



WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

Leedy, Zalak state their positions

BY DAVID DAVIS
Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to space constraints only two of the four candidates were presented in the previous week. The remaining two candidates are covered this week. Four of five candidates running for the Marion County Board of Commissioners in the second and fourth districts attended the State Road 200 Coalition Monday, June 11.

Helen Dueño, a Democrat, filed her application for Commission District 2 in July 2017 but she did not qualify. With

her out of the race, that leaves a slate of Republicans that includes current BOCC chairwoman Kathy Bryant and challenger Michael Crimi in the 2nd District.

In the 3rd Commission District are incumbent Carl Zalak III and retired Marion County Deputy Captain Eddie Leedy. The salary for commissioners is \$79,463. Both Bryant and Zalak have raised more than \$80,000 as of May



Leedy



Zalak

31, according to the latest financial campaign reports on the Marion County Supervisor of Elections website. Bryant reported \$88,875 raised

against \$10,265 in disbursements and expenditures while Zalak raised \$84,850 with \$15,789 in expenditures.

Crimi reported \$82,500 with \$50,000 in the form of a personal loan to his campaign. He listed \$17,380 in expenses. Leedy has raised \$16,210 and

expended \$3,201.

Eddie Leedy

Leedy is a Marion County native. He graduated from North Marion High School and at the age of 18, then sheriff Don Moreland "took a chance on a young man and hired me."

During his career with the department, he worked in every division except K-9 and aviation. By the time he retired, Leedy had achieved the rank of captain in charge of the patrol watch commander, mounted unit commander, SWAT commander and he still volunteers with the sheriff's

department.

Most of his career was in drug and other investigation divisions.

"It's very important that we have the ability and honor to come in groups such as this, and we refer to you as the informed voter, people that do care about this county, love this county, and are willing to come out and listen to candidates and make a decision on who you want representing you in the office of county commissioner."

Leedy said Marion County is the horse capital of the

See LEEDY/Page A10

Navy musician: Always been a singer

BY DAVID DAVIS
Editor

America's Navy is coming to Ocala, one of seven cities in the state to host a performance by the United States Navy Band during its 2018 tour — one of the signature outreach programs of the U.S. Navy.

The United States Navy Band Cruisers performance is scheduled for Wednesday, July 4, at 5:30 p.m. at Circle Square Commons.

As the U.S. Navy's premier popular music group, the Cruisers feature eight of the Navy's most dynamic performers. Their versatility provides them the capability to play multiple genres of music, ranging from rhythm and blues, pop, classic rock, adult contemporary and jazz stan-

dards, as well as original material. The elite group engages and excites audiences of all ages throughout the U.S. and abroad with world-class musicianship and high-energy, fun-filled performances.

Cruisers Unit Leader Chief Musician Shana Sullivan said in an interview via email that, "I draw the most satisfaction from enthusiastic crowds, whether they are large or small. It is about the connection to people for me.

"We perform around 100 shows a year. Some are major productions with the entire Navy Band, most are full Cruiser performances and others are protocol (White House, vice president, high rank-

See NAVY/Page A12



The Navy Cruisers as shown in the ensemble's official photo. The U.S. Navy's premier popular music group is scheduled to perform Wednesday, July 4, at 5:30 p.m. at the Circle Square Commons.

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Happenings

Saturday, June 30

Florida Artists Gallery

The Florida Artists Gallery, located in the Historic Knight House at 8219 Orange Avenue in Floral City, is planning a Jewelry Extravaganza Saturday, June 30, 2018 from 5 to 7 p.m. A \$10 admission donation will include vouchers for a free glass of wine, refreshments, a 10 percent discount on any purchase during the evening, and five tickets for drawings for jewelry. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by appointment any day of the week. For more information, call 352-344-9300, go to www.flartistsgallery.com, or find it on Facebook.

Sunday, July 1

Southwest Christian Church

Come and Worship with Southwest Christian Church, Sunday at 10:30 a.m. You can find us at: 9045 SW 60th Ave. in Ocala. Our worship style is full of love, joy and faith, as we worship God in a traditional way. You can learn more about us and even view a sermon from our Preaching Minister David Campbell, on our website: www.swchristianchurch.com.

Christ's Church

If you are looking for a church home where Christ is first, you won't want to miss the services at Christ's Church of Marion County this week.

As always, we begin each Lord's day with Sunday School classes for all ages beginning at 9:30 a.m. We offer five adult classes on a variety of topics.

Our Worship Service begins at 10:30 a.m. as we open with special music by our Worship Choir. Our praise time includes a blend of familiar hymns of the church as well as contemporary praise songs with a full praise band. Pastor David Bellows will bring a message of inspiration.

Christ's Church of Marion County is located at 6768 SW 80th St. off State Road 200. For more information on all our events or for directions visit our website at www.ccomc.org or contact the church office at 352-861-6182.

Moose Lodge

West Marion Moose Lodge, 10411 SW 110th Street, Dunnellon, phone 352-854-2200. The lodge is open to members and guests only. We are non-smoking as of June 1.

Sunday: Open darts and other indoor games

Tuesday: Light meals from 4 p.m.-6 p.m. for \$5 and \$6 (menu varies)

Wednesday: Bar Bingo at 6 p.m.
Thursday: Shuffleboard at 6:30 p.m.
Friday: Fish (fried or baked), fried shrimp or baked chicken with baked potato or French fries and salad or coleslaw from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. for \$8 and entertainment from 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

Second Saturday of the month: Taco Buffet from 4 p.m.-6 p.m. for \$6

Fourth Saturday of the month: Dinner 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

See fliers at the lodge or call 352-854-2200.

Ocala Symphony

Join the Ocala Symphony Orchestra in a celebration of our country and those who have sacrificed and continue to sacrifice for our freedom. The concert takes place Sunday, July 1, at 3 p.m. at the Reilly Arts Center at 500 NE Ninth St., Tickets start at \$17 and can be purchased at ReillyArtsCenter.com, by calling the OSO office at 352-351-1606, or by visiting the Reilly Arts Center box office during box office hours, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

VFW

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4781 is a nonsmoking post.

Bingo is played Monday and the doors open at 9 a.m. Games begin at 11 a.m.

Bar bingo is played Monday nights and games begin at 6 p.m. for members and guests.

Monday and Friday lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Fourth of July, the Auxiliary will be sponsoring a cook-out with hamburgers and hot dogs, baked beans and coleslaw for a \$5 donation.

Wednesday dinner prices and menu varies. See bartender for Wednesday pre-sale dinner tickets. Dinner is open to the public.

Second and fourth Friday dinners are fried fish or chicken and served from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Dinner is open to the public.

Friday and Saturday: enjoy entertainment in the canteen from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday breakfast is served from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and prices range from \$3 to \$6.50. Breakfast is open to the public.

Saturday is the Auxiliary's taco buffet from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a \$6 donation. Tickets are available in the canteen or at the door. Buffet is open to the public.

Mark your calendars for special bingo Saturday, Aug. 18. All tickets must be purchased in advance and are available every Monday beginning June 18. Additional information is

available at the post and on Facebook. Seating limited is limited.

Hall rental and catering is available, call 352-873-4781 for more information.

VFW Post 4781 Honor Guard is available for providing military honors to fallen veterans. For more information contact the Post at 352-873-4781.

Angela S. Santos VFW Post 4781, 9401 SW 110 St., telephone 352-873-4781 and follow us on Facebook.

Saturday, July 7

Yoga

Yoga in Sholom Park at 9 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month from May to November. Come and soak in the beauty of the Peace Park. For more information, please call Ingrid at 352-854-7950.

Chess Club

The Freedom Library Chess Club will meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, July 7. The library is located at 5870 SW 95th Street. All players are welcome. Call 352-873-2276 for information.

Monday, July 9

Questions for your doctor

Monday, July 9, 5:15-6:15 p.m., join Dr. Michele Hornstein, Internal Medicine, Munroe Medical Group, for a free lecture. As we age our health care needs change and so should the conversation you have with your primary care physician. She will cover the 10 Questions you should ask to get the most out of your next doctor's visit. MRMC TimberRidge Collins Center, 9401 SW State Rd 200, Building 5000, Suite 5001, Ocala. Limited seats are available; includes dinner. Call 1-844-285-1923 to RSVP.

Wednesday, July 11

Vaccinations 50+ Adults

Wednesday, July 11, 5-6:30 p.m., join Ximmeng Zhao, D.O., Internal Medicine, Munroe Medical Group, for a free lecture as she discusses the different types of vaccinations, how they work, and review data on their efficacy. Dr. Zhao will review the latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on vaccinations for different age groups. She will explain some different misconceptions, especially on the flu vaccine and will discuss the new shingles vaccine. MRMC Auxiliary Conference Center, 1542 SW First Ave., Ocala, FL 34471. Limited seats are available; includes dinner. Call 1-844-285-1923 to RSVP.

Saturday, July 14

Christmas in July

The Altar & Rosary Society of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, will hold a Christmas in July Craft Show Saturday, July 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Father Stegeman Hall. The church is located on the corner of Hwy. 41 and Hwy 40, north of Dunnellon. Over 30 crafters will be there along with several new skilled artisans selling a wide variety of handmade goods. Food will be available for a nominal fee. For more information call Janice at 352-489-1184.

Sunday, July 15

Jazz Society

The Ocala Jazz Society invites you to join them Sunday, July 15, from 2-5 p.m. for its monthly performance of Swing, Big Band, Dixieland, 50s and all your favorites. We look forward to seeing you at the smoke free Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4781, 9401 SW 110th Street, across from Oak Run. The band performs on the third Sunday of each month. A suggested donation of \$3 for Hospice is appreciated. For more information, please call 352-237-0234 or email ocalajazzsociety@yahoo.com.

Book signing

The Marion County Museum of History and Archaeology presents a program Sunday, July 15, at 2 p.m. at Green Clover Hall, 319 SE 26th Terrace, at the McPherson Governmental Complex. There will be a reception and book signing with refreshments and tours at the museum. Presented by Dr. Joe Knetsch the author of nine books, retired historian for the Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection for more than 28 years and now consulting on historical and archaeological research matters throughout the state.

For information, call the museum at 352-236-5245. Program is free to museum members and \$5 to nonmembers.

Monday, July 16

American Legion

American Legion, Post 354, Ocala, will hold its monthly meeting, Monday, July 16, from 12:45 - 2 p.m. in the West Marion Sheriff's Office Auxiliary Room at 9048 SR 200. Join us for coffee, cake and doughnuts. The speaker is Mr. Levinson from Hospice, who will bring current information regarding hospice and benefits for veterans. Military newspapers from all branches will be available. Also, a 50-50 drawing ... and free drawings.

Hard Rock Casino
Thurs., July 26—\$30pp

Capone's Dinner Show
Wed., Aug. 8—\$87pp—In Orlando

Tampa Bay Rays vs Boston Red Sox
Air Conditioned Stadium!
Sat., Aug. 25—6:10 p.m.—\$104pp

Just for Laughs Dinner Theater
Thurs., Sept. 6—\$79pp—In Largo

Tampa Bay Bucs vs Philly Eagles
Sun., Sept. 16—\$45pp *Transportation only

'CHICAGO' @ the STRAZ
Fri., Sept. 21—\$129pp
Orchestra seats HH, B & C

Tampa Bay Rays vs NY Yankees
Air Conditioned Stadium!
Thurs., Sept. 27—1:10 p.m.—\$93pp

Holy Land Experience
Tue., Oct. 9—\$74pp—In Orlando

Harbor Lights 'La Dolce Vita'
at **Lowe's Portofino Hotel**
Fri., Oct. 12—\$109pp

Escape to the Keys
Nov. 5-9—5 days/4 nights—\$1199pp Dbl.

International Chalk Festival, Sarasota
Sat., Nov. 10—\$59pp

Jacksonville Jags vs Pittsburgh Steelers
Sun., Nov. 18—\$45pp
*Transportation only

Miss Bennet Christmas at Pemberley
Sequel to Jane Austen's PRIDE & PREJUDICE
Wed., Nov. 28—\$58pp

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Ocala Palms Golf & Country Club turns out for 100 Days of 2018 summer

Ocala Palms
Barb Dedics

Nearly 200 Ocala Palms residents and friends packed the Royal Palm Room at the (OP) Clubhouse to be entertained by Singer Mark Raisch. As an extra plus to the evening, guests were served a delicious dinner consisting of Lee's Fried chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, coleslaw, rolls and butter.

This is the first of four concerts held

at the clubhouse kicking off the third year of "100 Days of Summer." Residents are entertained by different musicians once a month whether it be a one man show or a group of entertainers.

Mr. Raisch was the "opening act" for 2018 summer concerts. For the past 20 years, he has entertained throughout the United States at some of the great-

est clubs and theaters such as the West Point Eisenhower Hall and New York City's Museum of Radio and Television. With his swooning, charming voice, intriguing stories and style of moves, the dance floor was not empty at the clubhouse for long. One of the favorite sing-a-long songs of all times, namely Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" as well as Bobby Darrin's

"Splish Splash, I Was Taking a Bath" had the audience joining in.

What a wonderful way to start the summer concerts and to enjoy a talented artist such as Mr. Raisch. He can come and entertain us anytime. Many thanks to the staff at Ocala Palms for organizing this event for all to enjoy.



Bob and Helene Cioppa



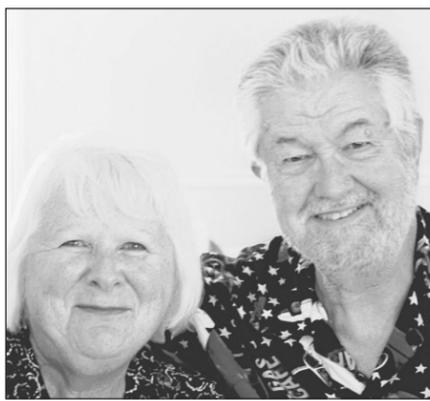
Judy and Elmo Berthelot



Emma and Richard Lanzara



Cindy and Ken Gust



Sally and Larry Hooks



Pat and Brokke Koons



Kay Nippa and Della Lastooka



Lori and Paul Mollon



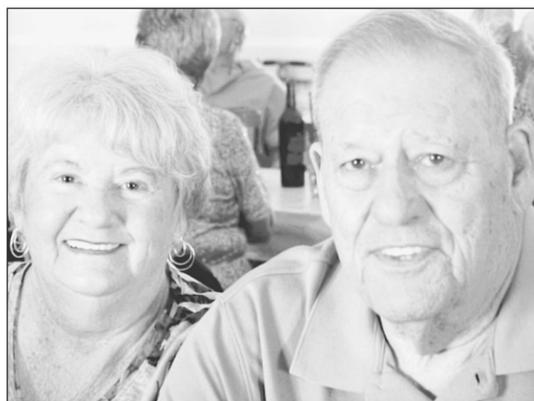
Ed Trentowski, Kay Schiefer, Janice Iambui, Sue Trentowski, Ellen and Fred Walters



Brother and sister Melvin Matter and Dottie Kuhl.



In the left photo is singer Mark Raisch.



In the right photo is Sue and Tom Floyd.

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Quail Meadow holds 'Birthday Bash'



Quail Meadow
Carolyn Slocumb

The annual Quail Meadow Birthday Bash was enjoyed by 46 residents and guests. The food tables were running over with food (as usual). We do have great cooks here in QM. The dessert for the dinner was birthday cake and ice cream. Angie Bain provided music for the evening. Many of the attendees enjoyed dancing and line dancing to the music. Angie is from Homosassa. Before moving to Florida six years ago, Angie resided in Nashville. Angie's high school friend, Janet Fuller, from Baltimore, was with her for the evening. Angie's entertainment is her singing and playing recorded music. If you

would like to contact Angie for information on engaging her for an event, her phone number is 352-503-9277, or email: angiebain@gmail.com. Angie led the group in singing "Happy Birthday" to Eric Cigrand, whose birthday was Saturday night. Eric was visiting his parents, Paul and Marlene Cigrand.

Make your plans now to attend the Independence Day celebration at the clubhouse. This will be a "potluck" indoor picnic. Bring a covered dish of picnic type food, your table service, and also invite a neighbor to come with you. Poppi will provide the music for dancing/listening enjoyment. No tickets will

be sold in advance - you can pay \$3 at the door to cover the cost of the entertainment. The party begins at 1 p.m.

Day change: the Fellowship meeting has been changed from meeting every Tuesday morning to each Wednesday. This group is led by Kathy Hunt and meets every week at 10 a.m. in the clubhouse.

The QM Board of Directors planning meeting will be Wednesday, July 11, at noon. The regular meeting day is the first Wednesday of the month, but due to the Fourth of July, this month's meeting has been changed. Also, the QMPOA monthly meeting will be Monday, July 16, at

7 p.m. All homeowners are encouraged to attend these meetings.

Do you have some cotton fabric just taking up space in a closet? Would you like to donate it to a good cause? If so, contact Maryanne Ellner. Maryanne does volunteer work at Hospice of Marion County and one of her projects is making comfort covers for the patients at the Hospice houses. For all donations you will receive a receipt for tax purposes.



The dessert for the dinner was birthday cake and ice cream.



The food tables were running over with food (as usual). Quail Meadow is home to some great cooks.



Entertainer Angie Bain with her high school friend, Janet Fuller, from Baltimore, was with her for the evening. Angie's entertainment is her singing and playing recorded music. Angie led the group in singing "Happy Birthday" to Eric Cigrand, whose birthday was Saturday night. Eric was visiting his parents, Paul and Marlene Cigrand.



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, 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 State Road 40 and U.S. Highway 27 areas, call 854-3986.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Inside Sales/Office Coord. - Michel Northsea (352) 854-3986
Advertising Sales - Steve Luhrman (352) 854-3986

Manager - John Murphy (352) 563-6363
Deadline for news:
Thursday the week before publication

Member of the Community Papers of Florida

I want to get news in the Messenger

Call Editor David Davis at 352-854-3986 or e-mail editor@westmarionmessenger.com
Community news and photos must be received by Thursday the week before publication. All contributions are subject to editing for clarity, taste and style.

Deadline for Advertising

Classified Reader ads
2 p.m. Friday
Display Ads
5 p.m. Thursday



Many of the attendees enjoyed dancing and line dancing to the music by Angie Bain.



Oatmeal Raisin Cookie Corn

Yield: 10 cups

- 8 cups popped popcorn
- 3 tablespoons melted butter
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup crunchy granola
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup walnut halves

In bowl, toss popcorn with melted butter.

Combine sugar with cinnamon; sprinkle over popcorn. Toss with granola, raisins and walnuts until combined.

Crunchy Popcorn Trail Mix

Yield: 9 cups

- 5 cups popped popcorn
- 3 cups whole-grain oat cereal
- 1/3 cup raisins
- 1/3 cup peanuts (or other nuts)
- 1/3 cup sunflower seeds
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter or margarine
- 6 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons light corn syrup

In large, microwavable bowl, stir together popcorn, cereal, raisins, nuts and seeds; set aside.

In small saucepan, combine butter, brown sugar and corn syrup. Heat until boiling; cook 3 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Pour over popcorn mixture, stirring to coat evenly. Microwave 3-4 minutes, stirring and scraping bowl after each minute.

Spread onto greased cookie sheet; cool.

Break into pieces and store in airtight container.

Oatmeal Raisin Cookie Corn

SENSIBLE SNACKS THAT REALLY POP

FAMILY FEATURES

Next time you reach for a snack, go for a great-tasting option that delivers on both flavor and nutrition. Sensible snacks can be surprisingly delicious when you choose ingredients wisely.

One pop-ular choice: popcorn. Ideal for between-meal snacking since it satisfies but doesn't spoil the appetite, popcorn is also the perfect addition to treats such as snack bars and trail mix. The key to smart snacking is finding good-for-you ingredients that make your body healthy and your taste buds happy.

With no artificial additives or preservatives, popcorn is naturally low in fat and calories. The whole grain provides energy-producing complex carbohydrates and contains fiber, providing roughage the body needs in the daily diet.

Find more healthy snack solutions at popcorn.org.

Crispy Crunchy Apple Popcorn

Yield: 7 cups

- 6 cups popped popcorn
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 cups dried apple chips

Heat oven to 300 F.

Line 9-by-13-inch baking pan with foil; butter foil. Spread popcorn in pan and drizzle with melted butter; toss popcorn. Sprinkle popcorn with sugar and cinnamon, and toss again.

Bake 7 minutes.

Sprinkle apple chips over popcorn and heat an additional 3 minutes.

Serve warm, or cool to room temperature. Store in airtight container.



Crispy Crunchy Apple Popcorn



Crunchy Popcorn Trail Mix



Popcorn Granola Snack Bars

Popcorn Granola Snack Bars

Yield: 16 bars

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2/3 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup granola cereal
- 1 cup roasted and salted peanuts
- 3 cups popped popcorn

Line 8- or 9-inch square baking pan with foil. Spray foil lightly with cooking spray; set aside.

In large saucepan, heat honey until boiling. Stir in peanut butter until well blended.

Remove pan from heat and stir in granola, peanuts and popcorn until coated. Press mixture evenly into prepared pan.

Refrigerate until cool; cut into bars to serve.

Yummy Yogurt Popcorn

Yield: 2 1/2 quarts

- 2 1/2 quarts popped popcorn
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup light corn syrup

In large bowl, keep popped popcorn warm.

In 2 1/2-quart saucepan, combine yogurt, brown sugar and corn syrup. Cook and stir over medium heat to hard ball stage (250 F on candy thermometer).

Pour over popped popcorn, stirring to coat.



Yummy Yogurt Popcorn

Perfect Popcorn

There's nothing like the taste of freshly popped popcorn and nothing like the disappointment of burnt popcorn. Follow these simple steps and you'll have perfect popcorn every time.

- Whether on the stove or in the microwave, popcorn will begin popping in a few minutes.
- When the popping begins to slow, listen until you can count two seconds between pops. Remove the pan from heat or bag from microwave.
- Remember to lift the lid or open the bag away from your face to prevent steam burns.

NAVY

Continued from Page A1

ing military and solo an-
thems at various mili-
tary functions or ball
games.”

She said the sev-
en-city tour of Florida
will give them the op-
portunity to connect
communities with the
Navy.

“It is always an awe-
some experience and
such a treat to meet peo-
ple and hear their sto-
ries and experiences
about the military and
those who have served,”
she said.

Sullivan, originally
from Lufkin, Texas,
grew up around music
and as parents told her,
she sang before she
could talk.

“It is just a part of who
I am. My dad is a coun-
try musician (bass
player and steel guitar).
I sang with him a lot as a
kid. Country music is



Sullivan

where I really got my
start as a singer,” she
said. “As a teen, I per-
formed at the Louisiana
Hayride where Elvis
Presley got his start. It
has always been dream
of mine to be a per-
former and one day per-
form at the Grand Ole
Opry.”

Her favorite genre of
music is country music.
It resonates the most
with Sullivan and she
feels the most at home
when performing it.
Patsy Cline is her all-

time favorite country
musician.

Like many who join
the military, the 22-year
Navy veteran is not liv-
ing her original plan.

“I originally joined
the Navy as a Hospital
Corpsman. I lived in
New Orleans at the time
and decided I wanted to
join the Navy to help me
work toward a medical
degree,” she said.
“During the process of
joining, I happened to
see the Navy Band per-
form at Mardi Gras and I
knew I had to audition. I
requested an audition the
very next day and made
the cut. I joined as a
Musician and it has
been smooth sailing
since.”

Sullivan was origi-
nally a fleet musician
and toured the world in
far east Asia with the 7th
Fleet Band in Yokosuka,
Japan. Then I was sta-
tioned in Memphis, Ten-
nessee. It was at that
command that I audi-
tioned for the Cruisers.”

she said.

Keeping her white
uniforms clean might be
the hardest thing about
her job.

“I keep my white uni-
forms in a garment bag
at all times,” she said. “I
also try to dry clean
them as much as possi-
ble. I keep Shout Out
wipes and a Clorox pen
in my bag at all times —
and I do not eat any-
thing while in whites.”

One of the U.S. Navy
Band’s primary respon-
sibilities involves tour-
ing the country. All of
the band’s primary per-
forming units embark
each year on concert
tours throughout speci-
fied regions of the coun-
try, allowing the band to
reach out to audiences
in areas of the country
that do not have oppor-
tunities to see the Na-
vy’s premier musical
ensembles on a regular
basis. The concerts are
family-friendly events,
meant to be entertaining
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laborate with the Voltron Collective to bring a special
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Stranger Things, and more. The Reilly will also enjoy
continued collaborations with the talented dancers of
Dance Alive National Ballet, and the world-class mu-
sicians of Classic Albums LIVE.

Puzzles

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Classifieds

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VOLUME 12, NUMBER 13

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2018



WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

Leedy, Zalak state their positions

By DAVID DAVIS
Editor

EDITOR’S NOTE: Due to
space constraints only two of
the four candidates were pre-
sented in the previous week.
The remaining two candi-
dates are covered this week.
Four of five candidates run-
ning for the Marion County
Board of Commissioners in the
second and fourth distric-
ts attended the State Road
200 Coalition Monday, June
11.

Helen Dueño, a Democrat,
filed her application for Com-
mission District 2 in July 2017
but she did not qualify. With

her out of the
race, that
leaves a slate
of Republi-
cans that in-
cludes current
BOCC chair-
woman Kathy
Bryant and
challenger Mi-
chael Crimi in
the 2nd District.

In the 3rd Commission Dis-
trict are incumbent Carl
Zalak III and retired Marion
County Deputy Captain Eddie
Leedy. The salary for commis-
sioners is \$79,463. Both Bry-
ant and Zalak have raised
more than \$80,000 as of May



Leedy



Zalak

31, according
to the latest fi-
nancial cam-
paign reports
on the Marion
County Su-
pervisor of
Elections
website. Bry-
ant reported
\$88,875 raised

against \$10,265 in disburse-
ments and expenditures
while Zalak raised \$84,850
with \$15,789 in expenditures.

Crimi reported \$82,500 with
\$50,000 in the form of a per-
sonal loan to his campaign.
He listed \$17,380 in expenses.
Leedy has raised \$16,210 and

expended \$3,201.

Eddie Leedy

Leedy is a Marion County
native. He graduated from
North Marion High School
and at the age of 18, then
sheriff Don Moreland “took a
chance on a young man and
hired me.”

During his career with the
department, he worked in
every division except K-9 and
aviation. By the time he re-
tired, Leedy had achieved the
rank of captain in charge of
the patrol watch commander,
mounted unit commander,
SWAT commander and he still
volunteers with the sheriff’s

department.
Most of his career was in
drug and other investigation
divisions.

“It’s very important that we
have the ability and honor to
come in groups such as this,
and we refer to you as the in-
formed voter, people that do
care about this county, love
this county, and are willing to
come out and listen to candi-
dates and make a decision on
who you want representing you
in the office of county
commissioner.”

Leedy said Marion County
is the horse capital of the

See LEEDY/Page A10

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SUNDAY
JULY 1
6PM

Navy musician: Always been a singer

By DAVID DAVIS
Editor

America’s Navy is
coming to Ocala, one
of seven cities in the
state to host a perfor-
mance by the United
States Navy Band
during its 2018 tour —
one of the signature
outreach programs of
the U.S. Navy.

The United States
Navy Band Cruisers
performance is sched-
uled for Wednesday,
July 4, at 5:30 p.m. at
Circle Square Com-
mons.

As the U.S. Navy’s
premier popular
music group, the
Cruisers feature eight
of the Navy’s most dy-
namic performers.
Their versatility pro-
vides them the capa-
bility to play multiple
genres of music, rang-
ing from rhythm and
blues, pop, classic
rock, adult contempo-
rary and jazz stan-

dards, as well as
original material. The
elite group engages
and excites audiences
of all ages throughout
the U.S. and abroad
with world-class mu-
sicianship and
high-energy, fun-filled
performances.

Cruisers Unit
Leader Chief Musi-
cian Shana Sullivan
said in an interview
via email that, “I
draw the most satis-
faction from enthusi-
astic crowds, whether
they are large or
small. It is about the
connection to people
for me.”

“We perform
around 100 shows a
year. Some are major
productions with the
entire Navy Band,
most are full Cruiser
performances and
others are protocol
(White House, vice
president, high rank-



The Navy Cruisers as shown in the ensemble’s official photo. The U.S. Navy’s premier popular music group is scheduled to perform Wednesday, July 4, at 5:30 p.m. at the Circle Square Commons.

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2 Fairfield ladies enjoy Rock and Roll Tribute Show



Fairfield Village
Priscilla Barnett

This reporter and my next-door neighbor, Jane Sibley, journeyed to nearby Deland Saturday, June 16, to attend a rock and roll tribute show featuring a well-known local artist from Dunnellon known as COTE. The young 21-year-old tribute artist is quickly making quite a name for himself as a pre-eminent Elvis artist.

I must add a disclaimer here lest my friends call me out as a phony because all who know my name "Priscilla," also know I often say, "No, not associated with Elvis. I was a Pat Boone fan. My younger sister was the Elvis fan."

And that is the absolute, honest truth. Ironically, my friend, Jane Sibley, is almost exactly the same age as my younger sister so maybe those of that age were more inclined toward "the King." Regardless, to each his/her own and I respect the talent and love much of the music of the great Elvis Presley.

I have asked my friend, Jane, to promise me to attend with me any show that would pay tribute to my favorites, Pat Boone, Little Richard and Fats Domino. She has graciously agreed to do so.

Back to the show in Deland — it was a "really good 'shoe'" as the tribute artist honoring Ed Sullivan said mimicking the sound of the incomparable Ed Sullivan. He is a Deland native and he is quite talented doing Ed Sullivan, Buddy Holly, Mick Jaeger, and a short quip of Richard Nixon ... all of which were remarkable.

I must apologize for not having that artist's name but it was not on any of the playbills. I got his young son's name, "Roy," but failed to get his. I just want to say that so I am transparent. I am not making a "mistake" in not giving his name; my mistake was in not "remembering" to get his name. As we used to say, "my bad."

There was a four-piece live band called the Corvair Cruisers, and they were fantastic ... especially the drummer. They performed with each of the three tribute artists who made the audience feel that we were honestly seeing all the performers also including "the Big Bopper" and the "Blues Brothers." It was a very fast moving and delightful show for sure.

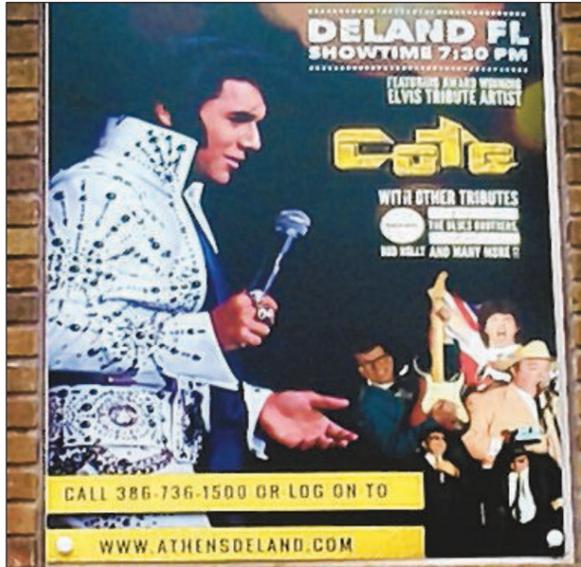
I must add that it was this reporter's first visit to the charming town of Deland and I was very impressed with the town and the people. The restaurant we chose called "Byte" was charming and the food was delicious. The ushers at the Athens Theatre were very friendly and welcoming and the theater had been recently renovated and was lovely.

All in all, our short road trip on a Saturday was well worth the time and the reasonable ticket prices. I would encourage my neighbors here in Fairfield Village "the lively place filled with lovely people," to check out the Athens Theatre in nearby Deland and their 2018-19 season of shows coming up. They have lots of good things to offer and the prices of tickets are quite reasonable. Hopefully many of us who enjoy live performances will continue to find interesting performances to attend.

Additionally, when Jane and I talked with COTE after the show, he said he thinks he is scheduled back here in Fairfield Village coming up in the fall.

He did not have his calendar with him. I intend to check with our clubs to see if they have him scheduled again, and I will let my readers know.

Have a great end of June and look ahead to a fantastic FOURTH OF JULY ... our NATION'S BIRTHDAY!



PHOTOS BY PRISCILLA BARNETT

The Ed Sullivan tribute to Rock and Roll was a terrific performance at the Athens Theater in Deland on June 16. In the top photo, Fairfield Village resident Jane Sibley has become very good friends with COTE from nearby Dunnellon as she has been to many of his shows. In the top left photo, Jane Sibley is shown outside the Athens Theater where she and this reporter enjoyed the performance called the "Ed Sullivan Review" that featured Jane's favorite tribute artist COTE, of Dunnellon, who making quite a name for himself as "The King." In the bottom left photo, Jane Sibley is shown in the audience with new friends from the Space Coast. The playbill, bottom photo, sums it up and it was a "really good show."





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Opinion

Your VIEW

International criminal

It's time Trump, his secretary of Homeland Security and Attorney General were brought up on charges against humanity by the World Court, for what they're doing to international children.

It's on the order of the Holocaust, separating children from their parent before they were executed. What we don't know today, is how many have died as it's not been reported.

It would be the same as the tribunals held against Nazis for their crimes against humanity. It's sad Trump blames the democrats, and even the Republican congress says that's a lie. I guess when you're German and admired Hitler, Kim Jung Un and Vladimir Putin, it's clear Trump is definitely not pro-American but pro-Trump.

There's a song in Li'l Abner, sung by the girls in the chorus, "Put 'em Back the Way They Was, Put 'em Back the way They Was." That's what needs to happen to America, put it back the way it was. Everything Trump has done is an impeachable offence.

I was working for the Republican side of the House of Representatives during the Nixon debacle, and Trump makes him look like a beginner.

Bill Ford
Oak Run

County schools are at a critical point

Our Marion County School District is at a critical point. In late 2016, the voters elected a new superintendent of schools with the mandate to improve the effectiveness of our school district. Since then, there has been progress. Unfortunately, not without numerous attempts by certain school board members to slow down progress. They have placed more emphasis on playing politics, using their school board seat, rather than on improving education.

Three of the five board positions are up for election on August 28. Voters have an opportunity to elect three new board members who can bring some new and unbiased thinking to the board. Using a very common saying about removing establishment politicians—voters can start to "Drain the School Board Swamp!" Bobby James has decided not to run for reelection and his seat will be up for election. Angie Boynton, who has been a board member for nearly eight years, is running for reelection; as is Kelly King.

There are several candidates who have stepped to the plate and offered

See HANSON/Page A11

West Marion Messenger

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DAVID DAVIS



THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

Harvard's bias against Asian-Americans

The Harvard University admissions process appears to be an ongoing microaggression against Asian-Americans.

A group called Students for Fair Admissions is suing the school for alleged racial discrimination and has filed documents in federal court making a persuasive case, based on data provided by the school.

Harvard denies it, but one of the imperatives of the affirmative action regime in college admissions is that schools never admit what they are doing.

The great and good at Harvard will insist that Asian-Americans all be called by their preferred pronouns, but they won't afford them equal treatment in the admissions process. They will upbraid anyone daring to ask an Asian-American where he is from, but will, in effect, hold his ethnic background against him.

And they will do it by relying on the stereotype of Asian-Americans as dull, unrelatable "model students."

According to the analysis of Duke University economist Peter Arcidiacono, an expert for the plaintiffs, an Asian-American applicant who is a male, is not economically disadvantaged and has, based on his other characteristics, a 25 percent chance of getting in would see his odds markedly increase if he belonged to another group. His chances of admission would be 36 percent if he were white; 77 percent if he were Hispanic; and 95 percent if he were black.

Why is this? Among Harvard applicants, Asian-Americans have the highest average SAT scores and the highest academic index, combining the SAT and high-school performance. Somehow, though, they manage the lowest admission rates.

They supposedly fall down on their personal ratings, which includes the question of whether the applicants have a "positive personality."

It just so happens that, per Harvard, otherwise high-achieving Asian-Americans are beset by chronically negative personalities. It's amazing that they somehow manage to do well in school and extensively participate in extracurricular activities despite their glum outlook and downbeat personas. Alumni interviewers who actually meet them tend to rate them highly. No matter.

The Center for Equal Opportunity report notes the contrast between Caltech, which doesn't have affirmative action, and Harvard, which does. At Caltech, Asian-Americans make up more than 40 percent of undergraduates, a proportion that has grown robustly since 2000. At Harvard, Asian-American representation is now at 22 percent.

A 2013 internal Harvard analysis, according to the lawsuit, said that

See LOWRY/Page A11

The shy little boy

The little boy was 5 years old. If anyone had asked him how old he was, he probably would have ducked shyly behind his mother and cloaked himself in her skirt. With a little coaxing, maybe he would have peered at the questioner from behind his mother. He was a shy little boy, but eventually, with more coaxing from his mother, he would eventually move to his mother's side, still clinging to his mother's dress.

When the little boy finally answered, he might have held up five fingers and said, "this many," or he might have said he was 5 and a half. The truth was, he was going to turn 6 on his next birthday less than a month later.

The little boy had no socialization skills. He'd never been away from his mother for any length of time. He had not been around other children, except a girl cousin who was six weeks younger than him. Though she was the youngest of the two, she always moved into the next stage before he did and that irritated the little boy's mother.

The mother could have, and probably should have, waited until her son was 6 going on 7 before starting him in the first grade, but she did not want him in the same class as his cousin. She had convinced herself that her young, socially undeveloped son would be better off starting to school a year earlier. By starting him at the younger age age, he would not compete with his cousin, who would surely adapt quicker and make better grades.

That first day of school finally came. The mother and son drove the short distance from their home to school. Though the little boy could



Mountains from Molehills

By David Davis

only count to 10, the trip seemed like it was a thousand miles.

The mother walked him into the school building. He did not know about institutions, but the red brick building was big. He did not want to go inside, but he trusted his mother and willingly went with her through the over-sized double doors.

The mother and child walked nearly the length of a long hallway. With each step they took, his mother's shoe echoed – like the sound of his daddy's voice when they went to the Grand Canyon. The boy's mother stopped in front of a door. She looked at a piece of paper, then at the door again. She turned the knob, pulled the door open and they walked inside.

There must have been 20 other boys and girls seated at tables, with their mothers hovering over them. Periodically, there was a whimper or a whine from a child as his or her mother left the room. The little boy began to feel uneasy at first, then afraid as more and more mothers departed. Finally, it was his mother who hugged him and told him to be a big boy.

OK, the boy said. However, he was not a big boy and he began to cry before she was out of the classroom door. He bolted up out of his chair and ran toward the window and

See MOLEHILLS/Page A11

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 by e-mail to editor@westmarionmessenger.com.

The parsonage kitchen shutdown threat



Out to Pastor
Rev. James Snyder

A certain situation has been building in the Parsonage for the last several months. At first, I did not think it too serious but alas, we have reached a terrible impasse.

It started a few months ago when I came home, walked into the house and was hit in the face so hard I almost passed out. At the time, I was hoping I would pass out, but no such luck.

Walking into the house, I was hit with the horrific smell of broccoli cooking on the stove. I do not know if you ever smelt such a smell as that but if you are not prepared for it and even if you are prepared for it, it can smack you in the face like you have never been smacked in the face before.

When I came to myself and gathered what little composure I could find, I queried the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage who was in the kitchen.

"What is that awful smell?"

"I don't know, have you taken a shower yet?"

"No," I said gathering a little bit of manliness about me, "Something in this house smells dreadful. I smelled it as soon as I walked in the door."

Then she chuckled. I hate it when she chuckles.

"Oh, that must be the wonderful aroma of broccoli cooking on the stove. Isn't it marvelous?"

Hoping she would catch my attitude of disdain and disgust, I said, "You're not cooking broccoli for supper tonight, are you?"

Obviously, for whatever reason, she did not catch the drift.

"Yes," she said as chipper as I have ever heard her chip, "I thought I would surprise you with a wonderful dish of broccoli for supper tonight, to go along with our pork chops."

"But I thought you knew I do not like broccoli?"

"Oh, that," she said with another chuckle, "I just thought you were joking."

Nobody jokes about broccoli, especially me.

Then a brilliant idea reverberated

between my ears. I thought I could take advantage of this situation and sneak in something forbidden in our kitchen and house for that matter, a rare delicacy.

"I will then run to the store and get some fresh Apple Fritters for our dessert."

I figured if she wants to put in front of me broccoli the least she can do is allow me an Apple Fritter or two.

In a moment, all the chipper drained from her person and she looked at me and said, "Apple Fritters are not allowed in this house."

"Let's negotiate," I said as calmly as I have ever been in my life. "I will allow you to eat broccoli tonight if you allow me an Apple Fritter for my dessert."

"This is how we will negotiate, we will have broccoli tonight without any Apple Fritter. I am only thinking of your health."

The way she glared at me I knew negotiations were off the table at this time and in its place was some steaming broccoli.

If only we could act like grownups, come together, voice our differences and strike a compromise. After all, our government works that way.

I thought about this and came to a certain conclusion. The Christian life is not really negotiating your preference but rather honoring Christ. Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20 KJV).

When self is at the center of my negotiations, Christ is never honored.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail james-snyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

LEEDY

Continued from Page A1

world. The horse industry accounts for \$2.6 billion of the local economy.

"Louisville came in second to that. We pride ourselves on that," he said. "We saw a little bit of arrogance displayed by FDOT and state officials (because) they obviously have knowledge of this after wanting to come in and gut our horse community and split our county with a toll road."

He said the county has not "dodged the bullet. As a commissioner, I want to be proactive instead of re-

active. The first the commission knew about the route (toll road) was the beginning of May."

Leedy said Levy and Alachua counties had already signed no-build resolutions by May. Animal shelter reform is another issue on the front burner, he said.

Carl Zalak III

Zalak owns Busy Bee Waste Services with his mother. The company is primarily a provider of construction dumpsters and some manure dumpsters on horse farms.

He was elected in 2010, along with Bryant, when the county unemployment rate was 14.3 percent.

"When we heard public comment, we'd hear about the destruction of families and businesses and the very livelihood of people who had been in this community for a very long time," Zalak said. "Quite frankly, being a small-business owner, I know what it takes to pay people when you yourself can't take a paycheck, to do those things and to sacrifice at levels only a small-business owner can really understand."

He spoke about the cost of insurance, workman's compensation and "lawyers who litigate just to litigate are no help. That's what our country on some levels

has become. It has become such a litigious market that business owners can't start. Don't you want your children and grandchildren to have an opportunity at a dream that this country was founded on? Well, that's what we started working on."

Zalak said he and Bryant formed the first incubator in Marion County where anyone with a dream and an idea could get professional help from retired CEOs. Sixty-five people have left the incubator and are now operating companies in the community.

"Not only did we recruit FedEx, AutoZone, Chewy.com, RealTruck and 50 other busi-

nesses that have expanded and grown to add over 5,500 jobs in the last few years," he said. "Do you feel it? When you drive on State Road 200 you can't ignore the difference that the groundwork and the foundation we've laid has made."

"We've done that. We've been good stewards. We're continuing to drive that economic message, because I'll tell you what, there is nothing better than to give someone the opportunity to have a job, earn a living and create an opportunity, and that's exactly what Marion County should be like," Zalak said.

Zalak said he is living that dream with his

wife of 17 years who home schools their four children.

He said, "Our county is on the precipice of that tilting point where we can continue on a path of growth, deregulation and success, give entrepreneurs more freedom or we can go back to an oppressive, government-run ideology that won't let businesses succeed."

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HANSON

Continued from Page A8

their experience and backgrounds to serve on the board and help superintendent. Dr.

Heidi Maier, and her administration do the job the voters want accomplished.

Three school board candidates stand out as hard-working candidates who would refocus and revitalize the school board's purpose: Shelia Arnett, Nancy Thrower and Ed Wilson. Each is committed to restoring the board's responsibility/accountability, attention to the voice of parents, insuring strong discipline policies, better communications and civility.

Stan Hanson
Ocala

LOWRY

Continued from Page A8

Asian-Americans would make up 43 percent of admissions if academics alone were the factor.

If Harvard applied its own standards to Harvard, it would be appalled by how it's disadvantaging members of a minority group. It

would encourage protests. It would refer itself for racial bias training. It would apologize and grovel and hope it all could be a teaching moment. But none of this will happen because it could lead to the admission of "too many Asians," the scenario that its admissions policies and related subterfuge are designed to prevent.

The lawsuit includes an exchange with a teacher at exclusive Stuyve-

sant High School in New York City who breaks down and cries when she's shown data on how much less likely her Asian students are to make it into Harvard. She's upset by the unfairness of it -- would that Harvard felt the same way.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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MOLEHILLS

Continued from Page A8

watched as his mother walked away.

He continued to cry, not knowing if he would ever see his mother again.

Of course, the little boy saw his mother again at noon when she picked him up from school.

But, what if he had been separated from his mother and never saw her again?

Life beats down and crushes the soul and art reminds you that you have one.

—Stella Adler

Go Figure!

answers

4	×	8	-	6	26
+		-		+	
9	÷	3	×	8	24
×		×		+	
2	×	5	+	1	11
26		25		15	

Super Crossword

Answers

GOLF	OTTO	RTES	STPAUL
OMAR	WEAR	AHSO	TIERRA
TAKE	PLACE	BEAR	HUNTING
ONENESS	PAR	TAMPA	
WET	SCENE	ISPARTAN	
STOMACH	TURNING	ENDUSE	
TOBY	GOAT	ENAMOR	GPA
AYE	BIGTOE	FAS	ABOIL
ROGER	SUFFER	INSILENCE	
ETONIC	EFFLUX	INGA	
SANCTUMS	EVE	DEMIGODS	
OTRA	STEFFI	YELLEN	
ABIDE	BYTHERULES	REDRY	
LOREN	BOO	LASHES	FAD
ARE	BEMUSE	NOIR	SATE
MONACO	STAND	GUARDOVER	
ONEROUS	SOVIET	EMO	
MORSE	TEN	AMPERES	
BROOK	BENTON	PUTUPWITH	
BARRIO	DOMO	AMOS	ATTA
CHOSEN	OREM	YAMS	YEAH

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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NAVY

Continued from Page A1

ing military and solo anthems at various military functions or ball games.”

She said the seven-city tour of Florida will give them the opportunity to connect communities with the Navy.

“It is always an awesome experience and such a treat to meet people and hear their stories and experiences about the military and those who have served,” she said.

Sullivan, originally from Lufkin, Texas, grew up around music and as parents told her, she sang before she could talk.

“It is just a part of who I am. My dad is a country musician (bass player and steel guitar). I sang with him a lot as a kid. Country music is



Sullivan

where I really got my start as a singer,” she said. “As a teen, I performed at the Louisiana Hayride where Elvis Presley got his start. It has always been dream of mine to be a performer and one day perform at the Grand Ole Opry.”

Her favorite genre of music is country music. It resonates the most with Sullivan and she feels the most at home when performing it. Patsy Cline is her all-

time favorite country musician.

Like many who join the military, the 22-year Navy veteran is not living her original plan.

“I originally joined the Navy as a Hospital Corpsman. I lived in New Orleans at the time and decided I wanted to join the Navy to help me work toward a medical degree,” she said.

“During the process of joining, I happened to see the Navy Band perform at Mardi Gras and I knew I had to audition. I requested an audition the very next day and made the cut. I joined as a Musician and it has been smooth sailing since.”

Sullivan was originally a fleet musician and toured the world in far east Asia with the 7th Fleet Band in Yokosuka, Japan. Then I was stationed in Memphis, Tennessee. It was at that command that I auditioned for the Cruisers,”

she said.

Keeping her white uniforms clean might be the hardest thing about her job.

“I keep my white uniforms in a garment bag at all times,” she said. “I also try to dry clean them as much as possible. I keep Shout Out wipes and a Clorox pen in my bag at all times — and I do not eat anything while in whites.”

One of the U.S. Navy Band’s primary responsibilities involves touring the country. All of the band’s primary performing units embark each year on concert tours throughout specified regions of the country, allowing the band to reach out to audiences in areas of the country that do not have opportunities to see the Navy’s premier musical ensembles on a regular basis. The concerts are family-friendly events, meant to be entertaining to everyone.

Reilly Arts Center features exciting shows

In its fourth season, the Reilly Arts Center will feature an exciting and diverse collection of performances and events. All events unless otherwise indicated are held at the Reilly Arts Center, 500 NE Ninth St. Ocala, FL 34470. All tickets can be purchased at ReillyArtsCenter.com, or by contacting the Reilly Arts Center box office at (352) 351-1606 M-F, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Reilly Arts Center box office during box office hours.

Highlights of this season include a full Ocala Symphony Orchestra subscription package of 5 concerts, with a celebration of Maestro Matthew Wardell’s 10th anniversary with the orchestra. The OSO will also collaborate with the Voltron Collective to bring a special production of Bowie and Glass, showcasing rock band and orchestra side by side. After a riveting performance in November 2017 of Handel’s Messiah, we have asked Maestro Joshua Mazur to join us in 2018-19 to lead the newly titled Ocala Symphony Orchestra Chorus in two stand-alone performances as well as joining in with the OSO for our annual Pops! Goes the Holidays concert!

Additional highlights include a spectacular Pink Floyd Laser Light Show, The Manhattan Transfer: LIVE at the Reilly, a special performance of One Man Stranger Things, and more. The Reilly will also enjoy continued collaborations with the talented dancers of Dance Alive National Ballet, and the world-class musicians of Classic Albums LIVE.



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