



# Early voting begins

## *Elections supervisor records record early turnout*

A record number of early voters in Marion County have already cast ballots.

Early Voting in Marion County began Oct. 25 and will continue through Saturday, Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at nine convenient Early Voting sites.

By noon Oct. 25, the elections officer reported the largest day ever of early voting turnout for a gubernatorial election in Marion County. As of 3 p.m., 5,550 voters cast a ballot during early voting.

Turnout can be tracked live at [VoteMarion.com/Turnout](http://VoteMarion.com/Turnout).

On the first day of Early Voting in the 2014 General Election there

were 3,435 voters and in the 2010 General Election there were 1,375 voters.

As of 10 a.m. Sunday, 48,467 voters had cast ballots. Of those, 32,204 were mail ballots and 16,257 were in person at one of the nine sites.

So far, 19.94 percent of 243,085 of those registered have voted.

Democrats account for 16,053 vote; Republicans, 25,075; and No Party Affiliation have cast 7,128 votes.

A record number of vote-by-mail requests have also been received for the 2018 General Election.

More than 53,000 ballots were mailed to voters with requests on file, which is the most of-

office has ever sent.

With less than two weeks until the election, 29,244 mail ballots have been returned.

Voters have until Wednesday to request a mail ballot to be sent and must return it to our office no later than 7 p.m. Election Day to be counted.

Election Day is Nov. 6, 2018. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 120 voting locations in Marion County. On Election Day, Voters must vote in their home precinct and can look up their voting location at [VoteMarion.com](http://VoteMarion.com). Sample ballots were mailed to voters last week and are also available on our website.



PHOTO/RON RATNER  
Early voters at about 7:40 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 25, wait in line at the MCSO Deputy Brian Litz District Office on S.R. 200.

# A Halloween Thriller – Evileena’s Scary Night

BY PATRICIA GIZZI  
Stone Creek  
Correspondent

Stone Creek residents along with OTOW residents and Oak Run with students from various local dance schools did a great fundraiser for the Ocala Domestic Violence Center. The production was created and directed by Stone Creek’s Fitness Director, Cheri Irwin.

The residents spent many hours practicing. "The Bats" dance was performed by Howard Middle School dancers. Shelia Rutolo choreographed the dance. "The Vampires" Love Eternal dance and the "Magical Ghosts" dance



Leisure Arts Club President Barbara Wright.

was performed by students from Dance by Shelia. "Girls from the Grave" performed by

students from Dance Company of Ocala and choreographed by Brooke Loftis. "Super

Heroes" was performed by XRT Dance Crew choreographed by Angel Gardiyen. "Zombies Dance" by residents of Stone Creek, OTOW, and Oak run was choreographer by Cheri Irwin. Michael Jackson dance was performed by Darius Wallace, a member of XRT Dance Crew.

Cheri said, "Domestic violence victims live in a silent world. They live in fear, shame, depression, darkness and lose their own sense of self-worth. At the Ocala Domestic Violence Center they receive support, encouragement, protection, counsel, food, clothing, lodging and resources to take steps in a new direction." The monies and supplies

raised from this Halloween Thriller will give these victims a new beginning to enable them to live in a safer environment as they pursue the skills they need to lead a better life. Dr. Judy Wilson has been the woman leading the center. She has been doing this for 40 years.

Cheri goes on to say, "When you get that sense of community and people working together, there's really nothing like that. That's a very magical, powerful connection." She mentioned that the age range of 7 to 90 was an intergenerational performance. Living in a 55+ community is great but it was nice to have the connection with

younger people all coming together for a great cause – The Ocala Domestic Violence Center.

Cheri ends with the following: "Kindness is a choice. Awareness is a choice. Respect is a choice. What would the world be like if each of us did one random act of kindness for someone every day?" Kindness from all the residents who gave of their time and others who gave supplies and monetary donations is a great start.

The Leisure Arts Club asked clubs and residents to bring in many of the supplies that center uses. It was estimated that 20 truckloads of donations went to the  
See THRILLER/Page A12

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## Ocala Palms craft fair is Nov. 3

BY BARB DEDICS  
*OP Correspondent*

It's so nice that the temperatures have dropped a bit and we can feel the crispness in the air...well at least in the early morning and evening hours. This time of year always reminds me of years gone by when as a youngster in a small village, USA, we looked forward to hot apple cider, hot chocolate, wiener roasts, toasted marshmallows, etc. Building "forts" with the many leaves was one of my favorite fall times and did we ever have leaves! Trees galore surrounded us, so many many leaves. What fun it was jumping in a huge pile. Now you wouldn't catch me doing that — there just might be a worm or two. Yuck!

Back in the day, the ladies in our village would have already canned quarts of vegetables and some fruits to enjoy in the coming months. Not only would the canned items be stored in cool basements on shelves, but the freezer would be stocked with pies ready to be baked at a later time. Beef, chicken and pork would also be wrapped carefully to enjoy thru the winter months. I'm sure some people still do this type of preparation, but nowadays I'm afraid that way of life has gone by the wayside for most.

It was a big deal during October to get a few days off from school in order to attend the county fair. Since we lived in a rural area, several of our peers were members of the 4-H and FFA. They had worked during the year on their projects, whether it was to care for livestock or the sew-

ing of some sort to be displayed at the fairs. That, at least in my hometown continues to this day. Those participating were and are proud of their achievements.

I haven't been to my hometown county fair in many years, but I hope to go again in the future. Nowadays the next best thing is attending one of the many "craft" fairs in the local area. I'm not sure when "craft fairs, festivals, bazaars," whatever one calls them actually began. I have gone to several for a number of years and enjoy seeing all the "crafty" ideas and think "I can make that," but it's so much easier to buy it if to your liking. It makes a big difference if you just want to make one or two of said item, but these ladies and men spend

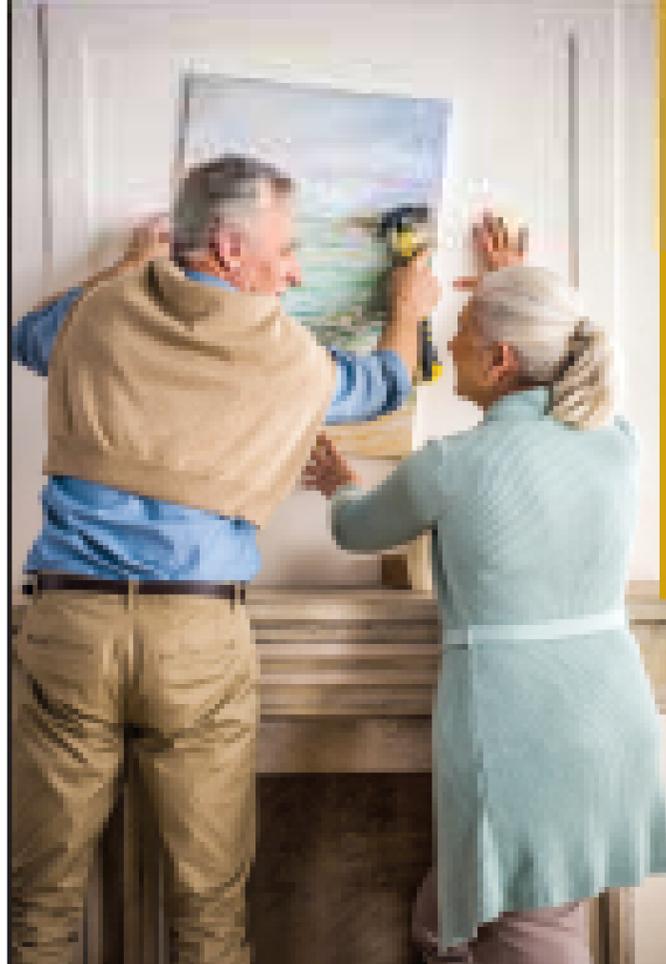
See PALMS/Page A11

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# Quail Meadow takes Viking Bingo voyage

BY CAROLYN SLOCUMB  
QM Correspondent

Today, Oct. 31, is Halloween. I remember when I was a child/teenager in Ohio, we had "Beggars Night" on the

night before Halloween. This was the night we begged for candy. On Halloween night we would return to the homes where we weren't given any candy and would do mischief to the home, such as put the porch furniture in

the yard, soap the windows, ring the doorbell and then run away, etc. Following are a few interesting facts about Halloween: In the U.S., nearly \$2 billion is spent each year on Halloween candy. Candy corn is the most popular Halloween candy in the U.S. Candy corn was created by the U.S Wunderle Candy Company in the 1880's. Snickers bars are the most popular candy bar sold on Halloween. Snickers bars were created in 1930 by the Mars family. It was named after their family horse.

This is a busy week in Quail Meadow! This Friday (Nov. 2) is the First Friday gathering at the clubhouse.

The fun begins at 7 p.m. Come join your neighbors for an evening of fellowship.

The next event will be Saturday. This is the day of the Annual Fall Yard Sale. This is always a very well-attended event in the community. So, clean out your closets, garages, and attics and put your items out for sale.

Sunday, Nov. 4, is the day we "fall back" one hour. Remember to change your clocks be-



People stand in line for some very good food at the Viking Bingo party Saturday, Oct. 20. In the bottom photo, Joan Christopher did an excellent job making all the bingo cards and the Viking ship table decorations.

PHOTOS/CAROLYN SLOCUMB



fore going to bed on Saturday night.

Next on the November calendar is the annual dinner and auction. This event takes place Nov. 16. There will be more about this in the QM Reporter.

You missed a good time and some very

good food if you didn't attend the Viking Bingo party Saturday, Oct. 20. Joan Christopher really did an excellent job making all the bingo cards and the Viking ship table decorations. The food, as always, was delicious.

There were 39 resi-

dents in attendance. It was great seeing a few of our "snowbirds" back in warm Quail Meadow.

Nov. 6 is Election Day! If you don't exercise your right to vote, you have no right to complain about the results of the election.

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Postmaster: Entered as Third Class Matter at the post office in Ocala, Fla. 34477.

Problems getting the Messenger? If your address 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 area, call 352-3886.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Jobbie Sales/Office Coord. - Ethel Redman (352) 854-3886  
Advertising Sales - Steve Johnson (352) 854-3886

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The mailing this week will be on publication

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Call Editor David Davis at 352-854-3886 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, tone and style.

**Deadline for Advertising**

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# Happenings

## Wednesday, Oct. 31

### College Road

#### Baptist Church

College Road Baptist Church is holding a Family Fun Festival at the church, 5010 SW College Road (SR 200) across from Ocala VW/Porsche Wednesday, Oct. 31, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Join us for a safe and friendly atmosphere where children will have an opportunity to dress up in costumes, get an appropriate amount of treats and snacks, be impressed by seven theme decorated rooms and enjoy an entertaining family friendly good time. Event will be held indoors, rain or shine. Contact the church office at 352-237-5741 with inquiries.

#### Our Redeemer

#### Lutheran Church

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church will hold its annual Trunk or Treat event Oct. 31 from 6 - 8 p.m. Candy, popcorn and trinkets will be offered. Bring the children to a safe place to enjoy Halloween. Located at 5200 SW College Road.

## Thursday, Nov. 1

### Master The Possibilities

Compassion and Choices, Ocala Chapter presents "Integrated Health Care at the End of Life - What Can It Look Like?" from 1 - 2:30 p.m. in Live Oak Hall. Register at [masterthepossibilities.org](http://masterthepossibilities.org)

Dr. Solberg, chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Florida, College of Medicine (UF Health Shands) has developed a program that integrates the care of older patients from the outpatient clinic to the hospital and to the Skilled Nursing Facility.

He will discuss concepts of care while focusing on quality of life and assurance that the wishes of the patient are respected while providing communication in transitions of care and prompt response to health changes.

## Saturday, Nov. 3

### Chess Club

The Freedom Library Chess Club will meet from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 3rd. The library is located at 5870 SW 95 Street, Ocala.

All players are welcome! Call 873-2276 for information.

### Marion Landing Indoor Fall Sale

Marion Landing will be holding its annual Fall Sale Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Lifestyle Center.

Jewelry, books, homemade baked goods, plants, sports equipment and tools, household items and giftware. 8601 SW 65th Avenue Road (off SR200). Free admission, open to the public. No pets, please.

### Ocala Palms Bazaar

Ocala Palms Arts & Craft Bazaar, Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bake sale and lunches are available for purchase

### Yoga in Shalom Park

Saturday, Nov. 3, Yoga in Shalom Park. Join us at 9 a.m. for the last session of the season.

For more information, please call Ingrid at 352-854-7950.

### Palm Cay

### Community Yard Sale

Palm Cay Community Yard Sale Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 8085 SW 106th Place, Ocala off SR 200. Open to the public. Shop for the holidays! In the club house there will be doughnuts and coffee for sale in the morning and a hot dog lunch will be for sale from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### St. John Lutheran Church

St John Lutheran Church is having its second Arts and Crafts show at 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 3, at 1915 SE Lake Weir Ave., Ocala, 34471. In addition to a variety of arts and crafts, there will be a bake sale, delicious lunch and door prizes. All proceeds go to the church, school and missions. Thank you for making last year's show such a success. We look forward to seeing you again.

### Queen of Peace

### Catholic Women

The Queen of Peace Council of Catholic Women will be sponsoring an Arts & Craft Show Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018, in the Parish Hall of Queen of Peace Catholic Church. The show runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will feature local artist show-casing their one-of-kind art, jewelry, crafts and more! Lunch will be available to purchase. Queen of Peace is located at 6455 SW SR 200, Ocala.

### Death Café

Death Café Ocala meets at 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Freedom Library, 5870 SE 95th St., Ocala, Monday, Nov. 5, and Jan. 7, 2019. For more information, please call Teddy at 352-368-9927 or Kat at 352-557-3075.

## Sunday, Nov. 4

### Christ's Church

If you are looking for a church home where Christ is first, you won't want to miss the ser-

vices at Christ's Church of Marion County this week.

Sunday, Nov. 4 - 9:30 a.m.: We begin each Lord's day with Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:30 a.m. We offer five (5) adult classes on a variety of topics. A synopsis of each class is available on our website.

Sunday, Nov. 4 - 10:30 a.m.: Our Worship Service opens 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 present a message of inspiration.

Monday, Nov. 5: Monday evening the men come together at 6:30 p.m. for a Bible Study utilizing the Study Book "The Attributes of God" by Dr. Steven J. Lawson

Tuesday, Nov. 6: Women who are interested in crafts meet Tuesday morning at 9:30 to work on group and individual projects.

Wednesday, Nov. 7 - 4 p.m.: pastor Ray Westman leads a Small Group. The group meets in our main building and takes an in-depth look at the Sunday morning message with a video message by pastor David Bellows.

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

### You are invited:

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 at [www.swchristianchurch.com](http://www.swchristianchurch.com).

## Tuesday, Nov. 6

### Compassion and Choices

This workshop will describe the Life Stage Planning Process to encourage participants to create a personal end of life care plan. It will include a description of the complete range of Humane end of life care choices with and outside of medical supervision. We will explore the four major documents needed to express one's end of life preferences with emphasis on personal advocacy. There is a \$5 supply fee payable to the instructor the day of class to purchase a book on which the se-

ries of 3 classes is based. If two are from the same household, they can share the printed book.

Workshop style classes are three consecutive weeks on a Tuesday from 1-3 pm in Classroom 4. Register at [masterthepossibilities.org](http://masterthepossibilities.org)

## County Growth

### Services

Marion County Growth Services will host a second public meeting to gather input on its Evaluation and Appraisal Report for the county's comprehensive plan at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 6. The hourlong meeting will be held at the Freedom Public Library, 5870 SW 95th St. Ocala.

Attendees will be given updates about the EAR process as it relates to changes in state requirements, responses to public input gathered at the previous public meeting, and proposed changes to the future land use and transportation elements of our local comprehensive plan.

To learn more about this event, contact Marion County Growth Services at 352-438-2683.

### OaSN

The Autism Behavioral Education Program is a United Way funded program that assists autism families (with an intake form on file completed after 8-1-2018 AND residing in Marion County) by offering a seminar that provides a core understanding of Applied Behavioral Analysis and ways that it can assist your child with autism (up to age 19) with behavioral management, life & social skills. Child care for all children in your family is provided for this required seminar to participate in this program.

Our next ABA Information Seminar is Nov 3, at the OaSN Multi-Use Facility, 7634 SW 60th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34473 from 9:45 a.m.-12 p.m.

Child care is provided. Registration is mandatory and may be done online at <https://www.jotform.com/oasnopa/autism-behavioral-education-program>.

For information, please contact Danielle Sanchez, program coordinator, at [dsanchez@oasn.info](mailto:dsanchez@oasn.info) or call 352-462-0168 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Friday, Nov. 9

### Country Road

### Quilters

Country Road Quilters of Ocala presents "Bright Country Nights, Big City Lights," Nov. 9-10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Quilt Turning and Appraisals by Brenda Grampras

Lecture by Molly Waddell "What Catches the

Judge's Eye"

More than 250 quilts on display, vendors, opportunity quilt, silent auction, raffle baskets, challenge quilts, door prizes, boutique. Admission is \$8. Our new venue is Circle Square Cultural Center, 8395 SW 80th St., Ocala, FL 34481. For more information, please visit [www.crqocala.com](http://www.crqocala.com)

## Saturday, Nov. 10

### Grace Episcopal

### Bazaar

Grace Episcopal Church Women will be holding their annual bazaar Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the church Parish Hall, 510 SE Broadway Street, Ocala, FL. This one day event will offer a variety of crafts, jewelry, homemade food items (baked goods, soups and more). Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. All proceeds from this event will help support local nonprofit missions benefiting women and children in Ocala. For more information please contact Elaine at 352-347-2549.

### Spruce Creek

### Preserve Art and Craft Fair

Spruce Creek Preserve Art and Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on SR 200 3 miles west of CR 484 (gatehouse entrance). Free admission and free craft drawing every 20 minutes. Also, a bake sale and lunch is available between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Also raffling a handmade Quilt

### Saddle Oak Craft Fair

Annual Craft Fair at Saddle Oak Club on State Road 200, across from Publix in Heath Brook Commons Ocala, Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy coffee and doughnuts from 8 to 10 a.m., and soup and sandwiches from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., while shopping for handmade crafts and bake sale items.

### Trilogy at Ocala

### Preserve

Trilogy at Ocala Preserve is hosting the second Annual Holiday Bazaar this year in the Grand Living Room at the Clubhouse Nov. 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission and free parking.

All items are hand-crafted locally and include holiday items, jewelry, decorator pieces, clothing, food and much more. There will also be community groups providing information about their services and mission. The Humane Society will be there with very adoptable and lovable

dogs. A collection box will be available for those who wish to donate dog or cat food.

After shopping relax with a drink and a bite to eat at Salted Brick.

Sheltering Hands, an organization that is improving the lives of cats through humane care, spay/neuter, adoptions, education and support services, is our choice charity of this year's Bazaar.

Trilogy at Ocala Preserve is located on Highway 27 approximately 2 miles west of Interstate 75. Follow the signs to the Clubhouse (Oak House).

## Marion Civic Chorale

The Marion Civic Chorale community chorus announced its 2018 Veterans Day Concert series. The Chorale will sing traditional patriotic favorites as well as present inspirational pieces to honor veterans. The dates and locations are:

— Nov. 10, Oxford Assembly of God, 12114 N US HWY 301, Oxford.

— Nov. 11, Country-side Presbyterian Church, 7768 SW Highway 200, Ocala.

Interns from several Marion County high schools have joined the Chorale this year. Also performing are The Villages Charter School Elementary Honors Choir and The Villages High School Chamber Singers.

Concerts are free to the public and begin at 3 p.m. Donations to help fund the Grat L. Rosazza music scholarship are greatly appreciated. New members are always welcome.

Contact [President@marionchorale.org](mailto:President@marionchorale.org) or visit [www.marionchorale.org](http://www.marionchorale.org), for more information.

## Sunday, Nov. 11

### Marion Chamber Music Society

Sunday, Nov. 11, The Marion Chamber Music Society presents Matitahu Braun and Holly Small, Violin and Piano Duo. This Orlando based duo will perform works by Mozart, Sibelius, Shostakovich and more. The concert is at 3 p.m., at Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 6455 SW SR 200, Ocala. MCMS concerts: Always Exceptional, Always Free. For more information call 867-1340 or visit us at [marionchambermusic.com](http://marionchambermusic.com).

### Kingdom of the Sun Concert

Following is the information for the upcoming Kingdom of the Sun Concert Sunday, Nov. 11.

Kingdom of the Sun Concert Band with Les Muncester conducting presents the Seventh Annual

Veterans Light the Stars Sunday, Nov. 11, at

See **HAPPENINGS/Page A7**

# Fairfield Village decorates for Halloween

**BY PRISCILLA BARNETT**  
FFV correspondent

We may be a 55-plus community, but we are certainly young at heart as can be evi-

denced by the yard decorations for Halloween.

Some were whimsical; some were cute; some were a bit scary; but all were in good fun as you can see in

the accompanying photos.

There was a Halloween themed potluck dinner Saturday, Oct. 27, but the photos will be in next week's edition due to newspaper

deadlines.

A reminder to those out driving, be sure to watch for any little tricksters who might not have an adult with them to watch out for them.

It's always better to

be just a bit more careful on Halloween because children do get excited, and any accident can usually be prevented by someone showing extra caution.

From Fairfield Vil-

lage, "the lively place filled with lovely people, "we wish all the youngsters who will be out and about doing the TRICK OR TREAT thing a very Happy Halloween.



## Go Figure! answers

2	+	5	×	3	21
×		×		×	
7	-	4	×	9	27
+		+		-	
6	+	9	×	1	15
20		29		26	

## Super Crossword

Answers

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## HAPPENINGS

Continued from Page A6

6:30 p.m. at Ocala/Marion County Veterans' Memorial Park, 2601 SE Ft. King Street, Ocala. Rain Date is Monday, Nov. 12.

Bring family, friends, blankets, lawn chairs and join us for this very special evening of music, fireworks and good old American spirit. Bleacher seating is available. For information please call 352-624-9291.

### Saturday, Nov. 17

Interfaith

Thanksgiving

Saturday, Nov. 17, at 3 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ on 7171 SW S.R. 200 in Ocala, there will be an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service with the Islamic Center, Temple Beth Sha-

lom, Congregation Beth Israel and St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Followed by a multicultural dinner together. This event is open to the public. An RSVP for the dinner is necessary at 352-368-9927, on Eventbrite or facebook.com/Ocala-CongregationalChurch.

### Tuesday, Nov. 20

Maranatha Baptist Church

Mark your calendars for our Thanksgiving Concert Tuesday, Nov. 20, with the gospel group, River Jordan concert at 7 p.m. Come and enjoy this wonderful group as they worship our Lord in song.

### Ongoing

Kabbalat Shabbat

Holy Hour-Happy Hour Traditional Edition is the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat is followed by a deli-

icious traditional themed buffet and cocktails including challah, gefilte fish, salads, chicken matzah ball soup and brisket. RSVP at www.ourchabad.org/happyhour.

Shabbat @ Chabad: every Shabbat at 10 a.m. followed by a delicious kiddish-lunch.

Torah & Tea: study the weekly Torah portion Wednesday from 7 - 8 p.m.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Yossi Hecht by calling 352-330-4466 on the internet at www.OurChabad.org.

### Oak Run Bridge

We have three bridge clubs in Oak Run, two for Party Bridge and one for Duplicate.

Party Bridge meets at 9 a.m. Thursday mornings at the Island Club and 6 p.m. Friday at the Orchid Club's Card Room. No partner is required. It's only 50 cents per person and

we have small prizes. Duplicate Bridge is played at the Island Club Wednesday evenings. Please arrive by 5:45 p.m. for a prompt start at 6 p.m. You do need a partner for duplicate which can usually be arranged.

We look forward to having you join us. Please feel free to call Fran at 808-725-9362.

### ESL Program

The ESL program at College Road Baptist Church, 5010 SW College Road, meets each Wednesday at 6 p.m. This is a weekly one-hour class. Students practice using their English speaking skills in an informal, friendly environment. Contact ESL Director Janet Smith at 352 854-6981.

### Rainbow Springs

### Artists

Artists and fine craftsmen are sought by the Rainbow Springs

Artist Cooperative located at 20804 W. Pennsylvania Ave. in the heart of Dunnellon's historic district. Once juried in to the cooperative, artists and fine craftsmen will be able to exhibit and sell their work in our display space. We also have a large area for teaching children and/or adult art classes. Additional information may be obtained by contacting June Johnson, Director, at 352-465-3717.

### Sisterhood

of Survivors

The Breast Cancer SOS (Sisterhood of Survivors) support group meets at Ocala West Methodist Church, 9330 SW 105th Street, Rm. 235 (chapel).

We meet the last Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. to offer a caring concern to those involved with the battle of breast cancer. We will share experiences,

be informed and educated on treatments and medications available during our journey with breast cancer. We shall overcome! So, come one and all to our meetings and share interesting sessions each month. Any questions please call Elsa Flescher at 352-209-2661.

## Veterans Helping Veterans

Veterans Helping Veterans assists veterans and their families with food, clothing and other personal needs. We are looking for variously skilled volunteers to help out in the resource center. Hours and days at your convenience. Call Anthony or Linda at 352-433-2320 ext. 100 and leave a message for a return call.

West Marion Messenger  
20441 E. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Dunnellon, FL 34432; or e-mail  
editor@westmarionmessenger.com

## Opinion

### Let us come together in solidarity

BY CANTOR ALISA FORMAN  
BETH SHOLOM OF CITRUS  
COUNTY

Congregation Beth Sholom of Citrus County, serving the Jewish Community in Citrus County, Marion County and other nearby counties for 50 years, is appalled and angered at the recent senseless violence at the Tree Of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh.

The following is Spiritual Leader, Cantor Alisa Forman's response on behalf of Beth Sholom and the local Jewish community:

Our prayers and thoughts are with the victims of Saturday's violence at Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh, with their families, with all three communities who pray there Saturday mornings, and with the Pittsburgh Jewish community as well as with the injured police officers who bravely came to their defense. All houses of faith should be places of the kind of joy and peace we experience at our Sabbath services and the idea that one evil man full of hate could shatter that makes us distraught, but also angry and determined.

All people of good faith agree that it defies human comprehension to witness today's attacks on people at prayer as they rejoiced in the welcoming of a new child into the world. The Torah tells us that a society was destroyed because "the earth was filled with violence." Too often we have seen hatred in the heart become hatred in the hands. We all need to stand together-left and right, red and blue, people of all faiths and no particular faith - to affirm our intolerance of hatred on any side.

So, let us come together in solidarity at our Interfaith Service on Thursday, November 15 at 7pm, to be held in our Sanctuary at 102 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills. We will heal together and pray for the victims and others impacted by this tragedy. We will stand strong in the conviction that no Antisemite or terrorist can take away anyone's right to assemble to worship God in peace, to be accepted as an integral part of society and to help make this society more open, more supportive and more peaceful for people of all backgrounds, faiths, ethnicities and creeds. Our synagogue is a place where we can comfort each other, pray together, and treasure the sense of sacred community that was attacked and shattered on Saturday morning in Pittsburgh.

Our hearts go out to the victims and their entire circle, and indeed, to all of the congregants of Tree of Life congregation exposed to the trauma of such a hateful attack.

With prayers for peace and an end to hatred."

Cantor Alisa Forman

## West Marion Messenger

Publisher:

GERRY MULLIGAN

Manager:

JOHN MURPHY

Editor:

DAVID DAVIS



### Of shootings and bombings

I wrote one column this morning, but that was before the shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh and if you don't want a sermon, then don't read this one.

All week, I felt sad, dread, sick to my stomach and fearful one of the bombs would explode. I never believed the intended targets were at risk, but I was afraid for postal workers or some other innocent mail handler.

Friday, I felt a sense of relief, but Saturday morning that same sick feeling returned when a man opened fire in a Jewish Synagogue during morning services. The shooter killed 11 worshippers and wounded six others, including four police officers, before he was arrested.

Americans could go back and forth forever about who and how we have become so angry and divided. But, does it matter? It does matter, but not as much as who stops. It takes two to fight. One side has to stop.

Even with the events that happened this week, this is still not our darkest hour. Our institutions are still strong.

It would help if the president would say calming words, but will he? Why does he have to blame it all on the mainstream media and Democrats? Why can't he and all of us take a share of the blame and resolve to tone down the rhetoric?

Turn off cable news. Unplug from the internet and put down the cellphone. Get out from behind the computer and talk to someone face-to-face. Technology always outpaces the capacity of the masses to master it. We are passing from the so-



### Mountains from Molehills

By David Davis

cial media phase and about to enter the era of artificial intelligence and we still can't figure out the difference between legitimate and fake news.

It is not good for people to hear negativity all the time. Instead of looking to man-made governments, why not look to God?

I am going to give you some verses from the Quran. I'm using the Quran because if I don't, some of you may never know what it says other than the often-quoted verse taken out of context that instructs Muslims to smite infidels wherever they are found.

"And hold fast to the rope of God, all together, and be not divided. Remember the Blessing of God upon you, when you were enemies and He joined your hearts, such that you became brothers by His Blessing. You were on the brink of a pit of fire and He delivered you from it. Thus does God make clear unto you His signs that haply (perhaps) you may be rightly guided. Let there be among you a community calling to the good, enjoining right and forbidding wrong. It is they who shall prosper."

Why does it say "perhaps" you might be rightly guided? Because you might be led astray after having believed.

Oh well, enough of that. May the peace of the Lord be with you all.

### 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.

### Following the Pittsburgh massacre

BY RABBI HARARI  
TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

I am writing this message to you following one of the worst days in the history of the American Jewish community.

Eight Jewish worshipers and three first respondents were murdered this morning at Tree of Life Conservative congregation in Pittsburgh, by an anti-Semitic American who is inflicted by hate of Jews, and unfortunately decided to act on it.

Anti-Jewish feelings, unfortunately, are not new. Hitler incited against Jews in the 1930s and the German nation in his time agreed with him. Very few rebelled against Hitler. They were afraid of him. The Jews paid the price as 6 million died in the Holocaust.

Anti-Semitism has existed in America for a long time. I served as Rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel Sinai of Racine, Wisconsin in the 1990s. In October 1994 there was a concert of skin heads who came to Racine from all over the USA and Canada, all very anti-semitic white supremacists.

Their concert was held on a Friday night in a big hall a few blocks away from our synagogue.

The police contacted me and briefed me regarding the danger to us. They promised to have a police car visibly parked in our parking lot and in addition to have more police patrols in our area during our service. They told me that the lyrics at the concert are horrifying: anti-Jews, anti-blacks and anti-anyone who is not white supremacist. The skin heads get incited by these songs and some may act up. Fortunately for us, the police presence prevented any damage to our congregation. (By the way: we did not have to pay the police for this protection. They told me: "This is our job. This is why we have police here").

A year ago, in Charlottesville, anti-semitism lifted its head when white supremacists marched in the streets shouting "Jews will not replace us."

After that I knew that it is only a matter of time before one or more of them would act up against Jews. What I did not know was when and where it would happen. Today, we have the answer: It happened this Shabbat in Pittsburgh.

There are many Jew haters in this country, and very unfortunately they feel empowered now. Two years ago neo-Nazis held a conference in Washington, D.C., right after Trump won the elections. Their leader, Richard Spencer, Raised his hand calling "Hail Trump." A few months ago Richard Spencer came to Gainesville to incite ...

No, I was not surprised by the attack in Pittsburgh. All it takes is "a bad man with a gun"... and there are too many bad men out there and too many guns.

We, the Jews, have known persecution and pogroms. (Watch the movie "Fiddler on the Roof"). We have always continued to survive and thrive. We will this time too.

We shall overcome!

Today I received a wonderful message from my friend, Dr. Hal McSwain, pastor of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

In his e-mail he wrote: "I'm in the process of finding out about the shooting in Pittsburgh, grieving about the

See Harari/Page A9

# MCKECHNIE

Continued from Page A3

He also wrote for the school newspaper. After earning an Associate of Arts degree from Valencia, Gary earned his Bachelor of Arts in Radio & TV Broadcast Communications from UCF.

After graduation, he backpacked across Europe for seven months. He came home and worked short-term jobs, took the money and rode his motorcycle around the United States.

After he finished rid-

# Harari

Continued from Page A8

loss of life and the angst that these events cause across the country, culture and society. I grieve not only for myself and our world, I grieve for and with Jews everywhere, and I stand resolutely steadfast in my support for us all.

I encourage open, candid discussion about such violence, both as a matter of addressing violence everywhere, and also to take appropriate steps and measures to manage violence locally.

I also ask that we recognize and not ignore the shooting/killing last night (Friday) of a young man here in Ocala. Grief alone rarely transcends loss; grief and action can be transcendent.

Blessings, Hal McSwain" Thank you our friend.

Last night we had about 60-70 people at services. Let us continue to come here, to our spiritual home and be inspired. Our board is taking the situation very seriously and we will have police protection next Friday night, and I hope that we will not need it. Let us continue our services and activities as planned, and be proud of being Jews!

Shalom!  
Rabbi Harari

ing around, he started writing for a couple of ad agencies before embarking on a career as a freelance writer, which led to writing travel stories, travel videos and training films.

"Then I got the idea I could write a book about motorcycle touring. I pitched that to 60 publishers who turned it down and then the 61st one said they would publish it," he said.

"Great American Motorcycle Tours" is still the best-selling motorcycle guide book.

He and his wife, Nancy, bought a house in Mount Dora converted it into a bed-and-breakfast. They operated it for 18 years until they sold it in February.

Gary has written a couple of books for National Geographic. He took all the information and knowledge he gained from his experiences and began lecturing on American history aboard ships in front of corporations.

He is a course leader with educational traveling company World-Strides, traveling to Washington, D.C. each spring to teach middle school students from across the nation the principles of government and their role in ensuring the success of our experiment in democracy.

"There is always something going on," he said.

These are some of the issues McKechnie is running on:

Senior service: As your senator, the goodwill of this generation will be returned in a society where a senior citizen's lingering illness won't lead to a lasting bankruptcy and where quality housing, nourishing meals, and accessible transportation for seniors in need will be seen as a testament to our collective compassion as Americans.

Equal justice: Discrimination against anyone doesn't cut it

with me. If people are searching for legal loopholes to validate their prejudices, I am more than willing to strengthen laws to ensure equality for everyone.

Health care: The majority of Floridians who recognize healthcare as a right and not a privilege are far too generous to allow a fellow citizen's minor ailment escalate into a major illness. I'll fight to ensure quality, affordable, preventative healthcare for everyone and stand up for the least among us by supporting Florida's funding of Medicaid, food stamps, and the Meals on Wheels programs. Hold our leader accountable: In Florida and across America, many of our laws are not written by the people you elected. Add to this gerrymandered districts drawn to stack the deck in an incumbent's favor.

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EXPIRES 12/31/18

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# PALMS

Continued from Page A2

hours and hours in order to have a huge amount of "crafty" items to sell. Most work on the items all year...and are ready for a table at any

"fair" to display and sell their specific creations. I do believe in order for them to reserve a table at one of these events, they must have a certain amount of inventory.

Just in case anyone is interested there has been a "craft fair" held

at Ocala Palms (OP) Golf & Country Club every year for at least 15 years. This year is no exception and if interested, please mark your calendar for Nov. 3. In addition, there is a "Bake Sale" as well. The ladies at OP are very generous

in making their special desserts for this sale. In case you like lemon, I make a very good lemon pound cake, which I will donate for the sale. Well, that is if my husband doesn't catch me taking it out of the house!

Raffle tickets will be sold for a 50/50 drawing and one of the winners will be "FOOD 4 KIDS." This is yet another way Ocala Palms residents helps with various charities in Marion County. It is not necessary for you to be pres-

ent to win. Additionally, a hot dog/chili dog lunch will be offered for a small fee between 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. The Ocala Palms Craft Bazaar will be ongoing from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Now is a good time to start that Christmas shopping!

**Ocala Jockey Club International Event**  
Sat, Nov. 17—\$29pp—Olympic-level competition

**Jacksonville Jags vs Pittsburgh Steelers**  
Sun, Nov. 18—\$45pp Bus Only  
Call for ticket options ASAP!

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

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

**Victorian Christmas Stroll, Tampa!**  
Mon, Dec. 3—\$49pp

**Christmas at the Holy Land**  
Fri, Dec. 21—\$79pp

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

**Medieval Times Dinner Theatre**  
Fri, Jan. 18—\$79pp

**Mount Dora Arts Festival**  
Sat, Feb. 2—\$29pp

**DAYTONA 500**  
Sun, Feb. 17—\$229pp

**Capone's Dinner Show**  
Thurs, Feb. 21—\$87pp—Matinee

**MEN are from Mars**  
**WOMEN from Venus**  
Wed, Mar. 28—\$79pp

**JACKIE EVANCHO!**  
Capitol Theatre—Sat, Mar. 16  
\$129pp - Early Bird Price

**HOLIDAY TRIPS!**  
Night of Lights St. Augustine  
Mon, Nov. 26—\$55pp  
Sold Out! 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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# THRILLER

Continued from Page A1

center. Some clubs also gave monetary donations to the cause. The Leisure Arts Club estimated that the value of these supplies was \$2,500.

This performance was put on at Stone Creek and the \$5 tickets went for the cause. It was put on for free at Circle Square Commons for free on Saturday evening but the zombies would not let you go without giving a donation.

Last year, a \$12,500 check was given to the Ocala Domestic Violence Center and this year, they are predicting an even greater amount. It costs the center about \$30,000 a year to care for resident of the center. This year \$20,000 was collected and according to Cheri more money is still being donated.

Thanks to all who made this event possible! A worthy cause is benefitting from your hard work and donations.



Cheri Irwin choreographed the "Zombies Dance" by residents of Stone Creek, OTOW, and Oak Run.



In the top and bottom photos are scenes of "Thriller." Photos by Patricia Gizzi



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