

# Lady Lake

## MAGAZINE

**FREE**

*"Your community newspaper since 1981"*

Volume 25, Number 8

August, 2006 *Take Me Home!*



Pictured left is Steve Stiffler, president of the Lady Lake Business Leaders, presenting a check for \$240 to Gayle Teerman of the Make-a-Wish foundation. The Lady Lake Business Leaders work some events to earn the money for charity. Stiffler works for Oswald Tipper and Company Inc., an insurance firm. Teerman doubles as a counselor for SCORE. Busy guys - thanks for working for charity.



Having fun at the Business Expo was left, Maddie Dodd, daughter of Michelle Dodd, center and Chuck Wollert, right. Maddie came to visit her mom at the Business Expo and to check out all the free stuff. She had a good time.



The crowd at one point got pretty big. The rain outside must have drove them in all at one time. A good time was had by all.

## Ombudsman

By: Charlotte Poss

The Florida Silver Hair Legislature held it's quarterly meeting in Davenport, Florida. Plans were finalized for the annual session that is held in Tallahassee every October. The delegation will hold session the week of October 16th for 4 days. During this time, house bills and senate bills will be voted on and approved the same as if they were being conducted in the actual sessions of the legislature. Our

delegates will, after the session, lobby their representatives to please take some of our bills and incorporate them into the different house and senate bills and make them into law.

The FSHL works with many agencies of the government. The Department of Elder Affairs and the Department of Area on Aging, to name just two. With the Department of Elder

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**GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS**

**IN GOD WE TRUST**

■=A.J. "Tony" Powell

## As I See It

AISI- You were a long-time supporter of the Bush Family. Now you've changed your opinion. Why?

A- I've seen reports of routine torture of foreign subjects approved by George Bush. Wire Reports claim that the Bush administration is sending foreign "suspects, to Jordan, our closest ally in the Middle East to be tortured by their so-called Security gents, on behalf of the United States.

Civilized people in civilized countries have outlawed torture for

hundreds of years. One reason is that it just that it doesn't work! Many of our own troops have undergone torture in Vietnam, Korea and other war zones throughout the world.

The brave refuse to be broken but most of us would just tell our tormentors anything, just to stop the pain. Does George Bush think that his Moslem prisoners are tougher than us?

As I See It, its just another example of the dangerous incompetence of the Bush League, that now runs

Washington DC.

A- The Nazis, the Communists, the extremists resort to torture as much for their own pleasure and revenge as for any other reason. But that is not our way. unless you're completely out-of-touch with American values.

AISI- But we have laws against torture don't we?

A- George Bush thinks that he's above the law! Can you imagine how our Founding Fathers would react to a President illegally exempting himself from the law? Literally hundreds of so-called attachments, have been signed by the Leader of the Free World that claim that Mr. Bush can revise, interpret or disregard any law by invoking

National Security.

This might be how things are done in China, North Korea, Russia and many other dictator states. But America? Never!

AISI- But Mr. Bush didn't invent these exemptions did he?

A- Major proponent of these exemptions was Samuel Alito, an administration lawyer back in the Reagan years, believe it or not he's now a Supreme Court Justice. It's reported that George Bush has claimed over 800 of these exemptions, during his administration. Compare this to less then 600

COMBINED for all our other Presidents over the past couple of hundred

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Tom Loury

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Seek the truth

### POLITICS

This is the time of the year when the politicians are coming out to talk about what a good job they have done, tooting their own horn. Some have

done a good job, usually it's the candidates that did a good job who are the ones that are not popular, or a candidate running for another spot moving up. The unpopular ones might have to vote

to raise taxes or some other things that tax payers will have to pay for. I agree there are some high profile candidates who are popular and do a good job, but they are few. I have been listening to some of the truths and on the other hand some are a whole lot of "BS!"

You must decide what is truth and what is not. Some of these guys (men and women) are nothing but empty suits drawing a paycheck and you need to recognize that. Sometimes you need to consider when a politician raised taxes, you might need to keep him or her in office to make sure the taxes are spent on the very thing that they had planned the money for.

### SUMTER COUNTY

The Villages One Sumter Plan is almost complete! The Developer, his family, builders, contractors, close friends and a few others have donated approximately \$71,000 to Breeden's Campaign and \$45,000 to Gilpin's campaign, both Republicans. Recently a new candidate has popped up. Miranda Skipper, the unknown 22 year old has come out of nowhere, paid the filing fee and is running on the Democratic ticket. Emails to me ask "I wonder who paid her filing fee?" Is this a vote breaker? You see, if there are no Democratic candidates, the Democrats can rollover vote, meaning vote for the other party. The appearance of this candidate has stopped that vote. Meanwhile, the two incumbent Republicans, Chandler and Roberts, seeing how much money is being spent, decide that they don't want to face the financial blitz coming in the primary campaign, so they change parties and file as inde-

pendents. Now they are sure of getting through the primary and have a fighting chance in the final elections.

If Breeden and Gilpin get elected, it will give the Villages management a 4 to 1 vote on every issue. With 4 votes, the Villages will own Sumter County, lock, stock and barrel. I would not be a bit surprised to hear the words Imminent Domain in Sumter County in the near future.

While I'm on this subject, using children's names on campaign contributions should not be legal! Contributors should be voting age only. The voters should not go along with this. Vote your heart and your brain. Seniors are a smart bunch of people and most are not easily intimidated. Let's see for whom they vote.

### FULL MOON

Lady, Pleeeeee don't call Jeb on me! I got a call from an avid reader to say if I don't get newspapers to the Senior Services building, she was going to call the GOVERNOR. I dropped everything and immediately complied. I certainly don't want Jeb on my case. Lady, Pleeeeee don't call Jeb! The day after she made the call, she went back up north for two months. I certainly hope she got her paper before she left. She might call and say she is going to call the President if I don't deliver papers to Wisconsin. Lady, Pleeeeee don't call George!

### FULL MOON

I was very concerned about an elderly woman caller from the Ocala area. She felt unsafe in the complex in which she lived, because the complex

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COLUMNS are the opinions of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Lady Lake Magazine, and are chosen to represent a diversity of views on local issues. The editorial on page 4 is the opinion of the Publisher only.

## Newspaper Deadlines

### Editorial & Ad Copy for September

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## BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Last month when I made the statement that the American Indian used, in reference to the White Man: "White Man talk with forked tongue." I did not realize that it would relate to more people than Brother Darrell and Brother Darrell, who sit on the Sumter County Board. But of course I was wrong. At

a recent BOCC meeting, Pete Wahl made the argument that Sumter County should pay The Villages for maintaining the right-of-way for 8.2 miles, which relates to \$660.23 per center mile. When Mr. Wahl was asked by another commissioner, "do other counties adjacent to Sumter participate in

this type of a program?" "This is where the phrase White Man talk with forked tongue comes in. Mr. Wahl stammered and stuttered and stated he would have to check it out. Anyone with half the intelligence knows that Marion and Lake County do not participate. Now, at 8.2 miles at \$660.23 comes to approximately \$5,413.89 per cut. Pete Wahl is requesting 7 cuts, this totals \$37,897.20. At one time when I lived in the Villages, I attended one of the CDD meetings. When Mr. Wahl was paying their auditor an exuberant amount of money, I asked Mr. Wahl if this goes out for bids. His comment to me was "I don't have to." Now, if the county is requested to pay out this kind of money, should it not be the responsibility of the County to put this out for bids. I would suggest that anyone who reads this, who would like a parttime job cutting only 8 miles of grass at \$660.23 a mile, send a resume to Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Frances, because these are the two people pushing the request.

Send your applications to:

Board of Sumter County Commissioners, Attention: Commissioner Francis or Commissioner Hoffman or both. @ 209 North Florida St. Bush-

nell, Florida 33513.

Another interesting item surfaced at a recent meeting, in regards to the proposed Sports Complex that is being considered for the southern part of Sumter County. First of all, I do not know the person who is selling this property, nor have I seen the property or know where it is located. The county attorney wrote a proposal for an appraisal. An appraisal would have to be done to justify any dollar amount for this property.

Once again Brother Darrell, (Mike Frances) made a very long dissertation on said property, that the present owner paid so many dollars for the property and now what he is asking will be a large profit. Mr. Francis does not feel that anyone should make that much of a profit. What he did not tell the public is that when he moved from Lake County to Sumter County, he bought his house in Sumter at a huge discount, compared to the adjacent property. This, of course, will lead to a large profit for him. The other issue he did not reveal is that he made over two hundred thousand dollars increase in net worth in one year. Now,

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# I WONDER WHY

I am often amazed, and perhaps at times amused, at the ease in which I can assemble enough material to write this column. The foibles of human nature, the inability of government at all levels to solve the problems that bedevil us, the sports figures who are paid excessively and who apparently don't realize how lucky they are to possess a talent that enables them to live a life of luxury, all combine to provide our column with "stuff".

So speaking of sport, we wonder why teenage golf phenomenon Michelle Wie feels it necessary to continue to enter P.G.A. tournaments with the stated goal of competing successfully with the men who play the game for a living, and a good one at that. Her advisors, in this case her parents, are at fault in allowing this farce to continue. It is apparent that tournament promoters love to see Michelle on the tee with the men. After all, she is a big draw, even though the chances of her making

the cut are pretty remote. I would guess that the professionals entered in a tournament, even though they don't voice their feelings, are not too happy to see their game turned into a media circus by a 16-year-old, who just happens to look pretty good in her latest fashion statement. Michelle should stick to L.P.G.A. tournaments, and the P.G.A. powers that be need to stop bowing to her requests to step on to the tee with the men of the professional tour.

Still on sports, I wonder why the University of Miami would want to hang on to a football player, Willie Williams, who has asked to be released from his scholarship. Williams was allowed to enroll at Miami despite an 11-entry arrest record. Apparently upset that he was never a starter at Miami, Williams, it seems, wants to find another college willing to overlook his arrest record and give him a chance to ultimately enter the draft for the N.F.L. and become a millionaire. Which is

yet another reason why the N.C.A.A. needs to crack down on schools that, by devious means, both academically and by ignoring criminal behavior, provide full scholarships for talented players who should never receive them.

A recent letter to the Star-Banner poked fun at our state Legislature, which wasted precious debating time in their 60-day sojourn in Tallahassee passing an act that will allow local authorities to write an ordinance authorizing dog owners to take their pets to restaurants. I assume that the majority of our representatives up there are in favor of this asinine idea, but want local governments to take action in their own particular bailiwicks.

We can only hope that our own elected officials place this idea in limbo, and leave it there in perpetuity! Which leads me to wonder if there were any lobbyists pushing this weighty legislation, whether restaurant owners were polled for their opinions, and who will clean up the mess left behind when dog-owning patrons have left the premises. I also wonder who the heck would WANT to take their dogs to a restaurant anyway!

I wonder what the chances are that an impartial jury will ever be seated in the Couey trial. Anyone who denies any previous knowledge of the case must have been living on the moon for the past few months. The omnipresent

media have ensured that if you read a newspaper, or watch TV (and who does not?), the chances of the judge finally instructing a jury are seriously in doubt. I wonder what county will be chosen for the next effort to find 12 citizens who qualify.

I wonder if former Corrections Department Secretary James Crosby will be forced to return the \$215,000 retirement payout he received after being charged with accepting bribes, and whether the state will still pay him the \$66,000 annual pension he is supposed to receive. I also wonder why a man earning \$124,000 a year would risk it all by accepting bribes from people desirous of doing business with the state.

And talking about taxpayer money, I wonder how much graft has changed hands since the "Big Dig" started in Boston. Forecast to cost \$2-4 billion, the cost of this tunnel in Boston has risen to \$14 billion, and is now under a huge cloud due to faulty work which caused the death of a woman motorist, and bids fair to endanger others using the tunnel if the problems are not fixed immediately. I wonder how many pockets have been lined with the nations taxpayers' money.

I'm also wondering if other states will follow the lead of New York in denying drivers licenses to illegal

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Editor**

I owe my soul to the company store. The lyrics from the Tennessee Ernie Ford song 'Sixteen Tons' were never more appropriate. To see this for yourself, all you have to do is check the contributions on the quarterly reports of the candidates running for office in Sumter County. They are public records, available at the office of the Supervisor of Elections office or online.

This is supposed to be a government of the people, by the people and for the people, not a government of the purchased, by the purchaser for the developers. People, you must become involved in rescuing the democratic principals this country was based upon before it is too late!

With the passage of "One Sumter," the money and undue influence the major developers exert, the average resident has all but lost the probability of ever holding public office in Sumter County. To prove that point, just check the records of the candidates backed by the developers. Most of the contributions reported are from contractors and businesses connected to the developers in one way or another. Also check the number of contributions from out of state, or at the very least, out of county.

With these types of contributions, you must ask WHY? Why is all this money being poured into small town, local elections? What do these contributors expect to gain?

To see what they have to gain, you just have to look around. All the annexing of land by Wildwood and Center Hill, the unchecked expansion of the Villages and other developers, the unbridled expansion of the mining industry, there will soon be no Sumter "County" left. The urban sprawl is slowly but surely devouring all of rural Sumter County. And with the demise of the rural life style, just how long will the local residents be able to afford to live in Sumter County? With urbanization comes city taxes, water and sewer bills that never quit going higher and higher. Then comes the mandatory garbage removal, the list goes on and on. And who will benefit from this? Not Joe Public.

Don't let big money buy your vote. Don't let the pressure of veiled threats sway your vote. Our fathers fought and died so we would all have the right to vote our conscience and the right to have our vote count. Don't let them have died in vain. Stand up, get out and vote and make sure your vote counts!

**Letter to the editor:**

Elections: Wake up Sumter County. It seems that since One Sumter came into effect the only people who can afford to run for office now are the ones who are bought and paid for by big development. Oh, if you don't believe me, just go look at the records in the Supervisor of Elections office in Bushnell, or better yet demand that your local paper publish these records. This is public information.

When a candidate can walk out of a meeting with over 71 thousand dollars in his coffer and another with over 45 thousand dollars, there is something drastically wrong.

I read in the Daily Developer newspaper that the candidate, Mr. Gilpin, stated that he just could not believe that people just came to him and were giving him donations for his campaign, a few dollars here and there. Now if you believe that, I will sell you some swamp land in the middle of The Villages.

I read his campaign financial report and I did not see the average John Doe donations. I saw big developers giving the limit of \$500.00 dollars from every member of their family and businesses. Every donation came in on the same day and all in the same amounts and just after a meeting with the Developer.

What ever happened to fair campaigning? What ever happened to Unit-

ing the County with One Sumter? What One Sumter did was split the county. The average person who is not bought and paid for by the Developer can not run for any office. They could never compete with the money that developers put into the coffers of the Chosen Ones. And you and I and anyone with one ounce of brains knows that Mr. Gilpin and Gary Breeden are both bought and paid for by the Developer and will do the bidding of their master IF elected. Remember when you go to vote, Mr. Breeden was the one who was responsible for the failure of the Digester, costing Sumter County millions of dollars. Remember that Mr. Breeden gave a contract to the Villages for thousands of dollars a foot for mowing and planting the right-of-ways in the Villages that you were already paying for in your taxes, and also by the lawn care that you paid for on your own property. All the flowers that are dug up every changing season and replaced, at 6 thousand dollars a mile.

Charges were brought against Mr Breeden through the State Attorney's office and somehow all this was dropped. Could this be big money talking again?

If you have any doubts on what I have stated, go check out the Financial reports that have to be filed with the

(Continued on Page 15)



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# THE WORLD IN REVERSE

## Will You Age-In-Place?

Recent studies show that older Americans, including those who have serious health problems and need long-term care, want to live at home rather than in a nursing home or assisted living facility. Most seniors (81% of those age 62 and older) own their homes and 74% of those own them free and clear. With over \$2 trillion tied up in home equity, this financial resource has the potential to dramatically increase the ability of seniors to pay for long-term

care at home. The federally insured FHA/HUD senior friendly reverse mortgage program can free up needed cash while enabling seniors to continue to own their home and never make a monthly house payment.

The amount that these senior households could receive from a reverse mortgage is substantial. These funds can go a long way to pay for help at home and for retrofitting the home to make it safer and more comfortable for seniors. They could also use it to

purchase long-term care insurance. According to the National Council on Aging, an estimated \$953 billion could be available from reverse mortgages for immediate long-term care needs and to promote aging in place.

The cost of aging in place is getting much more difficult with the rising cost of home maintenance, utilities, property taxes and homeowners insurance. These rising costs are fueling a surging and ever popular growing reverse mortgage market.

There have been double digit increases in the cost of home heating oil, natural gas, and propane in many areas of the country. Rising property

taxes are squeezing retirees who have lived in the same house for 20, 30, or 40 years. For many retirees, it takes them two full months of their fixed income to pay their rising property taxes. Moreover, insurance premiums have increased at a rate 2-3 times the annual rate of inflation in some areas of the country which negatively impacts monthly cash flow for seniors. It doesn't have to be that way!

More and more seniors are turning to the federally insured FHA/HUD reverse mortgage to solve aging-in-place issues.

The reverse mortgage enables homeowners 62 or older to tap the equity in their homes without credit or income qualifications to pay the senior homeowner a stream of monthly cash, a lump sum, or place it into a growing line of credit that can be accessed within 1-3 days for any reason or want. Most importantly, there is never a monthly house payment while at least one spouse occupies the home. There are no out-of-pocket costs and the senior homeowner retains the title/deed ownership of their home. The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) insures the loan so that no debt can ever be passed to the heirs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has oversight of all approved lenders offering the FHA/HUD senior friendly reverse mortgage program. The reverse mortgage is a viable tool to help senior homeowners remain in their biggest investment - THEIR HOME...and age in place in dignity.

Mike Netherclift is a Regional Vice President and Certified Senior Advisor with Ocala based American Reverse Mortgage Corporation and is the host of the weekly radio show The World of Reverse Mortgages heard on WRZN Sunshine 720 AM every Sunday morning at 9am. You can contact Mike at 866-656-8540, 352-362-2145, or via email at Mike@AmericanReverse.com

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## **IT'S IN THE MAIL!**



# Ombudsman

(Continued from Page 1)

Affairs, there is a program called the Ombudsman program. This program is the voice of the residents of long term Care.

The following is a reprint from NORC Gazette.

“ Florida Governor Jeb Bush has signed into law a bill that makes significant changes in the state statute governing the Florida Ombudsman Program. The legislation clarifies and improves the program’s ability to advocate for residents of long term care facilities.

According to State Ombudsman Brian Lee, the changes are designed to: 1) centralize program operations within the office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman by realigning all administrative duties to department personnel, allowing the program’s volunteers to concentrate on service delivery to residents; 2) promote a culture of resident-oriented advocacy by empowering ombudsmen to focus more on the protection of long-term care facility residents through a refined annual as-

essment process: 3) remove barriers to volunteerism by streamlining the application and approval process for prospective volunteers; and 4) clarify staff and volunteer roles by designating program staff as representatives of the Office of the State Ombudsman.” What is the long term care ombudsman council? The long term ombudsman council is a group of concerned citizens whose goal is to improve the quality of life for people who live in long term care facilities such as nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult family care homes and long term care units in hospitals.

What is an Ombudsman?

An ombudsman is a specially trained and certified volunteer who has been approved by the governor and given authority under Florida law to investigate and resolve complaints made by, or on behalf of, long term care facility residents.

What does an Ombudsman Do?

The ombudsman’s job is to protect the rights of residents and assure that residents receive fair treatment and quality care by:

\* Investigating and resolving complaints.

\* Visiting each facility at least annually to evaluate conditions.

\* Ensuring that residents are receiving the legal, financial, social, rehabilitative and other services to which they are entitled.

\* Educating residents, families and facility staff about residents’ rights.

\* Providing information to the public about long term care facilities.

\* Assisting with the establishment of resident and family councils.

\* Representing residents’ interests before state and federal government by working to change laws, regulations and policies that affect those who live in long term care facilities.

You can get involved, you can become an Ombudsman. It is a rewarding program, no pay, but a lot of satisfaction knowing that you have been able to help someone who could not speak or fight for their rights without your help. Get involved, volunteer. Your help is needed. One day an Ombudsman may be fighting for your rights.

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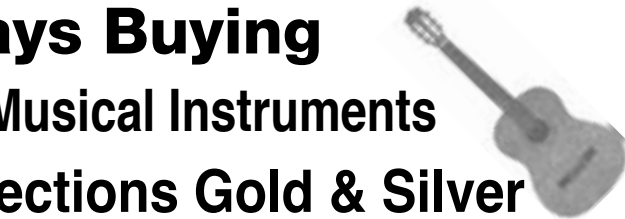
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# Things You Need To Know

Information from the internet:  
1987 - Oliver North testifying at the Iran-Contra during Reagan time He was being questioned by a senator; "Did you not recently spend close to \$60,000 for a home security system?" Ollie replied, Yes.

Isn't that just a little excessive?" "No, sir," continued Ollie. "No? And why not?" the senator asked.

"The lives of my family and I were threatened, sir."

"Threatened? By whom?" the senator questioned.

"By a terrorist, sir" Ollie answered. "Terrorist? What terrorist could possibly scare you that much?"

"His name is Osama bin Laden, sir" Ollie replied.

The senator tried to repeat the name, but couldn't pronounce it. Then the senator continued. Why are you so afraid of this man?" the senator asked.

"Because, sir, he is the most evil person alive that I know of", Ollie answered.

"And what do you recommend we do about him?" asked the senator.

"Well, sir, if it was up to me, I would recommend that an assassin team be formed to eliminate him and his men from the face of the earth."

The senator disagreed with this approach, and that was all that was shown

of the clip. By the way, that senator was Al Gore!

Also:  
Terrorist pilot Mohammad Atta blew up a bus in Israel in 1986. The Israelis captured, tried and imprisoned him. As part of the Oslo agreement with the Palestinians in 1993, Israel had to agree to release so-called "political prisoners."

However, the Israelis would not release any with blood on their hands, The American President at the time, Bill Clinton, and his Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, "insisted" that all prisoners be released.

Thus Mohammad Atta was freed and eventually thanked the US by flying an airplane into Tower One of the World Trade Center. This was reported by many of the American TV networks at the time that the terrorists were first identified.

It was censored in the US from all later reports.

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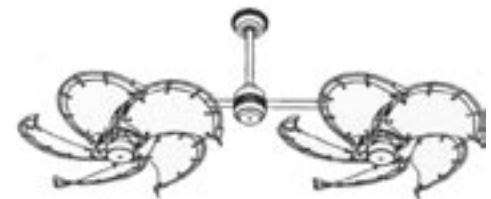
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—A.J. “Tony” Powell

## As I See It

(Continued from Page 2)

years! Its just an abuse of power. It has to be stopped!

AISI- Is that the only major issue that you have with the Bush Presidency?

A- No! Cancer, Leukemia, Organ Failure, Lou Gehrigs Disease, Paralysis - How many horrible injuries and diseases are there in the world? How many of us, our friends, our family

will suffer and die needlessly because of George Bush's veto of Embryonic Stem Cell Research?

The Republican dominated Congress failed to overturn Bush's veto. Mr. Bush was quoted as saying, "This bill would support the taking of innocent human life in the hope of finding medical benefits for others. It crosses a moral boundary that our decent society

needs to respect. What garbage!

Every current Public Opinion Poll that I've read about shows that, we the people, disagree with that point of view! Would you prefer to see unused embryos thrown in the dumpster as they are now by the thousands every day. Or, should we use them to find cures for our sick, injured and disabled? Well, you just don't have to be that smart to figure it out do you?

AISI- This conversation has turned into a "tirade, against President Bush is that your intention.

A- The catastrophic George Bush era is soon coming to an end. Then we can again enjoy "America the Beautiful. As far as I'm concerned, it can't happen too soon, even if that means we have to elect a Democrat!

"til next time"

—Tom Poss

## BELIEVE IT OR NOT

(Continued from Page 5)

if he can make an exuberant profit in one year from god knows where, why cannot the owner of this property make an honest profit on his land. With the expansion of The Villages, property values have increased many fold. Everyone is making a profit on land that they bought cheap. It is only because this land is in the Southern part of the County, Mr. Frances does not want this land for a Sports Complex. Not getting this Sports Complex will hurt the youth

of our county, the entire county.

Remember one thing, several months ago Mr. Francis proposed that the county build a tunnel for golf carts to go under 466 from the new Wal Mart Store to the sports field in the Villages. Look at the priority of spending your dollars.

I want to hear from you good, bad or indifferent. Tcposs@aol.com . Until next time this is Believe it or Not, by: Tom Poss

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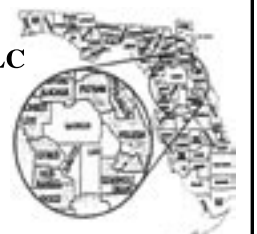
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LADY LAKE MAGAZINE  
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# Lake Business Leaders Holds Expo



The tables were abundant. Some 28 businesses showed their wares, consisting of some discounted show pricing, free gifts and lots of candy. Every display was totally different and the vendors who were in attendance said they will come to the next one. Some of the vendors enjoyed the great food at Garfields Saturday night after the Expo. The manager and staff were very good to them. There will be another expo in about six months. Watch in this newspaper for the announcement. If you have a business and would like to check out the Lake Business Leaders, we meet at Little Antonys Thursdays at noon. Tell them Tom Loury invited you.



# Who Is Interfaith?

Emergency Services?

In 1983, the religious pastoral community in Marion County saw a need to provide emergency assistance to individuals and families in crisis. The majority of services are provided by our volunteers. Interfaith is

governed by a Board of Directors with representatives from clergy, social service, business and other community leaders.

Who Do We Help?

Interfaith Emergency Services provides a full range of services and

assistance for residents of Marion County. We serve individuals and families in need. Clients are referred by Churches, Synagogues and Public Service Agencies go to Interfaith for assistance. We provide the basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter and much more to enhance the quality of life for families and individuals.

In 2005, Interfaith Emergency Services, through outreach and services touched the lives of more than 45,000 individuals in Marion County.

Funding for Services

Interfaith Emergency Services receives no government funds for our day-to-day operations.

For more than two decades our financial support has come from churches, individuals and businesses providing both monetary and in-kind support for our programs and services. Special events are held throughout the year to raise additional financial support.

Interfaith operates two thrift stores, one in Ocala and another in Reddick. The thrift stores generate additional funds for our prescription program [www.marion-interfaith.org](http://www.marion-interfaith.org)

Volunteer your time and expertise - Interfaith Emergency Services has a variety of volunteer opportunities at our main office: help with client interviews, clerical and other office duties.

Volunteers are needed to provide help with our Prescription Program, Thrift Stores, Clothing Closet, Food Pantry Warehouse, Food 4 KiLLs Program and Special Events.

You can make a monetary donation, or a donation of various items to our programs. All donations are tax-deductible. Please contact us to make a donation or learn more about volunteering.

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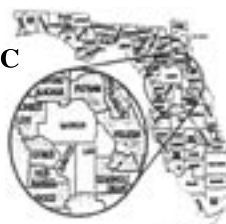
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ONE PERSON'S OPINION

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 7)

Supervisor of Elections and see for yourself where the money is coming from to get two people elected into office. There will be bobble heads for big Development.

If these two people get into office, the southern part of Sumter County will be what Commissioner Francis already calls it. The Poor section that is sparsely populated and does not need any help from the County such as "No Sports Complex."

The Developer has two yes men on

the board now and with the next election he wants two more, giving him always a 4-1 vote. Then the southern part of the county will be no more than the worker drones for the big rollers of The Villages.

Charlotte Poss  
Oakland Hills Sumter County.

Dear Editor:

Please accept this letter as my request for you to allow me to re-in-

troduce myself to your readers. I am Michael G. Takac, and am one of two candidates for the recently created Circuit Court Judge position identified as "Group 030." I write because the late July qualification date established in the new law (ordinarily Judges qualify in May) leaves just over one month for voters to decide one of the four circuit judge positions they may vote on September 5, 2006. The other races have either three candidates, making a November run-off likely, or qualified in May.

Hopefully, voters reading this will recognize the "unusual last name" and remember my proven record for handling a broad array of civil and criminal cases, as well as appeals across our state. For 19 years as a lawyer, including stints in public service as a Senior Assistant Attorney General, and Assistant General Counsel to the Executive Office of the Governor, it has been my

privilege to serve our system of justice and the people of this state. I would truly appreciate the opportunity to apply my broad legal experience and the lessons of hard work, integrity, and fairness taught to me by my parents and grandparents as one of your next Circuit Court Judges.

As conscientious voters work to sort through the many choices they will have to make on their upcoming primary ballot, I pray that the qualifications of your judicial candidates will not be overlooked. Should you have any questions, please accept this invitation to call me at 352-671-1313. Thank you, and your readers, for this opportunity to reveal the qualifications and character of Michael G. TAKAC, Candidate for Circuit Court Judge, group 30.

Sincerely,  
Michael G. TAKAC

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Tom Loury

# PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Seek the truth

(Continued from Page) 4

is hiring people who don't speak English and can't respond to questions this lady asks. LIKE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? For all I know, they could be people posing as employees of the complex. I think it is a shame for our elderly residents to live in fear for their well being. I did direct her to what I think was the proper place and someone will check it out. Too many

times the elderly are preyed on. Get involved and help stop the elderly from those fears.

### FULL MOON

In The Villages, a lady called to say our carrier threw a newspaper at a duck that was in her yard and someone has to stick up for the ducks. I really don't believe we threw a newspaper at

(Continued on Page 18)



This horse is NOT too big for me! Look, I'm almost as tall as the horse. I'm going to wash him off and take him for a ride. A girl named Chyenne Ingles and a horse named Drummer - which one do you think is too big for her britches? Chy is 7 years old and is in the second grade at Romeo Elementary. She is now riding Drummer around in the pasture by herself, thanks to the riding lessons she has received from Lindsay Sykes.

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—Ken Tipper

# I WONDER WHY

(Continued from Page 6)

immigrants. It seems that one Social Security number was used to obtain licenses for 57 illegal's, and a taxi driver used two S.S. numbers to get insurance on one and traffic tickets on the other! I wonder who funds the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund, which represented these illegals, who apparently will appeal this New York state law.

I am the proud owner of a flag purchased through the good offices of my Representative, Ric Keller.

Now I am wondering about where it was made, since of the \$5.5 million worth of American flags IMPORTED last year, \$5 million worth were made in China! I wonder if the flags flown over the Capitol and sold to constituents were made in China too. And, to my chagrin, a cap gifted to me by my daughter and bearing the names of the current Shuttle crew was also made in China. Is nothing sacred?

I wonder why Ocala city taxpayers should be stuck with handing mon-

ey to a research company looking to locate here. Part of the rationale for them coming here is that they would bring 25 employees with them who earn six-figure incomes and who would spend lots of money in the area. I wonder how that

would benefit Ocalans who are looking for a decent job.

I have lots more "I wonders", but publisher Tom has only so much space, so we will wonder why some more in the next issue.

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Tom Loury

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Seek the truth

(Continued from Page 16)

a duck because both of the carriers are animal lovers. When you throw 20,000 newspapers, you get pretty good at throwing, so if they wanted to hit the duck, I think they could have. The carriers have agreed to take special care to watch out for the ducks.

### FULL MOON

To the retired third grade school teacher who did not like my grammar/

spelling. "Thank you for reading my newspapers." Remember, anyone can be a critic, try publishing three papers and take the criticism that comes with it. On a full moon, the call rate doubles. In this case, there just happened to be a full moon. There is a new challenge every day! My definition of a story is to use words to get an idea across to the reader! If everything is spelled properly and the grammar is perfect that is icing on the cake. I am not perfect regard-

less of what you hear. HA HA! JOKE! JOKE!

### FULL MOON

According to several emails, the Madeline Murray O'Haire story was not correct. I have yet to find out what was wrong with it, but the emails kept referring to Snoops. I wonder who checks Snoops. I think I'll run Snoops through it's own checkout station and see what they say about themselves. I guess this is like the dictionary for true or false. If I was wrong, I will find out. Still checking!

### SAND MINE

The request for a Sand Mine per-

mit was turned down by the Planning and Zoning Commission. It was taken before the Marion County Commissioners and they passed it. That vote undermined the power of Planning and Zoning. What do we have them in place if we are not going to let them do their job? HMMM I wonder where this sand is going to be used?

### NEWS LEAK

The issue about the New York Times leaking sensitive information about how we are catching terrorists - many months ago I was watching a news commentary and one of the po-

(Continued on Page 19)

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--	----------	--

Tom Loury

## PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Seek the truth

(Continued from Page 18)

litical analysts said “we can find out where they are by following the money.” It’s no secret and if you think these terrorists don’t know this you are sadly under estimating them.

We not only have to find them but we need to put heavier economic sanctions on the countries helping them. We are currently making countries wealthy by buying products from them and that same money is used to attempt attack our people. What is wrong with this picture.

### FISH FRY

Enjoyed the Fish Fry put on by the Chamber this month. I can’t help it. When food is prepared by a really good Chef it is so much better. In this case the food was fabulously prepared

by Chef Randal of the Hilton. The temperature was in the 90’s, pretty close to unbearable, but as the sun went down it got a little bit better. One unidentified lady almost passed out, I think from the heat, but quickly recovered.

Ocala business Leaders sponsored a great Job Fair this month. I saw a lot of people filling out applications. With unemployment being so low, its hard to find good help.

Lake Business Leaders sponsored a great Business Expo at the Lake Square Mall. Watch for the next one in about six months.

Good news! We will be delivering before the primary so watch for us.

TomL



Right - Speaking to the Ocala Business Leaders, is Jim Payton, Chairman of the Marion County Commission. He is a noted speaker, showing his wit, humor and a wealth of information. Several times during his talk he recognized his wife Bonnie. Jim is affiliated with many clubs, a member of the First Baptist Church of Ocala and on many boards and councils in the community. He is definitely involved in the county in which he lives.

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### Miscellaneous : Health Medical : Health Medical Equipment

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Dark green frame, high back beige vinyl seat. Excellent condition. \$1,525. 00. Harmar electric hoist for van or pickup \$500. 00 or special package deal. Call: 352-867-8481, DHarris876@aol.com

### Miscellaneous : Health Medical : Health Medical Equipment

:ELECTRIC SCOOTER with basket, cane holder, lites, charger. Canary yellow. Like new. Was \$1300 new. Asking \$400. Call: 352-514-3955, drdbusch@aol.com

### Real Estate : Out of State : North Carolina

Franklin NC; yr round park. View photos at lstamey@uniquepropertie.com; Call 888-868-0773 (Lois) for info. Beautiful, clean, serene, close to Ashville, Smokies, the Highlands, state parks mtns. Redone in 05; new carpet, vinyl, paint, wiring; nice porch. Furnished, Split 2 brdm plan. 2 baths,

large kitchen, dining, living room. Lot rent \$130. Price nego. Call: 352-624-0605, studebakera95@yahoo.com

### Real Estate : SE Homes : Over \$300,000

4 bedroom / 3 bath / wood and carpet floors / privacy fence / manicured landscape. Inside completely remodeled and in imaculant condition. Must see pictures. Located in the heart of downtown Ocala, Florida. \$550,000 (1240 S. E. 11th Ave. ) Call: 352-624-2215, bg5042000@yahoo.com

### Real Estate : SE Homes : To \$200,000

Beautiful 3BR, 2BA home in the attractive SE neighborhood of High Pointe, convenient to schools and shopping. 1231 sq ft (under air) with natural wood and ceramic tile flooring, stone fireplace, french doors, and 16 X 34 screened porch. For sale by owner and priced at \$177,900. Call for appointment to see this house waiting to become your HOME! Call: 352-620-2394, l\_helberg@yahoo.com

### Real Estate : Mobile Homes DW : Under \$20,000

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frig. Large bedrooms and living area. Shed with washer and dryer. Screen room and 2 car carport. Lot # 360 on dead end street. Perimeter lot in pet friendly park. Partially furnished. Asking \$26,000. 00 or lease to own with min. of half down. call to see, empty since remodeling. Call: 352-208-4731, bbunnie522@hotmail.com

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(Continued on Page 21)

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(Continued from Page 20)

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**Miscellaneous : Health Medical : Health Medical Equipment**

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**Real Estate : Retirement Golf : Other Communities**

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### 9101 SE 88 St

3 bedroom, 2 bath, approx. 1684 sq. ft living area. Central electric heat and air. Garage converted to family/play room. Screen porch. Fenced back yard. New roof this year. Owner/Broker. \$138,000 ML # 226691



### 255 CLAY AV - LADY LAKE

Small but has potential! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Bonus room, could be third bedroom. Nice 10' x 26' screen porch. Close to The Villages, ball fields, tennis courts, playground and library. \$75,000 ML #G4599258



### 8 ALMOND PL

3 bedroom, 2 bath split plan. Cathedral ceiling. Bright, cheery kitchen, upgraded tile floors in living room, dining area and kitchen. Walk-in closets. Large back yard, privacy fenced. Covered patio. Central AC and heat pump. \$149,000. ML #226722



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### Frontage On Deer Lake

Pretty waterfront property in quiet area of nice homes. Could be annexed into Town of Lady Lake. Can be divided subject to Buyer's due diligence. 315 ft on paved road, 159 ft deep. \$145,000 ML #G4607322

## LOTS/ACREAGE

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