



Pictured is Karin Nicely member of the Ocala Business Leaders. Karin owns and operates a business called Writing Nicely and here she was explaining to members about some of what Writing Nicely does. The business features professional writing and editing, promotional writing, revision, consultation, editing, proofreading. The business is based in Ocala FL. If you need it written Call Karin, 352-792-8277.



Senior Fishing Derby - See page 6



The photo shows off part of our Crippen & Co. "Bean Counters" chili cook-off team: From L-R, Naomi Vandergrift, Jerett Schrader, Kelsie Smith, Marie Fox. Photo taken at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Marion County Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion to benefit The Cornerstone School. Crippen and Co. came in 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up in the Small Business Chili division.

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Florida State Senate

# DENNIS K. BAXLEY



Without a doubt, the massacre in Sutherland Springs has captured our awareness that good people trying to worship are now among those vulnerable to violence.

Churches are a safe place for the lonely and vulnerable and welcome all those who enter their doors. Yet, they have a new awareness to the responsibility they have to protect those among their congregations. We owe parishioners security and safety while they worship.

In that spirit, we intend to file the Church Protection bill which is now in drafting. This bill will allow concealed weapons permit holders to be utilized by their church officials to provide security in the event anything should happen. Many churches can't afford elaborate professional security staff, but this bill will allow trained citizens, law enforcement officers, veterans, and sportsman to accept responsibility for the safety of themselves and others should such instances occur.

We are a nation based on freedom and liberty, that allows its citizens the constitutional right to bear arms. We have the right to protect ourselves and others, and that right should not be limited, but supported in current legislation.

Ninety percent of citizens want to live in peace together. In this age of violence, we must be prepared to act in order to maintain that peace.



## Genealogical Society Meeting

The Marion County Genealogical Society will meet Thursday December 14, 2017 at 2 PM at the Marion County Public Library located at 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd. in Ocala. A brief business meeting will be followed by the holiday party. For further information, contact Joel Swanson at (352)897-0840 or [president@mcsocsocala.org](mailto:president@mcsocsocala.org).

## Shakespeare In The Park SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### GENERAL SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Ocala/Marion County's Second Annual Shakespeare in the Park is a day-long event presented at Tusawilla Park on the outdoor stage next to the Reilly Arts Center. This year's event will include three main-stage performances of *William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream* as well as several smaller performances throughout the day.



We will also be highly promoting the educational aspects of the event by presenting an education guide to the local schools for distribution, as well as the event itself that will both enhance knowledge of Shakespeare's works as well as promote the event.

At our first annual event we experienced some severe rainfall throughout the day and even with the weather we were able to entice an estimated 2,000 people to join us for a day of the Bard. We are estimating between 3,500 and 5,000 community members at this year's event and are planning a massive marketing campaign to ensure those numbers.

For more information, please contact us directly. We are happy to answer any questions you may have! We look forward to sharing this opportunity to connect your company with the arts in Ocala.

We understand and appreciate that cultural events such as this cannot happen with the support of arts-minded individuals, groups, businesses and corporations in our community.

Our current fundraising goal is \$30,000. We hope to reach this through donations, grants and sponsorships and are actively pursuing all avenues. Should we pass this goal, we will use the funds to grow the event in the short term as well as ensure a cushion for next year's event so we will be able to continue the tradition of free community arts engagement on an annual basis. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. All donations are tax deductible up to the allowable limits.



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- And much more!

## National Diabetes Month

OCALA, Fla.-The Florida Department of Health in Marion County recognizes November as National Diabetes Month, a time set aside every year to raise awareness about diabetes and promote the importance of taking steps to confront diabetes as a critical health issue. The theme for National Diabetes Month this year is "You are the center of your diabetes care team," highlighting the importance of prevention and self-management.

"Diabetes is one of the significant health challenges our community will continue to face in the years ahead," said Florida Department of Health in Marion County Health Officer Mark Lander. "The good news is that it's easy to identify if you are at risk for diabetes, and there are simple changes you can make in your day-to-day life that can help prevent the onset of diabetes or manage your diabetes if you already have it."

In Florida, it is estimated that more than 2.4 million people have diabetes and more than 5.8 million have prediabetes. Diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death for all races and third leading cause of death for black residents in Marion County according to state data. Nationwide, it is the seventh leading cause of death for both men and women (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). The number of people diagnosed with diabetes has more than tripled in the last 20 years in the U.S.

The three most common types of diabetes are Type 1, Type 2 and gestational diabetes (diabetes while pregnant). Prediabetes can lead to Type 2 diabetes.

- Type 1 diabetes is commonly diagnosed in children and young adults, but it's a lifelong condition. If you have this type of diabetes, your body does not make insulin, so you must take insulin every day.

- Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes. In this form the body does not make or use insulin well. If you have Type 2 diabetes, your body generally produces less and less insulin over time. This means that you may need to start using insulin or taking other medications to keep your diabetes in good control.

- Gestational diabetes occurs when a woman is pregnant and is caused by a change in the way the body responds to insulin during pregnancy. This change results in elevated levels of blood glucose. A woman who has gestational diabetes during pregnancy is at greater risk for Type 2 diabetes later.

- Prediabetes is when a person's blood glucose levels are elevated but not yet high enough for a diabetes diagnosis. Prediabetes is a serious health condition that increases the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. It's estimated that 86 million Americans have prediabetes but only one in 10 realizes it. Prediabetics are five to 15 times more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes than people with normal blood glucose levels.

A blood test from your health care provider can determine if you have diabetes or prediabetes. Early treatment can prevent serious problems diabetes can cause, such as loss of eyesight, kidney damage, stroke, nerve damage and foot problems. An estimated 8.1 million Americans have diabetes but don't know it. Find out your risk for developing diabetes at <https://doihaveprediabetes.org/>.

*Continued page 3*

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Kevin Sheilley

## OCALA/MARION COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



### Equine Engagement Initiative

A year ago, the CEP kicked off our Equine Engagement Initiative. As the Horse Capital of the World, we knew we needed a focused and directed effort to engage our incredible equine community with both the

broader business community and with fellow equine businesses. Our economic impact analysis of Marion County's Equine Industry had found that equine contributed \$2.6 Billion a year to the local economy!

Thanks to the underwriting support of New Millennium Realty, we were able to

kick off this initiative late last year. Louisa Barton joined our team as our Director of Equine Engagement and has done a masterful job at reaching out and engaging equine businesses and educating the rest of us. Our monthly Equine Engagement meetings have out-grown the CEP conference room and must now be held at our Power Plant Business Incubator Training Room so we can accommodate the more the 60 participants who now attend.

Many great things have taken place in our equine community over the last year and 2018 promises to be even bigger. Here are few highlights of the past year and the year to come.

### Breeders Cup

The richest weekend in racing had a

decidedly Ocala feel this year. Ocala-bred horse World Approval from Live Oak Stud won the Breeders' Cup Mile and Florida-bred Caledonia Road from Vegso Racing Stable had a big wine in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. World Approval was not only bred in Ocala but trained here as well by Mark Casse. Other Ocala breeders and/or trainers who finished in the money at the Breeders Cup include Jacqui and Nick de Meric from Manuden/Eclipse, top breeders Helen and Joe Barbazon at Pleasant Acres Stallions, the McKathan Brothers Training Center, the Nygaards at the Ocala Jockey Club, Eddie Woods Stables, Niall Brennan Stables, SGV Thoroughbreds, the Julio Rada training team, Arindel Farm, Lynwood Farm and Stonestreet Stables.

### World Equestrian Center

The term game-changer is probably used to often today, but no phrase better describes this facility. Slated for completion by the middle of next year, this facility will be unrivaled. Located as part of the 3,000 acre

Golden Ocala Golf and Equestrian Club, the World Equestrian Center will feature four indoor arenas, 17 outdoor arenas, a 3-acre Grand Outdoor Stadium, and 1,500 permanent stalls. The facility is designed to offer the ultimate in equestrian competition. The facility will provide the opportunity to host competitions for nearly every breed and discipline.

### Nations Cup

Ocala and HITS' Post Time Farm have again been selected to host the EFI Nation's Cup Qualifier in February. The community has hosted this international competition for the last three years and HITS has been awarded both the 2018 and 2019 competitions. Additionally, the competition has been elevated to a CSIO-5\*. For the non-equestrian, this means that Nations Cup Ocala will be at the highest level of competition. Seeing the world's best compete in the Horse Capital is something we can all get excited about!

Nurturing, assisting and engaging our equine community is a key opportunity for the CEP as we seek to lead growth that keeps our community *Moving Forward!*

## Diabetes Month

*continued from page 2*

There isn't a cure yet for the disease, but a healthy lifestyle can reduce its impact on the lives of those who have it. Thanks to better treatments, people with diabetes are now living longer (and with a better quality of life) than ever before.

The Department of Health in Marion County is involved in diabetes prevention and management in several ways. The department holds Diabetes Education and Empowerment classes and trains community health workers who help clients manage their diabetes or other chronic illnesses. For information on upcoming diabetes classes or community health worker opportunities, please contact Demi Danso-Odei at 352-644-2618. To learn more about diabetes prevention and self-management online, visit

[www.floridahealth.gov/diabetes](http://www.floridahealth.gov/diabetes) <<http://www.floridahealth.gov/diabetes>>.

About the Florida Department of Health  
The department, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board <<http://www.phaboard.org/>>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit [www.floridahealth.gov](http://www.floridahealth.gov/?utm_source=article) <[http://www.floridahealth.gov/?utm\\_source=article](http://www.floridahealth.gov/?utm_source=article)>.

Department of Health Contact: Christy Jergens, Public Information Officer:

[Christy.Jergens@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Christy.Jergens@FLHealth.gov) <<mailto:Christy.Jergens@FLHealth.gov>>  
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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



What a month local and abroad. I have been at several expos and functions. The expo in the Villages was great. I had more interaction with readers than I have ever had. I had about 15 people said they read us. All but one was positive and that was a guy in the Villages that did not agree with one of the writer's columns, which is fine. The Lady Lake Craft and Business Show under the tent at the St Timothy's Catholic Church was a great event. Steady crowd from 10 am til 3 pm. I met some new businesses and saw some people I have not seen in a while. It was all fun and good for business. Commissioner Ruth Kussard came by to see me. Also Chief McKinstry came by and said hi. There were also others commissioners that were in the crowd but I did not see them. Honey Baked Ham was selling sandwiches. They were very good and at a reasonable price. There was a vendor from Tampa that had shawls that were really something. They would make Christmas gifts.

Got a phone call from a guy that said he pick up our paper in Aldi and read it even though he did not agree with all that was written he like the paper. We are pleased to

be acknowledged. One of our advertisers stood at a business meeting and thanked us for the business profile that we did and said "You would not believe how far reaching our publications are!"

I belong to several business groups. The Ocala Business Leaders meets every Wednesday morning at 7 am at the Elks Club. Show up a little early and ask for Tom Loury. OBL has a respected spot in the community. We give out College scholarships, help families who could use a little help at Christmas, etc. We also share information about all our members to everyone we meet. I miss one week a month, it is usually the first Wednesday, a month when I go to pick up my papers. I'm at most of the other meetings. The other club I'm in is the Select Business Associates. They meet every Wednesday at the Silver Springs Restaurant. Debra Jenkins and I founded the club some years back. It is best described as a social Business club with an emphasis on "Business." We are helping a family of nine by furnishing a completely cook dinner for Thanksgiving. They are thrilled!

Congratulations to Carl Zalak. He is celebrating a 7-year work anniversary as County Commissioner.

I agree with everything that Trump has done over seas. Especially where the leader (no names) said Trump was old, and Trump responded in his usual way: "I did not call him was short and fat". Great counter

punch! Those leaders over there just don't know what to think of Trump and in my opinion that is a good thing. Some of the radical left continues to try to impeach Trump based on what? Not "law" but on rules they made up. I can't believe the intelligent ones go along with the ignorance of it all. They are the new clowns in town! I'm not talking about all democrats. I'm talking about the radical faction that continues to obstruct and stir the pot.

There is a letter to the editor in this paper that makes good sense: about the Fair Tax. The statement that makes the most sense is "A 19th Century tax system cannot keep up with a 21st Century America."

There is too much hate in this country on both sides. Coming up with sexual harassment allegations weeks before an election is really not the way to run the country. There should be a time limit on it of one year that it could be brought up, because in ten years a lot of the evidence is gone.. The victim or the accused can't prove much. Anyone can accuse anyone of anything, careers and lives are ruined.

## Managing COPD

### Managing COPD Diagnosis—Tips For Living Well

(NAPSI)—It can be confusing and scary when someone first finds out that he or she has chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a leading cause of death in the United States—but there are ways to keep living life to the fullest.

#### The Problem

Recently diagnosed patients and their families can be taken by surprise—they might not know what COPD is, what it

means for their future or how the diagnosis will affect their ability to stay active. COPD is among the most common, underdiagnosed, debilitating, deadly and costly diseases to manage, and for those who have recently been diagnosed, it can be difficult to figure out how to manage this life change. What's more, over 15 million Americans have been diagnosed with COPD and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute estimates that another 12 million are undiagnosed or developing COPD.

#### COPD Signs

Common symptoms of COPD are shortness of breath, wheezing, or a chronic cough, as well as chest tightness. Unfortunately, some people avoid getting diagnosed due to lack of awareness and the associated social stigma with COPD. This causes many people to wait too long to get tested and often leads to a late-stage diagnosis where people have already lost lung function.

#### One Man's Story

Marathoner Russell Winwood had a difficult time coming to terms with his diagnosis and found it challenging to move forward with his everyday routine. He relied on the support of his family to keep going and, just six months after his diagnosis, Winwood completed his first full Ironman. He continues to participate in triathlons around the world. Winwood shares his personal journey in hopes of inspiring other COPD patients to live an active lifestyle, showing that a COPD diagnosis does not need to stop people from enjoying their favorite activities.

#### What You Can Do

For recently diagnosed COPD patients, Winwood offers this advice for living well:

*Continued page 10*

## Newspaper Deadlines

*Editorial & Ad Copy for January*

**Seniors Voice & Ocala DownTown**

**12am, December 20th**

**Lady Lake Magazine & Village Spectator**

**12am, December 27th**

## Seniors Voice of Ocala/Ocala Downtown Products of TomL Publishing, LLC

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The "Ocala DownTown" (Newspaper) [www.OcalaDownTown.com](http://www.OcalaDownTown.com) (Online Product) and the Seniors Voice of Ocala (Newspaper) and [www.SeniorsVoiceofOcala.com](http://www.SeniorsVoiceofOcala.com) are owned and operated by TomL Publishing LLC, a sole proprietor Corp. Its owners, editors, writers, composers, printers and publishers are not responsible or liable for typographical errors, misinformation, misprints, and the like, unintentionally contained herein. All letter hard copies or online received become the property of TomL Publishing LLC and may be reproduced without further consent. All above are independent contractors.

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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

While Congress grapples with "tax reform," there are two serious problems their proposals don't address: evasion and Congressional tinkering.

According to a recent study by Dr. Richard Cebula of Jacksonville University, evasion of the income tax is 21% or \$693 Billion for 2017. That amounts to over \$5300 per household in increased taxes and costs of goods and services. Using government figures, evasion is forecast to increase during the next ten years to a cumulative total of \$9.1 Trillion!

Why? In 21st Century America, people earn a living in very different ways compared to 20 or 30 years ago when most people worked one job and got a W-2. Today someone can be an Uber driver, have a pet walking business and an Ebay store simultaneously. How can we ensure that all the little pieces of income are reported? We can't.

A 19th Century tax system cannot keep up with a 21st Century America.

Go to [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov) and in the search bar type "internal revenue code" and make sure you use the quotes. You will find over 1000 proposals to change the tax code. This is why, for the past 10 years, Congress has added to the tax code almost daily.

By the way, the 1000 plus proposals is just since January of 2017. As long as we have an income tax and lobbyists keep throwing campaign cash at legislators, the tax code will not be stable. An unpredictable tax code makes it very difficult to do business and plan for the future.

There is one solution to the many problems of the current system: the FAIRtax. Let's rid ourselves of the income tax and the IRS and switch from an income tax to a consumption tax, the FAIRtax. Let's stop taxing our hard work and productivity and instead tax what we choose to spend. The FAIRtax is simple, efficient and visible. Learn more at [www.fairtax.org](http://www.fairtax.org) and help us out at [www.bigsolution.org](http://www.bigsolution.org).

# Deliciously Healthy Holiday



(NAPSI)—A delicious holiday season can be healthy, too. One key: Find small, simple ways to incorporate more nutritious foods, without losing the

flavors you love. Blueberries can help.

"Blueberries are a small, tasty package with big health benefits," advised registered dietitian and spokesperson for the U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council Patricia Bannan. "They're sweet, tart and delicious but, at only 80 calories per cup, they make a nutritious addition to a holiday dish or an easy, on-the-go snack. Just rinse and go. Blueberries are also an excellent source of vitamin C, which can give the immune system a boost."

Blueberries are low in sodium with virtually no fat. They're a good source of dietary fiber (3.6 grams per serving), which aids digestion, keep you feeling fuller longer, and help you resist some of those tempting seasonal treats.

Blueberries complement different flavors and cuisines and add depth to sweet and savory dishes alike. For a festive twist, add them to favorite holiday recipes such as this:

Blueberry Ginger Jam-Filled Scones

Makes 16, 3-inch scones

Blueberry Ginger Jam:

3½ cups fresh (or frozen) blueberries

¼ cup maple syrup  
3-inch piece fresh ginger (about 2 tablespoons finely grated)  
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Scones:

¾ cup toasted pecans, ground into flour  
1½ cups all-purpose flour  
1 cup whole-grain spelt flour  
2 tablespoons sugar, plus 1 tablespoon for topping

4 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon kosher salt

¾ cup cold low-fat buttermilk

¼ cup cold unsweetened applesauce

⅓ cup cold unsalted butter, cut into ½-inch cubes

1 egg, for egg wash

To a medium saucepan, add 2 cups of blueberries and maple syrup and cook over medium-high heat. Grate the ginger into the mixture. Cook for 8 minutes, letting the mixture come to a light boil. Once the fruit has cooked down and the jam has thickened, add the remaining 1½ cups blueberries and stir in the lemon juice. Remove from heat and transfer to a bowl. Chill covered in refrigerator until ready to use.

In a large bowl, whisk the ground pecans, flours, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon and salt. Set aside. In a medium bowl, combine the buttermilk and applesauce and whisk until smooth. Set aside. Add the cubed butter to the dry mixture. Using your hands, gently rub the butter into the flour until pea-sized pieces form. Pour half of the wet mixture over the dry mixture and gently combine, incorporating more of the wet mixture with the second addition. Pat the dough to quickly flatten and then gather it

Continued page 8



To be the catalyst for a prosperous community.

The Ocala/Marion County Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation are **Moving Forward!** and have unified to create the Ocala/Marion County Chamber & Economic Partnership (CEP).

The CEP will serve as *the* central resource for all businesses in Marion County: new, relocating, existing, large, small and budding entrepreneurs!

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](mailto:felecia@ocalacc.com)**

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FISHING DERBY

The Senior Fishing Derby was a great success, with over a hundred reservations accounted for. And the winners are:

**Oldest Fisherwoman - Lillie Brooks 97**

**Biggest Fish - Mae Jones.**

Thank-You's out to the City, especially Grace Huff for coordinating the event. Thank you to the city crew for the set up and clean up. Thank you to Dustin Echols of Clay Electric for cooking. Thanks to BJ Trophys for the two trophys and thanks to TomL Publishing for donating fishing rods, reels and restaurant coupons for door prizes (Ocala DownTown and Seniors Voice of Ocala newspapers).

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# Governor's Desk

November 15, 2017  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader

United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Speaker Ryan,

On the morning of September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma made landfall on Florida's Cudjoe Key as a powerful and deadly Category 4 hurricane. Over the past two months, as Florida has responded to and now recovers from this devastating storm, we have identified critical areas in which the support of the federal government is essential to our full recovery. I hope that you will carefully review each of these critical topics and immediately take action to provide Florida with the funding and support Floridians need.

## HURRICANE RELIEF FOR FLORIDA'S CITRUS INDUSTRY

Florida's iconic citrus industry is in jeopardy due to the absolute devastation of Hurricane Irma which damaged nearly every grove in our state. The damage caused by Irma is compounded by the fact that many of Florida's orange groves are already reeling from a crop-killing disease known as citrus greening. Impacts to Florida's citrus industry have national consequences. Florida ranks highest in the nation in value of production for oranges and accounts for 57 percent of total U.S. citrus production. In Florida, we know how important it is to support our citrus growers and that's why earlier this month I announced a more than \$21 million proposed investment,

which has to be approved by the Florida Legislature, in Florida's citrus industry. This funding includes:

- \$10 million for citrus research to find solutions to citrus greening, a disease that has compounded devastation to our state's citrus crop;
- \$4 million to support Department of Citrus consumer awareness efforts to support the market for Florida citrus and orange juice; and
- \$7 million for the Citrus Health Response Program, which helps ensure that growers are able to replant healthy citrus trees that were destroyed by Hurricane Irma, and helps minimize the spread of citrus greening.

I also activated a \$25 million Florida Citrus Emergency Loan Program. This program provides short-term loans to citrus growers that experienced damages during the storm to "bridge the gap" between the time Hurricane Irma hit and when growers receive payments on insurance claims and/or federal disaster assistance.

While I continue to be 100 percent committed to helping citrus growers recover from the devastating impacts of Hurricane Irma, the state cannot do this alone. As you may know, I recently visited Washington D.C. to personally advocate for Congress to pass a disaster relief package for Florida agriculture, including funding for the citrus industry. These federal investments are critical to the recovery and success of Florida's iconic citrus industry. I urge you to act today to give Florida's citrus growers the support they need. I truly hope you will be a partner with us in ensuring the future success of this iconic industry that is a major part of Florida's economy.

## FUNDING CRITICAL REPAIRS TO THE FEDERAL HERBERT HOOVER DIKE

For more than 30 years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has identified areas of the federally-operated Herbert Hoover Dike that are in critical need of repair. Immediate action to repair the Dike is essential as this structure not only provides flood protection to millions of Floridians in Southeast and Southwest Florida, but also keeps the nutrient rich waters of Lake Okeechobee in the lake so that discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries do not continue to occur. With the Dike in its current state of disrepair, the Corps has been forced to authorize massive discharges into the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries to keep water levels on the lake low. These discharges create significant issues in the form of toxic algae blooms that threaten the health of Florida families and wildlife, harm our iconic beaches and waterways and negatively impact tourism in communities across the state.

At the state level, I have already fought for and secured \$50 million in state funding to speed repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike – becoming the first Florida governor to invest state dollars to expedite repairs to this federal project. To build on this investment, I recently announced that I am proposing to invest an additional \$50 million of state funds to expedite this process. President Trump has committed to accelerate repairs and it is imperative that Congress supports this and acts on this federal project.

Currently, the projected completion date for this project is 2025 and it continues to be delayed due to lack of funding. Congress needs to act immediately to fund the work of the Corps and expedite this critical federal project to be completed by 2022 to keep Floridians safe and protect our environment.

## CONTINUING RELIEF FOR DISPLACED FAMILIES FROM PUERTORICO

Following Hurricane Maria's devastating

impact to Puerto Rico, I have been fully committed to taking every possible action to help our Puerto Rican neighbors and provide relief and assistance to displaced families coming to Florida. I have visited Puerto Rico twice at the invitation of Governor Ricardo Rosselló to provide assistance as they work to recover from this storm. Since October 3, 2017, Florida has welcomed more than 150,000 Puerto Ricans displaced by Maria and we have made it a priority to support them during this time of need. With Florida's designation as a host state granted by the Trump Administration, we are in the process of compiling the financial impact in Florida to accommodate these individuals, including education and health services. At my direction, the Florida Division of Emergency Management continues to operate Disaster Relief Centers at Orlando International Airport and Miami International Airport to assist Puerto Rican families and provide them the resources and guidance they need as they arrive in our state. Florida has also taken significant action to waive fees and ensure displaced families have every opportunity to get a job and ensure their children are enrolled in school.

Last week, following Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offering Transitional Sheltering Assistance to Puerto Rican families in Florida, I have directed the Florida Division of Emergency Management to upgrade the activation status of the State Emergency Operations Center to Level 2. This will ensure that local, state and federal agencies are all working together, support more efficient and coordinated delivery of resources and greater planning as we respond to the needs of these families.

Additionally, I am proposing a \$12 million English Language Learners Summer Academies program to assist students that need additional support to learn English, including a focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. As my Administration continues to work closely with FEMA and the White House, we will also keep you updated on our efforts and the cost associated with these services.

## REFORMING THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is in desperate need of reform. Since the inception of the NFIP, Florida policyholders have paid in excess of \$16 billion in premiums, but collected only approximately \$4.5 billion in claims reimbursements, which equates to approximately a 4 to 1 ratio of premiums paid to claims reimbursements. Additionally, the NFIP should immediately share its more than 50 years of "proprietary" data with states and private insurers to ensure a fair market and that rates are not excessive or unfair and discriminatory. It is vital that Congress pass a reformed NFIP in order to stop it from losing billions of additional taxpayer dollars in future bailouts, improve the private market and facilitate savings for policyholders.

The issues I have outlined are essential to the long-term wellbeing, safety and prosperity of the people of Florida. I urge you to closely review these important topics and act immediately to provide assistance to your fellow Americans in Florida as we continue to recover from Irma. Please let me know what I can do to assist you in your efforts in Washington to secure the critical funding I have outlined and please keep me updated on any progress you make in this important endeavor to assist your fellow Americans in Florida.

Sincerely,  
Rick Scott, Governor

See the Governor's letter below.  
Thanks,  
Governor Rick Scott's Press Office



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## MARION COUNTY SHERIFF

### Two People Extricated After Collision on North Pine Ave. and NW 10<sup>th</sup> St.



(OCALA, FL.) November 17, 2017 – Two patients had to be extricated after a collision left their vehicle pinned between a truck and a palm tree.

Ocala Fire Rescue was dispatched to the intersection of North Pine Avenue and Northwest 10<sup>th</sup> Street, at 2:18 PM, where a two-vehicle accident was reported. Units arrived on scene to find a black BMW lodged sideways between a U-Haul truck and a palm tree. Closer inspection of the vehicle revealed two patients trapped inside.

Stabilizing the vehicle, crews proceeded to extricate the patients. Working their way

from the driver's side, they removed the patient closest to the palm tree and gained better access to the second patient. Both driver and passenger of the BMW were trauma alerted to Ocala Regional Medical Center; the truck driver was also transported.

Ocala Police Department and Marion County Fire Rescue also responded.



### Deliciously Healthy

*Continued from page 5*

back into a mound and repeat. After two or three repetitions, the dough should be well formed. Form each scone by packing 4 tablespoons of dough, spoonful by spoonful, to form 16 balls. Transfer to two large plates. Dip the back of a 1-tablespoon measuring spoon in flour and press into each ball to form a well for the jam. Scoop 2 heaping tablespoons of the jam into each well. Freeze the prepared scones for at least two hours before baking to let the pastries set. Preheat the oven to 375° F and line two large baking sheets with parchment paper. For the egg wash, beat an egg with a splash of water in a small bowl and set aside. Remove the scones from the freezer and evenly space

them over the sheet pans, at least 2-inches apart. Brush the outer rims of the dough with the egg wash and sprinkle with the remaining tablespoon of sugar. Bake from frozen until cooked and lightly browned, about 30 minutes.

Learn More

Find other great recipes at [www.blueberrycouncil.org](http://www.blueberrycouncil.org).

## Education And Military Families

### Understanding Education And Military Families

(NAPSI)—America's military service members make great sacrifices for our country—and for their own families—but are their kids getting what they need from our K-12 education system?

A new national survey of service members, spouses and veterans looks at educational options for military families, their satisfaction and how their choices can play a role in whether a family accepts an assignment or even factor into decisions to leave military service altogether. There are roughly 750,000 school-aged children in active-duty-member households today.

Data show military families are very interested in alternatives to district schools. According to a new EdChoice and Braun Research survey, we know 80 percent of them attend public schools today, despite the fact that more than 60 percent would prefer different schooling environments for their children, such as private school, charter school, virtual school or home school.

In fact, once military and veteran families are informed of how school choice options work, their support for those programs increases dramatically.

### Types of School Choice

**Education savings accounts (ESAs).** Education savings accounts allow families to receive a deposit of public funds into government-authorized savings accounts—often distributed to families via a restricted-use debit card. Families can purchase any combination of private school tuition and fees, online learning programs, private tutoring, community college costs, higher education expenses and/or other approved customized learning services and materials.

Military respondents were almost five times more likely to support ESAs than they were to oppose them.

**Tax-credit scholarships** allow families to choose private schools that best fit their needs. Nonprofit scholarship-granting organizations provide those scholarships and are funded by private charitable donations, for which donors are reimbursed through tax credits.

Sixty-three percent of military respondents support the concept of a tax-credit scholarship program.

**School vouchers.** School vouchers give parents the freedom to choose a private school for their children, using all or part of the public funding set aside for their children's education.

Nearly two out of three military households support school vouchers.

### Learn More

For further facts and figures on education choice opportunities, go to [www.edchoice.org](http://www.edchoice.org).

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Answers page 11



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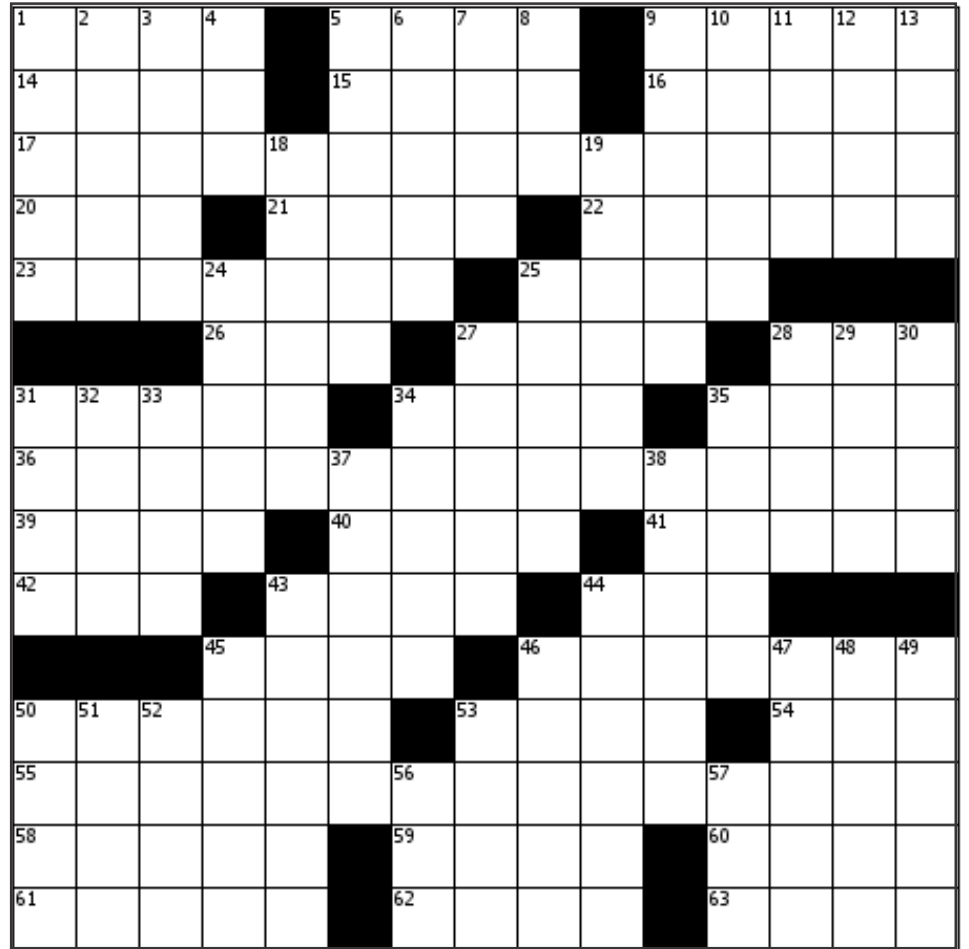
#### Across

1. It's on the hook
5. "Betsy's Wedding" star Alan
9. Easy pace
14. Latin word on a cornerstone
15. Privation
16. Jordan neighbor
17. Reached an official agreement
20. "Who am \_\_\_ argue?"
21. Claudius' successor
22. Eats away at
23. Provider of inside information?
25. Exemplar of grace
26. Wooed successfully
27. Type of blue
28. Semi's front
31. Plant
34. Arctic hazard
35. Burlap fiber
36. Oscar winners are in here

#### Down

1. Fundamental
2. Author Loos
3. Fort Knox bar
4. Cargo measure
5. Like llamas
6. Find out
7. Like the Erté look
8. Brouhaha
9. Sort of projection
10. Comedian Cohen
11. Pitt of "Troy"
12. Cooties

39. Commuter's payout
  40. Soothing plant
  41. Section of a map
  42. Be in hock to
  43. "Follow me!"
  44. Hammer in obliquely
  45. KFC side
  46. Procrastinates
  50. Christmas quaff
  53. Patisserie product
  54. Debate side
  55. Imitated storks?
  58. Complaint
  59. "Fame" name
  60. Son of Seth
  61. Hot coal
  62. Worshipper's word
  63. It may undergo mutation
13. Grub or grubs
  18. Make cryptic
  19. Music store section
  24. Crestless wave
  25. Hope for an ace
  27. Mortise mate
  28. Some silver prizes
  29. Fit to finish?
  30. Top of the line
  31. Words of analogy
  32. Calico's comment
  33. Cotton unit
  34. Word in some winter forecasts
  35. Indiana or Casey
  37. Price, informally
  38. "GoodFellas" co-star
  43. Lucky plant
  44. Wrap on the head?
  45. Prey in a mock hunt
  46. Petco Park player
  47. Have one's say
  48. Refrigerant gas
  49. "Cabaret" director
  50. Border line
  51. Pathogen
  52. Readily fluent
  53. Group of play mates?
  56. "His Master's Voice" org.
  57. Seek change?



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## EVENTS

### OCALA AND THE VILLAGES

December 3, 2017

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
The On Top of the World Concert Chorus will present an encore performance of their winter concert entitled "All-American Christmas" on Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 5200 SW College Road, Ocala, 34474. This concert will include a collection of Christmas songs all by American composers. This is a free concert but a good will offering will be collected. This concert is open to the community and all are welcome to attend. For information contact 352-854-8718.

December 3, 2017

**ADVENT AT JOY LUTHERAN**

### CHURCH

The new church year begins on Advent Sunday, December 3, 2017. Advent is the time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The term is a version of the Latin word "coming."

During Advent there will be the usual Sunday worship services of 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The service and sermons will have the message within the theme of "Moving Toward the Manager."

On Wednesday each week there will be a brief 2:00 p.m. service without communion. We will continue our Wednesday evening casual service at 6:45 p.m. service with communion.

All are welcome to attend the Advent services. Joy Lutheran Church is located at 7045 SW 83<sup>rd</sup> Place at SR 200, Ocala. For more information call (352) 854-4509 ext. 2.

'An Artist's Life: Paintings by Robert Stebleton' Exhibit on Display Nov. 7

through Jan. 10

OCALA, Fla. (Oct. 26, 2017) – 'An Artist's Life: Paintings by Robert Stebleton' will be on display at City Hall, 110 SE Watula Ave., beginning Tuesday, Nov. 7. This art exhibit is open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will be on display through Wednesday, Jan. 10.

An opening reception for this exhibit will be held Thursday, Nov. 9 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at City Hall. The artist, Robert Stebleton, will be in attendance to engage with guests and provide unique perspectives into his artwork. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact the City of Ocala Cultural Arts Division at 352-629-8447 or [artinfo@ocalafl.org](mailto:artinfo@ocalafl.org).

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## COPD

Continued from page 4

**Knowledge:** Understand what it means to have COPD. Work with your doctor to create a customized action plan to help track progress.

**Treatment:** While there's no cure for COPD, there are many treatment options including prescription drugs, positive airway pressure (PAP) therapy, portable oxygen concentrators, and ventilation therapy that can help you maintain a better quality of life. By researching and having a strong understanding of the treatment options available, you can have a more educated conversation with physicians about care plans.

**Nutrition:** A healthy diet is incredibly important for COPD patients as a poor diet can make symptoms worse. The right nutrition can even help you breathe easier. Meet with a nutritionist to gain an understanding of where your current diet stands to help with your diagnosis.

**Exercise:** Exercise can help improve cardiorespiratory fitness levels by strengthening large muscle groups within one's body while also improving circulation. Find an exercise that works for you and encourage friends and family to participate with you.

### Learn More

If you suspect that you or a loved one may have COPD, head to your physician for a spirometry test and visit [www.Philips.com/WorldCOPDDay](http://www.Philips.com/WorldCOPDDay) for further information.

## A Dangerous Air Bag?

**URGENT—Your Vehicle May Have A Dangerous Air Bag!**

(NAPSI)—A few simple steps protect your family and loved ones.

You may be driving a vehicle with a defective driver's side air bag, passenger's side air bag or both. If you have one of the following vehicles, please call your local Chrysler, Jeep®, Dodge or Ram dealership to schedule a FREE repair:

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Here's why: According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 34 million vehicles have defective air bags, which can cause serious injury or death in the event of a crash. Even a minor fender bender can cause these air bags to explode, spraying metal fragments into drivers and passengers.

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Fortunately, there is a solution, repairs are FREE and Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram dealerships have plenty of new air bags available to replace them. You don't even have to take the vehicle back to the same dealership from which you bought it; any authorized dealer can make the free repairs.

### Learn More

For further facts, or if you are not sure whether your vehicle is part of this, you can:

1. Go to [recalls.mopar.com](http://recalls.mopar.com) and enter your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), found on the driver's side dashboard near the windshield or the inside driver's side door.
2. Get in touch with your Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or Ram dealership.
3. Call the dedicated toll-free number: (866) 220-6765. Se habla español.



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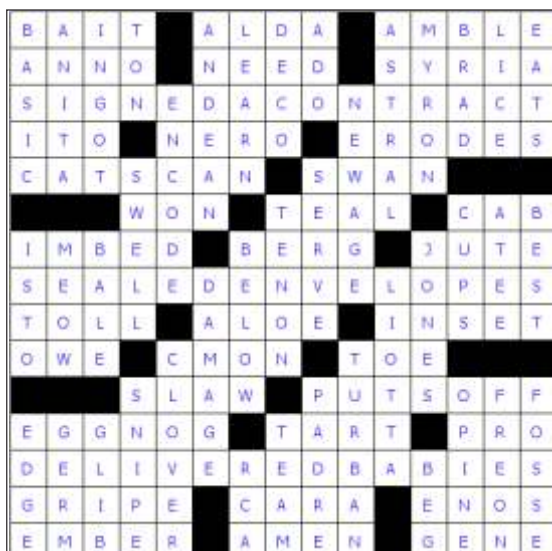
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