

Ocala

A free publication serving the people of the Ocala area

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Volume 4 Issue 12
December, 2013



Yay! The dock has been completed. As you can see the dock will accommodate many seniors and wheelchair seniors and is perfect for them to fish off of. Pictured on the left is Russ Moore of PAKMAIL. Russ is volunteering at the Senior Fishing Derby. Don't forget to send your packages through him. You can find more pictures of the fishing derby on page nine.

Giving Thanks! Dennis Baxley



Florida House of Representatives
Representative
Dennis K. Baxley
District 23
Judiciary Committee Appropriations Committee-Chair
Ethics and Elections Subcommittee

K-12 Subcommittee

As we enter Thanksgiving season, it is a great opportunity to give thanks for the progress being made in our lives despite the daunting challenges ahead.

This week Florida was given report on another decrease in crime rates which should encourage all of us to know despite the high visibility of violence in our culture, the real numbers tell us we are experiencing fewer crimes. For this we give thanks.

This week we also received numbers from the Marion County Association of Realtors that show solid gains in home sales and home value. This is a palpable message that recovery from a deep four year recession

(Continued on Page 2)

LIAR LIAR PANTS ON FIRE

By Tom Loury

Wow, can you believe the problems with OBAMACARE? A 35 year old man has to have maternity delivery coverage and a 35 year old woman has to have prostate insurance coverage. It is reported that a married couple without children, must have children's dental insurance, it goes on and on.

RIDICULOUS! We, the taxpayers, have been lied to time and time again. We were told time after time we could keep our insurance and doctor, over two hundred thousand Floridians have already lost their insurance and their doctors! Millions of people are losing their insurance nation wide and their doctors can't continue under the rules of ObamaCare. This writer's doctor closed her

doors after years of building and maintaining her patient list.

The deal making and the crap going on in Washington has got to stop. Instead, Washington is looking more like a toilet that needs to be flushed! It needs to be cleaned up and deodorized. It smells of dirty money, deal making and incompetence. Yes there are a few good politicians, but there are damn few. We are headed in a backward direction.

The suppression of religious beliefs, the right of free speech, being politically correct by not saying the pledge, forcing people to buy health insurance. This is supposed to be a free country. If you let Obama keep making executive decisions and forcing laws down our throats, we will no longer be free.

The very people that fought for freedom will suffer first - "the veterans" and the seniors. They say SS is going broke. The politicians have been raiding the SS fund for years and again just months ago raided the SS to fund health care for people who don't want to work and/or are not citizens of our country.

A few months back I wrote a series called "Dancing with the Devil". This is an extension of that. The devil has never been more prevalent in our daily lives than it is today.

Your belief and you, the people, will prevail, but at what price? We need a new champion. This person does not have to be young. They need to be smart, dedicated to the people and our country, and by all means truthful.

Who is my choice? I'm not sure, I'm not looking for a Republican or a Democrat or any other party. It could be a man or a woman, black or white but a champion is a must. I do not like Rubio, I have had some personal experience, but I could consider Ben Carson, Sara Palin, Paul Ryan or someone similar, someone who has a fire in their belly and can stand up and say ENOUGH! By all means, very important not to lie to the people. Our current administration has so many Pinnochios that their noses won't fit into the White House meeting room. Most of these noses are straight in the air... PRAY FOR RAIN! What is your opinion? tloury@att.net

Tom's Picks


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Giving Thanks!

(Continued from Page 1)

tion remains on track which is a very important indicator as our banking confidence ultimately rest on these property values and this trend continuing is an improvement of our economic health of our community and our state.

Florida home values dropped DRA dramatically during recession and this was toxic for everyone's economic health. Florida is demonstrating that fiscally sound policy is the best course for economic recovery.

For all of this we are thankful and for all

those who have focused on bringing recovery for our people.

So while we are honest about the challenges ahead, let's all take a moment to give thanks. Despite all our challenges, we are blessed. A thankful heart is also the healthy way to continue to progress in our recovery. Always give thanks.

Onward & Upward,
Representative Dennis Baxley
House District 23
DKB/nm

Record-Breaking Attendance

FLORIDA'S STATE PARKS AND TRAILS GENERATED \$1.2 BILLION IN ECONOMIC IMPACT LAST FISCAL YEAR

~Florida's award-winning state parks and trails achieve record-breaking attendance numbers and economic impact~

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Parks Service produced \$1.2 billion in economic impact during the last fiscal year, after hosting a record 25.5 million visitors. The three-time National Gold Medal-winning system saw 592,615 more visitors in fiscal year 2012-2013 than the previous year.

Governor Rick Scott said, "With more than 25 million visitors at our parks last year, it's clear that Florida's state parks are among the best in the world. These parks provide families with incredible opportunities to enjoy our natural treasures, and they create jobs for Florida families. With Florida's parks generating \$1.2 billion in economic activity last year, it's clear that our efforts to enhance our state parks are working. To better support and promote our parks, we've made strategic investments including increasing the budget for park repairs by \$5 million, \$63 million in VISIT FLORIDA to better attract visitors, nearly \$37 million in restoring and protecting our state's springs, and creating more license free fishing days. Today is great news, and we'll continue working to make Florida's state parks the best in the world."

In 2012-2013, the Florida Park Service had an overall direct economic impact of nearly \$1.2 billion on local economies throughout the state. Direct economic impact is defined as the amount of new dollars spent in the local economy by non-local park visitors and by park operations funds spent in the local economy. More than \$77 million was contributed to general revenues in the form of state sales taxes.

In addition, 19,104 jobs were supported as a result of the state park system operations. For every 1,000 people visiting a state park or trail, the total direct impact on the local community is almost \$47,000. In October, the Florida Parks Service won its third National Gold Medal for Excellence, becoming not only the only state to win three gold medals, but also the only state to win two.

"Florida's award-winning state parks and state trails attract visitors from around the world, and Governor Scott and First Lady

Ann Scott are some of our biggest enthusiasts," said DEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. "Those visitors enjoy our natural and cultural resources and contribute to the economy of Florida, which supports jobs."

The top-visited state trail was the Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail with 1,983,489 visitors and more than \$91 million in direct economic impact. Honeymoon Island State Park in Dunedin welcomed more visitors than any other state park in Florida for the seventh year in a row with 1,044,295 visitors and more than \$46.3 million in direct economic impact.

"State parks and trails have inspired residents and visitors for more than 78 years," said Florida Park Service Director Donald Forgione, "We have a longstanding tradition of offering family friendly, world-class outdoor recreation."

Rounding out the top 10 visited state parks are:

- Cross Florida Greenway - 998,927 visitors
- St. Andrews State Park, Panama City - 893,102 visitors
- Lovers Key State Park, Fort Myers Beach - 846,012 visitors
- Gasparilla Island State Park, Boca Grande - 799,811 visitors
- John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, Key Largo – 769,751 visitors
- Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park, Key Biscayne - 657,184 visitors
- Sebastian Inlet State Park, Melbourne Beach - 598,459 visitors
- Bahia Honda State Park, Big Pine Key - 582,093 visitors

The economic impacts of these parks and trails are due to their location and level of development, leading to high attendance and park expenditure levels. Those parks and trails which are fully developed and can sustain high attendance have the largest direct economic impact on the local economy.

Economic impact is calculated as the amount of new dollars spent in the local economy by non-local park visitors and park operations. The Florida Park Service uses the Money Generation Model designed for and used by the National Park Service to assess economic impact in the local area around a park.



Thomas L. Croley, M.D.

CARING FOR YOUR EYES



“DIABETES AND YOUR EYES – SEE THE WHOLE PICTURE”

Diabetic Retinopathy is the leading cause of new blindness among adults in the United States. Approximately 10.3 million Americans have Diabetes.

People who have diabetes, whether controlled by diet, oral medications or insulin, see their family physician routinely. Diabetics understand that diabetes must be monitored on a regular basis because of the effects that diabetes can have on the body. It is equally as important for people with diabetes to have complete eye examinations with an ophthalmologist at a minimum of once a year.

Diabetes Mellitus is a condition which impairs the body's ability to use and store sugar. Elevated blood sugar levels, excessive thirst with an increase in urination and changes in the body's blood vessels are characteristic to diabetes. Diabetes also causes changes in the eyes. More than one third of patients diagnosed with diabetes do not receive the recommended vision care and may be at risk for blindness. Because there

are often no symptoms in the early stages of diabetic retinopathy, your vision may not be affected until the disease becomes severe.

Diabetic Retinopathy is a complication of diabetes. It occurs when blood vessels nourishing the retina begin to deteriorate. These weakened blood vessels may leak either blood or fluid, develop fragile brush-like branches or become enlarged in certain places. The retina is the portion of the eye where objects are focused. When leaking blood vessels damage or scar the retina, the image that is sent to the brain is distorted or blurred. The retina must be healthy for good vision.

Juvenile diabetics are particularly likely to develop diabetic retinopathy at an early age. However, only a small percentage of them have serious problems with their vision or ever become blind.

There are two forms of diabetic retinopathy. The earliest stage is called background diabetic retinopathy. This is when blood vessels in the retina change. Some decrease in size while others enlarge and form balloon like sacs, which obstruct the flow of blood through the vessels. The vessels then leak and hemorrhage causing swelling of the retinal layers. Deposits are formed called exudates.

Fortunately in this stage of diabetic retinopathy, sight is usually not seriously affected and in 80% of diabetics the condition does

not progress. However, in some cases the leaking fluid will collect in the macula (the center portion of the retina that is responsible for central vision). Straight lines, reading and close work may become blurred.

Background diabetic retinopathy is a warning sign and can progress to a more serious sight endangering stage of diabetic retinopathy called proliferative diabetic retinopathy. This starts in the same manner as background diabetic retinopathy with the addition of new blood vessel growth on the retina's surface or optic nerve. These fragile new blood vessels may rupture and bleed into the vitreous (the clear gel like substance which fills the center of the eye).

If leakage clouds the clear gel, vision will appear distorted. Also, scar tissue forming from the mass of ruptured blood vessels may tighten and pull at the retina causing a retinal detachment. Blood vessels may also grow on the iris, blocking the channels of even flow of liquid called aqueous humor which causes glaucoma. Severe loss of sight and even blindness may result from these conditions.

The cause of diabetic retinopathy is not completely understood. However, it is known that diabetes weakens small blood vessels in various areas of the body. Pregnancy and increased blood pressure may worsen the condition in diabetic patients.

Regular comprehensive medical eye

exams by an ophthalmologist are the best protection against the progression of diabetic retinopathy. If diabetic retinopathy is detected a second method of exam may be used, a test called fluorescein angiogram, to see which blood vessels are bleeding or leaking fluid. Photos are taken after dye has been injected into the patient's arm, and then examined by the doctor.

If diabetic retinopathy is diagnosed your ophthalmologist will monitor or treat the type of diabetic retinopathy you have. The treatment may vary from periodic exams to laser treatments to seal off bleeding or leaking blood vessels. The laser treatment will not restore vision that is already lost due to diabetes, but will stabilize and stop the progression of the disease in the eye.

Only an ophthalmologist can treat diabetic retinopathy. He is a medical doctor who is educated, trained, and licensed to provide total care of the eyes. This care includes performing comprehensive eye exams, prescribing corrective lenses, diagnosing diseases and disorders of the eye, as well as using the appropriate medical and surgical procedures necessary for their treatment.

The gift of sight must be treasured. Early detected, diagnosis and treatment can help maintain good vision for a lifetime.

By Thomas L. Croley, M.D.

Board Certified Ophthalmologist

Director of Central Florida Eye Institute

Join Us at Our Open House Learn more about Sabal Trail Transmission's Project

Date: December 10th, 2013 (5:00 - 7:30pm)

Location: Dunnellon High School Cafeteria - 10055 SW 180th Ave Rd. | Dunnellon, FL 34432

To meet the growing demand for additional affordable, clean natural gas supplies while increasing the reliability of the region's energy delivery system, Sabal Trail Transmission is planning to build a new interstate natural gas pipeline.

The project, called the Sabal Trail Project will deliver approximately 1 billion cubic feet per day of clean burning natural gas beginning May 2017. The Project will include:

- Construction of approximately 460 miles of 36-inch-diameter mainline natural gas pipeline that originates in Tallapoosa County, Alabama and ends in Osceola County, Florida;
- Construction of approximately 14 miles of 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline extending from a proposed compressor station in Osceola County, Florida to Florida Gas Transmission's existing natural gas pipeline in Orange County, Florida;
- Construction of approximately 24 miles of 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline in Marion and Citrus Counties, Florida;
- Construction of five (5) new compressor stations in Tallapoosa County, Alabama, Dougherty County, Georgia, and Suwannee, Marion, and Osceola Counties in Florida; and
- Construction of six (6) new meter stations

At the Open House, Sabal Trail representatives will be available to answer questions on all aspects of the project. Representatives from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will also be available.

The public is invited and we encourage all interested persons to attend.
For more information visit our website at www.sabaltrail.com.

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Tom Lorry

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



I got a call from a democrat the other day. How, you ask, did I know he was a democrat? Well I'll tell the story and you make up your own mind. The call started out like this, "are you Tom Lorry?" "Yes. I exclaimed." "Well I don't want your biased rag thrown in my yard again or I'll call the police." I asked "do you live in the Ocala area or the Villages?" He said "you figure it out." HUMMM? He said "you have a one sided paper and I don't like it." I said "what story / writer do you have a problem with?" He said "you figure it out!" HUMMM. "Do you live in Ocala or the Villages?" Finally he said "Villages!" YAY! I have narrowed it down to 80,000 people. I think he was referring to an article on the front page. I ran a press release from Governor Scott that said Washington has its head in the sand. That's a pretty biased statement but it was made by the Governor of Florida. This call came in while I was at the Post Office getting my mail and low and behold there was a postcard in the PO Box thanking us for the columns we are running concerning eye care / Chiropractic care / pic-

tures of Leesburg Chamber expo and the Ocala Chamber Expo. So somewhere in the 80,000 people is a democrat that will get our paper again because he did not give me his address. That's right, in all that he did not give me the address where not to throw it. Sounds like a good plan to me. I'm looking forward to his call next month. Now on to some biased information.

I was raised as a democrat all my life until the current president started doing things that the people did not want done. Then he started lying about everything, things he didn't have to lie about. I changed parties to vote against him, but it did not work. The republicans are not acting very smart. They are acting like obstructionists mixed with lies of their own. They can't even put up a decent candidate. Every candidate's special interest shows up during the election. If the republicans can agree on one single message to drive home every day, every hour, every minute they might take control. They must act like a unit.

CANDIDATES

I kind of like Ben Carson but he may be too soft spoken. I'd like to hear him go on a rant and see how he does, I think he is an independent. I still like Sarah Palin and I like Paul Ryan, but I'm waiting for something special to emerge. It's not Marco Rubio or Chris Cristy, he turned into a wimp

begging the president for food after the Hurricane. The president had to give them aid! I would really like to see Lora Ingrime go into politics, she has some good ideas and knows how to talk to an audience.

CONTERFEITING

At what point does it become fraudulent for the federal government to continue to print money? Can they just print it as they need it? It seems that way. If you have noticed there are a lot of new bills out there in the stores. Who is supposed to say that's enough, NO MORE!

As they print more the less the money is worth. Yes we are helping the poor and we are feeding the hungry, but we always have. We are also supplying the people with an income for not working, who would go to work if they don't have to? We have increased the level of lifestyle, but we are doing it on credit, how long can that last?

BENGHAZI

I will never forgive the people responsible for allowing these people to die. My personal belief is that the decision not to do anything was made so the result of the election would not be affected.

Droning the terrorist leaders is one of the few things I agree with. It makes the terrorist think twice about being the next leader.

Have you noticed the increase in young

people committing acts of violence, killing multiple people? With our society saying our young people will be harnessed to unbelievable debt all their lives and the acts of bullying going on country-wide, what do the young people have to look forward to? Bullying has taken on a new face. In the old days a kid gets bullied in the hall and three or four people see it and they can get over it. But today with the internet, thousands of people could hear about it, that's hard to get over. Speaking of bullies, the president has lied to the young people, the poor, the middle class and the wealthy. If we could see into the future, what will be facing us?? I'm not sure I want to know!

IMPEACHMENT

Congressman YOHO along with another Congressman have started Impeachment proceedings against Eric Holder! YAAAAAAAY! It's about time someone is fighting back.

Washington is getting too big and is giving itself too many benefits. George Washington had to borrow money to go to his inauguration. Each governor and/or elected official is trying to look out for their own people of their own state and not looking for the good of the entire country.

What do you think? tlorry@att.net

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for January

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

12am, December 18th

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, December 20th

Ocala DownTown

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From the Office of
THE MARION COUNTY SHERIFF

Numerous vehicles and a residence in the Whispering Pines Subdivision have been the target of an arsonist. The Marion County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Ocala Police Department has worked harmoniously to capture the person(s) responsible for the following acts:

- On 06-10-13 @ 0025 hours MCFR responded to a fire at an abandoned residence in Whispering Pines Subdivision off of S.W. 103rd Street Road.
- On 09-21-13 @ 2300 hours a citizen's vehicle was burned in his driveway, near Whispering Pines Subdivision off of S.W. 103rd Street Road.
- On 09-29-13 @ 2130 hours the personal vehicle of a Marion County Sheriff's Deputy was burned in his driveway, near Whispering Pines Subdivision on S.W. 103rd Street Road.
- On 10-07-13 @ 0143 hours the marked patrol vehicle of a Marion County Sheriff's Deputy was burned in his driveway, Whispering Pines Subdivision off of S.W. 103rd Street Road.
- On 10-13-13 @ 0130 hours the marked

patrol vehicle and the personal vehicle of an Ocala Police Department Officer was burned in her driveway, Whispering Pines Subdivision off of S.W. 103rd Street Road.

It appears as though law enforcement is the main target of the arsonist. Detectives want your help. If you know anything about these cases, please contact Detective Steve Osborne at (352) 438-5940. There is up to \$5,000 in cash for your information leading to an arrest and conviction.

Bruce Mizell Robinson, 42, of Ocala has been charged with sex battery on a juvenile. The victim told detectives Robinson spoke about recruiting girls to go to hotels and have sex with men for cash. According to the arrest affidavit, the victim told Robinson she was not interested. The victim told detectives when she tried to call for help, Robinson "became forceful." Robinson was arrested and transported to the Marion County Jail. Robinson is a registered sex offender. Detectives would like to know what you know about Robinson's contact with children. If you have details about Robinson, please call (352) 369-6845. You can phone

anonymous tips to Crime Stoppers of Marion County at 368-STOP or 368-7867. Text tips to 274637 using keyword 368STOP. Tips can also be submitted at www.ocalacrimestoppers.com.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office obtained a warrant for Branden A. Richter (25) after he was involved in an incident in the parking lot of the Pac-N-Sac located at 10015 SE CR 25, Belleview, with his ex-girlfriend and two other acquaintances. The defendant pulled a firearm on the three victims threatening them and he then fired numerous rounds into the ground, one of which struck one of the victims in the foot. The defendant also held the handgun to his own head threatening to kill himself. As one of the responding units arrived at the store, he got into his vehicle and fled into the neighborhood behind the store. A search involving numerous deputies and K-9 were unable to locate the him, however, his vehicle, a rifle, and a shotgun were recovered. A few hours later numerous units responded to the defendant's mother's residence located at 14352 SE 42nd Terrace, Summerfield, after information was received that he was there. His mother confirmed that he had been there, but fled on foot just prior to our arrival. Two more handguns belonging

to the defendant were recovered from his mother's home. Information was received that the defendant was held up in a weekly rental trailer at 4056 Picciola Drive, lot 89 in Fruitland Park. With the assistance of Lake County Sheriff's Office, the defendant surrendered at the sight of the K-9 unit. He was taken to the Lake County Jail.

Charles W. Messina, 63, of Ocala was arrested for inappropriate contact with a 91-year-old victim. Witnesses told detectives Messina was in a dark room with the victim. The witnesses say once the lights were turned on, they could see Messina violating the victim. Messina is in the Marion County Jail; his bond is \$10,000. Detectives would like to know what you know about Messina's contact with the elderly. If you have details about Messina, please call (352) 369-6715. You can phone anonymous tips to Crime Stoppers of Marion County at 368-STOP or 368-7867. Text tips to 274637 using keyword 368STOP. Tips can also be submitted at www.ocalacrimestoppers.com.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office is looking for two suspects who carjacked a tow truck driver. This incident took place around 12:45 a.m., Wednesday, November (Continued on Page 6)



Tom Loury
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SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MOVIE FOR DECEMBER, 2013

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH AND 11TH, 2013 AT 1:30 PM

“WHAT MAISIE KNEW” STARRING: JULIANNE MOORE, STEVE COOGAN, ONATA APRILE

Scott McGehee and David Siegel’s adaptation of Henry James’ novel *What Maisie Knew* stars Julianne Moore as Susanna, a self-involved rock star whose marriage to the equally egotistical Beale (Steve Coogan) is falling apart. They are both less-than-good parents to their six-year-old daughter Maisie (Onata Aprile). Maisie finds some solace in the care of the family’s nanny as well as when she’s looked after by Susanna’s new boyfriend. **RATED R**

Reservations must be made at the 8th Avenue Senior Center. Seating is limited to 8 persons per video. Please call the Center at 629-8545 to reserve your seat.

COMING IN JANUARY 2014 “MAN OF STEEL” AND “IRON MAN 3”

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER, 2013

SANTA ON THE SQUARE

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, December 3rd, 5th, 10th, 12th, 17th & 19th, 2013

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.

SANTA’S CALLING

OCALA RECREATION AND PARKS

When: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, December 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 2013

Time: 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

What: Santa and Mrs. Claus will be checking their list and calling from the North Pole to delight good little girls and boys. Registration is required. All 401-3916 or email DLEaf@Ocalafl.org for registration information. Registration deadline is December 1, 2013.

HOLIDAY TRIP TO KISSIMMEE -- CHRISTMAS AT GAYLORD PALMS

When: Wednesday, December 11, 2013
Leave 8thAve. Sr.Center at 8:30 am Return 6:00pm

Cost: \$45.00 per person Late Lunch on your own at Denny’s

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the Frostbite Factory and watch a masterful ice carver from Harbin, China up close as he creates amazing sculptures before your eyes. Your awe-inspiring experience concludes with the wonder and majesty of the Nativity scene in ice. Bring a snack or extra\$ because we will be going to the event first and having a late lunch at Denny’s around 2:30 pm prior to returning. Reservations are required and seating is limited to 45. Call Grace at 629-8357 for additional informa-

tion.

ATTENTION:

The 8th Avenue Senior Center will be closed December 20th, 2013 through January 1st, 2014 for the Holidays and building maintenance. The Center will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd, 2014.

For more information call the Center at 629-8545.

From the Office of

THE MARION COUNTY SHERIFF

(Continued from Page 5)

06, along the 8400 block of NW 193rd Street, Reddick. The victim (driver) told detectives he got a call to tow a vehicle to Gainesville. The victim said he arrived to find a woman sitting in a white Mercury Grand Marquis. The victim said he held a brief conversation with the female suspect about the tow. All of a sudden, the victim said, a man came from the woods with a handgun. According to the victim, he was ordered to the ground. At one point, he took off running and the suspect fired the handgun. The male suspect eventually drove away with the tow truck. The first

suspect is simply described as a heavy-set black female who might be 30-40 years old. The second suspect is described as a black male who stands about 6 feet tall. He was last seen wearing a dark ski mask and dark clothing. The truck is a 2005 International Flatbed with an aluminum bed. The logo “Big Oak Towing” is on both sides of the truck. To help, call in an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers of Marion County at 368-STOP or 368-7867. Text tips to 274637 using keyword 368STOP. Tips can also be submitted at www.ocalacrimestoppers.com.

Your Opinion matters to us!

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



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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

All Men Are Created Equal!

O.K. I get it!!!!!!

I suffered privation during my early life, and for the remainder of my life I have worked, like a dog.

I toted my barge, lifted my bale, but I did not land in jail. Hard work was the key to whatever I have accumulated.

Now it is your turn to do the same. Equal is equal in all things, work included.

You have no right to demand I work, and sacrifice to support you.

When all are equal no one deserves a free

ride. That is NOT equal.

We are all created EQUAL! This is your credo.

The founding fathers tried to express something from the perspective of their day. What they should have said, to my mind is: NO HUMAN HAS THE RIGHT TO EXPLOIT, DEMEAN, OR ABUSE ANOTHER HUMAN.

You have no RIGHT to exploit, demean, or abuse me. I did nothing to you.

I have worked, worked, and worked. What I have accumulated was gotten by hard work. I deserve some degree of com-

fort in my waning years.

I worked for mine, you work for yours
FAIR is FAIR. EQUAL is EQUAL.

Get up and go to work. Demand jobs not largesse {free stuff}.

D.I. Larson

Ocala, FL

I think it is about time we quit wasting money on the Sebelius hearings. She says exactly what she is told over and over.

Surely by now the American people realize just who is going to benefit from this plan that the rest of us are going to pay for and that is the same people collecting food stamps and welfare.

This started out supposedly costing 94

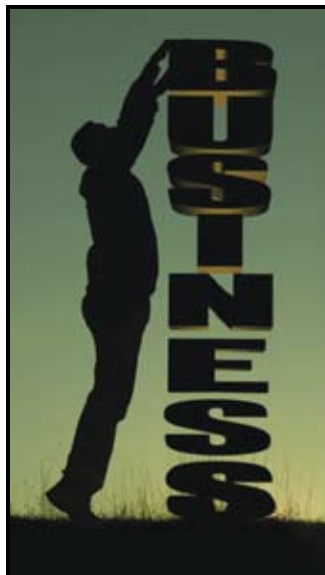
million and is now up to 292 million. If you had a business and had paid someone to do this work for you and it didn't work would you pay them, of course not.

Are the American people this stupid? I just can't believe it. The Countries that are laughing at us are innumerable.

You can bet if these people in government had to have this insurance they would be telling a different story. Sebelius can stand right behind Obama when they hand out the Pinocchio awards they so richly deserve. A BIG HAND for Sen. Roberts from Kansas! Resign now Honorable Sebelius.

P. Lee

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The forward momentum of this vibrant organization will focus on economic growth while maintaining the beauty and quality of life in Ocala and Marion County.

We invite you to get acquainted at a complimentary, no-obligation
"GET GOING! New Partner Orientation"

This 60-minute overview is a casual format for you to learn more about the CEP and how partnership in this progressive organization will provide you with additional resources, connections, and advocacy to help in YOUR business development and growth initiatives.

For more information and the date of the next session, please contact:
Felecia Prather at 352-629-8051 or felecia@ocalacc.com

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Extrication Equipment Used to Free Trapped Driver

(OCALA, Fla.) November 11, 2013 – Ocala firefighters responded to a vehicle collision involving a tractor trailer shortly after midnight. On arrival firefighters used hydraulic extrication equipment to gain access and safely remove the driver of an SUV that struck the rear of a tractor trailer in the 3200 block of Southeast Maricamp Road.

According to Battalion Chief Travis Welter, firefighters responded at 26 minutes after midnight and arrived on scene within

two minutes. The driver of the SUV was transported to Ocala Regional Medical Center by ambulance. The driver of the truck was not injured.

The tractor trailer and SUV received significant damage. All east bound lanes of Maricamp Road were closed for about one hour Monday morning.

In the photo, an Ocala firefighter checks the vehicle after removing the driver.

Classic Holiday Flavors Inspire Fun Snack Recipes

(Family Features) The holiday season is filled with family food traditions, from stuffing and pumpkin pie, to festive cakes and frosted sugar cookies. This year, wow your family, guests and friends with a fun, crunchy twist on the great tastes of holiday favorites.

No one can replace grandma's classic pie recipe, but have a little fun and surprise your family and friends. With creative takes on traditional dishes, Chex® Party Mix will help you wow your guests with familiar flavors and aromas, served



up in a playful way that's sure to impress.

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(Continued on Page 14)

Senior Fishing Derby

Ocala Marion County Parks and Recreation held another great day for the seniors. The weather was good, there was plenty of fishermen / women, a new dock to fish off of, and the fish were biting. Plenty of fish were caught, mostly smalls but lots of fun. Door prizes were plenty and the food was good. Hey, what more could you ask for?

Two trophies were won. First place for the most fish and largest fish was Mary Morand and the oldest fisher woman was Marie Gary at 101 years old. Trophies were donated by BJ Trophies. Lots of fun was had by all.



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Governor Scott and Hertz Break Ground
ESTERO, Fla. – Governor Rick Scott, alongside Hertz’s Chairman and CEO Mark Frissora, broke ground on the new location of Hertz’s corporate headquarters. Hertz announced in May that their headquarters would relocate from New Jersey to Estero, Florida, creating at least 700 jobs for Florida families.

A recent Pulse of America survey shows that*
print classifieds still work!



Classified Print Opportunity:

- Read Classifieds..... 84%
- Placed Classified Ads..... 15%

Bought Print Ad Last 30 Days:

- Real Estate..... 2.5%
- New/Used Vehicle..... 11%
- Home Contractor..... 3%
- Job change ads..... 12%

Classified Print Results:

- Sold what they advertised... 38%
- Sold or had many calls..... 73%

Craigslist:

- Visited Last 30 Days..... 38%
- Placed Ad on Craigslist..... 17%
- Responded to Craigslist Ad.. 21%

* Survey Conducted June 30, 2013

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Gov. Scott Celebrates Beginning of Hanukkah

Tallahassee – Governor Rick Scott and Rabbi Schneur Oirechman of Chabad Lubavitch of the Panhandle-Tallahassee celebrated the beginning of Hanukkah by participating in a ceremonial lighting of the menorah.

Governor Scott said, “At sundown tonight, Jewish families across Florida will begin celebrating Hanukkah, a holiday that

recalls the Jewish people’s miraculous victory over religious persecution. The story of the Maccabees is an inspiration to people of all backgrounds. Their courage reminds us to stand firm in our identity, trust in our faith, and fight for our ideals. Ann and I continue to pray for the safety of Israel and we extend our warmest wishes to all those observing Hanukkah.”

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SBA of Ocala is an Association of non-competing, professional business people who meet on a weekly basis to share information pertaining to the local business communities as well as each individual business. The purpose of SBA is to bring together like-minded professionals to increase their business through building relationships and sharing knowledge.

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—Governor Rick Scott

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

Governor and First Lady Scott Wish Florida Families a Happy Thanksgiving

NAPLES, Fla. – Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott issued the following statement on Thanksgiving:

Governor Scott said, "Thanksgiving is a time for families across the nation to join their loved ones in giving thanks for the year's blessings. As you gather with your family to celebrate this joyous holiday, I encourage you to also give thanks to the brave men and women who have served and who are currently serving our country at home and abroad. Their service and sacrifice pro-

tect our freedom and we will keep them and their families in our thoughts and prayers as we celebrate this holiday season. Ann and I wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving weekend."

Governor Rick Scott Appoints Robert "Blake" Gable to Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Robert "Blake" Gable to the Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees.

Gable, 42, of Naples, is the president of Barron Collier Companies. He has served as a board member of the Immokalee Foundation and as a trustee of the Greater Naples YMCA. Gable received his bachelor's degree from Tulane University and his master's degree from Florida Gulf Coast University. He succeeds Scott Lutgert and is appointed for a term beginning November 25, 2013, and ending January 6, 2018.

The appointment is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

Governor Rick Scott Reappoints Three to College of Central Florida District Board of Trustees

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced the reappointments of Ron Ewers, Robert Durrance, and Sandra Balfour to the College of Central Florida District Board of Trustees.

Ewers, 72, of Ocala, is the retired president of Class 1. He has served on the Board of the Ocala/Marion County Economic Development Council and as vice chairman of

the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition. He is reappointed for a term beginning September 5, 2013, and ending May 31, 2017.

Durrance, 63, of Bronson, is a retired Levy County School Board teacher administrator. He has previously worked as a high school teacher, assistant principal and district testing coordinator. Durrance received his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and his master's degree from Nova University. He is reappointed for a term beginning September 5, 2013, and ending May 31, 2017.

Balfour, 55, of Lecanto, is a Citrus County school board member. She has served on the Association of Community College Trustees and the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development. Balfour received her bachelor's degree in elementary education and her master's degree in educational leadership. She is reappointed for a term beginning September 5, 2013, and ending May 31, 2017.

The appointments are subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.



Bob's will be closed Dec 25th through Jan 1st to give his employees time with their families for creating joyous holiday memories. ♥

Villages Resident Makes A Move With New Seeing Eye® Dog

Donna Evans, a long time resident of The Villages, recently moved from her Village of Woodbury home to a villa in Hacienda Villas. Her decision to relocate is based on her eyesight. Donna is legally blind with a very limited area of vision remaining in one eye. "Finding a home in The Villages that would offer me everything I need & want within walking distance was a challenge. My goal was to have freedom, mobility and independence while walking safely to and from my home."

By living within walking distance to Spanish Springs, she is able to achieve that goal of living independently, walking to the grocery store, doing her banking as well as enjoying all the festivities that the square brings day and night. "When I purchased my home in Hacienda Villas, I knew it was perfect!"

As driving has never been an option for Donna, in 2012, she was partnered with her second Seeing Eye dog – Jody. Jody is now her constant, loving companion – her soul-friend – who guides her safely wherever she goes.

Jody is a two-year-old Black Lab that was bred, raised, and trained at The Seeing Eye, Inc., in Morristown, N.J., where more than 15,500 partnerships between individuals and dogs have been made since 1929. Donna spent three weeks at the school in the spring of 2012 where she bonded with and learned special handling skills for Jody.

Donna has worked with Seeing Eye dogs since 2000 and Jody is her second partnership. Before retiring, Donna and her first partner, Traci, managed a retail operation under The Maryland Business Enterprise Program for the Blind at Bethesda Medical Center outside Washington DC. Now retired, Donna enjoys spending her free time singing, traveling, going to the beach and enjoying everything The Villages lifestyle offers. "Having Jody in my life affords me a freedom and independence beyond words. I walk with confidence everywhere I go. She's my constant companion. The bond we have is indescribable."

Villagers are encouraged to follow a few guidelines in case they should encounter any Seeing Eye dog team around town. Remember, distracting a Seeing Eye dog can make its owner vulnerable to harm.

Please don't let your pet near a guide dog, even if your dog is leashed

Always let a person who is blind know that you are nearby and tell them if you have a dog with you

Do not call the dog's name, make eye contact or talk to the dog. It's always best to treat the dog as if he is not there

Do not shout directions, take the person by the arm or interrupt them when they are crossing the street. If you are concerned for their safety, ask them if they need help first

Please encourage others to follow these guidelines.



"I hope to meet many of you as Jody and I are out and about in the Town Square. Just remember to say "Hi" to me and pretend – as hard as it is – that my Seeing Eye dog is invisible."

Background info on The Seeing Eye Organization:

Established in 1929, The Seeing Eye provides specially bred and trained dogs to guide people who are blind. Seeing Eye® dog users experience greatly enhanced mobility and independence, allowing them to retain their active lifestyles despite blind-

ness. The Seeing Eye is a philanthropy supported by contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations, bequests, and other planned gifts.

The Seeing Eye is a trademarked name and can only be used to describe the dogs bred and trained at the school's facilities in Morristown, N.J. If you would like more information on The Seeing Eye, please visit the website at www.SeeingEye.org, call (973) 539-4425, or email info@seeingeye.org.

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Benefiting

Classic Holiday Flavors Inspire Fun Snack Recipes

(Continued from Page 8)

late, crushed candy canes and a dark chocolate drizzle, it's easy to add holiday cheer with this festive mix.

Prep Time: 10 Minutes

Start to Finish: 15 Minutes

Makes: 16 servings (1/2 cup each)

3 cups Rice Chex® cereal

3 cups Chocolate Chex® cereal

1 bag (12 ounces) white vanilla baking chips (2 cups)

1/2 cup coarsely crushed peppermint candy canes (16 miniature, unwrapped)

1/4 cup dark chocolate chips

Mix cereals in large microwavable bowl. Line cookie sheet with foil or waxed paper.

In microwavable bowl, microwave white vanilla baking chips

uncovered on High about 1 minute 30 seconds, stirring every 30 seconds, until chips can be stirred smooth. Stir in half the crushed peppermint candy.

Pour over cereal; toss to evenly coat. Spread mixture in single layer on cookie sheet. Immediately sprinkle with remaining candy.

Melt dark chocolate chips in microwave on High 50 to 60 seconds



or until chips can be stirred smooth; drizzle over top. Let stand in refrigerator until set, about 5 minutes. Gently break into clusters. Store in airtight container.

Chex® Pumpkin Pie Crunch

This recipe is great served in your favorite colorful pie plate. Set the pie plate out on the table with the other dishes, and put a scooper out so guests can help themselves. For party favors, leave small bags next to the pie plate and ask guests to take a bag home for an extra treat later.

Prep Time: 15 Minutes

Start to Finish: 15 Minutes

Makes: 16 servings (1/2 cup each)

1/4 cup brown sugar

1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice

1/4 cup butter

2 teaspoons vanilla

2 cups Cinnamon Chex® cereal

2 cups Wheat Chex® cereal

2 cups Honey Nut Chex® cereal

8 ounces pecans

In small bowl, mix brown sugar and pumpkin pie spice; set aside. In small microwave-safe dish, microwave butter on High about 30 seconds or until melted. Stir in vanilla. In large microwavable bowl, mix all cereals and pecans. Pour butter mixture over cereal mixture, stirring until evenly distributed. Add sugar and spice mixture and stir until coated.

Microwave uncovered on High 5 minutes or until mixture begins to brown, stirring every minute. Spread on wax paper or a cookie sheet to cool. Store in airtight container. Note: Make mix up to two weeks ahead and store in airtight container.



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