

SOUTH MARION Citizen

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BRIEFS

Memorial Service at Temple Beth Shalom

Temple Beth Shalom invites you to join Rabbi Harari and our congregation as we hold a Memorial Service this Friday, Nov. 2, at 7:30 p.m. for those who perished in the shooting at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue Friday, Oct. 26. We will also pray for a speedy recovery of the wounded congregants and wounded police officers who confronted the gunman. Security will be present and guests are welcome as always. Shabbat Services will continue every Friday at 7:30 p.m., including our monthly Friday Musical Shabbat Nov. 10 with Rabbi, Dale and Raoul. Our monthly morning services will be Saturday, Nov. 10, at 10 a.m.

To learn more, visit our website: www.jewishocala.com or call Mildred Olstein at 352-694-4487 or Julie Rochlin at 352-207-5385. We are located at 1109 NE Eighth Avenue, Ocala 34476.



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Early voting begins

Elections supervisor records record early turnout

A record number of early voters in Marion County have already cast ballots.

Early Voting in Marion County began Oct. 25 and will continue through Saturday, Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at nine convenient Early Voting sites.

By noon Oct. 25, the elections officer reported the largest day ever of early voting turnout for a gubernatorial election in Marion County. As of 3 p.m., 5,550 voters cast a ballot during early voting.

Turnout can be tracked live at Vote-Marion.com/Turnout.

On the first day of Early Voting in the 2014 General Election

there were 3,435 voters and in the 2010 General Election there were 1,375 voters.

As of 10 a.m. Sunday, 48,467 voters had cast ballots. Of those, 32,204 were mail ballots and 16,257 were in person at one of the nine sites.

So far, 19.94 percent of 243,085 of those registered have voted.

Democrats account for 16,053 vote; Republicans, 25,075; and No Party Affiliation have cast 7,128 votes.

A record number of vote-by-mail requests have also been received for the 2018 General Election.

More than 53,000 ballots were mailed to



PHOTO/RON RATNER

Early voters at about 7:40 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 25, wait in line at the MCSO Deputy Brian Litz District Office on S.R. 200.

See VOTING/Page A26

A Halloween Thriller – Evileena’s Scary Night

BY PATRICIA GIZZI
Stone Creek Correspondent

Stone Creek residents along with OTOW residents and Oak Run with students from various local dance schools did a great fundraiser for the Ocala Domestic Violence Center. The production was created and directed by Stone Creek's Fitness Director, Cheri Irwin.

The residents spent many hours practicing. "The Bats" dance was performed by Howard Middle School dancers. Shelia Rutolo choreographed the dance. "The Vampires" Love Eternal dance and the "Magical Ghosts" dance was performed by stu-



PHOTO/PATRICIA GIZZI

Leisure Arts Club President Barbara Wright.

dents from Dance by Shelia. "Girls from the Grave" performed by students from Dance Company of Ocala and

choreographed by Brooke Loftis. "Super Heroes" was performed by XRT Dance Crew choreographed by Angel

Gardiyen. "Zombies Dance" by residents of Stone Creek, OTOW, and Oak Run was choreographer by Cheri Irwin. Michael Jackson dance was performed by Darius Wallace, a member of XRT Dance Crew.

Cheri said, "Domestic violence victims live in a silent world. They live in fear, shame, depression, darkness and lose their own sense of self-worth. At the Ocala Domestic Violence Center they receive support, encouragement, protection, counsel, food, clothing, lodging and resources to take steps in a new direction." The monies and supplies raised from this Halloween Thriller will give these victims a new beginning to enable them

to live in a safer environment as they pursue the skills they need to lead a better life. Dr. Judy Wilson has been the woman leading the center. She has been doing this for 40 years.

Cheri goes on to say, "When you get that sense of community and people working together, there's really nothing like that. That's a very magical, powerful connection." She mentioned that the age range of 7 to 90 was an intergenerational performance. Living in a 55+ community is great but it was nice to have the connection with younger people all coming together for a great cause – The Ocala Do-

See THRILLER/Page A26

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I'm dreaming of a commercial free world

Out to Pastor
Rev. James Snyder



It was one of those really busy weeks where there was hardly enough time to breathe. For myself, I was glad the week was over and I could relax for the evening.

"What do you want for supper?" The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage queried. "Do you want to go out for supper?"

Going out for supper was the last thing on my mind. All I wanted to do was relax here at the house.

"No," I said rather hesitatingly, "why don't we just order a pizza and stay home tonight?"

That brought a nice smile to her face. It is the one time that I made the right decision.

So, we ordered the pizza and were ready to settle down and enjoy the evening together watching TV. Nothing could be more relaxing after the kind of week we had. It was like two steps forward and five steps backward.

The pizza arrived in good time and we were ready to turn our back on the world, the past week and just enjoy our own little companionship.

Ordering pizza can sometimes be tricky. I like pepperoni, she likes mushroom and the twin never comes together. So we ordered a large pizza half pepperoni and half

mushroom. That way I know I will get my half. I know she will not eat any of the pepperoni pizza.

We were all snuggled down in our easy chairs eating pizza, drinking soda and watching TV.

"What do you want to watch tonight?"

"I don't know," she said hesitatingly, "anything is good for me tonight."

We settled on one of those Hallmark movies playing that night and began watching it. If you ever watched a movie on TV, you know that they cannot go long without breaking for commercials.

It was agitating to me, but I just indulged in my pizza and soda.

Then I heard a very deep sighing on the other side of the room. For a while, I pretended not to hear it. I just kept munching on my pizza.

The sighing got louder and I tried to crunch louder. Unfortunately, the sighing won.

The next stage was, "I can't believe all of that."

Again, I tried to mind my own business and focus on the movie. At the next commercial I heard somebody say, and it wasn't me, "I am just about tired of all that."

I am not sure what she was tired of; I was hoping it was not me. I know it wasn't the pizza. You can only handle something for so long.

Finally, I said, "What are you tired of?"

"I'm tired," she said most exasperatingly, "of all those commercials. I'm tired of them all. I want them to go away."

I had to agree with her at this point. I am so tired of commercials. I am dreaming of some world where there are no commercials.

While watching this movie we decided to do a little bit of research. After every part of the movie, it came to commercial time. When the commercials started coming we started counting them. Between every segment, there were 117 commercials. It seemed that way at least.

The worst part of these commercials was the fact that most of them were political commercials. Personally, I think that should be against the law. And the Gracious Mistress agrees with me. So, if she agrees with me it must be something of consequence.

If I want to see a commercial, I will go and watch a commercial. After all, I do have a computer. But please, do not splatter my TV screen with commercial after commercial after commercial.

When a commercial comes on I can get up, go take a shower, shave and practice my Yogi Berra

before the next part of the movie begins.

I have noticed that if I am watching TV while eating something they always have commercials about diarrhea. Why do I want to know about that while I am eating? That is most disgusting.

Even more disgusting are political commercials. Again, I think it should be against the law for any political commercials to be on my television. They should set aside one TV station that runs nothing but commercials 24/7. Then, if I want to watch a commercial, I know where to go.

If a political candidate wants to run for some office, they should write an essay about what they be-

lieve and post it on their website. Then, if I want to know anything about them, I know where to go. Only please, stay off my TV set.

While watching our movie, it became very confusing. It is hard to leap across the commercials to follow the story line. We decided to time things. The movie part would last about eight minutes and the commercial part would last over 10 minutes.

Talk about being unfair: I never turn the TV on to watch a commercial. It would be hard for me to find a commercial that I have any interest in whatsoever.

The only place I can find a commercial free environment is the Bible. "All scripture is given by

inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The one pleasure in reading the Bible is that there are no distractions. (I'm James Snyder and I approve this message.)

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail james-snyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnyderministries.com.

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And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him.

MARK 1:13

"The Agony in the Garden" by Otto Dix (1968)

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...We do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

"Old Man in Prayer" by Rembrandt (1606-1609)

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for Florida Senate

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Gary McKechnie

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Obituary

Diane W. Lawhorne

Diane W. Lawhorne, 65, of Ocala, FL, passed away Wednesday Oct. 24, 2018. Diane was born in Augsburg, Germany. She was a nurse for over 35 years and worked for the Veterans Affairs retiring from hospice center in Ocala, FL, in 2017. She loved caring for her patients and worked many long hours making sure they were cared for.

Diane was a dedicated woman and loved her crossword puzzles. She was predeceased by her father Earl R. Lawhorne. She is survived by her mother, Jeanne Hoyt Lawhorne; sister, Suzanne Lawhorne Yaskow; brothers, Stephen E. Lawhorne (Christine) and Gregory E. Lawhorne (Dianne). Services are private.

Friday Forum is Nov. 9

The Friday Forum of Marion County Nov. 9 joins the community in celebrating our veterans with representatives of Patriot Service Dogs Inc. who work locally with women prison inmates at the Lowell Correctional Institution to train dogs who later will be given to disabled veterans. The monthly luncheon which takes place from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Golden Corral, 2111 SW State Road 200, Ocala, is always open to the public.

Julie Ann Sanderson, co-founder in 2009 of Patriot Service Dogs, is also director of the WOOD program, the prison arm of the organization. Everyone benefits from this program – the veterans who gain greater independence and comfort with the dogs, the women who learn to take responsibility for a creature other than themselves and of course, the dogs who come into the program at about 8 weeks old and remain until they are age 2.

“This program allows the women to reconnect with family and learn to be better mothers,” Sanderson said.

She has both teaching and business management degrees and is currently seeking a master's degree in social work.

Also on the program will be well-known local obedience instructor and long time facilitator at area dog clubs Jerry Lea Garber who in addition to her work at the prison ministry conducts classes at the South Ocala Animal Clinic on Lake Weir Avenue.

We anticipate that at least one of their star students will be in attendance.

For more information please email FridayForumofMarionCounty@gmail.com or telephone Delphine Herbert at 352-873-9970.



The South Marion Citizen is a two community newspaper covering news and activities in southeast Marion County including Ocala, Pine Park, Palm Bay, On Top of the World, Municipal Country Estates, Grandparks, Ferns, Marine Landing, Midstate, Ocala, Hillside Lakes, Woods and Meadows Estates, Postmark Farms, Seaside Oak Club, Deer Creek, Charming Estates, Horseshoe Trails, Deerfield Hills, Country Oaks, and Harvest Meadows. Space Coast Florida, among others.

Postmaster: Entered as Third Class Matter at its post office in Ocala, Fla., 34477.

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Deadlines for news:

Friday 1 p.m. the week before publication.

Deadlines for classified ads: Deadline for display advertising Tuesday 4 p.m. before publication. Monday 6 p.m. before publication.

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I want to get news in the Citizen.

Call editor David Davis at 352-854-0222 or send by e-mail to editor@smcitizen.com

Community news and photos must be received by Friday the week before publication. Photo and photos may be left at the Citizen office in Kissimmee Plaza. All contributions are subject to editing for clarity, taste, and style.

'Halloween'



At the Movies

Bob Garver

The soulless white mask of Michael Myers might be the scariest thing I've ever seen in my life. It was in 1997 that I read an article on slasher movies accompanied by a picture of Myers holding a huge knife. This happened to be right before I spent a week at my grandparents' eerily quiet farmhouse, and I spent four sleepless nights expecting The Shape to show up at any moment. It was only later that I came to respect John Carpenter and his 1978 horror classic "Halloween" for managing to scare me so effectively. Of course, Carpenter's original was followed by several less-terrifying sequels and the forgettable Rob Zombie reboot, so Michael and his mask have since lost their edge, but my hope was that resurrecting Myers for a new "Halloween" film in 2018 would make me scared all over again. For better or worse, I am now less scared of Michael Myers than ever.

The new film is a follow-up to the first "Halloween", but erases all franchise lore that came after, including the twist of protagonist Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) turning out to be

Michael's sister. She was just some teenager who survived Michael's killing spree and was subsequently traumatized. Laurie's life has completely fallen apart since that fateful night, as she's lost two husbands, custody of her daughter (played here as an adult by Judy Greer), and her mind in general. Michael, for his part, has been locked away in an asylum where was studied at first by the iconic Dr. Loomis, and now by the oddly-obsessed Dr. Sartain (Haluk Bilginer).

A pair of journalists (Jefferson Hall and Rhian Rees) visit Michael right before he's scheduled to be transferred to a new facility and basically taunt him with his old mask. Michael breaks free during the transfer (shocking, I know) and sets out on another killing spree, though he has to get his mask back first... He eventually makes his way back to his hometown of

Haddonfield, IL, where he picks off some lonely homeowners, incompetent police officers, and his personal favorite, hedonistic teens. He eventually comes to target Allyson (Andi Matichak), Laurie's granddaughter. This gives Laurie all the more reason to lure Michael to her home in the woods, where the two can have a final showdown to attain closure after 40 years.

The film is at its best when it plays as a comedy. It has fun referencing the original film and there are some laughs from minor characters who make stupid horror movie mistakes. There's also an extended bit from Allyson's babysitter friend (Virginia Gardner) and her young charge (Jibrail Nantambu). I can see where some viewers could be annoyed that the film just lets these two seemingly riff for several minutes, but it's a really funny riff that justifies its existence.

Of course the bulk of the film is straight horror, and I'm sorry to say that it doesn't pull it off too well. Michael is completely expected every time he shows up, and his victims are rarely likeable enough to curry interest in their survival. Even the mask is less scary this time around, its disturbing pure whiteness replaced with a sort of flawed silver. The climax in Laurie's house is especially frustrating because it has been established that Laurie has been preparing for this moment for 40 years and you'd think she'd have a more polished defense in store for the stalker. One tactic is a particularly underwhelming slow burn, you can email me at rrg251@nyu.edu if you want to know what realistic alternative I would have used instead. Although I enjoyed some early parts of the new "Halloween", I can't bring myself to recommend the film because in the end, it just isn't that scary.

Grade: C

"Halloween" is rated R for horror violence and bloody images, language, brief drug use and nudity. Its running time is 105 minutes.

Marion County photos sought

The Citrus Publishing Marion County newspapers, including the South Marion Citizen, West Marion Messenger and Riverland News, are planning a special section for this fall called "Discover Marion County."

The section will carry information to guide people around the various places and activities that the county has to offer. It will include lists, some stories and photos, lots of photos.

That's where we need your input. We want you to tell us, "What is your

favorite find?" Share with us what is your favorite discovery in Marion County, from parks, lake, rivers, springs, trails? If you have any photos that you are willing to share that show scenes from the county, email them to us as JPG attachments to ddavis@smcitizen.com.

Do not shrink the photos. Please include a description of where and approximately when the photos were taken (spring, summer, etc.) and the name of the person who took the photo.

Unlike what we usu-

ally say for regular photos, we are not necessarily looking for pictures with people in them. Scenic views are usually the best.

While the section is still two weeks away, we are now starting to compile information, so please send us what you have soon.

"To enter a theatre for a performance is to be inducted into a magical space, to be ushered into the sacred arena of the imagination."

— Simon Callow

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Homogenized, pasteurized tales on the ol' Pun Alley cattle trail



Pun Alley
Dick Frank

Living in the middle of horse country makes it hard for us to realize that Florida's cattle industry is one of the 15 largest in the United States. In 1521 Ponce de Leon brought horses and cattle to Florida, making it the oldest cattle raising state in the nation. Holy cow! Today's Pun Alley runs some udderly hilarious cow puns pasteurize. Make no mi-steak, you'll have no beef with them.

Sonny's place

At the turn of the century a cattle baron bought his three boys a ranch near Arcadia to raise cattle. He named it Focus because that's where the sons raise meat. They used a cowculator to add up the number of the cows and bulls and kept track of the total on a catalyst.

Off the cuff

Cowboys Joe and Fess were resting their horses out in the wilderness near Williston. "What'd Emmaline give yew for yore birthday?" asked Joe.

"Pair of cufflinks," said Fess. "But I ain't got no use for them. I can't even

find anyplace to get my wrists pierced."

Lots of Cows

A young man visited a small ranch and was walking with one of the ranch hands through the barnyard when he said, "Say, look at that big bunch of cows."

The hired hand replied, "Not bunch, but herd."

"Heard what?"

"Herd of cows."

"Sure, I've heard of cows."

"No, a cow herd."

"What do I care what a cow heard. I have no secrets to keep from a cow."

Real Dude

The lady had come to a dude ranch and was all ready to take her first horseback ride. She said to the cowboy, "Can you get me a nice gentle pony?"

"Shore," said the cowboy. "What kind of saddle do you want, English or western?"

"What's the difference?" asked the lady.

"The western saddle has a horn on it," said the cowboy.

"If the traffic is so thick here that I need a

horn on my saddle, I don't believe I want to ride."

Horsing Around

A blonde man was walking along a back Ocala road next to a field when he noticed something that intrigued him. "Why doesn't this cow have any horns?" he asked the ranch hand who just happened to appear.

"Well," said the hand, "Cows can do damage with their horns so they are usually trimmed down with a hacksaw. He then continued, "But this cow doesn't have any horns because it's a horse."

Horse Shoes

Visitor: "Wow, you have a lot of flies buzzing round your horses and cows. Do you ever shoo them?"

Cowboy: "No we just let them go barefoot."

Cow Tales

Cows wear bells because their horns don't work.

When the cow jumped over the barbed wire fence it was an udder catastrophe.

The cowboy that got

fired from his ranch job wasn't crazy; he was just deranged.

Milk of Amnesia comes from a forgetful cow.

When cows go to school they like moosic, pscowolwg, and cowculus.

The bowlegged cowboy was fired because he couldn't keep his calves together.

Holsteins are the spots on black and white cows.

A cow's happiest place on earth is in Cowlifornia, of course.

Spoiled milk comes from pampered cows.

Lotta Bull

Back many years ago, two sisters, one blonde and one brunette, inherited the family ranch. To

keep from going broke, they needed to purchase a bull so they could breed their own stock. The brunette took their last \$600 and drove north to a ranch where a man had a prize bull for sale.

Upon leaving home, she had told her sister, "If I buy the bull, I'll contact you to come for me and haul it home."

The brunette inspected the bull and decided to buy it. The man told her the price was \$599 firm. After paying him, she drove to the nearest town to send her sister a telegram.

At the telegraph office she said, "I want to send a telegram to my sister telling her that I've bought a bull. She has to

bring our pick-up truck and trailer here so we can haul it home."

The telegraph operator explained, "It's just 99 cents a word."

After paying for the bull, the brunette only had \$1.00. She realized she'd only be able to send one word. She said, "I want you to send the word, 'comfortable.'"

The telegraph operator replied, "How is she ever going to know that you want her to bring the pick-up truck and trailer here to haul that bull back if you send the word, 'comfortable?'"

The brunette explained, "My sister's blonde. She'll read it slowly."

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MLS# 644893/JH/PRE..... \$129,900

8186 SW 108th Street
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SANTA CRUZ MARCO POLO
PENDING
COME TAKE A LOOK at this beautiful home located in a very nice 55+ adult community in the SW area of Ocala. Some features include: 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Rear room could be used as a third bedroom. Formal living room, formal dining room, chef's walk in kitchen with snack bar overlooking large family room. Inside laundry room, shed out back for all year garden tools, etc. Large screened in patio to sit in looking at the beautiful back yard!
MLS# 643056/SH/TUR..... \$210,000

PHILADELPHIA ON TOP OF THE WORLD
PENDING
WITH A RED BRICK FRONT and super landscaping, this home will wow you from the start. Spacious 2 bedroom and 2 bath sits in the most popular 55 plus community in Ocala! Bright and airy with 3 solar tubes. Sun room in back of home and/or heat and air. Brand new roof (2018) and newer H.A.C. (2004). In-rice tile and ceramic floors in kitchen and baths. Come take a look!
MLS# 643056/JV/SCH..... \$92,900

MERRIMACK MARCO POLO #51
PENDING
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE 55+, doesn't mean you don't still have hobbies or like to entertain! This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has TWO oversized garages, PLUS an in-ground pool, an attached garage open to the living area - perfect for entertaining & 2 outdoor workshops. All of this on .53 acres in a convenient 55+ community.
MLS# 641055/DF/TAY..... \$230,000

2 STORY
HAZEL GARDENS
PRICE REDUCED
SET AMONGST some of Ocala's grandest horse farms, this home is a delight. Newer kitchen appliances and inside laundry. Laminated floors in living area with carpets in the bedrooms. Large closets in both bedrooms and 2 full baths. Nice sized yard and includes 2 sheds. Roof over in 2012. Only \$15 a month HOA fee! You own the land, no lot rent! Come take a look!
MLS# 643056/JV/SCH..... \$55,900

EXP AFTERSHRE II CANOLER HILLS
PENDING
WOW... Come and take a look at this one-of-a-kind Apeshire model. No other like it. Pride of ownership truly shines in this beautiful home. Features include: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, oversized 2-car garage, large main case (study, den), inside laundry rm, huge Florida rm overlooking semi-private backyard. Custom counter-tops in kitchen, Murphy bed in one of the guest bedrooms, fireplace in living rm. Formal dining rm, can lay here throughout the home.
MLS# 643056/SH/COO..... \$269,900

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY - "PROJECT HOUSE" on over 5 acres of fenced pastures. Home has 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3+ car garage, but needs lots of work. Newer roof & water heaters & kitchen cabinets (2006). All convenient to Hwy. 200 with medical facilities, shopping, restaurants & more. Highly motivated seller!
MLS# 644527/DF/MAR..... \$225,000

TIMBERWALK
PENDING
WOW! Come take a look at this beautiful 3/2/2 home in Timberwalk. Home features tile and laminate floors, kitchen has breakfast nook, snack bar, plus dining area. Master bath has marble vanity with double sinks and there is a shower plus garden tub to relax in. Relax in the enclosed lanai or have a BBQ on the large deck off the lanai. Close to Wal-Mart, restaurants, and shopping. Come take a look!
MLS# 642707/DNA/MAR..... \$162,500

DANUBE MARCO POLO
PENDING
COME TAKE A LOOK at this nice home located in a much sought after family oriented SW community. Three bedrooms (split plan) 2 bath, formal dining room, flex room, large kitchen with a nook, large master suite, master bath has a jacuzzi tub to sit and relax plus a walk in closet. Screened in lanai overlooking beautiful fenced in back yard. Oversized 2-car garage with full double ladder for extra storage.
MLS# 642151/SH/MAR..... \$234,750

LAKETROPICANA
PENDING
LOOK NO FURTHER for your dream home. This one like it all. Home has over 100sqft of living space & 2.39 acres to put horses on or just to gaze out over the horizon of the 10 best back roads for entertaining & relaxing. There is also a first div't to sit & catch the sun in. This home has many updates and new wall/flooring/kitchen & BR, new laminate flooring in dining room, updated throughout, new front 5'x10' of newer water heater. Kitchen has new stainless steel & water appliances, new front yard. There is a stone fireplace in the living room. Morning sun on the split water closet. All 3 BR have walk in closets & carpet tile. Master BR is very spacious & master BA is huge. Outside there are 3 sheds for storage. MLS# 644517/SH/MAR..... \$112,000

Update on the 'Audubon in Action Grant' from National Audubon

BY BARBARA SCHWARTZ
Marion Audubon Society

Marion Audubon Society has actively been pursuing the stated goals of our grant: Equity, diversity and Inclusion.

The stated purpose of the grant was to work with the Environmental Science students from the College of Central Florida here in Ocala. The students have been joining MAS on guided bird walks, learning about area parks and forests, and birding apps for their cell phones.

The next step in the project is twofold. On Nov. 1, MAS educator Carolyn Retej, will present a basic, beginning bird watching lecture to the Environmental Science Honors students with a focus on near-shore freshwater birds. On Nov. 8, this group of students will participate in birding by kayak field trip at Silver Springs State Park.

The students are preparing by watching YouTube videos on kayaking techniques and safety. These will be

further enforced as we launch with Silver Springs Kayaking's Mike Sage. We will also be accompanied by members of Silver Springs State Park River Patrol.

As we paddle to the head springs, members of MAS will point out nearby birds, manatees and alligators. No binoculars are needed; everything is nearby.

Dr. Robert Knight of the Florida Springs Institute will join us at the head springs and provide a short explanation of the structure and ecology of the springs.

We'll continue downriver, honing our paddling and bird watching skills, for the next hour or so, before returning to our launch site.

We are creating and inspiring the next generation of birders, kayakers and springs enthusiasts! We humans protect what we love and that is the goal of these grant activities. Love nature; protect nature; teach others to do the same.

In a study, scientists report that drinking beer can be good for the liver. I'm sorry, did I say "scientists?" I meant "Irish people."

— Tina Fey



Bookmark
Pat Wellington

Title: Lethal White
Author: Robert Galbraith

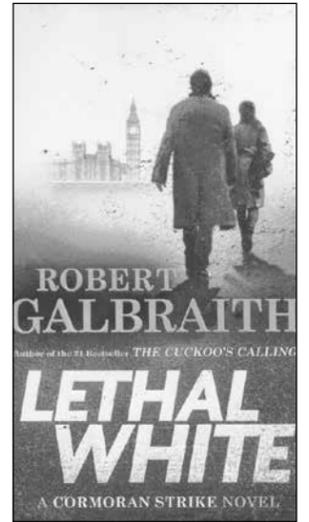
Under her Galbraith pseudonym, J.K. Rowling delivers a doorstopper of a book — her fourth in the Cormoran Strike series. It picks up from the last one that ended in Strike's partner's marriage to Matthew Cun-

liffe. Strike's detective agency is doing well and the recent bride, Robin Ellacott, is back at work, the two tiptoeing around each other romantically. Galbraith's novels are strongest when Robin and Strike are interacting, navigating their complicated feelings for each other while on a case. Into this bursts

Billy, a troubled young man who thinks he witnessed the murder of a child. Nobody will pay Strike to pursue this but he can't let it go. "Strike's predilection for getting to the root of puzzling incidents tended to inconvenience him quite as much as other people." Another case coming in involves a government minister seeking information on people who are blackmailing him — Geraint Winn and Jimmy Knight, who not coincidentally, is

the brother of the mentally-ill Billy. Robin is normally a great character, but in this novel, she spends way too much time wondering what to do about her personal life, particularly her failed marriage. The setting for this novel is London in 2012 in the midst of preparations for the Olympics and Paralympics. Frantic last-minute preparations are irritating and inconveniencing the locals, who are also annoyed that they don't

have tickets for the main events. Although the mystery itself is beautifully complex with more tentacles than on a squid, there is too much filler between actions, too many balls in the air and a novel terribly bloated at 650 pages. Still, there are pleasures to be had here as in Rowling's jokes on her uber-posh characters who say such things as "Steady on, old chap." But fans are hoping her next book will be sharper and shorter.



CF offers a variety of events in November

The College of Central Florida's Musical Theatre presents "The Theory of Relativity" Friday and Saturday, Nov. 9-10, starting at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 11, at 3 p.m., in the Dassance Fine Arts Center, 3001 S.W. College Road.

"The Theory of Relativity" is a new chamber musical by Neil Bartram and Brian Hill and directed by Jason Longtin, CF associate professor that explores the notion that all people are intricately interconnected; that our personal journeys can have profound effects on those with whom we come into contact, from our intimate partners to complete strangers. Through songs and monologues, 18 singers, actors, and instrumentalists create an array of characters whose lives intersect as they explore the unfolding mysteries and adventures in their lives.

This play is produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for non-CF students. CF students,

faculty and staff are free with CF identification. For tickets and more information, call the CF Box Office at 352-873-5810 or visit www.tickets.cf.edu. The box office is located in the lobby of the Fine Arts Center and is open Monday through Friday from 1-4 p.m. and an hour before show-time.

To learn about other events at CF, visit CF.edu.

FREE FALL STUDENT RECITALS

The College of Central Florida's Visual and Performing Arts Department will present a Piano and Vocal Recital Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 12:30 p.m. and an Instrumental Recital/Concerto Competition Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 12:30 p.m. in the Charles R. Dassance Fine Arts Center at the Ocala Campus, 3001 S.W. College Road.

Students enrolled in music courses will perform competition grade compositions. The winner(s) of the competition will be invited to attend a symposium in the spring.

"CF music students work hard all semester to

meet specific performance benchmarks for their level, and performing in front of an audience is a valuable educational experience for them," said Dr. Jennifer Fryns, dean of Arts and Education. "I hope members of the community can join us in celebrating what they have achieved."

The doors open to the public approximately 15 minutes before each performance. Call the CF Box Office at 352-873-5810 for more information. Admission is free and no tickets are required.

PUERTO RICO AND THE ARTS

The Appleton Museum of Art, College of Central Florida, will host a special event, "P.R.A.D.O. on the Patio," Friday, Nov. 9, 6-9 p.m. This event is held in combination with the exhibition "La Diaspora: Keepers of Heritage," on view through Jan. 20, featuring work by members of Puerto Rican Arts Diaspora Orlando. This event is sponsored in part by Marion Cultural Alliance.

Celebrate Puerto Rico and the arts at the Appleton with live music by Ritmo Latino and salsa dancing under the stars, led by the College of Central Florida's Salsa Club. The evening will be complemented by authentic Puerto Rican cuisine and traditional Puerto Rican beverages. Mix, mingle, or challenge your friends to a round of dominoes, corn hole or cards. Love dressing up? Don't be afraid to wear something festive!

Tickets are \$20 for Appleton members and \$25 for nonmembers and are limited. Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended. Tickets can be purchased online at www.AppletonMuseum.org or by phone; contact Griselle Gonzalez-Vazquez at 352-291-4455, ext. 1836.

Owned and operated by the College of Central Florida, the Appleton Museum of Art is located at 4333 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, east of downtown on SR 40 (exit 352 east off I-75 or exit 268 west off I-95). Parking is free. For more information, call 352-291-4455

or visit AppletonMuseum.org.

STAY LOCAL EVENT

The College of Central Florida's Business and Technology Department will host a special event about the high-wage, high-demand career opportunities in our community Wednesday, Nov. 7, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Webber Center, 3001 S.W. College Road., Ocala. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Participants will have an opportunity to network with some of Ocala's top employers such as Custom Window Systems, E-One, Lockheed Martin and R&L Global

Logistics, as well as interact with representatives from career and technical programs in the Marion County schools, Marion Technical College and College of Central Florida. Information will be presented from industry leaders about the state of Ocala's economy and anticipated job opportunities.

There is no charge to attend. Refreshments and door prizes will be provided. For more information, contact Bonnie Hays at 352-854-2322, ext. 1855, or haysb@cf.edu.

For more information about CF, visit www.CF.edu.

Americanisms

"It's not about the cards you're dealt, but how you play the hand."
—Randy Pausch

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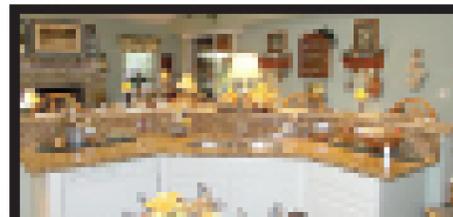
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Let us come together in solidarity

BY CANTOR ALISA FORMAN
 BETH SHOLOM OF CITRUS
 COUNTY

Congregation Beth Shalom of Citrus County, serving the Jewish Community in Citrus County, Marion County and other nearby counties for 50 years, is appalled and angered at the recent senseless violence at the Tree Of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh.

The following is Spiritual Leader, Cantor Alisa Forman's response on behalf of Beth Shalom and the local Jewish community:

Our prayers and thoughts are with the victims of Saturday's violence at Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh, with their families, with all three communities who pray there Saturday mornings, and with the Pittsburgh Jewish community as well as with the injured police officers who bravely came to their defense. All houses of faith should be places of the kind of joy and peace we experience at our Sabbath services and the idea that one evil man full of hate could shatter that makes us distraught, but also angry and determined.

All people of good faith agree that it defies human comprehension to witness today's attacks on people at prayer as they rejoiced in the welcoming of a new child into the world. The Torah tells us that a society was destroyed because "the earth was filled with violence." Too often we have seen hatred in the heart become hatred in the hands. We all need to stand together-left and right, red and blue, people of all faiths and no particular faith - to affirm our intolerance of hatred on any side.

So, let us come together in solidarity at our Interfaith Service on Thursday, November 15 at 7pm, to be held in our Sanctuary at 102 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills. We will heal together and pray for the victims and others impacted by this tragedy. We will stand strong in the conviction that no Antisemite or terrorist can take away anyone's right to assemble to worship God in peace, to be accepted as an integral part of society and to help make this society more open, more supportive and more peaceful for people of all backgrounds, faiths, ethnicities and creeds. Our synagogue is a place where we can comfort each other, pray together, and treasure the sense of sacred community that was attacked and shattered on Saturday morning in Pittsburgh.

Our hearts go out to the victims and their entire circle, and indeed, to all of the congregants of Tree of Life congregation exposed to the trauma of such a hateful attack.

With prayers for peace and an end to hatred."

Cantor Alisa Forman

South Marion Citizen

Publisher:

GERRY MULLIGAN

Manager:

JOHN MURPHY

Editor:

DAVID DAVIS



Bombings and shootings

I wrote one column this morning, but that was before the shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh and if you don't want a sermon, then don't read this one.

All week, I felt sad, dread, sick to my stomach and fearful one of the bombs would explode. I never believed the intended targets were at risk, but I was afraid for postal workers or some other innocent mail handler.

Friday, I felt a sense of relief, but Saturday morning that same sick feeling returned when a man opened fire in a Jewish Synagogue during morning services. The shooter killed 11 worshippers and wounded six others, including four police officers, before he was arrested.

Americans could go back and forth forever about who and how we have become so angry and divided. But, does it matter? It does matter, but not as much as who stops. It takes two to fight. One side has to stop.

Even with the events that happened this week, this is still not our darkest hour. Our institutions are still strong.

It would help if the president would say calming words, but will he? Why does he have to blame it all on the mainstream media and Democrats? Why can't he and all of us take a share of the blame and resolve to tone down the rhetoric?

Turn off cable news. Unplug from the internet and put down the cell-phone. Get out from behind the computer and talk to someone face-to-face. Technology always outpaces the capacity of the masses to master it. We are passing from the so-



Mountains from Molehills

By David Davis

cial media phase and about to enter the era of artificial intelligence and we still can't figure out the difference between legitimate and fake news.

It is not good for people to hear negativity all the time. Instead of looking to man-made governments, why not look to God?

I am going to give you some verses from the Quran. I'm using the Quran because if I don't, some of you may never know what it says other than the often-quoted verse taken out of context that instructs Muslims to smite infidels wherever they are found.

"And hold fast to the rope of God, all together, and be not divided. Remember the Blessing of God upon you, when you were enemies and He joined your hearts, such that you became brothers by His Blessing. You were on the brink of a pit of fire and He delivered you from it. Thus does God make clear unto you His signs that haply (perhaps) you may be rightly guided. Let there be among you a community calling to the good, enjoining right and forbidding wrong. It is they who shall prosper."

Why does it say "perhaps" you might be rightly guided? Because you might be led astray after having believed.

Oh well, enough of that. May the peace of the Lord be with you all.

READER OPINIONS INVITED

§ The opinions expressed in South Marion Citizen editorials are the opinions of the editorial board of the newspaper.

§ Viewpoints depicted in political cartoons, columns or letters do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board.

§ Groups or individuals are invited to express their opinions in letters to the editor and guest columns.

§ Persons wishing to contact the editor should call 854-3986.

§ All letters must be signed and include a phone number and community name, including letters sent via e-mail.

Names and communities will be printed; phone numbers will not be published or given out.

§ We reserve the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste. Not all contributions are printed.

§ Letters longer than 550 words may be regarded as columns and printed on a space-available basis, and writers will be limited to one contribution per week. The deadline is one week prior to each Friday's issue.

§ Send letters to: The South Marion Citizen Editor, 20441 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Dunnellon, FL 34432; or email editor@smcitizen.com.

Following the Pittsburgh massacre

BY RABBI HARARI
 TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

I am writing this message to you following one of the worst days in the history of the American Jewish community.

Eight Jewish worshippers and three first respondents were murdered this morning at Tree of Life Conservative congregation in Pittsburgh, by an anti-Semitic American who is inflicted by hate of Jews, and unfortunately decided to act on it.

Anti-Jewish feelings, unfortunately, are not new. Hitler incited against Jews in the 1930s and the German nation in his time agreed with him. Very few rebelled against Hitler. They were afraid of him. The Jews paid the price as 6 million died in the Holocaust.

Anti-Semitism has existed in America for a long time. I served as Rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel Sinai of Racine, Wisconsin in the 1990s. In October 1994 there was a concert of skin heads who came to Racine from all over the USA and Canada, all very anti-semitic white supremacists.

Their concert was held on a Friday night in a big hall a few blocks away from our synagogue.

The police contacted me and briefed me regarding the danger to us. They promised to have a police car visibly parked in our parking lot and in addition to have more police patrols in our area during our service. They told me that the lyrics at the concert are horrifying: anti-Jews, anti-blacks and anti-anyone who is not white supremacist. The skin heads get incited by these songs and some may act up. Fortunately for us, the police presence prevented any damage to our congregation. (By the way: we did not have to pay the police for this protection. They told me: "This is our job. This is why we have police here").

A year ago, in Charlottesville, anti-semitism lifted its head when white supremacists marched in the streets shouting "Jews will not replace us."

After that I knew that it is only a matter of time before one or more of them would act up against Jews. What I did not know was when and where it would happen. Today, we have the answer: It happened this Shabbat in Pittsburgh.

There are many Jew haters in this country, and very unfortunately they feel empowered now. Two years ago neo-Nazis held a conference in Washington, D.C., right after Trump won the elections. Their leader, Richard Spencer, raised his hand calling "Hail Trump." A few months ago Richard Spencer came to Gainesville to incite ...

No, I was not surprised by the attack in Pittsburgh. All it takes is "a bad man with a gun"... and there are too many bad men out there and too many guns.

We, the Jews, have known persecution and pogroms. (Watch the movie "Fiddler on the Roof"). We have always continued to survive and thrive. We will this time too.

We shall overcome!
 Today I received a wonderful message from my friend, Dr. Hal McSwain, pastor of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

In his e-mail he wrote: "I'm in the process of finding out about the shooting in Pittsburgh, grieving about the

See RABBI/Page A10

What about probiotics for a healthy gut

Health Corner

Patricia A. Woodbury RN MSN



It has been said that the presence of probiotics or “healthy bacteria” in the intestinal tract may improve immune function and aid in digestion. Inside all of us is a unique microbiome teeming with bacteria that lines the gastrointestinal tract, which is the largest organ of immunity in the body.

According to Rachel Begun, MS, RDN the make-up of the intestinal tract microbiome—the total of all microorganisms in the gut—has changed over time, due to environmental factors,

and that this change may be partially responsible for the rise in allergic and autoimmune disorders, which involve the immune system.

Fortifying the intestinal microflora with probiotics should be one of the top health priorities, as this promotes a stronger immune system. According to an August 2013 article in the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, a plant-based, high-fiber diet is the best way to positively impact the intestinal microflora. Fiber-rich plant foods such as whole minimally pro-

cessed grains, fruits, vegetables, beans, legumes, nuts and seeds offer a better defense against disease-causing invaders. Eat at least 14 grams of fiber per 1,000 calories or 28 grams for a 2,000 calorie diet.

It is best to eat whole foods that are natural sources of probiotics, says Begun, as these are nutrient dense foods that contribute to other health benefits, such as yogurt made with live and active cultures, fermented vegetables like kimchi and sauerkraut, fermented soybean products like miso and tem-

peh as well as kombucha, fermented tea.

The popularity of probiotic supplements has grown in recent years. According to Emma Allen-Vercoe, a microbiologist at the University of Guelph, Ontario, the majority of studies to date regarding probiotic supplements have failed to reveal benefits in already healthy individuals.

The probiotic products seem to help only those with intestinal disorders or after treatment with antibiotics. Allen-Vercoe says, “Bacterial strains are so genetically differ-

ent from one another and everybody has a different gut microbiota, there will probably never be a one-size-fits-all probiotic”

Some life style changes may help to maintain a healthy gut, for instance avoiding stress. Stress, can be hard on your intestinal microflora, causing an upset gastrointestinal system and lead to an overload of low-nutrient foods. Also, stick with a healthy, balanced diet during stressful times to maintain microbe stability in your intestinal tract.

Begun also says that it

is just as important to eat a diet rich in prebiotics, which are foods that fuel the good bacteria in the gut. Prebiotic foods include high-fiber plants, such as artichokes, asparagus, bananas, raisins, onions, garlic, leeks, and oats.

Finally, researchers are discovering that just by eating fewer calories, you can change your intestinal flora bacterial profile for the better.

Source: *Environmental Nutrition, The Newsletter of Food, Nutrition & Health, October and February 2013. Scientific American, July 2017.*

‘A Dickens Christmas’

The Urban Family Exhibition at the Appleton Museum

Nov. 10-Dec. 30, the beloved “A Dickens Christmas: The Urban Family Holiday Exhibition” returns to deck the halls. This annual exhibition presents themed trees and other holiday decor from the collection of Ocala cardiologist Dr. Paul Urban, his wife, Joyce, and daughters, Katie, Kristie, Kassie and Karlie. The first floor will feature ornately decorated trees, miniature villages, nutcracker soldiers and other items collected by the Urban family.

Also on view through Dec. 30, trees and displays decorated by community groups and businesses will be on view in the second-floor galleries. Twelve businesses are participating:

Allergy & Asthma Care of Florida, Appleton Museum of Art, Cindy Dunlow Frames & Official Florida Flamingo Museum, College of Central Florida Art Department, Demilio Photography, Family Times Magazine, Hiers-Baxley Community Care, Ocala Wine Experience, Temple Beth Shalom, The David & Lisa Midgett Foundation, Urban Counseling, and WOCA The Source.

Nov. 10-Jan. 6, enjoy the whimsical exhibition “Santa Classics: Ed Wheeler.” Wheeler had been dressing up as Santa Claus for years and, in 2011, decided to take it one step further by inserting himself into famous works of art. The results are very festive — and very humorous. He

uses a high-resolution photograph of the work of art to fully integrate Santa through a multi-step process that incorporates the lighting, brush strokes and tonal values of the original work. The artist has applied this fun treatment to many popular paintings, including Sandro Botticelli’s “Birth of Venus,” Jacques-Louis David’s “Napoleon Crossing the Alps” and Edward Hopper’s “Nighthawks.” He has even applied this technique to the Appleton’s very own Christopher Still painting, “And My Father Before Me.” This painting was chosen in a poll by museum members and the public. Stop by this holiday season to

See CHRISTMAS/Page A20



The Appleton Museum will host The Urban Family Exhibition of Christmas of holiday decor Nov. 10 to Dec. 30.

Ocala Jockey Club International Event
Sat., Nov. 17—\$29pp—Olympic-level competition

Jacksonville Jags vs Pittsburgh Steelers
Sun., Nov. 18—\$45pp Bus Only
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DAVE KOZ Christmas!
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Miss Bennet
Christmas at Pemberley
Sequel to PRIDE & PREJUDICE
Wed., Nov. 28—\$58pp

Victorian Christmas Stroll, Tampa!
Mon., Dec. 3—\$49pp

Christmas at the Holy Land
Fri., Dec. 21—\$79pp

Les Miserables @ the STRAZ
Wed., Jan. 16—\$119pp

Medieval Times Dinner Theatre
Fri., Jan. 18—\$79pp

Mount Dora Arts Festival
Sat., Feb. 2—\$29pp

DAYTONA 500
Sun., Feb. 17—\$229pp

HOLIDAY TRIPS!
Night of Lights St. Augustine
Mon., Nov. 26—\$55pp
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Gaylord Palms ICE
Sun., Dec. 17—\$59pp
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Tues., Dec. 18—\$32pp

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Capone's Dinner Show
Thurs., Feb. 21—\$87pp—Matinee

MEN are from Mars
WOMEN from Venus
Wed., Mar. 28—\$79pp

JACKIE EVANCHO!
Capitol Theatre—Sat, Mar. 16
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Your VIEW

By now I'm sure you have all seen the van used by the mail bomber on tv, the crazy array of hate stickers. Does that picture remind you of anything in our area? When are the police going to clean up all the hate signs on State Road 200 and 60th? He's inciting as much hate as any bomber. This is not patriotism.

Marie Juliano
Ocala

RABBI

Continued from Page A8

loss of life and the angst that these events cause across the country, culture and society. I grieve not only for myself and our world, I grieve for and with Jews everywhere, and I stand

resolutely steadfast in my support for us all. I encourage open, candid discussion about such violence, both as a matter of addressing violence everywhere, and also to take appropriate steps and measures to manage violence locally. I also ask that we recognize and not ignore the shooting/killing last

night (Friday) of a young man here in Ocala. Grief alone rarely transcends loss; grief and action can be transcendent. Blessings, Hal McSwain” Thank you our friend. Last night we had about 60-70 people at services. Let us continue to come here, to our spiritual

home and be inspired. Our board is taking the situation very seriously and we will have police protection next Friday night, and I hope that we will not need it. Let us continue our services and activities as planned, and be proud of being Jews! Shalom! Rabbi Harari

Follow a clear, well-defined financial strategy

None of us can completely control all the things that happen to us. Yet, when it comes to achieving your long-term financial goals, including a comfortable retirement, you do have a great deal of power – as long as you follow a clear, well-defined financial strategy. And one way to help build and maintain such a strategy is by consolidating your financial accounts.

Over the course of their lives, many people pick up a

variety of financial accounts from multiple sources. They might have a few IRAs from different providers, a couple of old 401(k) plans from past employers, an insurance policy (or two) purchased many years ago, and a scattershot of stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit and other investments.

If this picture describes your situation, you may want to think about consolidating. For one thing, having a variety of accounts can run up a lot of

fees. Furthermore, you'll have lots of paperwork to keep track of all your accounts, including several different tax statements. Plus, just by having so many accounts, you risk forgetting about some of them – and if you don't think you'd ever forget about your own money, consider this: Well over \$40 billion in unclaimed cash and property, including 401(k)s, pensions and IRAs, is awaiting return to the rightful owners, according to the National

Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators.

But beyond reducing your possible fees, paperwork and potential for lost assets, consolidating your accounts with one provider can give you a centralized, unifying investment strategy, one that can help you in the following ways:

- Diversification – If you own several different financial accounts, including IRAs, 401(k)s and online accounts, you might have many similar

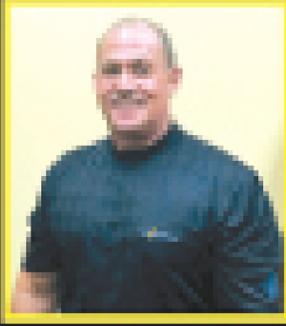
investments within them. You might even own a cash-value insurance policy containing investments that closely track the ones you have in the other accounts. This type of duplication can be harmful, because if a market downturn primarily affects one type of asset, and your portfolio is dominated by that asset or similar ones, you could take a big hit. But if you have all your investments in

See FINANCIAL/Page A28



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Oak Runners: Turn back the clocks

Dear readers, first things first. Clocks fall back Nov. 3 at 2 a.m. Yeah, extra hour of sleep!

Then Sunday, Nov. 11, we celebrate Veteran's Day. This is a day we should all give thanks for each veteran who has served or is serving at this time. It is also a good idea to give thanks for all the first responders.

When Thanksgiving Day rolls around, stop and give thanks again.

Tuesday, Nov. 6, I am going to spend the day, saying thanks, it is over, the Election that is. No more commercials, no more millions of dollars spent on embellished truths/lies.

Now to something fun. We went to Fright Night and it was awesome. There were 230-plus people and at least 200 had on costumes. I have never seen such great ideas. There were Pharaohs, Cleopatra, Wonder Woman, witches, Red Riding Hood, Pee Wee Herman, etc. Oh, and two people with Halloween Tee shirts. OK, so I am not very clever.

Ambassadors, you are doing a great job. Veterans are having a special celebration honoring Veterans on Veteran's Day. There are a lot of fun parties being planned by various clubs. I have some information on some in following articles. I encourage you to start checking your calendar, deciding what events you want to purchase tickets for. I know it would be fun to do them all but ...!

Hospice Fund Raiser Dance sounds like a fun, with great entertainment. Tickets were sold last week but you still contact Damian (see article).

Information on walk, call Ingrid and Andrew Crane. Number in Oak Run Directory. I have a couple tables for the

dance and always look forward to this great fundraiser.

Carrie Ball, President of New York announced a formal ball for this holiday party. Carrie, do you mean like formal? I love to see folks dress up at times.

On behalf of the residents I want to thank all those folks who decorated neighborhood signs for Halloween. We sure have some talented folks living in here. I mustn't forget to mention Showcase the other evening. They had a couple acts performed by couples and they were very clever. The surprise was Dennis Jobczynski performing as Jekyll and Hyde. One side was a doctor, long white jacket and the other in a black suit. He had long black hair on one side and a top hat, and it was hilarious as he sang "I've got you" turning from side to side. Program ended with Ron Manford, singing a clever song he wrote. Ron don't give up your master of ceremonies job. (Just kidding, Ron).

I hope to see you at the Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 3. Be sure to bring cash.

Well, I think it is time to say adieu for another week. I end with these words: "Peace cannot be achieved through violence, it can only be attained through understanding." — Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Peace and love, Laura
Hoofin' It for Hospice

Our Dance is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 9, at Palm Grove from 6 to 10 p.m. We will have both entertainment and dancing for your evening pleasure. We will be entertained by Mark Raisch a crooner who has been well received here in Oak Run before and Cindy Moody who sings a variety of songs includ-

ing Patsy Cline. Before, between and after Mark and Cindy, I will do some DJ'ing for your dancing pleasure. Bring money that evening because we will have both a 50/50 and a raffle(s). All the monies raised will go directly to Legacy House of Hospice of Marion County (HMC). Tickets will be a \$20 donation. Please make checks out to "Hospice of Marion County."

Contact Damian Romano for reservations. Phone in Oak Run Directory. Dress is casual; no shorts please.

Our Walk is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 10, also at Palm Grove. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and our walk will begin shortly afterward. Following your return from a stroll through our lovely countryside, you will be provided with bagels, pastries, fruit, coffee and more.

Please collect as much as you can and bring them with you that day. Please contact Damian at 854-4840 for any further information or details.

New York Club

The New York Club will be having a formal ball to celebrate the holiday season Sunday, Dec. 2, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Palm Grove. Entertainment will be provided by Bubbles.

A buffet dinner will be prepared by the Garden of Eatery Catering and include: sliced turkey breast with cornbread stuffing, prime rib carved to order, broccoli casserole, garlic mashed potatoes, garden salad, dinner rolls, gravy, cranberry sauce, and dessert. Tickets will be sold in the Orchid Club lobby Monday, Nov. 12, from 10 to noon.

Price is \$22 for members and \$26 for non-members. BYOB, coffee and tea will be

provided.

There will also be great door prizes and 50/50. This will be a fantastic evening of food, fun and music, so don your best formal wear and join us! Interested persons can contact Carrie Ball at 352-843-1774 for more information.

Renaissance Women

Dinner at ROGC: Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 5 p.m. Call Pat G. 854-7549 or Gerry 873-6868.

Monthly Luncheon: Thursday, Nov. 15, at 11:30 a.m. at Seagrass Waterfront Restaurant, 10386 Halls River Road, Homosassa. Call Gloria 570-606-7107.

Lunch at ROGC: Call Annmarie 237-9838.

Meetings: Last Sunday of every month at 2 p.m. in the Island Club.

Movies: Call Peg 274-9640 for details.

Membership: Call Patricia 445-7428.

We are open to all Oak Run ladies. Never any dues; new members are always welcome!

Mah Jongg

"Say Eng Look," Oak Run's Chinese Mah Jongg Club

A Mystery of the Orient Solved! Come learn the secret at our next session!

Oak Run men and women have been playing the Chinese version of one of America's most popular table games twice a week, in the Orchid Club Card Room: Thursdays 2-5p.m. and Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

There are now 3 variations of this game you may choose to learn with more to come! Newcomers are always welcome, and lessons are available.

Since up to five can play using one set, you need not own one. However, if you do have a Mah Jongg set, please bring it with you, but you

Oak Run

Laura Smith



don't need a card or money to play. While we all enjoy the game, the social dimension is just as important, so the atmosphere is always friendly and relaxed. Open to all Oak Run residents and their overnight guests.

Singles Club

Did you get your tickets for the annual Holiday Dinner Monday, Dec. 3? The girls will be at the Orchid Club Lobby Saturday, Nov. 11, and Saturday, Nov. 25, (which is the last day you can buy your ticket). They will be there from 8 - 10 a.m. Once again, we are going to Stone Creek for a wonderful buffet. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any of the officers, listed in Oak Run Directory.

Travel

There are still seats available on the Shopping Trip to St Augustine Premium Outlets Nov. 16. There are all the name stores you love to shop, and the cost of \$29 pp makes it very attractive with no driving and no parking on your part. Plus, there are restaurants to choose from for lunch on your own with your friends and neighbors. Della is again hosting and would love to have you go so give her a call to sign up.

Don't forget we have a meeting for those signed up for our Thanksgiving trip Nov. 20-24 to Myrtle Beach. The meeting will be at the Island Club Saturday, Nov. 10, at 9:30 a.m. At this meeting Connie Smith will review the itinerary in detail and answer any other questions that are brought up.

The response to the trips in our new Winter-Spring 2019 Brochure has been gratifying.

Several trips are nearly sold out and others are doing very well. Call the appropriate trip host to sign up before your trip is sold out. If you find a trip sold out do not despair, our wait-list procedure works very well as cancellations do occur.

Upper Midwest Club

October kicked off our events after a long hot summer. Lou Villano did a really good job with his musical rendition of old favorite Italian singers and a lot of interesting history. Turnpike Mike prepared and served a very tasty meal. We did the Italian thing this year because of the multitude of German Oktoberfests. Probably revert to German stuff next year. Anyway, if you missed the last event you missed a good time my opinion).

Next event is Members Appreciation Night Nov. 14. Time is 6 til 9:30. Place is Palm Grove. Ticket sales at the Orchid Club Nov. 5 from 9-11 a.m. Cost is \$10 members and \$18 guests. UMC is paying a portion of member ticket price as a token of appreciation for supporting our events.

Food will be supplied by Sonny's BBQ. Music by Al Sutphen, Solid Gold, whose talent is legendary. Also learn who your new club officials are to be.

Karen and Jessica are working on a bus trip to New Orleans next April. Leave Oak Run April 1, 2019, and return April 5,

See RUN/Page A28

Grand Opening

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Cherrywood
Mary Busha

Cherrywood resident and event organizer Holly Bragdon reports that another successful trip to the Victory Cruise Casino was enjoyed Tuesday, Oct. 23. Approximately 40 travelers left the Clubhouse at 7:30 a.m. on the bus that took them to their launch site at Port Canaveral. They returned to Cherrywood at 6:15 p.m.

Holly says that the food was wonderful, with everything from fork-tender flank steak to salmon, cordon bleu chicken, fresh veggies and wonderful desserts. While there, they listened to some great music and danced. On the bus ride back to Ocala, those on the trip watched the movie "The Greatest Showman." In addition, a 50/50 drawing was held.

Holly has been asked by some on the cruise to look into a trip to the

Hard Rock Casino in Tampa. Thus far, the information she has is that she can get a bus for 36 people at \$30 per person. She says that this fee is nonrefundable and there are no perks. If interested, call Holly at 352-873-8223. A trip to the Hard Rock Casino would take the place of the Victory Cruise in January.

Costume Winners

Announced

Two-hundred-plus Cherrywood residents and guests attended Cherrywood's Community Octo-ween party at the Clubhouse Friday evening, Oct. 26. Sixteen people came forward to have their costumes judged. First-place winners were Gary Cockman and Michele Moore. Second place went to Dane and Peggy Stewart. Karen and Brian Gilchrist came in third place. Each place re-

Victory Casino Cruise a Success

ceived a restaurant gift card, \$35, \$25, and \$15, respectively.

In the 50/50 cash drawing, first place went to Ida Mahar, second place to Bill Mahar, and third to Stan Simons. The charity receiving proceeds from the evening's event is Toys for Tots.

In addition, door prizes, consisting of \$25 restaurant gift cards and provided by Cherrywood Property Management, went to Ray Harrison and Randy Justman.

Volunteers for the evening event were Joan and Dave Siegel, Chris and Sandra Weiss, Trude Smith, Peggy Konar, Donna and Mick James, Bill Spangenberg, Diane Desin, Dave and Holly Bragdon, Marty and Marti Duesel, Jane Kauffman, Jim Heape, Fran Hall, Bonnie Clark, T.T. (Theresa Torrusio), Diane D'Alessandro and Toby Cantrell.

Veteran's Club

Residents are encouraged to keep in mind the Veteran's Club's special



About 40 travelers enjoyed the Victory Cruise Casino Tuesday, Oct. 23.

celebration ceremony on the 11th at the Clubhouse beginning at 3 p.m. to honor military veterans. This event is free-for-all residents. A Happy Hour will follow from 4-7 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages, including lemonade, iced tea, and draft beer will be served. Tickets for the Happy Hour are \$8 per person and are available through Jennifer. In addition, a

Lottery Basket with cash and lottery tickets will be offered, as well as three Chinese raffle baskets, and a 50/50.

Also remember the club's food drive that will be held Thursday, Nov. 15, at 11 a.m. when residents can leave donations of food by their mailboxes for pick up. Or residents can bring donated food items to the Clubhouse to leave in a

designated box in the main hall from Nov. 11-15.

All donations will go to Ocala's Veterans Helping Veterans, a private, non-profit organization formed in 1997 for the purpose of assisting veterans in the Marion County area with all kinds of needs.

See VOTING/Page A13



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CHRISTMAS DAY: Tuesday, Dec 25 - 11am

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Pastor Bill Fortune

VOTING

Continued from Page A12

Voting at Cherrywood

While one day remains, Saturday, Nov. 3, for early voting at Freedom Library, the Cherrywood Clubhouse will once again be a voting venue Tuesday, Nov. 6, for the midterm general election.

The main hall will be open to voters from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All other rooms at the Clubhouse are open for regularly scheduled community activities.

Crafters Gearing Up

On Saturday, Nov. 17, several local crafters will offer their handmade creations at Cherrywood's annual fall craft show. An assortment of tables set up at the Clubhouse will feature crystal jewelry, fine beaded jewelry, candles, wood carvings, landscape photography, crocheted items, greeting cards, doll clothes, silk floral arrangements and birdhouses, to name a few of the items being offered that day.

There will be a bake sale, as well as lunch items available for purchase, like sloppy Joes, macaroni salad, and tuna and egg salad sandwiches.

Door prizes and a craft raffle will be conducted. And Cherrywood's Knitting and Crochet Club will be raffling a doll and matching blanket.

The event runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and promises to offer wonderful gift-giving items and holiday décor.

Ladies Luncheon

Ladies, mark your calendars for November's second Wednesday, the 14th, for the monthly luncheon held at noon at the Clubhouse. Bring a dish to pass and your own tableware. Plan to enjoy great conversation, delicious food, and a celebration of November birthdays with a beautifully decorated cake to add to the festivities.

Are You Ready?

Whether planning for a disaster the size of the recent Hurricane Michael or an unexpected family emergency, in general, certain information is good, maybe even vital,



Winners of the costume contest at Cherrywood's Community Octo-ween Party Friday, Oct. 26.

to have handy. For each household member, consider listing the following:

Doctors' contact numbers; health insurance provider information (health insurance policy numbers, claims numbers, contact numbers); blood type; allergies; medical history and current conditions; medications and doses, including special handling; instructions and dispensing pharmacy phone numbers; style and serial numbers of medical devices such as pacemakers, pumps, ac-

commodation devices, assistive devices; documents identifying disabilities or access, and functional needs records.

In addition, consider listing and having handy a list of official emergency numbers; family and friends, both local and afar; credit cards, banks and securities; home maintenance and personal services workers; instructions for shutting off utilities; and animal immunizations records and veterinarian information.

Then, scan and save important documents

and files onto a thumb drive, or organize important information in a notebook. Store all thumb drives, documents, and information notebooks in waterproof bags or containers.

Thanks to the "Florida Emergency Preparedness Guide," produced by Florida Department of Health's Office of Communications and the Bureau of Preparedness and Response for the suggestions above.

Parting Words

"The beauty of the earth, the beauty of the

sky, the order of the stars, the sun, the moon...their very loveliness is their confession of God: for who made these lovely mutable things, but He who is Himself unchangeable beauty?" Augustine (Early Christian theologian and philosopher, 354-430)

Your comments, questions, and suggestions pertaining to this column will be gratefully received and respectfully considered when you write to me, Mary Busha, at: yourtimetowrite@gmail.com.



The Reason to Believe...

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www.southwestchristianchurch.com

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9524 S.W. 105th St., Ocala 237-2640

Sunday
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6 p.m.

Wednesday
Bible Study.....7 p.m.
Youth Alive.....7 p.m.


Pastor Randy & Linda Brown

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Wif Clawson
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Traditional Services
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Sunday (June, July, Aug) 9:00 A.M.

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McKechnie makes final push

Author, lecturer, businessman runs for State Senate District 12

BY DAVID DAVIS
Editor



Gary McKechnie

One of the reasons Gary McKechnie decided to run for District 12 of the Florida Senate is because of his extensive motorcycle travels across the United States from coast-to-coast and border-to-border. In all of the places he has been, people have been nice and pleasant.

"They didn't know whether I was a Democrat or a Republican. They didn't know anything about me aside from the fact that we get along," he said Wednesday in an interview. "I realized, especially in the last couple of years that politicians have this game of separating people out, sort of like cutting them out of the herd trying to figure out what people think and believe. What does he want to do and how can I manipulate these factions to work in my interests?"

McKechnie, 56, who considers himself a "Harry Truman Democrat," said he is sick of political gamesmanship. "People all over America are all the same. We all pretty much want the same thing," he said.

Parents want their children to be educated, our schools to be safe, high paying jobs, peace and security regardless of party affiliation.

"We all have the same goals, but how are you going to get to those goals? When I see politicians playing that card of separating and dividing,

divide and conquer; I don't have time for that," he said.

As a state senator, McKechnie would draw from a wide variety of personal experiences. He was born and raised in Maitland and educated in public schools. He worked his way through Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida as a Walt Disney World cast member who drove ferry boats, launches, motor cruisers and watercraft. He worked the jungle cruise and steam trains.

"On weekends, I supplemented my income as a standup comic at a comedy club on weekends. I was a writer and performer there. The guy who ran the club was a DJ so I was writing for the radio as well," he said.

He also wrote for the school newspaper. After earning an Associate of Arts degree from Valencia, Gary earned his Bachelor of Arts in Radio & TV Broadcast Communications from UCF.

After graduation, he backpacked across Europe for seven months. He came home and

worked short-term jobs, took the money and rode his motorcycle around the United States.

After he finished riding around, he started writing for a couple of ad agencies before embarking on a career as a freelance writer, which led to writing travel stories, travel videos and training films.

"Then I got the idea I could write a book about motorcycle touring. I pitched that to 60 publishers who turned it down and then the 61st one said they would publish it," he said.

"Great American Motorcycle Tours" is still the best-selling motorcycle guide book.

He and his wife, Nancy, bought a house in Mount Dora converted it into a bed-and-breakfast. They operated it for 18 years until they sold it in February.

Gary has written a couple of books for National Geographic. He took all the information and knowledge he gained from his experiences and began lecturing on American history aboard ships in front of corporations.

He is a course leader with educational travel-

ing company World-Strides, traveling to Washington, D.C. each spring to teach middle school students from across the nation the principles of government and their role in ensuring the success of our experiment in democracy.

"There is always something going on," he said.

These are some of the issues McKechnie is running on:

Senior service: Throughout my life, senior citizens have assisted me by imparting advice, bestowing wisdom, and offering lessons that helped define my positions on topics such as work, education, and my responsibilities as a citizen. As your senator, the goodwill of this generation will be returned in a society where a senior citizen's lingering illness won't lead to a lasting bankruptcy and where quality housing, nourishing meals, and accessible transportation for seniors in need will be seen as a testament to our collective compassion as Americans.

Equal justice under the law: Martin Luther King, Jr. knew "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." That arc also bends toward progress. Attitudes change over time, and nowhere is that more apparent than in the evolution of acceptance of our gay family, friends and neighbors. Discrimination against anyone doesn't cut it with me. If people are searching for legal loopholes to validate their prejudices,

I am more than willing to strengthen laws to ensure equality for everyone.

An ounce of prevention: The majority of Floridians who recognize healthcare as a right and not a privilege are far too generous to allow a fellow citizen's minor ailment escalate into a major illness. Ironically, while American healthcare is the most expensive, it is the least effective among developed nations. This sad contradiction can be traced from Big Pharma and insurance companies to hospitals, lawyers, lobbyists and, especially, legislative leaders who put thousands of children and seniors at risk by denying the Medicaid funding source in the Affordable Care Act. This is not how we treat our friends and neighbors in the land I love. I'll fight to ensure quality, affordable, preventative healthcare for everyone and stand up for the least among us by supporting Florida's funding of Medicaid, food stamps, and the Meals on Wheels programs.

Hold our leader accountable: Buy a box of cereal and you know its ingredients. Shop for a car and a sticker will tell you where the parts

came from. Why should our laws be any different?

In Florida and across America, many of our laws are not written by the people you elected. Those laws are strategically formulated and precisely written by anonymous, unelected lawyers and lobbyists who draft boilerplate state-level legislation that rewards special interests at your expense. Florida's workers, business owners, and seniors who still recall an era of honest government can easily recognize this as wrong, dangerous and, above all, irresponsible. Add to this gerrymandered districts drawn to stack the deck in an incumbent's favor, and the dream of a representative government fades further into the past.

As your senator, the first bill I'll introduce will require any legislation proposed by a member of any party explicitly state the origins of the proposed laws to reveal whether it was written to benefit the public – or abuse the public trust by catering solely to special interests.

Other issues include public education, better jobs and better pay, public safety and the environment.



The photo shows three boxes of prescription drugs for disposal in the first 30 minutes of the doors opening at the Southwest District Office of the Marion County Sheriff's Department. Saturday, Oct. 27, was Drug Take-Back Day.

PHOTO BY
RON RATNER

First Saturday Village Market
Sat., Nov. 3 • 9am-2pm

Victorian Holiday
November 24
2pm-8pm

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Annual Fall Sale is Saturday



PHOTO BY DIANE BRESS

Sunshine Carnival crew: (l-r) Vi Simmes, Kathy Simmes, Event Chair Donna Shaver, Sandy Olmsted, Martha Nierenberg, Nancy Burns, Toni Niemeyer, Linda Brandon, Pam Ellis, Lorraine De Mauex, Leta Simmons, Vivian Ledford and Dot Toneske

It's here! The Fall Sale is tomorrow, Saturday, Nov. 3, so stop by the Lifestyle Center between 8 a.m. and noon for some great bargains.

The Great Room and outside portico will be filled with household and holiday items, tools, sporting goods, tables of books, many fine jewelry items, live plants and a huge amount of homemade baked goods — all for sale at reasonable prices.

Residents should bring their donated items to the Lifestyle Center today, Friday, Nov. 2, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., where the items will be sorted, priced and made ready for sale. Remember that the Lifestyle Center will be closed Friday evening at 6 p.m. so we can get ready for the sale.

The doors of the Marion Landing Lifestyle Center will open promptly at 8 a.m. and the sale will continue until noon. Admission is free, and it is open to the public. We are located at

8601 SW 65th Avenue Road, across SR 200 from Queen of Peace. Hope to see you here tomorrow.

Sunshine Carnival

The Sunshine carnival fundraiser was lots of fun for those who came down to eat hot dogs and ice cream sundaes, play games and win prizes.

The Sunshine Club sponsors these events to help raise funds to support their community efforts. The Club serves the community by responding to their needs at times of illness, hospitalization and death. They send get well and thinking of you cards, deliver get well flowers and offer memorial lunches and food platters to the families of those who have died.

They also recognize major anniversary milestones such as 50 years and up.

We appreciate the support of everyone who came down to the carnival to support the Sunshine Club.

If you would like to find out more about what



PHOTO BY LEON MEARS

Ron Goss bowled a perfect 300 game on Monday, Oct. 22.

Sunshine is all about, they meet the first Tuesday of the month after the Tuesday morning So-

cial, at 9:30 a.m.

All residents are welcome to come to the meetings. We'd love to

Marion Landing

Diane Bress



have you.

Veterans Day

Ceremony

The Marion Landing Veterans Club will conduct a Veterans Day ceremony Saturday, Nov. 10, at 10 a.m., at the Veterans Memorial Garden in front of the Lifestyle Center.

There will be a color guard, bagpiper Charlie Jenkins, theme songs from the military branches and refreshments.

The guest speaker will be Mike Meredith, a Korean War Veteran and he will be speaking mainly about his "Honor Flight" to Washington D.C. last month.

Please join in the celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and sacrifice for us all.

Thanksgiving dinner

A wonderful "Day Before Thanksgiving" dinner is planned for Wednesday, Nov. 21, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Half of a chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, vegetables, pies and beverages will be on the menu for you to enjoy.

Of course, you're welcome to bring a "special" beverage if you like. "To Go" containers will be available for your leftovers.

If you can't make it down to the Clubhouse, take out dinners will be prepared for you to pick up at 3 p.m. on the 21st. Just let us know when you purchase your ticket. Tickets are \$8 each and are on sale now at Tuesday morning Socials and in the Activities Office. Join your friends and neighbors for a happy

holiday dinner.

New Theater Club

is "nutz"

Marion Landing has a new Theater Club and boy are they "nutz." They're the Marionutz, that is. They've been organizing and rehearsing under the direction of Patty Willoughby and have put together a Christmas-themed show called "Senior Shenanigans" which they will perform Sunday, Dec. 2, in the Lifestyle Center. It's a variety show with special celebrity guest appearances, and they hope you will support their new club by purchasing a ticket. In return they promise an afternoon that will keep you laughing.

Tickets are \$3 each and are available at Tuesday morning Socials and in the Activities Office.

"Adopt" an Angel

Once again, the Salvation Army is calling on the generosity of our Marion Landing neighbors to assist in its Angel Tree Christmas effort, and, once again, Olivia and Mike Soter are heading up this effort, along with Mary and Jeff Sharp.

This program provides holiday gifts for some of the neediest children in our community. To the left of the inside doors of the Great Room, a tree decorated with Angel Tags, each bearing the first name, age and clothing size of a needy child, is on display. If you can, please "adopt" an Angel(s) and provide an item(s) of clothing and, if able, a small game or toy to help make their

See **LANDING/Page A28**

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8460 SW 109th Pl
MLS#545270 \$117,900
2/2/2 1200 sq. ft.
Beautiful Oak Run home features lovely improvements throughout, spacious back living room, large garage, new carpet, newer roof and AC, located on a lovely spacious lot.

7130 SW 115 Loop
MLS#540645 \$159,900
2/2.5/2 Yorkshire model
1438 sqft. Spacious home located in Oak Run, situated on a wonderful corner lot, features a cozy courtyard, updated eat-in kitchen, laminate flooring, double master suites, new roof.

6571 S Magnolia Ave
MLS#534927 \$269,000
2/3/2 Custom home.
1838 sqft. Beautiful home custom built by one of Ocala's premier custom builders. Located on a private lot featuring high ceilings, luxurious kitchen, tile floors, inside laundry and lanai. Located closely to downtown!

FALL IS HERE - THE SNOWBIRDS ARE COMING.

8721 SW HWY. 200, OCALA, FL 34481

Drug Take Back Day



PHOTOS BY RON RATNER

Marion County Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. Gary Skinner receives prescription drugs from two ladies Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Southwest District Office on S R 200. In the bottom photo, Skinner shows some of the drugs he accepted from residents.

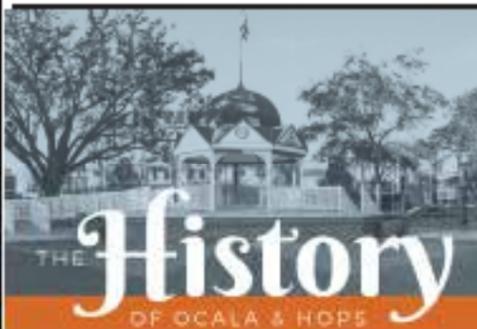
SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Friday, Nov. 2, 5:30-7 p.m. at The Bridge at Ocala

Warm up on a brisk fall night with a plate of spaghetti, and help us raise funds for our adopted Christmas family. \$5.00 donation per person. Entertainment by Lou Katz. Additional donations greatly appreciated!



Seating is limited. RSVP TODAY!



Wednesday, November 14, 2 p.m.

Join us to learn about the history, evolution, political and economic transformation, historic sites and noteworthy events of the city, featuring a visual presentation of the Ocala's earlier years. Lecture presented by board member Dennis Phillips.

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AN ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY

Seating is limited. RSVP to 352.873.2036.

2800 SW 41st Street Building 200 Ocala, FL 34474 TheBridgeAtOcala.com Assisted Living Facility #9612



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SCN shows volunteer appreciation

About 65 residents showed up at the clubhouse Wednesday, Oct. 24, to be appreciated for volunteering for the community. A very heartfelt statement of thanks was read by Peggy Gooch edi-

tor of the SCN newsletter. Then a really good meal catered by Hardwood Smokehouse BBQ was enjoyed by all. We have a lot of new residents and always need volunteers. So, if you would like to volun-

teer for anything thing just show up at an event and say "How Can I Help". SCN's Board of Directors for SCRA (Spruce Creek Residents Association Inc.) will be having its election in January.

If you are interested in being on the board, are a resident homeowner, and would like to be a candidate please see or call Judy Travers.

Spruce Creek North
Patricia Bonay



YOU'RE INVITED!

OPEN HOUSE



Sat., Nov. 10th | 11AM - 2PM

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MEET THE DOCTORS. TOUR THE PRACTICE

ENJOY A LIVE DJ

AND A BACKYARD BBQ

Fun, Food & Prizes!

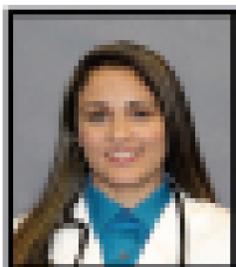
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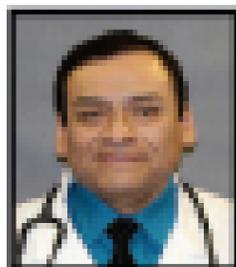
Please RSVP to [\(352\) 353-8221](tel:352-353-8221) or email us at RSVP@pmacare.com



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Ileana Aponte, MD
Internal Medicine



Luis Ramos, MD
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Oak Run Health Fair at Palm Grove



Oak Run Health Fair at the Palm Grove Auditorium. In the photo to the left is Countryside Medical office manager Kim Samson, left, and medical record medical assistant Midge King.

The photos on the right are general photos showing the activity at the health fair.

PHOTOS BY RON RATNER



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\$259,900
 Built: Year 2000
 3 Bedrooms
 2 Baths
 2 Car Garage
 2373 SQ. FT. Living Area
 MLS# 543666

The wow factor will hit you upon entering the Leaded Glass entry doors and viewing the beautiful Travertine Tile floors & elegant décor in this extended Greystone II model pool home. Property backs up to former Golf Course offering lots of privacy! (Call Listing agent Wilbur Vanwyck at (352) 804-9336 for details)

RAINBOW SPRINGS COUNTRY CLUB HOME

8910 SW 198th Court, Dunnellon, FL 34432
 US Hwy 41 to east on SW 88th Pl Rd to right on SW 198th Ct to home on right.



\$239,000
 Built: 2007
 3 Bedrooms
 2 Baths
 2 Car Garage
 2192 Sq. Ft. Living Area
 MLS# 540560

This lovely home features a screen Lanai with brick pavers & waterfall offering a picturesque setting of the Professionally Landscaped .89 acre lot with Fruit Trees and irrigation well. Property backs up to former Golf Course offering lots of privacy! (Call Listing agent Tom Reilly at (352) 362-2303 for details)

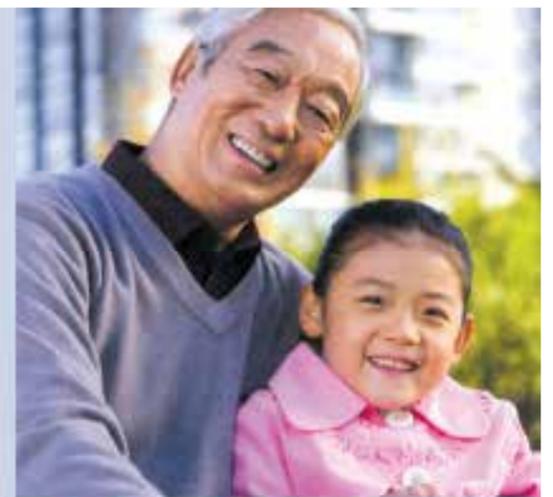


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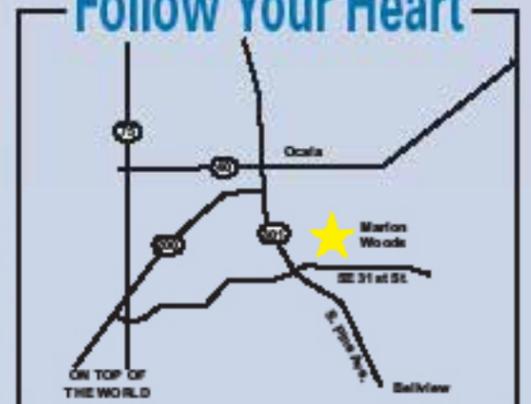
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Marion Woods

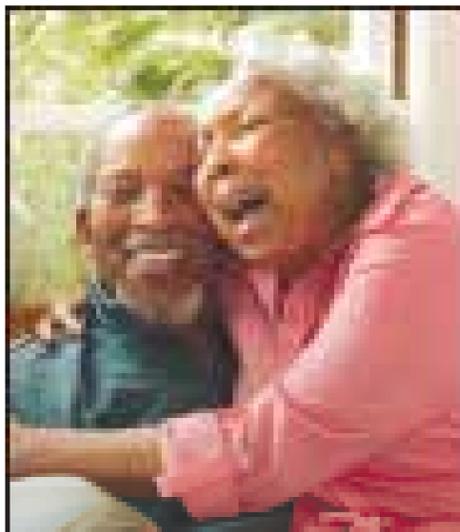
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Get answers and help at a state meeting near you

Other meetings may be available. RSVP now at AetnaMedicare.com/EMAP1

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DELA
OLIVE GARDEN
3949 SW COLLEGE RD
11/2, 11:00 AM

DELA
MINTS CAFE
4414 SW COLLEGE RD
11/2, 11:00 AM

DELA
COOYS ORIGINAL
ROADHOUSE
2888 SW COLLEGE RD
11/2 & 12/7, 10:00 AM

aetna Medicare Solutions

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OTOW Lions are busy

The On Top of the World Lions Club has a very busy schedule coming up.

All residents are invited to attend our Veterans Day Services Nov. 12, in the Recreation Ballroom. The event will start at 11 a.m. and will be a little bit different from our usual service.

As stated, this service is for residents only. Our next event will be open to the public. We will be holding a diabetes screening at the Neighborhood Walmart Store starting at 9 a.m., Nov. 14. The testing will be inside the store. Members are still collecting the much-needed items for the children in the Florida Hospital Children's Emergency area. They need socks (all sizes), books and stuffed animals. There will be a

number at the end of this column to contact for donations.

We are also working on an ongoing project for Operation Shoebox, a project that gives care packages to active duty servicemen and service-women overseas. The following items are needed: toiletries; razors, shaving cream, powder, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, wet wipes, feminine hygiene products, foot powder, cotton swabs, sunscreen, individual packs of Tylenol, mouth-wash, floss and tooth-brushes.

Comfort items: water flavor packets, calf-high socks, instant coffee, coffee creamer, snacks, dry goods, heat resistant candy, throat drops and Twizzlers.

Luxury items: batter-

ies, bug spray (must be in zip lock bag), duct tape, flashlights, battery power fans, fly strips and fly swatters.

Stationary: writing paper, envelopes, pens, pencils, playing cards, crossword puzzles, hand held games and Sudoku books.

Food: instant oatmeal, ramen noodles, protein bars (Clif or Balance), beef jerky or slim jims, granola bars (not chocolate), crackers, cookies in packets, pop top canned fruit, ravioli, gum, tuna kits.

Donations can be dropped off at 6 p.m. at the Arbor Club, Room B, every second and fourth Tuesday of the month to the OTOW Lions Club meeting for residents. For others please call

See LIONS/Page A26

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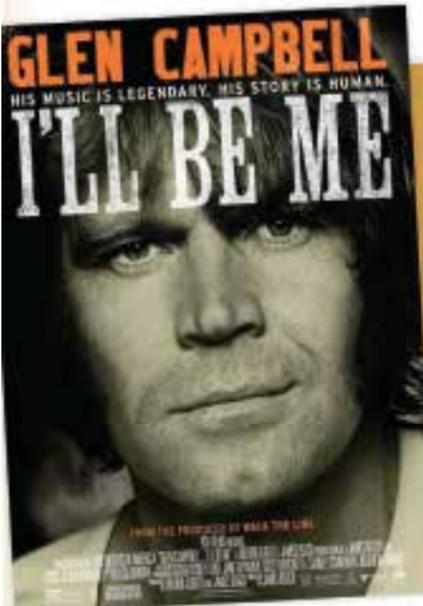
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UF researchers to farm workers' health

Two University of Florida researchers and a community leader are about to embark on a three-year journey around the state to delve into mental, physical and economic well-being of farmworkers, an essential but under-examined segment of Florida's population.

Jeanne-Marie Stacciarini, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, an associate professor in the UF College of Nursing, part of UF Health; Gülcan Önel, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the food and resource economics department of the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; and Antonio Tovar, Ph.D., a community partner from the Farmworker Association of Florida, have been selected for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program.

The overall goal of their research project, titled, "A Rural State of Mind: Addressing Mental, Physical and Economic Health of Farm Communities in Florida," is to advance the understanding and promote the well-being of farmworkers and small farmers using multicultural research strategies and social network analysis.

"Despite their contri-

butions to the economy and sustainability of food production systems, little attention has been given to the unique social, economic and political circumstances impeding health equity and well-being of rural farm communities in Florida," Önel said. "These underserved groups face significant, yet distinct, socioeconomic issues that have been overlooked in previous health and well-being studies."

For the next three years beginning this fall, the team will engage with various rural farm communities and diverse stakeholders throughout the state. During the first year of the project, they plan to develop and strengthen relationships with growers and Hispanic and Haitian farmworker communities to learn their concerns and perspectives on health issues, create trust and develop an approach for effective communication throughout the project. Community-based participatory research will be used so that the community can be active and engaged in the research development and implementation.

"The end goal is to cultivate a sense of community and connectedness between farmers and the farmworkers, who other-

wise may have opposing social views and policy priorities," Tovar said. "The objective of the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program is to bring about a culture of health within one's communities. We aim to make well-being a common cause among Florida's rural communities."

Designed for teams of two researchers and one community leader, Interdisciplinary Research Leaders supports engaged research, crafted and conducted by innovative teams to explore a problem and apply a solution in real time, making an immediate positive impact in their home communities. Stacciarini, Önel and Tovar make up the first group of researchers and community leaders from the state of Florida to be selected and the third overall cohort for the program.

The trio all have diverse and complementary research and community engagement skillsets and a strong commitment with rural communities. They have worked together as a team on smaller projects before applying for the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program.

Stacciarini's program of research has focused on social health determinants of mental well-be-

ing in rural Latinos and has included community-based participatory research and mixed methods in the United States and internationally. She is committed to understanding the needs of minority communities, and throughout her career, she has developed innovative research strategies and collaborations to help address psychosocial determinants of mental health within rural communities.

Önel is a research economist whose main research area is agricultural labor markets, focusing on how the legal status of workers and federal immigration policies affect the availability and wages of farmworkers and their rural livelihoods. She is also a data analyst with expertise in statistical modeling of structural

changes in agricultural markets.

For the past 12 years, Tovar has been with the Farmworker Association of Florida, a statewide grassroots membership organization serving Central and South Florida.

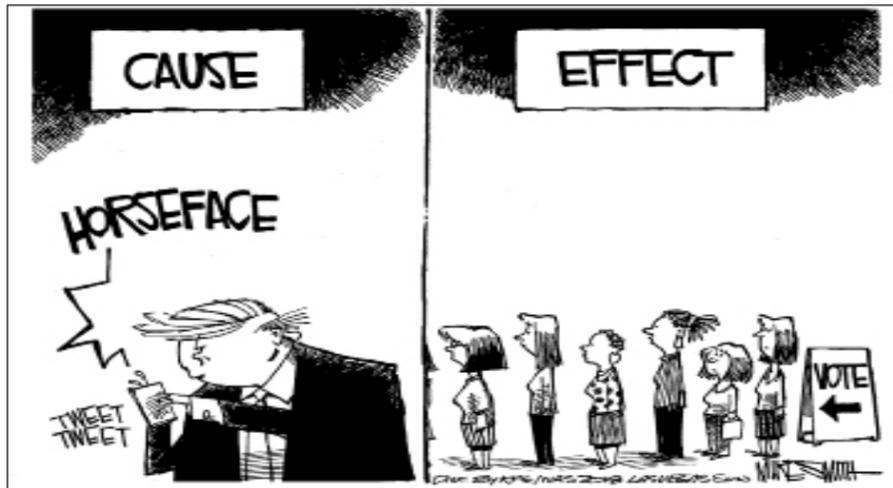
His work with the association focuses on advocacy, including informing local, state and federal policymakers about issues facing farmworkers, including occupational health risks and issues related to immigration.

The Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program supports and connects leaders who are committed to bringing about meaningful change and building a national culture of health.

Participants build the interdisciplinary skills

and relationships necessary to extend their influence and impact, break down silos, address health disparities and make communities healthier. The program provides participants with annual support of up to \$25,000 and a one-time research grant of up to \$125,000 per team.

"This team is equipped to look at socioeconomic determinants of rural well-being and equity," Stacciarini said. "We bring various perspectives on the complex socioeconomic causes of health inequity in rural Florida, and we are ready to pursue research for developing a novel framework of rural well-being that has the potential to improve the livelihoods of farmworkers and small-scale farmers in the rural areas of our state."



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Learn what your home might be worth

Are you thinking about putting your home on the market? Is this the time to learn what your house might be worth, and how you can prepare it for resale?

Economic history shows that increased sales in commercial property are the precursors of a rise in residential sales in the surrounding neighborhoods.

If you live in SW Marion County, you probably have noticed that the sale of commercial property is flourishing. Many new restaurants and businesses are springing up along State Road 200. Real estate signs are everywhere, inviting investors to buy properties that have long been on the market.

Could the housing market be the next real estate area that is on the verge of an economic boom?

A hot residential market in Marion County seems to be on the horizon.

According to real estate data gathered by Trulia, "Ocala market trends indicate an increase of \$7,000 (5 per-



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Bathroom and window upgrades are two of the many repairs to add value to a home.

cent) in media home sales over the past year. The average price per square foot for this same period rose to \$90, up from \$84."

Research from Realtor.com in early 2018 shows that homes are selling quicker, "averaging 63 days on the market".

Buyers have had fewer homes to choose from in this competitive climate.

The 2018 Housing and Mortgage Market Review contends that housing prices are now increasing two to six percent per year. This trend will continue at the same or higher rate during the next two years, according to HMMR.

So, what can you do to prepare your home for this expanding market? One way is to connect

with experts who can provide answers to your specific questions about your property. "What price could my home bring in today's market?" "What can I do to make my home more saleable?"

Do you know that you can get those questions answered completely free and without obligation at FoxFire Realty's

"Move It!" Expo, Saturday, Nov. 10?

This customer service event will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 8721 SW Hwy. 200, next to the 103rd Street CVS Pharmacy. It will provide one-on-one consultations with local business experts on readying your home for the coming residential real estate sales market.

Some of the businesses attending the expo are D & D Painting, Friendly Home Repair, CA Carpet Care, Michael E. McMurray Window & Screen Repair & Replacement, Stone Rise Granite and Tile, A1 Movers, Merry Maids, Old Republic Home Warranty Protection, Zoom Drain & Sewer Experts, and Eagle Home Inspections.

Foxfire Realty agents will also be available to answer your questions and to give you a free comparative marketing analysis of your home.

You can also participate in a drawing for two new Cracker Barrel rocking chairs. In addition, numerous door prizes will be awarded to those who attend.

Get the facts you will need to market your current home or purchase a new one. Meet your neighbors at the Foxfire Realty 'Move It' Expo Saturday, Nov. 10, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., located at 8721 SW Hwy. 200, next to CVS Pharmacy. No pressure, no cost – just an opportunity to gathering valuable information and have fun.

SECO Trustee Boyatt earns leadership certification

SECO Energy Board District 1 Trustee Scott Boyatt has been recognized for earning his Board Leadership Certificate through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

According to the NRECA, the Board Leadership Certificate is a series of courses that focus on specific industry and governance

issues that directly impact electric cooperatives. Participants learn more about risk management, power supply, parliamentary procedure, technology and policy development. The Board Leadership Certificate is designed to prepare directors and trustees of electric cooperatives to navigate the issues and challenges facing elec-

tric co-ops today and in the future.

A SECO member since 2004, Boyatt lives in Clermont and has represented the District 1 members on SECO Energy's Board of Trustees for five years. Boyatt was first elected to SECO's Board in 2013.

Trustee Boyatt stated, "The NRECA's Director Certificate Programs

provide a solid foundation of skills that are helpful in serving SECO members on SECO's Board of Trustees. Continuing my education through the NRECA provides meaningful skills that enhance my ability to serve members' interests. I am thankful for the opportunity to expand my knowledge of the utility industry and to put those skills into practice while representing members in District 1 and SECO's membership at large through my years of Board service."

CEO Jim Duncan praised Trustee Boyatt's commitment to enhancing his education to benefit SECO members. Duncan stated, "I am proud of Trustee Boyatt for taking the next step in his Trustee education by engaging in the NRECA's Board education program. I commend Mr. Boyatt's willingness to serve SECO members as the District 1 Trustee and salute his commitment to our members."

Visit SECOEnergy.com > Your Co-Op for

photos and brief bios of the Trustees along with an interactive District map. "Like" SECO's Facebook page and "fol-

low" @SECOEnergy on Twitter for news releases and cooperative updates.



CEO Jim Duncan, left, presents Trustee Scott Boyatt (right) with his Board Leadership Certificate and pin from the NRECA.

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HMC Philanthropy Director earns Certified Fund Raising Executive Credential

Hospice of Marion County is proud to announce that the Certified Fund Raising Executive International organization has certified Rebecca Rogers, Director of Philanthropy, as one of its newest members to achieve the CFRE credential. Rogers joins more than 6,300 professionals around the world who hold the CFRE designation.



Rebecca Rogers

Rogers has been with Hospice of Marion County for three years as the organization's Planned Giving Officer and was recently promoted to Director. She has successfully overseen the Tomorrow Fund, which includes major gifts and the cre-

ation of the Memorial Park and Veterans Circle of Honor, scheduled to open in January 2019.

Employers and donors who work with CFREs know they are getting a professional who is committed to the best outcomes for their organization and has the requisite knowledge and

skills. Individuals granted the CFRE credential have met a series of standards set by CFRE International which include tenure in the profession, education, and demonstrated fundraising achievement.

"The CFRE credential was created to identify for the public and employers those individuals who possess the knowledge, skills, and commitment to perform fundraising duties in an effective and ethical manner," says CFRE International President and CEO Eva E. Aldrich, Ph.D., CAE, (CFRE 2001-2016). "As the certification is a voluntary achievement, the CFRE certification demon-

strates a high level of commitment on the part of Ms. Rogers to the fundraising profession and the donors who are served."

Rogers said, "When good people come together, good things happen. The combined generosity of donors, spirited input from volunteers and gratitude of families can make miracles happen. Even a few years ago, I could never have imagined how much we have created together as a community of people who care."

The CFRE certification signifies a confident, ethical fundraising professional. Since 1981, CFRE has set standards for fundraising profes-

sionals. As the only globally recognized fundraising certification, CFRE indicates professionalism, confidence, and ethics. It is how today's fundraiser shows accountability, service, and commitment to making a difference for good. The CFRE certification program is accredited by the American National Standards Institute and is the only accredited certification for fundraising professionals.

Hospice of Marion County is a not-for-profit locally operated hospice. HMC has provided compassionate end-of-life care for patients and their families since 1983. Patients may receive services in their own home, assisted living facility, nursing home or in one of our four hospice houses. A comprehensive hospice model, HMC is the county's third largest healthcare company.

"It is much easier at all times to prevent an evil than to rectify mistakes."

— George Washington

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Riverland News

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Happenings

Friday, Nov. 2

Temple Beth Shalom

Temple Beth Shalom invites you to join Rabbi Harari and our congregation as we celebrate Shabbat Friday, Nov. 2, at 7:30 p.m. Services will be followed by refreshments at our Oneg Shabbat.

Friday, Nov. 9, we have a Shabbat Express Service, a slightly shorter version of a traditional evening service at 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 16, we have a delightful musical Shabbat Service with Rabbi, Dale and Raul. If you enjoy extra Jewish melodies during services, this is a service you will not want to miss.

Saturday, Nov. 17, at 10 a.m. we have our monthly morning services. Please join us and be inspired. Guests are always welcome.

To learn more, visit www.jewishocala.com or call Mildred Olstein at 352-694-4487 or Julie Rochlin at 352-207-5385. We are at 1109 NE Eighth Ave., Ocala 34476.

Saturday, Nov. 3

Chess Club

The Freedom Library Chess Club will meet from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 3rd. The library is located at 5870 SW 95 Street, Ocala.

All players are welcome! Call 873-2276 for information.

Marion Landing Indoor Fall Sale

Marion Landing will be holding its annual Fall Sale Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Lifestyle Center. Jewelry, books, homemade baked goods, plants, sports equipment and tools, household items and giftware. 8601 SW 65th Avenue Road (off SR200). Free admission, open to the public. No pets, please.

Ocala Palms Bazaar

Ocala Palms Arts & Craft Bazaar, Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bake sale and lunches are available for purchase

Yoga in Shalom Park

Saturday, Nov. 3, Yoga in Shalom Park. Join us at 9 a.m. for the last session of the season.

For more information, please call Ingrid at 352-854-7950.

Palm Cay

Community Yard Sale

Palm Cay Community Yard Sale Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 8085 SW 106th Place, Ocala off SR 200. Open to the public. Shop for the holidays! In the club house there will be doughnuts and coffee for sale in the morning and a hot dog lunch will be for sale from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. John Lutheran Church

St John Lutheran Church is having its second Arts and Crafts show at 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 3, at 1915 SE Lake Weir Ave., Ocala, 34471. In addition to a variety of arts and crafts, there will be a bake sale, delicious lunch and door prizes. All proceeds go to the church, school and missions. Thank you for making last year's show such a success. We look forward to seeing you again.

Queen of Peace

Catholic Women

The Queen of Peace Council of Catholic Women will be sponsoring an Arts & Craft Show Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018, in the Parish Hall of Queen of Peace Catholic Church. The show runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will feature local artist show-casing their one-of-kind art, jewelry, crafts and more! Lunch will be available to purchase. Queen of Peace is located at 6455 SW SR 200, Ocala.

Death Café

Death Café Ocala meets at 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Freedom Library, 5870 SE 95th St., Ocala, Monday, Nov. 5, and Jan. 7, 2019. For more information, please call Teddy at 352-368-9927 or Kat at 352-557-3075.

Sunday, Nov. 4

Christ's Church

If you are looking for a church home where Christ is first, you won't want to miss the services at Christ's Church of Marion County this week.

Sunday, Nov. 4 - 9:30 a.m.: We begin each Lord's day with Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:30 a.m. We offer five (5) adult classes on a variety of topics. A synopsis of each class is available on our website.

Sunday, Nov. 4 - 10:30 a.m.: Our Worship Service opens with special music by our Worship Choir. Our praise time includes a blend of familiar hymns of the church as well as contemporary praise songs with a full praise band. pastor David Bellows will present a message of inspiration.

Monday, Nov. 5: Monday evening the men come together at 6:30 p.m. for a Bible Study utilizing the Study Book "The Attributes of God" by Dr. Steven J. Lawson

Tuesday, Nov. 6: Women who are interested in crafts meet Tuesday morning at 9:30 to work on group and individual projects.

Wednesday, Nov. 7 - 4 p.m.: pastor Ray Westman leads a Small Group. The group meets in our main building and takes an in-depth look at the Sunday morning message with a video message by pastor David Bellows.

Christ's Church of Mar-

ion County is located at 6768 SW 80th Street off State Road 200. For more information on all our events or for directions visit our website at www.ccomc.org or contact the church office at 352-861-6182.

You are invited:

Come and Worship with Southwest Christian Church, Sunday at 10:30 a.m. You can find us at 9045 SW 60th Ave. in Ocala. Our worship style is full of love, joy and faith, as we worship God in a traditional way.

You can learn more about us and even view a sermon from our preaching minister David Campbell on our website at www.swchristian-church.com.

Tuesday, Nov. 6

Compassion and Choices

This workshop will describe the Life Stage Planning Process to encourage participants to create a personal end of life care plan. It will include a description of the complete range of Humane end of life care choices with and outside of medical supervision. We will explore the four major documents needed to express one's end of life preferences with emphasis on personal advocacy. There is a \$5 supply fee payable to the instructor the day of class to purchase a book on which the series of 3 classes is based. If two are from the same household, they can share the printed book.

Workshop style classes are three consecutive weeks on a Tuesday from 1-3 pm in Classroom 4. Register at masterthe-possibilities.org

County Growth

Services

Marion County Growth Services will host a second public meeting to gather input on its Evaluation and Appraisal Report for the county's comprehensive plan at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 6. The hourlong meeting will be held at the Freedom Public Library, 5870 SW 95th St. Ocala.

Attendees will be given updates about the EAR process as it relates to changes in state requirements, responses to public input gathered at the previous public meeting, and proposed changes to the future land use and transportation elements of our local comprehensive plan.

To learn more about this event, contact Marion County Growth Services at 352-438-2683.

OaSN

The Autism Behavioral Education Program is a United Way funded program that assists autism families (with an intake form on file completed after 8-1-2018 AND residing in Marion County) by

offering a seminar that provides a core understanding of Applied Behavioral Analysis and ways that it can assist your child with autism (up to age 19) with behavioral management, life & social skills. Child care for all children in your family is provided for this required seminar to participate in this program.

Our next ABA Information Seminar is Nov 3, at the OaSN Multi-Use Facility, 7634 SW 60th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34473 from 9:45 a.m.-12 p.m.

Child care is provided. Registration is mandatory and may be done online at <https://www.jotform.com/oasnopa/autism-behavioral-education-program>.

For information, please contact Danielle Sanchez, program coordinator, at dsanchez@oasn.info or call 352-462-0168 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Friday, Nov. 9

Country Road

Quilters

Country Road Quilters of Ocala presents "Bright Country Nights, Big City Lights," Nov. 9-10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Quilt Turning and Appraisals by Brenda Grampas
Lecture by Molly Waddell "What Catches the Judge's Eye"

More than 250 quilts on display, vendors, opportunity quilt, silent auction, raffle baskets, challenge quilts, door prizes, boutique. Admission is \$8. Our new venue is Circle Square Cultural Center, 8395 SW 80th St., Ocala, FL 34481. For more information, please visit www.crqocala.com

Saturday, Nov. 10

Grace Episcopal

Bazaar

Grace Episcopal Church Women will be holding their annual bazaar Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the church Parish Hall, 510 SE Broadway Street, Ocala, FL. This one day event will offer a variety of crafts, jewelry, homemade food items (baked goods, soups and more). Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. All proceeds from this event will help support local nonprofit missions benefiting women and children in Ocala. For more information please contact Elaine at 352-347-2549.

Spruce Creek

Preserve Art and Craft Fair

Spruce Creek Preserve Art and Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on SR 200 3 miles west of CR 484 (gatehouse entrance). Free admission and free craft drawing every 20

minutes. Also, a bake sale and lunch is available between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Also raffling a handmade Quilt

Saddle Oak Craft Fair

Annual Craft Fair at Saddle Oak Club on State Road 200, across from Publix in Heath Brook Commons Ocala, Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy coffee and doughnuts from 8 to 10 a.m., and soup and sandwiches from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., while shopping for handmade crafts and bake sale items.

Trilogy at Ocala

Preserve

Trilogy at Ocala Preserve is hosting the second Annual Holiday Bazaar this year in the Grand Living Room at the Clubhouse Nov. 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission and free parking.

All items are hand-crafted locally and include holiday items, jewelry, decorator pieces, clothing, food and much more. There will also be community groups providing information about their services and mission. The Humane Society will be there with very adoptable and lovable dogs. A collection box will be available for those who wish to do-nate dog or cat food.

After shopping relax with a drink and a bite to eat at Salted Brick.

Sheltering Hands, an organization that is improving the lives of cats through humane care, spay/neuter, adoptions, education and support services, is our choice charity of this year's Bazaar.

Trilogy at Ocala Preserve is located on Highway 27 approximately 2 miles west of Inter-state 75. Follow the signs to the Clubhouse (Oak House).

Marion Civic Chorale

The Marion Civic Chorale community chorus announced its 2018 Veterans Day Concert series. The Chorale will sing traditional patriotic favorites as well as present inspirational pieces to honor veterans. The dates and locations are:

— Nov. 10, Oxford Assembly of God, 12114 N US HWY 301, Oxford.

— Nov. 11, Countryside Presbyterian Church, 7768 SW Highway 200, Ocala.

Interns from several Marion County high schools have joined the Chorale this year. Also performing are The Villages Charter School Elementary Honors Choir and The Villages High School Chamber Singers.

Concerts are free to the public and begin at 3 p.m. Donations to help fund the Grat L. Rosazza music scholarship are greatly appreciated. New members are always welcome.

Contact President@marionchorale.org or visit www.marionchorale.org, for more information.

marionchorale.org or visit www.marionchorale.org, for more information.

Sunday, Nov. 11

Marion Chamber Music Society

Sunday, Nov. 11, The Marion Chamber Music Society presents Matitahu Braun and Holly Small, Violin and Piano Duo. This Orlando based duo will perform works by Mozart, Sibelius, Shostakovich and more. The concert is at 3 p.m., at Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 6455 SW SR 200, Ocala. MCMS concerts: Always Exceptional, Always Free. For more information call 867-1340 or visit us at marionchambermusic.com.

Kingdom of the Sun Concert

Following is the information for the upcoming Kingdom of the Sun Concert Sunday, Nov. 11.

Kingdom of the Sun Concert Band with Les Muncaster conducting presents the Seventh Annual

Veterans Light the Stars Sunday, Nov. 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Ocala/Marion County Veterans' Memorial Park, 2601 SE Ft. King Street, Ocala. Rain Date is Monday, Nov. 12.

Bring family, friends, blankets, lawn chairs and join us for this very special evening of music, fireworks and good old American spirit. Bleacher seating is available. For information please call 352-624-9291.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

United Daughters

of the Confederacy

United Daughters of the Confederacy: Wednesday, November 14, 2018, 11 a.m., Ocala Elks Lodge, 702 NE 25th Avenue, Ocala. For reservations call 352-427-8863 or 352-625-5544.

Saturday, Nov. 17

Interfaith

Thanksgiving

Saturday, Nov. 17, at 3 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ on 7171 SW S.R. 200 in Ocala, there will be an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service with the Islamic Center, Temple Beth Shalom, Congregation Beth Israel and St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Followed by a multicultural dinner together. This event is open to the public. An RSVP for the dinner is necessary at 352-368-9927, on Eventbrite or facebook.com/OcalaCongregationalChurch.

Tuesday, Nov. 20

Maranatha Baptist Church

See **HAPPENINGS/Page A26**

HAPPENINGS

Continued from Page A25

Mark your calendars for our Thanksgiving Concert Tuesday, Nov. 20, with the gospel group, River Jordan concert at 7 p.m. Come and enjoy this wonderful group as they worship our Lord in song.

Ongoing

Kabbalat Shabbat

Holy Hour-Happy Hour Traditional Edition is the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat is followed by a delicious tra-

ditional themed buffet and cocktails including challah, geffilte fish, salads, chicken matzah ball soup and brisket. RSVP at www.ourchabad.org/happyhour.

Shabbat @ Chabad: every Shabbat at 10 a.m. followed by a delicious kiddish-lunch.

Torah & Tea: study the weekly Torah portion Wednesday from 7 – 8 p.m.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Yossi Hecht by calling 352-330-4466 on the internet at www.OurChabad.org.

Oak Run Bridge

We have three bridge

clubs in Oak Run, two for Party Bridge and one for Duplicate. Party Bridge meets at 9 a.m. Thursday mornings at the Island Club and 6 p.m. Friday at the Orchid Club's Card Room. No partner is required. It's only 50 cents per person and we have small prizes. Duplicate Bridge is played at the Island Club Wednesday evenings. Please arrive by 5:45 p.m. for a prompt start at 6 p.m. You do need a partner for duplicate which can usually be arranged.

We look forward to having you join us. Please feel free to call Fran at 808-725-9362.

ESL Program

The ESL program at College Road Baptist Church, 5010 SW College Road, meets each Wednesday at 6 p.m. This is a weekly one-hour class.

Students practice using their English speaking skills in an informal, friendly environment. Contact ESL Director Janet Smith at 352 854-6981.

Rainbow Springs

Artists

Artists and fine craftsmen are sought by the Rainbow Springs Artist Cooperative located at

20804 W. Pennsylvania Ave. in the heart of Dunnellon's historic district. Once juried in to the cooperative, artists and fine craftsmen will be able to exhibit and sell their work in our display space.

We also have a large area for teaching children and/or adult art classes. Additional information may be obtained by contacting June Johnson, Director, at 352-465-3717.

Sisterhood

of Survivors

The Breast Cancer SOS (Sisterhood of Survivors) support group

meets at Ocala West Methodist Church, 9330 SW 105th Street, Rm. 235 (chapel).

We meet the last Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. to offer a caring concern to those involved with the battle of breast cancer.

We will share experiences, be informed and educated on treatments and medications available during our journey with breast cancer. We shall overcome! So, come one and all to our meetings and share interesting sessions each month. Any questions please call Elsa Flescher at 352-209-2661.

VOTING

Continued from Page A1

voters with requests on file, which is the most the office has ever sent.

With less than two weeks until the election, 29,244 mail ballots have been returned.

Voters have until Wednesday to request a mail ballot to be sent and must return it to our office no later than 7 p.m. Election Day to be counted.

Election Day is Nov. 6, 2018. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 120 voting locations in Marion County. On Election Day, Voters must vote in their home precinct and can look up their voting location at VoteMarion.com. Sample ballots were mailed to voters last week and are also available on our website.

LIONS

Continued from Page A21

352-861-7358 and we will arrange to pick up or meet at the old Winn Dixie shopping Center. We have so many veterans in need.

OTOW Lions Club is also working on our major fundraiser. Save the date, March 15, 2019. This is going to be lots of fun. We are also working on another ice cream social.

The Lions are always looking for people who want to give back to their community.

We would love to have residents come and visit our club.

For more information call Lion Estelle Michelson Membership Chair at 352-861-7358. Where there is a Need, there is a Lion.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

— Barack Obama

‘Thriller’ raises money to fight domestic violence



Cheri Irwin, left photo, choreographed the "Zombies Dance" by residents of Stone Creek, On Top of the World and Oak Run.



PHOTOS/PATRICIA GIZZI



THRILLER

Continued from Page A1

domestic Violence Center. Cheri ends with the following: “Kindness is a choice. Awareness is a choice. Respect is a choice. What would the world be like if each of us did one random act of

kindness for someone every day?” Kindness from all the residents who gave of their time and others who gave supplies and monetary donations is a great start.

The Leisure Arts Club asked clubs and residents to bring in many of the supplies that center uses. It was estimated

that 20 truckloads of donations went to the center. Some clubs also gave monetary donations to the cause. The Leisure Arts Club estimated that the value of these supplies was \$2,500.

This performance was put on at Stone Creek and the \$5 tickets went for the cause. It was put

on for free at Circle Square Commons for free on Saturday evening but the zombies would not let you go without giving a donation.

Last year, a \$12,500 check was given to the Ocala Domestic Violence Center and this year, they are predicting an even greater amount. It costs

the center about \$30,000 a year to care for resident of the center. This year \$20,000 was collected and according to Cheri more money is still being donated.

Thanks to all who made this event possible! A worthy cause is benefiting from your hard work and donations.

Historical Commission, county planning Founder's Day

A most ambitious project is underway, a collaboration between the Marion County Historical Commission, county administration and Board of County Commissioners.

On March 30, 2019, we are holding the Founder's Day/Marion County Government Day at the McPherson Governmental complex. This will celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the chartering of Marion County, as well as showcasing the services and departments of the Marion County governmental agencies. Our goal is to become an annual Founder's Day celebration of Marion County, and all it contains.

Many different folks from the governmental offices and Marion

County Historical Commission are helping to plan this, and we will need lots of citizen and corporate brainpower and manpower to help plan and pull this off successfully. Also, we will need historical displays and activities.

Marion County has such a rich heritage. We would like to showcase as much as possible. Small and larger municipalities, communities, historic preservation groups, church groups, agricultural groups and many more will be welcomed to display items of historical significance at the event.

One of the ambitious events hoped for – a documentary video production of the history of our county. This would need

a financial sponsor, a video production crew/equipment, and a scriptwriter. It was proposed to possibly enlist a high school video production class to take the production on as a school project.

If you are interested in this project, or know someone who is, we would welcome the participation as well as ideas you might have for the planning committee members.

For more information, please email administrativeservices@marion-countyfl.org or by postal mail to Marion County Administration, Attn: Jared Barkman, 601 SE 25th Ave. Ocala, FL 34471; or email Judy Delk, judydelk@embarq-mail.com.

MCSO checks on sexual predators during Operation Candy Sweep

As kids went door-to-door and stuffed their bags with candy, the Marion County Sheriff's Office, along with the Ocala Police Department and the Department of Corrections, checked in on over 200 sexual predators and offenders in Marion County.

During Operation Candy Sweep, we checked on all sexual predators and offenders on probation or parole to make sure they were not celebrating Halloween.

They could not have their lights on, have any decorations outside their house and could not be

giving children candy. Detectives visited community Halloween events to make sure those individuals were not in attendance.

Veterans need you

Veterans Helping Veterans assists veterans and their families with food, clothing and other personal needs. We are looking for variously skilled volunteers to help out in the resource center. Hours and days at your convenience. Call Anthony or Linda at 352-433-2320 ext. 100 and leave a message for a return call.

Marion County Genealogical Society meeting is Nov. 15

The Marion County Genealogical Society will meet Thursday November 15,

2018 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 November program "The New Family History Center and Family Search Website" by David Hogg and Lorraine Sandeen. For further information, contact Joel Swanson at (352)897-0840 or president@mcsocala.org.



8TH ANNUAL WREATHS OF Hope

Auction: December 3-6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Gala: Thursday, December 6, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Place your bid on uniquely decorated wreaths to support the Humane Society of Marion County. Proceeds will help the Humane Society purchase necessary equipment, food and supplies to continue to house and care for neglected animals. The Gala will feature an all-occasion wreaths display, live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, a chocolate fountain and more!

\$70.00 donation is requested.
Donations include 2 free beverage tickets. (cash or check only)
All wreath donations must be received by November 30, 2018




HOT TOPICS AT THE BRIDGE

Friday, November 2 @ 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER
 Warm up on a brisk fall night with a plate of spaghetti, and help us raise funds for our adopted Christmas family. \$5.00 donation per person. Entertainment by Lou Katz. Additional donations greatly appreciated!

Wednesday, November 14 @ 2:00 p.m.
THE HISTORY OF OCALA & HOPS
 Join us to learn about the history, evolution, political and economic transformation, historic sites and noteworthy events of the city, featuring a visual presentation of the Ocala's earlier years. Lecture presented by board member Dennis Phillips.



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 AN ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY

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RUN

Continued from Page A11

2019. The schedule is nearly complete and looks good. If this looks good to you put it on your calendar and wait for the final agenda and price.

A big thank you to those who brought goodies for the less fortunate, they are most grateful. Interfaith does a wonderful service looking after the recipients of your goodwill. Keep it up. We collect at all events and your donations go to a good cause.

Respectfully, Ray Miller

Stay tuned

Stay Tuned for Len Teitler's Do You Remember

Video is narrated by Anna Boodee and features the Sept. 27, 2018, Acoustic Jam Club - Live

This entertainment will be shown in two parts. Part two will follow FYI daily Nov. 2 to Nov. 9. On Channel 12.

Library

On Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8-9:30 a.m., the library will hold its monthly book sale at

the Orchid Club. Hardback books and DVD's are priced at two-for-\$1. Paperbacks are 10 cents each. Stop by the Donut Drop-in while there and enjoy coffee and a doughnut

Irish American Club

The Irish American Club will be holding its annual holiday dinner dance Thursday, Dec. 6, from 5:30-9:30 at Palm Grove. Sammy's will cater a delicious dinner featuring chicken parmesan, meat balls, stuffed shells, salad, rolls, desert and coffee. B.Y.O.B. Music will be provided by DJ Johnny DeRose, aka, Elvis. Raffle tickets will be available for our Irish Holiday Basket of Cheer. There will also be door prizes 50/50 tickets.

Ticket sales will be held Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 9-11 in the Orchid Club Card Room.

Cost is \$17 per person, \$22 per person for guests. Club dues for 2019 will be collected at the ticket sales. Dues is \$6pp. Please write a separate check for your dues. We look forward to seeing you. Any questions, contact Val @352-861-1223 or Ann @352-873-4755.

Royal Oaks

Lady Niners

On Oct. 23, the ROLN/ROWGO Halloween Tournament was held. The winning team was Kim Hessel, Darlene Lamo and Patty Dougherty. The team of Elsa Berbig, Denise Blanchard, Kathy Kollar and Ilene Simnowitz was second. Third was the team of Marj Sibley, Carol Clark, Marsha Shannon and Mary Kay Frandsen. Darlene Lamo won the closest to the pin contest on hole 3. Patty Dougherty won the clos-

est to the line contest on hole 12. We are proud to donate our proceeds of \$338 to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, an event of the American Cancer Society.

"Me Too" was the game Oct. 18. For this game each golfer could take four opportunities to move their ball to where a teammate's ball lay without costing an extra stroke.

In Flight A, Sue Olmos was the winner; Patty Waddell was second and Kerry Tims and Roseann Lavacca tied for third. In Flight B, Mary Kay Frandsen was the winner; Ginger Drake and Ilene Simnowitz tied for second. Cindy Kocher won the closest to the pin on Hole 3, and she made a chip-in on Hole 1.

Trick or Treat was the game Oct. 25. There was a pumpkin with several balls in it, each with a number on it. At the end of the round, each golfer drew a ball. The number on their ball was the number of strokes to deduct from their net game score. Those who received a treat had a number from one to four. Those who got tricked got the 0.

In Flight A, Bette Johnson was the winner with Sue Conner and Marj Sibley tied for second. In Flight B, Maureen Edwards was the winner with Marsha Shannon second, Ilene Simnowitz third and Mary Stimson fourth. Maureen Edwards won the closest to the pin contest on Hole 6. Sue Olmos made a chip in on Hole 1.

Baby Boomers

Oak Run Baby Boomers presents "Winter Wonderland Dance" Friday, Nov. 16, commencing at 6 p.m. at the Palm Grove Club. Featuring live music by Second Slice, dress casual to welcome the holidays with some shimmer and shine. BYOB and eats. Ticket sales are at the Orchid Club Saturday, Nov. 3, at 9 a.m. and Nov.10 at 8 a.m. Tickets will be sold on a first come first served until sold out and prices are \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Guest tickets are limited to two per household.

Membership Drive & Renewals will be held Nov. 10 at 8 a.m. Dec. 8 at 9 a.m. and Jan. 12, 2019, at 8 a.m. at the Orchid Club Lobby. Dues are \$5 per person, checks are payable to ORBB. Dues can also be mailed to Patricia Anderson at 7326 SW 111th Lane, Ocala, FL 34476, please include a clearly printed membership application from our blog <http://oakrun-babyboomers.blogspot.com/>

Performing Arts

Company of Oak Run

Thank you to all the Oak Runners who came to see our performances of Oklahoma, and for being so responsive and appreciative.

We are already starting to work toward our next production. The Dixie Swim Club by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten is a wonderful comedy.

There are five women who became friends in college when they were on the swim team. The meet every year for a long weekend to reconnect. This play covers four of those weekends and spans a period of 33 years.

Auditions are open to all Oak Runners. If you are interested in knowing more about it, contact Patty Waddell. Audition dates are Nov. 14, 15, & 17. The performances will be March 21 - 24, 2019.

If you are interested in learning more about PACOR, our next general meeting is Monday, Nov. 12, in the Palm Grove at 7 p.m.

Ambassadors

Last chance to buy tickets for the Nov. 17 Fall Harvest Time Dance will be at the Donut

Drop in Nov. 10. The dance will be held at the Palm Grove Nov. 17 from 7-11 p.m. Tickets are \$6 each. The Ambassadors ask that you bring a non-perishable food item to the dance to be donated to the Ocala Food Pantry. Stop by the ticket sale table to look at Take a Chance items.

"Take a Chance" on popular Oak Run events and club donated items that will be sold at both the Donut Drop in and the Nov. 17 Pancake Breakfast. The drawing will be held at the Randy Riggle Holiday Nostalgia Dec. 1.

Dec. 1 will mean several seasonal kick-off events at Oak Run. From 1-Dec. 31, you are welcome to "Trim a Tree with the Troubadours" at the Palm Grove. Music of the season and light refreshments will be available. More info on this event will be provided later this month.

The Randy Riggle

show from 7-9 that evening promises to be a trip down memory lane with music and stories from the Holiday Seasons of our youth. Tickets for the Cabaret show are \$15 and can be purchased at both the November Donut Drop-In and Pancake Breakfast.

FINANCIAL

Continued from Page A10

the same place, a financial professional can review your holdings and recommend appropriate ways to diversify your investment dollars. (Be aware, though, that while diversification can reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio, it can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.

- Staying on track – With all your accounts in one place, you'll find it easier to keep the big picture in mind and make the moves necessary to help you progress toward your financial goals. Two main actions include buying or selling investments and adjusting your portfolio to make it more aggressive or conservative, depending on your situation.

- Avoiding mistakes – If you own several separate accounts, you could see a loss in one or more of them and overreact by selling investments that could still be valuable to you. But with a consolidated investment platform, you can see more clearly that the impact of a loss may be small, relative to the rest of your holdings.

As we've seen, consolidating your investment accounts with a single provider can have several advantages. So think carefully about bringing everything together – you may find that there's strength in unity.

◆◆◆
This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

The Ambassador's plan entertainment events for all Oak Run. There are no membership fees to attend these events. Tickets are priced to cover the cost of decorations and entertainment. Our November workshop will be held in the card room from 9-10 Thursday, Nov.

8. Please join us for a planning workshop to see how our events are planned and managed.

Well folks, Please, please be kind to one another. Peace, Laura Smith csjtpq2@gmail.com.

LANDING

Continued from Page A15

Christmas brighter.

Next to the tree is a table with a list indicating the tag number and name of the Angels.

Please put your name and phone number next to the number(s) of the Angel(s) you are adopting. Gifts should be returned to the Activities Office, unwrapped, in either a box or bag, with the Angel tag inside, by Monday, Nov. 26.

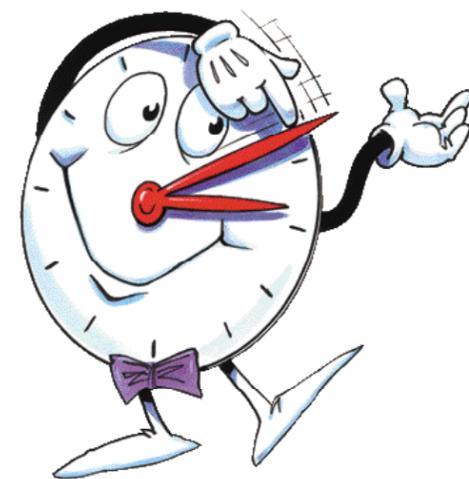
They will be delivered to the Salvation Army headquarters for distribution to the children. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Blood drive – Nov. 14

Once again, Marion Landing is asking for your help in replenishing the community's blood supply by donating blood at our next blood drive. The reason to donate is simple...it helps save lives. The Big Red Bus will be in the Lifestyle Center parking lot Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Our Blood Drive Coordinator Pat Wurst advises, "Eat a good breakfast, drink plenty of fluids and bring your photo I.D. Please come by and give blood. It is especially needed during the holiday season."

Another perfect game
The bowlers are on a roll. This week, congratulations go to Ron Goss, who bowled a perfect 300 game Monday, Oct. 22. Hopefully, we're putting together a "dream team" to compete in the 2019 Leland Games. Congratulations go out to Ron from all of us at Marion Landing.

Diane Bress is Marion Landing's Activities Director and an employee of Leland Management, Inc.



Citrus County Education Foundation Presents

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LakeHernandoDragonBoatFestival.com

Make a safer place for manatees

November is Manatee Awareness Month

November is an annual celebration and a dedication to manatee conservation in Florida.

As manatees seek warm water sites during the cooler winter season, residents, visitors, and the boating community are reminded to watch for manatees and help safeguard them as they freely move about Florida's shallow, slow-moving rivers, bays, estuaries and coastal water ecosystems.

Record watercraft mortality this year along with more than 180 manatees lost to red tide remain two of the greatest threats to the manatee population.

Red tide acts as a neurotoxin in manatees, giving them seizures that can result in drowning without human intervention.

Manatees may exhibit muscle twitches, lack of coordination, labored breathing, and an inability to maintain body orientation.

If rescued in time, most manatees can recover, so report a sick manatee immediately to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Hotline at 1-888-404-3922, or send a text message or email to Tip@MyFWC.com.

Use VHF Channel 16 on a marine radio.

In total, 703 manatees have died so far this year



from Jan. 1 through Oct. 12 from all causes.

Cold stress during the winter months takes a toll on the manatees as they are a subtropical species and cannot tolerate prolonged exposure to water temperatures below 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

Other causes of human-related mortalities includes ingestion of litter, fish hooks and monofilament line; entanglement in crab trap lines, and being crushed and/or drowned in canal locks and flood control structures.

Many seasonal manatee

zones in Florida come into effect in November, and boaters are urged to pay close attention to posted signage indicating slow or idle speeds.

Waterway users should also keep their distance from migrating manatees or manatees congregated at warm-water sites during the winter to avoid possible harassment.

Never separate a mother from her calf as calves depend on their mothers for up to two years. Check out the videos, tips, and resources for boaters at savethema-

natee.org/boatertips.

The public can be actively engaged in manatee and habitat protection by obtaining the Club's free waterway signage, boating banners and decals, waterway cards and educational posters.

The shoreline property signs warn boaters to slow down for manatees and feature the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's hotline number (1-888-404-3922) to report sick, injured, orphaned or harassed manatees. The Club also produces family-friendly outdoor

signs for state, municipal and county parks, marinas and other sites where human/manatee interactions are a problem.

View the free public awareness resources at savethemanatee.org/free-materials. To obtain any of these materials, email education@savethemanatee.org or call 1-800-432-JOIN (5646) and request these resources.

The public is also encouraged to visit Save the Manatee Club's Blue Spring webcams at ManaTV.org to see manatees in real time once manatee season is underway or on archived video. The webcams have become popular with viewers across the globe and have allowed the Club to monitor manatee behavior for research and health-related conditions.

The site also features researcher Wayne Hartley's daily blog on manatees visiting the spring. Hartley is the Club's Manatee Specialist and a former park ranger at Blue Spring State Park. He has been researching the Blue Spring manatees since 1978.

Another way to help is by joining the Club's Adopt-A-Manatee® program.

Each "adoptive parent" learns about the species by following the

real, living manatee they've chosen through adoption materials and follow-up newsletters the Club provides. To learn more, visit the adoption page of the website at savethemanatee.org/adopt.

Save the Manatee Club is an award-winning 501(c)(3) international nonprofit organization established in 1981 by singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffett and former Florida Governor and U.S. Senator Bob Graham. The Club's mission is to protect manatees and their aquatic habitat for future generations.

To accomplish its mission, the Club works closely with federal, state and local governments, the media and the public, and supports policies that are based on the best scientific data available.

The Club raises public awareness; educates; sponsors research, rescue, rehabilitation and release efforts; supports land acquisition and aquatic habitat protection; advocates for improved on-the-water protection measures, and also supports education and conservation efforts in other countries.

Check out Save the Manatee Club's website at savethemanatee.org for more information and other ways to get involved.

UF Diabetes Institute to host several events during Diabetes Awareness Month

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — When Krisha Gupta was 17 years old, she felt weak, tired and thirsty. One day, Gupta, who rarely left school early, called her mom to come pick her up — she was too weak. Her pediatrician found that Gupta's blood sugar level was dangerously high at 515 and she was sent to the hospital where she was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes.

"It's a chronic disease. We have to keep taking insulin for the rest of our lives," said Gupta, now 21 and the president of the University of Florida's College Diabetes Network. "It's really tough because it's something you're going to have for the rest of your

life, so having a community that knows exactly what you're going through is really important."

The College Diabetes Network, an organization started for students with Type 1 diabetes, is helping to organize one of the main events called the Hey, Neighbor! Carnival at Magnolia Parke on Nov. 18 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The event will feature games, live music, food trucks and more.

Other events, such as glucose screenings, seminars and community classes, organized by the UF Diabetes Institute will take place throughout November.

One of the most important events is World Diabetes Day on Nov. 14.

Ronny Bell, Ph.D., a professor and chair of the department of public health at East Carolina University, will be the keynote speaker at the event, which will be held at the HPNP Auditorium.

"We strongly believe these initiatives will have a significant impact in the local Gainesville community and in supporting national and international programs centered around diabetes research, education and clinical care," said Mauren Piucco, assistant director of the institute.

This year's awareness month theme, set by the International Diabetes Federation, is Family and Diabetes.

"Diabetes has a tremendous impact not just

on the individual but the entire family," Piucco said. "We will host a number of events that will allow participants to connect with one another and learn about local resources available within their community."

The institute added several new initiatives to the schedule compared to previous years and hopes to draw more people and families to events over the course of the month.

"Raising diabetes awareness can impact the lives of many," Piucco said.

Over 30 million Americans have diabetes, and 84 million Americans have prediabetes, according to the American Diabetes Association.

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DRIVING

Continued from Page A29

longer have adequate strength in his or her legs. The vehicle can be outfitted with adaptive equipment: a spinner knob so the driver can safely turn the steering wheel with only one hand or a push-pull steering and braking mechanism on their dashboard, with pulling associated with acceleration and pushing tied to braking.

Other modifications can include software upgrades like sensors to alert the driver when there's a vehicle in their blind spot, self-parking abilities and automated brakes that activate if an imminent crash is detected.

Despite these services, some clients may still be assessed as unable to operate a vehicle. SmartDrive Director Sherrilene Classen, Ph.D., a professor and chair of the occupational therapy department, said that doesn't mean SmartDrive can't help them. In lieu of personalized rehabilitation programs, these clients receive a SmartDrive "mobility plan."

"Driving may be a privilege, but mobility is a right," she said.

This plan matches clients with agencies or

public transportation routes allowing them to still travel independently and be able to engage with their communities.

While assessments are rarely mandatory, usually only as the result of a court order following a traffic accident, Classen hopes that residents in Alachua and Marion counties, and other areas in North Central Florida, will turn to SmartDrive to improve their driving skills and maintain their independence.

SmartDrive services are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. According to Classen, initial assessments cost \$500. Rehabilitation costs vary, though she said \$150 an hour would be a typical rate. See <https://ufhealth.org/uf-smartdrive-driver-rehabilitation> for details.

Most insurance plans don't currently cover driver rehabilitation, but state and federal vocational programs may provide funding if a client needs to drive in order to return to work. If medical conditions or injuries that necessitate a driving assessment originated from an incident where the client was not at fault, damages may be requested through the court system to cover the costs of rehabilitation.

UF researchers discover new use of stem cells in brain cancer

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — University of Florida Health brain cancer researchers have discovered a new use of stem cells that could clear a revolutionary pathway to making immunotherapy drugs effective in treating brain cancer.

"This is truly one of the more exciting developments I've seen in our field in many years," said Duane Mitchell, M.D., Ph.D., co-director of the Preston A. Wells Jr. Center for Brain Tumor Therapy at the University of Florida. "This discovery gives us profound insights into the mechanisms of resistance to immunotherapy drugs, and it may offer a roadmap to use immunotherapy to effectively treat many forms of cancer."

The findings have been published today in the journal Nature Communications.

Some tumors are able to send signals that prevent immune cells from recognizing and attacking the tumor. A new class of immunotherapy drug, called immune checkpoint inhibitors, blocks these inhibitory signals, allowing immune

cells to be more effective in fighting the tumor. This treatment has been shown to be effective in treating many types of cancer, but many cancers, including brain tumors, have yet to demonstrate significant response to immune checkpoint inhibitors.

For years, Catherine Flores, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the UF College of Medicine's Lillian S. Wells Department of Neurosurgery, has been studying mechanisms of resistance to a type of immunotherapy called "PD-1 checkpoint blockade" in rodent models of glioblastoma and medulloblastoma. Glioblastoma is the most aggressive form of adult brain cancer, with life expectancy of less than 24 months from diagnosis. Medulloblastoma, a brain tumor in the cerebellum that occurs most commonly in children, is curable in most cases, but up to 20 to 30 percent of patients succumb to recurrent disease.

In her paper, Flores and her team show that in a rodent model, "hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells" isolated

from bone marrow could be used to reprogram glioblastoma tumors to make them sensitive to immunotherapy treatment. Where resistance had been a barrier, an intravenous infusion of hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells led to a robust response to immunotherapy treatment in aggressive brain tumor models, the investigators found.

"These findings may really open the door to successful immunotherapy treatment of malignant brain tumors," said Mitchell, a member of the Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute of the University of Florida. "We are working rapidly to translate this approach into early phase human clinical trials. This is a totally novel mechanism of overcoming resistance to checkpoint inhibitors that's been shown to work in multiple resistant brain tumor models. If successful in a clinical setting, this approach would have potential to transform treatment for the proportion of patients who do not currently benefit from this

remarkable class of immunotherapeutic treatment."

The diagnosis of glioblastoma is devastating for patients and their loved ones. Standard treatment includes high-dose chemotherapy, aggressive surgery and radiation; without treatment, survival is typically less than six months.

"Standard treatments for brain tumors are both highly toxic and nonspecific, and after treatment for brain tumors, patients can still suffer from the damage caused by these very aggressive therapies," said Flores, the principal investigator of the Hematopoietic Stem Cell Engineering Laboratory within the UF Brain Tumor Immunotherapy Program. "Our goal is to develop therapies that are safe, effective and have less damaging long-term effects on our patients."

While the advent of immunotherapy has been a breakthrough in treating some cancers such as melanoma, developing immunotherapies against brain tumors and

See CELLS/Page A34

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answers

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Super Crossword

Answers

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Weekly SUDOKU

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| 9 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 |

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CELLS

Continued from Page A31

many other types of cancer has proved a vexing challenge.

“Immune checkpoint inhibitors such as PD1-blockers have dramatically changed the landscape of treatment for many malignancies, with probably more FDA approvals over the last five years than any other single agent to treat cancers,” Mitchell said. “But when we drill down into the actual details, only a small proportion of patients from a variety of cancers are gaining benefit from these immunotherapy drugs, maybe 20 to 30 percent. And malignant brain tumors have not really responded to this class of drugs at any real appreciable rate.”

Flores’ lab tested a new approach in three different malignant brain tumor models: glioblastoma, medulloblastoma — the most common malignant brain tumor in children — and diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, or DIPG, a rare but deadly glioma that arises in the brainstem.

Of the new approach, Flores said: “It was very encouraging to see that this therapy was efficacious in multiple animal models of brain tumors, not just glioblastoma but also medulloblastoma and brainstem glioma.”

Flores said the hope is the treatment will work against other types of cancers as well. The next step in her line of research is to start examining brain metastases that originated from lung and breast cancers.

“Our findings are significant not only because of their implications against brain tumors but also because they may have an impact on other tumors as well,” Flores said. “We have found that the stem cell transfer actually impacts the entire immune system, not just the tumor itself. So if we can boost a host immune system with a simple stem cell transfer, this may have huge implications across different tumor types.”

Feasibility and safety studies are now underway; the team is aiming to move the research into clinical testing within the next 12 to 18 months.

“One of the most exciting things,” Mitchell said, “is that because this is using stem cell therapy in combination with already FDA-approved drugs, the transition from where we are in the preclinical setting to applicability in humans is relatively streamlined compared with many other therapies we’ve translated into the clinic previously.”

UF to establish a cancer health equity center

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — The National Cancer Institute has awarded a five-year, \$16 million grant to establish a cancer health equity center at the University of Florida and partner institutions.

The Florida-California Cancer Research, Education and Engagement, or CaRE2, Health Equity Center will be an interdisciplinary, intercollegiate effort involving researchers from UF, Florida A&M University and the University of Southern California.

The center will bring together researchers from the two states with the highest cancer incidence and mortality to create a bicoastal minority cancer research and training center. Florida and California also have uniquely rich and heterogeneous populations of Blacks and Latinos, who are the focus of this study.

Led at UF by program directors Folakemi T. Odedina, Ph.D., and Diana Wilkie, Ph.D., the CaRE2 center is directed and administered by multiple principal investigators from each insti-

tution. Odedina serves a dual appointment as a professor in the colleges of Pharmacy and Medicine, part of UF Health. She is also the principal investigator and program director of the UF Florida Minority Cancer Research and Training, or MiCaRT, Center that was established in 2014 through a grant from the NCI, part of the National Institutes of Health, and supported by the UF Health Cancer Center.

Wilkie is the Prairieview Trust-Earl and Margo Powers Endowed Professor at the College of Nursing and director of the Center for Palliative Care Research and Education. She is also co-program leader of the UF Health Cancer Center’s Cancer Population Sciences research program. Both Odedina and Wilkie have extensive experience in leading multidisciplinary center grants and cancer disparities research.

“Behind every cancer statistic are the tears and agonies of cancer patients, survivors, family members and friends,” Odedina said. “I take the fight against cancer per-

sonally because I am simply tired of seeing unnecessary cancer deaths in minority and underserved populations globally.”

In her roles at the UF MiCaRT Center, Odedina’s primary goal has been to transform the exploratory cancer center into a comprehensive

health equity center. Wilkie said the center will allow researchers to better understand the

See EQUITY/Page A35

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EQUITY

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culture and background of these minority populations and those diagnosed with cancer.

“We have done a lot to reduce cancer mortality and morbidity in general, but research for Blacks and Latinos have not kept pace with the majority population,” Wilkie said. “With the CaRE2 Health Equity Center, we are focusing on the biological and human experience that can be altered from one’s cultural background to improve cancer outcomes for Blacks and Latinos. We want to better understand how one’s biology, beliefs and attitudes affect engagement with care and survivorship.”

Within each institution there are six CaRE2 center cores designed to be highly integrated into the research platform and to support the overall mission. These cores are led by researchers at their respective institutions and include the administrative core, the research education core, the outreach core, the planning and evaluation core, the shared resources core, the tissue modeling core, and the bioinformatics, statistical and methodological core.

At UF, researchers come from across multiple campuses, including the colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing and Education, UF Research and Academic Center Lake Nona, UF Health Jacksonville as well as from UF Health Shands Hospital. The team in-

cludes researchers with expertise across the spectrum, from molecular biology and bioinformatics to community outreach and clinical interventions.

For the first phase of the center, two full research projects and one pilot project will be conducted that are focused on prostate and pancreatic cancers, two cancers with noted disparities among Blacks and little-known information among Latinos. Each project has a team at each of the partnering institutions.

Led by Li-Ming Su, M.D., chair of the UF College of Medicine’s department of urology, the first full research project will aim to understand the contribution of novel mitochondrial-derived peptides to racial differ-

ences in prostate cancer development. The second research project is led by Jose Trevino, M.D., an assistant professor in the UF College of Medicine’s department of surgery, and aims to reduce disparities in efficacy of a chemotherapy treatment by using molecular profiles of patients to predict their sensitivity to this treatment, taking into account various factors related to racial and ethnic differences.

Thomas Schmittgen, Ph.D., chair of the UF College of Pharmacy’s department of pharmaceuticals, will lead the pilot project that focuses on identifying the genetic basis of racial disparities in pancreatic cancer by examining early events that lead to the cancer formation, using human samples in

vitro.

Another goal of the center is to provide research training opportunities for underrepresented minority trainees and early-stage investigators that fosters their individual career development.

“This center really ‘takes a village’ to address cancer health disparities,” Odedina said. “Our strength is in our diversity, with the center being led by five underrepresented minority scientists and four women.”

“At UF and UF Health, not only will the center advance health disparities research in Black and Latino populations and provide opportunities for underrepresented minority researchers, it will also aid in the university’s

application to become an NCI-designated Cancer Center,” said David R. Nelson, M.D., interim senior vice president for health affairs at UF and president of UF Health.

The center will also be supported by the UF Health Cancer Center. Jonathan Licht, M.D., director of the UF Health Cancer Center, said he is proud of the role that the Cancer Center has played in supporting the aspirations of this team and all they will accomplish.

“This center will also expand our reach beyond North Central Florida to more urban Orlando and Jacksonville areas and bring UF expertise to study the challenges in underrepresented and underrepresented cancer populations,” Licht said.



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