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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1,
2014

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Helping Veterans

The Greater Ocala Woman's Club and The Pioneer Garden Club jointly presented a \$400 check to the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village for the purchase of a bike rack for the veterans. The idea was generated by the generosity of Nancy and Scott Hutchinson. Pictured are GFWC members, Charlene Earl, Nancy Hutchinson, Rosalie Laudano, Sandra Stipins and President Scott Hutchinson. Pioneer Garden Club members pictured include Kimbra Danielson and Eileen Ferguson. First Vice President Dolly Rodriguez, Health Services Manager of the Ocala Ritz Veterans Village, accepts the donation.

Hospital lease plan delayed

Marion County Hospital District Trustee Chairman Jon Kurtz announced that he has been notified by Health Management Associates, Inc. (HMA) that HMA has decided to defer approval of the proposed definitive agreement for the long-term lease of Munroe Regional Medical Center to Community Health Systems, Inc. (CHS).

CHS is currently pursuing a merger with HMA, which is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2014.

The proposed Munroe Regional lease agreement is contingent on the successful completion of the CHS/HMA merger, and Kurtz does not expect that CHS will take formal action on the lease agreement until after the closing of the CHS/HMA merger.

CHS has communicated to Kurtz that it remains committed to completing the proposed lease transaction after the close of the CHS/HMA merger, pending Board approval, and that it remains excited about the opportunity to work with the medical staff and employees of Munroe Regional in their service to the community.

Kurtz also indicated that the District stands ready to consummate the proposed lease agreement as soon as it receives approval from CHS and all necessary regulatory approvals have been obtained.

County graduation rate surpasses Florida average

For the second straight year, Marion County's graduation rate surpassed Florida's state-wide average — 76.74 percent compared to 75.57 percent.

Last year, the numbers were 75.25 percent and 74.47 percent for Marion and Florida, respectively.

From another perspective, Marion's graduation rate has been climbing for years. Just five years ago, Marion's graduate rate was significantly lower at 54

percent, far below the state's 62.7 rate. See the graph attached to this release for an historical perspective.

In addition, the number of students dropping out of high school is dropping even more — 1.7 percent compared to last year's 2 percent and also below Florida's 2 percent.

Both numbers are significant when considering the overall effectiveness of public school programs in Florida.

The federal graduation rate, now considered the standard in all states, includes standard diplomas but excludes GEDs and special diplomas. This cohort graduation rate is based on the percentage of students who entered ninth grade four years ago and received a standard high school diploma within four years.

Dropout rates are based on the percentage of students who withdrew from

high school within a school year but did not enroll in another educational program.

Graduation and dropout rates reflect much more than just the hard work of high schools; from Pre-K through grade 8, educators, administrators, and support personnel lay the groundwork for success as students enter high school.

For details, visit www.fldoe.org/news/2013/2013_12_11.asp.

Social justice film festival scheduled

First Congregational Church of Ocala, in furtherance of its Christian mission, presents the 2014 Ocala Social Justice Film Festival, featuring six films that focus on issues of social justice. Each of these films will be hosted by a facilitator, who will introduce the film and lead a short discussion following the film. Admission is free, but goodwill offerings will be gladly accepted. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday, Feb. 1, **PATHS OF GLORY**
 Kirk Douglas plays a military officer who believes in the concept of military justice.

Saturday, Feb. 8, **MATEWAN**
 This is an historically accurate account of the attempts of West Virginia coal miners to organize. The cast includes James Earl Jones and Chris Cooper.

Saturday, Feb. 15, **BOYCOT**

This film documents Dr. Martin Luther King's leadership of the Montgomery bus boycott.

Saturday, Feb. 22, **THE MILAGRO BEAN FIELD WAR**

Directed by Robert Redford, this movie depicts a conflict between developers and a local Latino population.

Saturday, March 1, **PHILADELPHIA**
 Featuring Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington, this movie examines long-standing prejudices against gay people.

Saturday, March 8, **CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY**

Michael Moore's satirical look at the American economic system. This movie questions many basic assumptions.

Please join us each Saturday evening, From Feb. 1 to March 8, at 7 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 7171 SW State Road 200 (352-237-3035), for the 2014 Social Justice Film Festival.



Fairfield Village home decorating

First Place winners are Cesar and Lucila Perez. The lovely home has a bit of a Hispanic flair to coincide with the fantastic Christmas decorations. The lighted flamingo to the left of the home has a personality all its own and sends greetings from Cesar and Lucila. Congratulations to the Perez family. More, Page 2.

Fairfield Village Christmas decorations winners chosen

This year the neighbors of FFV outdid themselves in decorating their homes for the holiday season. The judging committee had a very difficult time in choosing the top three winners. Because of the tight competition, three other homes were chosen for honorable mention.

First Place: Cesar and Lucila Perez, 5659 SW 57th Court.

Second Place: John and Bernadette Ritchie, 5853 SW 56th Place.

Third Place: Bruce and Nancy Taylor, 5813 SW 56th Place.

Honorable Mentions: James and Roberta Helmich, Headley Wilson and Calvin McLean, Ken and Nina Stiles.

This year's annual Christmas Potluck Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 21, was a big success again. Everyone enjoyed all the fantastic dishes and desserts along with the fun of the conversations with other neighbors.



Fairfield Village
Priscilla Barnett

It was very obvious that the holiday spirit was in abundance, but that was no surprise to those of us who have lived in Fairfield Village for a long time or for those who are relatively new in our community. We always try to live up to our reputation as "the lively place filled with lovely people," and that is true again this holiday season.

From these "lively..lovely people" come wishes for a wonderfully Happy New Year. Stay safe and look forward with us to a fantastic 2014.



Second Place was won by John and Bernadette Ritchie. The spiral Christmas trees and beautifully decorated and lighted packages catch everyone's attention. The adorable little train to the left is a visual of many of the "Christmases Past" that we all remember. Congratulations to the Ritchies for a beautifully decorated home.



Third Place was awarded to Bruce and Nancy Taylor. The huge whimsical snowman and candy canes attract the inner child still there in all of us. There were also other elements that added to the theme that the Taylors presented so effectively. Congratulations to Bruce and Nancy.



Lil Oliver, left, and Diane Blanchette were the consensus winners of the unofficial Christmas Attire Contest at the Christmas Potluck Dinner on Dec. 21 in the Fairfield Village Clubhouse. Beautiful smiles, ladies!

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Mortgage burning party scheduled for Jan. 11

Happy New Year! Now that we have adjusted to writing 2013, we get to change it to 2014! There are some big things coming our way in Quail Meadow this year. The first such event is the Mortgage Burning Party on Saturday, Jan. 11. Yes, the mortgage on the clubhouse is "Paid in Full." The festivities will begin at 5 p.m. when we will raise the flag, dedicate the Clubhouse and burn the mortgage with special music by the Rowdy Boys Barber Shop Quartet. Rev. William Harrel, a QM resident, will officiate at the dedication ceremony. Following the outside activities we will go into the hall for more songs and appetizers to whet your appetite for the chicken marsala dinner



Quail Meadow
Carolyn Slocumb

catered (back by popular demand) by D & R Party Planning. Also, back by popular demand the "R Music For You" group will provide music for an evening of singing and dancing. The appetizer, dinner and entertainment ticket is \$8 for everything. Please note: you do not need to bring table service - it will be

provided. For appetizer and entertainment only (no dinner) the ticket is \$3. Tickets are available from Carol Sjogren and Charlotte Payne. Please get your tickets early; cut-off date is Jan. 7.

Now that Christmas is over, it's time to take down and put away the decorations. We will do this at the clubhouse on Thursday, Jan. 2. If you would like to help, please meet at the clubhouse at 7 p.m.

Would you like to line dance? Marlene Cigrand will begin teaching line dancing at the clubhouse on Thursday, Jan. 9. If you are interested, be at the clubhouse at 7 p.m.; class will last for one hour.

The January Ladies Luncheon will be

on Friday, Jan. 10, at The Olive Garden. Please make your reservations with Marianne Ellner.

There is an unknown Good Samaritan, who we think lives in Ocala Palms. A few weeks ago Ralph Church, unknowingly, lost his billfold (apparently he put it on his car, forgot it, and drove off). Ralph received a call from the Ocala police that his billfold had been turned over to them by "Mr. Anonymous". Nothing was missing! Ralph is most grateful to this unknown person and would like to let him know how thankful he is; so "thank you" Mr. Anonymous.

We hope each of you have a safe, and healthy New Year!

A grandfather's stand on the Father Christmas hullabaloo

During this time of the year, a certain controversy raises its ugly red-scarfed head. Year after year, this hullabaloo continues and nobody has taken the initiative to deal with this holiday wrangling. That is, until now.

Normally, I am a mild-mannered person and just to be on the safe side, I stay out of telephone booths. You cannot be too careful, if you know what I mean.

As a great philosopher once said, "I've stands all I can stand and I can't stands no more."

This Christmas inequality has been going on for a very long time. It is about time somebody took some action in this regard. Since nobody else has the courage to take on this subject, I pick up my pen (actually it's my computer keyboard) and duly attack the subject at hand.

I know, as I begin, what I am going to say will not sit well with certain portions of the population. Some will even accuse me of jealousy and other foul attitudes. It just has to be said.

This disparity is between Father Christmas and grandfathers. As a card-carrying member of the grandfather's union (GFU), I feel I have the right to express my mind on this subject. In my opinion, Father Christmas is getting too much attention at the expense of Grandfathers everywhere.

Sure, I give you that Father Christmas does have his place in our culture. I know children are enamored with him in his silly little red suit and funny hat.

Just between you and me, no self-respecting grandfather would be caught dead dressed like Father Christmas. I will admit that some grandfathers dress rather silly and act even sillier.

I believe I should set the record straight between Father Christmas and grandfathers. Let me compare these two right now and clear up this subject. Then you can be the judge. I have complete confidence in the intelligence of my readers.



Out to Pastor
Dr. James Snyder

First, Father Christmas makes up a list of naughty and nice children. I feel, and I am speaking as a Grandfather, this is highly discriminatory. Children should not be subjected to such discrimination in this day of enlightenment.

Today, children have it hard enough without this silly overweight elf from the North Pole putting undue pressure on them. Grandfathers love both naughty and nice children, especially the naughty. Grandfathers know naughty children need more attention.

Second, Father Christmas only comes once a year. What I want to know is what he is doing the rest of the year. From the pictures I have seen, I am guessing it is not in the area of exercise.

Grandfathers are around all the time, not just at Christmas. No matter what time of year, you can always find a grandfather, which is more than can be said of Father Christmas.

Third, Father Christmas just brings toys in his huge bag. I grant you, some of these toys are terrific. I am not going to sell Father Christmas short on this aspect. I believe credit should be given where credit is due, unless it is my credit card.

Grandfathers should get some recognition for other things that are just as wonderful. Grandfathers, for example, are full of stories, jokes and a lot more.

If the truth were known, Father Christmas does not have the time to tell a story to any child. I think this is sad. Sadder still, does he even know a story?

Fourth, Father Christmas drives around in an old-fashioned sleigh pow-

ered by eight tiny reindeer, with no room to take children for rides. What is that all about?

Nothing is more exciting for children than driving around with their grandfather, usually in some old pickup with an array of unidentifiable aromas. Whatever they are driving, the ride always ends with ice cream.

Try getting Father Christmas to drive children for ice cream and see what he does.

Fifth, Father Christmas, no matter where you see him, is always in a hurry. He never seems to have enough time to spend with children. Sure, toys are great, but no toy can equal time spent with a grandfather.

One of the special things about a grandfather is he always makes time for children. God made grandfathers for children. Even though most grandfathers are hard of hearing, they always hear what is important.

Sixth, Father Christmas, when his work is finished, lays his finger alongside of his nose and up the chimney he goes. Now that is fine, but it was a grandfather who invented the "pull-my-finger" joke.

I know similarities exist between Fa-

ther Christmas and Grandfathers. Both, for example, are rotund and quite jolly. Both love cookies. However, that just may be where the similarity ends.

What people do not know, and I have this on good authority, Father Christmas always sends the Christmas bill to grandfathers. Of course, grandfathers do not complain about this for one moment. We are glad to help whenever we can; however, it would be nice to have a little bit of recognition during the Christmas holiday.

One thing grandfathers can do Father Christmas cannot do is pray. Blessed are the grandchildren who have a grandfather who prays for them.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16 KJV.)

One righteous grandfather is worth all the Father Christmases in the world.

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 jamesnsnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.

First Friday Art Walk scheduled

Enjoy a vibrant start to 2014 with the First Friday Art Walk on Jan. 3, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Enjoy more than 50 individual artist displays, extended shopping hours, and live music on the downtown square.

The January Art Walk is sponsored by Party Time Rentals. Unique offerings include:

The 18 piece, "Center Stage Band" is performing Big Band Music on the Historic Downtown Square from 7 to 9 p.m.

Free Children's Art Activities on the Downtown Square presented by the Appleton Museum of Art.

Don't miss one of the last opportunities to view the contemporary work of artist Peter Filzmaier in the first floor lobby of City Hall. Exhibit closes on Jan. 7.

All work is for sale with 25 percent of the proceeds benefiting the City of Ocala's Art in City Spaces Program.

The public may download an event map listing all artist locations at www.ocalafl.org/artwalk.

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Ocala Palms Ladies hold annual Christmas luncheon

The Ocala Palms Ladies Annual Christmas Luncheon was held on Monday, Dec. 9 at the beautifully decorated Ocala Hilton Hotel. There were 110 ladies in attendance and they enjoyed a lunch which featured Chicken Champagne and Pasta Primavera. Many local businesses generously donated gifts to be used as door prizes.

The theme this year was "Magical Christmas Memories" and the program included a look back at the Top 10 Christmas movies of all time. #1 on the list was "It's A Wonderful Life" made in 1946. Each lady received a silver angel as a favor and a bell was rung at the end of the luncheon as a reminder that "an angel had received her wings." This was a classic line from the movie.

The Golden Troupers of the Ocala Civic Theatre provided the entertainment which included the singing of holiday songs and two humorous skits.

It is always nice to share special times with good friends during the holidays!



Angie Fischetti, Marva Meredith and Judy DUBY.



Barbara LLeitzel and Jetta Hanover.



Co-chairwomen Sharron Albert and Diane Volko.



Elaine Cerasani, Diane Volko and Sharyn Ruddick.



Cindy Calcaterra, Helen Chin and Queenie Teller.



Wilma Drew and Joanne Mueller.



Verna Newman, Patricia Hamill and Teresa Weigel.



Seated: Nancy Sennett, Carol Sullivan and Della Lastooka; standing: Pat Fetner, Kay Negron and Judy Mitton.



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 S.R. 27 areas, call 854-3986.

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Deadline for news:

Friday 1 p.m. the week before publication.

Member of the Community Papers of Florida

I want to get news in the Messenger.

Call editor Jim Clark at 352-390-6444 or send by e-mail to editor@westmarionmessenger.com
Community news and photos must be received by Thursday the week before publication. Mail and photos must be e-mailed to editor@westmarionmessenger.com. All contributions are subject to editing for clarity, taste, and style.

Deadline for Advertising

Classified Reader Ads
2 pm Friday
Display Ads
5 pm Thursday

Story and photos By Barb Dedics



Happenings

Friday, Jan. 3

The Kingsmen perform

Begin 2014 being encouraged and uplifted listening to The Kingsmen, Christian music's most predominate Quartet. This Christian Music Hall Of Fame award-winning group, spanning a five-decade career as one of gospel music's most influential artists, will present their unique concert of Southern Gospel music, "The message of Christ." Enjoy music loved by all. This is a free concert. A love offering will be received. The concert begins at 6:30 p.m.

Christ's Church of Marion County, 6768 SW 80th St. (off State Road 200), Ocala, 352-861-6182, <http://www.ccomc.org>.

'Take Charge of Diabetes' deadline

If you are part of the nearly 10.6 percent of Marion County's adult population that, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has diabetes, don't ignore it – take charge!

The best way for people with diabetes to maintain a high quality of life is to learn about the disease and develop a healthy living plan. Marion County UF/IFAS Extension Service staff and local health professionals are ready to help you by offering the 10-class series, "Take Charge of Your Diabetes." Participants will learn about everything from carbohydrate counting and blood glucose monitoring to medication and foot care.

The class will give participants the understanding and knowledge to actively control their diabetes and maintain a quality, healthy lifestyle. The \$45 fee covers the 10 class sessions and health screening for each participant; one support person per registrant may attend for free.

Participants must register by Jan. 3 by calling 352-854-3699.

Classes will be at Master the Possibilities, 8415 SW 80th St., on Tuesdays starting Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon.

For a flier and class schedule, visit www.marioncountyfl.org/extensionservice.htm.

Monday, Jan. 6

Jewish view of afterlife

"What happens after we die?"

Rabbi Ze'ev Harari of Temple Beth Shalom will present the Jewish view of the afterlife when he delivers the next lecture sponsored by the Interfaith Alliance of Marion County on Monday, Jan. 6 at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7171 SW State Road 200. The event, which is free and open to the public, begins at 7 p.m.

Born in Haifa, the rabbi immigrated to the United States in 1989 serving in

Racine, Wisconsin, Minneapolis, and Linderhurst, Illinois before coming to Ocala in August 2011. He first earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Hebrew and Arabic from Haifa University and a Master of Arts in Hebrew Literature from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Harari was one of the founders of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism (Israeli Reform Judaism). He was the second Israeli to be ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem in 1981.

For more information telephone 352-629-3897, 352-629-3587 or e-mail TIAofMarionCountyFL@gmail.com.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Pancake breakfast at St. Jude

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus is hosting an All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 11, from 7 to 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall at 443 Marion Oaks Drive in Marion Oaks. The price is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3 to 12. Children age 2 and under eat free. The menu consists of pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea, juice and milk. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Magic show scheduled

Brian LaPalme, the award-winning, world renowned magician, is bringing his magic show to First Congregational United Church of Christ, for a fundraiser, on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 2 p.m.

LaPalme has entertained thousands of children and adults during a career that spans four decades. His magic shows garner rave reviews, and this is sure to be one performance you won't want to miss. Ticket prices are \$3 for children 12 and under; adults \$6. Refreshments will be available at intermission. To purchase tickets, please call 352-598-6272, or 352-237-3035. If available, tickets may be purchased at the door.

First Congregational Church is at 7171 SW State Road 200.

Dueling Pianos at Circle Square

Experience the Dueling Pianos "Interactive Dance Party" at Circle Square Cultural Center on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 7 p.m.

This high-energy, rock n' roll sing-along dance party is a performance with an edge. It will get you out of your seat and on your feet. The Rockin' Piano players perform popular hits from every era imaginable. From Elvis to Lady Gaga and Neil Diamond to AC/DC, they have it covered. Other popular selections are Billy Joel, Blink 182, Journey, Elton John, Bon Jovi and much more.

Not only can the Rockin' Piano play-

ers perform thousands of songs at the drop of a hat, but they also possess comedic timing and have the personality to engage and influence audience participation.

The Rockin' Piano players' act includes a state of the art light show and with an open dance floor the party will start and the energy level will be up for the entire show.

Remember to wear your dancing shoes and get out of your seat and enjoy a night filled with dancing, singing and having fun. Refreshments will be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$14.

For more information on the 2014 Entertainment Series including dates, performers and ticket prices, visit our website at www.CSCulturalCenter.com or call 352-854-3670.

Sunday, Jan. 12

Jews in the Civil War

Congregation Beth Israel of Ocala invites the community to a special program entitled "Jews in the Civil War" to be held on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 3 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 7171 State Road 200 in Ocala.

This fascinating topic will be presented by Channah Zimmerman who will relate, dramatize and chronicle the history of the Jews during the Civil War era from both sides of the conflict.

Tickets are \$8 per person and also include refreshments. Tickets may be purchased from Judi (352-237-8277) Sonia (352-307-3662) or Estelle (352-861-2452). This program is partially funded by the Jewish Council of North Central Florida.

For further information please call Judi (352-237-8277) or visit our Website bethisraelocala.org.

Congregation Beth Israel is a Reconstructionist Community in association with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. We are a liberal, progressive, inclusive Jewish community serving the needs of Marion County and surrounding areas.

Saturday, Jan. 18

Party in the Park

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church will hold Party in the Park on Saturday, Jan. 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and grounds.

There will be free admission, a live band, free food and games and is open to the public. There will be hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, drinks, chips, desserts, face painting, a bounce house

and games for adults and children.

Our Redeemer is at 5200 S.W. College Road (State Road 200). Phone is 352-237-2233.

Sunday, Jan. 19

Chamber Music Society concert

The Marion Chamber Music Society is pleased to welcome Collision, a saxophone quartet from the University of Florida, on Jan. 19, at 3 p.m. at Ocala's Queen of Peace Church, 6645 SW State Road 200 in Ocala. The group will be playing original music for saxophone as well as more traditional chamber music arranged specifically for saxophone. The immense popularity of the saxophone group is due largely to the variety of sound capabilities of the saxophone; from sweet, gentle, or bold to soulful and playful. Marion Chamber Music Concerts are always free of charge. For more information call 352-867-1340 or visit the website: marionchambermusic.com.

Saturday, Jan. 25

Flea Market at St. Jude

St. Jude Catholic Community will be having another open flea market on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will start receiving donations for the sale immediately.

Please clean out your closets and bring items that are clean and in good/excellent condition to the church hall.

We cannot accept TVs as donations. Space rentals are available for an 8' x 8' space to sell your own items. Inside space is \$20; outside is \$15. St. Jude is at 443 Marion Oaks Drive in Marion Oaks.

For more information please call Midge at 352-203-7182 or Linda at 352-209-4724. Please join us for a fun day.

Monday, Jan. 27

School referendum discussion

The League of Women Voters of Marion County will conduct a meeting concerning "The School Referendum" on Monday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m. at the Ocala Police Dept. Community Room, 402 S. Pine Ave., Ocala.

Speakers will be Ray Seaman and Nancy Noonan, co-founders of Marion's United for Education.

The event is free and open to the public.

More on Page 10



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Sensational STRAWBERRY Snacks



FAMILY FEATURES

Strawberries are a quick and easy snack for adults and children. It's no wonder why they're a top fruit juice in kitchens and lunchboxes everywhere. Plus, these tasty fruits are packed with almost 140 percent of immune system boosting vitamin C. "Strawberries always put a smile on my face," says Chef Justin Timineri, executive chef and culinary ambassador, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. "My favorite recipe for them is to simply 'Rinse, eat and repeat.'"



Chef Justin Timineri

You can find more snack ideas and recipes at <http://bit.ly/floridaberries>.

How to buy

Choose strawberries that are plump, fragrant and firm, with no signs of bruising or leaking.

How to store

It's best to eat strawberries on the day of purchase. You can freeze strawberries by hulling, lightly washing and drying them. Arrange in a single layer before placing in the freezer.

Hulling tips

Never hull strawberries until after they have been washed or they will absorb too much water and become mushy.



Strawberry Dessert Pizza

Yield: 2 to 3 servings

- Crust:**
- 1/2 pound butter, two sticks
 - 2/3 cup sugar
 - 1 egg
 - 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1/8 teaspoon salt
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 - 2 1/3 cups all-purpose flour

- Topping:**
- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese
 - 1 tablespoon honey
 - 2 tablespoons sugar
 - 3 pints Florida strawberries

- Glaze:**
- 1 tablespoon honey
 - 1 teaspoon water

To make crust, cream together butter and sugar with mixer until fluffy. Add egg, baking powder, salt and vanilla extract until mixture is smooth. Add flour and mix until smooth dough is formed. Place finished dough in between two sheets of wax paper and refrigerate for 20 minutes. Remove from refrigerator and roll dough out to 1/4-inch thickness and in round shape. Place dough in greased 12-inch pizza pan and bake in preheated 350°F oven for 25 minutes or until crust is light brown. Cool completely.

To make topping, combine cream cheese, honey and sugar until smooth. Spread evenly over cooled cookie crust, leaving 1/2-inch border uncovered. Place sliced strawberries around outside border; fill in middle of pizza.

To make glaze, combine honey and water; brush over top of finished pizza.

Kids Can: Glaze top of finished pizza. Place sliced strawberries on top of pizza.

Grown Up Alert: Adults should help with oven.

Strawberry-Mango Milkshake

Yield: 3 servings

- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup low-fat milk
- 6 ice cubes
- 1/3 cup plain yogurt
- 10 Florida strawberries, hulled
- 1 mango, peeled and sliced

- Garnish:**
- 1 dollop whipped cream
 - 1 Florida strawberry
 - 1 slice of mango

Put everything but fruit into blender; blend on low, gradually increasing speed. Once smooth, add fruit and finish blending until completely smooth. Pour into tall glass and enjoy.

Fluffy Stuffed Strawberries

Yield: 16 servings

- 1 pound Florida strawberries
- 8 ounces low-fat cream cheese, softened
- 3 ounces low-fat yogurt
- 1/8 teaspoon vanilla extract

Cut stems off strawberries and carefully scoop out 2/3 of inside with knife or spoon, creating a cup. Be careful not to make any holes. Cut piece off bottom tip of strawberries to allow them to stand up. Beat cream cheese and yogurt until fluffy. Fold in vanilla extract.

Working in batches, place cheese mixture into pastry or sealable bag with small corner cut off. Fill strawberries with cheese mixture. Garnish with mint and serve.

Kids Can: Place cheese mixture into pastry bag and fill strawberries.

Grown Up Alert: Adults should stem the strawberries.

Strawberry Muffins

Yield: 12 servings

- 1 1/2 cups Florida strawberries, chopped
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour, unsifted
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Combine strawberries and 1/2 cup sugar in small bowl. Set aside for 1 hour. Drain and reserve liquid and strawberries separately. Preheat oven to 425°F. Combine flour, baking soda, nutmeg and salt. Set aside. Mix eggs, butter, vanilla extract, remaining sugar and liquid from strawberries in medium bowl. Add flour mixture. Stir until combined. Fold in reserved strawberries. Spoon into 12 greased muffin cups. Bake for approximately 20 minutes. Serve warm.

Kids Can: Spoon mixture into muffin cups.

Grown Up Alert: Adults should help with oven.

Sign-up to receive a FREE copy of the "Kids in the Kitchen" cookbook at: <http://bit.ly/flffkids>.



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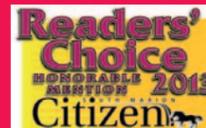
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Opinion

Our Message

Our top wishes for the new year

It's time for New Year's resolutions, if you go in for such things, so in the spirit of today's holiday we bring you our wishes for resolutions by the officials, both elected and non-elected, who run our government, whether local, state or national. They're listed in the order of what we consider important, except for No. 6, which really should be at the top of everyone's list.

1. Play ball. We haven't changed our wish for a stadium, and we're not particular about how it gets done. If the politicians are able to come up with a plan that doesn't include a tax, we'll all be better for it. In a little over two years, however, we hope to be sitting in the stadium taking in a Minor League Baseball game. 0

2. Protection for our water. Our water districts seem to have a funny way of protecting our water supply ... they let people take what they want. It's time to clamp down and make sure we have enough natural water here for us, before we allow bottling companies to take it and sell it. Water is not an unlimited resource. We need controls before our supply dries up.

3. A crackdown on armed robbers who are making store clerks their victims. At this time of year there is usually a spike in robberies, and this year was no different. Our store clerks, who are there for our convenience, shouldn't be subjected to constant fear of being robbed by some gun-toting hoodlums, some of whom come from outside the area. More patrols, especially at night, and more sophisticated alarm systems should be planned. Let's make it safer for our local workers.

4. More law enforcement presence on certain roads that have become racetracks. We think mainly of the 31st Street corridor, with the new four-lane road where hardly anyone observes the 40 mph limit. Yes, that limit is low for that road, but it's the law and should be strongly enforced with citations handed out every day. And there shouldn't be any favoritism just because the offenders are students headed for a local high school. Teach them now to obey the law, and we may be saving their lives later.

5. Better traffic flow plans and synchronized lights on all the major arteries off the Interstate. Good

Please see EDITORIAL, Page 11



Read the street signs, spend the money

The Feds want you to see traffic signs, including street signs, better when you drive at night. The debate is whether this will cost local governments money that they don't have.

The government, in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, issued reflectivity guidelines a few years ago, and all entities, whether state, county or local, must meet those guidelines.

When they first came out there was a lot of discussion about the cost. One change particularly caught the eye of some journalists, including me. It said that using all capital letters in street signs was no longer permitted. The signs must be upper and lower case.

At first many considered this a mandate, and there were stories popping up about how many dollars were going to have to be spent. A New York City newspaper said the city would have to spend more than a million dollars to replace all its street signs.

Even though I had the new regulations, I put off writing about it, figuring that this assessment might not be accurate. Turns out I was probably right, that it's not going to be a great financial burden.

If I read the new directions properly (I warn you, they are written in government-speak), city and counties can replace signs with the new lettering, but don't have to go out and change every sign right away, only those that have become old and hard to see ...and if they don't meet the reflectivity rules.

There's something else that needs to be emphasized by regulation, and that is that the county and city must keep the street signs visible. A few months ago, a lady speaking at a county meeting brought up the lack of maintenance in Rolling Hills, an area west of State Road 200 and north of County Road 484. She had a picture showing weeds so high they reached the top of a street



Among Friends

Jim Clark

sign.

There are many locations where signs are partially hidden by trees and bushes ...or even other signs. That's something that needs to be discussed.

As for the lettering, I kind of agree that the signs need to be upper and lower case. Most newspapers don't run news copy in all capital letters for the same reason ...it can be hard to read.

Here in our county there are many signs that are all capital letters. While they may be a little hard to read, according to the Feds, we really haven't heard anyone complain.

As is so often the case, although not too burdensome, this is an unfunded mandate from the federal government, which must have thousands of employees just sitting around looking for things to do, so they come up with ideas like this.

So if you want to read something when you have insomnia, this excerpt from the manual is available online. Just go to <https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R43042.pdf> and read. If any hyphens appear in the web address, ignore them. That's just our computer breaking the copy from line to line.

If you come up with a different conclusion than I have outlined, please feel free to write a letter to the editor. When it comes to government language, if you can clean it up, more power to you.

Jim Clark is the editor of the West Marion Messenger.

Guest column

ADHD: Is the epidemic manufactured

BY RICH LOWRY
Special to the Messenger

If at any time while reading this article your attention wanders, you may have ADHD. If you pause to check your email sometime during the next three paragraphs, you should consult a doctor. If you fail to read this article all the way to the end, you should get on Adderall, Ritalin or some other drug to treat your condition as soon as possible.

This isn't quite the standard for diagnosing attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, but it's close. The New York Times ran a long expose on how the drug industry has stoked the diagnosis and treatment of ADHD that had a revelatory quote from Keith Conners, a doctor who has long advocated for the recognition of the disorder.

Conners called the overdiagnosis of ADHD "a national disaster of dangerous proportions," telling the Times that the rising number of cases "is a concoction to justify the giving out of medication at unprecedented and unjustifiable levels." This isn't bomb-throwing from an outsider, but a critique from the namesake of the Conners ratings scale widely used to evaluate kids for ADHD.

There is no doubt that ADHD is a legitimate neurological condition that makes kids (and those around them) miserable, that blights their potential and that can be alleviated by prescription stimulants like Adderall and Ritalin.

There also is no doubt that diagnosis and treatment of the disorder has run wildly out of control. According to the forthcoming book "The ADHD Explosion," 19 percent of high-school-aged males have received a diagnosis. The numbers differ from state to state. In North Carolina, an astounding 30 percent of boys over age 9 are supposedly suffering from ADHD. Overall, 6 percent of children and adolescents in the United States are on drugs to treat ADHD.

It's a wonder more kids aren't diagnosed with it, given the overlap between the description of the disorder and failings to which we are all prone. The New York Times points out that the American Psychiatric Association criteria for ADHD include "often has difficulty waiting his or her turn" and "makes careless mistakes," hardly rare childhood behaviors.

The drug companies — for whom ADHD is a \$9 billion-a-year business — target mothers with alluring ads suggesting their children will become little angels through the wonders of risk-free stimulants. Their kids will get better grades, spend more quality time with the family and remember to take out the trash. Who wouldn't want their child thus magically transformed? According to the Times report, the Food and Drug Administration has constantly rebuked the companies for going beyond the evidence in selling visions of childhood Valhalla secured through the right drug.

Please see LOWRY, Page 11

WEST MARION Messenger

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

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.

Religion

Southwest Christian Church

Sunday, Jan. 5: Sunday School classes for children, youth, and adults meet at 9:30 a.m. Worship Service begins at 10:30 a.m. with staffed nursery and children's classes available during worship. Evening worship begins at 6 p.m. with study in the book of James taught by Alvin Gloer. Visitors are always welcome to worship with us and to attend all other scheduled services.

Wednesday, Jan. 8: Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall at 7 p.m.; Youth activities beginning at 7 p.m..

Monday, Jan. 20: On this day we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our country has truly been blessed with leaders such as Dr. King, who have been willing to give their lives in pursuit of peace, freedom and liberty for everyone. May we remember always this great leader who has helped us all to live and enjoy the kind of life our Lord God and our founders intended for us.

Tuesday, Jan. 21: Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF) meets at the church from 9:30 to 11:45 a.m. Business meeting begins at 9:30 with Bible Study immediately following.

HAPPENINGS

continued from Page 5

Tuesday, Jan. 28

Breast cancer support group meets

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

We are not meeting on Dec. 31, so our next meeting will be Jan. 28. At this meeting we will have a trainer give us a demonstration of Tai Chi as well as participation in this activity and an explanation of the benefits of Tai Chi for breast cancer survivors. Hope to see you all in the New Year.

Sunday, Feb. 2

Musicale at First Congregational

The annual "Sunday Afternoon Musicale" variety show will take place on Feb. 2 at 3 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7171 SW State Road 200.

Church members and friends will sing, dance and play their way through an afternoon of music and fun. Admission is free, but an offering will be taken to help support our music program. The Choir will sing a medley of Jerome Kern songs and the Bell-Choir will perform a novelty number. There will be a variety of solos, duets and instrumentals to entertain you. Light refreshments will be served following the program.

Wednesday, Feb. 5

College presents dinner theater

The College of Central Florida Foundation will present its 16th annual Dinner Theatre production, "There's a Burglar in My Bed" by Michael Parker, Feb. 5-9 in the Webber Center at the Ocala Campus, 3001 S.W. College Road.

Evening performances, Wednesday through Sunday, begin with dinner at 5:45 p.m. Matinee performances, Saturday and Sunday, will serve lunch at 12:15 p.m. Doors open 15 minutes prior to the scheduled meal times. A full schedule is available at www.cf.edu/foundation, then Events. Tickets range from \$55 to \$60 and guests can also reserve an entire table.

"There's a Burglar in My Bed" is a farce about the world famous Worthington necklace. The trysts, the plans and counter-plans all take place at the Worthington's 200-acre Massachusetts estate with its 26-bedroom mansion.

This year's production benefits CF Fine Arts programs and college educational programs through the CF Foundation.

For more information or for tickets, call Laura Wright at 352-854-2322, ext. 1416. To sponsor a table, contact the CF Foundation at 352-854-2322, ext. 1689.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Valentine Day Dance at St. Jude

St. Jude Marion Oaks Knights of Columbus Council 15644 are having their first Valentine's Day Dance on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 6 to 11 p.m. at the St. Jude Catholic Community Parish Hall, 443 Marion Oaks Drive in Marion Oaks. There will be music, hors d'oeuvres and dancing. Seating is limited. Tickets are \$10 per person and are available after the Sunday Masses or by calling Ron at 352-861-1373, Joe at 352-307-3848 or Ed at 352-861-6720. Join us for a night of fun and dancing with your sweetheart.

Friday, Jan. 31: Golden Servants (seniors 55+) meet at 6 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall for a carry-in dinner with a program following dinner. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy an evening of fun with friends. You do not have to be a member of SWCC to attend. Guests and friends are welcome.

Southwest Christian Church, 9045 SW 60th Ave. (South off State Road 200), Ocala 34476, phone 352-861-9080, <http://www.swccocala.com>.

First Congregational

Begin the new year with a refreshing look at the historical Jesus with a look at the political climate of the day. Ponder the questions of why Jesus came when he did, why the confluence of the Baptism movement of John and why the Kingdom movement of Jesus. The First Light Bible Discussion at First Congregational Church (7171 State Road 200) will be presented from Jan. 5 through Feb. 23, each Sunday at noon. This 8-week DVD and group discussion program was developed by John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg, two of the world's leading theological scholars.

Crossan, a scholar, historian of early Christianity, and a former Catholic priest, is professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies at De Paul University, and widely regarded as the premier Jesus scholar in the world. Borg is a New Testament scholar, theologian, author and former Hundere Distinguished Professor of Religion and Culture at Oregon State University (retired 2007).

Christ Church of Marion County

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014: HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Thursday, Jan. 2: Praise and Prayer Group, 9 a.m.
Friday, Jan. 3: Sharing Hope Soup Kitchen, 11:30 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 3: THE KINGSMEN Concert, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 5: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. PACK THE PANTRY SUNDAY.

Tuesday, Jan. 7: Women's Crafts, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8: Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Christ's Church of Marion County, 6768 SW 80th St. (off State Road 200), Ocala, 352-861-6182 or <http://www.ccomc.org/>.

St. Jude Catholic

The Bereavement Group for those grieving the loss of a loved one meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Meetings are open to anyone in the community with a need to share their feelings of grief. If you plan to attend, please call the church office at 352-347-0154 prior to the meetings.

Creole Masses for the Haitians in our community are celebrated every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 5 p.m. The next dates are Jan. 12 and 26.

Anthony's Attic, our venue for used items, continues to be open every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon and Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. It is now located on the north side of the building for your shopping convenience.

College Park Church

College Park Church is pleased to announce that on

Sunday, Jan. 12, it will be going to two services. The day of worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a traditional style service featuring many of the great hymns that are known and loved by many. Sunday school classes will immediately follow the traditional service. Then a new casual style service will begin at 11:15 a.m. called "Cross Training at College Park Church". It will feature the contemporary praise and worship songs of today lead by the College Park Church praise and worship band.

The ministry staff of College Park Church includes senior pastor Dr. James L. Fleming, associate pastor and youth minister Keith Mitchell, and worship leader Kelly McVey. The church is non-denominational Christian in theology and practice, but is not an independent church. The congregation is vitally connected with 2,300 other congregations whose general offices are in Anderson, Indiana.

The decision was made to go to two services in an effort bring more people to Christ by offering more options for them to attend on Sunday mornings. The Cross Training service will offer a unique style with a casual atmosphere that invites people to come as they are. It has long been a mission of College Park Church to reach the students of the College of Central Florida given the church's close proximity to the CF campus. College Park Church's worship leader Kelly McVey (who was included as a top four finalist in the JoyFM's cellphone superstar contest this summer) is also a student at the College of Central Florida. "Worship is a vital part of being a Christian and I'm so thrilled that we are starting this additional worship service. I think it's great for new comers or even people who have been attending the church for years to have a couple of options when choosing the worship style they prefer." (McVey)

College Park Church of God is at 3140 SW 26th St., Ocala, (right across the street from the CF bookstore). The office phone number is 352-237-2247 and church website is www.collegeparkchog.org.

Peace Lutheran

"Get in Touch With Your Faith," a Christian information class starting at Peace Lutheran Church on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 6 p.m., might well be called Christianity 101.

Pastor Terry McKee will conduct the class for 1 hour each week, for 12 to 16 weeks, depending on the questions and desires of the group.

Everyone is welcome; your level of participation is optional, and there will be no tests. Come and explore your faith, and its place in your everyday life. You have questions? God has answers - but do you sometimes feel that He is not listening? Join and enjoy this informal class led by Pastor McKee.

There is no fee or obligation for the class. Simply register by calling the church office at 352-489-5881, and come to Peace Lutheran, 7201 S. U.S. Highway 41 ("The church on the hill," 5 miles north of Dunnellon) at 6 p.m. on Jan. 16.

More information is available through the church office, or visit www.PeaceLutheranOnline.com and www.TinyURL.com/Peace41-40.

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EDITORIAL

continued from Page 8

progress has been made on State Road 200 from Pine all the way to 66th, but after that there doesn't seem to be any organization. If a place such as New York City can synchronize its thousands of lights, we should be able to

also.
6. Peace on Earth for all nations, an end to dictatorships that subject the people of certain nations to unbelievable conditions, and respect for life at all levels in all countries. In the words of the late Rodney King, who was once beaten by Los Angeles police, "Why can't we all just get along."

LOWRY

continued from Page 8

Undertrained primary-care physicians and worried parents default much too often to the diagnosis of ADHD and to the answer of a prescription. The next frontier is adult ADHD, with the promise of a vast new pharmaceutical market made up of people deprived of ADHD diagnoses when they were children. Some of these diagnoses will be warranted and life-changing, but others will be overreach prompted by vague and dubious symp-

toms, like inattentive op-ed reading.
Sure, you got to the end of this article. But how about the next one?
Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
(c) 2013 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Please use our e-mail
editor@westmarionmessenger.com

Go Figure!

answers

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Answers

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

DEADLINES

Friday at 4:00 pm is the deadline for classified reader ads.

CANCELLATIONS

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.

Beware: Publication of any classified advertisement does not constitute endorsement by the West Marion Messenger. We make every effort to screen out advertising that may not be legitimate. However, since we can not guarantee the legitimacy of our advertisers, you are advised to be careful of misleading ads and take caution when giving out personal information.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD, CALL Toll Free 1-877-676-1403 MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM



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

CHARGE IT!!

All ads require prepayment. We accept:



ERRORS

Be sure to check your advertisement the first day it appears. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Adjustments are made only for the portion of the ad that is in error.

Today's New Ads

AUTO SWAP/ CORRAL CAR SHOW
Sumter County Fairgrounds
SUMTER SWAP MEETS
SUN. JAN. 5th
1-800-438-8559

Schools/ Instruction

Now ENROLLING

ALL CLASSES FOR 2014
Spring Hill & New Port Richey
• COSMETOLOGY
• BARBERING
• NAILS • SKIN
• MASSAGE Therapy DAY & NIGHT
SCHOOL
Full Time & Part Time
Full Specialty & Instructor Training
BENE'S
International School of Beauty
www.benes.edu



(727) 848-8415
(352) 263-2744
1 (866) 724-2363
★ TOLL FREE ★
STATE APPROVED FOR VA TRAINING

Business Opportunities

Become an Avon Rep Today! Free Training. \$10 to join. Call Chuck (352) 503-4816. Independ. Avon Rep.

Furniture

BRAND NEW Queen Size Pillow Top Mattress Set \$150.
Still in Original Plastic.
(352) 484-4772

Real Estate For Sale

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Vehicles Wanted

WE BUY ALL AUTOS with or without titles
• ANY CONDITION
Cindy (813) 505-6939

Classic Vehicles

AUTO SWAP/ CORRAL CAR SHOW
Sumter County Fairgrounds
SUMTER SWAP MEETS
SUN. JAN. 5th
1-800-438-8559

Vans

CHRYSLER 2012 Town & Country
Wheelchair van with 10" lowered floor, ramp and tie downs Call Tom for more info 352-325-1306

CHRYSLER 2012 Town & Country
Wheelchair van with 10" lowered floor, ramp and tie downs Call Tom for more info 352-325-1306

FREE CLASSIFIEDS

You can list any single item priced under \$100 for sale for FREE!

PUT THE POWER AND CONVENIENCE OF THE CLASSIFIEDS TO WORK FOR YOU!

Clean out your closets, go through your garage, attack your attic and then use the classifieds to get rid of stuff you no longer use. And the FREE listing means you have more money left over after the sale!

ANY ITEM PRICED UNDER \$100 MAXIMUM 10 WORDS RUNS FOR 2 WEEKS FREE

Just call and see how easy it is to make money with the classifieds.

TOLL FREE 1-877-676-1403





Add Up The SAVINGS

with a **WEST MARION Messenger**

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27



CLASSIFIED AD

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

10 Words • \$5.12 Per Week • 44¢ For Each Additional Word • Pricing Includes Online • All Ads Must Be Prepaid • All Credit Cards Accepted

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____

11. _____ 12. _____ 13. _____ 14. _____ 15. _____

10 WORDS \$5.12 + 44¢ A WORD (Includes Online) = TOTAL

For your convenience, mail with payments to West Marion Messenger office at 20441 E Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, FL 34432 or call...



Call Toll Free

1-877-676-1403

WMM_CLASS_AD_FORM_3_9_11



PHOTO BY ERYN WORTHINGTON/CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Ocala man wins a car

Love Honda in Homosassa made one man's Christmas a little sweeter Saturday. Shelton Peddle of Ocala won a tiger-eye-pearl 2013 Accord LXS two-door car after he shot a hole-in-one 154 yards from tee No. 8 at Candler Hills Golf Club in Ocala during the 10th annual Kinsey Lynn Bogart benefit in October. Pictured with Peddle is customer relations Jim DeSanti, left, and vice-president Chad Halleen, right.

New Sheriff's Citizens Academy now signing up local residents

The Marion County Sheriff's Citizens Academy and Partnership (CAP) program, a free 12-week educational course about the operations of the Sheriff's Office, is accepting applications for the winter course. The class will be offered at three locations.

- The Marion County Sheriff's Office will host a Tuesday evening class from 6 to 8:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 28. The class will be held at MCSO Central Operations, 3300 NW 10 St., Ocala in the Multipurpose Conference Room. To register for this class, e-mail Jenifer Lowe at JLowe@marionso.com or call 352-368-3598.

- The Belleview Public Library, 13145 SE County Road 484 in Belleview, will host a class on Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 4:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 29. To register for this class, e-mail Jenifer Lowe at JLowe@marionso.com or call 352-368-3598.

- On Top of the World will host a class on Thursday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. beginning Jan. 30 at its Master the

Possibilities learning center. Registration for the OTOW class is open to the public but must be done through Master the Possibilities by calling 352-854-3699 or online at MasterThePossibilities.com.

All students must complete the application form found on marionso.com.

During the program, MCSO staff will highlight all units within the Sheriff's Office, giving citizens an in-depth understanding of what the agency is doing for the community.

Each week will focus on a different aspect of the agency, personnel, equipment, policies, procedures and overall function. Students will have an opportunity to view specialty unit equipment, hear from experts in the field of law enforcement, investigations, corrections and prosecution. After graduation, students will be offered an exclusive chance to obtain their concealed weapons license through a firearms safety course instructed by Sheriff Chris Blair.

HEAVY DUTY SCHOOL MODEL SEW & SERGE SEWING MACHINES

These are brand new 2013 Singer school model sewing machines. These sewing machines remain UNSOLD. **THEY MUST BE SOLD NOW!**

These special heavy-duty school model machines have a metal hook and are built for years of extended service. All machines are new in factory-sealed cartons. **25-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY INCLUDED.**

WHAT IS A SEW & SERGE SEWING MACHINE???

FIRST, IT IS A SOPHISTICATED SEWING MACHINE...

That does buttonholes (any size), invisible Blind Hems, Monograms, Double Seams, Zippers, Sews on Buttons, Darning, Applique, Zig Zag, Basting, Pin Tucking, Quilting, and much more, just turn the dial to Sew Magic!

SECOND, IT HAS A PROFESSIONAL SERGING STITCH...

This allows you to sew the seam and serge the edge of the material in one operation. With the purchase of an optional cutter you can trim the fabric.

THIRD, IT IS DESIGNED TO SEW ALL FABRICS...

Without pressure adjustments, such as Levis, Canvas, Upholstery, Nylon, Stretch Materials, Silk, Percale, Organdy, and...

THEY EVEN SEW LEATHER!!

NOW YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL IN ONE MACHINE!

TRAINED DEMONSTRATORS ON DUTY

YOUR PRICE WITH THIS AD

TEACHER'S MODEL ALSO AVAILABLE FOR \$199 AND 299

\$129

ONE DAY ONLY

Layaway available with \$50 down

Wednesday, January 8
11am-3pm
1801 NW Hwy 19
Crystal River, FL

For our convenience we accept cash, checks, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and Layaway available. For more information call 1-866-342-0508. Singer is a registered trademark of the SingerCompany, LTD.



Church launches new Spanish ministry

Crossroads Church of God launches a new Spanish ministry with new Pastors Carlos and Eileen Lopez. Spanish services will be held on Sunday at 1 p.m. and on Thursday evenings at 7 we will conduct a Bible study. Pastors Carlos and Eileen Lopez invite you to come and grow with us in the coming year. You may contact them at 352-229-3920 or at Crossroads Church Of God 352-291-2080.

PHOTO BY HARRY LAMB

Workshops scheduled by Ocala Art Group

Registration for artists' workshops offered by the Ocala Art Group the Winter/Spring of 2014 is now open for all artists 18 years or older as follows:

Two Days-Robin Maria Pedrero - Jan. 9 and 10 - materials not included. Acrylic with mixed media. \$140 members / \$170 non members.

One day-Maria Luisa De Curtis - Feb. 13 - materials included. Watercolor Batik, which are Kathie George original designs. Early Bird: \$120 member / \$150 non-members. After Feb. 13, \$140 members/\$170 non-members.

Two Day - Gloria Betlem - April 10 and 11 - materials not included - Expressions in Pastels - Early Bird: \$120

Member / \$150 non member - materials not included - After March 14: \$140 member / \$170 non member.

The workshops are held at the Appleton Museum of Art, Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, in the Art Space between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. The day before each workshop there will be a demonstration in the Appleton Auditorium open to current and newly joined members. Membership is \$30. Pre-payment to each workshop is required; to register identify your choice and send payment to Workshops, 8264 115th St., Road, Ocala, FL 34481 or call Sharon at 352-527-9372. For more information visit www.ocalaartgroup.com.

Habitat for Humanity looking for volunteers

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County is looking for volunteers to help in construction, fundraising, our Re-Store, and for our up-coming Strawberry and Craft Festival. This is a great opportunity to start the year off by helping families in need in our community. If you are in need of community service hours or have a heart for families, Habitat is the place to be!

Come make new friends, and have a

great time. Habitat for Humanity needs your help to make a difference in Marion County!

To find out about volunteering with Habitat for Humanity of Marion County, Inc. please visit our website at <http://habitatocala.org/volunteer/> or call Brittney Fish, volunteer coordinator, at 352-351-4663.

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County is a donor/volunteer-driven organization. We welcome people from all walks of life to join us as we build simple, decent, affordable housing in partnership with God and families in need. Habitat for Humanity is A Hand "Up"... Not a "Hand-out."

Read the classifieds