

WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27



Administrator praises consolidation efforts

By Jim Clark
 EDITOR

Dr. Lee A. Niblock, county administrator, praised the efforts to consolidate 9-1-1 communications as he spoke to the State Road 200 Coalition recently.

"I hope you would applaud the effort," he said. "Combined it will save \$1.3 million a year."

The plan calls for all emergency agencies to fall under one communications plan, meaning that people who call 9-1-1 would have to be transferred elsewhere before their need could be addressed. Only the Ocala Police Department has failed to get on board. "We're still looking for the potential of the police department."

Niblock said this was the fourth year of the county commissioners "living within their means" with the budget. However, he told people to "let me know if you've had a loss of services."

He noted, "It's hard to grow the economy on a one-legged stool."

He also pointed out that the county has "no control over other agencies' millage." County tax bills also include the School Board, water management districts and other agencies.

He said the county continues to look at "continued organizational change." He said there are 184 positions fewer in the county than when he became county administrator.

He spoke about the county's efforts to help create jobs. "The private sector is where jobs are created." He added, "I just wish the jobs were there yesterday."

He also addressed the controversial



PHOTO BY JIM CLARK

Dr. Lee Niblock speaks to the Coalition.

issue of Munroe Regional Medical Center. "There is a very limited role that the county plays in the governance of MRMC."

He praised the hospital for its cardiac center, and noted, "If you're going to bring 250 jobs, you want a quality of life."

He noted that the schools needed to provide good education, "not less going to a four-day format."

He complimented all the volunteers in the hospital, saying they "would die on the vine if not for our volunteer services."

Kids Expo

The All About Kids Expo was held at the Paddock Mall Saturday, emphasizing visual and hearing safety of children. In addition, above, there was fun as McKenna Johnson, 9, of Inverness shows-off, while at the right, Bubbles the Clown, a ventriloquist, with "Skip."

PHOTOS BY JIM CLARK



Health Department set to give flu shots

The Marion County Health Department (CHD) and Maxim Healthcare Services are urging residents to get their flu and pneumonia vaccines. At the Marion CHD office, this continuing partnership will begin hosting seasonal immunization clinics Sept. 19 through Sept. 23. This year's flu vaccine will include the same seasonal flu vaccine formula that was used during the 2010-2011 flu season, which contains the 2009 H1N1 flu strain as well as two other strains of flu. Maxim will be vaccinating people nine years of age and older.

Maxim will also provide the pneumonia vaccines. This adult vaccine is given only once prior to the age of 65, and one additional dose after age 65 providing at least five years have passed since the previous dose.

The clinics will be held at the health department's main facility, 1801 SE 32nd Av-

enue, in Ocala and are scheduled from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The clinics will open to the public and will offer flu vaccine for \$30 and pneumonia vaccine for \$65. Participants with Medicare Part B coverage will receive the flu and/or pneumonia shot at no out-of-pocket cost. Insurance providers and health maintenance organizations (HMO) may also cover the cost of vaccine. Citizens can contact Maxim Health Systems for insurance provider acceptance or for reimbursement information at (352) 291-4888.

Influenza seasons are unpredictable and the flu virus affects individuals differently depending on age and health status.

If you have questions about whether you should get a flu vaccine, consult your health care provider.



Stone Creek groundbreaking

Groundbreaking was held for the reflection park at Stone Creek. From the left, Rick Morang, maintenance manager, Chis Johnson, new community manager, Linda Fiorella, Brandon from Landcare. See Stone Creek column, Page 2.



Stone Creek

Garden Club moves closer to reflection park



Patricia Gizzi

The Stone Creek Garden Club got a little closer to their dream of a reflection park on Friday, Sept. 9 as they broke ground on the Reflection Park outside of the Reunion Center. The club sponsored a picnic which was chaired by Rita Levy. Her committee of Joanne Novak, Linda Cooper and Gloria Salvaggio did an outstanding job. Rita would also like to thank Gretchen La Sasso and Deborah Kuchel for all their work. The picnic raised \$1,000 toward the park dream.

The park idea was the inspiration of Linda Fiorella, former president of the club and now chair person for the park. This seed of an idea began in 2007 when Linda formed a committee to pursue the idea of a park. She submitted a proposal to Stone Creek's Board of Directors for the land that will be the site of the park. It was approved and Landcare Inc., which is the landscaper for Del Webb, was contracted to make the park a reality. Landcare is donating \$1,000 toward the project in time and materials.

With all projects, fundraising becomes paramount to complete the project. The Garden Club has had three big fundraisers. They were also given donations from other Stone Creek Clubs like the Leisure Arts and the Crafts of the Mind Book Club. So far, the Garden Club has raised almost \$5,000 toward the park. According to Linda, the



From the left, Gretchen La Sasso, Linda Cooper, (in front, Joanne Novak,) Rita Levy Deborah Kuchel and Gloria Salvaggio.

park will be completed in phases. In the first phase, fall and winter foundation plantings to withstand any initial winter freeze plus

irrigation and electrical systems will be installed. In the second stage, spring and summer plants along with future garden features will be added. The Reflection Garden will be dedicated to all residents of Stone Creek, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. The

vision for the garden is for it to be a sanctuary for both guests of the garden and wildlife. The garden will enhance the natural and beautiful setting that the garden overlooks in Stone Creek. The club will incorporate seasonal color blooms, butterfly and hum-

mingbird plants while maintaining Florida Friendly principles.

Linda wants everyone to know that there will be a second fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 5 to 9 p.m. It will be a dinner, auction and dedication ceremony. The dedication ceremony will be a "Sunset Toast to the Park." Linda wants to extend her thanks to her committee members who have been working weekly since March. They are: Meta Bennett, Bee Bovin, Connie Drake, president of the Garden Club, Karen Kaufer, Gretchen LaSasso, Rita Levy, Sharon Madris, Bernie Messer, Treasurer of the club, Joanne and Ray Novak, Mary Ellen Pfeffer, Deborah Parsons, Marion Pierleoni, and Joyce Troxell. Linda said, "Last year's event raised \$2,400 and we hope to surpass that this year through the generosity of Stone Creek residents, friends of the club and wonderful local business donors." So come out and enjoy a dinner and dessert buffet and toast a dream which is fast approaching a reality as the Reflections Park!



Linda Levy, holding the bread, and her workers.

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Fairfield Village

Fairfield installs two new officers to HOA



Priscilla Geissal

During a short meeting held Thursday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. in the Fairfield Village Clubhouse, two new members were installed to replace outgoing members, Barbara Skalka, and Mike Riley.

President Bart Rich called the meeting to order and asked Paula LeBlanc to open the meeting with a lovely prayer. He then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lillian Oliver and Chuck Belcher were introduced to those assembled as new members of the Board of

Directors. These two stepped forward and were duly sworn in by President Bart Rich.

Proposed changes to the By-Laws were read by Norma Powers who briefly discussed some of the modifications. There were several questions from those attending; however, since Don Ouellette (who is the HOA Board member who knows the most about the "legal side" of the organization) was not present, the discussion was postponed until the October meeting which is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Fairfield Clubhouse. Members are urged to attend.

It was announced that issues regarding liability insurance have been settled and that coverage has been secured. Activities have resumed after a period of time when the insurance issue caused concern about holding events in the Clubhouse. The Labor Day barbecue, held on Sept. 4,



Seated from left are Stan Cohen; president, Bart Rich; treasurer, Joan Klear; along with new additions, Lillian Oliver and Chuck Belcher who are five of the seven board members for the Fairfield Village HOA. Two others, Jean Chapman and Don Ouellette, were not present for the short meeting.

was reported to have been a big success, and those attending enjoyed good food and good fellowship.

The SAC is planning a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Oct. 8, at

5 p.m. in the Fairfield Village Clubhouse. Tickets are \$6 per person and can be purchased from Loretta Zang, Sandy Ford, Jean

Chapman, or Carol Ouellette.

The event has been a big success in the years past, and those planning it promise that this will be a time of equal enjoyment for Fairfield Village residents who are a part of our "lively place filled with lovely people."

Jobless figures in Marion show small decline

Workforce Connection's three-county region continues to reflect the uneven nature of the economic recovery, with modest gains in the number of those with jobs as well as decrease in unemployment over the year, but nearly 2,000 fewer people in the local labor force since August 2010, according to data released today by the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation.

The August unemployment rate in Citrus, Levy and Marion counties was 12.3 percent, down one-tenth of a percentage point since July and 1.4 percent over the year. Out of a regional labor force of 210,635 there were 25,974 out of work compared with 29,063 unemployed in August 2010.

Rusty Skinner, Workforce's chief executive officer, noted that "growth in employment and labor force numbers offer a positive for August."

However, Skinner noted that "while these reflect an improved unemployment rate from one year ago, it continues to be the result of withdrawal from the labor force rather than a sustained improvement in employment growth in Marion and Levy Counties.

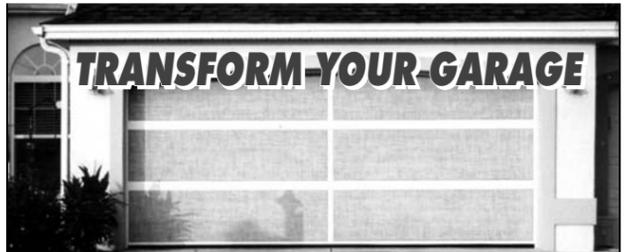
"Citrus County shows growth in both labor force and

employment showing some signs of improvement in workforce over the year."

Marion County's unemployment rate fell one-tenth of one percent to 12.7 percent. The county's labor force expanded by 89 to 133,855 - actually 516 more than in June 2011 -- the number of those employed rose by 147 to 116,836 - 569 more than at the beginning of the summer - while those without jobs fell by 58 to 17,019.

Compared to August 2010, Marion County's unemployment rate is down from 14 percent.

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 Saturday, Sept. 24 • 10am to 1pm

It's time to stock up on winter reading material, and what better place to find good books at bargain prices than the Friends book sale. As always, in addition to great books you'll find CD's, videos, puzzles and more.

While you're there, please pick up an application to join the Friends of Freedom Public Library and actively lend your support.

Contact Kermit Clark 861-0353 if you need your Ocala area donations picked up for the sale.

Happenings

Saturday, Sept. 24

Get involved at Cala Hills

A group that says it is "high time" you get involved is holding an event at the Cala Hills Clubhouse, 2400 S.W. 31st Circle, on Sept. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Dr. Kidambi and friends, there will be healthy food and great music.

Among the items they point out is to demand the government create jobs, save Social Security, provide Medicare for all Americans and spend money on children and education. Petitions will be available to sign and send to politicians. From 17th Street, turn south onto 19th Avenue Road (Walmart Road). Stay in the left lane, turn left onto Southwest 21st Circle, travel a quarter of a mile, the clubhouse will be on the right. Everyone is welcome.

Violet Club to meet

The African Violet Club of Ocala Meeting this month is Sept. 24 and a field trip is planned. The African Violet Club of Ocala meets every fourth Saturday of the month except in December at 10:30 a.m. It is usually held at the Marion County Sheriff's Office (Brian Litz Sheriff's Substation) at 9048 S.W. Highway 200 in Ocala, Florida 34476, but this month we won't be meeting there. Refreshments are served at our break. For more information please contact our club President, Laura Perdomo at pretynde@netzero.net or call 352-625-6467 or check our website at www.AfricanVioletClubofOcala.org.

Kingdom of Sun Band performances

Kingdom of the Sun Concert Band invites the public to their September performances titled "Musical Memories" to open their 22nd season. Performances will be held Saturday, Sept. 24 at 2 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 25 at 3 p.m. at the Marion Technical Institute, 1614 Fort King St., Ocala. Musical Selections include: "Salute to Bob Hope;" "Victor Herbert Favorites;" "Put on a Happy Face" from Bye, Bye, Birdie; "Vilia" from The Merry Widow; Modest Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition;" John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever;" Leroy Anderson's "The Waltzing Cat;" and, featuring the KOS trombone section, "Slippery Gentlemen," and others. All

performances are free and open to the public. For more information, call 352-624-9291 or visit www.kingdomofthesunband.org.

Women's retreat planned

Women's Retreat, 9 a.m. "Beyond Your Wildest Imagination", live in unity in the church and at home (Ephesians 1). Guest speaker Sharon Thomas, Footsteps Ministry, Newport News, Virginia. Door prizes, Continental breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack.

This is a free event for all women; a love offering will be taken. Informational and registration brochures are available. Childcare available with notification.

For more information contact Sharon Lombardo, 352-307-5101 or email CCOMCWomensMinistry@yahoo.com. Christ's Church of Marion County, 6768 S.W. 80th St. (off SR200), Ocala, 352-861-6182 or www.ccomc.org.

Fort King Festival planned

The Fort King Festival will be held on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the grounds of the Appleton Museum of Art College of Central Florida, 4333 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, featuring living history exhibits and demonstrations of skills of early settlers. For information, call 352-629-2773 or 352-694-2529.

Yard sale for Sheltering Hands

The third annual animal fundraiser yard sale to benefit Sheltering Hands Rescue will be held Saturday, Sept. 24 at 2915 S.E. 11th St., Ocala, starting at 8 a.m.

We are looking for donations of items also. Let's go shopping and support the organization. Call 352-694-7731 for information

Golf tourney to benefit United Way

College of Central Florida will host a four-person Best Ball Scramble format golf tournament on Saturday, Sept. 24. All proceeds from the event will be donated to United Way of Marion County.

The tournament will be held at Pine Oaks of Ocala, 2201 N.W. 21st St. in Ocala, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$50 per person.

Entry fee includes golf, cart, lunch and prizes. Hole sponsorships are available for \$75 per hole. Sign up forms are available at www.uwmc.org.

For more information on sponsorship or registration, call Tim Thayer at 352-854-2322 Ext. 1229.

Monday, Sept. 26

Retired nurses to meet

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Citrus Marion Chapter of the Florida Society of Registered Nurses, Retired (RNR) will meet at the Inverness Golf and Country Club. Dr. Ron Joseph will speak about Factors Contributing to Musculoskeletal Changes in Aging Adults. Lunch is

served at 11:30 and the lecture begins at noon. The charity for the month is CUB (Citrus United Baskets). We will collect non-perishable foods and/or dry pet food; or new underwear/socks for children or adults. RN's wishing to attend should call Mary Jane at 352-726-6882 or Gladys at 352-854-2677.

Career, Colleges Expo planned

Marion County Public Schools and the College of Central Florida present Careers and Colleges Expo 2011 on Monday, Sept. 26, 5:30 to 8 p.m.

The event, sponsored by the Guidance Departments of all Marion County public high schools and CF, takes place in the Gymnasium Building 6 at the College of Central Florida, 3001 S.W. College Road in Ocala.

Representatives from dozens of educational institutions, businesses, professional and government organizations, and the military will be on-hand, sharing valuable information with all area high school students and their families.

College-bound students, as well as those interested in career exploration and job opportunities, will find valuable information at the Expo.

The public is invited to attend the free event.

For more information, contact Kecia Croom in the Guidance and Testing Department of Marion County Public Schools at 352-671-7513.

Saturday, Oct. 1

Open house for military officers

The Kingdom of the Sun (KOS) Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold an open house at the Elks Club and Lodge on Oct. 1. There will be an open enrollment period for all Commissioned, Warrant, Flight Officers, Public Health Service Officers on active duty, and retired or former officers who would wish to join the local Chapter. The Open House will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

John Rose, president of the local KOS Chapter, announced that there will be a 35th anniversary dinner at the Elks Club on Thursday, Oct. 6. Advanced reservations are required for this event. The Elks Club is at 702 N.E. 25th Ave., Ocala.

If you have any questions about the open house or the 35th anniversary dinner, please contact Bud Horne at 352-307-3234.

Friday, Oct. 7

Starting a French Club

If you are interested in speaking or learning more French, come and join us for a new French Club. The first meeting will be Oct. 7 at 11 a.m. For information and directions, call Marie at 352-873-8626.

Saturday, Oct. 8

Woman's Club bazaar planned

The GFWC Woman's Club of Ocala will have a Christmas/holiday bazaar fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ocala Elks Club and Lodge, 702 N.E. 25th Ave., Ocala. Tickets are \$3 in advance or at the door. The expected list of vendors include Mary Kay Gifts, Miche Bags, Candles, Jewelry, Party Lite, Pampered Chef, and others. All vendors will be donating a gift basket or gift certificate for a silent auction. Come do your holiday shopping with us. Refreshments will be available through the Elks Club.

The event is the Woman's Club's principal fundraiser and proceeds will benefit our many community service projects as well as provide scholarship funds. The Ocala Club is non-profit and is affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. For vendor, sponsorship, or ticket information please e-mail jdelk@marykay.com or MLTODD55@yahoo.com.

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Problems getting the Messenger: If your community is listed above and the Messenger is not delivered to you or you are having trouble getting the paper from boxes around the S.R. 40 and SR 27 areas, call 854-3986.

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<p>I want to get news in the Messenger. Call editor Jim Clark at 352-854-3986 or send by e-mail to editor@westmarionmessenger.com</p> <p>Community news and photos must be received by Friday the week before publication. Mail and photos may be left at the Messenger office in Kingsland Plaza. All contributions are subject to editing for clarity, taste, and style.</p>	<p>Deadline for Advertising</p> <p>Classified Reader Ads 4 pm Friday</p> <p>Display Ads 5 pm Thursday</p>
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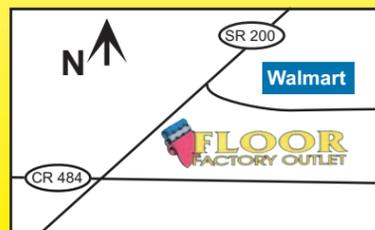
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Opinion

Our Message

Let's honor our humble beginnings

As Americans, many — if not most — of us can recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing our national anthem. Most could probably name a few of our constitutional rights, such as the right to move freely, assemble peacefully, bear arms, express or publish one's opinion and to practice one's freedoms, to name a few. And the phrase "I plead the Fifth" has been used by many at one time or another.

But what about the right to define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the laws of nations? Or that excises and duties must be uniform throughout the United States?

Last Saturday recognized the 224th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution, a document drafted by our founding forefathers in Philadelphia "creating a Republic that respects the sovereignty of the states and limits the national government by specific grants of power, separation of powers and a system of checks and balances."

The Constitution, which starts with "We the People," is significant not only as a founding charter of the United States, and as a bulwark of freedom, but also in that the underlying assumptions are different from what preceded it — the Magna Carta. In it, the barons went to the king and demanded that he grant them rights. In the Constitution, the assumption is that the people already have those rights. These very important words that are the frame of our Constitution are what our great nation is based upon.

Here are a few additional facts about the Constitution:

Did you know? There are seven articles followed by 27 amendments. The first 10 amendments are known as the Bill of Rights.

Only 12 of the 13 original states actually took part in writing the U.S. Constitution. Rhode Island did not attend the Constitutional Convention, though it eventually was the last state to ratify the document in 1790.

Chief draftsmen of the U.S. Constitution were James Madison and Gouverneur Morris.

To ratify an amendment, three-fourths of the state legislatures approve it and three-fourths of ratifying conventions in states approve it.

Let's make sure we are thankful for our freedoms, our liberties and our pursuit of happiness. And, yes, changes have been made over the years to the document. And, yes, it is not perfect. But it is the beacon for us as a nation and sets us apart from the rest of the world.

Visit www.archives.gov for more information.

Adapted from the *Citrus County Chronicle*

Editorial

Among Friends

High school sports out of control?



Jim Clark

Over the years, one thing about my interests has never changed ... I enjoy high school sports. Going back to my school years in northern New Jersey, I have always followed the progress of teams where I live as well as teams I have become acquainted with over the years.

Lately, though, I've begun to wonder whether some high school sports, particularly football and basketball, are getting out of hand.

Last Friday, there was a doubleheader at Bradenton Manatee with the host team being in the first game and Tampa Plant in the second. The visiting teams were Don Bosco of Ramsey, N.J., listed as the nation's No. 1 team, and Bergen Catholic of Oradell, N.J., which happens to be my old school.

Don Bosco won the New Jersey state championship in non-public Group IV last year (New Jersey is smart enough to separate the public and private school play-offs, don't get me started on that), and Bergen Catholic only lost two games last year, both to Don Bosco.

So what are these two teams doing in Florida?

They're not alone among teams making trips. Just go through ESPN on Thursday and Friday nights (and all the related stations such as ESPNU, etc.) and you'll find any number of interstate high school football games being nationally televised.

Although it wasn't televised, right here in Marion County, one of our schools, Vanguard, played at Carrollton, Ga., in its opener.

Most of these teams that travel raise the funds on their own and don't take from school budgets.

But even so, how do you motivate kids to win a state championship when they've already traveled all over the country.

Basketball is even worse. Christmas tournaments in Florida, including one big one here in Ocala, attract teams from all over the nation. The Kingdom of the Sun event at Vanguard is a great way to spend the week after Christmas watching some of the top players in the country. Other notable tournaments in Florida are the Kreul Classic in South Florida, the Kissimmee Rotary tournament, and the City of Palms event in Fort Myers. All of these tourneys have some of the top prospects in the country ...and that's the key word: "prospects." In basketball, it's all about exposure for the players who want to advance.

But that isn't the case necessarily in football. It's just teams wanting to showcase themselves and increase their national rankings.

And maybe that's the problem. Maybe there shouldn't be any national rankings

Please see CLARK, Page 9

Guest column

Social Security: political or Ponzi?

By Jim Flynn

SPECIAL TO THE MESSENGER

Social Security and Ponzi schemes have one common characteristic. Both are pyramids which require increasing amounts of income from contributors to keep up payments to a growing number of beneficiaries.

Some of the new funds coming into a Ponzi scheme are paid to members as investment income, which they are not. The rest of the incoming funds are kept by the Ponzi founder for good living and accumulation of personal wealth. The scheme can continue only if the number of contributors at the bottom of the pyramid continues to grow.

Most Social Security taxes are paid out immediately to beneficiaries. Surpluses are spent by Congress just like other tax receipts. Social Security can continue only if there are enough workers to support increasing numbers of beneficiaries or Congress pays back the money it "borrowed" over the past 50 years.

In the early years of Social Security there were 45 workers for each recipient of benefits. Today there are only three workers for each recipient. And Congress owes the system \$2.6 trillion dollars, which is a nonsense figure, because government owes the money to itself.

The basic difference between the two pyramids is that a Ponzi scheme is a fraud intended to enrich the perpetrator by deceiving the investors.

Social Security is a social welfare program intended to prevent widespread poverty among senior citizens, which was common for many years leading up to and during the great depression.

To garner favor with voters, Washington politicians kept adding benefits to Social Security without increasing taxes - disability, early retirement, and cost-of-living adjustments. Nothing dishonest was intended, just deceptive silence about where money for the additional benefits would come from.

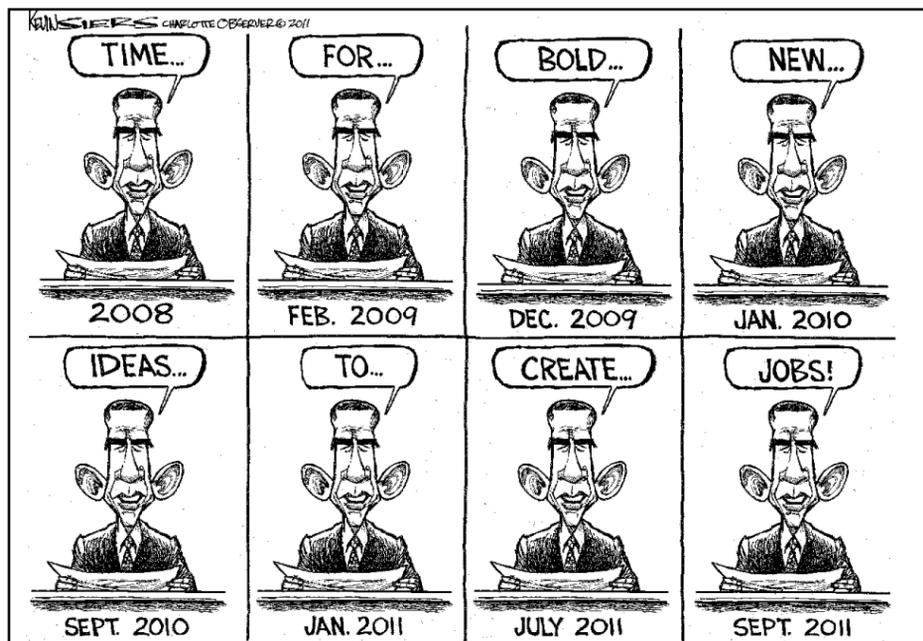
Politicians who speak ill of Social Security risk becoming unelectable by high voltage execution on the "third-rail." That would be an appropriate punishment for all the politicians who have led voters to believe that FICA taxes are premiums on health insurance and retirement annuities, which they are not and never have been.

To finance the Vietnam War and pay for his Great Welfare Society, President Lyndon Johnson convinced Congress to transfer FICA income to the general treasury, where it became plain old income taxes. In return the Social Security Administration received a ledger in which to keep track of FICA funds "borrowed" by the Treasury. The ledger was kept in an otherwise empty file cabinet which later became known as the mythical "lock box" - another political deception.

Eventual disclosure of the empty file cabinet led Treasury to issue IOUs to Social Security, an empty public relations gesture, because Congress will have to borrow or tax to redeem the \$2.6 trillion in IOUs.

Why isn't Social Security a Ponzi scheme? Because Congress has the power to tax and borrow to pay back funds it spent irresponsibly over many years. Unlike a Ponzi scheme, Social Security is a popular and successful merry-go-round of do-good deceptions, for which no one will ever be sent to prison.

On Point



Reader Opinions Invited

The opinions expressed in West Marion Messenger 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 350 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 Wednesday's issue.

Send letters to: The West Marion Messenger Editor, 8810 S.W. State Road 200, suite 104, Ocala, FL 34481; or e-mail editor@westmarionmessenger.com.

WEST MARION Messenger

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GERRY MULLIGAN
REGIONAL MANAGER:
JOHN PROVOST
EDITOR:
JIM CLARK

Potluck dinner begins fall season



Carolyn Slocumb

The fall season began with the first potluck dinner at the Clubhouse. The attendance was small, but enjoyed by everyone. It was great to see residents who haven't attended many of our activities. The food was excellent, as usual. We do have great cooks here in Quail Meadow. The next event will be the "Octoberfest and Auction" on Oct. 24. Tickets are available

from Lil Carie and Theresa Yoders. Check the QM Reporter for more details.

It's that time of year again - time for election of board members. If you would like to serve on the QMRPOA (recreation) board please contact a member of the nominating committee: Frank Christopher, Terry McGill, or Pat Talley. You can also give a summary of your qualifications to any member of the committee. The nomination committee will meet on Oct. 7 at 9 a.m. to review the names of those interested in serving. Election for new board members will take place in December. We want to thank all who are serving now, or who have served in the past, for their dedication and hard work. We often forget that these people spend many hours working for our community; this is

all volunteer work.

Bingo season began last Tuesday night. It was good to see the enthusiasm of the players. Did you notice Barbara Fife's hat and Jo Stone's shirt? They really showed the "bingo" spirit. Tuesday, the 27th, is the next night of bingo.

The annual Craft Show is Nov. 12. Carol Sjogren is in charge of the show this year. Carol is looking for more vendors. Please call Carol (352-732-5921) if you are interested in participating in this event. Outside vendors are also invited - call Carol for more information.

There are many activities taking place at the Clubhouse. If you are interested in learning how to do plastic stitchery, Jo Stone has a class the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. Ceramics classes, taught by Jan John-



son, meet every Wednesday morning, and Barbara Fife has the watercolor class the first and third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

WARNING: Several res-

idents have seen pigmy rattle snakes in their yards. Please be careful.

Interfaith Services is in need of food and money. There is a collection box in

the Clubhouse for donations of non-perishable food items and paper products. Donations are taken to the distribution center each week.

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Please visit some of our other Chamber of Commerce members while you are in town!

<p>Dixie's Antiques 112 W. Noble Ave. 352-528-2338</p>	<p>Statewide Cabinetry 1759 SW 18th Street 352-529-0093</p>	<p>Two Tails Ranch Elephant Tours Pzerbini@aol.com 352-528-6585</p>
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Rev. Matthew Walter
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Children's Church - 8:50 am

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Worship Center's
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Leisure



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You'll soon have a chance to take a big step up from where you are to where you want to be. Check it out first. Remember: Even the Mountain Sheep looks before it leaps.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This week brings a challenge that could determine the future direction of your life. If you're ready for a change, accept it with confidence. A loved one supports your decision.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A disruption creates a delay in completing your projects. Use this time to pursue a personal matter you were too busy to deal with before. You'll find it will be time well spent.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You still need to be on the alert for any signs of problems that could create serious misunderstandings. A more positive aspect begins to emerge toward the week's end. Be patient.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) With things slowing down a bit this week, it would be a good time for luxury-loving Leonines to go somewhere for some well-earned pampering. Things liven up around Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Single Virgos looking for partners are finally getting a break from Venus, who has moved in to make things happen. Attached Virgos see their relationships blossom.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You've been working hard to get things done. Now take a breather and recheck your next step. You might want to make some changes in view of the news that comes your way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) The watchword for savvy Scorpios this week is "preparation." Consider sharpening your skills to make the most of the new opportunity you're about to take on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) There might still be some loose ends that need tucking up if you hope to get that important relationship repaired. A new spurt of activity starts soon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) It's a good idea to keep the positive momentum going by finding and getting rid of anything that could cause you to stumble. Keep the path ahead clear and open.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) A period of contemplation is advised before you make your next move. Be sure that where you decide to go is the right place for you. A health matter needs attention.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) That new energy surge that hit you last week continues to send out good vibrations. Try investing a part of it in creating something noteworthy on the job.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like to balance your personal universe, and in doing so, you help bring harmony into the lives of the rest of us.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

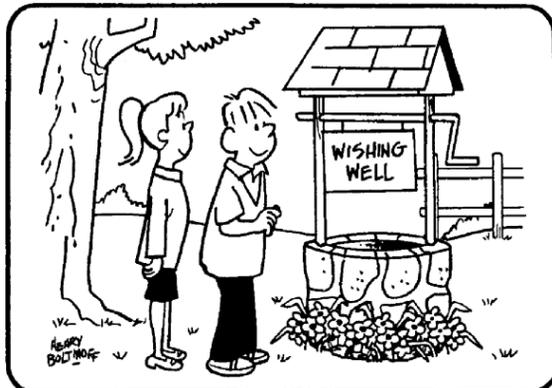
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Girl's hair is different. 2. Skirt is black. 3. Flowers added around well. 4. Rock is missing. 5. Fence has been added. 6. Boy has short sleeves.

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Wishing Well®

7	4	6	2	4	8	5	2	4	6	3	8	5
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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Super Crossword

MEN OF LETTERS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pay to play
 - 5 "Forever —" ('47 film)
 - 10 "Go, team!"
 - 13 Window parts
 - 18 German river
 - 19 "The Gong Show" guy
 - 21 Fit — fiddle
 - 22 Jergens or Astaire
 - 23 "The Shadow over Innsmouth" author
 - 25 "In a Free State" author
 - 27 "Big Three" site
 - 28 Most loathsome
 - 30 Ring official
 - 31 Po land
 - 35 Word form for "environment"
 - 36 '62 Tornadoes smash
 - 39 "The Nibelungenlied," e.g.
 - 42 Golfer
 - 43 Trevino
 - 43 Omit
 - 45 Wooden strip
 - 46 — Aviv
 - 47 Adventure stories
 - 49 — Dawn Chong
 - 51 Singer
 - 54 "Perelandra" author
 - 56 "The Time Machine" author
 - 60 Writer Erich
 - 62 Game fellow?
 - 63 Actress Alicia
 - 64 "Cara —" ('65 song)
 - 65 Hard to lift
 - 66 Lesage's "Gil —"
 - 69 Zhivago's love
 - 71 CT hours
 - 73 Charged atom
 - 74 "The Catcher in the Rye" author
 - 78 "Women in Love" author
 - 82 Southern constellation
 - 83 Cal. page
 - 84 Tibetan monk
 - 86 Do Europe
 - 87 Gymnastics event
 - 90 Scoundrel
 - 92 Columnist
 - 93 Lamb and pork
 - 97 Shining
 - 98 "Charlotte's Web" author
 - 100 "Winnie-the-Pooh" author
 - 102 Broadcast
 - 104 — Tome
 - 105 Jitterbug dance
 - 107 Mink's coat
 - 108 Spruce
 - 110 Use a poniard
 - 113 Fairway accessory
 - 114 "Cheerio!"
 - 115 Earphones
 - 118 Maestro de Waart
 - 119 Proprietor
 - 121 Chum
 - 122 Fraught with danger
 - 125 Fall birth-stone
 - 129 "A Passage to India" author
 - 132 "The Code of the Woosters" author
 - 136 Post or Bronte
 - 137 Zsa Zsa's sister
 - 138 Explanatory phrase
 - 139 Corporate VIP
 - 140 Panelist
 - 141 — Tin Tin
 - 142 Steakhouse order
 - 143 Pants part
- DOWN**
- 1 Pale
 - 2 Wine valley
 - 3 Hard to believe
 - 4 Amatory
 - 5 Vigoda or Burrows
 - 6 Rock's Fleetwood —
 - 7 "I'm freezing!"
 - 8 Ages
 - 9 "100 —" ('69 film)
 - 10 Sitarist
 - 11 Selling point
 - 12 Crumby kid?
 - 13 With 32 Down, court sport
 - 14 Business dept.
 - 15 Anne of "The Daytrippers"
 - 16 More morose
 - 17 Egotist's darling
 - 20 — shift
 - 24 Tub
 - 26 Hold-up man?
 - 29 Fancy fabric
 - 32 See 13 Down
 - 33 Triangle parts
 - 34 Indeed
 - 37 Squirrel away
 - 38 Stooze count
 - 39 Emulate
 - 40 Chihuahua dough
 - 41 Poorly
 - 44 Reading matter?
 - 47 Bulge
 - 48 Sedimentary rock
 - 50 Architect
 - 52 Once more
 - 53 Devastation
 - 55 Isle near Corsica
 - 57 Knot
 - 58 Combat
 - 59 Egyptian
 - 61 Director
 - 67 Objective
 - 68 — drum
 - 70 Come clean
 - 72 Terrible age?
 - 74 Part of Indonesia
 - 75 Races a jalopy
 - 76 — Sainte Marie, MI
 - 77 Up for — (available)
 - 79 Eye color
 - 80 Card game
 - 81 "... — saw Elba"
 - 85 Mohammed — Jinnah
 - 88 Actress Luft
 - 89 Jacket material
 - 91 "— brillig ..."
 - 94 — Romeo
 - 95 Hardware item
 - 96 Blood components
 - 99 "Heartbreak —" ('56 hit)
 - 100 From the top
 - 101 Mideastern gulf
 - 103 Hornets
 - 106 Skater
 - 109 Wobble
 - 111 Take on
 - 112 Purchased
 - 114 Girl Scout units
 - 115 Overdramatic
 - 116 Puckish
 - 117 Roman fountain
 - 120 Numerical suffix
 - 121 Role for Rigg
 - 123 Persia, today
 - 124 Medicine cabinet item
 - 126 Immaculate
 - 127 On a whale watch, perhaps
 - 128 Gusto
 - 130 Time-honored
 - 131 Deli loaf
 - 133 Oklahoma native
 - 134 Uproar
 - 135 Nationality suffix

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	×		+		20
+		÷		×	
	-		×		21
×		+		-	
	+		×		25
12		5			9

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 6 6 7 9

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I'm not broke, just financially challenged



James Snyder

As I was listening to the president give his speech on the country's economy last week I was simultaneously trying to balance my checkbook. Math was never my strong suit. In fact, when it comes to math, I do not wear a suit at all. I would wear my birthday suit but it is too wrinkled and believe me, spandex is stretching it too much.

Oddly enough, my checkbook balance is never the same as the balance on the statement from the bank. My bank's haughty assumption is that they are right and I am wrong.

The thing that gripes me is, as much money as I am paying my bank through all of the miscellaneous fees, I should not have to balance my checkbook. That should be a service gladly rendered by my financial institution.

The last time I was in my bank, I coyly suggested this to the teller and she looked at me, laughed as though I was telling her a joke and then handed me a lollipop. Believe me; balancing my checkbook is no joking matter.

As I was working over my checkbook, I was groaning, moaning and sighing rather deeply. Enough so,

that it disturbed my residential companion. Finally, she said to me in that sarcastic tone of voice reserved just for me, "What's got you so disturbed tonight?"

At first, I did not want to tell her. After all, it is my responsibility to balance the checkbook. We have a wonderful give-and-take relationship. My responsibility is to deposit money into the checkbook while her responsibility is to make sure the checks fly out of our checkbook as quickly and smoothly as possible. Then, somebody at our financial institution came up with the brilliant idea of the check card. Now the money flies out faster than it ever did before.

Our money flies faster than the speed of sound, but occasionally my groans do catch-up, and tonight was one such night.

I looked at my wife, swallowed several times, and then blurted out, "I think we're broke."

After I said that, I did feel a little bit relieved. However, it did not last long.

"What do you mean 'we're broke'?"

The way she emphasized the word "we're" caused me a little bit of uneasiness.

"I mean," I tried to explain; "we have run out of money."

"Why should that get you all riled up," she said with a little bit of chipper in her voice. Just a little more than I was comfortable with under our present circumstances. "The president's on television right now telling us that the

country's broke. So I guess that means we're all in the same boat."

Both of us were quiet as we listened to the president continue his speech on the economy. Actually, I was a wee bit more concerned about the economic condition of my checkbook than the country's economy.

I'm broke simply because I have more bills than I have money.

The country is broke because it spends money on things other than bills. And, when the government runs out of money all it has to do is to print more money. The thing that really aggravates me is that if I would treat my checkbook like the government treats its checkbook the government would have me arrested and thrown in jail for the rest of my life. Which, upon further thought, maybe a plan out of my desperate economic disposition. For in jail, the government would pay all my bills.

In jail, I would not have a grocery bill. All of my medical needs would be taken care of by good ole Uncle Sam. I certainly would not have to save money for a rainy day.

Further consideration brought me to the conclusion that I may not like some of the people in

prison. After all, there may be former politicians who are locked up for some scandalous activity they were caught at. Who wants to spend their time with that crowd?

Just as I was sinking deeper into the slough of despondency, my wife, as usual, came to my rescue. If I gave her a nickel for every bright idea she has come up with in our married life I would be broke. Which, by the way, maybe why I am broke now.

Her amazing solution was simply this, "We're not broke, we're just financially challenged."

Why do I never come up with all of these brilliant ideas? Being broke is one thing but being financially challenged is something altogether different. I do not want to be broke. Now, thanks to my wife, I am no longer broke I am simply financially challenged.

That sounds so much better. I worried my heart sick thinking I was broke when in reality I was merely financially challenged. I wonder if I could somehow get this message to our dear president. If I can get him a message I would simply say this, "Mr. President, our country is not broke as you are insinuating. We are simply financially challenged."

Everybody has his or her

own solution to problems. Especially if it is a political problem. I like how the Bible puts it. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12 KJV).

Someone said it like this, "a rose by any other name is still a rose."

The 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 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church website is www.whatafellowship.com.

Sportsability coming to Marion

Sports enthusiasts of all age and ability levels in Marion County will soon have another excuse to head outdoors. SportsAbility, an event designed to enhance the lives of those with disabilities through recreational opportunities, is coming to Marion County Sept. 30 - Oct. 1.

Marion County Parks and Recreation and the City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department are co-hosting the event for the third year in a row in partnership with the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association, the event organizer.

On Sept. 30, attendees can participate in events such as scuba diving, horseback riding and adaptive golf, tennis and basketball at the E.D. Crosky Center, Hampton Aquatic Center and MLK Recreation Complex (1510 NW Fourth St., Ocala). Participants will also have the opportunity to attend the SportsAbility Resource Expo for information on recreation, health and assistive technology, among other topics.

On Oct. 1, events move to Marion County's Carney Island Recreation and Conservation Area (13275 SE 115th Ave., Ocklawaha) where participants can take pontoon boat rides, sit water-ski and try archery (among other activities). School groups, group homes, organizations, families and individuals are all invited to attend.

CLARK

continued from Page 6

for high school teams. Win your state championship ... that's what you should aim for.

National publications and networks are, in my estimation, over-exposing these high school athletes. High school sports should get back to being just an extracurricular activity, without national fanfare.

For the record, my old high school lost a close game Friday night, and after that they were headed to Miami to watch the Dolphins and a couple of Bergen Catholic graduates. It's a nice trip for the kids ... I just hope it's being done for the right reasons.

Jim Clark is the editor of the South Marion Citizen and West Marion Messenger. He can be reached at 352-854-3986, or editor@smcitizen.com.

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Go Figure!

answers

3	×	6	+	2	20
+		÷		×	
9	-	6	×	7	21
×		+		-	
1	+	4	×	5	25
12		5		9	

Super Crossword

Answers

A	N	T	E	A	M	B	E	R	R	A	H	J	A	M	B	S			
S	A	A	R	B	A	R	R	I	S	A	S	A	A	D	E	L	E		
H	P	L	O	V	E	C	R	A	F	T	V	S	N	A	I	P	A	U	L
Y	A	L	T	A	S	L	I	M	I	E	S	T	R	E	F				
E	P	I	C	L	E	E	S	K	I	P	L	A	T	H					
T	E	L	S	A	G	A	S	R	A	E	S	A	R	A	H				
C	S	L	E	W	I	S	H	G	W	E	L	L	S	S	E	G	A	L	
H	O	Y	L	E															
J	D	S	A	L	I	N	G	E	R	D	H	L	A	W	R	E	N	C	E
A	R	A	M	A	R	L	A	M	A	T	O	U	R						
V	A	U	L	T	R	A	T	L	I	Z	M	E	A	T	S				
A	G	L	O	W	E	B	W	H	I	T	E	A	A	M	I	L	N	E	
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P	A	L	P	E	R	I	L	O	U	S	T	O	P	A	Z				
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L	Y	N	D	E	R	I	N	T	B	O	N	E	S	E	A	T			

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Chess Club meets on first Saturday

The chess club that formed at the Freedom Public Library meets the first Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Grab your board and chess pieces and come on down. Interested persons are invited to attend for a rousing game of chess. It's your move! For more information, call Ron at 873-2276

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Ocala Palms' Red Hat Fillies



In the photo at left, from the left, are Nancy Wittake, Frances Shaffer, Cindy Stone, Jane Miller and Marlene Denice. Seconds anyone? Above, lots of "yummys" from Angie Fischetti, Judy Duby and Chris Turner (and Cathy Donohue who was behind the camera).

Peewees Irrigation
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End of Summer Special
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Adjust all zones for coverage, reprogram timer for proper run time per zone and watering days.

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Current Rate with coupon and Tee Time Reservation © Expires 9/30/11

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Happenings

Saturday, Oct. 15

Baby back rib fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Ocala SW is currently selling tickets for its Baby Back Ribs BBQ fundraiser to be held on Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Bank of the Ozarks, 8375 S.W. State Road 200.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 the day of the event for a full slab of Baby Back Ribs. All ribs will be cooked on site and wrapped for transport.

Advance sale tickets can pick up their ribs from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Additional racks of ribs will be available for walk up sales beginning at 10 a.m.

Tickets are available at the following State Road 200 locations:

- Bank of the Ozarks
- TD Bank
- M&S Bank
- Alarion Bank
- W.E. Bishop Jr., PA.

All proceeds will benefit the College of Central Florida Nursing Scholarship program and local charities.

For more information, please contact Ray Sargent at 352-857-9099.

Free health screenings

Hospices of Marion County Thrift Stores have partnered with the Lions Clubs of Ocala and Silver Springs Shores to provide free vision, hearing and diabetic screenings in October. These screenings will be provided in our store parking lots. Each person who has a screening will receive a thank you gift from Hospice of Marion County Thrift Stores.

The screening will be on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jasmine Square Thrift Store, 6114 S.W. State Road 200.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Food for Thought at Our Redeemer

A "Food for Thought" luncheon will be hosted by the Parish Nurses at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 5200 S.W. State Road 200. The guest speaker will be John Podkorski.

The event will be Oct. 18 at 11:30 a.m. A count is needed for the luncheon so please call 352-368-4028.

Saturday, Oct. 22

Ocala Arts Festival set

Art lover and collectors will fill the McPherson Governmental Complex located on 25th Avenue during the 45th annual Ocala Arts Festival held on Oct. 22 and 23. Show hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

No Charge

Experience High Holy Day Services

Provided by the Community for Jewish Spiritual Journeys
Rabbi Ephraim Rubinger • www.cjsj.org

Both Jews and Non-Jews are welcome to attend.
Come casual and bring the kids.

Rosh Hashanah
Thurs., Sept. 29th, 2011
10:30 am - 12:30 pm
RVSP needed by Sat., Sept. 24th

Yom Kippur
Fri., Oct. 7th, 2011 & Sat., Oct. 8th, 2011
6:00pm 5:00pm
RVSP needed by Sun., Oct. 2nd

Rosh Hashanah - Come and hear the clarion call of the shofar. As we come together as a community, we are asking that each family bring enough pre-sliced apples and honey for their household and a little bit more for those not able to. Let us strengthen, support, and sustain each other as we begin a new year. After the service we will have a small repast. Guests can bring a kosher dairy dish, raisin challah, fruit, etc. (no meat).

Yom Kippur - Day of Atonement, this is a Holy Day of fasting and prayer.

3850 W. Anthony Road, Ocala, FL 34475

Take Hwy 441 N. (Pine Ave.) to NW 35th and turn right (There will be a McDonald's and a Winn Dixie on the right of your turn) to W. Anthony Rd. and turn left (This is a four way stop) travel 0.3 miles to 3850 on your left.

Please RSVP with Kimberly Daly 352-629-2241 • Questions? Rabbi Rubinger 352-624-7390
No membership, no ticket required. Donations are quietly appreciated but will not be solicited.

Thanks to Father Don Curran and his congregation, Christ the King, Anglican Church for donating the use of their facility.

