then, acting as the Chief of Piece, Governor Scott participated in a cannon firing demonstration, giving the command to fire the cannon and assisted with guest safety measures.

"Florida State Parks offer residents and visitors opportunities to enjoy our beautiful surroundings, and our dedicated park employees keep our guests returning year after year," said Governor Scott. "A healthy environment makes for a healthy economy, and I thank the Florida Park Service for their diligent work to protect and preserve our natural environment while providing excellent opportunities for people to get out and enjoy it."

Florida's parks and trails boost the state's economy, enhance property values, help attract new businesses and increase tourism. More than 20.4 million people visited Florida's 160 state parks, contributing more than \$950 million to Florida's economy and generating more than 19,000 jobs during the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Spanning 700,000 acres and 100 miles of sandy white beach, the Florida Park Service is one of the largest in the country, offering year-round outdoor activities for all ages, including swimming and diving in Florida's rivers and springs, birding, fishing, hiking and riding on natural scenic trails. Battle reenactments and Native American festivals celebrate Florida's history, while art shows, museums and lighthouses offer a window into Florida's cultural heritage.

The goal of the Florida Park Service is to help create a sense of place by showing park visitors the best of Florida's diverse natural and cultural sites. Florida's state parks are managed and preserved for enjoyment by this and future generations through providing appropriate resource-based recreational opportunities, interpretation and education that help visitors connect to the Real Florida.

About Governor Scott's 'Let's Get to Work' Days

Last year, Governor Scott started working at jobs that mirror the tasks he performed on his journey from public housing to the Governor's Mansion. Floridians can suggest jobs for the Governor's workdays by visiting www.FLGov.com <http://www. FLGov.com> and clicking on "'Let's Get to Work Days' or e-mailing Rick.Scott@eog. myflorida.com. Stay updated on the Governor's 'Let's Get to Work' Days by following him on Twitter <http://www.twiter.com/ flgovscott> and Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/#%21/scottforflorida>.

About Hillsborough River State Park

Opened in 1938, Hillsborough River State Park is one of Florida's first state parks; this original Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Park is divided by the swiftly flowing Hillsborough River with a set of Class II rapids. The river provides opportunities for fishing, canoeing, and kayaking; a canoe/kayak launch is available at parking lot #4. This concession provides breakfast & lunch, camping & picnic supplies, and a variety of memorable souvenirs. Ranger-led tours of Historic Fort Foster Site occur every Saturday. Hikers can walk over seven miles of nature trials: Rapids Trail, Baynard Trail, a sub-section of the Florida Trail and the Wetlands Restoration Trail. Visitors can also enjoy a refreshing swim in the park's ADA accessible swimming pool.

About Florida State Parks, Greenways and Trails

Governor Rick Scott, along with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service and the Florida Recreation and Park Association, proclaimed July as Park and Recreation

(Continued on Page 12)



Governor Rick Scott =FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 11)

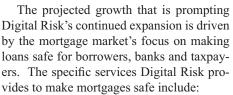
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secre-Month tary/news/2012/06/park recreation month. pdf> . Floridians and visitors alike are encouraged to spend time outdoors at one of Florida's 171 managed lands, which include state parks, state trails and historic sites. The Florida Park Service launched a new web page highlighting some of the most unique and fun activities in state parks. The Get a little park on ya <http://www.floridastateparks.org/getalittleparkonya/> ! website offers 50 fun things to do this summer in state parks. The nation's best state parks and trails have joined forces. Now a part of the Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service, the award-winning Office of Greenways and Trails manages the 110-mile Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway, eight state trails and more. Florida's award-winning state parks have inspired residents and visitors with recreation opportunities and scenic beauty that helps to strengthen families, educate children, expand local economies and foster community pride. With 160 parks, 700,000 acres, 100 miles of beaches and more than 600 miles of multi-use trails, visit soon and often to enjoy Florida's natural treasures. For more information, visit www.FloridaStateParks. <http://www.FloridaStateParks.org> org or www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/ <http:// www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/>

Maitland, Fla. - One thousand Florida jobs will result from a major expansion of Digital Risk, the nation's largest provider of mortgage risk, compliance and transaction management solutions. Florida was selected for the expansion over four U.S. cities: Charlotte, N.C.; Dallas; Denver and Phoenix.

The expansion began last month with Digital Risk's newest site in Boca Raton, where the first 150 of the 1,000 jobs will be staffed by early September. Digital Risk acknowledged the qualified pool of employees in the Palm Beach area influenced the selection of Boca Raton. The company will focus on finding communities throughout the state to meet the remaining need.

"The growth of Digital Risk perfectly demonstrates Florida's ability to recruit and retain innovative companies that can contribute to our economy and provide high value jobs for Floridians," said Governor Rick Scott. "The company's expansion throughout our state is also evidence of our success in making Florida attractive to companies looking to increase business opportunities."

Digital Risk expanded its Florida presence in 2009, adding more staff to its headquarters operations. Since then, the company also set up operations in Jacksonville. In total, Digital Risk has created more than 1,300 new jobs in Florida since 2009.



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"We are committed to building long-term careers, not just jobs," said Peter Kassabov, CEO of Digital Risk. "That's why we invest more than \$10,000 in training for each employee we hire. Florida's incentive programs will allow us to expand our training even further as we look to hire 1,000 new employees in the next two years.'

Statewide, several organizations have been vital partners to Digital Risk in its expansion efforts. Among them are Enterprise Florida, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, City of Boca Raton, City of Jacksonville, City of Maitland, JAX USA Partnership, Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission, Workforce Florida Inc. and Orange County.

About Digital Risk

Digital Risk, together with its subsidiaries, is the largest provider of mortgage risk and compliance management solutions. The company provides makers, servicers and investors the analytical, technological and risk management services they need to achieve their goals. The Digital Risk platform delivers transparency at the loan level and precise risk assessment throughout the entire mortgage life cycle. Digital Risk is privileged to serve the nation's leading banks and investors. Digital Risk is independent and not affiliated with an originator, issuer, servicer or investor. Headquartered in Maitland, Digital Risk has additional operations in Boca Raton and Jacksonville as well as New York, Dallas and Denver.

Rogers to Appear before Florida Public Service Commission

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) has called Duke Energy Chief Executive Officer Jim Rogers to appear before the Commission at 1:30 p.m. on August 13. Rogers is expected to share how the July 3 merger of Duke Energy (Duke) and Progress Energy Florida (PEF) will affect Florida consumers.

In February, the PSC approved a Settlement Agreement (Agreement) between the Office of Public Counsel (OPC) and other intervenors that resolved many PEF issues currently before, or about to be before, the Commission. Providing rate continuity for PEF's customers through 2016, the Agreement also provides a process for ongoing consultation with OPC, which represents customers, about the decision to repair or retire PEF's damaged Crystal River Nuclear Unit 3 (CR3). Commissioners want to ensure that Florida's customers will continue to benefit from the Agreement under the merged company.

Rogers was questioned by the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) on July 10 after the new board replaced PEF's Chief Executive Officer Bill Johnson, named in the agreement to head the new company, with Rogers shortly after the merger. During his (Continued on Page 15)



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Gourmet ice cream desserts you can make at home

(Family Features) Old-fashioned French Pot ice cream is incredibly dense, creamy and delicious on its own, but you can put a gourmet twist on a family favorite with these fun and easy recipes from Graeter's Ice Cream

-Make your own ice cream sandwiches with this recipe for irresistible Chocolate Chip Wheelies rolled in chocolate sprinkles - they'll have your family begging for more.

-Create a special sundae with Graeter's Black Raspberry Chocolate Chip Ice Cream, which is made with premium, hand-selected Oregon black raspberries and Graeter's sig-

nature dark chocolate chips. -Serve something special with Individual

Baked Alaskas. They are impressive to serve and easy to make.

-Change up the typical trifle by taking a unique twist: Cupcake Fruit Trifles with Vanilla Mascarpone Custard.

Cupcake Fruit Trifles with Vanilla Mascarpone Custard Yield: 20 trifles

16 ounces mascarpone



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In 1870, Louis C. Graeter began making handmade ice cream in the Queen City, Cincinnati. A tremendous success, the business grew steadily for many years, passing to each successive generation of the family.

Now in its fourth generation of family ownership, Graeter's Ice Cream is a beloved tradition, faithfully following the century-old recipes, all-natural and high-quality ingredients, and methods of production. The magic behind Graeter's is the French Pot pro-

cess. By creating just two gallons at a time and handpacking each pint, the ice cream is dense and creamy unlike any other.

Graeter's is also famous for the massive chunks of bittersweet chocolate found in its signature chip flavors. Gourmet liquid chocolate is poured into the French Pot just as the ice cream is finishing. The result is velvety smooth chunks of chocolate in every bite.

To find Graeter's at a grocery store near you, or to order online, visit www.graeters.com.

cheese

1 pint Graeter's Vanilla Ice Cream, thawed, refrigerated

1 quart heavy cream, whipped to soft peaks

4 to 6 cups of fruit: raspberries, strawberries, blueberries or oranges

Sprinkle of sugar

20 yellow cupcakes, using recipe of choice, remove liners and cut into equal thirds, horizontally

20 wine or beverage glasses, 6 to 9 ounces

Place the mascarpone cheese

and ice cream in a mixing bowl and whisk until smooth. Do not over mix.

Fold whipped cream into mascarpone mixture, cover and refrigerate until ready to assemble trifles.

When ready to assemble trifles, sprinkle fruit with a small amount of sugar, to create a syrupy consistency.

To assemble trifle: Place a small amount of custard in bottom of glass. Add some fruit, followed by the bottom third of the cupcake. Continue to layer custard, fruit and cupcake slices, using three cupcake slices per glass.

Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until ready to serve. Garnish with fruit just before serving. Note: it is best to make the trifle a few hours before serving, or the day before.

Serving idea: Make your presentation extra special with a chocolate-painted glass.

8 ounces Graeter's bittersweet chocolate sauce, room temperature

3 ounces semisweet chocolate, melted

Combine ingredients until smooth. Place in paper pastry bag or plastic resealable bag. Cut tip of bag and drizzle chocolate on inside of cup. Refrigerate cups to harden chocolate. Fill with trifle as directed. Recipe courtesy of Graeter's

Individual Baked Alaskas Yield: 8 servings

2 pints Graeter's Ice Cream of choice, such as Black Raspberry Chocolate Chip 8 mini dessert shells, frozen

(Continued on Page 14)

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(Continued from Page 13) 1/2 cup egg whites (about 4 to 5 eggs)

1 cup sugar

1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Pinch of salt

Place ice cream in the refrigerator for 10 minutes to soften slightly. Line a heavy cookie sheet with parchment paper or heavy

duty foil, and lightly with cooking spray spray. Line dessert shells on cookie sheet, about

two inches apart. Firmly press a scoop of ice cream into each frozen shell. Loosely cover with plastic wrap and freeze for several hours or over-

night.

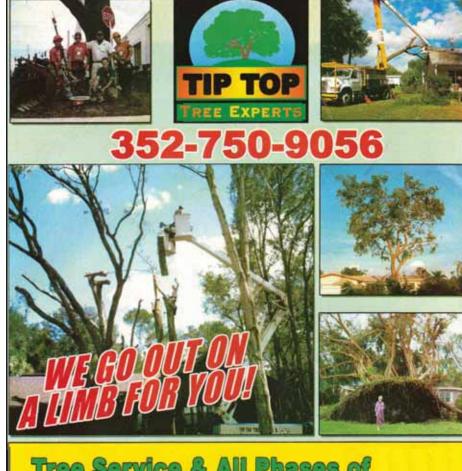
For meringue: Whisk together egg whites, sugar, cream of tartar, vanilla extract and salt in heatproof bowl.

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Set bowl in pan of gently simmering water to a warm water bath. Slowly whisk until sugar is dissolved and egg whites are about 110°F.

> Remove bowl from water bath, and whisk mixture on high speed until stiff, about four to six minutes.

Working quickly, use a spoon to spread meringue completely over each ice cream shell, covering it completely. Bake immediately, or freeze.

Preheat oven to 500°F, posi-

tioning rack in center of oven. Bake until meringue is lightly browned and set, about three minutes. If baking the meringue from a frozen state, it may take one or two minutes longer. Using a wide spatula, immediately transfer onto plates and serve.

Recipe courtesy of Graeter's

Chocolate Chip Wheelies Yield: Approximately 36 cookies or 18 wheelies

- 1/2 cup all-purpose shortening 1/2 cup lightly salted butter
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup plus 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

Recipe courtesy of Graeter's

=Governor Rick Scott =FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 12)

testimony, Rogers noted a study Duke conducted about CR3, which was to have been presented to the former Duke board during the week before the merger completion. The Florida PSC has requested the study, but has not yet received a copy.

During a maintenance and upgrade project to replace old steam generators in 2009, a crack occurred in a concrete containment building that surrounds CR3's nuclear reactor, and the plant has been down since and isn't expected to operate until 2014. In November 2010, the PSC opened Docket No. 100437 to oversee PEF's engineering analyses and repair cost estimates and ongoing

discussions about CR3 with its insurance company, the Nuclear Electric Insurance Ltd.

The NCUC approved the Duke/PEF merger on June 29 under its statutory merger and acquisition authority. Earlier in June, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission granted its merger approval. Florida PSC approval was not required since it does not have authority to approve mergers and ac*quisitions*.

For additional information, visit www. floridapsc.com.

Follow the PSC on Twitter, @floridapsc <http://www.twitter.com/floridapsc>.





2 large eggs

if necessary)

Cream flavor

1/2teaspoon vanilla extract

1 1/3 cup cake flour

Chocolate sprinkles

smooth, about one minute.

Preheat oven to 390°F.

3/4cup bread flour (substitute all-purpose

4 pints of your favorite Graeter's Ice

Cream shortening, butter, brown sugar,

Add eggs and vanilla to mixture and

Add flour gradually and beat until well

minutes.

granulated sugar, salt and baking soda until

cream until all ingredients are incorporated.

1 2/3 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Once cookies are cooled, place in freezer until frozen. After freezing. sandwich your favorite flavor ice cream



between two chocolate

chip cookies. Immediately roll the edge of the sandwich in chocolate sprinkles.

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