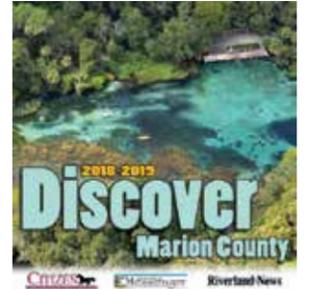


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INSIDE



A unique guide to the ins and outs in and around Marion County.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2018

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 33



WEST MARION Messenger

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES & BUSINESSES BETWEEN SR 200 AND US 27

Junior Negrón:

Golfers raise \$10k for his kids

BY PATRICIA GIZZI
 Stone Creek Correspondent

Stone Creek Community has always been noted for its generosity to others in the community and in the great Ocala Community.

A year ago last April, the golf community of Stone Creek lost Junior Negrón. He was in his prime and as Marc Russell, PGA head golf professional of Stone Creek said, “Although many knew him because of his involvement with golf operations, his infectious smile and wonderful personality touched a much broader area of the community.”

Marc described Junior as someone with an infectious personality.

“Junior was the kind of guy that couldn’t go unnoticed, when in a group of people or just in a conversation he had the ability to change the mood in a positive light and make people laugh,” Marc said. “Junior enjoyed everything about sports as well as competing in sports, he was all about win-

ning. He enjoyed talking about his wild children and how crazy they were, but little did he know that they were spitting images of him, which was what made the stories he’d tell funnier.

“Junior was the kind of guy that would give you his last dollar. Lastly, was Junior’s honesty, for the good or for the bad. He would let you know how he felt about a particular subject in a respective manner.”

Junior was a special person and an integral part of the golf course. Unfortunately, Mr. Negrón had an untimely death. He was 28 years old when he passed away Saturday, April 22, 2017. Junior was born Feb. 13, 1989, in New York City but lived all of his life in Ocala, graduating in the first class of graduates from Westport High School. He continued his education and graduated from the University of Central Florida. Junior was the captain of the golf team at



Roman, Leo and Ora, the children of Jessica and her late husband, Junior Negrón, play on a green at Stone Creek during a recent golf scramble.

See NEGRÓN/Page A9

Good economic news to gobble for Thanksgiving

Employment numbers are down from October 2017

Just in time for Thanksgiving, today’s release of the region’s employment numbers offers plenty of economic good news to feast on.

While the October unemployment rate in the CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion region was unchanged over the month at 3.7, it was down nearly a full percentage point compared to the same time last year.

The labor force was 202,179, representing a slight expansion of 316 over the month, the number of those working increased by 309 to 194,611 while the number of unemployed remained virtually unchanged at 7,568, an increase of just 7.

But it is the comparison to October 2017 that shows the strength of the region’s economic recovery, according to Kathleen Woodring, CareerSource

CLM’s executive vice president.

Over the year, the region’s labor force expanded by 4,204, the number of workers increased by 5,759 and the number of jobless dropped by 1,555.

According to today’s release of the October employment summary by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Levy County continues to hold the lowest jobless rate in the region at 3.3 percent, Marion County’s rate is unchanged at 3.6 percent, and Citrus County’s rate is also unchanged from the previous month at 4.3 percent. Florida’s not seasonally adjusted jobless rate – a measure that matches the way local rates are calculated – remains at 3.0 percent, a decrease of 0.9 percentage point over the year.

Citrus County’s labor force grew by 228 to 48,591, the number of employed

rose by 224 to 46,486 and the number of unemployed remained virtually unchanged, increasing by 4 to 2,105. Compared to October 2017, when the jobless rate was 5.2 percent, that’s an increase of 1,268 in the number of those with jobs and a decrease of 387 unemployed.

Levy County’s labor force expanded by 88 to 17,265, the number of those with jobs increased by 482 to 16,702, and the number of unemployed edged up by 6 to 563. That’s an over-the-year increase of 240 employed and drop of 101 unemployed when the rate was 3.9 percent.

Marion County’s labor force experienced no change over the month, remaining at 136,323; the number of those with jobs rose by 3 to 131,423 and the number of unemployed fell by

3 to 4,900. Compared to October 2017, when the jobless rate was 4.5 percent, there were 4,251 more employed and 1,067 fewer unemployed.

Nonfarm employment in the Ocala metropolitan statistical area was 105,600, an increase of 800 jobs over the month and 4,000 more than a year ago, for a 3.9 percent annual job growth gain. Nonagricultural employment in the Homosassa Springs MSA, which covers all of Citrus County, was 34,000, an increase of 300 jobs compared to September and 1,000 more over the year, for a 3 percent growth rate.

Woodring said the report highlights several positives for the region:

■ The Homosassa Springs MSA had the fastest annual job growth rate

See JOBS/Page A9

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Out to Pastor
Rev. James Snyder

Kitty on the outside or a tree frog on the inside

I thought, which is a dangerous activity for me, that I had pulled one over on the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. It is a rare occasion when I actually do something like this.

At my age, I assume I could get away with something. I guess I am just not old enough.

Several weeks ago, I happened to look out the back window and saw a kitty walking across our backyard. A little idea sneaked into my head. Maybe I could get some kitty treats and feed the kitty.

It is not that my wife does not like kitties; she just does not like them on our property. No way she would ever, and I mean ever, condone

some kitty living on our property. However, my thought was, what if she does not know?

I have always heard that what your wife doesn't know can't hurt you. So, I put together a very sneaky plan.

I went and got a dish for the kitty as well as a bag of kitty food. I really thought I could pull this off.

On the back porch, I put the dish and filled it with kitty food. I pushed it to the side so that you could not see it from the window. I am not an expert when it comes to sneaky, I'm still an amateur.

Later that evening I happened to look out the window and there it was. A tiger like kitty

had found the dish and was feasting upon the food. I knew I had to take things slow. I did not want to scare off the kitty.

I kept this up for several days, quite proud of myself that I was not caught yet. I thought there was a chance I wouldn't get caught and I was living on that chance.

It was on a Thursday evening and I was looking out the porch door, watching the kitty eat when I heard somebody say, "What are you staring at?"

Immediately I recognized the voice and had to be very careful so that I did not trip up on anything.

"I'm just enjoying the

backyard scenery. It looks so lovely in the evening shadows."

I sighed very deeply hoping I had escaped being found out.

Eventually I was getting to the point where I could open the door very carefully and the kitty would not get scared and run away. I was not able to pet it yet, but that was in my plans.

Then one night something else happened that pleased me deeply. A second kitty joined the back-porch kitty diner. I really was ecstatic, but I had to keep myself calm because I did not want to give my secret away.

Around our house, keeping secrets does not really last long.

Everything was going fine until one night the kitty came to the porch glass door and started meowing. The knucklehead that I am, I meowed back.

At that precise moment, my wife happened to walk into the kitchen area where the glass porch door was. She heard me meow and said, "There better not be a kitty on our porch!"

Before I could respond, she came up to the door and there was the kitty meowing at her.

"I don't want any old cat on our back porch." I wanted to reply, but I didn't.

"I hope you're not feeding it!"

Do I need to call a lawyer?

At that moment, she went up to the door to open it so that she could shoo the cat away and there on the inside of the door was the biggest tree frog I have ever seen. When she saw that, she screamed, the kitty ran, and the frog jumped inside our house.

It has been a long time since I have seen the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage dancing.

It was all I could do from laughing hysterically. I tried to control it, but you know how that works. The more I tried to restrain my laughter the louder it got.

See SNYDER/Page A9

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Upcoming holiday events

We all know how busy the holiday season becomes and how important it is to make careful plans. Sometimes there are so many activities that we have to pick and choose which ones we are going to attend. In a way that is a good thing, but it can also be a hard thing to make the best choice for all involved.

Each year I, personally, have the conundrum of where I will spend Thanksgiving and Christmas. I have a very close family, and I am the only one who lives in Florida. Invariably, the invitations for the holidays begin arriving in September. I would love to be with every single one of my family members; however, that is not possible because the majority of my closest



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Olga LeFort and Larry Newhouse are serving Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings Thanksgiving Day in the Fairfield Village Clubhouse

family members are scattered around Georgia and Alabama.

I am sure that almost everyone else here in my community of Fairfield Village has many choices to make very much like mine, and I don't envy any of us as we have to make those final choices and plans.

Truth be told, though, there are those who, for one reason or another, have opted to remain here in Ocala for the Thanksgiving holiday. Thankfully, we have another very good option because our wonderful Olga LeFort has decided that our community should have a special

holiday gathering for those who are not going to have another special celebration on Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving in the FFV clubhouse will feature the traditional turkey and ham and all kinds of side dishes many of which will be brought by those who attend.

Olga and Larry Newhouse, have been asking any neighbors who would like to be a part of this special celebration to let them know so that adequate plans can be made.

Olga has asked that those who come to the community Thanksgiving meal and fun bring an appropriate holiday dish to add to the turkey and ham that she and her "crew" will have prepared. However, that is not a requirement for

Fairfield Village
Priscilla Barnett



attendance. After the meal, those attending are invited to stay and spend quality time with friends and neighbors just like we Americans have traditionally done on Thanksgiving Day for as long as we can remember.

Also, coming up Dec. 11, the Scarlet Ladies will present a new event for Fairfield Village. Hosted by Sandy Farwell, there will be a Christmas Tea during which the gentlemen will serve the ladies. Special awards will be given for the hats chosen to be worn by the ladies for that special event.

Another event organized by the Scarlet La-

dies will be the New Year's Eve celebration that will feature our own Charlie Scimeca as the "Music Master" of the evening.

No doubt there will be other events that I will be reporting about that we will be celebrating as the holidays approach.

From the "lively place filled with lovely people" who love the holidays, we send good wishes to people of many beliefs and religions who look toward times when we can celebrate with more than just hope of a more just and peaceful world.

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!

Americanisms



"We must find the time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives."

—John F. Kennedy

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

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DEUTERONOMY 16:19

"The Bribe" by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (1923)

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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 home around the State Road 40 and U.S. Highway 27 area, call 352-3886.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Junkie Sales/Office Coord. - Ethel Hartman (352) 354-3886
Advertising Sales - Steve Johnson (352) 354-3886

Manager - John Murphy (352) 562-6263
Deadline for news: 11:00 AM
The closing time for ads is 5:00 PM on the day before publication.

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Quail Meadow
Carolyn Slocumb

Reflect on you blessings

Are you ready for Thanksgiving? Hopefully, the shopping is done and the turkey is ready for the oven. Thanksgiving is a day for us to reflect on all the many blessings we have received, not only this year, but all through our lives. While you are with family and friends this

holiday season pause for a moment and give thanks to God for all our blessings and ask a special blessing on our military men and women who are protecting our country; also, don't forget the first responders — fire and police! The Ladies Luncheon was well attended last

week; 27 women enjoyed the lunch at Big Rascal Barbeque restaurant. The food was delicious and the service excellent! We were happy to have Dottie Hefferon with us for lunch. Dottie left us a few months ago to move to Georgia. This restaurant is just west of us on Blitchton Road. Next month the ladies will have the annual Christmas luncheon at

The Braised Onion. The date for this is Dec. 14. Please make your reservations with Grace Maguire. We are still having problems with our mail delivery — those residents north of NW 32nd Street. Several of our residents have tried to contact the post office, but telephoning is almost impossible. A few of us have been to the Paddock post office and complained, but so far, no results and last Tuesday we didn't even have a mail delivery! Maybe if enough of us go to the main office and com-

plain we can get results. The monthly meeting of the QM Property Owners was last Monday. It was a very short, but informative meeting. Robert Caquette was officially made a member of the board of directors. It was announced that the annual meeting, a very important meeting, will be Dec. 6. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please fill out and return the proxy vote. Beginning in January 2019, the "prep" meeting of the board will be on the first Monday of

each month at 6 p.m. By making this change, it is hoped that more residents will be able to attend the meetings. The ARC rules/regulations are being printed and will be mailed to all homeowners in a few weeks. Please read over the regulations. We need to follow the guidelines in order to keep our neighborhood a beautiful community. Reminder: The pool will close Dec. 1 and will reopen in March.

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!



PHOTO BY CAROLYN SLOCUMB

In the top photo are Grace Maguire, left, Dottie Hefferon and Sue Church at the Ladies Luncheon. In the bottom photos are some of the ladies at the luncheon.



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Fri, Mar. 8 - \$69pp

Florida State Fair - Tampa
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DRYTONA 500
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Happenings

Veterans Helping Veterans

Veterans Need You! Veterans Helping Veterans assists veterans and their families with food, clothing and other personal needs. We are looking for variously skilled volunteers to help 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.

United Way VITA Program

United Way of Marion County is looking for volunteers who are interested in preparing income taxes for free through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. No experience necessary and free certification training is provided by IRS certified instructors.

Certified volunteers will provide free income tax assistance to Marion County residents at six VITA sites located in Ocala and surrounding areas in Marion County.

Informational sessions will be held at United Way of Marion County located at 1401 NE Second Street,

Ocala, FL 34470 Thursday, Nov. 15, from 1 to 2 p.m. and repeated from 6 – 7 p.m. For more information or to register, contact Doug MacPhail at 352-355-1225 or dmacphail@uwmc.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 21

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Joy Lutheran Church will have a special Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 6:45 p.m. Pastor Art will deliver an inspiring message of gratitude. The Bell Choir and the Vocal Choir will sing the praises of thanksgiving.

All are welcome to participate so start the holiday weekend off by attending and bring a friend and be thankful for your blessings.

Joy Lutheran Church is located on SR 200 at 7045 SW 83rd Place, Ocala. For more information contact the church office at 352-854-4509 ext.2.

Thursday, Nov. 22

Free Thanksgiving Dinner

Free Thanksgiving Day dinner, Nov. 22, from 1 to 3 p.m. and open to the en-

tire community served by St. John's United Methodist Church. This is totally free to anyone reading these words. We're located at 12390 W Highway 328, Ocala, FL 34482. Bring your family, friends and neighbors to join us for a Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings, fellowship and fun, we just need you. Come join our family.

Please call Deb Laliberte at 608-831-2532 for free reservations so we're sure to have plenty of food.

The Turkey awaits!

Saturday, Nov. 24

Dunnellon Victorian Holiday

The Dunnellon Historic Merchants will host their annual Victorian Holiday event, Saturday, Nov. 24, from 2 to 8 p.m.

The afternoon events, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. includes a special appearance of the "Soccer Collies." Watch the dogs play soccer and then visit with your favorite player. Pony rides and a petting zoo will be offered on the Lions Club property at the corner of Walnut and Cedar streets. Across the street, Santa and Mrs. Claus will chat with visitors and pose for photos.

Later in the afternoon, 4 to 6 p.m. the Romeo Elementary school chorus will move from porch to porch along West Pennsylvania Avenue, Cedar Street and Walnut Street singing Christmas carols.

The Nature Coast Dulcimer Players, keyboard player Michael Fonzi, Bob Cabbage on the piano and jazz singer Valerie Levy, along with Christian music artist Lisa Marie are scheduled to entertain.

Food vendors, craft vendors and shops in the area will be open. Special holiday music and Christmas lights will add sparkle to the event. The Victoria Holiday event includes West Pennsylvania Avenue, Cedar Street and Walnut Street.

Sunday, Nov. 25

Countryside Presbyterian

"The Star of the Christmas Night" will be the lecture theme of Countryside Presbyterian Church's Fourth Sunday Lecture Series Nov. 25, at 3 p.m. Perhaps you remember going to a planetarium years ago and seeing such an astronomy planetarium show

See **HAPPENINGS/Page A8**

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Ocala Palms
Barbara Dedics

OP Welcome Committee greets new residents

Eighteen years ago this month, I left the city life of the Washington, DC area to move to Ocala. I had resided in the DC area more years than I had lived in a small village in Ohio where I was born. I was young and shy, but over the years I found it easier to meet new people and make friends from many walks of life. Naturally, when I moved to Ocala Palms, it was almost like my life had gone in a circle, having to "start over" meeting new people and making friends.

Since Ocala Palms community was still in the beginning stages of development, there was a number of other new residents who had moved from their life-long communities and friends to "start over" by living their newly found retirement lives. I had not been a sports type person, so that didn't seem to interest me. I was fortunate to be asked to join a few of the already formed committees, one of which was the Welcome Committee. I quickly met new people who became friends. As more new residents came to live at OP, it was a fun thing to help others get acquainted with their new community surround-



Members of the Ocala Palms Welcome Committee in the front row are Carolyn Park, Emma Lanzara, Mary Joe Beefelt, Chairperson Linda Corbett and Emily Leithauser; back row, Pat Melhouse, Amy Heinritz, Jan Roseler, Marilyn Hinds, Joan Deeley, Sally Ann Hooks, Gale McClendon. Absent are Linda Diaz, Dalene Schultz and Barb Dedics.

ings. Not only that, but to discover that we all had so many things in common.

As the years passed, the OP community "built out." Very few homes were vacant so there was not a need for a Welcome Committee. Then in about 2016, the circle of "new residents" seemed to start all over. Several previous owners for various reasons decided to relocate. Thus the "circle of life" at OP and I'm sure at other retirement communities are or have been experiencing this same type of change.

One such lady, Linda Corbett, I have found is

like the Energizer Bunny. She and her husband moved to OP in

mid-2016. Her quest to get involved by helping others with informative

information about Ocala and the OP community led her to being asked by the OP Residents Association Board to reinstate the Welcome Committee in May 2017. She has been instrumental in getting more people involved with this committee as well as other committees. At the present time, there are 12 ladies who assist her in greeting new residents.

An Informational booklet and welcome packages are delivered to new homeowners shortly after they move to their new homes. The packages include a number of items such as a discount for the local cable TV supplier, list of various activities, two pages of coupons from

various businesses, Marion County Parks & Recreation map, and specific forms regarding rules of this deeded community.

The Booklet also includes important phone numbers for hospitals, fire, police, names of the OP Board, trash pickup days and more. When the welcome ladies deliver the packages, they don't just drop them off and walk away. They go over the entire packages and are happy to offer any help to make the new residents be more comfortable in their new surroundings. By the end of 2017, there were 84 new residents who received the packages and as recent as

See WELCOME/Page A7

KELLEAN K. TRUESDELL, J.D., LL.M.
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Victorian Holiday Festival
Saturday, November 24
2-8 pm • Shops open until 8 pm
in Dunnellon's Historic Village

These Events From 2-5 pm:
Soccer Collies • Pony Rides
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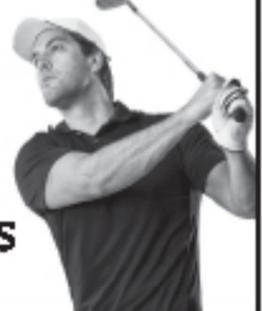
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Substitute for breast/wing for only a \$1 more!

HAPPENINGS

Continued from Page A5

at the historic Hayden Planetarium in New York City or in cities around America.

The Sunday afternoon lecture will present this astronomy style program up on the big screens and fascinate you with how the ancients looked up at the stars in wonder; how three scholars came from the East to see a mysterious star of wonder deciding that it meant the birth of a king.

Adults, young people of all ages will enjoy this fascinating subject. Be a part of this program welcoming in the Christmas season. There is no cost or tickets needed, a free will offering will be received.

Crossroads Church

Our Senior's ministry will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a luncheon on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 12 noon.

Our Youth department will be selling Thanksgiving pies this month. Pies will be available for pick up on Sunday, November 18th after services. Please place your order now.

We will be beginning our annual "Buy A Tree, Change A Life" ministry on Friday, November 23rd. All profits from the selling of our Christmas trees will be given to children's ministries, both here and around the world.

Mondays – Monday Night Bible Study at 6:30pm.

Tuesdays – Intercessory Prayer Meeting at 9am.

Wednesdays – Family Training Hour at 7pm. This includes Crossroads Kids, Crossroads Nursery & Crossroads Youth Ministries.

Thursdays – Our Spanish "Estudio Biblico" at 7pm.

Sunday Services – Sunday School, 8:30am; Worship Services at 9am, 11am and our Spanish Service at 1pm. Nursery Ministry provided for all services.

Crossroads Church, 8070 SW 60th Ave. (south off of SR 200) 352-291-2080.

See our new website at www.ourcrossroads.church for up to date calendar events.

Advent at Joy Lutheran Church

The new church year begins on Advent Sunday, December 2, 2018. Advent is the time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The term is a version of the Latin word "coming."

During Advent there will be the usual Sunday worship services of 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

On Wednesday each week there will be a brief 2:00 p.m. service without communion. We will continue our Wednesday evening casual service at 6:45 p.m. service with communion. The theme for the Wednesday evenings will be "Praying with the Saints."

All are welcome to attend the Advent services. Joy Lutheran Church is located at 7045 SW 83rd Place at SR 200, Ocala. For more information call (352) 854-4509 ext. 2..

Saturday, Dec. 1

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

Kingdom of the Sun

Kingdom of the Concert Band under the direction of Les Muncaster perform "A Christmas Wish" Saturday, Dec. 1 at 2 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 2, at 3 p.m. in the Marion Technical Institute, 1614 SE Ft. King St. Performances are free to the public. Donations are accepted. For information, please call 624-9291 or visit <http://kingdomofthesunband.org> on the internet.

Fight for Freedom

The City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department will host the third annual 'A Fight for Freedom: Attack

on Fort King' Saturday, Dec. 1 and Sunday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort King National Historic Landmark, 3925 E Fort King St.

This two-day event will include a re-enactment of Osceola's attack on Fort King and the demise of Indian Agent Wiley Thompson, an event that led to the start of the Second Seminole War. The event will also include a Seminole village and soldiers' encampment to show what life was like back in the 1830s. Those in attendance will experience time-period crafts, traditional skills workshops, food, drinks and games, such as tomahawk throwing. Live cannon demonstrations will also take place throughout the event.

Admission to this event is \$5 per person. Veterans, active military and children ages five and under are free.

Guests are encouraged to park at the Duke Energy power line field located between NE 43rd Avenue and NE 44th Avenue on the north side of E Fort King Street, approximately a quarter-mile east of the Fort. Free shuttles and trams will be running continuously throughout the event for pickups and drop-offs. A special tram will be available for handicapped or disabled guests only.

For more information, please contact the City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department at 352-368-5533 or visit www.facebook.com/fortkingocala.

Ugly Sweater

Registration is now underway for the fifth annual Ugly Sweater 5K and 1-Mile Fun Walk, which is scheduled for 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at Blue Run Park at 19680 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Dunnellon.

Fees are \$25 now through Friday, Nov. 25, for the 5K, and \$30 the week leading up to the race. Cost is \$20 for the 1-Mile Fun Walk through the day of the event.

Proceeds benefit the Dunnellon High School athletics programs.

Awards will be given to the top male and female finishers as well as the male and female master's division winners (50 and older) as well as the top three placers in 7 and younger; 8 to 10, 11 to 14, 15 to 19, 20 to 24, 25 to 30, 31 to 34, 35 to 39, 40 to 44, 45 to 49, 50 to 54, 55 to 59, 60 to 64, 65 to 69, 70 to 74 and 75 and older. In addition, the first 300 participants to complete the event will receive a custom finisher medal.

Registration forms are available at the Dunnellon Chamber & Business Association office at 20500 E. Pennsylvania Ave., or the Riverland News office at 20441 E. Pennsylvania Ave., or register online at runsignup.com/Race/FL/Dunnellon/UglySweater-5KandMileFunWalkRun.

For information about the event, visit Rainbow River Runners on Facebook.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Car Menorah Parade

To celebrate the 2018 Hanukkah season, The Chabad House of Ocala & The Villages will be having a first time ever Car Menorah Parade on Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 4 p.m., departing from The Chabad House traveling through Lake Sumter Landing culminating at The Sheriff Annex on CR 466.

For more information or to have your car join the parade visit www.ourchabad.org/carparade or call 352-330-4466 (Menorahs are limited).

VFW Post 4781 is a nonsmoking facility.

Sunday, Dec. 2: We are hosting a benefit dinner for one of our Auxiliary members who is suffering from Stage 4 Cancer. All proceeds from this benefit will go directly to him to help defray the costly medical expenses. He has been an active and supportive member of the VFW and also the Moose for many years. Volunteers will be serving pork loin, mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetable, a side of apple-sauce and dessert. Dinner will be served from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a \$7 donation. If you are unable to attend this benefit dinner and would like to

make a donation, please see a bartender at the VFW.

Monday: Bingo is played in the hall and is open to the public. Doors open at 9 a.m. and the games start at 11 a.m. The kitchen is open from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Weekly special for Monday lunch will be posted and lunches are also available to members & guests. Bar bingo is for members and guests and begins at 6 p.m. Wednesday and Friday lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday – Sunday: Lunch is available from 11 a.m. until ?? Please see the bartender for a delicious sandwich or pizza.

Wednesday: Dinner is served from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a \$7.00 donation and is open to the public. Wednesday night dinner tickets must be purchased in advanced and tickets are available in the canteen.

Second & Fourth Friday's: Dinners are fried Alaskan Pollock (A.U.C.E.) or chicken with french fries, hush puppies and coleslaw. Dinner is \$8.00 and served from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Public is invited.

Friday & Saturday: Enjoy entertainment in the canteen from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday: Breakfast is served from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and prices range from \$3.00 - \$6.50. Breakfast is open to the public.

Taco Dinner: --Due to Thanksgiving and the upcoming activities in November, there will be no taco dinner. Happy Thanksgiving!

Hall Rental & Catering: Please call 352-873-4781 for further information.

Honor Guard: Our Honor Guard is available to provide military honors to a fallen veteran. For further information contact the Post at 352-873-4781.

Angela S. Santos VFW Post 4781, 9401 SW 110th St. Telephone 352-873-4781. You can also follow us on Facebook - Angela Santos VFW Post 4781.

Friday, Dec. 7

OWUMC Car Show

Car Show and chicken barbecue dinner will be at Ocala West United Methodist Church, Friday, Dec. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the parking lot next to the pavilion. The Men's Fellowship is offering chicken barbecue to eat in or take out prices: \$8 for 1/2 chicken dinner with baked beans, coleslaw, and roll; \$6 for 1/2 chicken only or 1/4 chicken dinners. Boy Scout Troop 707, sponsored by OWUMC, is selling hot dogs with chips and a drink for \$4. Ocala West UMC is located at 9330 SW 105TH St. For information, please call 352-854-9550.

Santa Over the Rainbow

Santa Over the Rainbow 2018, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 - 9. Dec. 14 - 16, join us for food, music and lights. Admission is \$ 2.

Santa arrives at 7 p.m. via his pontoon sleigh boat. A photo with Santa is \$2.

Join us for a light display only Dec. 26 – 27 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Ocala 200 Lions Club

The Ocala 200 Lions Club will be holding a Flea Market Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bank of the Ozarks at 8375 SW Hwy 200, Ocala. There will be a variety of vendors on hand as well as food/drink available for sale by the Dunnellon Lions Club. The Ocala 200 Lions Club will also be offering free diabetic (blood sugar) screening during the same hours. You are invited to join us for this fundraising event. As always, all proceeds generated by the Lions Clubs will be used for community projects throughout the year. For more information, please call 352-861-2730.

Ocala Lions Club

The 25th Memorial Ocala Lions Club Golf Tournament is Saturday, Dec. 8, at Ocala Golf Club. All proceeds go to various community charities including "Kidsight"

which screens for eye problems in pre-K and kindergarten children. For information or to register, please call at Garry Adel 895-1084 or Barry Fies at 362-7713.

Tuesday, Dec. 11

Ocala Christian Women

Connection

Ocala Christian Women's Connection invites all ladies to join us for our "Glitz and Glam" Luncheon Dec. 11 at the Hilton of Ocala from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The price is \$22. Our feature will be Deb's Adornments with many beautiful jewelry and clothing items for sale just in time for Christmas shopping. Deb Richards from Orange City, Florida, is our speaker. Deb will share her story "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall." Come and enjoy the fun in your Christmas bling. For reservations and free childcare please, RSVP to Claudia at 288-2136 or Eve at 732-7053 by Monday, Dec. 3.

Thursday, Dec. 13

Altar & Rosary Society

The Altar & Rosary Society of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Dunnellon on the corner of Hwy. 40 and 41 is sponsoring a "Clothe the Children" drive Thursday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the church hall. Clothing will be distributed to families in need free. For more info, call Judie at 489-5954.

Thursday, Dec. 20

Geneological Society

The Marion County Geneological Society will meet Thursday, Dec. 20, at 2 p.m. at the Marion County Public Library located at 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd. in Ocala. A brief business meeting will be followed by the Holiday Party. For further information, contact Joel Swanson at 352-897-0840 or president@mcgsocala.org.

Ongoing

Prostate Cancer Support

The Prostate Cancer Support Group meets each month at 5 p.m. in the West Marion West Marion Hospital on the fourth Tuesday. Every month a doctor or other licensed medical professional speaks to anyone else who is interested.

The nonprofit group's goal is to bring education and awareness to husbands, wives or caregivers the importance of early detection, treatment options and treatment concerns such as side effects and life after cancer. For more information, please call Steve Austin at 352-812-0406.

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 delicious traditional themed buffet and cocktails including challah, geffilte 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.

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.

See **ONGOING/Page A9**

NEGRON

Continued from Page A1

Westport all four years.

Junior worked at Stone Creek Golf Club for only 10 months but during that short time made an immense impact on the golfers and

those who knew him. He was currently going through PGA Pro School. He was full of life and loved and cared for everyone and was always able to make people smile and laugh.

Rigoberto Junior is survived by his wife, Jessica; sons, Roman and Leo Negron and his

daughter, Ora.

Stone Creek Golf sponsored a four-person scramble. A scramble is a format for a golf tournament, with the rules emphasizing fun without the pressure of players keeping individual scores. Each player hits a tee shot on each hole, but everyone plays from

the spot of the best shot, subject to certain criteria.

The scramble benefited Junior and Jessica's children. The cost for the event was \$75 and included lunch, prizes and of course, golf. The golfing event raised \$10,000 from the fee price and individual

donations from Stone Creek residents.

How wonderful for our community to come together for others. As Oscar Wilde said, "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the greatest intentions." Many small intentions of the Stone Creek residents proved

to be a monumental event for Junior's children.

As we reflect on our blessings on Thanksgiving, let's look to the positive things in our lives and remember all that wonderful things that go on at Stone Creek. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

JOBS

Continued from Page A1

compared to all metro areas in the state in state government at 6.7 percent, adding 300 new jobs.

■ The Ocala MSA continued to hold the second fastest annual job growth rate compared to all metro areas in the state in education and health services, at 5.9 percent, adding 1,100 jobs.

■ The Ocala MSA tied for second fastest annual job growth rate in trade, transportation and utilities at 3.9

percent. An increase of 900 new jobs.

■ The Ocala MSA had the state's third fastest annual job growth rate in leisure and hospitality at 8.1 percent, a gain of 1,000 new jobs.

All grew faster in the Ocala metro area than statewide over the year, as did manufacturing at 6% (+500 jobs) and professional and business services at 4.4% (+400 jobs). Mining, logging and construction, at 4.3 percent (+300 jobs) also gained over the year.

Financial activities and other services each lost 100 jobs compared to October

2017, while information and government industries were unchanged.

According to the employment data for October, unemployment rates remained unchanged in 35 counties, rose in 17 and fell in 15. The county with the highest unemployment rate in the state was Hendry County at 5.4 percent. Citrus County again tied with Sumter County for the third highest rate, Marion County again tied with Miami-Dade County, but nudged up two spots to claim the 10th highest rate and Levy County tied with four other counties with the 20th highest rate.

Among the metro areas, Homosassa Springs/Citrus County MSA again tied with The Villages for the highest rate and the Ocala MSA tied with Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall for the fifth highest rate.

The region's employment summary for November will be released on Friday, Dec. 21

■■■■ CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is a member of CareerSource Florida and a proud partner of the American Job Center network.

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is an equal opportu-

nity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities and in Spanish.

All voice telephone numbers listed above may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

If you need accommodations, please call 800-434-5627, ext. 7878 or e-mail accommodations@careersourceclm.com <mailto:accommodations@careersourceclm.com>. Please make request at least three business days in advance.

SNYDER

Continued from Page A2

Where's my cellphone when I need it?

She ran, got a broom, came back and swept the frog outside. I haven't seen that frog since.

So, being in a sense

of hilarious insanity, I said, and I almost regret saying it, "Which do you want? The kitty or the frog?"

She looked at me holding her broom in a very dangerous way and finally she broke down laughing.

Life is full of choices. Some of our choices are not of our choosing.

Sometimes it is choosing the better of the worse.

Since then we have had two kitties come to our back porch every evening to enjoy the kitty food that I put out there in the kitty dish. I have not seen the frog, but I sure have been thinking about that frog ever since.

"What are you smiling at?"

"Nothing, I'm just having a happy moment."

"It better not have anything to do with that tree frog."

Thinking about this I was reminded of what David said. "Blessed is the man whom thou chooseth, and causest

to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple" (Psalm 65:4).

It is not important if you are a kitty or a frog only that God has chosen you. Live in that glory every day.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship. He lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Ocala. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or email jamesnyder2@att.net. His website is www.jamessnyderministries.com.

ONGOING

Continued from Page A8

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 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. So, come one and all to our meetings and share interesting sessions each month. Any questions please call Elsa Flescher at 352-209-2661.

Thanksgiving Day Fire changes the future of Ocala



An early photo of the Ocala Fire Department. The Thanksgiving Day Fire led to the establishment of a first-class fire department.

Banner newspaper, and several residences erupted in flames. Before the day was over five square blocks lay in ashes.

As a result of the Thanksgiving Day fire residents demanded that a first-rate fire department be formed, and city leaders agreed.

In December 1883 \$2,500 worth of fire bonds were authorized to be sold to raise the needed funds to establish a professional fire department, and in the

following months much of the downtown area was rebuilt utilizing brick and cast iron as building materials. Thus, Ocala within a few years became known as the "brick city" throughout the southeastern United States.

The Fire Department of the City of Ocala (now named Ocala Fire Rescue) was officially established by ordinance May 13, 1885, and existing volunteer firemen were absorbed into the new depart-

ment. William Fox was elected by city council to serve as Ocala's first fire chief.

As we give thanks this year at Thanksgiving, let's remember Ocala's former citizens who helped rebuild our great city.

This article is by Brian Stoothoff, board member of the Historic Ocala Preservation Society.

He is also a retired Assistant Chief from Ocala Fire Rescue.

Dunn's Coastal Communities Act Moves in the House

Bipartisan legislation introduced by congressman Neal Dunn, FL-02, addressing issues with the Coastal Barrier Resources maps will be voted on in the House this week. The Strengthening Coastal Communities Act of 2018 makes technical corrections to the Coastal Barrier Resources maps that are adversely affecting areas in Bay and Gulf counties. The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) was signed into law in 1982 and works to preserve our nation's barrier islands by barring federal funds and financial assistance from being used there, which therefore disincentivizes development. Dr. Dunn's legislation maintains these protections for our nation's barrier islands, while simply providing for more precise digital maps to distinguish the CBRA zones.

Co-sponsors of the legislation include Reps Thomas Rooney, FL-17, and Lisa Blunt Rochester, DE-At Large). The legislation is also supported by the National Audubon Society.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Keep your feelings to yourself as you work through an awkward circumstance. Complaining is useless, and also unwise since your words could come back to haunt you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A sudden flash of Bovine practicality shows you how you might be able to turn your artistic pursuits into a profitable venture. A spouse or partner offers some sage advice.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be prepared with several "Plan Bs" that you might have to use as backups just in case you encounter some troublesome complications with your carefully constructed schedule.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might think you'll never have a free moment again with the demands of the workplace piling on. Cheer up. The pressure eases as holiday time nears. An old friend brings good news.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your Leonine pride might make it difficult to offer an apology to a co-worker you unintentionally offended. But a quick and sincere "I'm sorry" could prevent problems down the line.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to tackle those backed-up chores that have kept you from moving into other and potentially more worthwhile projects. A personal matter needs your attention.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You usually have no problem rushing to the defense of someone you perceive as being treated unjustly. But perceptions could be deceiving this week. Check the facts before you act.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Before you point fingers at who might be to blame for the unexpected change in your plans, take a few moments to reflect on how this turn of events might be a blessing in disguise.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You seek out advice in the first part of the week. But be careful not to let counsel from others overshadow your own sense of perception. Things become clearer by the week's end.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The trusted colleagues you relied on earlier continue to offer support with your project. But you take more control, and by the week's end, you should be in full command.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Rely on your practical side while exploring investment possibilities. Caution is still your watchword in these matters. Your social life takes a gratifying turn by the week's end.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) An already confusing situation appears to grow murkier during the first part of the week. But it all starts to clear by the week's end. Plan to spend the weekend with someone special.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a passion for life that inspires others to follow your example. You could be a motivational speaker.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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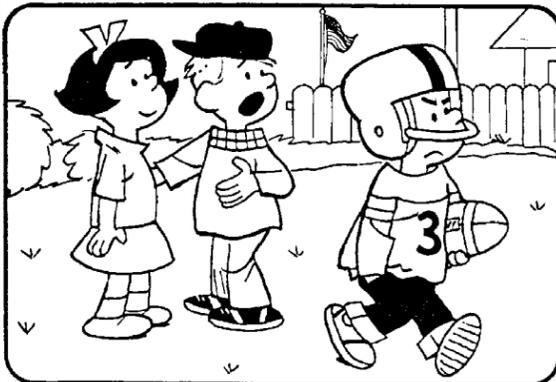
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

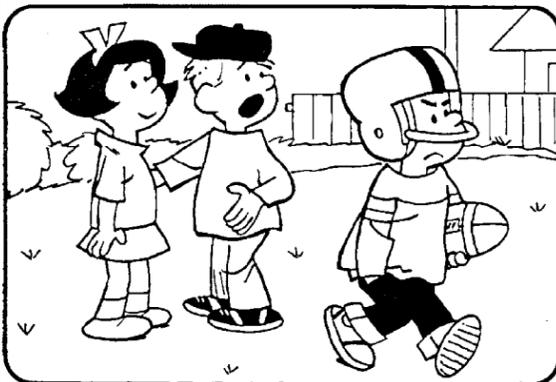
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Shirt is smaller. 2. Shirt neckline is different. 3. Arm is moved. 4. Flag is missing. 5. Fence is different. 6. Number is missing.

Wishing Well®

6	5	8	6	8	2	8	3	5	7	8	2	5
D	C	B	E	E	O	R	W	U	L	E	B	L
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N	R	A	T	R	I	B	R	E	L	N	L	I
8	7	3	5	6	5	4	5	7	5	3	2	6
E	B	A	E	W	N	E	D	O	S	N	E	A
3	7	2	6	7	6	7	6	4	7	6	3	3
T	R	S	R	I	D	N	E	D	G	D	E	D

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

MANY MEANINGS

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 50 See 112-Across | 91 "Mazel —!" | 126 Clearing in the woods | 33 Obliterate | 79 Kinda maybe |
| 1 Build up | 55 Singer King of "Tapestry" | 92 "— is human ..." | 100 Buddy | 34 Quick note | 80 Rush |
| 6 Features of gymnasts' horses | 57 Barmaid on "Cheers" | 93 Like a perfect place | 101 See | 35 Ned who manages the Royals | 81 Rudimentary |
| 13 With a single flat, musically | 58 Name of five Norse kings | 94 Like back-in-fashion | 102 University in Atlanta | 36 Plate for the Eucharist | 83 Horrible thing |
| 16 Tam or fez | 59 Prof's helpers | 95 School skipper | 103 Seasonally dry ravines | 37 Get ripper | 84 Like slasher films |
| 19 Start a web session | 62 "Man" or "12" lead-in | 96 Mold, as clay | 104 Molar, e.g. | 38 Picture | 85 Look like |
| 20 "Seriously!" | 63 Gulf War missiles | 97 Ear-relevant prefix | 105 Tore | 39 Brief excerpt | 86 Church area |
| 21 Measure in Ohm's law | 64 "The Wild Swans at —" (poem by Yeats) | 98 Paula once on CNN | 106 Born, to Gigi | 40 Little oinker | 87 See |
| 23 See 112-Across | 65 Lawyer on "Ally McBeal" | 99 Sleep-inducing drug | 107 Tiny wounds | 41 "Holy cow!" in a text | 88 Nearly here |
| 25 Metallic marble | 66 H.S. math class | 100 Comic actress Wiig | 108 Lt.'s inferior | 42 Singer Tillis | 89 Prefix with law or chic |
| 26 German GM subsidiary | 67 Blaster's stuff | 101 Alcohol in liquor | 109 Dipinto di Blu" | 43 Singer Tullis | 90 Debonair |
| 27 Ernie of the PGA Tour | 68 Like much music of the '90s | 102 Comaneci of gymnastics | 110 Inner: Prefix Austin dir. | 44 "Hey, bro" | 91 Sorts |
| 29 Put forth, as effort (Peter Allen song) | 69 "You — both!" | 103 DOS part: Abbr. | 111 "— fair!" | 45 Phrase after "café" | 92 Cpl., for one |
| 30 See 112-Across | 70 Many a Muslim | 104 "Assuredly!" | 112 Dallas locale | 46 Lunar effect | 93 How slimy stuff seeps |
| 38 Lake vessel | 71 "I Go —" (H.S. math class) | 105 "Assuredly!" | 113 "— Blu Dipinto di Blu" | 47 Door fixture | 94 Big-top cries |
| 39 "I Go —" (Peter Allen song) | 72 "You — both!" | 106 "Assuredly!" | 114 Quarter of M | 48 Church area | 95 USMC rank |
| 40 Hindu masters | 73 "You — both!" | 107 "Assuredly!" | 115 USMC rank | 49 Merrie — England | 96 Artists' wear |
| 41 Spies, e.g. | 74 "You — both!" | 108 "Assuredly!" | 116 USMC rank | 50 Dallas-to-Austin dir. | 97 Tight-lipped |
| 43 Kind of violet | 75 "You — both!" | 109 "Assuredly!" | 117 USMC rank | 51 Gerbil holder | 98 Quarter of M |
| 45 — kwon do | 76 "You — both!" | 110 "Assuredly!" | 118 USMC rank | 52 Singles | 99 "Fiddler on the Roof" star |
| 46 With 87-Down, collectively | 77 "You — both!" | 111 "Assuredly!" | 119 USMC rank | 53 "Fiddler on the Roof" star | 100 Kim of "Pal Joey" |
| 49 TV's Arnaz | 78 "You — both!" | 112 "Assuredly!" | 120 USMC rank | 54 "Fiddler on the Roof" star | 101 Kim of "Pal Joey" |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
19					20							21		22						
23				24								25								
		26						27		28			29							
	30	31					32	33	34	35		36	37							
38					39					40										
41				42		43				44		45			46	47	48			
49					50	51					52	53			54					
		55	56							57					58					
59	60	61		62					63	64					65					
66		67					68	69				70	71							
72							73					74			75					
76						77	78				79	80			81					
82						83				84	85				86	87	88	89		
90						91				92				93	94					
						95				96	97			98		99	100			
101	102	103								104				105						
106										107				108						
109						110	111			112	113	114	115	116			117	118	119	
120										121										122
123						124				125										126

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.

	+		×		24
×		×		×	
	-		×		15
+		-		+	
	÷		+		12
26		26		14	

DIFFICULTY: ★★★
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 3 4 5 6 8 9

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Go Figure!
answers

3	+	9	×	2	24
×		×		×	
6	-	3	×	5	15
+		-		+	
8	÷	1	+	4	12
26		26		14	

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Bourne joins Hospice of Marion County as CEO

After a decade at the helm of the county's only not-for-profit hospice, Mary Ellen Poe is retiring from Hospice of Marion County Dec. 7. After a national search, Rick Bourne was selected by the board of directors as her replacement and begins his position as CEO December 3.

Hailing from Minnesota, Bourne brings a 30-plus-year career in healthcare, including 20 years in post-acute and end-of-life care. He has served as President/CEO of four home health care organizations in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Montana. During his tenure, he



Bourne

"His experience, as well as his innovative approach, is certain to be an asset to the growth of HMC," board president Diana Holder said. "Rick is very community-minded and plans to become active in service organizations, meeting and collaborating with local leaders. This willingness to become part of our com-

served multiple counties, oversaw hundreds of employees and managed large budgets.

munity was a key element in our selection."

During his onsite interview, Bourne was impressed with the reputation and integrity HMC has earned, as well as the warm reception he received during an intense multi-day interview process with board members and staff executives. "I am honored to be joining an outstanding organization such as Hospice of Marion County," he said after his selection. "I look forward to collaborating with the board of directors, leadership team, staff and all the communities of Marion County to con-

tinue to provide excellent end of life and ancillary services for all those with needs."

Mission-focused, he brings experience in developing vision and strategic plans, while coordinating efforts with senior leaders to align efforts and achieve goals.

Stepping into her role, Bourne has the unqualified support of Poe.

"I am so proud to have served as CEO of Hospice of Marion County and celebrating its 35th anniversary," Poe said. "The changes in health care over the last 10 years have been significant but we've

been in lockstep with guidelines, regulations and innovations all along the way, and are well-positioned for the future. I have every confidence that Rick will have a positive impact on the organization, the employees and the community, continuing the great tradition laid down by our founders and my predecessor."

Poe and her husband Norm enjoy living in Marion County and intend to remain active in the community.

About Hospice of Marion County (HMC): A not-for-profit locally operated hospice, HMC has provided compas-

sionate end-of-life care for patients and their families since 1983. Patients may receive services in their own home, assisted living facility, nursing home or in one of our three hospice houses. A comprehensive hospice model, HMC is the county's third largest health care company and earned Deemed Status designation from the Joint Commission, the national gold standard for quality health care.



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2 Pacifica Senior Living 17011 SW 26th St., Ocala, FL 352-414-4743	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3 Hawthorne Village of Ocala 1700 NW 20th Ave., Ocala, FL 352-237-7776	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 Superior Residences at Oak Hills Memory Care Community 2000 NW 21st St., Ocala, FL 352-861-2887	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	

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