

Train Derailment



TRAIN DERAILMENT IN NORTH-EAST MARION COUNTY

Marion County, Florida (November 16, 2016)- At approximately 4:15 a.m. Wednesday morning, Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) deputies were dispatched to a call of two trains that had just derailed near the Pine Church Road/2500 NE 175th Street Road crossing in Citra. When units got on scene along with Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR), they discovered that two CSX Freight Trains and multiple rail cars had derailed from the tracks. Four people were involved in the incident--- two operators being in each locomotive. One train crew received minor injuries and the other crew was not injured.

According to CSX, one train was transporting non-hazardous phosphate rock and the other was loaded with coal. There is no immediate hazmat threat to the public at this time. CSX is working to confirm the number of derailed rail cars. Initial reports indicate that diesel fuel has been released from one or more of the locomotives. CSX environmental experts are on scene to assess and contain any product releases. MCSO, MCFR and CSX representatives are all assessing the situation and developing an action plan. The cause of the collision is currently under investigation.

The phosphate train was traveling from Mulberry, Florida, to Chicago with three lo

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PAKMAIL Has Moved



WE HAVE MOVED

After 22 years in the Churchill Square Shopping Center, PakMail has moved one mile west on 17th Street at the bottom of the overpass on the left. Their new location is 3260 sq feet, compared to 1200 sq feet at the previous location.

Pictured is Walter Arnold, right, and Caleb Conver, middle, waiting on a customer. The store is family owned by Walter and his father and mother, Russ and Sally Moore. In the beginning Walter had worked for the previous owners, later the family purchased the business.

Pakmail ships by UPS, FedEx, US Mail and numerous freight carriers. They ship furniture cross country, and we have one stop shopping. Some of the services available are custom crating, custom boxing, fax services, some pickup and many other business related services.

Pakmail is celebrating 22 years of successful Christmas shipping. They are experts in custom packing and shipping. When you enter the store all you will see are friendly faces. Some of their favorite charities are Big Sun Youth Soccer, Aces for Autism and their church.

Two unusual things they have shipped are a race car and an alligator.

The store is located at 1202 SW 17th st #201 Ocala, FL.

Call them 352-368-9779.

See them today for your Christmas packing and shipping needs. Check out their ad in this paper.



SUPER MOON

November 14 the Super Moon / New Moon appeared in the sky bright, beautiful and lasting for hours. This is the closest the moon has been to earth in 68 years. I live on a farm in the woods and while the moon was up it was not daylight but well lit. The cows, horses, dogs etc. did not know what to think. Another life experience to put down in memory. TomL

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Kevin Sheilley

OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



It is hard to believe 2016 has nearly come to an end. However, I think as we review this year we will discover that it has been a great one for Ocala and Marion County. As we wrap up the year, I would like

to take a moment and reflect on what has been an incredible year of growth for both

the CEP and our community. In particular, I would like to look back at three important events.

Sales Tax Initiative

This initiative is one in which the CEP was involved from inception to passage. In the spring of last year, at the request of the County Commission, the CEP gathered a diverse consortium of stakeholders to evaluate and discuss options for funding transportation infrastructure, seeking solutions to fund our transportation infrastructure needs in a balanced and equitable way.

Through these meetings and the County Commission workshops, it was clear that there was a severe shortage of funding for public safety equipment as well as transportation infrastructure. The levying of a sales tax was among the recommendations made by the consortium, as a sales tax ensures that everyone is helping to fund our transportation and public safety needs, including the thousands of guests and tourists who visit Marion County.

At the end of 2015, the CEP created a political committee to lead the efforts to pass the Sales Tax referendum on the March Presidential Preference ballot. This effort resulted in the successful passage of the 1 penny sales tax for infrastructure and public safety with the public voting overwhelmingly to support it. The sales tax, which goes

into effect in January, will generate more than \$166 million over the next four years to fund vital needs in these areas.

AutoZone

After more than 22 months of work, it was officially announced in August that AutoZone would build its newest distribution center in Ocala. The addition of this facility for a Fortune 300 company is a great win for our community. Some of us joked that perhaps we need to rename the Ocala/Marion County Commerce Park "Memphis South" with AutoZone joining fellow Memphis-based FedEx at the park.

AutoZone has already broken ground on a 400,000 sq. ft., \$50 million distribution center which will service Florida and Puerto Rico. The distribution center will employ

(Continued on Page 5)

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The Fishing Derby Grows Bigger

The number was 193 fishing persons accounted for, the weather cooperated, and the fish were biting. The big fish was a catfish, all were caught and released. The oldest fishing person was 96 yrs young. Most of the pictures speak for themselves. Many retirement centers attended bringing their guests for a day out in the sunshine. There were many people in wheelchairs that enjoyed the day. The Tuscawilla Park is set

up for them and they enjoyed the day. Clay Electric Dustin Ergle did the cooking, BJ's Trophies furnished the trophies, they are always professionally done. Ocala Downtown Newspapers donated some complete fishing outfits and, of course, Ocala/Marion County Parks and Recreation did most everything else. We really appreciate having them remember the seniors like this.



Tom Loury Long time member of CEP/Ocala Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Ocala Business Leaders, Co-Founder of Select Business Associates, Past President of the Lady Lake Chamber

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



"It's a Boy!"

My son Travis and his wife Lindsay had a 8 lb 4 Oz baby boy on the 16th. The Lourys are proud to have the name carried on. We are very happy that mother and child are both well

and healthy. When I look back we raised our

boys in the backwoods of Dunnellon. When our first son was 5 1/2 yrs old he was all excited when he saw the slab being poured for the house. He wanted to ride his bike on it. He told me recently he did not know what concrete was until then. I never looked at it that way. I hope the kids can raise their children here in the back woods.

"Let's go fishing!"

I am stoked about our new ad customer that is a fishing guide and I am going to use the service. I fished a lot but the last two

years I have not. That is going to change. I am going at least once a month. I think I have caught most every species; a few giants, 42 lb Dolphin, 39 lb King Maccaril 36 lb Snook, 8 ft shark, etc. I have pictures of those. I am just looking for a couple of Reds and a couple of Trout that I can cook for dinner.

Is anybody out there sick of politics yet. New York Times blasted the Republican candidates for two years then when they win they apologize for it as if it will gain the readers back that they lost, ha!

The pollsters drove me crazy and in the end they were all wrong. The same pollsters

still say Obama has a good approval rating. When will Government wake up, the people have! They have spoken!

College students who walk out of class to demonstrate should be suspended, especially if they are on a government grant. They are there to learn and they can protest during non school hours. Pro Football Players work for the coach and the team owner, how they conduct themselves is up to the coach. I think they will loose fans. I know I would not pay a lot of money to watch someone refuse to respect the American Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance. Many Veterans

(Continued on Page 5)

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Our family is growing. Newly born baby boy Lane Brice Loury has arrived born to Travis and Lindsay Loury. I wonder how long it will be before he gets on a horse?

Newspaper Deadlines

Editorial & Ad Copy for January

Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown

12am, December 21st

Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator

12am, December 28th

Ocala DownTown

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DENNIS K. BAXLEY



NEW BEGINNINGS

After a very lengthy election season, most Americans are suffering from election fatigue. As we transition away from the election itself, that fatigue will fade and feelings of anticipation will arise as many of those elected take on the challenges of public service. Now is the time to harness the opportunity that comes with new beginnings. Shortly after the election, the Capitol

was filled with new legislators as freshly elected senators and representatives report for orientation to prepare new members for the work to be done in the legislative session of 2017. Now is when the real service begins. Florida is currently in a healthy financial posture; we have a AAA credit rating and modest predictions for revenue growth. New leadership in Washington will focus efforts on our economic growth, which allows a measured optimism. There is nothing that a little prosperity doesn't help. The voter's voices have been heard and the opportunity of a new beginning beckons.

Onward and upward!

Kevin Sheilley

OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

(Continued from Page 2)

240 people at wages which are 15 percent higher than the county's average wage.

AutoZone looked broadly for a location for this facility and the CEP along with the City, the County, CareerSource, and others worked nearly two years to make an Ocala location a winner. Having two major logistics-related companies in this new park with high visibility along I-75 becomes a great calling card for other logistics-focused companies looking in the state.

Chamber Accreditation

One of our commitments at the CEP is to operate at the highest levels of excellence so that are partners are assured of earning

the best possible return on their investment. One of the best ways we can evaluate this is by going through the national chamber accreditation process. There are more than 7,000 chambers in the United States, but less than three percent have earned accreditation. Within that process, the highest level of accreditation is 5-Stars. This accreditation has been awarded to approximately one percent of the nation's chambers.

The CEP was recently notified that we had again earned our 5-Star accreditation! Our team spent nine months completing the lengthy process which resulted in two 5" binders of documentation. The CEP earned perfect scores in five of the nine areas. This accreditation is good for five years and represents the third five-year cycle whereby we have earned 5-Stars. It is our understanding that we are the first chamber in Florida to have earned this recognition for three consecutive cycles.

2017

This has been an incredible year of success for so many. However, I can honestly say that I eagerly anticipate the new year. With the projects and opportunities we have in the pipeline and with the new programs and initiatives we look forward to rolling out, 2017 promises to be an even better year for our community. From myself, along with the officers, board and staff at the CEP, I want to wish each of you the merriest Christmas and the best holiday season.

Train Derailment

(Continued from Page 1)

comotives and 100 loaded phosphate cars. The coal train was traveling from Pembroke, Kentucky, to Tampa with three locomotives and 110 loaded cars of coal.

CSX has moved the rail cars not affected by this morning's incident and Pine Church Road will be re-opened shortly. The clean-up efforts for this incident will be continuing.

Publisher's Notes

(Continued from Page 4)

died for our freedoms and they need to be respected. I believe these people who sit or kneel are misdirected. They are protesting something probably that they believe in but the Flag and the Pledge is just for Veterans and our country.



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Bob's will be closed December 25th through January 1st.
We will reopen on January 2nd.

Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!

The Central Florida Master Choir and the New Moon Ensemble will present “Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow” at Countryside Presbyterian Church, 7768 S.W. Highway 200, Ocala on Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 pm.

Dr. Harold W. McSwain, Jr. is the conductor, accompanied by pianist GayLyn Capitano..

The choir will perform works by Debussy, Thompson, Gershwin, Elgar, Tichelli and the well-known seasonal-sleigh-snow-

songs of Mel Torme, Sammy Kahn, Eddie Pola and Leroy Anderson. The audience will also participate with the choir singing beloved Christmas carols. The concert will end with the Master Choir’s version of “Hallelujah” from Handel’s “Messiah.”

The public is invited and there is no admission charge but a freewill offering will be taken.

For further information, please call the church office at (352) 237- 4633.

TRUMP!

The Man who walked the narrow path.

Most of the newscasters and political strategy specialists have said for months that a path for Trump to win was there, but it was a very narrow path. The pollsters were not listening to the working person who was sick and tired of all the promises and not getting results. The only results they could feel were less wages and higher taxes. As Trump walked down this narrow path he was casting seeds of thought all along the way. Seeds of thought like, the email scandal, Benghazi, Wiki Leaks, the failure of Obama Care, no jobs, the illegals coming across the border by the thousands, casting these seeds of thought every where he went.

The Clinton campaign went after the concentrated big cities. The pollsters were not reaching the rural areas like the farmers and ranchers who have been hurt by the inter-

national trade deals. The Brazilian beef that is flooding our markets and the vegetables which are flooding our market grown in Lord knows what. The farm raised fish, what are they being fed?

I agree that the path to the White House is a narrow path, especially if it criss-crosses enough times.

Trump walked that narrow path (All over the US) the newscasters described and won by a LAND SLIDE. Now we have to listen to all these pollsters diagnose why they were so so wrong. The newscasters were sensationalizing everything trying to keep their ratings up. We the people who watch this are the victims. I am sick of the speculation by the media. My new year’s resolution will be to watch a movie or just turn off the TV. What say you? tloury@att.net

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SENIOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WALK ABOUT TALK ABOUT |

AGES 18+ 10 a.m.-Noon

RSVP for all walks to Roxy at 352-401-3916 Tuscahill Art Stroll | Monday | Dec. 8 Stroll through the new sculpture exhibit with an Appleton Museum of Art Docent, Melissa Townsend, and learn about Tuscahill Parks' new-est amenity: The Art Park! Please wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the outdoors. Guest will walk a total of one mile. Adults 18+ Registration opens November 7. Register by phone 352-401-3916 before December 5th.

SHOW PALACE CHRISTMAS

AGES 50+

Come join us as we celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. Spread some holiday cheer with a Christmas and Hanuk-

kah with an exhilarating production features classical carols, high-energy dancing and special appearances by many of your favorite holiday characters. Pre-registration required. For more information, please call 352-629-8357. Price includes transportation, admission and meal.

When: December 7th

Where: Hudson, FL

Time: 9a-6p

Cost: \$70/per person

Critics' Choice Dinner

AGES 18+ 5:30 p.m. (New Program)

Each month the Critics' Choice Dinners will visit new restaurants, chosen by the group, to spend quality time with friends enjoying a casual dinner while rating the food service. New participants are always wel-

come! Dinner and/or transportation are the participant's responsibility. Pre-Registration required. To Register please call 352-629-8545. Registration deadline is Nov. 8th.

Date: December 8th

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: TBD

LET'S ALL GO TO THE MOVIES!

Reservations must be made at the hosting center. Seating is limited to eight persons/movie.

Movies: The Legends of Tarzan

Description: It has been years since the man once known as Tarzan left the

jungles of Africa behind for a gentrified life as John Clayton III, Lord Greystoke, with his beloved wife, Jane at his side. Now, he has been invited back to the Congo to serve as a trade emissary of Parliament, unaware that he is a pawn in a deadly convergence of greed and revenge, masterminded by the Belgian, Captain Leon Rom. But those behind the murderous plot have no idea what they are about to unleash.

Days/Dates: December 13 & 14 (8th Ave)

Game Times: 1:30 p.m.

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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

It is over, it is over, it is over.

Those who wanted Democracy won, those who wanted socialism lost (sore losers .Looters and rioters)

Job seekers won, Free stuff seekers lost (sore losers)

Education seekers won, brainwashers, and propagandizers lost (sore losers).

Nationalists won, One Worlders lost (sore losers).

Patriots won. The others lost

Believers in God won, the others lost

Fair taxers won, others lost.

We have the right to WIN, too. We sucked

it up for 8 years, and held our tongues. Your turn, to hold your tongues. We are as right as you, and maybe smarter. Reading everything from extreme right to extreme left people are better qualified to judge than you who look at one narrow perspective. You who are brainwashed, and propagandized. My sympathy to the losers. Grow up. Save yourself a lot of heartache. About 100 books could assuage your bitterness, if you were readers. Start with THE LAW by Bastiat 89 pages, can you handle it?

D.I. L.

* * * * *

Dear Mr. Loury,

This morning I was in the Ocala Senior Fishing Derby at Tusawilla Park. It was a wonderful event. It was my first time attending.

I am a 72 year old lady who caught 11 fish. With so many tickets I was a winner

of a Zippo Slingshot fishing pole. This was donated by your company.

Thank you for making my experience so meaningful. It was a great day.

Sincerely,

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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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Opinion Editorial

Dr. Jessica Spencer
Policy Director, VOTE NO on 2 Campaign

Marijuana Amendment Author Should Now Make Good On Promises

I'm angry, sad, and nervous about what this means for Florida, but the deed is done and Florida voters have chosen to take Amendment 2's author, John Morgan, at his word. All we can do now is implore Florida's legislature to take him at his word as well. We may have lost the battle, but hopefully we won't lose the war.

When I debated Mr. Morgan on WESH 2 News in mid-October he made three bold promises to voters which the legislature

should now take as evidence of the authors' intent. Morgan began the debate by assuring the moderator (Adrian Whitset) and myself: "[Amendment 2] is not the legalization of recreational marijuana. What this is, is a cure – a help for really, really, really sick people." There's nothing the legislature can do about the lack of conclusive evidence that marijuana cures, or even effectively treats, any ailment. They can however, take Morgan at his word and ensure marijuana goes only to the "really, really, really sick," by further defining "other debilitating medical conditions" and effectively shutting down the unscrupulous, pill-mill-style doctors who will take advantage of any and all ambiguities.

Morgan's second promise was made knowing I would cite the Department of Health's analysis from the Fiscal Impact Estimating Conference. Namely, their estimation that Amendment 2 would bring nearly 2,000 pot shops to Florida. "They're going to say there's going to be a pot shop on every corner ..." he began; and in attempt to stop me in my tracks, he promised: "Any municipality can ban it from their cities or county."

If this was really his intention, he should've included a similar clause in his amendment. Regardless, the legislature should take John Morgan at his word and write legislation that expressly gives municipalities the right to limit, restrict and outright ban pot shops in their communities. The same goes for edibles. The legislature needs to take Morgan up on his offer and specifically ban pot candy. Morgan promised: "It doesn't have to be in candy form. The legislature can say 'no' to that."

Hopefully by now, you've recognized their penchant for shifting blame to the legislature. Yes on 2 claimed throughout this year and last that their amendment was necessary only because the legislature failed to do their job (by "failed" they mean the legislature refused to pass a wide open "medical" marijuana law like Amendment 2). And so, I wasn't at all surprised how readily Morgan was able to summon his cowardly response to my every objection: "It can only happen if the legislature lets it happen."

That's also why I would wager that this bothersome habit of theirs will extend be-

yond their campaign. Just as they got away with blaming the legislature for their very existence, they will now try and get away with blaming the legislature for all the unintended (and/or intended) consequences of Amendment 2.

In essence, if the state of Florida is witness to the same types of headlines you find in California ("Marijuana candy sickens 19 at quinceañera," "Toddler rushed to hospital after eating pot candy"), don't expect Morgan, or his bumbling fraternity of legal pot pushers, to share the blame. After all, when the moderator asked whether the amendment specifically forbids pot shops from opening next to schools, Morgan conceded with an emphatic "No!" But added: "That's why we elect officials."

That's why we elect officials indeed. And that's why my advice to the legislature is to unapologetically err on the side of caution and regulate this as tightly as they possibly can. Because, whether the legislature likes it or not, the people behind Amendment 2 are going to do their best to shift all the blame away from the authors of the amendment, and onto the men and women who are now responsible for implementing it.

Dr. Jessica Spencer serves as the policy director of the 'VOTE NO on 2' campaign. Additional information may be found at www.VoteNo2.org.

Best,
Jessica Spencer EdD, CAP, CPP
Policy Director
Vote No on 2!
Vote NO sobre la enmienda 2

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<u>Bought Print Ad Last 30 Days:</u>	<u>Craigslist:</u>
Real Estate..... 2.5%	Visited Last 30 Days..... 38%
New/Used Vehicle..... 11%	Placed Ad on Craigslist..... 17%
Home Contractor..... 3%	Responded to Craigslist Ad.. 21%
Job change ads..... 12%	

* Survey Conducted June 30, 2013

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Rasmussen College held their Fall Career Fair.

Hundreds of job seekers, Rasmussen graduates and potential employers all attended this Career Fair. Whether this was your first time attending our fair, or you are a returning veteran, Rasmussen College strives to be an economic resource partner not only for our students and graduates but

also our community members and employer partners. We hope that you enjoyed the event and found it beneficial to your career goals.

In the spirit of continued improvement they ask all who attended to fill out a survey so they can receive input from all who attended.



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