

WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

County starts to 'stuff the bus'

The largest school supply drive in Marion County celebrates a dozen years of giving to students this summer.

"Operation: Stuff the Bus" started in 2002 as a summer drive to gather school supplies for Marion County's homeless students. Today, the program helps approximately 2,500 needy students throughout Marion County Public Schools.

The annual program is co-sponsored by Marion County Public Schools and local military organizations.

"Operation: Stuff the Bus" affords local residents the opportunity to make a true difference in a homeless child's life by donating new school supplies, children's clothing, shoes, books and games, personal hygiene items, gifts cards and financial contributions. To date, the campaign has collected approximately \$375,000 in donations and merchandise, which has been distributed through the school district's Homeless Student program and guidance counselors.

A decorated school bus with ample room to "stuff" donations inside will sit at local retail stores from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., according to the following schedule:

Wednesday, July 17 - Walmart, 34 Bahia Ave.

Saturday, July 20 - Walmart, Easy Street, 2600 S.W. 19th Ave. Road.

Saturday, July 27 - Walmart Silver Springs, 4980 E. Silver Springs Blvd.

Saturday, Aug. 3 - Kmart, 10301 S.E. U.S. Highway 441, Belleview.

Sunday, August 4 - Zumba Class at Vanguard High, 7 N.W. 28th St. (1 to 3 p.m.)

Super Tuesday, Aug. 6 (various government offices).

Saturday, Aug. 10 - Walmart, The Villages, 17961 S. U.S. Highway 441, Summerfield.

Checks benefitting "Operation: Stuff the Bus" should be indicated as such and made payable to Operation: Stuff the Bus, c/o Homeless Children Program, Marion County Public Schools, 1517 S.E. 30th Ave. #5, Ocala, FL, 34471.

For more information, contact the school district's Homeless Children Program at 352-671-6847 or via email at Suzanne.McGuire@marion.k12.fl.us.



Above, West Port High School JROTC members Orestes Torres, Byron Coupal and Angel Gutierrez were some of the students greeting Walmart shoppers on State Road 200 Saturday as the "Stuff the Bus" project opened. At the left, Carol Walker and Suzanne McGuire display some of the donations of supplies that came in on Saturday.

PHOTOS BY RON RATNER

Medicare enrollment periods

BY CAROL CLARK
Shine Counselor

At age 65, and once you have worked and obtained 40 earnings credit quarters (approximately 10 years), you become eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A hospital coverage. If you chose to begin receiving Social Security benefits before age 65, then you will automatically receive your Medicare ID Card about three months before your 65th birthday.

If you have waited for full retirement age to apply for Social Security benefits, then you will need to contact the Social Security Administration and apply for a Medicare ID Card about three months before your 65th birthday. You can easily complete this process by phone or online at www.socialsecurity.gov.

It's a good idea to take a look at this website. You might be surprised what you can accomplish from the comfort of your home or office.

When your Medicare ID Card arrives, it will state "Part A (Hospital Coverage)" and "Part B (Medical Coverage)," with an "Effective Date" for each type of insurance coverage. If you already have alternate medical coverage through your or your spouse's employer, then you may not need Part B (Medical Coverage) at this time. If this is the case, you can simply return the entire Medicare ID Card to the Social Security Administration and request a new Medicare ID Card with just Part A (Hospital Coverage). Be sure to double-check with your Social Security benefits administrator to make sure that you do not have to take Part B when you turn 65. In 2013, Part B coverage has a monthly premium cost of \$104.90. That

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PHOTOS BY JIM CLARK

Memorial for deceased vets
The quarterly ceremony of reading the names of veterans who died in the past quarter took place Saturday. At the far left, Dave Bice was the bell-ringer; center, the Marine Corps League Color Guard presented the colors; above, Ed Jaworski, commander of American Legion Post 284, spoke before members of that post read the names.

Opting to Adopt event focuses on kittens



Marilyn Anderson holds some kittens available for adoption.

Kittens available

An Opting to Adopt event at PetSmart, Pet-Supermarket, and Petco sponsored by the Humane Society of Marion County and Sheltering Hands, was held July 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There were many special kittens on display looking for homes. Some other colors were available also. As the name implies most of the loving kittens were black and white and of them looking like they had a tuxedo on due to their black and white coloring. The special \$50 adoption fee included needed shots, spaying or neutered, microchipped, rabies and distemper vaccines. For more information please call 352-812-5575 or 352-873-7387.

Photos by Mike Roppel (tux cat owner).

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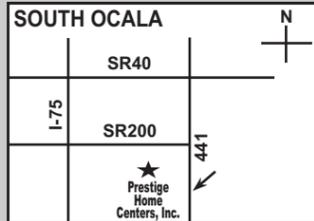


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Religion

Christ's Church of Marion County

Wednesday, July 17: Bible Study, 7 p.m.
 Thursday, July 18: Praise and Prayer Group, 9 a.m.
 Friday, July 19: Women's Fellowship "Flying Solo," 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday, July 21: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.
 Tuesday, July 23: Women's Crafts, 9 a.m.
 Wednesday, July 24: Bible Study, 7 p.m.
 Christ's Church of Marion County, 6768 S.W. 80th St. (off State Road 200), Ocala, 352-861-6182, <http://www.ccomc.org>.

Temple B'nai Darom

Temple B'nai Darom, 49 Banyan Course, Ocala, is offering complimentary tickets to High Holiday services conducted by Rabbi Harold Jaye, beginning with Erev Rosh Hashanah services at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 4.
 To receive your complimentary tickets, please call Dorothy Howard at 352-687-1799 or e-mail tdbvp1@centurylink.net including your name, address, e-mail address, phone number and the number of tickets needed.
 Additional services begin Rosh Hashanah morning, Sept. 5 at 10 a.m. Yom Kippur Eve (Kol Nidre) services begin 7:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 13. Yom Kippur morning services start 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 14. Concluding services including Yiskor begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

Crossroads Church of God

Future events on the calendar for August are:
 Vacation Bible School under the direction of Carmen Colon, Youth Pastor, from Wednesday, July 31 through Friday, Aug. 2, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
 You can reach Carmen at the CCOG phone number, 352-291-2080 for additional details. There will be many supervised activities for children up to 12 years of age. Please register before July 22, as space is limited.
 Back To School Bash - This event will take place on Aug. 3 from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
 The bash is designed to assist parents and children to prepare for the return to school by providing various supplies needed by the students.
 Just show up at CCOG parking lot early. There will be some recreation and refreshments will also be available. For more details contact Carmen Colon at 352-291-2080.
 Crossroads Church of God's 6th anniversary, Aug. 4, marks the sixth year that Bishop Paul and Melissa Woosley have served as spiritual leaders of the CCOG congregation.
 Bishop Paul Woosley presents the message, but first Melissa leads the congregation in praise and worship. The celebration will be at all services on Sunday, Aug. 4, at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services as well as the 6 p.m. service. All are encouraged to come and bring a friend.
 The church is at 8070 S.W. 60th Ave.

St. Jude Catholic Community

Creole Masses for the Haitians in our community are celebrated every second and fourth Sunday of the

month at 5 p.m. The next date is July 28.

Classes for Spanish as a second language are now in recess for the summer months. Classes will resume in Sept. 12.

LifeLong Religious Education classes are now in recess. Classes will resume on Aug. 25. Parents wishing to register their children for the 2013-2014 term may do so at this time at reduced tuition rates. Parents whose children will be attending classes are required to attend a mandatory orientation meeting on Saturday, July 27. Classes will resume at the end of August.

Vacation Bible School at Joy

Joy Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold its vacation bible school from July 22 to 26 from 9 a.m. to noon.

All children from 5 years of age through fifth grade are encouraged to attend and join the fun.

This year the theme for vacation bible school is "God's Backyard Bible Camp." Get ready for an outdoor adventure that starts in the backyard and gets bigger each day as kids take the love of Jesus into their homes, neighborhoods and communities. Through music, singing, bible stories, crafts and games the kids will learn how to apply God's truths to serving their family, friends, neighbors and others in community.

Registration for vacation bible school begins July 1, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the church office.

The program planners are also looking for students in the 6th grade and older plus some adults who would like to volunteer to assist the teachers and help with outdoor games.

For further information contact the VBS Coordinator, Joan Greve at 352-304-8711 or the church office at 352-854-4509 ext. 221.

Joy Lutheran Church is at 7045 S.W. 83rd Place at Highway 200, Ocala.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Emergency food and personal care assistance is available each Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Marion Oaks, 260 Marion Oaks Lane.

The pantry serves families and individuals in need from Marion Oaks, Florida Highlands and southwest Marion County with food and care items.

Anyone needing assistance must bring photo identification, social security cards for all family members and proof of income.

Groceries and personal care items are distributed based on need, family size and availability.

More than 1,700 people in Marion Oaks and surrounding areas have received assistance from the pantry since July 2012. The pantry is a partnership of Interfaith Emergency Services and Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

Groups and individuals in southwest Marion County who would like to support the pantry and help their neighbors may drop off donations at the church during pantry hours or call 352-347-0567 to make arrangements with a volunteer.

Special needs are canned fruit, peanut butter and jelly, shampoo, dish and laundry soap and toilet tis-

sue.

Donation checks can be mailed to Our Saviour Lutheran Church, marked "food pantry" at 260 Marion Oaks Lane, Ocala Fl. 34473.

Maranatha Baptist Church

Maranatha Baptist Church will host the gospel group "River Jordan" for a concert on Sunday evening, July 21 at 6 p.m.

For the summer, Pastor Mike Swingle has started a new program for children age 5 to grade 12; it is called S.L.A.M. (Summer Life at Maranatha) which meets at the church Sunday evening at 6 p.m.

He has also started a S.L.A.M., Jr. for children age 4 to grade 4 which also meets at the church Sunday evening at 6 p.m.

These are fun summer ministries that include a relevant Bible story/study, games, activities and snacks.

Pastor Mike Swingle invites all kids from from kindergarten to grade 5, to attend "Kidz Connect" ministry.

They meet once a month on the 2nd Friday of the month at 6 p.m. at the church. Pastor Mike also invites all students from grade 6 to grade 12, to join the teen ministry "Tranzformers", which meets on the 3rd Friday of each month at 6 p.m. at the church.

Each ministry combines fun, connecting with others and ultimately connecting with the God who created them. Please call the church for confirmation of meeting times.

These ministries will NOT be held during the month of July due to other activities.

5-DAY CLUB will be held from July 22 through the 26th from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the church for children 5 - 12. The Child Evangelism Fellowship will sponsor this program at no charge.

It consists of a Bible story, games, music and a snack.

Maranatha Baptist Church is at 525 Marion Oaks Trail.

Please call 352-347-5683 for further information and directions to the church.

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Schedule and prices subject to change without notice. Reduced ticket prices are for residents of On Top of the World Communities. (Resident ID required when purchasing at ticket office.) Ticket prices do not include sales tax. All ticket sales final. Refreshments available for purchase at events. To arrange for handicap seats, call or visit the ticket office. *Online tickets subject to a convenience fee.

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MEDICARE

continued from Page 1

premium amount can change, and even increase, because it is based upon your income. You are eligible to enroll three months before and up to three months after your birth month. Please note that there is a penalty for not enrolling once you are eligible. There are so many variables and exceptions to the rules and regulations of Medicare, that it will greatly benefit you to contact a SHINE counselor once you receive your Medicare ID Card (Florida Elder Helpline at 1-800-963-5337).

Medicare Part D (Prescription Coverage) also has a penalty if you do not enroll during the same time frame required for Part B, even if you are not currently taking any prescriptions. However, if you already have "creditable drug insurance coverage," you may wait until you or your spouse stop working, at which time you then have 63 days to choose and enroll in a drug plan without a penalty. If you ever move out of the insurance coverage area of a Medicare Advantage Plan or Part D drug plan, you also have a special enrollment period.

Call the Florida Elder Helpline at 1-800-963-5337 if you have questions regarding Medicare, are experiencing problems with your insurance coverage or to schedule a SHINE presentation for your group so you will be well equipped for Medicare's Open Enrollment Period (Oct. 15 until Dec. 7).

WEST MARION
Messenger
SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

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 Jagers
- Inside Sales/Office Coordinator - Michel Northsea
- Advertising Sales - Tom Rapplean and Kristy Kaigan
- Regional Manager - John Provost

Deadline for news:
Friday 1 p.m. the week before publication.

Member of the Community Papers of Florida

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

Hospice of Marion County is hosting a Butterfly Seminar on Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Hospice Education Center (3231 S.W. 34th Ave. Ocala). Edith Smith, regionally-renowned butterfly expert and owner of Shady Oak Butterfly Farm in Brooker, will conduct the seminar.

Edith's farm has been featured in "The Dangerous World of Butterflies" by Peter Laufer, plus several magazines and newspapers including Country Woman, Florida Agriculture, Ocala Style and the Jacksonville Journal. You can learn more about Edith at

www.memorialbutterflies.com.

During this seminar, Edith will teach how to build a basic butterfly garden habitat, basic butterfly lifecycle and facts, and how to create a butterfly garden in a container. Pre-registration is required. Call 352-854-5218 or go to www.hospiceofmarion.com. Cost is \$25, which includes seminar, butterfly host plant and refreshments. Your registration includes a visit to a custom-designed, interactive butterfly garden with more than 250 butterflies and host plants. Proceeds benefit Children's Bereavement Programs.

Auditions July 20 for Aladdin Jr.

Sultans and sandstorms! Open auditions for the Ocala Civic Theatre youth production of Disney's Aladdin Jr. will be held on Saturday, July 20 at 9 a.m.

A talented young cast will bring to life this stage version of the popular Disney animated movie musical. Set in the mysterious desert city of Agrabah, this is the tale of our plucky young hero Aladdin and his legendary journey from street urchin to "Prince Ali." All your favorites are here: "Friend Like Me," the hilarious Genie of the enchanted lamp with all its wishes and wonders, brave and beautiful Princess Jasmine, wicked

Jafar and his wisecracking parrot Iago, and all the other exotic treasures of these Arabian nights.

Ages 8-15 may audition. No experience is necessary. Students should prepare a short song to audition with. Directed by Education Director Kirstin Kennedy, this exciting two-week performance camp meets Monday through Friday, August 5 to August 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuition is \$250. Camp ends with three performances: Friday, Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 17 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets go on sale July 15 at \$10 for adults and \$6 for students.

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Trying to stay sane in a politically correct world

All through my life, I have been awkward when talking to someone of the opposite gender. I had thought by the time I got to this stage of life, post-young, I would have left a lot of this behind.



Out to Pastor
Dr. James Snyder

Just when I think I have a good handle on this situation, something happens setting me back at least two generations.

I was doing fine until I heard a news report giving information that the word "freshman" was no longer a politically correct word to use when speaking of college students.

They are now referred to as "First-Year Students." According to this report, the word freshman is offensive to women.

How and why it is offensive, they never did say but being in a politically correct world this word may no longer be used.

This is where my confusion comes in. Where are these individuals offended by the word "freshman?" I wish they would come and explain to me how this word offends them.

This word has been used for generation after generation and this is the first time it is hurting certain individuals.

I brought this to the attention of the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to see if maybe she could shed a little bit of light on the situation. Unfortunately, she was as much in the dark about this as I was.

I try to keep up with the latest trends and I must say that I am around 18 years behind my schedule.

So, I am trying to retain a wee bit of sanity in this politically correct world around me.

Frankly, I do not know why anybody wants to be politically correct. Being the sensitive kind of person that I am, I am going to give it the old college try.

I sat down with my wife and we began to figure out how that I, a very sensitive and politically correct person, could address somebody of the opposite gender.

"I guess I can still call them women," I said with a degree of certainty in my voice.

My wife looked at me and slowly shook her head.

"I'm afraid that the word 'women,' is offensive to some of these politically correct individuals because the word ends in 'men,' which is a masculine gender."

I looked at her and scratched my head vigorously.

"It also applies," she continued, "with the word 'woman' because it also ends with the masculine 'man.'"

I never really gave this much thought before.

It never occurred to me that the last three letters of a word could be offensive to someone to the point that they are offended by that word.

"So," I said rather thoughtfully rubbing my chin, "I will have to begin calling those individuals females." I smiled and thought I had come up with a solution. I looked at my wife to get her approval.

Shaking her head, she said, "That word is not acceptable anymore, either. If you look at the word, you will find that it ends in the word 'male,' and as you know that is masculine."

I am really getting bogged down with all of this political correctness nonsense.

How people can be so sensitive to be upset by a word. My father used to say, "Sticks and stones may break my bones (but words will never hurt me)."

"Well," I said in a little bit of desperation, "I guess I'll just have to call them lady."

"Not so fast," she said looking at me. "How do you spell lady? The first three letters spell the word 'lad,' and everybody knows a lad is a boy."

It has been a long time since I have been this frustrated.

For the life of me I do not intend to offend anybody if it all possible.

I am just getting to the point where I am not sure it is going to be possible not to offend persons of the opposite gender.

I finally came up with the word I thought would solve all my political correctness dilemma. And I threw it at her. "I will just call them a person." I was proud of my accomplishment.

Someone, no names will be mentioned, laughed hysterically at me while shaking her head.

"Buster," she said, "you still don't get it, do you?"

The word person ends with the word 'son' and everybody knows a son is a male child."

I cannot call them women or woman

or female or lady or person because somewhere in those words someone sees something masculine.

"I know what I'll do," I said to my wife with a smile dancing across my face, "whenever I see someone of the opposite gender I will shout out loud and clear 'Hey, you.'"

"I think you're getting worse as you go along here," she said.

"You do know what the word 'hey' begins with?"

I thought for a moment, sadly shaking my head, I looked at her and said, "He?"

I will never arrive at any degree of political correctness, at least during my lifetime.

And, I will never understand any one of the opposite gender, whatever you call them.

I do take a little consolation in God's Word. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11 KJV).

I do not have to be politically correct when I come to God because His Word is final.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnyderministries.com.

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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">OVER 1700 SQ. FT. \$32,900</p>  <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">LOT 113</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">NEED LOTS OF ROOM? With over 1700 sq. ft. of living area, this home package is priced for quick action. For just \$32,900, OBO, you can enjoy the comfort of moving into a very spacious home with like-new carpeting throughout. It features a factory-built Florida room to enjoy those sunny days. Come make an offer today. Compare our lot rent of only \$368/month.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">LEASE \$650/mo BUY \$25,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">LOT 2</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">THIS HOME IS IMMACULATE! If you need an affordable, furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath home, this is it! Everything is included... kitchen appliances, washer/dryer, pots/pans, coffee pot, TV - EVERYTHING! 12-month lease is only \$650/month and includes water, sewer and trash. Background check required of all applicants/occupants. \$60 application fee per occupant.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">SHOWS LIKE NEW \$55,900 OBO</p>  <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">LOT 230</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">A DOUBLE CARPORT WELCOMES YOU TO this delightful 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. 1300 sq. ft. Skyline/Cameron features a large eat-in kitchen and spacious open living room. Complete drywall finish throughout. Built with energy efficiency in mind. New washer/dryer and refrigerator complete this package. See this lovely home as this won't last long.</p>

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Fairfield Village's 'Home of the Month' for July



Fairfield Village
Priscilla Geissal

As is the case each month, Fairfield Village's community manager, Rachel Muse, has selected an especially lovely home to be honored as "Home of the Month." The honor goes to Alberta and "Pete" Parker who have lived in FFV for more than a decade and are very popular among the neighbors.

Unfortunately, the Parkers were not available to be photographed with their home, but Alberta graciously told me by way of a phone conversation to go ahead with the photo. The only problem with that is that the photo would have been much better with Pete and Alberta in it because they are both very attractive people as is their home which is on the left at the intersection at the main entrance to FFV.

Having seen both Pete and Alberta working in their yard and with their many flowers and other plants on many occasions, I am aware of the pride they take in their home's exterior appearance. During a recent visit with Alberta, I found the interior of their home to be immaculate and very appealing.

The maintenance of their home is obviously a top priority for this couple. Hopefully, the accompanying photos will do justice to the efforts that they put into their home.

Fairfield Village, which is often called "...the lively place filled with lovely people..." really appreciates neighbors like Pete and Alberta Parker who take pride in their home. We say, "Congratulations" and enjoy your prize.



The vibrant color of one of the crepe myrtles in the Parker's yard is strikingly beautiful in the morning sunlight.



The Parkers have many beautiful individual garden areas like the tiered one shown in the photo.

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It's time to celebrate the taste of ice cream

Did you know that we have a special "holiday" on July 21? This is the kind of holiday everyone can celebrate; it's National Ice Cream Day! You shouldn't feel guilty eating a nice dish or cone of ice cream on Sunday; after all, it is a national holiday!

This is the one day set aside to honor everything cool, sweet and creamy, and celebrated every year on the third Sunday in July. In 1984 President Ronald Reagan officially declared July as National Ice Cream Month, and established National Ice Cream Day as the third Sunday in July.



In honor of the popular dessert that's guaranteed to lift you up and cool you down on even the hottest summer day, let's all go out for a treat.

Along with our ice cream, we could also have some "junk" food; this year National Junk Food Day also falls on Sunday.

For you trivia buffs, here are some Ice cream fun facts:

The U.S. nationally enjoys an average of 48 pints of ice cream per person every year; making Americans the #1 ice cream consumers worldwide; New Zealand ranks #2.

The top five ice cream flavors enjoyed by Americans are vanilla, chocolate, strawberry, chocolate



Quail Meadow

Carolyn Slocumb

chip, and butter pecan.

Marco Polo, the explorer, returned from a trip to the Far East with a recipe for what resembled sherbet and gave the Europeans their first taste of what we now know as ice cream.

Ice cream eventually made its way to Colonial America where official records show that President George Washington allocated a total of \$200 on ice cream purchases during the hot summer of 1790.

Late in the 19th century, America's soda shops gave in to pressure from local churches that demanded the popular "ice cream soda" not be served on Sundays. The shop owners had a simple solution: remove the soda and call it an "ice cream sundae".

At the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, a vendor ran out of ice cream cups to serve his customers.

He got help from a neighboring vendor who provided rolled-up waffle cones in which to serve the ice cream treat...and thus was born the ice cream cone.

Last Friday was the First Friday gathering at the clubhouse.

This was a great evening of enjoying visiting with neighbors and friends.

There were over 20 residents who ventured out in the rain for a fun evening. The next gathering will be Aug. 2.

It's bad to end on a sad note, but many of us lost a dear friend on July 4th. Mary Cay Ruppe's struggle with several health issues ended that day. Paul and Mary Cay have been residents here in QM for many years. Our deepest sympathy goes to Paul and the family.

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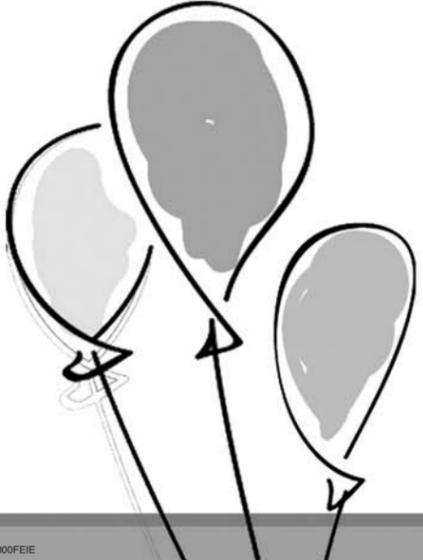
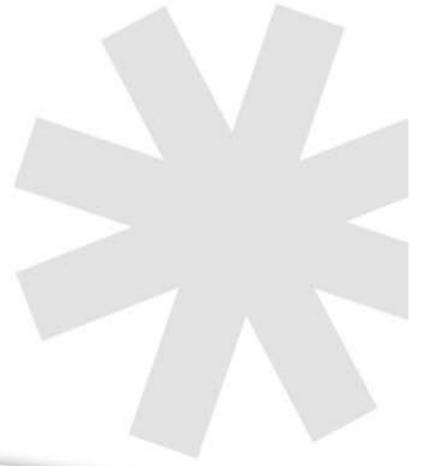
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Opinion

Our Message

DEP: Don't reward speed

Reaping \$8.8 million in savings over the past year from program revisions and staff reductions, Florida's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recently asked for and received approval from the state's 14-member Legislative Budget Committee to use \$571,961 of those savings for employee bonuses.

Based on performance criteria of customer feedback and how quickly the permitting process is completed, the bonuses, ranging from \$722 to \$6,000, will go to 269 employees of the department's nearly 1,600-member regulatory program.

The DEP's performance criteria for the bonuses — even though the bonuses in question will be awarded for permit decisions already made — is flawed because it sends the message that speed is more important than scrutiny.

Given human nature, emphasizing speed as the standard rather than scrutiny will undoubtedly influence future permit decisions by suggesting to employees that they limit the scope and circumspection of the permitting process at the expense of the department's core mission of protecting the environment.

Following Gov. Rick Scott's elimination of the Department of Community Affairs — which reviewed large development plans and legislation — passed in 2011 and reduced the permit review time from 90 to 60 days, rewarding employees for speeding up the permitting process particularly sends the wrong message.

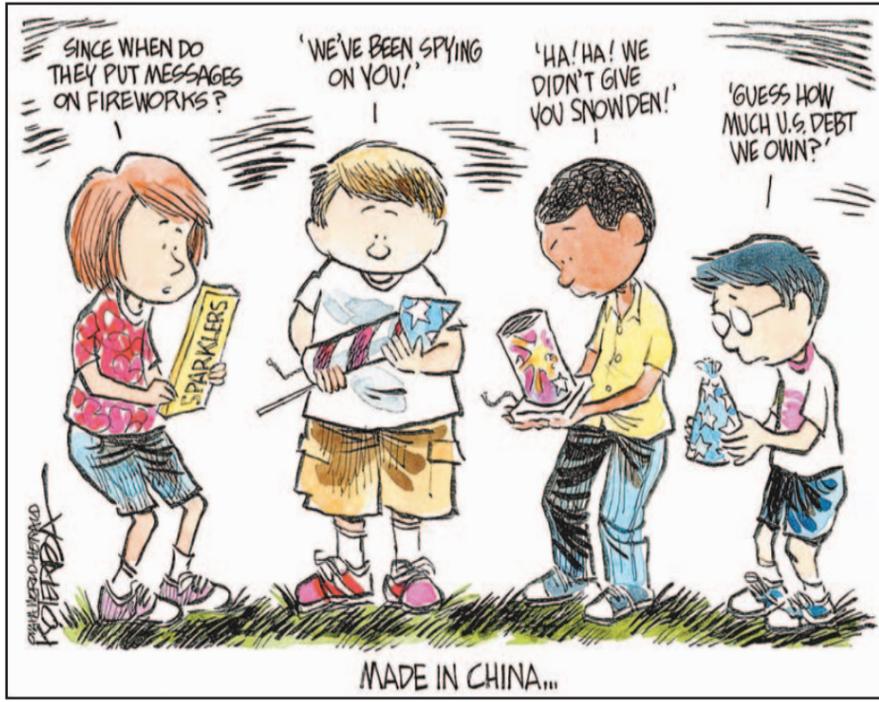
While efficiency is certainly an appropriate goal for the DEP, the desire to expedite bureaucracy must be balanced with the department's core mission of protecting Florida's natural resources.

By utilizing flawed criteria, both the DEP and Legislative Budget Commission have apparently lost sight of the department's charge to protect, conserve and manage the state's natural resources, as well as enforce its environmental laws.

Given the state's earlier steps backward on environmental policy, Floridians should be especially concerned that the very agency responsible for protecting our state's natural resources has opted to reward employees for sacrificing in-depth review in favor of speed.

Citrus County Chronicle

Editorial



Your letters

Abortion laws state-by-state

After years of opposing abortion by public witnessing, sidewalk counseling, distributing literature, holding and promoting rallies, giving and listening to motivational speeches, and many other methods of transmitting the pro-life message, we realized that the number of reported abortions continued to expand each year in spite of our best efforts. It was then that our ministry acknowledged the obvious: Only state-by-state legislation could reduce or eliminate abortion.

Saving one baby at a time is following the Christian teaching of protecting the least of us by prayer, action, and compassionate support, and those who practice this method of abortion opposition are to be commended. However, 40 years of such activity has not deterred nor altered the abortion of millions of unborn children which should be our cardinal consideration.

Since the year 2011 we have witnessed a reversal in thinking by many state legislators and these reversals have had a positive impact on the agenda of the pro-life community. It can be debated whether these reversals were politically motivated or for more lofty reasons.

Reported abortion numbers are still at an all-time high, but as limitations on abortion become law in many states, logic suggest that future abortion numbers will decrease.

In 2011, Florida passed five significant pro-life laws including the important "sonogram law." This same year many other states made historic progress in their victories for life.

In 2012, there were more than 60 new life-affirming state laws enacted with 38 related to abortion, indicating a renewed culture of life. Even our slow-to-act media have noted the revitalization of interest in pro-life legislation.

To quote Mother Teresa, "Abortion kills twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of the mother. Abortion is profoundly anti-women."

Mabel Ryan
Life Education Ministry, Inc.
Ocala

Let freedom - and God - ring!

Believers endeavor to make life better and more meaningful for all people: believers, nonbelievers, the misguided, in the name of God.

Many atheists are content to live their non-belief and allow others to practice their own beliefs. Other atheists, however, feel the need to force their non-belief on people who don't want or need it.

The overwhelming majority of Americans see prayer as the answer to life's adventures and struggles. They must be allowed to pray in churches, schools, public areas, wherever they wish. One goal of atheism is to strip away that freedom.

Another goal of atheism is their version of separation of church and state.

Atheists are deliberately camouflaging the principle of the First Amendment which ultimately leads to that separation. Their real objective is a deliberate-swipe at religious ideas ... the very principles that America was founded on.

Atheists, rather than inflicting their misbeliefs on those who don't welcome them, should be concentrating on improving the lives of others, just as be-

Vet readings still an impressive ceremony

When my father died back in 2004, I had no idea there was a quarterly reading of names at Veterans Memorial Park every three months.

In that reading, the list of every veteran who died in the previous three months is read aloud, a ceremonial bell is rung twice after each name, and there is a continuous drum roll while the names are being articulated.

The ceremony also includes the singing of "God Bless America," the bugling of "Assembly" and "Taps," and a 21-gun salute.

If I had known nine years ago, I would have found a way to be there.

It's a final goodbye to the men and women who served their country, whether in peace or war, whether at home or abroad.

These are not necessarily people who died in action, or who dedicated their whole lives to the military, just ordinary people who said goodbye to the comforts of home and family to go, in some cases, far away to uphold the honor of the United States of America.

You don't have to have lost a veteran to attend.

It's outdoors, and a little hot and humid at this time of year, but it's worth it just to go and listen, and look at the faces around you.

Some who attend are regulars, but you can tell that some are there for the first time, probably because the name of a loved one is about to be read.

Those are the people who are not standing around in friendly conversation before the event starts; they're just sitting there buried in their own thoughts and memories.

Sheriff Chris Blair was there, but not a whole lot of county government was



Among Friends

Jim Clark

represented.

Local military groups take turns doing the reading ... this time it was American Legion Post 284.

Veterans Memorial Park, at the corner of East Silver Springs Boulevard and 25th Avenue, is host to many military-type honors and events.

The Veterans Day ceremony, with hundreds of school children bused in, is one of the most impressive anywhere in North Central Florida. (Hopefully, school budget cuts won't prevent the attendance of the children).

If you've never taken the time to explore the park, by all means do so.

Wander around slowly and take a look at all the memorials scattered through the area.

The paths and even the gazebo are wheelchair-friendly, too. Admittedly, there's a lot to cover, so going in the heat of the day may not be advisable at this time of year. But when you get the chance, do so, and remember that a lot of the people honored there went through a lot more than a little summer heat during their service in the military.

And if you can, early in October, take in the quarterly memorial reading. It's an impressive ceremony that you will remember for a long time.

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 352-854-3986.

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 month. 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 103, Ocala, FL 34481; or e-mail editor@westmarionmessenger.com.

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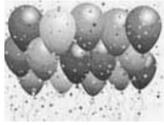
GERRY MULLIGAN

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JOHN PROVOST

EDITOR:

JIM CLARK



Happenings

Thursday, July 18

Air Force group to meet

The July meeting of the Air Force Association (AFA) will be on Thursday, July 18 at 7 p.m. at the Ocala International Airport Administration Building, 750 S.W. 60th Ave., Ocala.

Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Mike Emig at 352-854-8328 (leave message).

SPCA to meet

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) of Marion County will meet on Thursday, July 18, at 1 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at the Bank of the Ozarks in Friendship Center on State Road 200. The meeting is open to everyone in the community. Please call 352-362-0985 for information or directions.

Saturday, July 20

Tom Petty tribute

The Petty Hearts band brings you a Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers tribute experience that will take you back in time to when rock was cool and huge hits like "American Girl," "Free Fallin'" and "Don't Do Me Like That" ruled the airwaves. The Petty Hearts lead singer, TJ Cronin, looks, plays and sounds just like Tom Petty, even his sense of humor. The five member band is made up of some of south Florida's finest musicians who nail the "signature riffs, classic tones and rich vocal harmonies" that made Tom Petty an icon.

Tickets start at \$12.

Don't miss this tribute to one of the greats. The Petty Hearts will take the stage on Saturday, July 20 at 7 p.m. at Circle Square Cultural Center, 8395 S.W. 80th St. in Ocala. For more information on the 2013 entertainment line-up including times, dates and tickets, visit www.CSCulturalCenter.com or call 352-854-3670.

Book sale for animal food

A book sale to benefit the Animal Charity Food

Bank will be Saturday, July 20, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Winn-Dixie, 8445 S.W. Highway 200, Ocala.

Donate a bag of cat food and get three free books. Also bring your aluminum cans for recycling. For information, call 352-291-1962

Sunday, July 21

Dancing encouraged at jazz function

The Ocala Jazz Society will host an afternoon of music at the VFW hall on Sunday, July 21 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Open to everyone, organizers say the event offers "incomparable musicians featuring great tunes for everyone and dancing is encouraged."

The afternoon is \$3.

The post is at 9401 S.W. 110th St., Ocala.

For more info call Diana, 352-237-0234.

Thursday, July 25

Meet the county administrator

The League of Women Voters of Marion County will present a "Meet the County Administrator" event on Thursday, July 25, and Live Oak Hall, Master the Possibilities Education Center, 8415 S.W. 80th St., at 4 p.m.

Dr. Lee Niblock will discuss the duties of the office of county administrator and answer questions.

The event is open to the public.

Saturday, July 27

Concert band's two-day event

The Kingdom of the Sun Concert Band, under the direction of Les Muncaster, announces its July "By Request" concert series scheduled for Saturday, July 27 at 2 p.m. and Sunday, July 28 at 3 p.m.

Concerts are held at the Marion Technical Institute (MTI), 1614 S.E. Fort King St., Ocala. Musical selections include: "Selections from Fiddler on the Roof," "Memory" (from the musical "CATS"); "Moon River," "God Bless America," "Star Trek Symphonic Suite" and others. Our annual "By Request" performances feature selections requested by you, our audience

members. All performances are free and open to the public.

For more information, call 352-624-9291 or visit our website at kingdomofthesunband.org.

Sunday, July 28

Bowling party for Temple B'nai Darom

Temple B'nai Darom is holding a Bowling Party at AMF Galaxy East, 3225 E. Maricamp Road, on Sunday, July 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person and includes shoe rental, two games of bowling, a pizza party and door prizes.

For tickets or information, contact Elaine at 352-789-5617.

Tuesday, July 30

Breast cancer group to meet off site

The SOS (Sisterhood of Survivors) Breast Cancer Support Group meets the last Tuesday of each month at Ocala West United Methodist Church, 9330 S.W. 105th St. Room 235, (Multipurpose Rm) at 1 p.m.

Our meeting on Tuesday, July 30, will be a luncheon off site at Stone Creek Grille at 1 p.m. in Stone Creek Community, 9676 S.W. 62nd Loop.

If heading east on State Road 200 you would turn left on Southwest 80th Avenue and go about three miles.

Turn left into Stone Creek Communities which will be on the left past Sholom Park. Please call Gail Tirpak at 352-291-6904 if you have not signed up and would like to attend.

Monday, Aug. 5

Civic Chorale begins rehearsals

Marion Civic Chorale will begin rehearsals for its 27th season on Monday, Aug. 5, at 6:45 p.m. at St. George Anglican Church, 5646 S.E. 5th St., Ocala, and new members are always welcome. Call 352-537-8833 or visit <http://MarionCivicChorale.tripod.com> for more information.

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LETTERS

continued from Page 8
lievers do.

American Atheists recently erected a monument in Starke, Florida; a knee-jerk reaction to a memorial that had been previously erected there by believers.

And, American Atheists plan to erect 50 more monuments across America in public areas where believers have already placed memorials to celebrate their freedoms.

These efforts will certainly not advance the causes of American Atheists.

Instead, they will only serve to diminish their already tarnished image.

Joe O'Hara
Ocala

Knights planning golf tournament

The Knights of Columbus, Council 9649, is having its Annual Queen of Peace Charity Scramble Golf Outing at Stone Creek Golf Club on Saturday, Oct. 5 (rain delay date is Saturday, Oct. 12).

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Registration fee is \$65 per person and includes a packet of free items, complimentary morning coffee, golfers buffet lunch, and golf with cart.

Contact Fred Roberts prior to Sept. 21 at 352-502-3093 for details and registration form.

Go Figure!

answers

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×		+		×	
5	×	3	+	1	16
30		19		13	

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Ride 18 \$15.00

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Advertisements may be canceled as soon as results are obtained. You will be billed only for the dates the ad actually appears in the paper. Deadlines for cancellations are the same as the deadlines for placing ads, except for specials.

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Situations Wanted

Woman Needed
From 200 area to drive lady to appointments and occasional shopping.
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Therapy Management Corporation, a company committed to service excellent is currently looking for a Human Resources Rep in Homosassa, FL. 3+ years HR experience, ADP preferred. Please send resume to: humanresources@therapymgmt.com or fax resume to 352.382.8024.

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Real Estate For Sale

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WEST MARION Messenger
SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

Call Toll Free 1-877-676-1403

A big 'thank you' to the Stone Creek community



Stone Creek
Patricia Gizzi

Communities, like people, always like to be thanked for their good deeds. Recently, I wrote how Fitness Director, Judy Helfin had challenged Chris Johnson, SC manager and then Rick Morang, Maintenance Director to lose weight. \$1041.50 was donated to the Soup Kitchen.

Below is a portion of the letter sent to Stone Creek. Brothers Keeper is a ministry of Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

Dear Benefactors of Brothers Keeper Soup Kitchen,

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to you for your donation of \$1041.50. This money came from your community, Stone Creek. God has a way of remembering the poor. Who would think of such a thing as to lose weight in order to feed the poor and the homeless who depend on the soup kitchen for their daily meal? We thank all of you who lost weight and those who pledged and donated money to the needy. Your kind thoughtfulness can teach other communities to participate in feeding and clothing the needy who live among us in Ocala. There is always a way to assist others without feeling the pinch, but in a Christian way we give until we feel the pinch, that is compassion.

The Stone Creek Community has a heart for the poor and the homeless and show this in many ways. For example, a good number of volunteers at the soup kitchen come from your community. They are very active and committed in providing what is needed at the soup kitchen. They collect canned food. (This is the Garden Club.) and they bring leftovers to the soup kitchen. (This is the Kitchen Club, the Veterans Club, The Social Committee functions)...

The Soup Kitchen is in need of a cook for Tuesday when many of the Stone Creek crew works. For one day a week. Boy, if you really work hard at the soup



At left, some of the Stone Creek Tuesday crew. Above, Sister Concepta with one of her favorite people ... a child.

kitchen and sweat you cannot fail to lose few pounds with no cost. Just between you and God. Double your reward in heaven, imagine!

Well dear benefactors, putting food on the table is a noble job and we thank you very much for choosing to assist us. Sister Concepta will be in Stone Creek in September to talk about the soup kitchen. (Sister will present her talk at the Garden Club's September meeting - September 5 at 1 pm.)

Gratefully yours in Jesus Our Lord,
Sister Concepta Najjemba

If you are interested in volunteering at the Soup Kitchen or being Tuesday's cook, you can contact Sister Concepta at 352-629-1292.

Individuals can make a difference and collectively we make a bigger difference.

The Veterans of Stone Creek began their third food drive on July 15. We are pleased to coordinate this worthwhile community project which impacts the lives of many Marion County residents. And as always, we are very appreciative of the Stone Creek Community's generous participation. You can make a difference in others lives. In 2012 the Stone Creek residents generously donated over 4,500 pounds of food and personal hygiene products. Furthermore, in the two Food Drives earlier this year, we estimated to have collected approximately 2325 pounds of food.

Once again the Stone Creek Community gives back to the Ocala Community!

ROMA ITALIAN RESTAURANT

FRIDAY
Lobster & 2 Sides
\$13⁹⁵ 1 LB. | \$16⁹⁵ 1/2 LB.

SATURDAY
Prime Rib & 2 Sides
\$13⁹⁵ 10-12 OZ. | \$22⁹⁵ FOR TWO

MONDAY
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