

# WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

## Candidates gather to discuss qualifications

### School Board District 5 race

BY JIM CLARK  
Editor

Candidates for School Board District 5 appeared at the State Road 200 Coalition meeting this week to try to sway voters to choose them in the Aug. 26 non-partisan election.

Incumbent Ron Crawford and challenger Kelly King each spoke for five minutes, then answered questions from the audience.

Crawford emphasized his experience, citing his 16 years on the board (at the end of the current term). "Experience counts," he told the crowd.

He said that when a statewide school security group was formed by the state after 9-11, he was the only school board member in the state invited to sit on the Commissioner of Education's panel.

"Today you can see some results," he said, referring to the design of newer schools to incorporate better security.

He noted that the board is working to keep up with money issues, but added, "the state is supposed to fully fund education...it's not happening."

King, who said she is just finishing 12 years of teaching, said she has felt the effect of decisions made by the board. "In District 5, every schools is either a D or an F," she said.

King added that the board "needs to be in that school to see what teachers and students need."

The candidate said there is waste in the schools and that there are programs that "are not productive." She said that "problems happen inside the schools."

She said she wanted a "quality edu-

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Ron Crawford



Kelly King

### County Commission District 4

BY JIM CLARK  
Editor

With the election season in full swing and the primary just five weeks away, several candidates appeared before the State Road 200 Coalition this week. Each candidate was given five minutes to speak, then was made available to take questions from the audience.

In County Commission District 4, the incumbent is Chairman Carl Zalak, who is being challenged by former Commissioner Glen Fiorello.

Zalak spoke first, saying that what the Commission has accomplished in his four years has been "done with diligence. I think we did what's best for the community."

He stressed the importance of families in Marion County. "Everyone

wishes our children have opportunities," and then added, "We want the parents to enjoy their golden years."

He listed among his accomplishments the cross-training of employees and said commissioners had "solved the solid waste" problem for the next 30 years. He also noted the addition of a compressed natural gas public station, saying the CNG station is available on Maricamp Road.

He said he would work on getting a Critical Care Unit ambulance added to the local fleet, which would provide a higher level of emergency care for those suffering an illness or injury.

He added about the county's future: "There's no doubt we have challenges."

Zalak had to leave and therefore did not hear his opponent speak.

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Carl Zalak



Glen Fiorello

### Circuit Court judicial candidates

BY JIM CLARK  
Editor

At the State Road 200 Coalition meeting this week, three candidates for one circuit judge seat appeared, while the incumbent did not.

Incumbent Sandy Kautz told Coalition officials she had a court hearing Monday and could not attend.

Kautz has had ethics issues with the state, and recently signed a stipulation about those issues, which could result in a Supreme Court reprimand.

In response to a question, the challengers told people to read the court's website to get the details. They noted that there are 12 judge incumbents up

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Denise Diamond Lyn



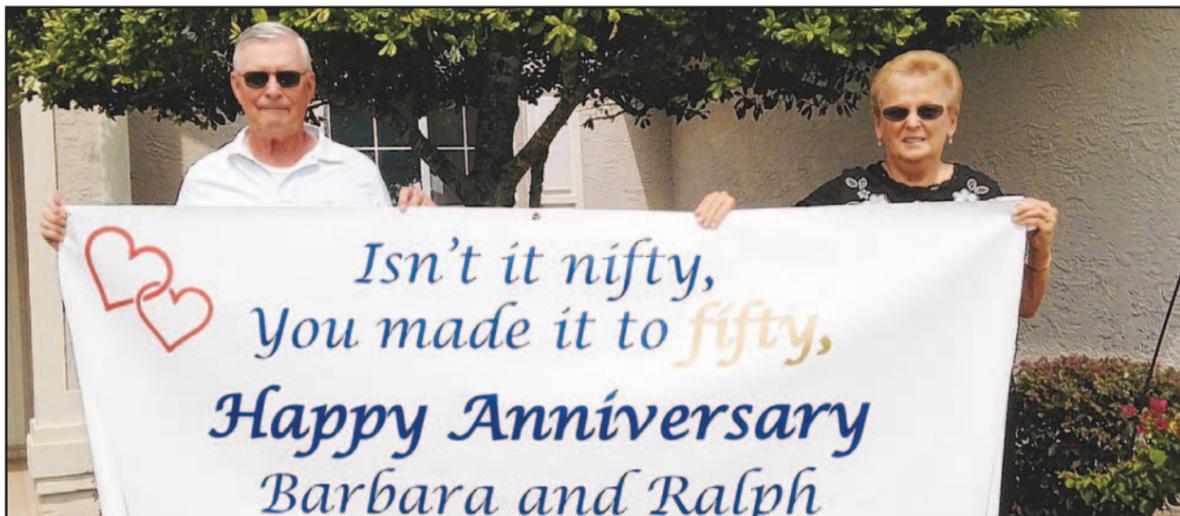
Mary Hatcher

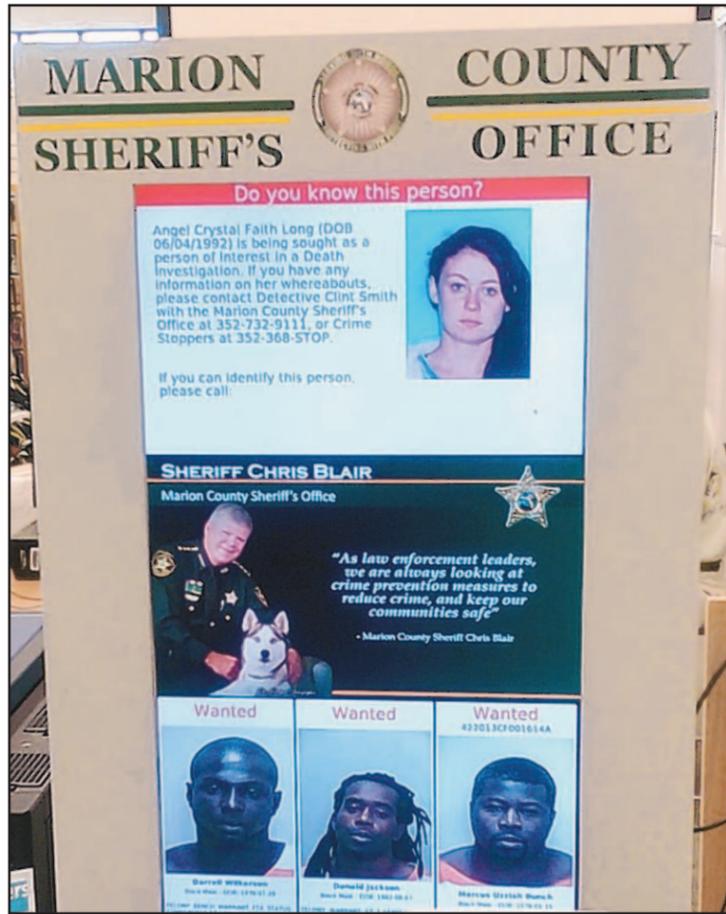


Bo Samargya

### 50th anniversary for Ocala Palms couple

Ralph and Barbara Przybyszewski of Ocala Palms celebrated their 50th anniversary at a family reunion in Highlands, North Carolina.





**New kiosks**  
 The Marion County Sheriff's Office recently introduced new kiosks to be spread around the county giving information and showing wanted personnel. This kiosk, with pictures changing, is at the Freedom Public Library. The kiosks were introduced a couple of weeks ago at a press conference attended by Pam Bondi, state attorney general.

PHOTOS BY RON RATNER

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# Fairfield helps Pearl Harbor survivor mark 92nd birthday



Friends applaud Al DeMarco and wife Odette as the spry 92-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor prepares to try to blow out the self-relighting candles on his surprise birthday cake. July 19 was Al's birthday, but it is also the 74th anniversary of his U.S. Army enlistment at the tender age of 18. Left to right: Ken Stiles, Zackary Williams, Larry Hansen, Dale Hansen, Sandy Williams, Norris Williams (also an Army vet who is celebrating his 80th birthday on July, 20), Dominique Williams, Nina Stiles, Kevin Williams, Kristi Williams, Melinda DelFratte, and Dolly Williams. Fairfield Village is so very proud of all our American heroes; however, this day, captured in the accompanying photo, was special for the semi-shut in couple originally from New Jersey. God grant that no more young Americans have to see or experience anything like what the Pearl Harbor survivors saw/ experienced on December 7, 1941, or what people in New York City, Washington, D.C. or Shanksville, PA, saw/experienced on 9/11/2001. From the "lively place filled with lovely people" we say God Bless America not just on July 4 but all other days of the year as well.

Far left, Al DeMarco; his then soon-to-be wife, Odette; and two other couples celebrated leave time together during World War II. The young happy faces shone despite all the dangers facing them in their futures. Fortunately all three young men, two U.S. Army and one U.S. Navy, survived the war. Sadly, only one of these handsome young men is alive today. Al DeMarco celebrated his 92nd birthday with a group of friends on July 19 at his home in Fairfield Village. His enlistment papers indicate he joined the U.S. Army on his 18th birthday--July 19, 1940, 17 months before the attack on Pearl Harbor. Al was knocked from his bunk at Schofield Barracks on that infamous Sunday morning. More stories will follow in future interviews.

Photos, information by Priscilla Barnett

## Don't let back-to-school tasks sneak up on you

BY JASON ALDERMAN  
Special to the Messenger

Parents, if this is your first time at the back-to-school rodeo, let me share a few lessons my wife and I have learned the hard way. Chances are you'll be spending the next few weeks filling out piles of pre-enrollment paperwork, lining up carpools and, of course, taking the dreaded shopping excursions for clothes and school supplies.

If you're a first-timer or simply need a back-to-school refresher course, here are a few suggestions that can help you save time, money and sanity:

Get organized. Maintain a correspondence file from your kid's school for things like registration requirements, report cards, permission slips, required vaccinations, school policies, teacher and parent contact information, etc. Ask whether the school has a website, online calendar or email list you can join. Also,

create a family master calendar.

Back-to-school shopping. Between new clothes, classroom supplies and extracurricular activity fees and equipment, many parents end up spending hundreds of dollars per child. Ideally, you've been setting money aside all year. If not, you'll need to determine what you can afford to spend without blowing your overall budget.

Here are a few organizational and money-saving tips:

Before you shop, make a comprehensive list for

each child. Use previous years' expenses as a guide and compare notes with other parents and school officials.

Engage your kids in the budgeting process. Share how much money is available to spend and get them involved in prioritizing expenses between "needs" and "wants."

Go through your kids' closets and have them try on everything. Make an inventory of items that fit and are

Please see TASKS, Page 10



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.

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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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.

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# Happenings

## Saturday, July 26

### Worship at TimberRidge

Worship Service at TimberRidge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center will take place on Saturday, July 26 at 10:15 a.m.

Countryside Presbyterian Church provides Christian Ministry to residents of TimberRidge, 9848 SW 110th St., Ocala and holds bimonthly worship services.

If you have a loved one, or friend at the TimberRidge Center you are invited to attend our next service.

For further information, please call the church of fice at 352-237-4633.

### African Violet Club to meet

African Violet Club of Ocala July meeting will be on Saturday, July 26, at 10:30 a.m. at the Marion County Sheriff's Office (Brian Litz Sheriff's Substation), 9048 SW Highway 200, Ocala.

Our program this month is "Tips and Techniques" revolving around our love and care of African violets and other gesneriads.

We'll also have a great time meeting new friends. There are bound to be a few surprises during this meeting!

Our supplies store will be open, along with our ex-

tensive library. Invite other African violet enthusiasts, friends and family too!

Check out the website at <http://www.AfricanViolet-ClubofOcala.org> or catch us on Facebook.com/AfricanVioletClubofOcala Guests are always welcome!

## Monday, July 28

### Candidate forum set

A candidate forum will be Monday, July 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ocala Police Department Community Room, 402 S. Pine Ave. Moderator: Buddy Martin, Host, Buddy Martin Show, WOCA The Source.

## Tuesday, July 29

### Breast cancer support group to meet

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., in the Chapel, Room 235.

The meeting on Tuesday, July 29, will be an informal information exchange including sharing some of our experiences.

## Saturday, Aug. 2

### Yoga in Sholom Park

Come and enjoy the Peace Park with a beautiful yoga class at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 2. For more information, call Ingrid at 352-854-7950.

## Sunday, Aug. 10

### German Americans plan celebration

The German American Club of Marion County will hold an anniversary dinner/dance on Sunday, Aug. 10, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Marion Oaks Community Center.

Dinner will be served at 1 p.m. and includes pork schnitzel, mashed potatoes, gravy and green beans. Please bring your own beverage.

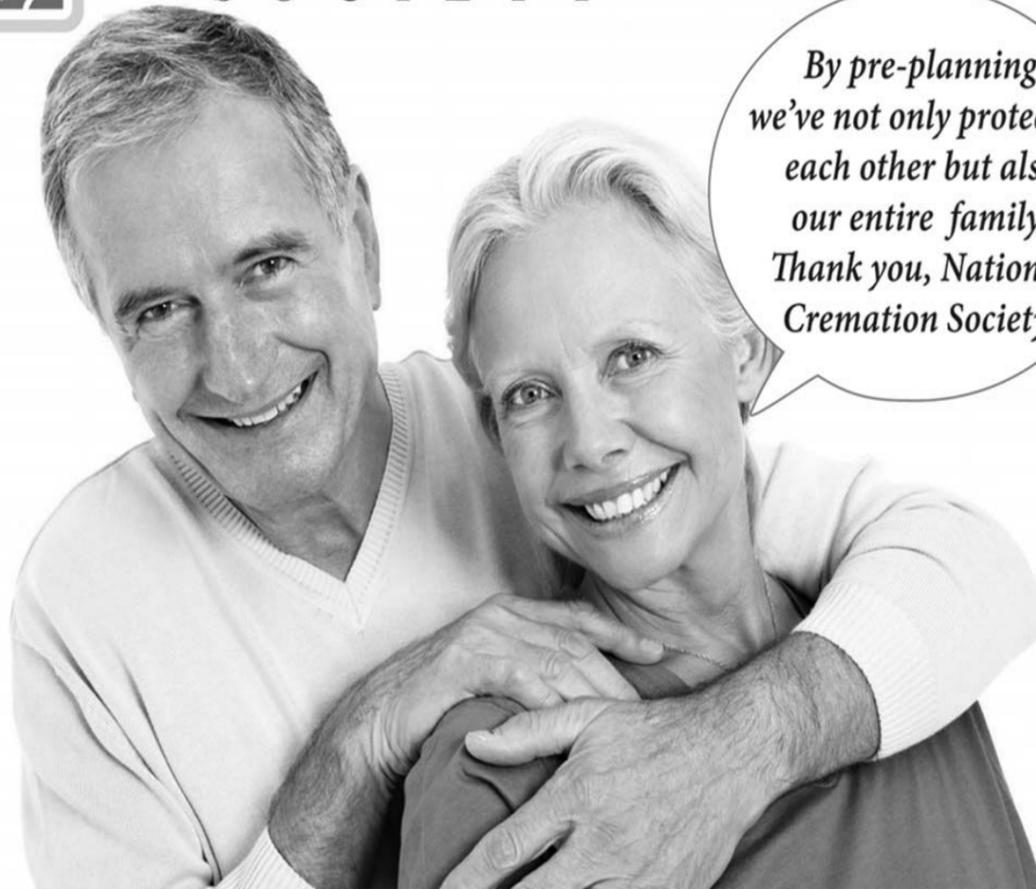
Music will be provided by Joan & Jess. Semi-formal attire is requested.

Tickets are \$16 per member or \$20 per non-member and may be purchased by calling Barb Hartmann at 352-751-4207.

More on  
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# Stone Creek lifestyle director has a busy job

If you were to ask a Stone Creek resident about their lifestyle, you would probably get many different answers. The term lifestyle was originally used by an Austrian psychologist named Alfred Adler. The scope and variety of programs at Stone Creek are varied hoping to meet the needs of many different ages and likes of those living here.



**Stone Creek**  
*Patricia Gizzi*

The immense task of providing the many social and educational programs is the job of the Lifestyle Director, Kim Krystopa. She has a staff of one paid assistant to do this daunting job. How is it possible that Kim has put on 62 programs as of July and 110 are scheduled for the 2014 year. She has a team of very dedicated volunteers who give numerous hours to make sure each event goes on. Since January, only two programs were cancelled and this was due to weather related issues.

Recently, I went to a social committee meeting to highlight this amazing group and Kim. I got there late but saw the conflict this group is facing. Many volunteers do various jobs for the event but don't go to the event because it has gotten expensive for them to go to all the

many events Kim and the committee plan. Kim also said the community needs to realize the rising cost of food and entertainment. She tries to provide many programs in the \$10 to \$15 range but that is getting harder to do. She noted that many of the decorations they buy are used multiple times to keep decorating costs down.

The committee has decided to utilize sub committees more. These committees would consist of entertainment, food purchase, food preparation, decorating, set-up, and take down of the ballroom to name a few. Volunteers can decide to work on one or many of the committees or for just one event. You do not need to belong to the social committee to give a hand.

There are many things that go on be-



**Lifestyle Director Kim Krystopa and her volunteers.**

hind the scenes when one comes to event. Many come, enjoy the event and then leave. The work is done by a few and there is a need for more volunteers. When the next notice comes, give some thought to helping out with an event. You certainly will meet a wonderful group of people to work with. With more

people helping, Kim can continue to provide the many events she has this year.

For the month of July and August, she has planned educational seminars on estate planning, wills and trusts, market

*Please see STONE CREEK, Page 6*

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# Why I'm singing: 'Let it go, let it go, let it go'

This year I celebrate my 20th year as a practicing grandfather. I am not sure that after 20 years I know anything more about being a grandfather than I did before. I have not found any books written on how to be a grandfather, maybe I should write one. I have enjoyed those 20 years and it just seems to be getting better.



**Out to Pastor**  
*Rev. James Snyder*

One of the interesting things about a grandfather is spending time with the grandchildren, especially when they are trying to watch a movie.

I enjoy a movie every now and again, but when it comes to little girls, they do not seem to have the same taste in movies as their grandfather. This is something I will never understand. What is a grandfather to do? The only way to get them to sit still and be quiet is to show one of their movies.

One of the movies so important to little girls these days is the movie called Frozen. As it happened, we had to have a special night set aside to watch this movie with the granddaughters. I figured, how hard could it really be?

I consented on this movie because I thought this would give those tired, overworked little gray cells upstairs a chance to relax and not work so hard. After all, how can you think when you

are watching something like a movie for children?

I also thought it would be nice to rest my body as well as my eyes, if I can get away with it. After all, who wants to follow the plot, if there is any such thing, in a children's movie.

We had settled down to watch this exciting little girl's movie, I was half dozing and then I began to think about the manuscript I was working on. I had been having trouble with a certain aspect of that manuscript and as I sat there, I begin to think about how I could fix that problem. It almost came to me, but then I heard, "Grandpa, grandpa, grandpa look at that, look at that!"

The cheering granddaughters brought me back to the land of the living and the reality as they were watching it. Both of them at the same time begin to explain to me what it happened and

what was going to happen. Between the two little chatterboxes, I had no idea what they were talking about. What is a grandfather to do but smile broadly and pretend you are listening. After all, they are only little once.

They soon quieted down and were fixated on the screen watching the movie unfold. I sighed a deep sigh of relief and went back into my previous stupor. I try to follow the movie, but then I remembered that in the afternoon I had to write a column for my newspapers. As of yet, I did not have an idea what that column would be. I like to start with the title and then following that develop a story line. As yet, I did not have an acceptable column title. As I mused about this, thoughts were beginning to gel and that little light bulb began to flicker. Thoughts were beginning to come into place, and then I heard some loud screaming and clapping and two little girls were jumping up and down singing, "Let it go, let it go, let it go."

I sat up in my chair, looking around trying to figure out what in the world they were trying to let go. It is at this point that grandmothers are no help to grandfathers. Grandmothers can say, "You girls watch the movie with grandpa while I make supper."

Personally, I do not think it is fair. I would like to make supper one night while grandma joins the little girls watching a movie. The problem is, nobody would eat the supper that I would prepare, not even Yours Truly.

What these little girls were all excited about was something I was trying to figure out. It did not make any sense to me, but as I watched the little grandchild-

dren, they were excited, laughing, shouting and singing. Of course, it is hard to tell the difference between shouting and singing, especially in today's musical world. They were absolutely enjoying themselves and I tried to focus in on the source of their enjoyment.

"Grandpa," both of them yelled at me in absolute delight, "sing the song with us."

What grandpa's go through while entertaining their grandchildren.

I made a deal with them at that time, "I will sing with you, but I certainly will not dance with you." A grandfather has to draw the line somewhere. And so, I joined in singing, "Let it go, let it go, let it go." I got those words down pretty good, but the rest of the song was a mysterious blank to me. They were excited about singing it and soon I was excited about watching them sing it.

That evening when the little ones were snuggled into bed, I remember what David said. "For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalms 30:5).

In the Hebrew, so they tell me, the word "joy," also means singing. My faith in Jesus Christ has brought me to a wonderful place where I can sing, "Let it go, let it go, let it go."

*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 or website www.jamesnyderministries.com.*

## STONE CREEK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

update and retirement

income as well as an informational seminar on closet designs. She is planning two free Ice Cream socials - one in July and one in August. Who doesn't love free ice cream? For the exercise person, she has a water volleyball tournament. She has a movie night with all the refreshments in July and a movie matinee in August. A movie, popcorn, beer, wine and soda all for \$5. Now, that is a deal! She has two "Behind the Scenes" Horse Farm Tours - one in July and one in August. Her most popular event is her wine and cheese so-

cial.

She has one scheduled in July.

This year, she started a primetime social hour. For July, the theme was "Tini" or Tuesday Martinis. August, the cocktail theme is "Wind Down Wednesday." This features a variety of wines. She also hosts a First Friday Social with music where you can dance the night away.

She ends the month of July with a Magic Comedy Show and the end of August has the Caribbean Chillers Band which is a tribute to Jimmy Buffett.

As one can see, Kim does an outstanding job

of providing a wide variety of programs to meet the diverse needs of the residents of Stone Creek. Remember, many hands make light work and your time and talents are needed to keep these events going.

As one Social Committee member pointed out, HOA dues would be more if they had to pay a company to put on the activities done by volunteers.

Kitchen Volunteers - a group of 22 volunteers over the course of a week tallied over 44 hours of volunteer time to inventory and clean every piece of equipment in the kitchen. Beth Mueller who headed the inventory tallied about 40 hours.

## Hospice seeks singers

Hospice of Marion County invites you to consider a unique volunteer service. We have a special choral group known as the Journey Singers that sings songs of healing and comfort at the bedside of the ill or dying at the four Marion County Hospice Houses, private homes, and other selective venues. We offer a wide choice of music, including spiritual, secular and patriotic selections.

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## Open house at Ranch Fitness

The wait is over! The expansion is completed and we're excited to invite you for a week of fun at The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa Open House beginning on July 28 thru Aug. 2.

The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa has completed a significant expansion project which yielded additional fitness rooms, expanded locker rooms and much more to the facility. With the additional space you can take advantage of an extended group fitness menu or work out on our spacious fitness floor with upgraded equipment.

Plus, the re-designed salon space and treatment areas will provide you with the ultimate lavish spa experience that you deserve.

Now is the time to check out Ocala's Ultimate Fitness Center and Spa and see all the great new improvements the facility has to offer.

The Ranch Fitness Center & Spa open house is free and open to the public.

Join us at The Ranch beginning on July 28 thru August 2, 2014! Come and see the facility's additional fitness rooms, expanded locker rooms and more service stations in the spa and salon. The Ranch is open daily and is a full service fitness facility, salon and spa located at 8385 SW 80th Street, Ocala. For more information on activities and fitness membership, visit our web site at [www.TheRanchFitnessSpa.com](http://www.TheRanchFitnessSpa.com) or call (352) 861-8180.

## Free coping with dementia conference scheduled for Sept. 16 in Homosassa

The United Methodist Church of Homosassa will host a one-day conference on Alzheimer's and dementia on September 16, 2014. The event, organized by Debbie Selsavage, Administrator of the Sunshine Gardens assisted living and memory care community in Crystal River, is designed to provide information and resources for caregivers of loved ones suffering from dementia.

The Coping with Dementia Conference, which will run from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. will feature presenters who have personal and professional experience as caregivers, such as author and columnist Gary LeBlanc, HPH Hospice Communications Coordinator Ann Black, and Selsavage, who will speak from her experience as both a professional administrator and a caregiver who lost her husband to Alzheimer's.

In addition, there will break-out discussion groups where conference participants can ask questions about dementia and share their own solutions.

The conference is free and open to the public. The church will provide free respite services so that caregivers can attend who might otherwise not be able to leave the loved ones in their care.

A large turnout for the free conference is expected, so attendees are advised to reserve a place by calling 352-563-0325 or e-mailing [administration@sgseniors.com](mailto:administration@sgseniors.com).

Reservations for the free respite service are required, and interested parties are advised to call Karen Kline at 352-628-4083.

The United Methodist Church is located at 8831 W. Bradshaw Blvd. Enter from Route 19 at either Bradshaw or Yulee Drive.

Please use our e-mail  
[editor@westmarionmessenger.com](mailto:editor@westmarionmessenger.com)

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# Opinion

## Our Message

### The city's law: Pull your pants up

There's an old saying among those who really don't care how people behave that "you can't legislate morality."

It's nice, though, when a governmental agency tries.

In this day of permissive liberal attitudes toward indecency and the flaunting of behavior that never would have been accepted not too long ago, the Ocala City Council last week passed a law concerning the low-riding pants that show off underwear, usually boxer shorts.

Led by Council member Mary Rich, the law was passed easily.

That, of course, opened up a firestorm of criticism by the liberals and, in some cases, the media, about individual rights, etc. We don't understand what part of the word "underwear" is it that these folks don't understand? To us the word "under" has always meant below. Underwear is something you wear below your outer garments.

These people, however, forget that decent residents of the area have rights too.

We have the right not to have to look at people's underwear as we drive down the street. We have the right not to see too much when one of these people, usually young and usually male, bend over.

We'd like to see an accompanying law passed by the County Commission.

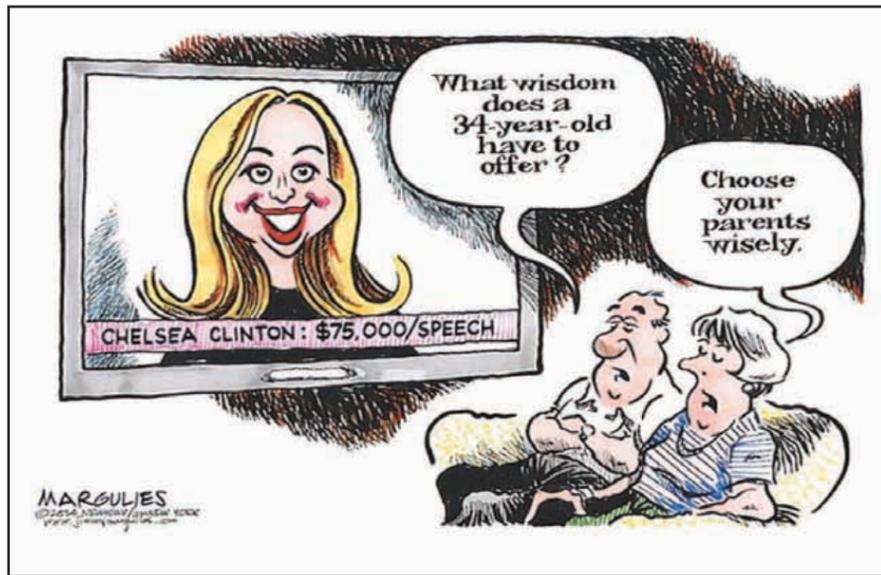
Lest you think that this law is racially-based, consider that the force behind this law, Councilwoman Rich, is the only African-American on the City Council.

With a little background checking, we found that the term for wearing pants this way is called "sagging." Those who approve of this form of dress might be interested in knowing where the practice started.

Apparently, it started in prisons in the pre-jumpsuit days. Belts were taken away from prisoners so they couldn't hang themselves, and therefore their pants "sagged."

We hope the city stands its ground in this, and we hope that those who wish to emulate prisoners from the old days, get the message: Pull your pants up.

## Editorial



## Your letter

### Socialism

Socialism has failed over and over and over.

I'm nobody. Do not take my word for it. Listen to the people managing its demise, yet again, in Europe, and elsewhere in the world, read: The Alchemists: Three Central Bankers and a World on Fire by Neil Irwin.

They give details that are mind numbing, but the meat is there, too.

The economies of Greece, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland are in free fall, plunging into insolvency. The three bankers are casting about for solutions, but it is hard to find solutions when there is nothing to work with. Quantitative easing can get you so far and no further. When there is no more money there is no more money. Everyone suffers.

In Europe they have 13th and 14th month paychecks, when they are suspended, wallah, riots erupt in Greece. We want ours, to heck with you, you can starve, and we need our vacations.

No government on earth can sustain socialist financial programs forever. Just cannot be done. The United States, the richest country ever, is straining under fiscal social programs. The Millennials get it. They will have to pay our tab. They are not happy.

The government is not a good shepherd or steward of money. If the S.S. accounts had been in private accounts you would have had a lot more money, and it would have been more secure. Look at the financial tables. See how the government has raided S.S. funds. The funds are empty. The money squandered by government. The cupboard is bare. You cannot get funds from a turnip, nothing left to give, and not enough young people to carry the burden. Do you blame them for being angry?

It was never my intention to take SS. Until our property taxes in Dade county forced me to take SS. My husband's and my checks did not cover the taxes on our 70 year old house. Twenty years after retirement, we were forced to leave the home; I swore I would never leave.

Now, the noose of higher taxes, and government control of finances is growing tighter, and tighter. I am choking, and there is no end in sight.

I do not know about you, but I worked very hard for everything, I have.

And I still work very hard. Is it fair that some think things should be handed to them gratis?

Why are they entitled to a free ride? Give me one good reason.

We are all created EQUAL are we not? Work included.

Socialists are silly geese. They cannot see that America is fixable.

Legal Plunder Bastiat} is reversible. Capitalism may be twisted and torn, but it can be mended. Get rid of the dead wood in D.C. and repeal preferential laws. Hedge funds, derivatives and more are sinful.

Instead of carping, help to make things right for everyone, conservatives have rights, too. Our values are as valid as anyone's.

You live by your values, and we live by ours. You leave us alone, and go about your business, not ours. That is the crux. We are being forced to accept liberal values, totally unacceptable. Barbarism and immorality are not our cup of tea. We are capable of leading our own lives. Thank you very much!!!!

D.I. Larson  
Ocala

## Not all July 20 memories are the same

The date of July 20 has a special meaning to a lot of people. For most, it's the anniversary of the moon landing by Neil Armstrong 45 years ago this year.

Many of us can remember sitting in front of our televisions and watching, in many cases with awe, as Armstrong bounced down from his ladder onto the surface of the moon, the first human being to do so.

His quote of "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" has become part of American lore.

Of course, there were the few who said the whole thing was a fake, that the landing was in the Mojave Desert or some other place. Most of us don't put a whole lot of stock in these philosophies.

As a newspaperman, I join in all the people of the world in celebrating what at the time was a stunning achievement.

As a person, though, July 20 has an entirely different meaning for me.

My late mother was born on July 20, 1914, in New York City. If you do the math, that means that this past Sunday she would have been 100 years old.

I took a ride Sunday to the Florida National Cemetery in Sumter County where my mom is laid to rest with my father. She died in 1997, he in 2004.

It had been a while since I had been down there, but I drove up to their site without hesitation. They are in Section 317, marker No. 46, a number that is ingrained in my brain. Despite the thousands of gravestones and cremation plaques, when you have a personal stake in the location, it's easy to find.

After standing over their plaque for a while as the emotion welled up inside of me, I moved about 30 yards to the nearest bench and sat down, just meditating on the situation. I had asked God to tell them that I missed them and hoped they were all right. I'm not one of these people, usually athletes, who believe that relatives are "looking down from above" and rooting for them. I be-



### Among Friends

Jim Clark

lieve that people in heaven are so enraptured with the presence of God that what happens here no longer matters to their spiritual existence. I do think, though, that there is telepathic communication in the next life whereby they can be told that I'm thinking about them.

It was a fairly warm, but not stifling, day Sunday about noon. There were lots of clouds moving across the sky that allowed the sun to have an in-and-out day, keeping the temperature down.

There was no wind. The only thing moving, ever so slightly, was the moss hanging from the old shade trees.

Even the birds seemed to respect a person's need for solitude. A few could be heard in the distance, but in the several surrounding trees there was nary a sound.

Finally I arose and went back to my car. A couple of vehicles had passed by since I arrived, but no person had interrupted my thoughts during my visit.

I headed out to the Interstate about a mile away and turned north back toward Ocala, alone with my thoughts as I drove. There was no radio or CD player this day.

I know there were a lot of people thinking about Neil Armstrong and what July 20, 1969, with his famous statement, meant to all of us.

But in my mind, I could only think of one saying:

Happy Birthday, Mom.

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.

# WEST MARION Messenger

PUBLISHER:

GERRY MULLIGAN

MANAGER:

JOHN MURPHY

EDITOR:

JIM CLARK



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Your honesty is, as always, admirable. But you might want to be more tactful in discussing a sensitive issue with a family member. Remember: You can give advice without giving offense.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) An unexpected workplace snag should be handled quickly and efficiently so that it leaves time for family get-togethers. You might soon get that long-sought apology.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Aspects favor family matters, especially where children might be involved. Spending time with loved ones helps restore some much-needed balance to your typically busy schedule.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) That clear-cut agreement might not be quite so straightforward after all. Recheck for language that could make you liable for hidden costs and other unpleasant surprises.

**LEO** (July 23 to Aug. 22) Careful, Kitty. Better to deal with someone with proven reliability than with a big talker who promises much but can't deliver. Your social life really zings this weekend.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your matchmaking skills are at peak performance levels both in helping to staff workplace teams for upcoming projects and for bringing people together on a more personal basis.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You're finally seeing some progress with your new venture. But be prepared for it to continue at a slower pace than you're used to. Meanwhile, a loved one could be preparing a surprise.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A family member's success pulls you into the spotlight as well. Enjoy it, but don't let it overshadow or otherwise obstruct what you're doing with your own creative projects.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Using what you already know might not be quite enough to get a proposed project off the ground. Look for any details that might help tilt the scales in your favor.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Good news: While a changing workplace environment can be daunting for some, it could be the challenge you've been hoping for. If so, confront it with confidence and move on.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) It's a good time to recheck travel arrangements for any changes that could work to your advantage. Aspects also favor strengthening and restoring old, fraying relationships.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to March 20) Using your intuitive reasoning helps you cut right through the double-talk and go straight to what's really going on around you.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

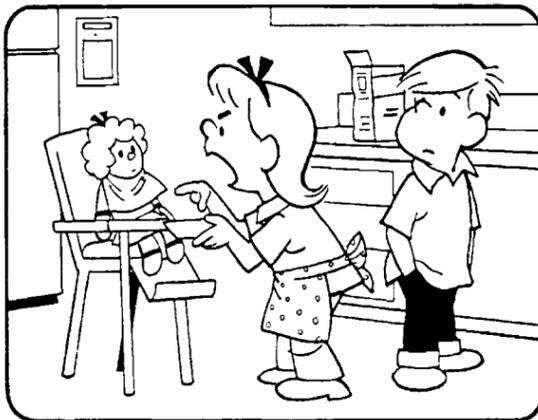
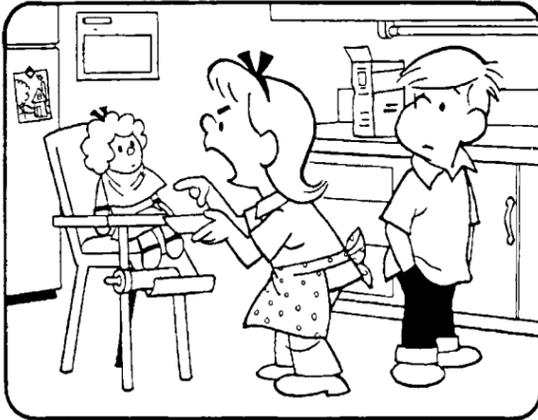
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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

Differences: 1. Drawing is missing. 2. Wall oven is missing. 3. Bottle is missing. 4. Apron is different. 5. Light is missing. 6. Door is missing.

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3	5	8	4	7	8	2	5	8	3	8	3	7
B	T	N	Y	Y	E	L	I	G	E	O	G	O
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C	F	R	R	E	A	N	S	H	E	G	I	O
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7	4	5	4	5	3	5	4	7	4	7	4	7
U	I	N	S	G	S	E	H	R	E	S	D	E

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

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## Super Crossword E-BUSINESS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hawaii's slate bird
  - 5 Glossy varnishes
  - 12 Pub perch
  - 20 "This round — me"
  - 21 Using clear thinking
  - 22 Fit to be taught
  - 23 Hereditary information of an arboretum's species?
  - 25 The Milky Way and Andromeda
  - 26 Upper arm bones
  - 27 Deceive with untruths
  - 29 Prior to, in a sonnet
  - 30 Admonition against trying algebra problems after imbibing?
  - 38 Sigma follower
  - 41 Very draft-worthy
  - 42 Sure-footed equines
  - 43 — culpa
  - 44 One gawking at a Beetle?
  - 48 Sikhs' headwear
  - 52 Zeal
  - 53 Spiegel or Stern lead-in
  - 54 Pro- — (some tournaments)
  - 57 Enable
  - 58 Track official with a gun
  - 61 Zero out serenely?
  - 64 Abode and outbuildings
  - 67 Gives a grade to
  - 68 Less loopy
  - 69 Hid oneself expertly?
  - 72 Great grade
  - 77 Wrap-up
  - 78 Pine extract
  - 84 Gradual formation of Mars, say?
  - 87 Ljubljana native
  - 88 Old Chevy minivan
  - 89 Scrubbing-in sites, briefly
  - 90 10% of XXX
  - 93 Group jargon
  - 94 Jackie's Ari
  - 96 Crimson-painted biology lab display?
  - 99 Dept. VIP
  - 100 Japanese verse form
  - 104 Gorilla expert
  - 105 Commercials
  - 106 Danish explorer no longer going wild?
  - 113 — -TURN (traffic sign)
  - 114 Give — of approval
  - 115 Finish dozing
  - 119 Grimly cynical
  - 123 Sibling's daughter
  - 127 Nissan luxury division
  - 128 Property recipient, legally
  - 129 Classic soda brand
  - 131 Autocrats
  - 132 North Carolina college
  - 5 Weather-changing currents
  - 6 Eggy libation
  - 7 Maturate
  - 8 60-sec. span
  - 9 Gut bacteria
  - 10 Arranged in thin plates
  - 11 Makes smooth and glossy
  - 12 Bard's "Git!"
  - 13 Cavity-fighting org.
  - 14 Governed
  - 15 Spook
  - 16 The IRS, e.g.
  - 17 — -Wan Kenobi
  - 18 Jai-alai shout
  - 19 Arles article
  - 24 Ending for ranch
  - 28 Profs' aides
  - 31 Blowup stuff
  - 32 Extinct
  - 33 Tough to find
  - 34 Sept. hours
  - 35 Yardbirds hit of 1965
  - 36 Italian port
  - 37 Lent follower
  - 38 Junk
  - 39 — -ground missile
  - 40 Allow to flow freely again
  - 45 Stab
  - 46 Meal bits
  - 47 Misstep
  - 49 1995-2006 TV channel
  - 50 Members of Cong.
  - 51 La — Tar Pits
  - 54 Kin of PDQ
  - 55 The Doors' "Love — Times"
  - 56 Sword metal
  - 59 Country in E. Africa
  - 60 Corp. shuffle
  - 62 Burst out
  - 63 Archipelago components
  - 65 Bygone Olds
  - 66 Wallpaper and such
  - 70 Cartoon voicer
  - 71 Online giggle
  - 72 Poise
  - 73 Nosedive
  - 74 Hedy of films
  - 75 L'états- —
  - 76 Beltway VIPs
  - 79 Toss the dice
  - 80 Pop singer
  - 81 "I — Letter to My Love" (1980 movie)
  - 82 "— We Trust"
  - 83 Glowing signs
  - 85 Mai —
  - 86 Go hastily again!
  - 91 "... and — it again!"
  - 92 "The fix —"
  - 95 Moo — beef
  - 96 How farm kids are raised
  - 97 "Krazy —" (old cartoon)
  - 98 Incenses
  - 101 Advil rival
  - 102 Airport demands
  - 103 Persist in
  - 107 Film at a film festival, often
  - 108 Midday hours
  - 109 Put the pedal to the metal
  - 110 "The Cosby Show" mom
  - 111 "MYOB" part
  - 112 Cleo of song
  - 116 Part of a ship
  - 117 Canyon call
  - 118 No, in Berlin
  - 119 Create a lap
  - 120 Actress Ortiz
  - 121 Brother of DDE's successor
  - 122 Suffix with Israel or zinc
  - 124 Nay negator
  - 125 Hotel relative
  - 126 Insect trap

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130										131									132

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## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

	+		÷		4
-		-		×	
	÷		+		6
×		×		÷	
	-		×		8
5		7		6	

**DIFFICULTY: ★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 9

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# TASKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

in good shape, and take it when shopping so you don't accidentally buy duplicates. (While you're at it, share, sell or donate unneeded items.)

Spread clothing purchases throughout the year so your kids don't outgrow everything at once. Many stores hold fall clearance sales to make room for holiday merchandise.

Review the school's dress code so you don't waste money on inappropriate clothing.

Although shopping online can save money, time and gas, don't forget to factor in shipping and return costs, which could undo any net savings. If your kids are old enough, put them in charge of online comparison shopping and coupon clipping.

Ask which school supplies you're expected to buy. Go in with other families to take advantage of volume discounts and sales.

Find out how much extracurricular activities (athletics, music, art, etc.) cost. Account for uniforms, membership dues, private lessons, field trips, snacks,

etc. Rent or buy used sporting equipment or musical instruments until you're sure they'll stick with an activity.

Know when to spend more for higher quality. Cheaper notebook paper shouldn't matter, but don't buy poorly made shoes that might hamper proper physical development.

Before buying new clothing or accessories, look for "gently used" items in the closets of your older kids and friends, at garage sales, thrift and consignment stores and online.

Clip newspaper and online coupons. Many stores will match competitors' prices even if their own items aren't on sale. Plus, many consolidation websites post downloadable coupons and sale codes for online retailers, including: CouponCabin.com, CouponCode.com, CouponCraze.com, DealHunting.com and Dealnews.com.

Bottom line: If you get organized before setting out on back-to-school shopping, you can save money, time and aggravation.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).

# JUDGES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for re-election in the state, and this is the only circuit where a judge faces opposition.

In judicial races, candidates are limited as to what they can say. They mainly concentrate on their own qualifications and do not speak to specific cases or decisions.

Mary Hatcher went first and said she had been an attorney for 25 years. The Bushnell lawyer cited her experience working on jury trials and her work as a staff attorney for judges.

She said she would "be prepared, be respectful and would listen to what you have to say" to those who might appear in court. She added that 95 percent of the public never has dealings with the courts.

Denise Diamond Lyn is an Inverness attorney who has run before. Her slogan is that "service matters, experience

counts and trust says it all." She is a veteran who put herself through school, she said, and has served her profession.

She said she has been endorsed by various law enforcement and firefighter groups.

Bo Samargya has also run before, and is making another try at a circuit seat. He is also a veterans and says, "I believe I have the background" to serve as judge.

He has served as a public defender, worked in the state attorney's office and in the private sector.

He serves as a member of the Knights of Columbus, has been chosen to be a teen court judge, among other appointments by current judges.

He says he will have "command decision-making ability right out of the gate" if he is elected.

# COUNTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fiorello immediately attacked Zalak and the current commissioners over not letting the people vote on Amendment 11, which would have given a tax breaks to some veterans and their families.

Later, in response to a

question, he said he also would have voted to allow the public to vote on the baseball stadium, and he would put the proposed countywide tax on the ballot this fall.

"I am so disappointed in local government," Fiorello said. "I respect that ballot. That was wrong, very wrong," referring to the failure to allow people to vote. "The voice of the people is very important."

He said he would vote to "eliminate wasteful spending" by the county. He cited the recent purchase of Windstream Utilities on State Road 200 and the purchase of a building for utility services in Belleview.

Concerning Windstream, he commented, "Why should the county buy a business? If it's so good, the private sector would have bought it."

He said the county needed "someone who can drive this government."

The Republican primary is Aug. 26. Although the winner is virtually assured of election, the victor will be on the November ballot because of a write-in candidate, Christopher Turner. He was invited to take part in the Coalition forum, but did not respond.

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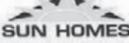




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# SCHOOLS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

education for all of our students," and noted that "good quality teaches are leaving." She said there is micro-management that is affecting the teachers in the county.

In response to a question, she said she has "become more informed" about waste recently and would not support the tax on the ballot.

Crawford, asked the same question, said he "had a problem with the ballot language" allowing the board too much discretion on how the money would be spent.

School Board candidates in the other two races appeared before the Coalition last month.

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# Ladies attend monthly luncheon

Now that summer is in full swing, activities have slowed down in Quail Meadow. The sign in front of the clubhouse says September will be a Sock Hop and Car Show. Watch this article for more news about this event.



**Quail Meadow**  
*Carolyn Slocumb*

Twenty-two ladies from our community met at Carrabba's Italian Grill for the monthly luncheon. We were thrilled to have several new residents/first time attendees with us. The August luncheon will be on the 8th of the month at Blanca's. This restaurant is in Ocala Palms. Make your plans now to join us for a delightful gathering.

Did you know that July is National Ice Cream Month? In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month. President Reagan, in this proclamation, called for the people of the United States to observe these events with "appropriate ceremonies and activities." President Reagan recognized ice cream as a fun and nutritious food enjoyed by at least 90 percent of the population. I don't know about you, but there is always at least one carton of ice cream in our freezer. This year, Sunday, July 20, was designated National Ice Cream Day. Let's all

enjoy a dish of ice cream today! An interesting fact: about 9 percent of all the milk produced by U.S. dairy farmers is used to make ice cream.

Most of us know that we have a very talented artist in our community - Barbara Fife. Barbara has been invited to be the Guest Artist exhibiting at Gallery East in Belleview Aug. 1 through Aug. 31. Barbara says she is excited and humbled to receive this invitation. She will have about twenty of her watercolors in this show. She has issued an invitation to all of us to attend the reception on Friday, Aug. 8, between 5 and 7 p.m. Gallery East is in the Almeida Plaza on Highway 441. Let's support Barbara and make an effort to attend this reception.

Did you miss your Messenger on Wednesday? Apparently the delivery person had a problem, but the papers were in our driveways on Thursday morning. Please call the Messenger office, or me, if you have a problem receiving your paper.

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