



WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

Early primary voting begins Saturday

BRIEFS

End of Summer Bash

The City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department will host the End of Summer Bash Saturday, Sept. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Tuscawilla Park, 500 NE Sanchez Ave.

This free, family-friendly event will include a variety of children's activities, including a sand sculpture workshop, Velcro wall, soap box derby, giant bubble station, slingshot painting, Twister in the grass, giant foosball and more. In addition to vendor displays, this event will also include skateboard ramps and live entertainment throughout the event.

This event is sponsored by Tri-Eagle Sales, Betancur Orthodontics, Ocala Electric Utility, Rasmussen College, The Martial Arts Center of Ocala, Eyeglass World (National Vision Institute), JVC Broadcasting and Spherion Staffing.

For more information, please contact the city of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department at 352-368-5517.

Community Workshops

The Ocala/Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau will host two community workshops in preparation for the upcoming OMCVCB five-year strategic plan for fiscal years 2019-24. Community input is sought on various opportunities to promote future tourism development goals for Ocala/Marion County.

These public workshops will serve as an opportunity for industry and community partners, as well as residents, to provide input on actionable items to be accomplished in the upcoming years. Workshops will be held over the course of two days to accommodate the community's schedule and allow for maximum attendance.

Community workshops: 2 to 5 p.m., Aug. 22 and 23, Growth Services Training Room, 2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala

For more information and program requirements, visit partners.OcalaMarion.com, or call 352-438-2800 to schedule an appointment with a staff member.

Early voting period for the Aug. 28 primary is Aug. 18-25 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Voting locations in Southwest Marion County are the Deputy Brian Litz Building (Marion County Sheriff Southwest Division office) at 9048 SW SR 200; Freedom Public Library, 5870 SW 95th St.; and Marion County Election Center, 981 NE 16th St.

Mail ballots must be in by 7 p.m. on Election Day. For voting in person on Aug. 28, polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Voter totals as of Monday, Aug. 6, the Marion County Supervisor of Elections reported 239,380 total registered voters in the county. Of those, Republicans accounted for 105,942; Democrats, 78,891; and 54,547 are listed as Others.

State Rep. District 22

Brigitte Smith

BY JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Two-and-a-half years ago, Brigitte Smith thought she could make a difference in the lives of others; so the emergency room nurse and former lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves made the decision to run for County Commission. In the five-candidate race and with 1 1/2 months of campaigning, Smith garnered 19 percent of the votes.

"I considered it a complete win," she said.

But as she's watched the political scene unfold in that span, she believed if she wanted to make a difference, Smith had to do so at the state level. So instead of vying for a spot on the County Commission, she's challenging incumbent, Rep. Charlie Stone, R-Ocala, for his District 22 seat in the state House of Representatives. District 22 encompasses Southwest Marion County, residents west of State Road, and Levy County.

"State is where you're going to be running legislation, where you're sponsoring bills and supporting them," Smith said as she explained her reason for seeking a state seat versus a county seat. "You have your hand in multiple pots. With the bureaucracy, it's very hard to get something done."

While she's campaigning about several issues, two key areas Smith is focused on are Common Core and veteran's care.

"Why are politicians writing standards?" she asked about Common Core. "Why Common

Core?"

Smith believes state lawmakers should turn to school district superintendents and ask them to write the standards, because it is the school districts that are required to teach them.

"Let's rewrite the standards," she said, noting her now 20-year-old daughter graduated cum laude, despite writing at an eight- or ninth-grade level. "How do you graduate cum laude when you're writing at a level that low? We're testing two standardized tests."

Smith wants to see the state expand its care of veterans and provide additional services.

"I champion a veteran's foster care program, take them out of the facility they're in and put them in a foster home, with access to medical care," said Smith, a married mother of three daughters and one granddaughter.

"I truly don't think Tallahassee is focusing on everyday issues, real issues for real people," she said about current lawmakers. "I'm going to represent the people; if lawmakers are proposing a bill and it's good for the people, you can be a voice for the people. You cannot fix something if you don't start a dialogue about it."

While Smith knows her opponent has more name recognition and a larger war chest, she said she's kept her name in the public eye since her initial run for office. Her campaign is complete grassroots, she added.

"I've put myself out there; never stopped, I kept putting my name out there," she said. "I'm not a \$6 million man like Charlie Stone. I can stretch a dollar. You do what you have to do; I cannot break into political action field committee. All donations are from every day people, ranging from \$20 to \$100. It boosts your confidence.

"I take advantage of every opportunity I can to get my name out there more. My Facebook page is open to the public. I'm the only candidate answering real life questions, so they can get to know you."

One aspect of her endeavor she understands with having her name on the ballot.

"I have a right to complain, at least, I can complain about the issues," she quipped.

School Board District 4

Angie Boynton

The most important responsibility of school boards is developing and adopting policies, curriculum and the budget; overseeing facilities issues, adopting collective bargaining agreements and work with our community to improve student achievement

My name is Angie Boynton, the School Board vice chairwoman of Marion County and candidate. I believe that my past and current experiences have prepared me to be your School Board representative.

As a business owner, Instant Tax Group & Associates LLC, specializing in income tax prep and small business accounting, I review and audit small business tax records and represent them before the Florida Department of Revenue and IRS. The Boynton Firm LLC, specializing in an online designer for women and men Shoes, Purses, etc. I'm an author and have won awards for songwriting.

My experiences as a finance director, chairwoman of the Board for PACE Center for Girls, pharmacy narcotics supervisor at Shands Teaching Hospital, Red

Cross Advisory Board member and current vice chairwoman of the Marion County School Board, prepare me to be your school board member.

I graduated from Forest High School, Shepard University and attended the University of Florida. Other classes are Marion County Citizen Academy, Ocala Police Citizens Academy, and the Leadership Institute Campaign Training Course.

In my capacity as former Republican Executive Committee vice chairwoman, Florida Federation Republican Women - Board, Member at Large, National Federation of Republican Women Outreach Diversity Committee Chair, Marion County School Board Race Relations Task Force Alternate and American Red Cross Advisory Board.

I bring leadership to the board, I currently serve as your representative from Marion County on the Florida School Board Association, Atl. Board Marion, Citrus, and Hernando (District 23) and Committees Vice Chair Multicultural Diversity, Finance, Legislative and Advocacy.

I support a fiscally sound budget and hold the line on taxes and fees. Drafted and introduced policies amendments to enhance our districts ability to raise funds through other avenues, rather than raising taxes and make our system more proactive.

I established the Boynton Education Scholarship, an investment in students in Marion County.

No student or adult should feel unsafe or unable to focus in school. I introduced several policies for our Students Programs to reduce expulsions and alternative placement schools.

With positive behavior modification. We know suspension can lead to a decrease in the graduation rate and an increase

in juvenile justice cases.

Rather than give our children criminal records and possibly decrease the graduation rate, I support the use of juvenile civil citations for School Resource Officers. The civil citation initiative provides an alternative to arrest for students at his or her first misdemeanor violations of the "Districts' Student Code of Conduct" and ensures that the youth's offense is appropriately addressed without creating a criminal record.

I advocate for a positive alternative to out of school suspensions. We know suspension can lead to a decrease in the graduation rate and an increase in juvenile justice cases. We currently have four sites called the PASS program, which gives suspended students the opportunity to continuing receiving an education with an 89 percent parental participation rate.

With Evergreen Elementary School, I went to Tallahassee to our state legislative to help change the Florida Department of Education Rules to close our Turnaround Schools.

Our community must understand that so many schools built were paid by "the people" taxes by Bonds. I attended NAACP Town hall meeting to discuss homework and tutoring at Evergreen Elementary.

While our schools achievements are being overlooked or overshadowed by standardized assessment testing, I do not support Common Core Standards and believe parents should be ordered the opportunity to opt out of the EOC assessments.

I will continue to use a common sense approach for our community with all issues presented to the Board. As your School Board member, I understand you need someone who will:

■ Keep kids first.

See BOYNTON/Page A4



Smith



Boynton



Quail Meadow
Carolyn Slocumb

What a fabulous 'First Friday!'

What a fabulous First Friday! This was one of the largest crowds we have had this year – about 50 residents and guests! It was great to meet several of our new residents who joined us for the evening. Poppi – R Music 4 You – provided the music for listening and dancing enjoyment. He was joined by Steve Misciagno who sang a few songs with his great voice. Steve was with the singing group, The Classics for many years. It's always great to have Steve join us for an evening of music. Come back any time, Steve.

The Social Committee met last week to finalize the details of the upcoming "Tropical" party that will be Friday, Sept. 21. The party will begin at 7 p.m. There will be several different "finger" foods and punch for you to enjoy during the evening. Also, Poppi will be with us to provide the music for the evening. Tickets, for a donation of \$6, are available from Grace Maguire and Judi Hargraves. Plan now to come out for an evening of fun – yes, you can BYOB if you want to add a little "kick" to the punch!

Mark your calendars for Aug. 21. This is going to be a very busy

day at the clubhouse. The day begins with the monthly COPS meeting at 11 a.m.; this will be followed by the Red Hat meeting at 2 p.m., and then at 5:30 p.m. we will have the Live and Learn special presentation, "Recognizing Today's Scams and Schemes" conducted by Eric Larson of the Marion County Sheriff's office. After this presentation, anyone interested in assisting in BINGO is invited to a special "survival" meeting at 7 p.m. All of these events will take place at the clubhouse.

Please note: The Bingo meeting is being called a "survival" meeting. Bingo has been a very important event here in QM for

many years. Unless more people volunteer to assist with this event, it will end. For many of our residents, this is the one event they look forward to a couple of times each month. Anyone interested in continuing the Bingo games in our community is encouraged to attend this meeting on Tuesday, the 21st, at 7:00 PM.

Remember school is in session! That means school buses are out during the day. We don't have them in our community, but they are all around us. If the school bus is stopped, the Stop sign out, that means you must stop! Be especially careful if it is a busload of elementary



Lucy Chagnon and Sandy Ezell at the First Friday party at Quail Meadow

See QUAIL/Page A3

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Hallelujah, It IS a Scam

I know I am not the sharpest pencil in the drawer, or the brightest bulb on the porch, and a few bricks shy of a load. However, my philosophy is simple, if you know what you are not, then you can soon figure out what you really are.

If somebody can't con me, they can't con anybody. I admit that I am naïve about many things. A Girl Scout needs only smile, wink her brown eyes at me and I will buy all the cookies she has.

My problem is, I have a hard time believing anyone would lie to me. Why would someone lie in the first place? What does lying get you?

An incident happened this past week that sucked me into that whirlpool of naivety.

I received an email from somebody who wanted to give me a lot of money. It seems this woman was recently widowed and her husband was very wealthy and she wanted to give money to some charity. Would I be interested in

receiving money?

Well, when it comes to money you do have my interest.

Immediately I printed this email out and brought it to show the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Now, if anybody can con her, they can con everybody. She can spot a lie three generations back.

She read the email and then looked at me with one of those "stares" and said, "You do know that this is a scam?"

"But," I said rather hesitatingly, "what if it isn't a scam? What if it's real? What have I got to lose?"

"You mean," she said rather sarcastically, "besides your mind?"

It was at that moment I had an overwhelming urge to prove finally that she did not know everything. When I follow through with this and get all that money in our bank, I will have a laughing party heard around the world at her expense.

I decided to see if maybe this was legiti-

mate. So, I emailed them back and said I was interested in their money for our charity and explained a little bit about our charity.

Very soon, I got an email back congratulating me on a wise decision.

I sat back and grinned to myself; at least somebody appreciates my wisdom.

Then I received an email saying I needed to send them some information, so I immediately sent it.

All the while, I'm thinking of how I'm going to rub this in someone's face for a very long time. After all, the amount of money they were talking about was \$4.7 million. I started thinking about what I could do with all that money.

It is amazing what happens when a person starts thinking about all the money he is going to get. Then the thoughts go to "things." Things that I cannot afford right now. I tried to think of all of the things that I would buy as soon as I

got this money. I got some paper and a pen and started to make a list.

I ran into a little problem here. I could not think of anything I wanted that I did not already have. I don't have a long list of things I want. I like books, pens and pocketknives. Of course, I could buy my own Apple fritter bakery. That would be a good option.

For a couple of days, I shot emails back and forth with this company that happened to be in Nigeria, Africa. I have some wonderful friends there, so I was not even thinking on the negative side of this transaction.

Of course, being a pastor, I would donate some of that money to my church. Then I got thinking about what we could do in the church with that kind of money. How many people could we bless and encourage with the programs we could do with that kind of money?

I continued emailing back to this widow and she connected me with



Out to Pastor
Rev. James Snyder

the bank that was going to handle the transaction. I was beginning to feel a little more comfortable with this. I know my wife thought this was a scam, but I'm not so sure it is a scam. I think it is some dear widow who wants to give her money to somebody that she doesn't know. What a sweet and wonderful woman she must be.

Then I got THE defining email. In order for this transaction to go forward, they needed from me a processing fee of \$1,000. After all, I would more than make that up once the transaction was done. At least, according to them.

It was then I began to realize I had been bamboozled. Ask me for anything but don't ask me for my money!

It was a scam and I am quite reluctant to pass this information off to the other resident of our house. One of us was right and it sure

wasn't me.

I did not get the \$4.7 million, but on the other hand, I did not lose \$1000. At least that's something to celebrate.

Thinking about this reminded me of one of my favorite Bible verses. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

When I put God first in my life I can be assured that He will direct my paths in the right direction.

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 Ocala, Florida. Call him at 352-687-4240 or email james-snyder2@att.net. The church website is www.whatafellowship.com.



Poppi and Steve Misciagno provide the entertainment for the First Friday at Quail Meadow.

QUAIL

Continued from Page A2

Remember school is in session! That means school buses are out during the day. We don't have them in our community, but they are all around us. If the school bus is stopped, the Stop sign out, that means you must stop! Be especially careful if it is a busload of elementary children - they sometimes forget to look before crossing the street.

Next week we will announce the winner of the "misspelled"

word contest. Be on the lookout for the next contest in the September Reporter.

Help needed: Volunteers are needed to deliver the QM Reporter each month. It doesn't take very long to deliver the paper to the houses - I finish the street I do in about 15 minutes (longer, if I stop and talk to the residents). If you can help with this project, please call Steve/Jeanne Kane.

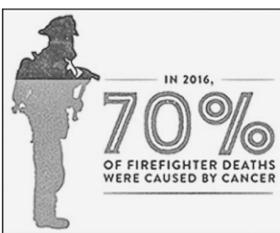
Editor's note: The Quail Meadow article in last week's Messenger, was mistakenly labeled as "Fairfield Village."

Firefighters have higher risk of cancer

FLORIDA CFO
JIMMY PATRONIS
Press Release

In 2016, 70 percent of firefighter deaths were caused by cancer.

When compared to the general population of the U.S., firefighters have a nearly 15 percent higher risk of dying from cancer due to their overexposure to the large number of cancer-causing products of combustion. It is our responsibility to take care of our first responder community the way they selflessly take care of us.



Many cancers in firefighters are linked to the long-term risks from smoke inhalation and exposure to certain chemicals. The Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and I have joined together to help

mitigate firefighters' exposure to these deadly chemicals with Decontamination Kits.

More than 4,000 kits are being delivered to over 400 fire departments in Florida that include the tools needed for firefighters to effectively clean their gear after a fire, and ultimately reduce exposure to carcinogens.

Cancer prevalence in

firefighters is not up for debate. These kits are one step in the fight against cancer among firefighters. We have to do all we can to make sure our heroes stay healthy and safe.



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.

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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

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School Board District 4

Nancy Thrower

Dear Voter, my name is Nancy Thrower and I've lived in Marion County for 28 years. I'm an educator, small-business owner and community volunteer. I'm running for the District 4 School Board seat. The other two candidates in this race are long term incumbent Ms. Angie Boynton and Ms. Jane Moerlie.



Thrower

My parents just celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary! My father is a veteran and my sister and I were both born on F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming. My husband Fred and I are very proud of our three boys who are all successful graduates of Marion County Public Schools.

I'm a passionate problem solver and you can count on me to be proactive. I was the first and only candidate in this race to qualify by petition card process rather than paying over \$1,500 to get my name put on the ballot. I was also the first to officially qualify to have my name placed on the ballot. I like to save money and get things done!

I earned my bachelor's degree from Lake Erie College and Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis from Penn State. I enjoy attending and presenting at education, parent support and business-related conferences and symposiums.

I worked my way up the old-fashioned way. First as a classroom aide, vocational training assistant, then a high school teacher of special needs students, a district staffing specialist and for the past 14 years, a district behavior specialist. I work directly with parents, students, teachers, administrators,

other districts and agencies across the state. I've been to Tallahassee and Washington, D.C., several times to lobby on behalf of strengthening public education.

I was raised with a waste not, want not mentality and work ethic. I understand the complexity of the education budget and I will continue to advocate for more local control of our education dollars.

I'm strong on discipline, citizenship, vocational training and academic results. I've volunteered to serve on the Code of Student Conduct Committee for several years.

Owning and managing a small residential real estate business makes me understand that local businesses want and need high school graduates that are ready for the workforce, as college is not the only path to a successful life.

I love working with and supporting Marion Therapeutic Riding Association (MTRA), The Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Transitions Life Center (TLC) and the Guardian Ad Litem Programs to help and protect our most vulnerable Marion County children.

Thank you for your support and you can count on me to continue to be visible, accountable and communicative. After all, it's about our kids, our families and our community.

I respectfully ask for your vote Tuesday, Aug. 28, or vote early voting, Aug. 18-24. I'm very excited for the opportunity to serve as your school board representative.

Sincerely,
Nancy Thrower
Candidate for Marion County School Board- District 4

School Board District 5

Shelia Arnett

I am Shelia Arnett and I am running for School Board District 5.

I am married to former County Commissioner Earl Arnett. We have three children and four grandchildren and have lived and worked in Marion County for more than 35 years. Our children are 47, 34 and 19, and our grandchildren are 22, 16, 9 and 8 - so any age kid you have, we have at least one.

I have been a hospice specific healthcare recruiter since 2000. Healthcare clients hire my firm from around the

country to help fill key management positions. We do market research in their area, identify their competition and, at times, contract with these healthcare agencies to identify weaknesses in their organizations.

Earl and I have owned several businesses in Marion County. We owned a BMX bicycle shop and a baseball card store. I was the office manager for Earl's private investigation firm for more than 14 years. We owned a window tinting and sign business and I published a magazine in The Villages for two years.

I am currently on the board of the Marion County Homeless Council and a participant in the Public Policy Institute's Homeless Study. I am a former board member of the Marion County Literacy Council. Earl and I are long time members of Central Christian Church in Ocala. Earl became a member in 1981 and I became a member, after we married, in 1991.

I currently serve on the First Impression Team and Earl on the Security Team. Over the years we have been fourth- and fifth-grade youth sponsors, VBS workers, Earl started a "car care ministry." I have acted as a photographer for special events, I was in the choir, and numerous other ways we have served at Central - our church is our "family" and we are honored to worship and serve our community alongside them.

After spending many years with Earl working on city and county issues, I've come to realize my passion is serving my community. I feel I have just the right fit to help, and compliment, the current school board. After working many years in business, I see the need to unify the board in a direction that is more productive and civil to one another.

As I tell the healthcare clients that hire my firm as a consultant, unity and stability are important in their companies, this is doubly true for our school board. A corporation, and the school board, must be moving forward in the same direction to succeed. Our children are our most precious asset and their education is of paramount importance.

As a mom and grandma, I also realize that we need stronger discipline policies in our schools. In light of the recent school shootings around the country, we are hearing way too much how the shooter was a discipline problem, or bullied by other kids. I believe teachers should come to school and be able to teach kids who are there ready to learn. We hear so many horror stories about school threats, almost daily. I would like to see

stricter changes made to school safety and bullying offenses and tighter, more effective, school discipline policies overall.

I know that many of you have already paid to raise and educate your children and now we ask you, with your tax dollars, to raise and educate our current children. I promise to be a watchdog over our tax dollars and make sure that the school board budget, which is more than \$500 million, stays under tight scrutiny and make sure that every dollar is spent wisely and out of necessity.

I am Shelia Arnett and I look forward to serving on your school board. You can follow my campaign on Facebook (Shelia Arnett for School Board, District 5), my website www.VoteArnett.com or call me at 352-209-1037 with questions or concerns.

Please remember to vote Shelia Arnett Aug. 28.

Pete Anderson

My name is Pete Anderson and I'm running for the school board, district 5. I have been living in my district for 19 years and have had 2 sons graduate from Marion County public schools (2004 and 2013). I have a BBA (Bachelor of Business Administration) from Georgia College and a MDiv (Master of Divinity) from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. I have been married for 34 years and attend One Life Fellowship Church.



Anderson

Why bother running for the school board anyway? Valid question! I am running be-

cause I have worked the last 12 years as an elementary school teacher. I have worked under three different superintendents. I have worked under our current superintendent since she took office in November 2016. No one running for the School Board District 5 can say that for the last few years, they have worked in the classroom. I can! I know exactly the concerns that teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators and other important school staff have. I'm running because I am a father of two graduated boys from our public schools. I know the concerns parents and school employees have with our schools.

And it's time! Time to stop having "Jerry Springer type" shows during our school board meetings. It's time to stop playing politics and make the difficult choices that will help our children become better educated and responsible citizens. I'm not a politician. I've been in the classroom for the last 12 years. It's time for change!

I'm running without accepting cash donations from anyone. Can any politician running for the School Board District 5 say that? I'm "putting my money where my mouth is!" I'm running on my own funds so that when I say I'm not beholden to any group or people, it's the truth! I have not accepted money to help with my campaign. I just want our schools to be better, not take money from someone who may have another agenda.

We have many issues that need to be discussed from the School Resource officers (SRO) funding after the 2018-19 school year, to security on our school campuses, to increasing vocational training opportunities in our high

schools to recruiting and retaining quality teachers. With the last "report card" from our state regarding our school grades, it's time to stop playing politics and get the job done.

We are now ranked 61 out of 67 school districts in Florida. We're going the wrong way! Our elementary schools need help! We have more F schools than last year. I want to work with our superintendent and other school board members to help our schools improve. I am familiar with the iReady program our district is using to track student progress. I was a teacher last year in an elementary school, I know what works and what doesn't! Let's work together to make our classrooms better.

Lastly, I'm not interested in another career. I've already had three! I've been a manager and "area manager" in the business world. I've spent years working with churches and their families, and I've been a public school teacher. I just want to help make our schools better. It's a four year term; not another career for me. Since I'm retiring from teaching this year, I will have the time and energy to do what is necessary to help our schools be the best they can be. Our public schools should be among the best in the state. Let's work together to make our classrooms student-centered and have our teachers enjoy what they do best - teaching! Let's have our students, our children, prepared for their futures by having the best possible education. They deserve nothing less.

Why vote for Pete Anderson? Because I make sense! I know the current system as an employee of the school system. Now it's time to make our schools better. Our children deserve our best efforts!

BOYNTON

Continued from Page A1

■ Be fiscally responsible. You can count on me to continue to look for other solutions to hold the line on tax increases.

■ Focus on important issues.

■ Uphold the Judeo Christian values.

■ Respect and guard the integrity of the governance process of School Board members.

My name is Angie Boynton, please vote for me on Aug. 28 for the Marion County School Board District 4.



Arnett

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

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

Spongeorama - Tarpon Springs
Tue., Oct. 16 - \$79pp

St. Augustine Ghost & Gravestones
Mon., Oct. 29 - \$76pp

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 - Call for ticket options ASAP!

DAVE KOZ Christmas!
Sat., Nov. 24 - \$99pp

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

Les Miserables @ the STRAZ
Wed., Jan. 16, 2019
\$119pp

HOLIDAY TRIPS!
Night of Lights St. Augustine
Mon., Nov. 26 - \$55pp
Singing Christmas Trees
Sat., Dec. 8 - \$59pp
Gaylord Palms ICE
Mon. Dec. 17 - \$59pp
Christmas Tree Trail @ Disney Springs
Tues., Dec. 18 - \$32pp

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Official Primary Election Sample Ballot, August 28, 2018 Marion County, Florida

TO VOTE, COMPLETELY FILL IN THE OVAL NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE. Use a Black or Blue Pen or Marker.
If you make a mistake, don't hesitate to ask for a new ballot. If you erase or make other marks, your vote may not count.

Happenings

Sunday, Aug. 19

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 at 9:30 a.m. We offer five adult classes on a variety of topics. A synopsis of each class is available on our website.

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 Ray Westman will present a message of inspiration.

Pastor Ray Westman leads a Small Group Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. The group meets in our main building and takes an in-depth look at the Sunday morning message with a video message.

Christ's Church of Marion County is located at 6768 SW 80th St. just 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.

SW 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. Learn more about us and even view a sermon from our Preaching Minister David Campbell, on our website at www.swchristianchurch.com.

REPUBLICAN		DEMOCRATIC		NONPARTISAN	
United States Senator (Vote for One)	Circuit Judge 5th Judicial Circuit, Group 4 (Vote for One)	★ Representative in Congress District 2 (Vote for One)	Circuit Judge 5th Judicial Circuit, Group 4 (Vote for One)	Circuit Judge 5th Judicial Circuit, Group 4 (Vote for One)	Circuit Judge 5th Judicial Circuit, Group 4 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente	<input type="radio"/> Don Barbee Jr	<input type="radio"/> Brandon Peters	<input type="radio"/> Don Barbee Jr	<input type="radio"/> Don Barbee Jr	<input type="radio"/> Don Barbee Jr
<input type="radio"/> Rick Scott	<input type="radio"/> Edward C. Spaight	<input type="radio"/> Bob Rackleff	<input type="radio"/> Edward C. Spaight	<input type="radio"/> Edward C. Spaight	<input type="radio"/> Edward C. Spaight
★ Representative in Congress District 3 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 2 (Vote for One)	★ Representative in Congress District 3 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 2 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 2 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 2 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Judson Sapp	<input type="radio"/> William "Bill" Ramputi	<input type="radio"/> Dushyant Jethagir Gosai	<input type="radio"/> William "Bill" Ramputi	<input type="radio"/> William "Bill" Ramputi	<input type="radio"/> William "Bill" Ramputi
<input type="radio"/> Ted Yoho	<input type="radio"/> Sarah Ritterhoff Williams	<input type="radio"/> Yvonne Hayes Hinson	<input type="radio"/> Sarah Ritterhoff Williams	<input type="radio"/> Sarah Ritterhoff Williams	<input type="radio"/> Sarah Ritterhoff Williams
Governor and Lieutenant Governor (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 3 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Tom Wells	County Judge Group 3 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 3 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 3 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Don Baldauf Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> LeAnn Mackey Barnes	Governor and Lieutenant Governor (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> LeAnn Mackey Barnes	<input type="radio"/> LeAnn Mackey Barnes	<input type="radio"/> LeAnn Mackey Barnes
<input type="radio"/> Ron DeSantis Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Tommy Thompson	<input type="radio"/> Andrew Gillum Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Tommy Thompson	<input type="radio"/> Tommy Thompson	<input type="radio"/> Tommy Thompson
<input type="radio"/> Timothy M. Devine Not Yet Designated	County Judge Group 4 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Gwen Graham Not Yet Designated	County Judge Group 4 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 4 (Vote for One)	County Judge Group 4 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Bob Langford Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Bryon R. Aven	<input type="radio"/> Jeff Greene Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Bryon R. Aven	<input type="radio"/> Bryon R. Aven	<input type="radio"/> Bryon R. Aven
<input type="radio"/> John Joseph Mercadante Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Robert Landt	<input type="radio"/> Chris King Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Robert Landt	<input type="radio"/> Robert Landt	<input type="radio"/> Robert Landt
<input type="radio"/> Bruce Nathan Not Yet Designated	School Board District 3 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Philip Levine Not Yet Designated	School Board District 3 (Vote for One)	School Board District 3 (Vote for One)	School Board District 3 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Adam H. Putnam Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Eric R. Cummings	<input type="radio"/> Alex "Lundy" Lundmark Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Eric R. Cummings	<input type="radio"/> Eric R. Cummings	<input type="radio"/> Eric R. Cummings
<input type="radio"/> Bob White Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Donnie Prophet	<input type="radio"/> John Wetherbee Not Yet Designated	<input type="radio"/> Donnie Prophet	<input type="radio"/> Donnie Prophet	<input type="radio"/> Donnie Prophet
Attorney General (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Ed Wilson	Attorney General (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Ed Wilson	<input type="radio"/> Ed Wilson	<input type="radio"/> Ed Wilson
<input type="radio"/> Ashley Moody	School Board District 4 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Sean Shaw	School Board District 4 (Vote for One)	School Board District 4 (Vote for One)	School Board District 4 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Frank White	<input type="radio"/> Angie Boynton	<input type="radio"/> Ryan Torrens	<input type="radio"/> Angie Boynton	<input type="radio"/> Angie Boynton	<input type="radio"/> Angie Boynton
Commissioner of Agriculture (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Jane Moerlie	Commissioner of Agriculture (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Jane Moerlie	<input type="radio"/> Jane Moerlie	<input type="radio"/> Jane Moerlie
<input type="radio"/> Matt Caldwell	<input type="radio"/> Nancy Thrower	<input type="radio"/> Nicole "Nikki" Fried	<input type="radio"/> Nancy Thrower	<input type="radio"/> Nancy Thrower	<input type="radio"/> Nancy Thrower
<input type="radio"/> Denise Grimsley	School Board District 5 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Jeffrey Duane Porter	School Board District 5 (Vote for One)	School Board District 5 (Vote for One)	School Board District 5 (Vote for One)
<input type="radio"/> Mike McCalister	<input type="radio"/> Pete Anderson	<input type="radio"/> Roy David Walker	<input type="radio"/> Pete Anderson	<input type="radio"/> Pete Anderson	<input type="radio"/> Pete Anderson
<input type="radio"/> Baxter Troutman	<input type="radio"/> Shelia Arnett	★ State Senator District 8 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Shelia Arnett	<input type="radio"/> Shelia Arnett	<input type="radio"/> Shelia Arnett
★ State Representative District 22 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> Kelly King	<input type="radio"/> Kayser Enneking	<input type="radio"/> Kelly King	<input type="radio"/> Kelly King	<input type="radio"/> Kelly King
<input type="radio"/> Brigitte Smith	Approval of continuing one mill ad valorem tax for School District operating expenses	<input type="radio"/> Olysha Magruder	Approval of continuing one mill ad valorem tax for School District operating expenses	Approval of continuing one mill ad valorem tax for School District operating expenses	Approval of continuing one mill ad valorem tax for School District operating expenses
<input type="radio"/> Charlie Stone	Shall the Marion County School District's one mill ad valorem millage be continued, beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2023, for necessary operating expenses including safe schools, reading, physical education, art, music, library/media, and vocational programs; meeting class size requirements; and retaining State Certified teachers and paraprofessionals with oversight of these expenditures by an independent citizens financial oversight committee?	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Yes
County Commissioner District 2 (Vote for One)	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> No
<input type="radio"/> Kathy Bryant					
<input type="radio"/> Mike Crimi					
County Commissioner District 4 (Vote for One)					
<input type="radio"/> Eddie Leedy					
<input type="radio"/> Carl Zalak III					

★ This race will only appear for voters within that district

This Sample Ballot was prepared in accordance with Section 101.20(2), Florida Statutes, and furnished by Wesley Wilcox, Supervisor of Elections

See JAZZ/Page A9

BINGO BASH!

Tuesday, August 14, 2-3:30 p.m.
at The Bridge at Ocala

Join us for bingo, other fun games, and a chance to win great prizes and cash! Complete package is \$12 at the door. Additional cards are \$1 each. Snacks and refreshments will be served. Bring your own daubers.

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Fairfield Village
Priscilla Barnett

Flamboyance of flamingos seen in Fairfield Village

Yes, that is the most acknowledged name for a group of flamingos although the words "colony," "regiment," and "flock" might also be used.

Personally, I like the "flamboyance" nomenclature because it just seems right. The appearance of the stately birds strutting around led by the accepted elder male lends itself to the ideas associated with anything described as flamboyant.

Recently, when I saw a display on one of the lawns here in FFV, I was drawn to the idea

of names for sports teams. I have often wondered about teams called the Ducks or the Blue Jays, or the Cardinals. Don't get me wrong, I like those creatures a lot, but they just don't seem like names for particularly husky teams of athletes.

OK, I admit it. I am a huge football fan, and I like college football much more than most ladies my age might acknowledge. The names for college teams intrigue me, and I find them very symbolic of many of their die-hard fans.

The University of Florida Gators – sounds like they could



really devour opponents. The Michigan Wolverines also sound very imposing. The University of Georgia Bulldogs, Auburn Tigers, Kentucky Wildcats, Baylor Bears, Cal State Golden Eagles, USA Jaguars, Wisconsin Badgers and other very impressive "critter" team names send chills down the spines of lesser opponents – maybe.

But do we think that a team called the Flamingo Flamboyance

would set off a real surge of energy? I don't know! They might.

I know if there were a big imposing team of college football players who would willingly wear bright neon pink jerseys for the entire season then they would probably have to be really tough and have enormous egos that would be hard to deny.

Such a team might well surprise all the opponents and make a new statement in football fan's memorabilia.

Who knows? I might wear a Flamingo Flamboyance jersey! If they won a national championship; then, no doubt lots of people would don the "pink."

Personally, I am really looking forward to the college football season. For the first time in many years, I will not have a relative in a football lineup. Therefore, I plan to look as objectively as possible at as many games as I can to see if there is a team that will challenge my all-time favorite Crimson Tide.

Yes, I love the competition. I love the anticipation. I love the cheering. I really like the bands and cheerleaders who get so little recognition. That's not fair in my estimation.

I would really love to see the half-time shows televised, but we will again be forced to listen to the pundits tell us what we already saw

and listen to scores of other games we might not be interested in while those college students who practice so hard put on their shows for those in the stadium.

Here in Fairfield Village, we do show our "colors" for the teams we support. I love seeing the flags flying and maybe this year there will lots of good college games to watch. I hope the injuries will be few and the fun will be extraordinary.

From the "lively place filled with lovely people" with the "Flamboyance of Flamingos" seen on a neighbor's lawn, we send wishes that the youngsters returning to school will be safe, will have a great year, and will learn all kinds of fascinating things in their schools.

Looking forward to the "dog days of summer" and, hopefully, a quiet hurricane season.



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Celebrity
Eclipse

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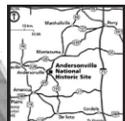
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 - 2 nights Traverse City, MI
 - 1 night Indianapolis, IN
 - 1 night Atlanta, GA
 - Duck Boat Tour in Chattanooga
 - Horse Farm Tour in Lexington
 - Ford Rouge Factory Tour/Greenfield Village
 - Horse Carriage Tour Mackinac Island
 - Music House Museum
 - Tall Ship Cruise Traverse City Bay
 - Indy Motor Speedway Museum
 - World of Coca Cola Atlanta
 - Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- All rates listed are per person double occupancy based on availability at time of booking.

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- 09/13 My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm in Therapy....\$97
- 09/22 I Love A Piano.....\$99
- 09/27 Academia Nuts.....\$88
- 10/04 Fully Committed.....\$89
- 10/09 Mystery Trip\$99

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Stone Creek 'floats' in root beer

August 6 marked National Root Beer Float Day, a celebration of the famous ice cream soda. The exact origin of the root beer float is unknown.

Many believe it was invented by Frank J. Wisner in a mining town in Colorado. One night, Wisner, owner of the Cripple Creek Cow Mountain Gold Mining company, was staring out the window and

thinking about the line of soda waters he was producing for the citizens of Cripple Creek when he came upon an idea. The full moon that night shined on the snow-capped Cow Mountain and reminded him of a scoop of vanilla ice cream. He hurried back to his bar and scooped a spoonful of ice cream into the children's favorite flavor of soda, Myers Avenue

Red Root Beer. After trying, he liked it. He served it the very next day. It was an immediate hit. Wisner named the new creation, "Black Cow Mountain" but the local children shortened the name to 'Black Cow.'

The Lifestyle celebrated the day with delicious root beer floats. For \$2 you got a huge scoop of vanilla ice cream with your choice of A&W or Mug

Root Beer. Some 75-plus residents took part enjoying a delicious root beer float.

Terry Quinn, my sister told me that as a teenager she worked for the Woolworth Company also known as five and dime store. When she got a 15-minute break, she would purchase a root beer float for 10 cents. At the end of the week, they would deduct the 10 cents.

Stone Creek
Patricia Gizzi



Now, as I was enjoying my root beer float, Gail Johnson told me that in Chicago they called them Black Cow and she could never understand why as a child. Maybe now, Gail will understand.

Many neighbors came and sat and enjoyed their floats while

talking to neighbors and friends. It was a great way to spend a few hours. As always, a very special thanks to Kim and her staff for making this possible! To National Root Beer Float Day and other days Kim has us celebrate. We should have a day to celebrate Kim!



Bridges Project elects new officers

The Bridges Project of Ocala/Marion County which started in January 2015 as a study group with about 20 local activists devoted to improving race relations, elected a new board in July.

Replacing the Rev. Bruce Seaman, president and motivating force since the group's inception, is Avelia "Bert" Perkins, who with her husband Grover, came to Ocala from Athens, Georgia, where she was involved in the Southern Poverty Law Center's "Teaching Tolerance" program, an initiative she is working to expand locally.

Seaman is no longer a board member, but serves ex officio as treasurer.

In accepting the presidency, Perkins invited the public to join in

"building a better community for all. We have a great opportunity to nurture and grow this organization as a towering oak of strength in Marion County."

Continuing as vice president is the Rev. Peggy Hostetler, minister of Spiritual Science who chairs the "chain breakers" working group which brought Brian Grimm's "Racial Taboo" movie and community discussions to Ocala as well as purchase and distribution of congressman John Lewis' award winning graphic novel trilogy called "March" to local middle and high schools.

Francine Julius Edwards, also regional president of five area Democratic Women's Clubs of Florida, is active in promoting youth

involvement in civic affairs and restoration of voting rights to felons. She resigned as treasurer but remains on the board.

New to the board: Retired Army Col. Gorham L. Black III, who currently serves as chair of the Marion County Sheriff's Citizens Advisory Council, heads a working group seeking to memorialize and educate the public about the history of lynching in Marion County.

Longtime resident Vanessa Hunter joins the board as secretary. Criminal defense attorney and former prosecutor Miquel Mack heads a working

group on education.

The Bridges Project meets the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon at the Ocala Police Community Room, 402 South Pine Avenue.

Members of the community are always wel-

come and there is no fee to attend.

Please visit marionbridges.org, Facebook/Bridges Project Ocala or call Vanessa Hunter at 352-351-0687 for more information.

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Opinion

Your VIEW

Time to put excess cash to work?

You'll always want to base your investment decisions on your own needs and goals. But there may be times when you might consider adjusting your portfolio because of risks and opportunities. Now may be one of those times.

Here's some background: In recent months, the Federal Reserve has raised short-term interest rates several times, and given its generally favorable outlook on the economy, it has indicated it may continue bumping up interest rates gradually over the next year or so. The Fed doesn't control long-term interest rates, but these rates often follow the lead of short-term movements. However, longer-term rates haven't yet risen as much as shorter-term ones, which means the difference between short- and long-term rates is relatively small, historically speaking.

This doesn't mean you should make drastic changes to your portfolio. You still need to stick with the asset allocation that's suitable for your situation, which typically involves owning a certain percentage of growth-oriented vehicles, such as stocks, and a certain percentage of fixed-income securities, such as bonds.

However, if you do have space in the fixed-income part of your portfolio, you may find the higher interest rates offered by short-term bonds and certificates of deposit (CDs) to be attractive. To take advantage of this opportunity, though, you will need to have the cash available to invest.

Some people hold too much in cash, waiting for interest rates to rise, or as protection against the risk of a market decline. But holding excess cash involves its own risk – the risk of not investing. So, if you have your cash needs covered, you may want to consider investing any excess cash.

To determine if you are holding excess cash, you'll need to review your entire cash situation. For example, do you have enough cash, or cash equivalents, to create an emergency fund of three to six months' worth of living expenses? This fund can be vital in helping you pay for things like a major car repair or an unexpected medical bill without dipping in to your long-term investments. And, of course, you need enough liquidity to provide for your lifestyle, including your regular spending needs – your mortgage, utilities, groceries and so on.

Also, you may want to set aside enough cash for a goal you want to reach in the next year or so, such as a vacation.

But if you have taken care of all these needs and you still have excess cash, you may want to consider putting this cash to work, possibly by investing in

See CASH/Page A12

West Marion Messenger

Publisher:

GERRY MULLIGAN

Manager:

JOHN MURPHY

Editor:

DAVID DAVIS



Safety is key to grilling

EDITOR'S NOTE: I went to the Florida Press Association Weekly Newspaper Awards luncheon Friday where, for some reason, I picked up two awards for column writing.

This entry I hope you are about to read won first place in the Humorous Column category. My entry into the Serious Column category finished in third place. I will run it next week.

It's springtime. The days are longer and that got me to thinking about outdoor activities, so I decided to do some grilling.

I assembled my brand-new grill Sunday, bought some charcoal briquettes, five gallons of unleaded high-octane gasoline, chimney matches and had a barbecue.

Some of you may have heard about it because emergency responders from three fire departments and county EMS attended.

Safety is paramount when cooking on a grill and since we are under a burn ban, I decided to grill indoors. Again, safety is the key. Always make sure the batteries are fresh and smoke detectors are in perfect working order when grilling indoors.

It is also a good idea to keep a fire extinguisher handy just in case some of the smoldering briquettes spill over onto the carpet or flames jump to the nearby curtains.

Carbon monoxide is a byproduct of cooking with charcoal. That's why it is a good idea to have someone nearby, someone like a fireman who knows CPR and has access to an oxygen bottle when cooking indoors. I've been told the blue tint in my fingernails and lips will soon disappear.



Mountains from Molehills

By David Davis

Firemen do more than put out fires, they are also good at waking up people.

They are a happy and jolly bunch. Oftentimes, I saw them laughing and rolling on the floor as I drifted in and out of consciousness.

A good lesson is to always remember to grill outdoors. If there is a detention pond nearby — that would be the best location grill. That way, the firefighters can better control the flames while we're under a burn ban.

It is a good idea to always read the instructions that come with new charcoal grills. Instructions contain safety tips and information to help people enjoy their outdoor cooking experience. It is not necessary to read the instructions in all seven languages. How many ways do manufacturers think they need to tell people to be careful when lighting a grill?

The best thing to do with the instruction booklet is to use it to light the fire. Remember to always wet the charcoal briquettes with the high-octane gasoline and wait about 15 seconds to give it time to soak in before lighting a fire because there is no reason to be in a hurry. It is a good idea to have someone knowledgeable in first aid standing by, someone like an emergency medical technician, before soaking the instruction pamphlet in gasoline and using it to light

See DAVIS/Page A11

Reader Opinions Invited

~ The opinions expressed in West Marion Messenger editorials are the pinions 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 RICH LOWRY COLUMN

Elizabeth

Warren's Lie

Elizabeth Warren is branching out.

The Massachusetts senator, who has made a career of unfairly maligning bankers and other alleged capitalist malefactors, is now smearing the criminal justice system, too.

In a speech at a historically black college in New Orleans, she declared that "the hard truth about our criminal justice system: It's racist ... I mean front to back."

Her riff is a sign that the Democrats are going to leaven their lurch toward socialism with a condemnation of America as fundamentally racist.

The U.S. criminal justice system is obviously a legitimate topic of debate. But the contention that U.S. law enforcement is a product of racial hatred is a paranoid lie.

The basis of the racism charge is the obvious disparities in the numbers. Blacks are 13 percent of the population, yet they account for 38 percent of state prisoners, and for more than roughly 30 percent of fatal police shootings.

The driver for mass incarceration, we are always told, is a racist war on drugs. But this is a myth. In his book "Locked In," John Pfaff notes that at its height in 1990, the share of state prisoners serving time for drugs was just 22 percent. The proportion fell to less than 16 percent in 2014. So you could release all drug offenders and still leave mass incarceration intact. And you wouldn't just be releasing black prisoners — 33 percent of white inmates in state prisons are drug offenders.

It is true that the incarceration rates for drug offenses are much higher for blacks. This may be a product of enforcement bias, or other factors such as whites are more prone to use private, as opposed to open-air, drug markets.

The biggest reason for the overall disparity in incarceration is different rates of offending. Blacks account for about 50 percent of homicides. It's not that the police are simply making up these crimes. The numbers for violent crime accord with reports from crime victims of the race of their assailants.

The same applies to police shootings. Joseph Cesario, a professor of psychology at Michigan State University, writes that "the differences in involvement in criminal situations between black and white citizens fully explains the population-level disparity in fatal police shootings."

Now, it's entirely fair to argue that different rates of offending are a function of the vestiges of racism, and that it is urgent to pursue criminal justice reform given how the status quo affects black families and communities. But the idea that we are living in a latter-day apartheid South Africa, with a system designed to jail and immiserate blacks out of sheer maliciousness, is contemptible, poisonous and wrong.

See LOWRY/Page A11

County Commission District 2

Mike Crimi

I am Mike Crimi, and together with you the citizens, I want to make Marion County great again.

In my lifetime I have been blessed to serve my country and my community. As an Army veteran, I started serving my country in 1986, and for the last nine years I have had the opportunity to continue helping many men and women who served before me. Every Friday I have the privilege to provide patient care to the underserved veterans in the VFW Veterans Village in Ft. McCoy. I am so committed to helping the Veterans in Marion County that when I am elected to the county commission I will donate 30 percent of my salary back to our local veteran organizations that are dedicated to our heroes.

With my business and medical background, and extensive education I will work hard and do what is needed to save the tax payers money. I will provide ways to enhance the county road and building departments. Currently, a permit takes several weeks to be approved where our neighboring counties takes less than a week. I will keep our first responders' salaries at competitive levels with surrounding areas by budgeting the proper resources and avoiding heavy taxation if at all possible. Working together to find solutions to the issues is how we can start making needed changes.

I believe in term limits - eight years is enough. Unlike my opponent, I will not seek a third

term if I am unable to make cost saving changes for the taxpayers of Marion County. A servant of the people would step aside and allow someone with a new, fresh perspective to take charge. It is time for a true conservative leader with an education and a successful business background to take Marion County into the future.

I am Mike Crimi, and I humbly ask for your vote Aug. 28. I can be reached at any time via my cell-phone at 352-427-8680 or email at crimiforcommission@gmail.com. My door is always open and I look forward to hearing from you.

Quick Facts about Mike Crimi

Born: In 1963 in East Orange, N.J., moved to Marion County in 1977, lived here ever since.

Education: 1981 - Lake Weir High School Graduate; 1982 Florida State Fire College Certified Firefighter and Smoke Diver Graduate; 1983-84 Central Florida Community College Associates of Arts and EMT/Paramedic Program Graduate; 1992 University of Florida Bachelors in Health-Related Profession/Physician Assistant Graduate; 1994 University of Nebraska Masters in Medicine Degree Graduate

Military: Served as a U.S. Army Combat Medic and graduated with Distinguished Honors.

Profession: Physician Assistant and successful Business Owner for over 22 years in Marion County.

Languages: English and Spanish

Volunteer Services: Marion County Volunteer Firefighter, EMT and Paramedic in the early 1980s. Currently volunteers at The Veteran Village in Ft. McCoy and treats those

Veterans who are in need of medical services. Veterans Council. Serves on the advisory boards of Taylor College and Marion Technical College and is a Preceptor site for their students. Assistant Professor and Preceptor for University of Florida Physician Assistant program, University of South Florida Nurse Practitioner Program and South University Nurse Practitioner Program. I also support the Women's Pregnancy Center and several local small churches.

Family: I am blessed to have 3 children and 3 grandchildren, all who live and work in Marion County.

Website: www.elect-mikecrimi.com Facebook: <http://fb.me/crimiforcommission>

County Commission District 4

Eddie Leedy

First and foremost, I'd like you to know I'm a blessed man. I give Glory to Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior. I'm married to my soulmate. We'll be married 23 years this year! We've raised three beautiful kids; a girl and two boys. We have five grand-children. Our children are blessed. They all have loving spouses, beautiful children (no bias here), and great jobs. Our daughter works at the Centers doing their information technology, oldest boy is in the Army, and our baby boy is a foreman. Very blessed man!



Leedy

Born and raised in the north end of Marion County (graduating from North Marion), I was influenced by local farmers and was active in FFA. After graduation at 17 I went to work at Delta Laboratories. At 18, then sheriff Don Moreland hired me and my very rewarding career began.

I worked my way through the ranks to captain. I was very honored to serve as district commander, drug commander, SWAT commander (20 years on SWAT), and Mounted Unit commander. I'm still the Mounted Unit commander as a volunteer after retirement and have been the commander for 10 years.

One very important thing I learned early on during my career was people don't just care what you know but want to know that you care. And I do!!

I've received numerous awards and medals throughout my career to include two Medals of Distinction and a Medal of Valor. However, one of my proudest moments was when I was awarded Supervisor of the Year, which is the last award I received before retiring. Such a humbling experience.

Another question frequently asked is why after 34 years at the sheriff's office would I want to be a county commissioner. Short answer is I have a servant's heart and I want to protect and preserve this county and all the citizens of this county; human and animals alike.

Long answer: As a young man I was nurtured and mentored by those that taught me the love of this county. They were active in preserving our natural resources, farmlands, forest, and the animals attached to it all. Both of my parents were hard-working ac-

tive involved parents that saw to it I respected everything the Lord provided. Together with their friends I learned the importance of land and animals for future generations. I also learned how precious water is.

Even after retiring from an amazing, rewarding 34-year career at the sheriff's office, I still felt God wanted more from me. After much prayer and discussion with family and friends I was led to run for County Commissioner District 4. My philosophy is you need to be part of the solution not the problem. I honestly feel I can be a great part of the solution. My vision for my position as county commissioner is to be a proactive commissioner that is a champion for all of Marion County; the county employees and the citizens alike. I want an open-door policy where anyone can feel respected and never uneasy discussing any problem knowing together we can make a difference.

Thank you for taking your time to get to know me. Eddie Leedy for District 4 County Commission.

month. A suggested donation of \$3 for Hospice is appreciated. For information, please call 352-237-0234 or email ocalajazzsociety@yahoo.com.

Monday, Aug. 20

American Legion

American Legion meeting, Post No. 354, Monday, Aug. 20, 12:45 - 2 p.m.

This month's meeting will be held at Clubhouse No. 1 at Pine Run Estates directly across from Carmine's Restaurant on SR 200.

All members are invited for Lunch at 12:30 p.m. to be followed immediately by our regular monthly meeting.

All branches of military newspapers will be available for attendees. A 50/50 drawing after the meeting and free drawings for local merchant gifts.

For additional information, call or text Allen Jones at 352-817-0224, or email DrJones9000@gmail.com.

Tuesday, Aug. 28

Christian Women

The Ocala Christian Women's Connection invites ladies to attend our "Anchors Aweigh" luncheon Aug. 28 to be held at the Ocala Hilton. Our feature is "Pack Your Bags - We're Cruising" and our speaker is Amy Peck sharing "The Good Ship Lollipop." We will enjoy a wonderful lunch followed by our feature and speaker. The cost is \$22 at the door. Please RSVP no later than Monday, Aug. 20, for reservations and free nursery care to Claudia at 352-288-2126 or Eve at 352-732-7053.

JAZZ

Continued from Page A5

Ocala Jazz Society

The Ocala Jazz Society invites you for its monthly performance of Swing, Big Band, Dixieland, 50s and all your favorites, Sunday, Aug. 19, from 2 - 5 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you at the smoke-free Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4781, 9401 SW 110th St., across from Oak Run. The band performs the third Sunday of each

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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your honesty might upset some people, but you inevitably win more admirers for having the courage to tell the truth when others are more likely to scramble for cover.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your efforts to defend your project begin to show favorable results. You should soon be able to win over even the most determined detractors who had lined up against it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You win praise for your selfless efforts in a very difficult situation. But be careful not to allow your generous nature to be exploited by those who have their own agenda.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A trusted colleague sheds light on a recent spate of puzzling workplace situations. This should give you the information you need to bring to your superior's attention.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A shift in workplace management could be helpful for talented Leos and Leonas who have been waiting to have their accomplishments rewarded by receptive leadership.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A misunderstanding between you and someone you care for should be corrected immediately. This relationship is too important to lose over a bruised ego.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A welcome piece of good news helps clear the air in a family situation. A job-related incident also eases as more information provides a clearer focus on the problem.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Quick action to heal bruised feelings pays off in a big way. Now you'll be able to move forward with your plans without that problem holding you back.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your creativity combined with a positive attitude should give you a considerable edge in finding a way to get around the negativity you've run into.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) That sudden streak of stubbornness could cause some problems. Try to be more open to helpful suggestions and more flexible in making needed changes.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Now that that special relationship appears to be well and truly restored, you can spend more time dealing with those long-needed workplace changes.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A new opportunity sounds promising. But watch out for any conditions that might be attached. Before making a decision, ask that each one be explained in detail.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can be distracted by promises of good times, yet you ultimately reach the goals you set for yourself.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

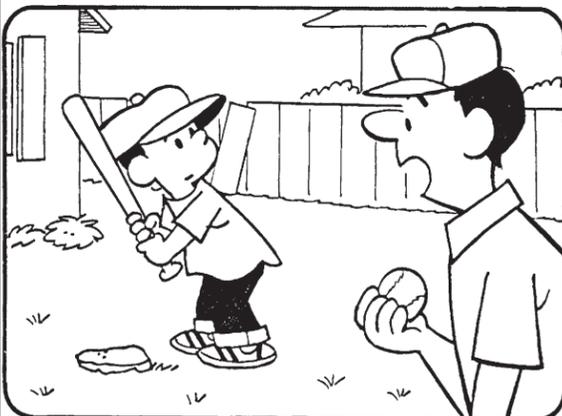
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bat is shorter. 2. Home plate is different. 3. Fence board is moved. 4. Clothesline is missing. 5. Glasses are missing. 6. Collar is smaller.

Wishing Well®

5	3	2	5	3	5	4	3	7	5	3	6	3
T	B	Y	U	E	R	W	S	M	N	Y	E	M
7	5	4	8	7	8	4	2	4	8	4	7	6
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R	U	I	L	N	E	C	M	O	O	A	H	P
3	6	7	3	8	3	2	3	8	4	6	4	2
P	R	R	A	C	T	O	H	I	M	G	E	K
3	4	6	4	2	8	3	2	4	2	4	6	7
E	O	Y	N	Y	O	T	O	E	U	W	I	O
3	2	7	5	6	4	6	4	5	4	6	7	6
I	R	V	A	S	E	R	L	R	L	E	E	N
3	8	6	7	2	8	6	2	6	2	6	5	2
C	U	E	S	B	S	W	E	E	S	D	M	T

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

BIRD-LOVING CELEBRITIES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Small packages
 - 8 Barely gets, with "out"
 - 12 Lyric penner Gershwin
 - 15 Bamboozle
 - 19 Sea-related
 - 20 Bit of 19-Across flora
 - 21 Brew barrel
 - 22 Sampras of tennis
 - 23 Bird-loving "Hud" Oscar winner?
 - 25 Bird-loving former Argentine first lady?
 - 27 Hip-hop's Snoop —
 - 28 Speed skater Eric
 - 30 Saffron, e.g.
 - 31 Bird-loving "Show Boat" composer?
 - 34 With 11-Down, put in reserve
 - 36 Fit to be ingested
 - 39 Invoice fig.
 - 40 Ending for Saturn
 - 41 More ghostly
 - 44 Hershiser of the mound
 - 45 Butte relative
 - 47 Circle's lack
 - 49 Bird loving co-star of "The Parent Trap"?
 - 52 Seize with a certain tool
 - 54 URL-starting letters
 - 56 Old Russian despots
 - 57 Bird-loving Rolling Stones frontman?
 - 61 Hones
 - 62 Certain PC readout
 - 65 Diarist Nin
 - 66 Iris feature
 - 69 In name only
 - 71 Twirled
 - 72 Bird-loving host of "The Tonight Show"?
 - 75 O'Hara plantation
 - 76 "Madame" of wax
 - 78 Insightful
 - 79 Popular dorm dish
 - 80 Beatified Mlle.
 - 81 Free of dirt
 - 83 Bird-loving "Private Benjamin" star?
 - 86 Fleece
 - 87 Violinist Hilary
 - 89 Humorist Bombeck
 - 90 Bird-loving "Lethal Weapon" co-star?
 - 94 Truck type
 - 96 Final Four gp.
 - 100 Basso's solo, say
 - 101 Is grinning
 - 103 State treasury
 - 105 Even a bit of
 - 106 Cinnamon gum brand
 - 109 Snow-capped peak
 - 110 Bird-loving "Santa Baby" singer?
 - 113 Like pixies
 - 115 City on the Rio Grande
 - 117 "That's not for — say"
 - 118 Bird-loving "Que Sera, Sera" singer?
 - 121 Bird-loving "White Christmas" songwriter?
 - 125 Boastful
 - 126 Lyrical poem
 - 127 Call for
 - 128 Ceramic casserole dish
 - 129 Pull along
 - 130 Lie-down
 - 131 "Jane —"
 - 132 Tainted
 - 43 Take on, as the challenge
 - 46 Name in low-carb dieting
 - 48 "War is hell" general
 - 50 Glossy fabric
 - 51 P-U linkup
 - 53 A.M. drinks
 - 55 They beat deuces
 - 57 Ship poles
 - 58 Data for processing
 - 59 Result in
 - 60 Shapely leg, slangily
 - 61 Old TV's John-Boy and Erin
 - 62 Alpaca kin
 - 63 Rod of baseball
 - 64 Quaffed
 - 67 O'er and o'er
 - 68 Chuckle
 - 70 Person from Provo
 - 72 Minty quaff
 - 73 Lofty goals
 - 74 Toon frame
 - 77 Like sore muscles
 - 79 Dreamy sleep phase
 - 82 Luring smell
 - 84 Resign, as a position
 - 85 Like Joyce and Yeats
 - 86 Mimicking a mad dog
 - 87 Phone service providing aid
 - 88 "How — you?"
 - 90 Pat
 - 91 Radio host Shapiro
 - 92 Nation of West Africa
 - 93 Repulsive
 - 95 Actor Zac
 - 97 Actress FitzGerald or Stacey
 - 98 Basketballer Walker or painter Watteau
 - 99 Positive vote
 - 102 Pitcher Tom
 - 104 Shutterbug's equipment
 - 107 Flunking grades
 - 108 Medium-hot mustard
 - 111 See 34-Across
 - 112 Gymnast Strug
 - 114 Zilch, to Juan
 - 116 Mice, to owls
 - 118 Netflix item
 - 119 Dinghy thing
 - 120 "Indeedy"
 - 122 Some sporty autos
 - 123 Gathered together
 - 124 Flanders of Springfield

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19							20				21			22					
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106						107	108			109				110	111				112
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118	119													120					121
122	123																		124
125										126									127
128																			129
130																			131
132																			133

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.

	+		+		23
-		+		÷	
	×		×		15
×		×		+	
	-		×		10
16		18		13	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 5 6 8 9

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DAVIS

Continued from Page A8

the charcoal. The EMT who came with the firemen says I

should eventually regain full use of my fingers ... and my eyebrows should grow back ... and my hair. On the positive side, I will not have to trim the hair in my nose and ears for a very long

time. Remember when lighting the fire to always use chimney matches to protect your fingers. Gasoline burns easily and it should never be used to start a fire unless there is

someone nearby, like a fireman, with a fully-charged fire hose or CO2 bottle. Do you know how high in the air a gasoline fireball can go? Always make sure the firefighters in your

local fire department are in good physical condition. At least one of them should have a background in jumping hurdles and able to jump over fences, monster trucks and out-buildings wearing full

bunker gear because I can run fast when my hair is on fire. These are only a few tips to help weekend cooking enthusiasts have a safe and healthy spring and summer of outdoor grilling.

LOWRY

Continued from Page A8

It is telling that Elizabeth Warren is going there. There are two reasons. One is that she has a Bernie Sanders problem: She is a white

politician who has overwhelmingly devoted herself to economic issues. She needs to play identity politics catch-up. Two, in reaction to Donald Trump, the left is embracing a sweeping indictment of America as undemocratic and racist at the core.

Warren's performance shows that the party is prepared to consider no critique of America too radical or out of bounds.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2018 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

Go Figure!

answers

9	+	6	+	8	23
-		+		÷	
5	×	3	×	1	15
×		×		+	
4	-	2	×	5	10
16		18		13	

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Real Estate For Sale

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

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 ★★ \$90 ★★
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 Check out Friday
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STUMP GRINDING
 CALL JIM FOR FREE ESTIMATES
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Ocala (Twin) Palms — not!



PHOTO BY BARBARA DEDICS

These two couples attended two different events at Ocala Palms the same night. Joyce and Mike Akridge were shooting pool in the Billiards Room while Tom and Sue Floyd attended the Cactus Jack and the Cadillacs concert. Both events were at the Ocala Palms Clubhouse. Neither couple knew the other would be dressed the same! How funny is that?

CASH

Continued from Page A8

short-term fixed-income vehicles now being issued at higher interest rates.

And keep in mind that regardless of where interest rates are going, bonds and other fixed-income investments can offer some key benefits to investors.

In addition to providing a source of regular income, these types of investments can help reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio. While bonds can, and will, fluctuate in value, they typically can provide more stability to your portfolio and tend to behave differently than stocks over time.

After years of historical lows, shorter-term rates now have risen to

levels that are more attractive to investors.

Take the time to review your situation, perhaps with the help of a financial professional, to determine if taking advantage of these rates may be appropriate for you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*Yours is the day, Yours also is the night;
You have prepared the light and the sun;
You have established all the boundaries of the earth;
You have made summer and winter.
Remember this, O Lord, that the enemy has reviled,
and a foolish people has spurned Your name.*

PSALM 74:16-18

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“Fair and Sensible Judgment”

I have been honored to serve Marion County as one of four County Court Judges since 2007. Over the years, many have asked, “What does a County Court Judge actually do?” One of the most important things I do as a County Court Judge is supervise the Marion County DUI Court. This treatment court is designed to help repeat DUI offenders and other defendants with significant substance abuse issues address their addiction and get their lives back on track. I know that this court has saved the lives of Marion County residents and I am proud to play a part in our graduates success.

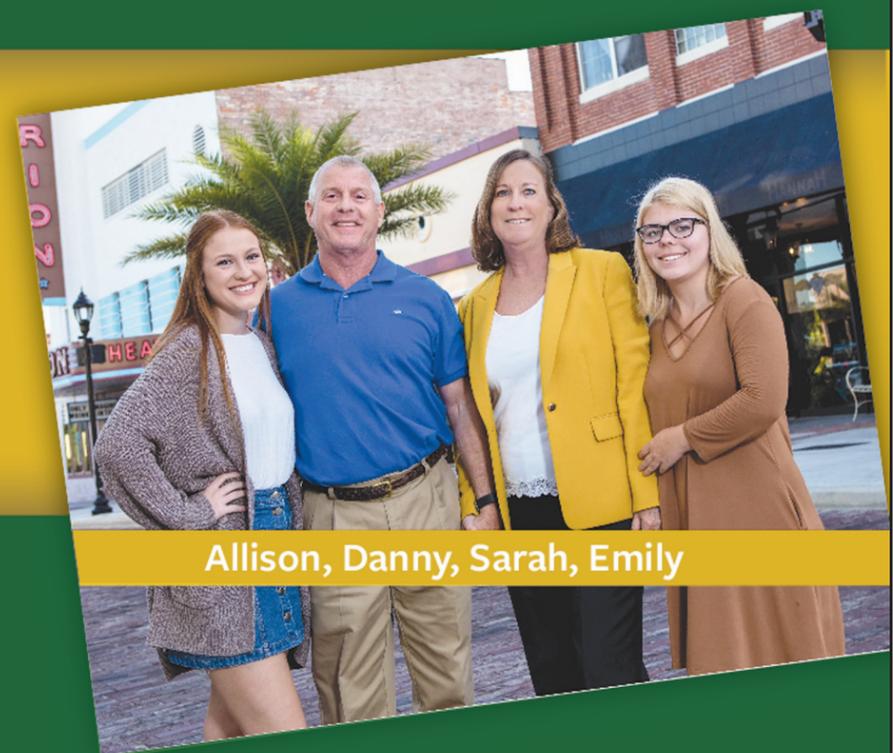
I ask for your support by re-electing me, Judge Sarah Ritterhoff Williams, to the County Judge seat for Group 2, August 28, 2018.

I am proud to be endorsed by:

- Marion County Clerk of Court David Ellspermann
- Ocala Mayor Kent Guinn
- Marion County Commissioner Michelle Stone
- Marion County Commissioner David Moore

RE-ELECT JUDGE
SARAH
RITTERHOFF
WILLIAMS
★ Vote August 28 ★

*Serving Marion County
with honor and integrity
on and off the bench.*



Allison, Danny, Sarah, Emily



Follow me! Facebook.com/ReelectJudgeSarah