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Ocala Palms

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Fairfield Village 11

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 31  
WEDNESDAY, October 31, 2012

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# WEST MARION Messenger

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Turn clocks back on Sunday

## Kentucky man to head CEP

Following a national search, Doug Cone, chairman of the Ocala/Marion Chamber and Economic Partnership (CEP) announced the selection of Kevin T. Sheilley as CEP's first President and CEO.

The search committee, chaired by Kevin McDonald, The McDonald Agency included members of the CEP Transition Board, Amy Mangan, Progress Energy; Bob Little, Regions Bank; Frank Hennessey, Hennessey Arabians; Dave Fechtman, Root Theory Advisors; Cory Pool, Jenkins Acura, Mazda, Hyundai and Doug Cone, Cone Distribution, Inc.

McDonald said, "Sheilley has an extensive background with both Chamber and Economic Development organizations and brings tremendous energy and enthusiasm. The search included highly qualified applicants from all over the country and we could not be more excited with the outcome. We are delighted he has accepted the position as CEO and we look forward his arrival in early December."

Sheilley said, "I am a big proponent of combining the efforts of chambers and economic development organizations. The formation of the CEP affords the community a focused, effective and efficient entity to advance our local economy."



PHOTOS BY MICHEL NORTHESEA

## FAFO Art Show

The guitar ensemble from West Port High School was part of the entertainment at the Fine Arts For Ocala Art Show last weekend. Students, left to right, Stephen Campbell, Jessie Diaz and Anthony Armstrong practice a few songs. Below, part of the crowd of thousands that flocked to the show at the McPherson Complex last weekend.



## Voting time has arrived

BY JIM CLARK  
Editor

Did you know you could vote for Roseanne Barr for president? Hers is just one of the names on a long ballot that will greet those who are ready to go to the polls.

For those who are not voting early, Election Day is next Tuesday, Nov. 6, with polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The long ballot contains several local races, some statewide and, of course, the vote for president of the United States.

Under the presidential race, Mitt Romney and Barack Obama are listed first, and they are followed by 10 others from other "parties," including Barr and running mate Cindy Sheehan.

After the vote for president, there are four people on the ballot in the race for the U.S. Senate, including Connie Mack and Bill Nelson. Also on the list with no party affiliation are Bill Gaylor and Chris Borgia.

Depending on where you live, there are Congressional, state Senate and state House races on the ballot.

In Marion County, there are four contested countywide elections, starting with the battleground of the race of sheriff. The ballot lists Dan Kuhn and Bernie DeCastro, but Kuhn has withdrawn and Chris Blair is now the candidate. However, to vote for Blair, voters must fill in the ballot for Kuhn.

The case is still in court, where DeCastro is trying to get Blair thrown off the ballot, since he already lost in the primary.

Please see ELECTION, Page 3

## Amendment 10

Summary of Amendment (from Division of Elections site):

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to: (1) Provide an exemption from ad valorem taxes levied by counties, municipalities, school districts, and other local governments on tangible personal property if the assessed value of an owner's tangible personal property is greater than \$25,000 but less than \$50,000. This new exemption, if approved by the voters, will take effect on January 1, 2013, and apply to the 2013 tax roll and subsequent tax rolls. (2) Authorize a county or municipality for the purpose of its respective levy, and as provided by general law, to provide tangible personal property tax exemptions by ordinance. This is in addition to other statewide tangible personal property tax exemptions provided by the Constitution and this amendment.

### Arguments for:

Supporters say this amendment will give tax relief to small businesses and help stimulate the economy. They say it provides a way for local governments to offer further reductions in the business tax.

### Arguments against:

Opponents say this amendment is part of a trickle-down economic theory that does not work. They say it will strip mil-

**Title on Ballot:** Tangible Personal Property Tax Exemption  
**Sponsor/Originator:** The Florida Legislature

**What it would do:** This amendment would double the tangible personal property tax exemption and allow local governments to increase the exemption.

**If You Vote Yes:** A "yes" vote means you want to double the tangible personal property tax exemption and allow cities and counties to expand the exemptions beyond that.

**If You Vote No:** A "no" vote means you do not want to double the tangible personal property tax exemption and you do not want to allow cities and counties to expand the exemptions.

lions in tax revenue from local governments struggling to provide basic services.

### Should the state's tangible personal property tax exemption be doubled?

This proposed amendment is about taxes assessed on tangible personal property used in a business or to earn income. Furniture, fixtures, machinery, tools, shelving, signs and equipment are examples of property that is subject to the state's tangible personal property tax.

By April 1 of each year, those owning tangible personal property that is used in

Please see AMENDMENT 10, Page 3

## Amendment 11

Summary of Amendment (from Division of Elections site):

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature, by general law and subject to conditions set forth in the general law, to allow counties and municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption equal to the assessed value of homestead property if the property has a just value less than \$250,000 to an owner who has maintained permanent residency on the property for not less than 25 years, who has attained age 65, and who has a low household income as defined by general law.

### Arguments for:

Supporters say this amendment will benefit elderly residents on fixed incomes. They say the property tax discount can help with medical bills and may allow more elderly residents to stay in their homes as they age.

### Arguments against:

Opponents say state and local governments face mounting budget shortfalls in part because of diminished property tax returns. Schools and local governments need to maintain the tax base.

### Should cities and counties be allowed to grant a full property tax exemption to certain low-income seniors?

**Title on Ballot:** Additional Homestead Exemption; Low-Income Seniors Who Maintain Long-Term Residency on Property; Equal to Assessed Value

**Sponsor/Originator:** The Florida Legislature

**What it would do:** This amendment would give an additional property tax exemption to low-income seniors who have lived in their home for more than 25 years.

**If You Vote Yes:** A "yes" vote means you think cities and counties should have the authority to grant a full property tax discount to eligible seniors.

**If You Vote No:** A "no" vote means you do not think that cities and counties should have the authority to grant a full property tax discount to eligible seniors.

Amendment 11 authorizes cities and counties to grant full homestead property tax relief to low-income seniors who have lived in their home for at least 25 years. In short, it would allow local governments to eliminate the entire property tax bill for qualifying seniors. Homeowners who meet the following requirements would be eligible: 1) aged 65 and older; 2) have a household income of less than \$27,030; 3) own a home with a market value of less than \$250,000; 4) have lived in the home for at least 25 years. City councils and county commissions must pass the exemption by a super-majority vote before

Please see AMENDMENT 11, Page 4

# Holiday dinner tickets ready



Carolyn Slocumb

## QUAIL MEADOW

What happened to October? All of a sudden it's gone and it's November! Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. Tickets for the Holiday Dinner are available from Kathy Voss

and Charlotte Payne. The dinner is Nov. 12. Theresa Yoders is still accepting your pictures to be used in the evening's entertainment.

Bingo is going strong the second and fourth Tuesday. This past week there was a very good turnout, including two visitors from Quarryville, Pennsylvania. Maryanne's (that's the Maryanne with an "e" sister and brother-in-law, Sue and Paul, were visiting her; so they enjoyed an evening of bingo; Sue even won early in the evening and later Paul was a lucky winner.

This coming weekend is going to be busy! Friday, the 2nd, is First Friday; that means gathering with friends and neighbors at the clubhouse at 7 p.m.

Also, on Friday, the Red Hot Fillies will meet at the clubhouse at 1 p.m. We will watch the information movie about Cross Creek - the home of Marjorie K. Rawlings, author of several novels. The Red Hatters are planning to tour Cross Creek on Thursday, Nov. 8. After viewing the movie, we are invited to "Dottie's Garage Boutique." Before Dottie moved to Ocala she had a boutique in Georgia. She brought her unsold items with her to Quail Meadow. We will be allowed to view, try on and purchase anything that catches our eye. I under-



Above, Maryanne with Paul and Sue. Below, group enjoying night of bingo.



stand she has quite a collection of Red Hat items. We will go to Dottie's home from the clubhouse (it's just down the street). Please let Pat Talley or Carolyn Slocumb know if you plan to go with us to Cross Creek; the cost \$3 per person for the tour. After the tour, we will have lunch at the Yearling Restaurant. Even if you are

not a Red Hatter, we would be happy to have you go with us.

The Quail Meadow community yard sale is Saturday, the 3rd. If you aren't participating, then plan to visit the neighborhood - you might find a real treasure, or two or three!

Don't forget to change your clocks on Saturday night! We return to Eastern

Standard Time; we "fall" back one hour. For those of you who have "atomic" clocks, they will change back automatically, but the rest of us will have the task of changing all the clocks (don't forget the one in your car).

I'm sure I've missed some events, but we'll catch up next week. Don't forget to vote!



Priscilla Geissal

## FAIRFIELD VILLAGE

The Fairfield Village HOA met at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18 in the Fairfield Clubhouse with fewer people attending than the group had hoped would be there.

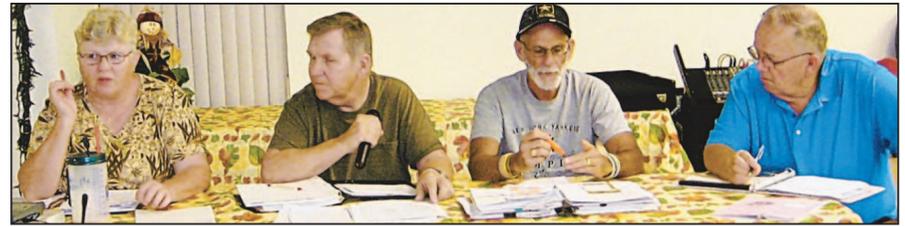
The meeting was chaired by President Bart Rich who was happy to tell those present that everything

seems to be moving along really well in our community.

It is quite gratifying to know that there are so few things to need to be addressed in a community as large as ours.

As was pointed out, an HOA is somewhat like an insurance policy in which people feel their investment is worthwhile while they hope that they do not have to call upon the underwriter for help.

The best case scenario is not to need the help. That is what Bart Rich said about the HOA. It is a very valuable group for our community in that it is there to help and to protect in case there is some issue or trouble at some point. Of course, we all hope that



Fairfield Village's HOA Secretary Norma Powers makes an interesting point as President Bart Rich and trustees Stan Cohen and Chuck Belcher listen attentively.

there will not be a need for intervention, but knowing that the HOA as well as the Florida FMO is there for communities such as ours is certainly comforting.

There has been a very good relationship between Fairfield's HOA and American Land Lease which owns the property.

Several meetings have been hosted by management to make sure that anything that could become a problem is handled promptly.

Rich said how much he personally appreciated the positive attitude he had seen with the management.

November's meeting will be one during which nominations for president, secretary, and trustee for the 2013 year will be accepted. The entire board urged those present to encourage their neighbors to give serious thought to those who would be valuable members of the HOA board.

They all reiterated that it is really not a hard job but that it is one that can make one proud of helping to keep our community the really nice place that it is and will continue to be. We all love to tell others that our community really is "a lively place filled with lovely people."

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-Barb Murphy, Publisher/Coffee News

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Ocala Palms The Red Hat Fillies of Ocala Palms enjoyed a hearty luncheon at Danzano's in Ocala. From left are Carol Pinto, Chris Turner and Janet Destio.



Angie Fichetti, Kriss Myers, Carol Yount and Karen McShane.

Bobbie March, Kathy Gustafson, and Gerry Schwanke.



Janet Destio, Gail Sims, and Cathy Donohue.



PHOTOS BY CATHY DONOHUE

## ELECTION AMENDMENT 10

continued from Page 1

The other key local races, almost lost in the shadows of the sheriff's battle, include George Tomy vs. Diana Greene in the race for superintendent of schools, Wesley Wilcox vs. Judge Cochran for supervisor of elections and Earl Arnett vs. Jessica Hadley for County Commission.

Two other commission candidates, David Moore and Stan McClain, are on the ballot with no opposition listed, although there are write-in candidates.

There are three Florida Supreme Court justices up for merit retention, 11 state Constitution amendments and, at the end of the ballot, the bond issue for Munroe County Hospital District.

For those who have absentee ballots, they must be returned to the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Those who are mailing the ballots back are reminded that it costs 65 cents in postage because of the size of the ballot.

Watch the websites of the West Marion Messenger and South Marion Citizen for links to election results.

continued from Page 1

a business or to earn income must file a return with the local property appraiser. Under current law, the first \$25,000 of tangible personal property is exempt from taxation. If passed, Amendment 10 would boost that exemption to \$50,000. It would also allow cities and counties to grant additional tangible personal tax exemptions beyond the \$50,000 exemption.

The measure won unanimous approval in the Senate and near-unanimous

approval in House. As with all amendments, passage requires the approval of 60 percent or more of the voters. If approved by voters, the added exemption becomes effective Jan. 1, 2013.

### Fiscal Impact

Tangible personal property taxes are levied by counties and by cities. Citing information from the state Department of Revenue, a Florida Senate analysis said 7.6 percent of

the total county property taxes levied in Florida in fiscal year 2011-12 were from tangible personal property taxes. The corresponding amount for cities was 6.1 percent. Those percentages would likely decrease if Amendment 10 passes.

Statewide, the additional exemption (from \$25,000 to \$50,000) proposed in Amendment 10 would reduce property tax collections across the state by a combined \$61 million over its first three years, according to the state Revenue Estimating

Conference, which calculates the anticipated fiscal impact of proposed amendments. The law also allows for counties and cities to expand the exemptions, but the fiscal impact of that proposed change cannot be estimated.

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### Go Figure! answers

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### Super Crossword Answers

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E	U	T	E	R	P	E	A	C	A	C	I	A	D	A	N	T	E	
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S	T	A	I	D	O	N	E	S	E	L	F	N	A	S	C	E	N	
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### Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

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# Amendment 12

## Summary (from Division of Elections site):

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to replace the president of the Florida Student Association with the chair of the council of state university student body presidents as the student member of the Board of Governors of the State University System and to require that the Board of Governors organize such council of state university student body presidents.

## Arguments for:

Supporters say this amendment guarantees every university has a chance to have their student body president be named as a representative of the Board of Governors.

## Arguments against:

Opponents say this amendment is unnecessary.

## Should the state change the way the student representative on the university system's Board of Governors is selected?

Amendment 12 concerns the student representative on the Board of Governors, which oversees the state's university system. The Board of Governors has 17 members, one of which is the chairman of the Florida Student Association (FSA). If passed, Amendment 12 would instruct the Board of Governors to create a new council consist-

**Title on Ballot:** Appointment of Student Body President to Board of Governors of the State University System  
**Sponsor/Originator:** The Florida Legislature  
**What it would do:** This amendment would change the way the state selects the student representative on the state university system's Board of Governors, which oversees the university system.  
**If you vote yes:** A "yes" vote means you want the state create a new council of university student presidents from which the student representative to the Board of Governors will be chosen.  
**If you vote no:** A "no" vote means you want to keep the current system of selecting the student representative to the Board of Governors.

ing of the student body presidents of the state's 12 universities. The chair of that new council would replace the chair of the FSA as the student representative to the Board of Governors.

This measure won unanimous approval in the House and near unanimous approval in the Senate. As with all amendments, passage requires the approval of 60 percent or more of the votes. If approved by the voters, it would go into effect on Jan. 8, 2013.

## History

In 2002, roughly 60 percent of Florida's voters approved a constitutional amendment creating a Board of Governors to oversee state universities. Three of its 17 members are seated by virtue of position and 14 are appointed by the governor and subject to confirmation by

the Florida Senate. The appointed members serve seven-year terms. The three members seated by virtue of position are the Florida Education Commissioner, the chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (representing university faculty), and the chair of the FSA (representing university students). Student body presidents from the state's various universities comprise the FSA, which charges membership dues. Over the years, several universities chose not pay the dues and participate in the FSA. As a result their representatives in those years could not have been the student representative on the Board of Governors.

## The Board of Governors

Broadly speaking, the Board of Governors oversees the operation of the state's 12 universities. It defines the mission of each university, submits annual budgets to the Legislature, governs degree programs and oversees admissions programs, among other duties.

## The FSA

The Florida Student Association formed in 1976 as a not-for-profit research and advocacy group representing university students. A year later the Florida Legislature provided student representation on the Board of Regents (forerunner of the Board of Governors), and in 1978 secured voting rights for the student member of the Regents. A priority of the FSA is keeping tuition increases to a minimum. Over the years it has been involved in efforts to reduce teacher-student ratios and increase voter participation among students, and an advocate for the state's pre-paid college program and the Bright Futures Scholarship Program. Its mission is to advocate the interests of the state university students at all levels of government.

# AMENDMENT 11

continued from Page 1

the full exemption can be offered. The measure won unanimous support in the Senate and House. There is no organized opposition.

As with all amendments, passage requires approval by 60 percent or more of the voters. If passed, cities and counties would be authorized to grant the exemption beginning Jan. 8, 2013.

## History

Voters in 1998 approved a measure that authorized the Legislature to allow cities and counties to grant a homestead exemption up to \$25,000 to seniors over 65 whose household income (at the time of the bill's pas-

sage) did not exceed \$24,200.

That homestead exemption was in addition to the \$50,000 in exemptions extended to all Florida homeowners.

Schools taxes are excluded from the tax break. In 2012, state lawmakers passed a measure to place on the November ballot a proposed amendment authorizing cities and counties to grant a full homestead exemption to qualifying seniors. It became Amendment 11 on the ballot.

## Fiscal Impact

The state estimates that the combined tax revenues schools and local governments would lose if Amendment 11 passes, and if every city and county in the state were to approve the exemption, would be a combined \$18.5 million over the first two years it was offered.

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## Saturday, Nov. 3

### Johnny'D at Circle Square

Appearing Saturday, Nov. 3, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at OTW Circle Square Commons, from your community of Quail Meadow, for your dancing, and listening pleasure, entertainer Johnny'D returns with his vocal stylings of the 50s, 60s, and 70s. Also, he'll be performing the hits from entertaining sensations as Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Louie Armstrong, Engelbert Humperdinck and others. Also for the line daners, Johnny'D has all the top best hiphop tunes, including country music to make everyone's feet want to get up and boogie down. And, he won't forget about you ballroom dancers, and the Latin audience that come out to dance as well.

### Saddle Oak Club arts, crafts fair

Saddle Oak Club will hold an arts and crafts fair on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saddle Oak is off State Road 200 across from the Heath Brook Publix. The event is open to the public.

## Sunday, Nov. 4

### Southern Express in concert

The Southern Express Orchestra from Ocala will be in concert at the Ocala West United Methodist Church on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 3 p.m. Featured will be some of the great music from the Big Band days as well as Show Tunes. This concert promises to be a wonderful afternoon of music.

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and has been appearing at Ocala West for several years as part of the annual concert series. The church is pleased to have them back. They will also be returning to give another concert series program after the first of the year. The orchestra is under the very capable direction of John Holland. The church is at 9330 S.W. 105th St. in Ocala. Phone 352-854-9550.

### German American Club picnic

The German American Club of Marion County will host a picnic on Sunday, Nov. 4, at noon, in Coehadjoe Park. German American food will be prepared by club members and served buffet style. Please bring a dish to share and your own snacks. Music will be provided by Bavarian Oskar. On the day of the picnic, ticket prices will be \$7 per member or \$10 per non-member. Contact Joe or Liz Dickmann at 352-732-6386 for tickets.

## Friday, Nov. 9

### Red Kettle kickoff

The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Christmas Campaign begins on Nov. 9. Please join us on Friday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Ocala's Downtown Square. A short program is planned for the celebration. For more information, call 352-629-2004.

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## Lions hold spaghetti dinner

On Friday, the 9th of November, the Ocala Lions Club Military and Service Dog Committee will hold the fifth annual spaghetti dinner and auction to benefit the Fisher House and the America's VetDogs. The event will be held at the Our Place Lounge located at 7651 S.W. State Road 200 in the Circle Square Plaza starting at 5 p.m. Dinner will be \$15 per person and will be served from 6 until 7:30 p.m. A raffle and auction will immediately follow the dinner.

Fisher House provides a home-like facility for families of veterans or military personnel who are receiving medical care at a military or VA Hospital.

For further information, contact Bill Thomas at 352-291-2600 or email (billtom7522@cfi.rr.com) or Phyllis Rankin at 352-362-1905. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

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# Opinion

## Our Message

### The end of the amendments

Today we come to the end of the list of amendments, and if it took this long to go through them, just think of what the lines will be like on Election Day if you aren't prepared or haven't voted early.

Amendment 10 is a Tangible Personal Property Exemption, which increases the tax exemption on personal property for businesses from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

This is another one of those that could hurt the local government by taking away valuable tax dollars for schools, law enforcement, etc.

We're sure that some businessmen think this is a good idea, but smaller businesses may not have enough to worry about it. In other words, this is one that protects the bigger businesses from paying more taxes.

As we go through these amendments, we see a constant theme of cutting taxes without any way to make up for the lost revenue. So for this one, we're saying vote "no."

The same argument applies to Amendment 11. The title says Additional Homestead Exemption for Low Income Seniors who Maintain Long Term Residency on Property, Equal to Assessed Valuation.

This would give counties and cities the right to grant full homestead exemption to seniors who have lived in their homes for at least 25 years and whose home is less than \$250,000. Income must be below \$27,000.

Again, this sounds good at first blush, but how many low-income seniors do you know who live in a home worth \$250,000. This is another hit the counties and cities would take in tax revenue, mainly in other parts of the state, and we can't see any reason to approve it here.

Finally, Amendment 12 concerns the appointment of a student body president to the Board of Governors of the State University System.

If you've been here a while, you remember the old Board of Regents. In our wisdom we disbanded that for a board of governors and set the standards for choosing members. This would change the way one member, a student representative, is chosen.

It seems like an awful lot of paperwork for one person.

Frankly, we're a little old fashioned on this one. We still feel that you have the faculty and administrators and trustees (board of governors) over here, and the students over there. Why should students be on the board at all? And since there's only one, is that just a token representative so we can say that the students have a voice?

This is too much to worry about in a serious election. Just vote no on this one.

## Among Friends

### The Florida justices and merit retention

There are three people on the ballot who have received more than the usual attention this year. Their names are R. Fred Lewis, Barbara J. Pariente and Peggy A. Quince.

What's that? You're not familiar with them? Well, they're the three Florida Supreme Court justices due for a merit retention vote on Nov. 6. This year, the retention vote has a little bit indecisive. Justices, and appellate judges, must be on the ballot every six years. Since the system was instituted in the 1970s, no justice has ever been rejected. The system was put in because of supposed corruption in the partisan election of judges before that.

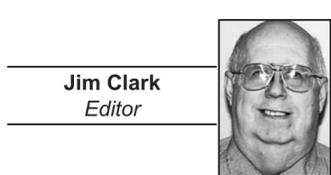
But this year, there's a push to defeat all three. It's because of an Obamacare ruling, where they were part of a majority that struck down a proposed state amendment that would have said that Floridians may not be required to buy the mandated insurance under the health care plan. The push comes mainly from Republicans, who feel the ruling did not reflect the will of the people, who they feel would have passed the amendment. A similar amendment made it through to the ballot this year.

There's a lot of hand-wringing about this movement, saying that people are trying to politicize the court.

Well, sorry folks, but the courts have already done that themselves. Many courts, including the highest court in the land, often vote on the side of the party that appointed them, without regard to the will of the people. They're supposed to rule based on the law, but it's no surprise that to each of them the "law" comes down on the side of one political party.

All three of these justices were appointed by the late Gov. Lawton Chiles, a Democrat, although Quince also had the backing of incoming Republican Gov. Jeb Bush.

This movement has had success before, but not in Florida. In Iowa, three justices were removed because of a ruling permitting same-sex marriage, and a fourth



Jim Clark  
Editor

is on the ballot this year. This race this year has presented a quandary for me. You see, I don't believe in lifetime appointments for any judges, whether federal or state. When you appoint people to a lifetime anything, they can get complacent and possibly not approach their assignment with the zeal that is needed.

As a result of being in favor of term limits, I always vote "no" for merit retention for all judges. I think a steady turnover would be healthy for the districts, state and nation.

I do feel that an amendment in the state against Obamacare is a waste of time. The only way to get rid of that health plan is to knock the Democrats out of the White House and Congress. I really don't understand why people are fanatical about trying to take action at the state level. Anyone who's been around knows that this is a futile effort.

So how to vote? Do I vote to punish the three justices who pretty much said the same thing, that this is a federal problem that won't be solved at the state level? Do I vote against these three justices because of my usual term limit bias, knowing full well that for the first time, my vote in this issue may, for a change, actually count? Or do I go against my general principles and vote to keep these justices on the court for another six years?

At this writing, I've still got a little time to make up my mind. But I'll be watching the vote count very closely on the night of Nov. 6 ...or more likely, in the morning hours of Nov. 7.

Jim Clark is the editor of the West Marion Messenger.



## 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.

## Guest Column

### Be of good cheer; the end is near

BY JIM FLYNN

After suffering the longest and most boring presidential campaign in our lifetime, we sought relief by voting early. To share our relief we decided to amuse our readers with a selection of thoughts about government, elections, and politicians.

Author Robert Louis Stevenson suggested that politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation seems to be necessary.

Attorney Clarence Darrow affirmed Mr. Stevenson's thought: "When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become president. Now I've come to believe it."

Do you ever wonder whether the real reason we hold elections is to find out if any of the polls were right? Perhaps next time we could rely on the polls. They're faster and less expensive. After all, elections are just the process by which we select the people who will get the blame for everything.

Could it be that political campaigns are just contrived exhibitions of political hysteria, intended to distract voters from the real issues by paralyzing their ability to think?

Columnist and essayist Simeon Strunsky believes popular government is only a theory, because no one has yet found a government that is popular - at least not for very long.

Irish playwright and critic George Bernard Shaw explained that the chief defect of democracies is that only the party out of office knows how the government should be run.

Author and critic H.L. Mencken also tried to explain the problem. He said democratic government is like running a circus from inside the monkey cage.

Presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson said in 1952 that the ultimate indignity of the election process is that you can merchandise candidates for high office like breakfast cereal.

On the positive side, elections are the only races in which most people pick the winner. The person elected gets 51 percent of the votes cast by the 60 percent of eligible voters who bothered to register.

Perhaps government is too big and too important to be left to politicians. As one observer noted, government is the only vessel that leaks from the top.

Nothing is easier than spending public money. Because it doesn't seem to belong to anybody, the temptation to spend it is overwhelming.

There's a myth that government can do any job cheaply because it doesn't have to make a profit. The business of government is to stay out of business, but somehow government has become a senior partner in every business in the country.

In Congress members rise to speak and say nothing. Nobody listens. Then everybody disagrees. Nonetheless, Congress seems to favor a stable government, judging by the amount of stalling and horsing around that goes on.

Mr. Dooley (Finley Peter Dunne) observed that a man who expects to train lobsters to fly is considered a lunatic and confined to an asylum. But a man who believes politicians can be turned into angels by getting elected is called a reformer and is allowed to remain at large.

# Happenings

## Thursday, Nov. 1 Saturday, Nov. 3

### Medicare changes on agenda

A discussion of Medicare benefit changes will be held on Thursday, Nov. 1, from 2 to 4 p.m., at TLC Physical Therapy, 5481 S.W. 60th St., Suite 102, Ocala, by Jason Kelsey, DPT, MTC and Heather Meloy, PTA. Refreshments will be provided. Please call Danielle Leshar at 352-382-1141 to reserve a spot. There will also be a prize raffle.

## Friday, Nov. 2

### Two-day quilt show

The Art of Quilting Along a Country Road—Quilt Show 2012, sponsored by the Country Road Quilters, will take place on Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 at the College of Central Florida, Ewers Century Center, in Ocala from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Admission is \$7 per person.

There will be a judged quilt show, beautiful quilts, art quilts, Home of the Brave quilts, a silent auction, vendors, boutique, demonstrations, raffle baskets, a quilt appraiser and a vendor to sharpen scissors and knives.

For information contact Fred Jones at 352-438-0055.

### Queen of Peace arts and crafts show

Queen of Peace will hold its annual arts and crafts show on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The event is sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women and will consist of mixed media. Forty plus vendors will provide a variety of products. Many are new to the show this year. This would be a great time to get some of those Christ-

mas gifts on you list. Lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is free.

Queen of Peace Church is at 6455 S.W. State Road 200.

### Avon fundraising event

Get a head start on your holiday shopping. The Women's Fellowship of First Congregational United Church of Christ is sponsoring an Avon fundraising event on Saturday, Nov. 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A display of products will be set up in the Enrichment Center (7171 S.W. State Road 200). For more information, call 352-509-4218.

### Main library book sale

The Friends of the Ocala Library will hold their quarterly book sale on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Rooms B and C at the main library on Silver Springs Boulevard. Hardcover books cost 50 cents and paperback 25 cents. For more information, call 368-4591, or go to friendsoftheocalalibrary.org for event or membership details.

### Fall festival at Ocala West Nazarene

Ocala West Church of the Nazarene presents a fall festival on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 2 to 5 p.m. There will

be free food, carnival-style games and good fellowship.

The church is at 5884 S.W. 60th Ave. For information, call 352-861-0755. ome!

### Ocala Palms Arts, Crafts

Join us at Ocala Palms (located on U.S. Highway 27, one mile west of Interstate 75) on Saturday, Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a delightful day of shopping from a variety of talented crafters and artists. A hot dog lunch will be available for purchase from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; plus, enjoy yummy sweet treats at our morning bake sale.

## Read the classifieds

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www.CandlerHillsGolfClub.com

**Thanksgiving Day Feast**  
Thursday, November 22  
Served 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Featured Menu:**

- Port wine cheese with artisanal crackers
- Tossed salad with honey walnut vinaigrette dressing
- Herb roasted turkey with gravy
- Citrus and cranberry relish
- Fresh herb and sausage stuffing
- Virginia Baked Ham with Myers Dark Rum raisin sauce
- Mashed potatoes
- Sweet potato casserole
- Succotash featuring Frazier Farms fresh picked sweet corn
- Warm rolls with honey butter
- Pumpkin cheesecake with molasses and whipped cream

**\$18.99 per person**

Reservations suggested: 861-9720  
Preferred/Elite Member reservations begin November 12th  
All others begin November 13th

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Every Monday Evening  
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**Second Tuesday of the month from 4 pm - 7 pm**

**\$19.95** plus tax and gratuity

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Terms: Introductory period is 11/1/12 - 12/31/12. A signed agreement and \$50 member fee required. The member fee becomes spendable dollars in the restaurant on the member's account. Member dollars expire 12/31/12 and are non-refundable. Offer valid for new members only.

**For more information, call 854-2765.**

# WEST MARION Messenger

PUBLISHER:  
**GERRY MULLIGAN**  
REGIONAL MANAGER:  
**JOHN PROVOST**  
EDITOR:  
**JIM CLARK**



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your honesty continues to impress everyone who needs reassurance about a project. But be careful you don't lose patience with those who are still not ready to act.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Pushing others too hard to do things your way could cause resentment and raise more doubts. Instead, take more time to explain why your methods will work.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be more considerate of those close to you before making a decision that could have a serious effect on their lives. Explain your intentions and ask for their advice.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might have to defend a workplace decision you plan to make. Colleagues might back you up on this, but it's the facts that will ultimately win the day for you. Good luck.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) The Big Cat's co-workers might not be doing enough to help get that project finished. Your roars might stir things up, but gentle persuasion will prove to be more effective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Someone you care for needs help with a problem. Give it lovingly and without judging the situation. Whatever you feel you should know will be revealed later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) While you're to be admired for how you handled recent workplace problems, be careful not to react the same way to a new situation until all the facts are in.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Rely on your keen instincts as well as the facts at hand when dealing with a troubling situation. Be patient. Take things one step at a time as you work through it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your curiosity leads you to ask questions. However, the answers might not be what you hoped to hear. Don't reject them without checking them out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Be careful not to tackle a problem without sufficient facts. Even sure-footed Goats need to know where they'll land before leaping off a mountain path.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Appearances can be deceiving. You need to do more investigating before investing your time, let alone your money, in something that might have some hidden flaws.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Your recent stand on an issue could make you the focus of more attention than you would like. But you'll regain your privacy, as well as more time with loved ones by week's end.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're a good friend and a trusted confidante. You would be a wonderful teacher or a respected member of the clergy.

# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	9			5		1		
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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



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

## Wishing Well®

3	5	8	6	7	8	4	8	7	4	6	7	5
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7	2	7	8	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
N	O	D	S	F	D	H	E	O	E	M	P	E

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 REVERSAL

- ACROSS**
- 1 One— (short shows)
  - 7 Practice of staying in one's birthday suit
  - 13 Comes into view
  - 20 Skier's lodge
  - 21 Ancient Greek city
  - 22 A few
  - 23 Furrer's philanthropic family from Texas?
  - 25 Height
  - 26 Music
  - 27 Member of the mimosa family
  - 29 "The Divine Comedy" poet
  - 30 Sight-related
  - 33 How heavy a British Conservative is?
  - 35 For each
  - 39 Stray
  - 42 Matt Dillon
  - 43 Crew
  - 45 Dir. opposite NNE
  - 47 Serious
  - 48 By— (alone)
  - 51 Coming into existence
  - 57 Perfumes
  - 59 Letters for Old
  - 61 Certain boat
  - 62 Lech of labor
  - 65 Dale where beans are grown to make a cathartic oil?
  - 67 Chief Norse deity
  - 68 Poet Neruda
  - 72 Slow, on a music score
  - 73 Jar tops
  - 74 Decorate an infant's bed with images of celestial bodies?
  - 77 Most polar
  - 79 Fish enticers
  - 80 Juliet's beau
  - 81 Pierre of fashion
  - 84 Wise guy
  - 86 Rich fabric with raised designs
  - 88 Crawls (with)
- DOWN**
- 1 Advil target
  - 2 —En-lai
  - 3 Stretched
  - 4 Besides that
  - 5 Goes back (1946 film)
  - 6 Plug in a tub
  - 7 Secretive
  - 8 Pkg. shipper
  - 9 Input info
  - 10 Camaro — Z
  - 11 Layers
  - 12 Team animal
  - 13 Ela writing
  - 14 Ran into
  - 15 Dodging sort
  - 16 Keep
  - 17 Filth
  - 18 Rare — (elements #57 to #71)
  - 19 Rains cold pellets
  - 24 After-tax
  - 28 Infuriates
  - 31 "What have I— to deserve this?"
  - 32 Dwarf planet in the asteroid belt
  - 34 Drink in a sippy cup
  - 35 What sit-ups strengthen
  - 36 — up with
  - 37 "— Little Teapot"
  - 38 Earthquake origination point
  - 40 Corp. execs
  - 41 "— Dark Stranger"
  - 44 Corps.
  - 46 Horse sound
  - 49 Fine thread
  - 50 Lavish party
  - 52 Health facility
  - 53 Lying in the same straight path
  - 54 "Dallas" miss
  - 55 Requisites
  - 56 Rendezvous
  - 58 Neck area
  - 60 Cyclotron bit
  - 62 Sheep coats
  - 63 Tight as —
  - 64 Sign before
  - 65 Software programmer
  - 66 Nothingness
  - 69 Parcel units
  - 70 Sis sibling
  - 71 Young sheep
  - 75 Marshall Plan pres.
  - 76 Shower
  - 78 Lemon, lime, or orange
  - 81 "Cheers" barmaid
  - 82 Madison Ave. workers
  - 83 Abode: Abbr.
  - 85 — bitly
  - 87 Corn holder
  - 89 Takeoff stat
  - 90 Livy's 1,150
  - 91 — wolf
  - 93 — about (roughly)
  - 95 Exercises utilizing bars
  - 96 Impassive sorts
  - 97 Go after
  - 98 Typos, e.g.
  - 99 Japanese police dogs
  - 100 Obi-Wan — ("Star Wars" role)
  - 102 Comes up
  - 103 Volcano in E. Sicily
  - 106 11- or 12-year-old
  - 108 Jaccuzi
  - 111 JVC rival
  - 112 Low card
  - 114 Actor Sharif
  - 115 "Xray"
  - 116 Privy to
  - 117 "— pinch of salt"
  - 119 Al Fatah gp.
  - 121 West
  - 122 QBs' scores

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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.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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## Saturday, Nov. 3

### Dining in the Dark

The Florida Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be holding its second annual Dining in the Dark banquet on Saturday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. at the Hilton Ocala, 3600 S.W. 36th Ave., Ocala. Tickets are \$45 individual and \$80 couple.

Event includes silent auction, raffle and dinner. Special guest speaker will be Miss Conner Boss, Florida USA contestant who has been legally blind since age 8.

For tickets call 352-873-4700 or email admin@fblind.org.

Florida Center for the Blind provides classes and instruction at absolutely no charge to teenagers, adults and seniors who are severely visually impaired.

### Women of the Moose yard sale

The WOTM, (Women Of The Moose) will be having a yard sale on Saturday, Nov. 3 starting at 8 a.m. at the Moose Lodge

West Marion Messenger  
8810 W. State Road 200, suite 104,  
Ocala, FL 34481; or e-mail  
editor@westmarionmessenger.com

# Opinion

## Our Message

### The end of the amendments

Today we come to the end of the list of amendments, and if it took this long to go through them, just think of what the lines will be like on Election Day if you aren't prepared or haven't voted early.

Amendment 10 is a Tangible Personal Property Exemption, which increases the tax exemption on personal property for businesses from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

This is another one of those that could hurt the local government by taking away valuable tax dollars for schools, law enforcement, etc.

We're sure that some businessmen think this is a good idea, but smaller businesses may not have enough to worry about it. In other words, this is one that protects the bigger businesses from paying more taxes.

As we go through these amendments, we see a constant theme of cutting taxes without any way to make up for the lost revenue. So for this one, we're saying vote "no."

The same argument applies to Amendment 11. The title says Additional Homestead Exemption for Low Income Seniors who Maintain Long Term Residency on Property, Equal to Assessed Valuation.

This would give counties and cities the right to grant full homestead exemption to seniors who have lived in their homes for at least 25 years and whose home is less than \$250,000. Income must be below \$27,000.

Again, this sounds good at first blush, but how many low-income seniors do you know who live in a home worth \$250,000. This is another hit the counties and cities would take in tax revenue, mainly in other parts of the state, and we can't see any reason to approve it here.

Finally, Amendment 12 concerns the appointment of a student body president to the Board of Governors of the State University System.

If you've been here a while, you remember the old Board of Regents. In our wisdom we disbanded that for a board of governors and set the standards for choosing members. This would change the way one member, a student representative, is chosen.

It seems like an awful lot of paperwork for one person.

Frankly, we're a little old fashioned on this one. We still feel that you have the faculty and administrators and trustees (board of governors) over here, and the students over there. Why should students be on the board at all? And since there's only one, is that just a token representative so we can say that the students have a voice?

This is too much to worry about in a serious election. Just vote no on this one.

## Among Friends

### The Florida justices and merit retention

There are three people on the ballot who have received more than the usual attention this year. Their names are R. Fred Lewis, Barbara J. Pariente and Peggy A. Quince.

What's that? You're not familiar with them? Well, they're the three Florida Supreme Court justices due for a merit retention vote on Nov. 6. This year, the retention vote has a little bit indecisive. Justices, and appellate judges, must be on the ballot every six years. Since the system was instituted in the 1970s, no justice has ever been rejected. The system was put in because of supposed corruption in the partisan election of judges before that.

But this year, there's a push to defeat all three. It's because of an Obamacare ruling, where they were part of a majority that struck down a proposed state amendment that would have said that Floridians may not be required to buy the mandated insurance under the health care plan. The push comes mainly from Republicans, who feel the ruling did not reflect the will of the people, who they feel would have passed the amendment. A similar amendment made it through to the ballot this year.

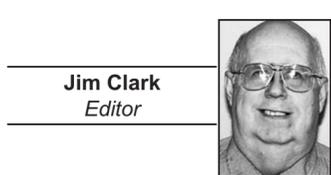
There's a lot of hand-wringing about this movement, saying that people are trying to politicize the court.

Well, sorry folks, but the courts have already done that themselves. Many courts, including the highest court in the land, often vote on the side of the party that appointed them, without regard to the will of the people. They're supposed to rule based on the law, but it's no surprise that to each of them the "law" comes down on the side of one political party.

All three of these justices were appointed by the late Gov. Lawton Chiles, a Democrat, although Quince also had the backing of incoming Republican Gov. Jeb Bush.

This movement has had success before, but not in Florida. In Iowa, three justices were removed because of a ruling permitting same-sex marriage, and a fourth

is on the ballot this year.



Jim Clark  
Editor

This race this year has presented a quandary for me. You see, I don't believe in lifetime appointments for any judges, whether federal or state. When you appoint people to a lifetime anything, they can get complacent and possibly not approach their assignment with the zeal that is needed.

As a result of being in favor of term limits, I always vote "no" for merit retention for all judges. I think a steady turnover would be healthy for the districts, state and nation.

I do feel that an amendment in the state against Obamacare is a waste of time. The only way to get rid of that health plan is to knock the Democrats out of the White House and Congress. I really don't understand why people are fanatical about trying to take action at the state level. Anyone who's been around knows that this is a futile effort.

So how to vote? Do I vote to punish the three justices who pretty much said the same thing, that this is a federal problem that won't be solved at the state level? Do I vote against these three justices because of my usual term limit bias, knowing full well that for the first time, my vote in this issue may, for a change, actually count? Or do I go against my general principles and vote to keep these justices on the court for another six years?

At this writing, I've still got a little time to make up my mind. But I'll be watching the vote count very closely on the night of Nov. 6 ...or more likely, in the morning hours of Nov. 7.

Jim Clark is the editor of the West Marion Messenger.

## Guest Column

### Be of good cheer; the end is near

BY JIM FLYNN

After suffering the longest and most boring presidential campaign in our lifetime, we sought relief by voting early. To share our relief we decided to amuse our readers with a selection of thoughts about government, elections, and politicians.

Author Robert Louis Stevenson suggested that politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation seems to be necessary.

Attorney Clarence Darrow affirmed Mr. Stevenson's thought: "When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become president. Now I've come to believe it."

Do you ever wonder whether the real reason we hold elections is to find out if any of the polls were right? Perhaps next time we could rely on the polls. They're faster and less expensive. After all, elections are just the process by which we select the people who will get the blame for everything.

Could it be that political campaigns are just contrived exhibitions of political hysteria, intended to distract voters from the real issues by paralyzing their ability to think?

Columnist and essayist Simeon Strunsky believes popular government is only a theory, because no one has yet found a government that is popular - at least not for very long.

Irish playwright and critic George Bernard Shaw explained that the chief defect of democracies is that only the party out of office knows how the government should be run.

Author and critic H.L. Mencken also tried to explain the problem. He said democratic government is like running a circus from inside the monkey cage.

Presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson said in 1952 that the ultimate indignity of the election process is that you can merchandise candidates for high office like breakfast cereal.

On the positive side, elections are the only races in which most people pick the winner. The person elected gets 51 percent of the votes cast by the 60 percent of eligible voters who bothered to register.

Perhaps government is too big and too important to be left to politicians. As one observer noted, government is the only vessel that leaks from the top.

Nothing is easier than spending public money. Because it doesn't seem to belong to anybody, the temptation to spend it is overwhelming.

There's a myth that government can do any job cheaply because it doesn't have to make a profit. The business of government is to stay out of business, but somehow government has become a senior partner in every business in the country.

In Congress members rise to speak and say nothing. Nobody listens. Then everybody disagrees. Nonetheless, Congress seems to favor a stable government, judging by the amount of stalling and horsing around that goes on.

Mr. Dooley (Finley Peter Dunne) observed that a man who expects to train lobsters to fly is considered a lunatic and confined to an asylum. But a man who believes politicians can be turned into angels by getting elected is called a reformer and is allowed to remain at large.

# Happenings

## Thursday, Nov. 1 Saturday, Nov. 3

### Medicare changes on agenda

A discussion of Medicare benefit changes will be held on Thursday, Nov. 1, from 2 to 4 p.m., at TLC Physical Therapy, 5481 S.W. 60th St., Suite 102, Ocala, by Jason Kelsey, DPT, MTC and Heather Meloy, PTA. Refreshments will be provided. Please call Danielle Leshar at 352-382-1141 to reserve a spot. There will also be a prize raffle.

## Friday, Nov. 2

### Two-day quilt show

The Art of Quilting Along a Country Road—Quilt Show 2012, sponsored by the Country Road Quilters, will take place on Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 at the College of Central Florida, Ewers Century Center, in Ocala from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Admission is \$7 per person.

There will be a judged quilt show, beautiful quilts, art quilts, Home of the Brave quilts, a silent auction, vendors, boutique, demonstrations, raffle baskets, a quilt appraiser and a vendor to sharpen scissors and knives. For information contact Fred Jones at 352-438-0055.

### Queen of Peace arts and crafts show

Queen of Peace will hold its annual arts and crafts show on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The event is sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women and will consist of mixed media. Forty plus vendors will provide a variety of products. Many are new to the show this year. This would be a great time to get some of those Christ-

mas gifts on you list. Lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is free.

Queen of Peace Church is at 6455 S.W. State Road 200.

### Avon fundraising event

Get a head start on your holiday shopping. The Women's Fellowship of First Congregational United Church of Christ is sponsoring an Avon fundraising event on Saturday, Nov. 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A display of products will be set up in the Enrichment Center (7171 S.W. State Road 200). For more information, call 352-509-4218.

### Main library book sale

The Friends of the Ocala Library will hold their quarterly book sale on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Rooms B and C at the main library on Silver Springs Boulevard. Hardcover books cost 50 cents and paperback 25 cents. For more information, call 368-4591, or go to friendsoftheocalalibrary.org for event or membership details.

### Fall festival at Ocala West Nazarene

Ocala West Church of the Nazarene presents a fall festival on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 2 to 5 p.m. There will

be free food, carnival-style games and good fellowship.

The church is at 5884 S.W. 60th Ave. For information, call 352-861-0755. ome!

### Ocala Palms Arts, Crafts

Join us at Ocala Palms (located on U.S. Highway 27, one mile west of Interstate 75) on Saturday, Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a delightful day of shopping from a variety of talented crafters and artists. A hot dog lunch will be available for purchase from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; plus, enjoy yummy sweet treats at our morning bake sale.

## Read the classifieds

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### Used Car Center

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## Editorial

## 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.



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# Amendment 12

## Summary (from Division of Elections site):

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to replace the president of the Florida Student Association with the chair of the council of state university student body presidents as the student member of the Board of Governors of the State University System and to require that the Board of Governors organize such council of state university student body presidents.

## Arguments for:

Supporters say this amendment guarantees every university has a chance to have their student body president be named as a representative of the Board of Governors.

## Arguments against:

Opponents say this amendment is unnecessary.

## Should the state change the way the student representative on the university system's Board of Governors is selected?

Amendment 12 concerns the student representative on the Board of Governors, which oversees the state's university system. The Board of Governors has 17 members, one of which is the chairman of the Florida Student Association (FSA). If passed, Amendment 12 would instruct the Board of Governors to create a new council consist-

**Title on Ballot:** Appointment of Student Body President to Board of Governors of the State University System  
**Sponsor/Originator:** The Florida Legislature  
**What it would do:** This amendment would change the way the state selects the student representative on the state university system's Board of Governors, which oversees the university system.  
**If you vote yes:** A "yes" vote means you want the state create a new council of university student presidents from which the student representative to the Board of Governors will be chosen.  
**If you vote no:** A "no" vote means you want to keep the current system of selecting the student representative to the Board of Governors.

ing of the student body presidents of the state's 12 universities. The chair of that new council would replace the chair of the FSA as the student representative to the Board of Governors.

This measure won unanimous approval in the House and near unanimous approval in the Senate. As with all amendments, passage requires the approval of 60 percent or more of the votes. If approved by the voters, it would go into effect on Jan. 8, 2013.

## History

In 2002, roughly 60 percent of Florida's voters approved a constitutional amendment creating a Board of Governors to oversee state universities. Three of its 17 members are seated by virtue of position and 14 are appointed by the governor and subject to confirmation by

the Florida Senate. The appointed members serve seven-year terms. The three members seated by virtue of position are the Florida Education Commissioner, the chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (representing university faculty), and the chair of the FSA (representing university students). Student body presidents from the state's various universities comprise the FSA, which charges membership dues. Over the years, several universities chose not pay the dues and participate in the FSA. As a result their representatives in those years could not have been the student representative on the Board of Governors.

## The Board of Governors

Broadly speaking, the Board of Governors oversees the operation of the state's 12 universities. It defines the mission of each university, submits annual budgets to the Legislature, governs degree programs and oversees admissions programs, among other duties.

## The FSA

The Florida Student Association formed in 1976 as a not-for-profit research and advocacy group representing university students. A year later the Florida Legislature provided student representation on the Board of Regents (forerunner of the Board of Governors), and in 1978 secured voting rights for the student member of the Regents. A priority of the FSA is keeping tuition increases to a minimum. Over the years it has been involved in efforts to reduce teacher-student ratios and increase voter participation among students, and an advocate for the state's pre-paid college program and the Bright Futures Scholarship Program. Its mission is to advocate the interests of the state university students at all levels of government.

# AMENDMENT 11

continued from Page 1

the full exemption can be offered. The measure won unanimous support in the Senate and House.

There is no organized opposition.

As with all amendments, passage requires approval by 60 percent or more of the voters. If passed, cities and counties would be authorized to grant the exemption beginning Jan. 8, 2013.

## History

Voters in 1998 approved a measure that authorized the Legislature to allow cities and counties to grant a homestead exemption up to \$25,000 to seniors over 65 whose household income (at the time of the bill's pas-

sage) did not exceed \$24,200.

That homestead exemption was in addition to the \$50,000 in exemptions extended to all Florida homeowners.

Schools taxes are excluded from the tax break. In 2012, state lawmakers passed a measure to place on the November ballot a proposed amendment authorizing cities and counties to grant a full homestead exemption to qualifying seniors. It became Amendment 11 on the ballot.

## Fiscal Impact

The state estimates that the combined tax revenues schools and local governments would lose if Amendment 11 passes, and if every city and county in the state were to approve the exemption, would be a combined \$18.5 million over the first two years it was offered.

## Saturday, Nov. 3

### Johnny'D at Circle Square

Appearing Saturday, Nov. 3, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at OTW Circle Square Commons, from your community of Quail Meadow, for your dancing, and listening pleasure, entertainer Johnny'D returns with his vocal stylings of the 50s, 60s, and 70s. Also, he'll be performing the hits from entertaining sensations as Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Louie Armstrong, Engelbert Humperdinck and others. Also for the line daners, Johnny'D has all the top best hiphop tunes, including country music to make everyone's feet want to get up and boogie down. And, he won't forget about you ballroom dancers, and the Latin audience that come out to dance as well.

### Saddle Oak Club arts, crafts fair

Saddle Oak Club will hold an arts and crafts fair on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saddle Oak is off State Road 200 across from the Heath Brook Publix. The event is open to the public.

## Sunday, Nov. 4

### Southern Express in concert

The Southern Express Orchestra from Ocala will be in concert at the Ocala West United Methodist Church on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 3 p.m. Featured will be some of the great music from the Big Band days as well as Show Tunes. This concert promises to be a wonderful afternoon of music.

The Southern Express Orchestra is truly outstanding

and has been appearing at Ocala West for several years as part of the annual concert series. The church is pleased to have them back. They will also be returning to give another concert series program after the first of the year. The orchestra is under the very capable direction of John Holland. The church is at 9330 S.W. 105th St. in Ocala. Phone 352-854-9550.

### German American Club picnic

The German American Club of Marion County will host a picnic on Sunday, Nov. 4, at noon, in Coehadjoe Park. German American food will be prepared by club members and served buffet style. Please bring a dish to share and your own snacks. Music will be provided by Bavarian Oskar. On the day of the picnic, ticket prices will be \$7 per member or \$10 per non-member. Contact Joe or Liz Dickmann at 352-732-6386 for tickets.

## Friday, Nov. 9

### Red Kettle kickoff

The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Christmas Campaign begins on Nov. 9. Please join us on Friday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Ocala's Downtown Square. A short program is planned for the celebration. For more information, call 352-629-2004.

## Lions hold spaghetti dinner

On Friday, the 9th of November, the Ocala Lions Club Military and Service Dog Committee will hold the fifth annual spaghetti dinner and auction to benefit the Fisher House and the America's VetDogs. The event will be held at the Our Place Lounge located at 7651 S.W. State Road 200 in the Circle Square Plaza starting at 5 p.m. Dinner will be \$15 per person and will be served from 6 until 7:30 p.m. A raffle and auction will immediately follow the dinner.

Fisher House provides a home-like facility for families of veterans or military personnel who are receiving medical care at a military or VA Hospital.

For further information, contact Bill Thomas at 352-291-2600 or email (billtom7522@cfi.rr.com) or Phyllis Rankin at 352-362-1905. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

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The West Marion Messenger is a free community newspaper covering news of communities west of Ocala including Fore Ranch, Stone Creek, Fairfield Village, Ocala Palms, Timberwood, Falls of Ocala, Quail Meadow, Foxwood Farms and Golden Hills.

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

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.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
(352) 854-3986 Fax (352) 854-9277  
8810 S.W. State Road 200, Suite 103, Ocala, FL 34481

- Editor - Jim Clark
- Circulation - Barbara Jaggars
- Inside Sales/Office Coordinator - Michel Northsea
- Advertising Sales - Tom Rapplean and Susie Mirabile
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Deadline for news: Friday 1 p.m. the week before publication.  
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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 Community news and photos must be received by Friday the week before publication. Mail and photos will be left at the Messenger office in Kingsland Plaza. All contributions are subject to editing for clarity, taste, and style.	Deadline for Advertising Classified Reader Ads 4 pm Friday Display Ads 5 pm Thursday
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**Ocala Palms The Red Hat Fillies of Ocala Palms enjoyed a hearty luncheon at Danzano's in Ocala. From left are Carol Pinto, Chris Turner and Janet Destio.**



**Angie Fichetti, Kriss Myers, Carol Yount and Karen McShane.**

**Bobbie March, Kathy Gustafson, and Gerry Schwanke.**



**Janet Destio, Gail Sims, and Cathy Donohue.**



PHOTOS BY CATHY DONOHUE

# ELECTION AMENDMENT 10

continued from Page 1

The other key local races, almost lost in the shadows of the sheriff's battle, include George Tomy vs. Diana Greene in the race for superintendent of schools, Wesley Wilcox vs. Judge Cochran for supervisor of elections and Earl Arnett vs. Jessica Hadley for County Commission.

Two other commission candidates, David Moore and Stan McClain, are on the ballot with no opposition listed, although there are write-in candidates.

There are three Florida Supreme Court justices up for merit retention, 11 state Constitution amendments and, at the end of the ballot, the bond issue for Munroe County Hospital District.

For those who have absentee ballots, they must be returned to the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Those who are mailing the ballots back are reminded that it costs 65 cents in postage because of the size of the ballot.

Watch the websites of the West Marion Messenger and South Marion Citizen for links to election results.

continued from Page 1

a business or to earn income must file a return with the local property appraiser. Under current law, the first \$25,000 of tangible personal property is exempt from taxation. If passed, Amendment 10 would boost that exemption to \$50,000. It would also allow cities and counties to grant additional tangible personal tax exemptions beyond the \$50,000 exemption.

The measure won unanimous approval in the Senate and near-unanimous

approval in House. As with all amendments, passage requires the approval of 60 percent or more of the voters. If approved by voters, the added exemption becomes effective Jan. 1, 2013.

### Fiscal Impact

Tangible personal property taxes are levied by counties and by cities. Citing information from the state Department of Revenue, a Florida Senate analysis said 7.6 percent of

the total county property taxes levied in Florida in fiscal year 2011-12 were from tangible personal property taxes. The corresponding amount for cities was 6.1 percent. Those percentages would likely decrease if Amendment 10 passes.

Statewide, the additional exemption (from \$25,000 to \$50,000) proposed in Amendment 10 would reduce property tax collections across the state by a combined \$61 million over its first three years, according to the state Revenue Estimating

Conference, which calculates the anticipated fiscal impact of proposed amendments. The law also allows for counties and cities to expand the exemptions, but the fiscal impact of that proposed change cannot be estimated.

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### Go Figure! answers

3	÷	1	+	4	7
+		+		×	
7	-	5	×	6	12
×		+		-	
2	+	9	×	1	11
20		15		23	

### Super Crossword Answers

A	C	T	E	R	S	N	U	D	I	S	M	E	M	E	R	G	E	S
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C	U	R	A	B	L	E	E	N	N	E	A	D	P	E	A	P	O	
S	E	S	S	I	O	N	S	A	Y	Y	E	S	S	E	R	E	N	

### Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

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# Holiday dinner tickets ready



Carolyn Slocumb

## QUAIL MEADOW

What happened to October? All of a sudden it's gone and it's November! Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. Tickets for the Holiday Dinner are available from Kathy Voss

and Charlotte Payne. The dinner is Nov. 12. Theresa Yoders is still accepting your pictures to be used in the evening's entertainment.

Bingo is going strong the second and fourth Tuesday. This past week there was a very good turnout, including two visitors from Quarryville, Pennsylvania. Maryanne's (that's the Maryanne with an "e") sister and brother-in-law, Sue and Paul, were visiting her, so they enjoyed an evening of bingo; Sue even won early in the evening and later Paul was a lucky winner.

This coming weekend is going to be busy! Friday, the 2nd, is First Friday; that means gathering with friends and neighbors at the clubhouse at 7 p.m.

Also, on Friday, the Red Hot Fillies will meet at the clubhouse at 1 p.m. We will watch the information movie about Cross Creek - the home of Marjorie K. Rawlings, author of several novels. The Red Hatters are planning to tour Cross Creek on Thursday, Nov. 8. After viewing the movie, we are invited to "Dottie's Garage Boutique." Before Dottie moved to Ocala she had a boutique in Georgia. She brought her unsold items with her to Quail Meadow. We will be allowed to view, try on and purchase anything that catches our eye. I under-



Above, Maryanne with Paul and Sue. Below, group enjoying night of bingo.



stand she has quite a collection of Red Hat items. We will go to Dottie's home from the clubhouse (it's just down the street). Please let Pat Talley or Carolyn Slocumb know if you plan to go with us to Cross Creek; the cost \$3 per person for the tour. After the tour, we will have lunch at the Yearling Restaurant. Even if you are

not a Red Hatter, we would be happy to have you go with us.

The Quail Meadow community yard sale is Saturday, the 3rd. If you aren't participating, then plan to visit the neighborhood - you might find a real treasure, or two or three!

Don't forget to change your clocks on Saturday night! We return to Eastern

Standard Time; we "fall" back one hour. For those of you who have "atomic" clocks, they will change back automatically, but the rest of us will have the task of changing all the clocks (don't forget the one in your car).

I'm sure I've missed some events, but we'll catch up next week. Don't forget to vote!



Priscilla Geissal

## FAIRFIELD VILLAGE

The Fairfield Village HOA met at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18 in the Fairfield Clubhouse with fewer people attending than the group had hoped would be there.

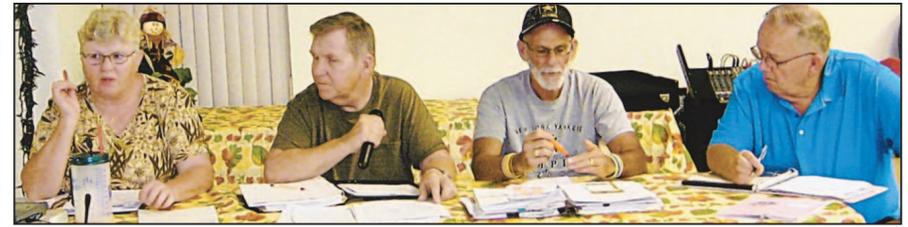
The meeting was chaired by President Bart Rich who was happy to tell those present that everything

seems to be moving along really well in our community.

It is quite gratifying to know that there are so few things to need to be addressed in a community as large as ours.

As was pointed out, an HOA is somewhat like an insurance policy in which people feel their investment is worthwhile while they hope that they do not have to call upon the underwriter for help.

The best case scenario is not to need the help. That is what Bart Rich said about the HOA. It is a very valuable group for our community in that it is there to help and to protect in case there is some issue or trouble at some point. Of course, we all hope that



Fairfield Village's HOA Secretary Norma Powers makes an interesting point as President Bart Rich and trustees Stan Cohen and Chuck Belcher listen attentively.

there will not be a need for intervention, but knowing that the HOA as well as the Florida FMO is there for communities such as ours is certainly comforting.

There has been a very good relationship between Fairfield's HOA and American Land Lease which owns the property.

Several meetings have been hosted by management to make sure that anything that could become a problem is handled promptly.

Rich said how much he personally appreciated the positive attitude he had seen with the management.

November's meeting will be one during which nominations for president, secretary, and trustee for the 2013 year will be accepted. The entire board urged those present to encourage their neighbors to give serious thought to those who would be valuable members of the HOA board.

They all reiterated that it is really not a hard job but that it is one that can make one proud of helping to keep our community the really nice place that it is and will continue to be. We all love to tell others that our community really is "a lively place filled with lovely people."

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-Barb Murphy, Publisher/Coffee News

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VOLUME 6, NUMBER 31  
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# WEST MARION Messenger

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Turn  
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## Kentucky man to head CEP

Following a national search, Doug Cone, chairman of the Ocala/Marion Chamber and Economic Partnership (CEP) announced the selection of Kevin T. Sheilley as CEP's first President and CEO.

The search committee, chaired by Kevin McDonald, The McDonald Agency included members of the CEP Transition Board, Amy Mangan, Progress Energy; Bob Little, Regions Bank; Frank Hennessey, Hennessey Arabians; Dave Fechtman, Root Theory Advisors; Cory Pool, Jenkins Acura, Mazda, Hyundai and Doug Cone, Cone Distribution, Inc.

McDonald said, "Sheilley has an extensive background with both Chamber and Economic Development organizations and brings tremendous energy and enthusiasm. The search included highly qualified applicants from all over the country and we could not be more excited with the outcome. We are delighted he has accepted the position as CEO and we look forward his arrival in early December."

Sheilley said, "I am a big proponent of combining the efforts of chambers and economic development organizations. The formation of the CEP affords the community a focused, effective and efficient entity to advance our local economy."



PHOTOS BY MICHEL NORTHESEA

## FAFO Art Show

The guitar ensemble from West Port High School was part of the entertainment at the Fine Arts For Ocala Art Show last weekend. Students, left to right, Stephen Campbell, Jessie Diaz and Anthony Armstrong practice a few songs. Below, part of the crowd of thousands that flocked to the show at the McPherson Complex last weekend.



## Voting time has arrived

BY JIM CLARK  
Editor

Did you know you could vote for Roseanne Barr for president? Hers is just one of the names on a long ballot that will greet those who are ready to go to the polls.

For those who are not voting early, Election Day is next Tuesday, Nov. 6, with polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The long ballot contains several local races, some statewide and, of course, the vote for president of the United States.

Under the presidential race, Mitt Romney and Barack Obama are listed first, and they are followed by 10 others from other "parties," including Barr and running mate Cindy Sheehan.

After the vote for president, there are four people on the ballot in the race for the U.S. Senate, including Connie Mack and Bill Nelson. Also on the list with no party affiliation are Bill Gaylor and Chris Borgia.

Depending on where you live, there are Congressional, state Senate and state House races on the ballot.

In Marion County, there are four contested countywide elections, starting with the battleground of the race of sheriff. The ballot lists Dan Kuhn and Bernie DeCastro, but Kuhn has withdrawn and Chris Blair is now the candidate. However, to vote for Blair, voters must fill in the ballot for Kuhn.

The case is still in court, where DeCastro is trying to get Blair thrown off the ballot, since he already lost in the primary.

Please see ELECTION, Page 3

## Amendment 10

Summary of Amendment (from Division of Elections site):

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to: (1) Provide an exemption from ad valorem taxes levied by counties, municipalities, school districts, and other local governments on tangible personal property if the assessed value of an owner's tangible personal property is greater than \$25,000 but less than \$50,000. This new exemption, if approved by the voters, will take effect on January 1, 2013, and apply to the 2013 tax roll and subsequent tax rolls. (2) Authorize a county or municipality for the purpose of its respective levy, and as provided by general law, to provide tangible personal property tax exemptions by ordinance. This is in addition to other statewide tangible personal property tax exemptions provided by the Constitution and this amendment.

### Arguments for:

Supporters say this amendment will give tax relief to small businesses and help stimulate the economy. They say it provides a way for local governments to offer further reductions in the business tax.

### Arguments against:

Opponents say this amendment is part of a trickle-down economic theory that does not work. They say it will strip mil-

**Title on Ballot:** Tangible Personal Property Tax Exemption  
**Sponsor/Originator:** The Florida Legislature

**What it would do:** This amendment would double the tangible personal property tax exemption and allow local governments to increase the exemption.

**If You Vote Yes:** A "yes" vote means you want to double the tangible personal property tax exemption and allow cities and counties to expand the exemptions beyond that.

**If You Vote No:** A "no" vote means you do not want to double the tangible personal property tax exemption and you do not want to allow cities and counties to expand the exemptions.

lions in tax revenue from local governments struggling to provide basic services.

### Should the state's tangible personal property tax exemption be doubled?

This proposed amendment is about taxes assessed on tangible personal property used in a business or to earn income. Furniture, fixtures, machinery, tools, shelving, signs and equipment are examples of property that is subject to the state's tangible personal property tax.

By April 1 of each year, those owning tangible personal property that is used in

Please see AMENDMENT 10, Page 3

## Amendment 11

Summary of Amendment (from Division of Elections site):

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature, by general law and subject to conditions set forth in the general law, to allow counties and municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption equal to the assessed value of homestead property if the property has a just value less than \$250,000 to an owner who has maintained permanent residency on the property for not less than 25 years, who has attained age 65, and who has a low household income as defined by general law.

### Arguments for:

Supporters say this amendment will benefit elderly residents on fixed incomes. They say the property tax discount can help with medical bills and may allow more elderly residents to stay in their homes as they age.

### Arguments against:

Opponents say state and local governments face mounting budget shortfalls in part because of diminished property tax returns. Schools and local governments need to maintain the tax base.

### Should cities and counties be allowed to grant a full property tax exemption to certain low-income seniors?

**Title on Ballot:** Additional Homestead Exemption; Low-Income Seniors Who Maintain Long-Term Residency on Property; Equal to Assessed Value

**Sponsor/Originator:** The Florida Legislature

**What it would do:** This amendment would give an additional property tax exemption to low-income seniors who have lived in their home for more than 25 years.

**If You Vote Yes:** A "yes" vote means you think cities and counties should have the authority to grant a full property tax discount to eligible seniors.

**If You Vote No:** A "no" vote means you do not think that cities and counties should have the authority to grant a full property tax discount to eligible seniors.

Amendment 11 authorizes cities and counties to grant full homestead property tax relief to low-income seniors who have lived in their home for at least 25 years. In short, it would allow local governments to eliminate the entire property tax bill for qualifying seniors. Homeowners who meet the following requirements would be eligible: 1) aged 65 and older; 2) have a household income of less than \$27,030; 3) own a home with a market value of less than \$250,000; 4) have lived in the home for at least 25 years. City councils and county commissions must pass the exemption by a super-majority vote before

Please see AMENDMENT 11, Page 4



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your honesty continues to impress everyone who needs reassurance about a project. But be careful you don't lose patience with those who are still not ready to act.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Pushing others too hard to do things your way could cause resentment and raise more doubts. Instead, take more time to explain why your methods will work.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be more considerate of those close to you before making a decision that could have a serious effect on their lives. Explain your intentions and ask for their advice.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might have to defend a workplace decision you plan to make. Colleagues might back you up on this, but it's the facts that will ultimately win the day for you. Good luck.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) The Big Cat's co-workers might not be doing enough to help get that project finished. Your roars might stir things up, but gentle persuasion will prove to be more effective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Someone you care for needs help with a problem. Give it lovingly and without judging the situation. Whatever you feel you should know will be revealed later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) While you're to be admired for how you handled recent workplace problems, be careful not to react the same way to a new situation until all the facts are in.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Rely on your keen instincts as well as the facts at hand when dealing with a troubling situation. Be patient. Take things one step at a time as you work through it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your curiosity leads you to ask questions. However, the answers might not be what you hoped to hear. Don't reject them without checking them out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Be careful not to tackle a problem without sufficient facts. Even sure-footed Goats need to know where they'll land before leaping off a mountain path.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Appearances can be deceiving. You need to do more investigating before investing your time, let alone your money, in something that might have some hidden flaws.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Your recent stand on an issue could make you the focus of more attention than you would like. But you'll regain your privacy, as well as more time with loved ones by week's end.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're a good friend and a trusted confidante. You would be a wonderful teacher or a respected member of the clergy.

# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

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



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

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Wishing Well puzzle grid with letters and numbers.

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 REVERSAL

Super Crossword grid with clues for Across and Down.

Super Crossword grid with numbers 1-19.

## 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.

Go Figure puzzle grid with arithmetic signs and numbers.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult ★★★ GO FIGURE!

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## Saturday, Nov. 3

### Dining in the Dark

The Florida Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be holding its second annual Dining in the Dark banquet on Saturday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. at the Hilton Ocala, 3600 S.W. 36th Ave., Ocala. Tickets are \$45 individual and \$80 couple.

Event includes silent auction, raffle and dinner. Special guest speaker will be Miss Conner Boss, Florida USA contestant who has been legally blind since age 8.

For tickets call 352-873-4700 or email admin@fblind.org.

Florida Center for the Blind provides classes and instruction at absolutely no charge to teenagers, adults and seniors who are severely visually impaired.

### Women of the Moose yard sale

The WOTM, (Women Of The Moose) will be having a yard sale on Saturday, Nov. 3 starting at 8 a.m. at the Moose Lodge. Anyone may rent a table/space for \$10 (1st come, 1st served).

Moose members are asked to donate items to sell. Also hot dogs, hamburgers on the grill will be sold as well as wonderful baked goods.

To rent a table/space, donate items or for information call 352-237-1487 or 352-854-6070.

The Moose Lodge is at 10411 S.W. 110th St.

### Chess Club to meet

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

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Christ's Church Marion County An Independent Christian Church SUNDAY SERVICES Sunday School.....9:30 am Worship Service.....10:30 am Weekly Activities Wednesday Bible Study..7:00 pm SENIOR PASTOR DAVID BELLOWS 6768 SW 80th Street Ocala 34476 352-861-6182 www.ccomc.org

Christ's Church Marion County An Independent Christian Church SUNDAY SERVICES Sunday School.....9:30 am Worship Service.....10:30 am Weekly Activities Wednesday Bible Study..7:00 pm SENIOR PASTOR DAVID BELLOWS 6768 SW 80th Street Ocala 34476 352-861-6182 www.ccomc.org

game of chess. It's your move! For more information, call Ron at 352-873-2276

### Quail Meadow community yard sale

A community yard sale will take place at Quail Meadow, located off U.S. Highway 27 north of the new Publix. Watch for signs.

### Yoga at the park

Please join us in the Peace Park for our last session of the season at 9 a.m. promptly on Saturday, Nov. 3. For further information, call Ingrid at 352-854-7950.

### Civic Chorale's Salute to Veterans

For 25 years the dedicated musicians of The Marion Civic Chorale have brought to Marion County a wide repertoire of classical and popular music. Matthew Bumbach, MCC Conductor and Director of Vocal Studies, College of Central Florida, leads our 26th season with a "Salute to Veterans," including The Star Spangled Banner, Battle Hymn of the Republic, The Blue and the Grey, (a medley of Civil War songs), The Soldier Boy, The Prayer of the Children (men's ensemble), Bring Him Home (Les Miserables), Goin' Home (Largo of Dvorak's New World Symphony), and many others. Veterans will be recognized.

The Colors will be presented by the West Port High

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School Army JROTC Color Guard. Join us for rousing patriotic tunes we all know and love.

Concert Performances: St. George Anglican Cathedral, 3 p.m., Nov. 3, 5646 S.E. 28th St., Ocala.

Ocala Palms Community, 3 p.m. (private concert). Veterans Day Celebration, 1 to 2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10, 13005 N.E. 135th St., Fort McCoy.

First United Methodist Church, 3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 11, 1126 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala.

Conductor: Matthew Bumbach; Accompanist: Ricky Hendrix; Admission is free. Donations support our student scholarship program.

### Countryside Farms two-day sale

Countryside Farms community will host its annual community-wide yard sale on Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. and Nov. 4 beginning at 11 a.m.

Organizers say this will be the community's biggest ever sale with more families participating. Countryside Farms is on 93rd Street Road off State Road 200.

Wills • Trusts • Probate • Trust Administration Living Health & Financial Powers • Asset Protection Elder Law • Guardianship Avoidance • Estate Planning Structured Income for Heirs • Capital Gains Elimination MONTHLY BREAKFAST WORKSHOP L.L.M. Kelleen Kai Truesdell, J.D., L.L.M. Attorney & Counselor at Law The Truesdell Professional Building 200 N.W. 52nd Avenue - Ocala, Florida 34482 For a preview of the monthly workshop, visit: 873-4141 TRUESDELL.NET/MYDOCS

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