

# LOCAL & STATE

LOCAL NEWS ON YOUR CELL  
Take us with you anywhere,  
anytime at <http://m.ocala.com>



Memorabilia evokes bygone era, 2B UF sophomore gets a helping bionic hand, 4B

## Progress Energy's plan for Levy plant under fire

Florida officials are worried the plant may not begin operating until 2027 while customers pay advance charges all the while.

maybe 2021. Now, more dismaying news. State consumer advocates say they have evidence the plant won't open until 2027. Indeed, they openly wonder if the plant will ever be built.

This week, the state Office of Public Counsel, which represents consumers in utility matters, will argue that, given the uncertainty over the plant's future, customers' advance payments should be cut in half.

In the regulatory equivalent of a trial,

This week, the state Office of Public Counsel, which represents consumers in utility matters, will argue that, given the uncertainty over the plant's future, customers' advance payments should be cut in half.

deputy public counsel Charles Rehwinkel will note that the state forced customers to pay in advance in order to bolster the economy, create jobs and, of course, get a plant built.

"None of that is happening," Rehwinkel

said. "They've spent enough money."

Central to his case: a confidential 2010 Progress Energy status report on the proposed plant in Levy County. Virtually all of the report is being kept secret from

REACTOR on Page 5B

St. Petersburg Times

Since 2009, Progress Energy customers have been paying for a nuclear plant that will not generate a kilowatt of power until 2016. Wait, make that 2018. Well,

## @WORK Quick profiles of Ocala business people

### STEVEN WINGO

PRESIDENT AND OWNER  
STEVEN WINGO, ATTORNEY AT LAW

**Job description:** "I help accident victims try to get their life together and navigate our very complex medical and legal systems. When people are involved in an accident, their lives are in turmoil from the moment they are hurt. It's a big, complex process. You have property damage, medical care, people calling on the phone, losing income from



work, and bills already coming in the mail. Problems are thrown at them all at once."

**Why he started his own firm in 2009:** "I wanted the opportunity to be innovative in my approach in representing clients, and here I get to make all of my own decisions. I use Mac computers, and not many lawyers do that. My three staff members are all high level — we've got a licensed insurance adjuster, a retired homicide investigator and an office manager. They take a lot of personal interest in cases, and you can lose that in a big firm. It's hard to keep track when you have 30 or 40 staff members."

**Reasons why clients request his help:** "Probably half of my clients never intended to call a lawyer, but they call for one of two reasons. Either they get stiffed on a property claim or they are trying to get in to see a doctor. Some doctors won't see them, so they often don't know where to go for medical treatment. I'm not a doctor and I can't diagnose you, but in most situations I will have a pretty good idea and can point you to the right doctor. I like when I get to solve problems for my clients and get results they are happy with. Even solving a little problem can be a huge deal."

**Why you won't see him in a suit unless he is in court:** "I'm not your normal lawyer, as you can see by the way I am dressed. When a client walks in and sees me, there is a sense of relief. A lot of people are intimidated to be involved in a process that they don't know much about and they are nervous about it. This can help them feel relaxed and at ease — I can see them let out a big breath."

— Have an idea for a business profile? Contact Jacqui Janetzko, Star-Banner correspondent, at [jacqui.janetzko@gmail.com](mailto:jacqui.janetzko@gmail.com).

## BUSINESS BITS

### SOCIAL SECURITY IN MARION COUNTY

The Social Security Administration paid \$111.7 million to Marion County recipients in December, the latest month for which full statistics were available. That's not just for retirees, though. Here's a look at the breakdown.

Type of benefit	No. of recipients	Amount paid
<b>RETIREMENT PROGRAM</b>		
Retired workers	74,070	\$85.6M
Spouses	3,700	\$2.2M
Children	840	\$458,000
<b>SURVIVORS</b>		
Widows and parents	6,735	\$7.4M
Children	2,310	\$1.7M
<b>DISABILITY</b>		
Disabled workers	12,425	\$13.5M
Spouses	310	\$84,000
Children	2,420	\$783,000

SOURCE: Social Security Administration

### THE STATE IN BRIEF

#### Key Largo motel clerk robbed at gunpoint

KEY LARGO — The Monroe County Sheriff's Office says a Key Largo motel clerk was robbed at gunpoint, and the suspect got away.

Investigators said the victim reported that he was in a back office of the Key West Inn on Ocean Drive at 3 a.m. Sunday when he heard a noise near the front desk. When he walked up front, he saw a man with a gun. The man said "give me all your money."

The sheriff's office says the clerk handed the suspect the cash drawer. Investigators said the suspect then tore the phone from the wall and fled on foot, after stuffing the money into a black bag.

Deputies searched the area but did not catch the suspect. Detectives are investigating.

#### Deputies: 84-year-old man mauled by dogs

ZEPHYRHILLS — The Pasco County Sheriff's Office said an 84-year-old man has been seriously injured after being mauled by two dogs that had gotten loose from their owner's yard.

The sheriff's office says that John Ashmore was taking a morning walk in Zephyrhills when he was attacked Sunday.

A sheriff's statement said a responding deputy shot and killed the two dogs after the pit bull mix and boxer mix turned on him. The man, meanwhile, was flown to a hospital with serious injuries.

— Compiled from The Associated Press



## Gearing up for the school year

Sunday was the final day of the back-to-school tax holiday weekend in Florida. Many shoppers took to the stores to take advantage of the savings on crucial school supplies and other items.

**ABOVE:** Allen Perry, 5, sticks out his tongue while looking for school supplies at the Target off Southwest College Road in Ocala on Sunday. Perry is entering kindergarten at Marion Charter School in Ocala.

**RIGHT:** Joe Mello shows his son, William Mello, 7, folders and notebooks decorated with superhero characters at Target on Sunday.

**BELOW:** Malea Silvia, 8, and her grandmother, Diana Silvia, look for clothes at Target in Ocala on Sunday.



CORRESPONDENT PHOTOS BY JACQUI JANETZKO

**More online**  
To see more photos from the end of Florida's back-to-school tax holiday weekend, go online to [www.ocala.com](http://www.ocala.com)

## Remember lights when it is raining

By Ann Sperring  
Correspondent

The Ranger has a red face and "dang it" apology to any posse members who recently left voice mail messages.

The messaging portion of the computer-phone system got hung up in an electronic black hole, resulting in some calls being lost.

If your call has not been acknowledged, please send an email.

Please note that the only calls and mail that will be answered are those that fall within the scope of the Ranger's coverage.

The dedicated volunteers of the Ocala Police Department

### ROADWORK THIS WEEK, 2B

City Watch asked that folks be reminded that rain is among the conditions requiring the use of low-beam headlights. Recent daily downpours have contributed to an uptick in fender benders, and the proper headlight use could reduce the frequency. It also is just good horse sense to stay alert to all changes in conditions affecting safety.

August is a busy vacation month, and ensuring your vehicle is in good mechanical shape for travel will prevent the "woe is me" blues. For tips on DIY auto maintenance and minor repairs, visit [www.autorepair.about.com](http://www.autorepair.about.com). You can access detailed "how to" directions from changing air filters to brake pads.

### Contact the Ranger

Send or leave information for the Lane Ranger at 301-5427 or [savefla@gmail.com](mailto:savefla@gmail.com).

Items affecting critical safety such as brakes are best left to professionals unless you have the tools and knowledge to make the repairs. Don't grease monkey around with the safety of yourself or others.

Food costs on the road can dent the money poke fast. If travel plans include the kids, take a gander at [www.kidseatfor.com](http://www.kidseatfor.com) to obtain listings of chuck wagons offering kids free or reduced prices.

Drive safely whatever the destination and leave the phone alone when behind the wheel.

**622-5885**

**We're Bringing in Summer!**

Making your Carpet, Upholstery, Tile, and Air Ducts Fresh and Ready for the New Season!

<p>ANY 4 ROOMS OF CARPET CLEANED FOR</p> <p><b>\$99<sup>00</sup></b></p> <p>Offer Expires 8/31/11</p> <p><b>STANLEY STEEMER</b></p>	<p>1 SOFA (UP TO 7 FT) AND 1 LOVESEAT (UP TO 5 FT) CLEANED FOR</p> <p><b>\$99<sup>00</sup></b></p> <p>Offer Expires 8/31/11</p> <p><b>STANLEY STEEMER</b></p>	<p>1 NON-STANDARD TILED AREA (UP TO 100 SQUARE FEET) AND 1 STANDARD TILED AREA (OVER 100 SQUARE FEET BUT LESS THAN 300) CLEANED FOR</p> <p><b>\$99<sup>00</sup></b></p> <p>Offer Expires 8/31/11</p> <p><b>STANLEY STEEMER</b></p>	<p><b>\$50<sup>00</sup> OFF</b></p> <p>RESIDENTIAL AIR DUCT CLEANING (MUST MEET MINIMUM CHARGE)</p> <p>Offer Expires 8/31/11</p> <p><b>STANLEY STEEMER</b></p>
---	---	--	--