

# CALOOSA BELLE

Delivering Western Hendry County's News Since 1922

VOLUME 87 NUMBER 3

THURSDAY, January 15, 2009

## At a Glance

### Caregiver Trainings in LaBelle

The Alzheimer's Association, Florida Gulf Coast Chapter has announced three upcoming trainings for Family Caregivers.

Jan 30- Safe Return/Medic Alert Wanderers ID Program: How it Works? Safety In the Home/Wandering Prevention

Feb 9- Challenging Behaviors, Do's and Don't's: The Gems of Caregiving

All trainings are from 10-11:30 a.m. at Barron Public Library, 461 North Main Street. For information and to register, call Lisa Rodriguez, Program Specialist at 1(863) 385-3444 (Seating is limited). No cost.

### Get commodities

The Hendry County Food Bank will distribute USDA Commodities at the Dallas Townsend Center on Thursday, Jan. 29, from noon till approximately 3 p.m. Individuals are eligible if they receive Food Stamps, TANF, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid or Residence in Public Housing funded by Municipal, County, State or Federal Government. Individuals can also be eligible based on an income guideline chart.

### You can audition for upcoming plays

The Firehouse Players will hold auditions at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, and 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at the Firehouse Cultural Center, 241 North Bridge Street for the roles of Lady Bracknell, a lady of indeterminate age, and Cicely Cardew, an 18 year-old lass, in Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, the March production at the Firehouse Cultural Center, as well as for the players in the April production of three one-act plays: Anton Chekov's *The Boor* with Helena Popov, a young widow, Grigori Smirnov, proprietor of a country estate, Luka, a servant, and several walkons; Neil Simon's *Visitor From Forest Hills* featuring Norma and Roy, parents of the bride, with Mimsey and Borden, the bride and groom, having only a few lines each; and, *When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet* (with Apologies to the Bard) featuring Juliet from "Romeo and Juliet", Portia from "The Merchant of Venice", Desdemona from "Othello", Cleopatra from "Antony and Cleopatra", Ophelia from "Hamlet", and Katharine from "Taming of the Shrew" which rounds out the trilogy.

For information, contact Joe Thomas, (863)234-1894, or Terri Lazar, (863) 675-2392.

### Old Timers' Dinner

Plan to attend the SCF kick-off event, the Old-Timers' Dinner, Thursday, Feb. 19, at LaBelle Civic Center. It's in honor of our Old-Timers, not just for Old-Timers. Catering is by Buddy Taylor/Gator Hammock, and tickets sold in advance at \$15 each with tables for 10 at \$150 available. Doors open at 4:30 and dine at 6 p.m. Call the chamber at 675-0125; 675-0374 or 675-1338 for tickets.

See Page 2 for information about how to contact the newspaper.

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## HCSO: ATM recovered



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

Divers from Punta Gorda Police Department recovered several items, including a Coca Cola vending machine and a newspaper rack, from the Caloosahatchee River while searching its depths for stolen ATM machines.



Submitted photo/Crime Scene Investigator Dwayne Pratt HCSO

This stolen ATM machine was dredged up from a pond on E Road

## Convenience stores targeted

On Thursday, January 08, 2009, Punta Gorda Police Department Dive team responded to the Hendry County Sheriff's Office as requested to offer assistance in the recovery of stolen ATM machines.

After an intensive investigation by Hendry County Investigators Fernando Herrera and Robert Archer, numerous arrests have been made in the burglaries of area convenience stores. Arrested were Juan Diaz, Jesse Fussell, Joey Lopez, Bruce Green and Sean Abbott.

Between the dates of September 3 and December 14, 2008, a series of commercial burglaries were committed by a small group of suspects tar-

geting area convenience stores in Hendry County.

Authorities say the perpetrators would typically shatter the glass doors, make entry and secure the ATM or safe with a chain or snatch strap and using various stolen vehicles, they would pull the ATM or safe free from its housing. The ATM or safe would then be loaded into the stolen vehicle and driven to an isolated location where it would be dismantled and the contents removed. The damages and losses to area businesses are estimated at approximately \$50,000.

During the investigation and interview of the subjects, investigators were told that one

or more of the stolen ATMs were dumped into the Caloosahatchee River off of the Ft. Denaud Bridge. On Jan. 9 at approximately 10 a.m., members of the Punta Gorda dive team assisted investigators of the Hendry County Sheriff's Office in an attempt to recover the machines that had been disposed of. While their recovery efforts were unsuccessful, Investigators followed up on a lead from witnesses and were able to recover another ATM in the shallow end of a pond in rural Hendry County.

Investigators were able to recover three ATM's, however

See ATM — Page 2

## City plans modest rate increase

By Patty Brant  
Caloosa Belle

City residents can expect a modest increase in their water/sewer bills in the near future. The city commissioners will vote on an increase at their Feb. 12 regular meeting. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at city hall.

In the meantime, the commissioners will be studying a comparison of utility rates for surrounding areas.

After taking the heat for a large increase in city utilities several years ago, the board is attempting to keep ahead of rising costs by implementing incremental utility rate increases. The discussion took place at the city commission's regular January 8 meeting.

According to the proposed fee schedule, the average water/sewer bill would increase about \$3 for 6,000 gallons consumption for city customers (from \$54.49 to \$57.92); and about \$2 for customers outside the city (from \$30.73 for water only, to \$32.67)

Charges for surrounding areas range from a high of \$98.83

in the City of Fort Myers for water and sewer (\$106.74 outside Fort Myers) to a low of \$52.08 for Clewiston customers.

The board also passed a resolution seeking state funding for a new water plant. The resolution is to be presented to the Legislative Delegation meeting in LaBelle on January 27 at 9:30 a.m. The Florida Legislature has declined to help out before; however, citing President-Elect Barack Obama's planned public works package to help stimulate the economy, Mayor Puletti was hopeful this time money might be found.

The city is under a consent order from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to build a new water treatment plant. Demand has also exceeded the current plan's capabilities. The public continually complains about water quality although it is meeting minimum standards and clarity has improved markedly.

### Impact fees

Hendry County Commu-

See City — Page 2

## Economy will affect schools

### From the Hendry County School Board

The economy, everybody's talking about it. The downturn has affected all of us. The School Board is no exception. The revenue necessary to run schools comes directly or indirectly from sales and property tax. Ask any local business person and they'll tell you that sales are down. Local property values and tax collections are at a record low. There is significantly less revenue flowing from both the State and County to operate our schools. Almost all of the State's educational dollars are apportioned on a per student basis. The School District is experiencing the lowest student enrollment in eleven years, and there are all indica-

tions the District will continue to lose students during these economic hard times.

The recent County Referendum has allowed the District to move capital outlay money into the general operating budget, and cost containment strategies put in place last year have allowed the District to get through the first half of this year. Over eighty percent of the District's budget obligates salaries and benefits for close to one thousand employees. The District's 2008-2009 budget is based upon local and State revenue that has steadily decreased over the last six months, and a budget for the remaining year and next year that may continue to experience significant

See Schools — Page 2

## Langfords, Childs are SCF dignitaries

By Patty Brant  
Caloosa Belle

Preparations for the 2009 Swamp Cabbage are well under way. This year's festival, Feb. 21 and 22, is shaping up to be another winner, focused on the theme: "Creating Tomorrow's Heritage... Today."

SCF has chosen a Pioneer Family. For 2009 that honor goes to the Oscar L. Langford Jr. family. The Langfords have been in LaBelle since the late 1940s.

David Childs, manager of

the U-Save is Grand Marshal. He has a reputation for always lending a helping hand to local causes.

The Queen and Princess pageants will be Friday, Feb. 20, this year. The young ladies are working hard on their routines. Head on over to the LaBelle High School Auditorium Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Parade entries are being accepted till Feb. 2. Go to the SCF Web site at [www.swampcabbagefestival.org](http://www.swampcabbagefestival.org) for your entry

See SCF — Page 5



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

Front row: Beverly Lucas and Travis Dowhen. Standing from left: Sherry King, Carolyn White, Julia Beals, Bunny Rickenbacker and Tina Kirby. See information Page 2.



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## Pilot recycling program extends to Felda

The Pilot Curbside Recycle Program is now expanding to the Felda community. Felda residents should be aware that:

- Two (2) blue bins with an instruction flyer will be dropped off to residents - January 26, 2009.
- First Pickup will be Monday, February 2, 2009 and every Monday thereafter until further notice. Please have bins at curbside by 7 a.m. Participation will determine the program's continuation.

- One container will be for paper products (newspaper, junk mail, magazines, telephone books and cardboard) - Not accepted: Styrofoam and envelopes with plastic windows
- Glass, plastic, and cans (jelly jars, milk jugs, food & soda cans) - please rinse the containers - Not accepted: Bulk glass and plastic grocery bags

Contact the Special Districts/ Recycling office at 863-675-5252.



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

## Correction

In last week's story about former Hendry County Property Appraiser Kristina Kulpa's lawsuit over the election, the Caloosa Belle story stated incorrectly that Hendry County is paying for new Property Appraiser Phillip Pelletier's attorney fees. Actually, the

county is providing the attorney for Supervisor of Elections Lucretia Strickland in the suit. However, Mr. Pelletier - the candidate opposing Ms. Kulpa in the election - must provide his own attorney. The Caloosa Belle apologizes for the error.

## Schools

Continued From Page 1

State cutbacks. Every family, every organization needs a "Rainy Day" fund. The District's reserves are at an all time low, and there is very little money to cover any unforeseen problems through the second half of the year. The State, in an attempt to balance its budget, has made significant reductions in District revenues, and the Commissioner of Education, Eric Smith, has predicted even larger cutbacks in the future.

mational meetings for schools, departments and the public at large.

None of the cost reduction or cost containment strategies are easy, and many will be painful. As the economic picture has worsened since Superintendent Rick Murphy took office in November, he has provided an open and candid environment, and he's consistently encouraged everyone to come forward with a plan. He's stated on many occasions "we can't solve these difficult problems, unless everyone is allowed to express their opinions, and we all work together."

The School Board will consider recommendations from the Superintendent and his Leadership Team at their regularly scheduled meetings in January. Mr. Murphy has said "we must continue to serve the students and families within our community to the best of our ability. These cuts will not jeopardize that goal. As we move through these difficult times, there must be minimal negative impact to the classroom, and we must try to protect our students and employees."

## City

Continued From Page 1

Development Director Vince Cautero was dispatched to the meeting to seek the City of LaBelle's input into impact fees. The county was also seeking the City of Clewiston's recommendation before making a decision next month.

Impact fees, which have been collected through the county, were suspended for a year beginning Jan. 8, 2008, with an extension till Feb. 28, 2009.

Mr. Cautero provided figures on the amount of impact fees collected from October 2005-Jan. 2008, totaling \$202,533.06 for LaBelle in road and school impact fees; \$484,388.67 for Clewiston; \$1.7 million for Hendry County.

Uncollected impact fees, from Jan. 9, 2008-Dec. 31, 2008, (the time the fees have been suspended) came to \$141,834.67 for LaBelle; \$138,646.73 for Clewiston; and \$802,934.54 for the county.

Mayor Paul Puletti wondered if impact fees are reinstated, might it keep some businesses from coming to Hendry County - undercutting the area's need to grow and supply jobs. Mr. Cautero responded that there is not enough data to provide a definitive answer.

County Director of Grants and Special Projects Ron Zimmerly said most big companies had

built impact fees into their budgets. However, that was before the economy went into such a deep slump.

Mr. Cautero said other communities are wrestling with the problem by dropping or temporarily suspending impact fees.

Superintendent of Public Works Michael Boyle asked if tying impact fees to the number of jobs a business will bring into the community might help attract business while continuing to collect some impact fees. Mr. Cautero agreed it may be a possible solution.

Real estate broker Sherri Denning cited LaBelle's stagnant growth and suggested that continuing impact fees would be imprudent at this time since there are not enough rooftops to generate anything but small establishments. She said nothing should be done to prevent larger businesses from moving here.

Julie Wilkins, also in LaBelle real estate, added that only small builders are working in LaBelle at this time - many contractors and sub-contractors have gone out of business.

The suggestion of phasing impact fees back in by the number of new rooftops going up was raised - it could provide relief for incoming businesses without having a larger effect at this time.

From Bonita Bay Group, Paul Pass noted that the city needs to be careful of long term effects. He said the economy depends

## Two for one

Former community blood drive coordinator Phyllis Moody jokes with current coordinator and former American Legion Post 130 Commander Bill Davis as he donated blood Jan. 8. Bill is a "double red" donor, meaning he donates two units of pure red cells rather than whole blood. The pure red cells may be given directly to a patient without going through the normal testing and screening process. The blood drive is a continuation of Post 130's service to the community. At their annual Christmas dinner, they served 539 dinners.

## Get ready for slap stick laughs

Get ready for the Laff Revue! The '40s are back with its own style of slap stick and cornball humor. Ah, the good ol' days - watch as self-styled playboy emcee and a woman-crazed comedian vie for the talented ladies of the comedy troupe.

LAFF REVUE by Lansing Corbett (Baker's Plays). Directors Martha Pierce and Jack Neitzke. Laff Revue is a scripted version of past talent and variety shows with the main characters being the emcee and comedian - all wrapped around a rather corny comedy that takes place in the 1940s. Performances: Jan. 22, 23, 24, 25 and Jan. 29, 30, 31 and Feb.

1. Show times 7 p.m. Thurs., Fri and Sat.; 2 p.m. Sun. Firehouse Cultural Center, 863-675-3066, 241 N. Bridge St., LaBelle; \$12 with reservation; \$14 at door.

Directors Martha Pierce and Jack Neitzke unfold a ribald evening of comedy that will take you back.

Performances: Jan. 22, 23, 24, 25 and Jan. 29, 30, 31 and Feb. 1. Show times 7 p.m. Thurs., Fri and Sat.; 2 p.m. Sun. Firehouse Cultural Center, 863-675-3066, 241 N. Bridge St., LaBelle; \$12 with reservation; \$14 at door.

## ATM

Continued From Page 1

on new growth that current residents should not be saddled with paying for.

Impact fees are intended to make growth pay for itself, rather than shift the burden of paying for additional infrastructure and services onto current residents.

The board recommended the county delay implementing impact fees f, until the end of February 2010. The motion, made by Commissioner Greg Bone and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, passed 4-0. Commissioner Hilda Zimmerly was not present at the meeting.

storeowners have been unable to identify individual machines due to their condition upon recovery. With the assistance of Lee and Charlotte county law enforcement authorities, and through suspect interview, it has been determined that three of the above listed suspects allegedly committed similar crimes in Lee county.

The investigation is continuing.

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**To Submit News**  
The Caloosa Belle welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 675-2541 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed. If you are sending photographs via e-mail please send them in JPEG format, also please do not send WORD documents, just paste these messages into the body of the e-mail. Office documents are ok. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.  
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## Dedicated donor

The community blood drive Jan. 8 brought out some very dedicated blood donors. For instance, Eugene Roux of Palm-dale has almost provided 98 pints of the life giving fluid over the years. Mr. Roux has been donating blood for 35-40 years, he said, beginning when his nephew had a kidney transplant and blood donations helped save his life.

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## HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF CHANGE TO PERMITTED USES IN CERTAIN ZONING CATEGORIES

The Hendry County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE HENDRY COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, MORE SPECIFICALLY TABLE 53-1 TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS, TO PROHIBIT AGRICULTURE IN RG-1, RG-1M, RG-2, RG-2M, RG-3, RG-3M, AND RG-4, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, INCLUSION IN CODE, AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

A public hearing on the ordinance will be held on January 27, 2009, at 5:05 p.m., at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 East Hickpoochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida.

All persons wishing to be heard on this issue may appear at said meeting. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

A copy of the proposed Ordinance is available for inspection on weekdays between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Office of the Clerk, 2nd Floor, Hendry County Courthouse, 25 East Hickpoochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida.

Janet B. Taylor, Chair  
HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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## Community Briefs

### Relay for Life to meet

A Relay For Life of LaBelle Committee Meeting will be held on Jan. 27, at the Community Christian School, 1092 E. Cowboy Way, LaBelle, at 6 p.m. For more information, please call 863-675-0885.

### Books-4-all

The Four Feet Fur ^ Feathers 4-H Club is hosting a free book giveaway Saturday, Jan. 24, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free children's, juvenile, adult, fiction and non-fiction books. If you would like to swap books or donate new or gently used school supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks, markers, etc.) please come!

### Cargivers to meet

LaBelle's Caregiver Support Group is held the last Wednesday of every month. The next meeting is Jan. 28 at First Christian Church of LaBelle 2-4 p.m.  
 Take a break, relax and join us for some group conversation centered around you - the Caregiver! This group is open to all caregivers. Snacks and Coffee will be provided! R.S.V.P. & information call # 1-866-231-0921.

### Walkathon provides free mammograms

Be part of the Second Annual Lucy's Angels Bosom Buddies Walkathon Jan. 31, to help provide free mammograms for people in Hendry and Glades. Come to Barron Park for lineup at 9:45 a.m. You can sign up at Florida Community Bank, the LaBelle Chamber of Commerce or Fort Knox Storage. Also at the park: food, fun, music, activities for kids and performances by the Universe All Stars at noon. Craft and retail vendors welcome. Call 863-675-3236.

### Salvation Army appreciates volunteers

The Salvation Army will host its Annual Evening of Appreciation on Monday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m., at the Carlson Memorial Methodist Church.  
 "We are truly grateful for everyone who supports this ministry," said Lisa Sands, Office Coordinator of the LaBelle office.  
 "We could not do what we do without the volunteers who come here faithfully to help us. We are blessed to have such great people in LaBelle who care about others," added Sands.  
 Last year, The Army had 10 routine volunteers who logged 1,373 volunteer hours. During Christmas, 494 volunteers and bell ringers logged 1,161 volunteer hours.  
 The Salvation Army of Lee & Hendry Counties would like to see all its volunteers out on February 2nd. For reservations, please call The Salvation Army office at 863-674-1441.

### Arrests

Usbarido Lopez, 23, was arrested Jan. 5 on a charge of felony probation violation. Perry Short was the arresting officer.  
 James Mitchell Franklin, 47, was arrested Jan. 5 in LaBelle on a charge of aggravated stalking, follow, harass, threaten. R. Shepherd was the arresting officer.  
 Janet Zapata, 22, was arrested Jan. 6 in LaBelle on a charge of cruelty toward child, abuse without great harm. Mike McVey was the arresting officer.  
 LaJuan Martell Simmons, 19, was arrested Jan. 6 in Port LaBelle on a charge of burglary of a dwelling unarmed. Deputy Jackie Garrett was the arresting officer.  
 Timothy Odell Ward, 22, was arrested Jan. 6 on a charge of felony probation violation. Perry Short was the arresting officer.  
 Rolando Garcia, 32, was arrested Jan. 6 on a charge of felony probation violation. Christian Buchhofer was the arresting officer.  
 Harvey Albert Morse, 65, was arrested Jan. 7 in LaBelle on charges of sex offender violations, fail to notify change of residence, failure to register, failure to report. Bonnie Weaver was the arresting officer.  
 Brodrick Deshawn McKenzie, 14, was arrested Jan. 7 in LaBelle on charges of burglary to a structure unarmed with person inside, larceny petit theft or subsequent offense. Deputy K. Thomas was the arresting officer.  
 Patricia Kaye Frickenschmidt, 37, was arrested Jan. 8 in LaBelle on a charge of felony probation violation. Nathan Kirk was the arresting officer.  
 Victor Resenoiz, 24, was arrested Jan. 8 in LaBelle on a charge of fugitive from justice in state. Deputy Leigh Cora was the arresting officer.  
 Michael Anthony Todaro, 32, was arrested Jan. 8 in Port LaBelle

### It's Pageant Time!

Who will be our 2009 Swamp Cabbage Queen? Will you wear your tiara proudly as you reign over the festivities and earn a great college scholarship? All young ladies from 13 to 21 who attend the LaBelle School System, have graduated from LaBelle High School or are Home schooled in the Greater LaBelle Area. If you want to compete for the title of Swamp Cabbage Queen or Princess please call Jerri Lynn at 239-989-7032.

NOTE: The pageant date has changed to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20. Come to the down home country pageant celebrating our heritage and have a good time!

### MLK march planned

The community is invited to the annual Martin Luther King Jr. March Monday, Jan. 19, beginning at 10 a.m. Come to MLK and Cowboy Way.

City Farm tour tickets available  
 The Hendry County Farm-City Tour Council will hold its 28th annual farm tour of the Hendry County agricultural industry, Saturday, February 7, 2008. Tickets for the tour cost \$60 per person and the participants will be able to catch a modern air conditioned tour bus at the U-Save Supermarket Center on Palm Beach Blvd. in Fort Myers or at the Rodeo Grounds in LaBelle.

Deadline for ticket sales is January 30. For additional information about the tour and how to purchase tickets for the tour, stop by Hendry County Extension Service Office, 1085 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle. You may also call or e-mail dcabrera@ufl.edu. Make checks payable to: Hendry County City-Farm Tour.

### Tahoe raffle deadline coming up

Time is running out to get your Chevy Tahoe raffle ticket. Only \$25 a chance and only 100 tickets to be sold. Raffle will be held at noon on Jan. 30. You can purchase your ticket at the Kiwanis Thrift Store or at LaBelle U-Save.

### Widows to meet

The Widows Support Group will meet for lunch at the Forrey Grill, Thursday, January 15, at 11:30 a.m. All widows welcome.

### FCB partners with Lucy's Angels

Florida Community Bank is going pink again this month to raise money with Lucy's Angels for free mammograms. You can buy raffle tickets for a chance to win a homemade pink ribbon blanket donated by Mary Bartoshuk. Tickets available at FCB.

Sign up for the Bosom Buddies Walkathon scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 31, at Barron Park. Form a team of five or more and register by Jan. 16 to receive a free T-shirt and discount on your en-

try fee. Entry fees start at \$12 per person. Stop by FCB to register. All proceeds go to Lucy's Angels for breast cancer care.

### Get your flu shot now

Hendry Regional Medical Center is offering flu shots for \$20. For additional information call Convenient Care Center at 675-2356.

### Angel Food pick up

January's Angel Food pick up will be Jan. 24 at 3 p.m. at Christ Central in LaBelle at the main office, 120 College Street. Get a box of restaurant-grade food at discount prices. Food stamps accepted. Call 863-675-2100 for more information.

### Yummy spaghetti

Come to American Legion Post 130, 699 Hickpochee, for a great spaghetti dinner every third Wednesday.

### Computer classes to resume

Pastor Avery's computer classes continues with one-hour classes at 10, 11 and noon. The classes are based on the need of the students. Beginner classes teach how to maintain your computer word processing and digital film editing. There is an after-school class in movie making for students of the school system and homeschooled. Moviemaking class contains: Recording digital sound, video editing, lighting and some chromakey effect. To register for the class call 863-675-0900. All classes are free to the public class sizes are limited. Classes are located at LaBelle Assembly of God, 123 Fraser Ave. across from the Edward Upthegrove elementary school.

### "Relay for Life" Golf Tournament

On Saturday, January 31, there will be a Golf Scramble to benefit "Relay for Life." The tournament will be held at "The Glades" on Route #80 East with a "shotgun start" at 8:30 a.m. The format will be 4 person teams in three categories - men's women's and mixed. The cost is \$40 per person (includes cart), and advanced reservations are encouraged. Prizes will be awarded to winning teams, nearest to pins and long drives, etc.

There will also be a raffle featuring terrific prizes donated by area businesses. Cash and prize donations, as well as hole sponsorship (\$100/hole) would be very much appreciated.

For more information and/or to reserve a spot, call 517-2377 and 675-3825.

### Work day at the LaBelle Nature Park

The Hendry/LaBelle Recreation Board and Coalition for Eco-Recreation would like to in-

clude community organizations, youth groups and individuals to a LaBelle Nature Park Trail Clean Up on Sat. Feb. 1, 2009 from 8 until 10 a.m. Volunteers are needed to rake and pull weeds around the gentle old oak and rake trails leading to the old oak. Gloves, long sleeved shirts, long pants, sturdy shoes and insect repellent are recommended. Participants are encouraged to bring their own gloves, rakes, clippers, and wheelbarrows. Water will be provided

Call Margaret England at 863-674-0695 for information. The LaBelle Nature Park is located at Hardee Street and Fraser on the Caloosahatchee River in LaBelle. Website: <http://www.labellennaturepark.net>

### "Little Big Town" coming

UpthegroveElementarySchool PTO invites you to a PRIVATE concert, by invitation only, of "Little Big Town" (made famous by their hit song - "Boondocks") on Sunday, Jan. 25, at the LaBelle High School Auditorium. There will be catered hors d'oeuvres and buffet at 6 p.m. with the doors open for acoustical concert at 7:30 p.m. Seats are available for a minimum donation of \$125 per person. Seating is limited, make your reservations today! Dress: Cowboy Formal. Please contact lisa\_st.john@yahoo.com (863) 675-4027 or mdhudson@strato.net (863) 885-1392 for tickets.

### Ride to help cancer victim

Motorcycle riders are invited to a poker run Jan. 17 for Randall Nychyk Jr., a six-year-old boy diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. The ride will begin at 10:30 a.m. meeting and end at Harley Davidson in Fort Myers. Register from 9-10 a.m. Fees are \$10 per biker and \$5 for each additional person. For information call Mike Puckett at 239-707-3778.

### Legion bingo

The American Legion, 699 Hickpochee Avenue West, holds bingo every Monday night starting at 6:30 p.m. Come and enjoy an evening of bingo!

### Scout meeting times announced

Boy Scout Troop 9 meets every Tuesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. at Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church 310 Campbell St. Boy Scouts are for boys ages 11-18. Call 863-983-7719 for more information.

Cub Scout Pack 9 meets every Monday evening from 6-7 p.m. at Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church 310 Campbell St. Cub Scouts are for boys from first to fifth grade. Call 863-673-4952 for more information.

### More Than Manatees

Celebrate the outdoors and discover there are More Than Manatees @ Manatee Park on Saturday, January 24, 2009 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
 Live Butterfly Exhibit, Calusa Indian technology demonstra-

tions provided by Ft. Myers Beach Mound House, Kayak for limited time for Free sponsored by the Southwest Florida Paddling Club and Backwater Paddlers, Live reptile program @ 1:00pm sponsored by Calusa Nature Center, Educational Programs presented for every hour on the hour at the Live Oak Amphitheater. All Programs are free with paid parking.

Manatee Park is open daily from 8:00am - sundown. The Visitor Center and Gift Shop are now open from 9:00 am - 4:00pm daily. Parking is \$1.00/hr per vehicle, maximum \$5.00. No Pets. Manatee Park is located at 10901 Palm Beach Blvd. 1.3 miles east of

I - 75 on SR 80 directly across the street from the FPL power plant. For more information go to [www.leeparks.org](http://www.leeparks.org)

### Muse plans pot luck

Everyone is invited to the Muse Community Association's luck dinner and karaoke Saturday, Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m. Bring a covered dish and meet your neighbors. The regular monthly meeting is Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. Get informed about activities and improvements being planned. For further

information call Jimmy Cianfrani, president, at 674-0467.

### File for 2009 tax savings early

Phillip Pelletier Hendry County Property Appraiser would like all Hendry County property owners to know that the deadline for filing any 2009 Homestead Exemption, limited income Senior Exemption or Agricultural Classification is March 2, 2009. Mr. Pelletier wants everyone to be sure that they apply for these benefits before the deadline so his office is now accepting applications for early filing of your 2009 homestead and portability benefits.

Avoid the lines in January and February or taking a chance of forgetting to file before the deadline.

You can go to our website [www.hendryprop.org](http://www.hendryprop.org) and download your application form. By doing this you will be sure that you have all necessary documents with you when you come to the office to apply. Our offices in Clewiston and LaBelle are open from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday. If you need additional information call 863-675-5270.



ANTONIA, ADRIANA, GABY AND APRIL  
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 505 W. HICKPOCHEE AVE, SUITE #800  
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 Hair Cutting • Styling • Coloring • Perms • Extensions • Wax

**ATTENTION**  
 If you or anyone you know observed any questionable voting procedures during early voting in Clewiston, during the Presidential Election, please contact Marilu Coffman at 561-862-4180

on a charge of fugitive from justice in state. George Elver was the arresting officer.

Daniel Jason Frey, 29, was arrested Jan. 8 in LaBelle on a charge of cocaine possession. Nathan Kirk was the arresting officer.

Samuel Gonzales, 32, was arrested Jan. 9 in LaBelle on a

charge of fugitive from justice in state. Sgt. Perry Short was the arresting officer.

Jarred James Priest, 33, was arrested Jan. 9 in LaBelle on a charge of fugitive from justice in state. Sgt. Perry Short was the arresting officer.

**CLOSE YOUR EYES!**  
**REALLY, CLOSE YOUR EYES!**  
**THIS IS WHAT A PERSON WITH UNTREATED GLAUCOMA SEES!**  
**JANUARY IS GLAUCOMA MONTH**  
**COME SEE US AT FAMILY EYE CARE 863-675-0761**

JUDGEMENT HOUSE  
 First Baptist Church LaBelle  
[www.fbclabelle.org](http://www.fbclabelle.org)  
 Presents an encore presentation of:  
**"59 Minutes"**  
 January 16, 17 and 18, 2009  
 What would you do with only 59 minutes left to live?

Performance times: 6:00 PM -9:00 PM Fri&Sat  
 4:00 PM -8:00 PM Sun  
 Reservation line is open at 863-675-2171.  
 A \$3.00/ person donation is suggested and taken at registration.

The First Baptist Church is located at 330 North Main St, LaBelle  
 Take State Road 80 E to LaBelle  
 Turn Left at traffic light on Main St  
 First Baptist Church of LaBelle is 5 blocks down on the left.

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## Speak Out

Have a comment, opinion or question about a public issue? Post it anytime at the LaBelle public forum at [newszap.com](http://newszap.com). It is a hometown site, so visit the page as often as you would like and share your comments (but no personal attacks or profanities, please). You can also make a comment by sending an e-mail to [cbnews@newszap.com](mailto:cbnews@newszap.com). Excerpts will be published in the newspaper as space permits.

### Bilingual coupons

ENGLISH, PLEASE: About one month ago, I received some fast food coupons in the mail or in the local Caloosa Belle. I could not believe that the coupon was written all in Spanish then on the bottom it had English. This chain gives back to LaBelle and I get that they are trying to get Spanish people to come there and eat. But, shame on them for not keeping English the primary language here in LaBelle, USA.

### No respect for hard work, property

ROSE RUSTLERS: Between sundown Friday, January 2, and 7:30 the following morning rose rustlers hit Porpoise Drive in Aqua Isles. I have lived in our local riverfront mobile home retirement community since 1994 and never had to worry about petty theft and vandalism, but all that changed this past weekend. My Blue Moon rose bush was stripped of three of its tennis ball-sized lavender blooms and a fourth had its petals shaken off. This was no random act but something planned in advance. The culprits carefully cut the roses so they could show off their plunder once they got home.

I take pride in growing roses here in my hometown LaBelle, and those who know me also know I take just as much pride in sharing my roses. I would have gladly given the thieves a couple of blooms if they had only knocked on my door and asked if I minded if they took a rose or two. As it is, they only showed exactly how petty, mean-spirited, and basically dishonest they are. Today, it's roses; what is it next week, a car with the key left in the ignition? Only you, the rose rustlers, know the answer to my question.

### Helping The Economy

LOSING SOME BETTER THAN LOSING ALL: There are some seemingly small measures that could be taken that I believe would help the economy and spur a little growth. It is simple. Everyone would need to agree to take less pay than they are now. It should not be imposed on anyone in the \$20,000. or less category of income, but starting with \$30,000. income, those people should accept a 10% pay cut. Starting at the \$60,000. level the cut should rise to 20%. If an \$80,000. a year person has to begin living on \$64,000. a year etc. etc. it seems to me the program would have a positive effect on the country. Cut out ALL bonuses, live on decreased income. If people have committed every single cent to their mortgages and new cars and whatever else, they will lose it all anyway if they lose their jobs. Isn't SOME income better than losing it all?

AMERICAN DREAM: The person who begins their working life as a store stocker, not content, learns, works hard and is promoted to section manager, still driven for a better life for his family works hard, learns, studies, they could be fishing, resting, whatever.. but works hard, puts in effort and now is manager of his store, doesn't stop there wants his family in a better, safer neighborhood, nicer clothes, better food etc... and works and works while others, content, are still stocking the shelves, he now has several stores HOW DARE YOU CALL CHASING DILIGENTLY THE AMERICAN DREAM...GREED!!!! many people chasing an American dream, working hard, striving to be the best going from private to commander, and you call that GREED!!! I call it SUCCESS!!!!

### Article in the Caloosa Belle

PROTECTING CHILDREN: I have just read the Caloosa Belle and I am sick. There are a lot of sick people in this world but children and animals are helpless they can't protect themselves against the sick people of the world. If this sick person can harm an animal our children are not safe on the streets. I hope that this person is never allowed on the streets again.

ALL THE NEWS: The press needs to print the news, both the good and bad. It allows us insight on what may be lurking around the corner good or bad.

MORE DISHEARTENING NEWS: The article just above the one with the puppies made me about as sick as that one, regarding "Election Suit Continuing". I am a Republican but I cross party lines to vote for who I think is the best candidate at times. The Republican party had better not ever call me for a donation if they don't want to hear an earful. Now.....what can we do about the county charging us for attorney fees for both the defendants? Ms. Kulpa evidently thinks there's a whole lot of corruption to be uncovered and I must say, nothing would surprise me any more, but I wish the taxpayers didn't have to pay the bill for all this.

(Please note: The article about the election lawsuit contained an error. Hendry County is paying attorney fees for Ms. Strickland because she was working in her official capacity during the election. Mr. Pelletier, a candidate at that time, must pay for his own legal representation.)

## Letters to the Editor

### Inappropriate content

As a citizen of LaBelle for over 50 years, I have never been so upset with anything printed in our local newspaper as the article of the 'Puppy Needing Rehabilitation.' The front page!

First off, as an adult, I did not appreciate being lured by the deception of the innocent title, to not know I would have to entertain such horrible thoughts! Thoughts that people should/would never think of doing or of being done. What about people who dearly love their pets in a healthy way? No consideration was given for them.

Second, the abuse and injuries described was not appropriate or necessary for the welfare of our public knowledge. There was no consideration obviously for younger adults or older children whom would read this article. Why should they have to entertain these kinds of perverted stories in their minds?

I believe this was a disgrace on our community to have this printed in such a sordid manner.

I request for the future, please do not allow these types of de-

scriptive stories to be printed in our local newspaper.

Sincerely for the best interest of all people,  
Debbie Lavender

### Choo Choo Training

As we have now crossed the threshold of another year, with the tumult and tragedies of 2008 in our rear view mirrors, I want to share a piece of my past with you. Without knowing it back then, I was fortunate enough to have been given some of the best advice at a time when I was laid off with 3 children, ages 5 through 2, and another on the way. That advice, which came in the form of a verse, I think might have some traction and help some of the people being hit by the current economic crisis to get "back on track." "Some people ride the train of life looking out the rear. Watching the miles of life roll by, and marking every year. They sit in sad remembrance of wasted days gone by and curse their life for what it was, and hang their head and cry. But don't concern yourselves with that, just take on a different vent. Look forward to

what life holds, and not what has been spent. So strap yourselves to the engine, as securely as can be, you want to be out in front to see what you can see. You want to feel the winds of change blowing in your face. You want to see what life unfolds, as you move from place to place. You want to see what's coming up, not looking at the past. Life's too short for yesterdays, it moves along too fast. So if the ride gets bumpy while you are looking back, go up front, and you may find, your life has jumped the track. It's all right to remember, that's part of history. But up front's where it's happening, where there's so much mystery. The enjoyment of living is not where we have been. It's looking ever forward to another year and ten. It's searching all the by-ways, and never should you refrain. For if you want to live your life, you gotta drive the train."

Now I don't know that this will heal any, let alone all, of the wounds you are now being subjected to, but back in the recession of 1958, it provided the stimulus for turning our totally negative employment and family situation

into a positive career launching change in our lives. I was forced to make a life changing decision, and move my family away from our families in Indiana, by train, to Buffalo, New York, and accept a position in sales with a Plastic Material Supplier. That train ride and geographical relocation, resulted in a forty year career in Plastics sales and sales management. I trust that this article may in some small way serve to help any of you faced with similar circumstances as we work our way out of today's economic turmoil. I learned a long time ago that "Intelligence doesn't necessarily have to mean educated, and creative doesn't have to mean talented." "Work is like air. It's not all that important, unless you're not getting any." And, an article should be like a mini-skirt. Long enough to cover everything, but just short enough to keep it interesting. I trust I've met that test, again today. Remember! "Stay on track" and may God Bless us all in this new year.

Respectfully,  
T. W. Bill Neville

## Faith in the Marketplace: Instructions on how to make an idol

### By Fr. Alan Kelmereit

First, let me be clear. This is not a column of tips about how to make yourself a shoe-in for American Idol! The idols I'm talking about are the ones we worship. You don't worship an idol? Hmmmm.



Fr. Alan Kelmereit

The Old Testament prophets describe the process of making an idol quite literally. First, you cut down a tree. Then you make furniture and things from the wood. Next, you cut up what's left as firewood for cooking and heating. Finally, you take the stub end, good for nothing else, carve features on it, and place it

on a shelf. Then you get down on your knees and worship it, pray to it, and beg it to take good care of you. A sarcastic description to be sure, but one meant to be taken very seriously.

Do you have an idol, or perhaps more than one in your life? Not one made of wood, but one that occupies a central place in your life. The Air Force stationed my family and me in Guam for three years in the early 80's. It was a great assignment, and I was able to teach scuba diving while I was there. I decided I wanted to be rated as a Master Instructor before I left, and that became the center of my life. Other than work, everything I did revolved around that one goal, and before we left the Island I became a Master Instructor. It felt great for a little while but now I look back

and see all that I gave up with my family, all that they had to give up because of me, and how often God was given a back seat, and I wonder what was so all-fired important about it. Ironically, I never taught another student once I achieved that rating.

The operative definition of 'idol' here is "whatever takes a central place in your life." Even for those of us who say we worship God and go to church regularly, setting up other idols is still an open possibility. Some make money their central concern. Reportedly, John D. Rockefeller, when asked how much money is enough replied, "just a little bit more." Others build their lives around their jobs. Some put family or other people in that central position. Power, prestige, football, you name it: there are all

kinds of things which we make the central concern of our lives. It is quite possible to believe there is a God, even to attend church, and still have one of these idols as our main focus in life. When you get right down to it, what is important to you is always shown by your actions, what you skip and what you don't, by how you spend your time, and by where you commit your resources.

It's still early enough in the new year for some self examination and a resolution or two if you decide you need them.

Fr. Alan is pastor of the Good Shepherd, one block south of Rt 80 on Collingswood Pkwy in Port LaBelle. 863-675-0385. Comments and questions should be sent to [FaihtMarketplace@embarqmail.com](mailto:FaihtMarketplace@embarqmail.com).

## Dr. Les Morgan: Men, women speak different languages

### By Les Morgan, pastor

Caloosa Baptist Church, LaBelle

It should not be stunning to read that men and women speak two different languages. While each may use the same nouns and adjectives, and may even talk with similar annunciations, they often are saying something much different. Such are the differences between "man-ese" and "woman-ese."



Dr. Les Morgan

As a man, I am wanting to help with my fellow brothers of the world know how to "decode" some of this "foreign language" that we hear from our human counter-parts, (AKA, women.) Perhaps the following will be helpful to some poor souls who are struggling to "get it." Then again, maybe not.

Before I reveal some of the real meanings to some key words spoken by women to men, let me first say that I, too, had to learn how to

interpret "woman-ese." And, I am continuing to "go to school" on this assignment. While I thought I was aware of the meanings of some of the following statements, I discovered I was often clueless. The reason was simple - I was reading from the "Man dictionary." This volume gives completely different definitions to various words or phrases, resulting in some severe miscommunication. Believing the Lord Himself would have us as men to connect with the key women in our lives, men, please allow me to supply you with some terms as defined in the "Woman-ese Dictionary." A wise man will refer to this article often and in a routine pattern. (Dear God, please help them!)

1) "Fine." This is a word women use when they are right and you need to shut up.

2) "Five minutes." If she is getting dressed, this could mean half an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes if you have just been given five more minutes watch the game before helping around the house.

3) "Nothing." This is the calm before the storm. This definitely

means, "something," and you should be on your toes. Arguments that usually begin with "Nothing" usually end with "Fine."

4) "Go ahead." That is a dare, not permission. Do not - repeat! - DO NOT do what you just said you were going to do!

5) Loud sigh. This is actually a word, but is a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A loud sigh means she thinks you are the biggest idiot who has ever stood up on two feet, and she is wondering why she is wasting her time arguing with you about "nothing." (Immediately refer back to #3)

6) "That's okay." This very likely could be one of the most dangerous things to hear from a woman. Most often it means she wants to think long and hard before you will pay for your mistake, misjudgment, or basic action you just did.

7) "Thanks" If a woman is thanking you, do not question, faint, or take further action. Simply say, "You're welcome" and quietly walk away and move on.

8) "Whatever." This is a wom-

an's way of saying, "Go jump in the lake!"

9) "Don't worry about it. I got it." This, gentlemen, is also a very, very dangerous phrase to hear from her. This statement usually occurs after she has asked you to do something several times, (or for several years) but now she is going to do it herself. This will later result in a man asking, "What's wrong?" (For further clarification, and instruction, refer back to #3 immediately.)

So, where do we go from here, men? First, admit you need a "Woman-ese" dictionary. Second, tell the woman in your life you want to love her, nurture her and learn to listen better. Third, ask the Lord who made these beautiful creatures we call "wife" to teach you to be what she needs in a husband, and never - repeat! - NEVER stop pursuing that goal.

\* Dr. Les Morgan is pastor of Caloosa Baptist Church and is on a continual pursuit of clear communication with men and women, though he has not mastered it yet! (smile)

## Thank You

### Legion Christmas dinner

The Christmas meal was donated by: American Legion Post 130, Auxiliary Unit 130, Sons of the Legion Squad 130, Legion Riders, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 144, Kiwanis Club of LaBelle, Heritage Real Estate, Oak Realty Inc., CPR Tools Inc., Winn-Dixie, J&J Produce, U-Save Supermarket, LaBelle Dodge Chrysler, DiPofi Insurance Agency Inc., Vision Ace Hardware, Family Eye Care, Akin-Davis Funeral Home, Big Lake National Bank, Old Cypress Community Bank, First Bank of Clewiston, Florida Community Bank and Cargiulo Tomato.

Legion, auxiliary and community volunteers helping included: Pat Sinkovic, Paul Kraft, Jeff Lazar, Terri Lazar, Pat Hashman, Bob Hashman, Diane Olsen, Diane Orr, Greg Olsen, Roy Dean, Wayne Brown, Dale Smith, John Schall, Merrill Spahlinger, Yolkes Petrenz, Stan Brown, Dick Berg, Daniel Wagner, Kara Sears, Janet Schall, Marie Kussman, Evert Snider, Craig Bartoshuk, George V. Albert, Pete and Florence Bartoshuk, Myrel and Fran Spailenger, Sue Wagner, Dan Wagner, Steve Hoffman, Cindy Hoffman, Andrew Hoffman, Bryan Hoffman, Anne Martin, Ray Martin, Walt Spam Sinkovic, David R. Johnson, Tony Alvarez, Shelley Mills, Johnny Caldwell, Nikki Yeager, Phyllis Timberlake, Katie Bryce, Nylkis Moody, Ravi Bhadwandin, Vigona

Bhadwandin, Randy Hamilton, Tammy Hamilton, Paige Hamilton, Christopher Wolfe, David Hamilton, Collin Wolfe, Dave Holleybeck, Ray Leventhsal, Sharon Leventhal, Bob Schall, Marcie Stirp, Jumin Vidal, Liz Penewdot, Jose Penewdot, Candy Alvarez, Chassey Hicks.

### Salvation Army

(LaBelle, FL) - LaBelle is the little community that could. Once gain, the generous residents of LaBelle made the 2008 Holiday Season possible for the hundreds of families who needed help due to a struggling economy.

During Thanksgiving, The Army was able to assist 85 families with a Thanksgiving meal. Thanks to all who volunteered, donated, and collected canned goods.

With overwhelming support of LaBelle residents, The Salvation Army raised over \$21,000.00 in its Red Kettle Campaign. "LaBelle has again, proven to be a wealth of volunteers and a wonderful & giving community," said Major Art Penhale, Corps Officer for The Salvation Army of Lee & Hendry Counties. "The support of this community is greatly appreciated and we could not do it without you. We have seen a 68 percent increase in the number of clients asking for assistance over the past year due to tough economic times," Penhale remarked.

Another successful drive was the 2008 Christmas Project. The Army distributed new toys to over 200 families struggling economically throughout LaBelle. With help from The Post Office, Dollar General and Johnson Engineering as collection sites, The Army helped bring Christmas to approximately 600 kids. In addition, Marcia's Helping Hands Mission has been a very special partner in The Army's 2008 Christmas Project.

## Witch's Brew

### By Pudge Lehman

Christmas is done for 2008 and here comes Swamp Cabbage 2009. From January on, the meetings are held every week until the event is over. Instead of trying to get my artificial tree back in the box, almost impossible for an old lady, I have ordered a tree bag. It has a handle and a zipper....

As I write this... my former supervisor, I was 70 and she was barely 18, is packing to leave and continue her education. We will miss you Whitney Longnecker... Jim and Charla did a fantastic job raising her. She is one wonderful young lady.

When you are cleaning be sure to let the cleaner you are using do the work. Let it sit for a few minutes before wiping it up.

To keep those big bottles of

Christmas is the largest fundraising and outreach event of the year for The Salvation Army. Monies raised during the Kettle Campaign go not only to support the Christmas Project (distribution) program, but also allows The Army to continue providing services and programs throughout the year.

Donations can be made to The Salvation Army local office at 180 N. Main Street or by mail P.O. Box 218, LaBelle, FL 33975.

soda from going flat, before putting it back in the fridge, gently squeeze the bottle until the soda is at the top and then quickly put the top back on. This keeps it from going flat for a longer time.

Did you know that bleach loses it's effectiveness after about 6 months? Me neither but it does..

Funny headlines: SOMETHING WENT WRONG IN JET CRASH. EXPERT SAYS or....

POLICE BEGIN CAMPAIGN TO RUN DOWN JAYWALKERS (sounds a little drastic don't you think?) or .....

JUVENILE COURT TO TRY SHOOTING DEFENDANT (that would cost the taxpayers a whole lot less money.)

Have a wonderful year!



# CALOOSA BELLE

Delivering Western Hendry County's News Since 1922

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**Our Purpose...**  
The Caloosa Belle is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

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**We Pledge ...**

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

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For More Information See  
**At Your Service On Page 2**

# Youngblood, Cheney plan November sunset wedding

Jade Marri Youngblood and Lawayne Cheney Jr. announced their engagement on Christmas Eve.

Jade is a graduate of LaBelle High School and the University of Central Florida where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and is continuing her Masters Degree in Accounting at

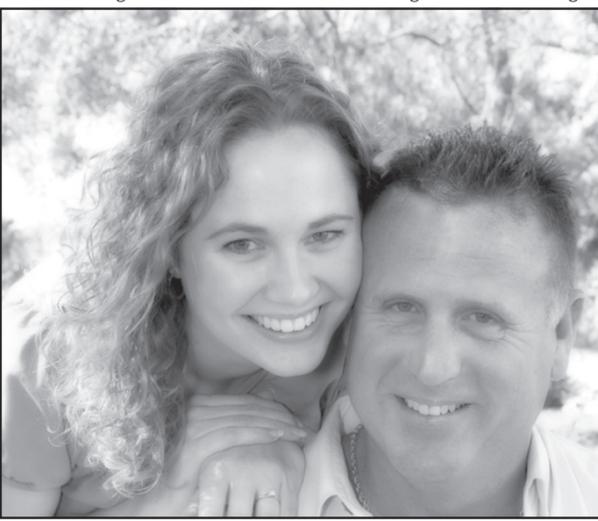
Florida Gulf Coast University. She works at Robert M. Coleman's Office in Felda, FL where ironically she met the man of her dreams, Mr. Lawayne Cheney Jr. who is the co-owner of Cheney Nursery and Landscaping.

The couple's love of early morning walks, family and the water brought them closer together. Lawayne took Jade to the beach for their morning walk and asked a passerby to please take a Christ-

mas Eve morning photo for them and, catching her completely off guard, he got down on one knee and asked Jade to marry him. She enthusiastically said yes.

Jade is the daughter of Jeff Youngblood and Bob and Debbie Coleman all of Felda, FL.

Lawayne is the son of Wayne & Billie Cheney of Immokalee, FL. The couple is planning a sunset wedding in early November 2009.



Submitted photo

Jade Marri Youngblood, Lawayne Cheney Jr.



Submitted photo

## Fifty-five years together

Mr. and Mrs Lynn Bowman of LaBelle are celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary. Lynn F. Bowman and Patricia A. McDonald were married on January 23, 1954, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Cattaraugus, New York. They are celebrating the day with a Mass at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church on January 23, 2009. Mr. Bowman is president of Bowman Farms. Mrs Bowman is a homemaker.

## SCF

Continued From Page 1

form and return it by mail to SCF Parade Entry, Post Office Box 2081, LaBelle, FL 33975 or call 863-675-2995 for information.

Want a booth at Barron Park? You better hurry! They're going fast and the deadline is Feb. 1. Get your application at the LaBelle Chamber of Commerce or on line at [www.swampcabbage-festival.org](http://www.swampcabbage-festival.org).

The 5K Run/Walk will be Saturday morning, Feb. 21, at 8:30. Pre-registration is \$22 (must be postmarked by Feb. 14). The cost will be \$25 from 7-8 a.m. on race day; \$15 for youth 18 and under. You may also register on line at [www.fortmyerstrackclub.com](http://www.fortmyerstrackclub.com).

For more information on the race, call Bonnie Denning at 239-229-1819 evenings or email [bonnie@labellere.com](mailto:bonnie@labellere.com)

As always, entertainment has the spotlight in the park. This year you'll enjoy LaBelle's Buckshot Band, the Blue Steel Blues Band, Fiddlin' Bill and LaBelle's own Country Rhythm Cloggers as well as the 2009 Queen and Princess and other local talents.

Enjoy bull riding at the rodeo grounds Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 20-22.

The lawnmower races will take place Saturday after the parade and Sunday at 1 p.m. Enthusiasts are bringing their machines in from all over the country, so expect a rip roarin' time.

Don't forget the Old timers Dinner kicks it all off Thursday, Feb. 19, at the LaBelle Civic Center. Doors open at 4:30 for social time with dinner at 6 p.m.

The SCF committee is meeting at City Hall every Monday evening at 6:30 until festival time. All are encouraged to come be a part of LaBelle's biggest party.

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## Church Briefs

### Third Sunday sing

Plan to join your friends at First Christian Church, on the corner of Lee and Ford Streets, for dinner and singing at the Third Sunday Sing. It happens Jan. 18 at 5 p.m. There is no charge for dinner and no offering will be collected. For more information call 675-1366.

### You can have a nice, clean vehicle

For The Lord (FTL) is planning a car wash Saturday, Jan. 24, at the U-Save from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Suggested donations \$5 per car; \$10 per truck.

### Attention youth

Youth Awakening at Freedom Fellowship Ministry Friday, Feb. 6 and Saturday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. both nights. For more information contact Sara Barnes at 673-7786.

### Christian Men to gather

The Christian Men's Gathering invites you to Eastside Baptist Church, 1095 Carlyle St., for fun

and fellowship Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. Preston Long will speak. For more information call Steve at 234-8109 or Ed at 675-6432.

### Chicken dinner

Enjoy a chicken dinner at the Church of the Good Shepherd fellowship hall, 1098 Collingswood Pkwy in Port LaBelle Friday, Jan. 16 from 5-7 p.m. A complete chicken dinner is \$6.50; chicken only \$4. Children 12 or under \$3.50 (1/4 chicken). For ticket reservations please call Janet at 675-7058. Your call will be returned for confirmation. Take outs available.

### 'For The Lord'

Freedom Fellowship Ministries is beginning a new program called For the Lord, geared toward young people ages 17-30. It's a small group setting for support and continuous lifestyle improvement for young people struggling with things like addiction and personal problems. Meetings are Mondays 7-8:30 p.m.

For more information, please call Freedom Fellowship at 612-9899.

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# Caloosa Baptist makes plans for special guests

By Les Morgan, pastor Caloosa Baptist Church, LaBelle

Dr. Ernest Carswell, an outstanding preacher of the Word, and his wife, Betty Jean, an accomplished pianist, will be ministering at Caloosa Baptist on Jan. 18, in both the morning and evening services.

Dr. Carswell has served the Lord most of his life. After graduating from Baylor University, he began pastoring, fulfilling the call he felt was on his life from a young age.

He also completed the program at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and later earned a doctorate from New Orleans Theological Seminary. He was pastor of churches in Kentucky and Georgia, and then served the First Baptist Church in Taylors, S.C. for nearly thirty years.

During his ministry in Taylors, S.C. the church saw significant growth and had a powerful impact throughout upper South Carolina region. After Pastor Carswell retired, Dr. Frank Paige became the pastor of First Baptist, Taylors. Dr. Paige was then elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention, a post he held until June, 2008.

Betty Jean is a very accomplished pianist. She will be ministering in music in the morning service on Jan. 18 and then performing a Gospel concert that evening.

Betty Jean is an outstanding professional musician, having recorded many albums and played Gospel music most of her life.

She has accompanied many leading Christian artists in various concerts. She also has played for Cliff Barrows and George Beverly Shea, both associated with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Crusades. Her love for Christ and the church is evidenced in her presentation as she plays.

The greater LaBelle community is invited to come for worship at Caloosa Baptist on Jan. 18. The morning worship is at 10:30 a.m. and the evening service begins at 6 p.m. Caloosa Baptist is located approximately 200 yards behind Flora & Ella's on Highway 80 in LaBelle. Dr. Les Morgan is the pastor.



Submitted photo Ernest and Betty Jean Carswell.

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# ECSWF sponsors courses

The Education Center of Southwest Florida has immediate openings in the upcoming basic computer course scheduled to begin Saturday, January 17 from 9-11:30 a.m. The cost is \$125 for the four classes.

## Basic Computer Literacy

The Education Center of Southwest Florida has immediate openings in the upcoming basic computer course scheduled to begin Saturday January 17 from 9-11:30 A.M. The cost is \$125 for the four classes. This is

an enrichment class with no certification. Call 675-6800 or email Shughesedcenter@embarqmail.com for questions or to register.

## NCCER Construction Craft Skills Level I

The Education Center of Southwest Florida is receiving applications to enroll in the first construction trades level I course. The cost for the course is \$750. Classes will be scheduled in the evenings at the Education Center at 4930 SR 29 S. Call 675-6800 to receive an application or email Sonny Hughes, director, at

shughesedcenter@embarqmail.com. This course provides national certification by the National Center for Construction Education and Research.

## Commercial Drivers License

The Education Center of Southwest Florida is receiving applications to take CDL training. Call 675-6800 or email shughesedcenter@embarqmail.com to receive an application or more information. Costs vary with the length of the course taken.

# Time to order Girl Scout cookies

GULFCOAST OF FLA – Girl Scouts will be taking orders for Girl Scout cookies from January 9 through January 26. Girl Scout cookies will be delivered to local warehouses for distribution on Saturday, February 7. At that time, girls of Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc. will participate in a direct sales period through March 8. (Girl Scout cookies cannot be purchased at local warehouses.)

Thousands of girls of Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc. are developing entrepreneur skills as they provide the community with a special treat—Girl Scout cookies. All eight varieties of Girl Scout cookies have zero trans fat per serving, in compliance with FDA regulations. Girl Scout cookies are available for a cost of \$3.50 per package and

include the popular Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Do-Si-Dos, Trefoils, Lemon Chalet Cremes, sugar-free Chocolate Chips, and a new cookie this year – Dulce de Leche, a sweet, indulgent cookie rich with milk caramel chips and stripes.

Many successful business women today say they got their start selling Girl Scout cookies. Girl Scouts practice useful life skills such as goal setting, money management, decision-making, customer service, and teamwork – and they have fun! During cookie activities, girls are members of a team working towards a common goal, with each girl striving to do her best. Customers get a great product and all of the proceeds support Girl Scouting in the local community.

Girl Scout cookie proceeds benefit local Girl Scouts. A percentage goes directly to Girl Scout troops to support troop activities such as field trips, camping, and service projects.

The remainder benefits all girls throughout the Girl Scout council by providing Girl Scout program, financial assistance so all girls can have access to Girl Scout opportunities, recruitment and training of adult volunteers, special events, and camp and building maintenance and development.

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc. is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA and serves nearly 11,000 girls in Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee, Glades, Collier and Hendry counties.

# VA assisting Veterans with health care

For veterans struggling financially due to a job loss or decreased income, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers an assortment of programs that can relieve the costs of health care or provide care at no cost.

Veterans whose previous income was ruled too high for VA health care may be able to enter the VA system based upon a hardship if their current year's income is projected to fall below federal income thresholds due to a job

loss, separation from service or some other financial setback.

Veterans determined eligible due to hardship can avoid co-pays applied to higher-income veterans. Qualifying veterans may be eligible for enrollment and receive health care at no cost.

Also eligible for no-cost VA care are most veterans who recently returned from a combat zone. They are entitled to five years of free VA care. The five-year "clock" begins with their discharge from

the military, not their departure from the combat zone.

Each VA medical center across the country has an enrollment coordinator available to provide veterans information about these programs. Veteran's may contact VA's Health Benefits Service Center at 1-877-222 VETS (8387) or visit the VA health eligibility website at [www.va.gov/healtheligibility](http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility). For local VA information please call 863-675-5250 or 863-983-1491.

# Robins a good omen especially now

By Barbara Oehlbeck

This time of year in the late afternoon, the sun hangs low over the west wing of the old barn, now weathered and faded so much that it appears to have grown there... sorta like the big oak that's holding up its south corner.

In the course of the day, it takes a bit of planning to walk there at exactly the right time to see the sun's slanting rays just before it slides down the sky in a flaming scarlet sea across the south pasture.

But lady luck did her part on next to the last day in the first month of this New Year. Following the narrow trail-like road that winds past the barn in a big curve around sprawling palmetto islands, suddenly there was a mov-

ing cloud of rustling wings rising in a great rush from the bayberry bushes hugging the fence. Hundreds of robins!... their orange-red breasts glowing in the winter sun. They settled on the new green of the pasture, their blackish heads bobbing up and down as they pecked and pulled at any tempting morsels they could find.

If we're lucky they'll be here a day or two, but they never stay long.

They're too anxious to be on their way north... as near as Georgia or as far away as Alaska. Robins are among the most well-known of North American thrushes.

They are handsome 9 to 10-inch birds and frequently return to the same place each year to build their nests.

The European robin, called the redbreast, is somewhat smaller than the American robin, but its plumage is similar. It is also a thrush.

According to an old English legend, this "pious bird with the scarlet breast" mercifully picked a thorn from the crown of Christ as He was on His way to Calvary. As the bird carried the thorn in its beak, a drop of blood fell from the thorn to its breast, dyeing it red.

Regardless of when they come or go, on their way south—often as far away as Mexico—or on their way "home" to mate and build and raise a family,

They are a sign of returning spring, a sign of hope, a good omen.

# Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted to the Caloosa Belle by e-mailing [obits@newszap.com](mailto:obits@newszap.com). Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com).

## Robert Eugene McClenithan Sr., 65

PALMDALE — Robert Eugene McClenithan Sr., of Palmdale, passed away Dec. 27, 2008, in Cape Coral. He was 65.

He was born Nov. 18, 1943, in Fort Myers. He was a lifetime resident of the area and has lived in Palmdale for the past ten years.

Survivors include one son, Robert Eugene McClenithan Jr. of LaBelle; daughters, Cassie Renee Peppers of Cropwell, Ala., and Michelle Green of Georgia; mother, Grace Hite of Dothan, Ala.; brothers, Pete McClenithan of Clewiston, and Lloyd McClenithan of LaBelle; sisters, Ar-

meta Hunter of LaBelle, and Louise Green of Dothan, Ala.; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2008, in Fort Denaud Cemetery, LaBelle, with Pastor Mike MacDowell officiating.

Interment followed in Fort Denaud Cemetery.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home, LaBelle.

## Susan Hester Bancroft

FELDA — Susan Hester Bancroft, age 71, of Felda, passed away Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, in Fort Myers.

She was born Feb. 20, 1937, in Felda, to Alvin Vernon Hester and Alma

Lois (Sumner) Hester. She was a lifelong resident of Felda.

Survivors include sons, Michael Edward (Jan) Bancroft of Alpharetta, Ga., and Gary Wayne (Michelle) Bancroft of Naples; one daughter: Sharon (Bruce Sr.) Corbitt of LaBelle; sisters, Dorothy Hester of Lehigh Acres, and Alice Santoyo of Naples; ten grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 16 at Lee Memorial Park Chapel Mausoleum. Interment will follow in Lee Memorial Park, Lehigh Acres. Visitation will be Thursday from 7-9 p.m. at Akin-Davis Funeral Home, LaBelle.

# Birding Tours

Through a partnership with Hendry-Glades Audubon, the South Florida Water Management District will offer to the public escorted birding tours at the South Florida Birding Trail Stormwater Treatment Area 5 (STA-5) south of Clewiston in eastern Hendry County. Tours are open to anyone, but participants must regis-

ter to reserve a space on the trips. Meet at the STA5 gate at 8:30 a.m. To sign up for the STA-5 Birding Tour: Send an e-mail to Margaret England, at [sta5birding@embarqmail.com](mailto:sta5birding@embarqmail.com) with your name and contact information including an emergency cell number for the tour day, the date you want to go, and the number in your party. You

may also leave a message at 863-674-0695 or 863-517-0202. Website: <http://www.orgsites.com/fl/hgaudubon/> Jan. 31

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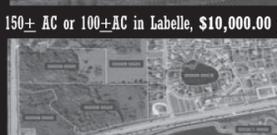
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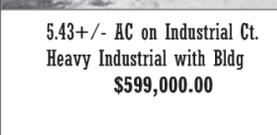
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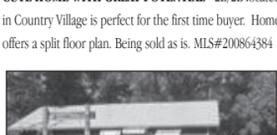
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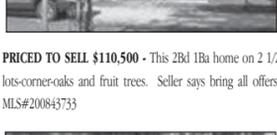
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**PRICED TO SELL \$110,500** - This 2Bd 1Ba home on 2 1/2 lots-corner-oaks and fruit trees. Seller says bring all offers. MLS#200843733



**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY \$95,000** - Great location in middle of Sable-Bay Development. Close to boating gulf access. MLS# 200805599



**GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!** 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath with carport. Convenient location in LaBelle with view of lake. Quick access to SR 80 and SR 29. Completely fenced. Being sold AS IS. \$28,000. MLS# 200900994



**PRICE REDUCED!!! LOOKING FOR COUNTRY LIVING!** \$370,000. THIS BEAUTIFUL home on 4.3 ACRES was designed for the extended family. Super spacious 4 bedroom 3 bath manufactured home. MLS#200859928



**HANDYMAN SPECIAL \$30,000.** This single wide is located on 2 lots and needs work. Has new plumbing and electrical wiring. MLS#20080421



**BOTTOMLINE REDUCTION!** This 3/2 home was reduced to \$150,000! All the extras shed, tiled garage, granite countertops, you can't go wrong. MLS#200823278

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Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

## Junior Pro

The Heat took over the court against the Bulls Jan. 8 as the Junior Pro Basketball League. Games are at the LaBelle Elementary School gym. For more information call Darrell Harris at 675-2565 or Pat Langford at 675-1686.

## Sport Shorts

### Sign up for baseball, softball

Baseball and softball sign-ups have begun. If you have a child between the ages of 4 and 16 years of age for girls and 4 and 15 years of age for boys, bring them by to register. Volunteers will be at the Winn Dixie Shopping Center every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon and every Sunday from 1-4 p.m. through the month of January. The last day to register is Sunday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m. at Davis Pratt Park. You may also sign up on-line by going to this website: [www.LabelleLittleLeague.org](http://www.LabelleLittleLeague.org) or stop by Ragin' Graphics located @ 84 N. Hickpoochee Ave.

### Volunteer for Little League

LaBelle Little League, Inc., is currently accepting applications for volunteer coaches for softball and baseball. For baseball coaching applications please contact Ricky Bass at 863-673-1940. For softball coaching applications please contact Kim Marroquin at 863-673-4741.

### Dodgeball, kids!

Come to the Dodgeball tournament Saturday, Jan. 24, at 6 p.m. at Upthegrove Elementary gym for grades 7-12. Call Sara Barnes at 673-7786.



Submitted photo

## Everybody loves soccer

The Lehigh Youth Soccer Association Lady Lightning U14 Girls Team had a major accomplishment recently, winning at the Kelme Cup in Naples. Lehigh Lady Lightning lost their first game to the San Carlos Scorpions 5-1. Then went on to win the second game against ICSA (Cape Coral Soccer) 4-1 and since they shared the same record at the end of the day, they had to play the ICSA team again Sunday morning, Lehigh won 1-0 in overtime. Lehigh met San Carlos Park in the final and won 1-0. Standing from left: Kelsey Anders, Randi Nichols, Alexandra Gerberick, Peyton Walls, top scorer Kayla Keller from LaBelle, Victoria Lara, Megan Saxty, Marjorie Roman and Coach Miguel Denny. Kneeling: Tara Archer, Cierra Garcia, Indira Denny Brooklin Walls and Samantha Krause (GK). Not pictured: team manager Kim Anders, Coaches: Jeff Gerberick and Chris Saxty. T & M Portable restrooms of LaBelle was their sponsor.

## Las Noticias en Espanol

### Nuevo Alguacil

Como el nuevo alguacil del Condado Hendry Steve Whidden se preparó para ocupar su oficina y explicar a los residentes lo que el piensa en hacer durante su administración. El primer cambio que piensa hacer es hablar muy claramente con los oficiales para decirles cuales son las expectativas que se espera de ellos de esta manera no habrán malos entendidos.

La Oficina de la policía emplea a mas de 160 personas. Aproximadamente 50 son patrulleros de caminos, mientras que 27 son oficiales de correccionales, 9-10 investigadores y dos agentes oficiales. Whidden dijo que posiblemente 12 empleados no van a regresar después del cambio de administración, unos cuantos de esos empleados son oficiales. Rick Waldren y Don Rodriguez que trabajaban en el manejo de la oficina fueron transferidos a otras posiciones diferentes.

Otro cambio grande sería la contratación de investigadores con mas experiencia. El director de los oficiales, Powell, dijo que el rendimiento de los policías será medido como el sistema que tienen en La Ciudad de Nueva York donde se da mucho apoyo a los oficiales. El alguacil dijo que una de las cosas mas importantes que tienen que erradicar son el crecimiento de las pandillas especialmente en el área de Clewiston.

### Asalto

Don Morgan nunca había visto algo parecido durante toda su carrera como controlador de animales y la cosa increíble es que una perrita de 20 libras fue víctima de un violento asalto sexual. Jose Alberto Vasquez de 58

años fue detenido y acusado de crueldad animal después que los investigadores lo agarraron en un acto tan horrible. De acuerdo con el informe de la policía, un hombre joven miró al hombre cuando tenía el encuentro sexual con la perrita en una residencia de la Calle C. El testigo dijo que oyó la perrita llorar y llegó a la escena donde el sospechoso le pegaba a la perrita con un palo. Cuando el testigo enfrentó al sospechoso, este dijo que no iba a volver a pasar lo que el había visto.

Cinco días mas tarde el 3 de enero el hombre joven oyó a la perrita llorar de nuevo. Volvió a investigar y esta vez encontró al sospechoso intoxicado y la perrita no se podía mover, la parte de su cola estaba llena de sangre. Aunque el testigo no vio nada la segunda vez el dijo que era fácil adivinar lo que le había pasado al pobre animal, entonces llamó a los oficiales y reportó el crimen. El testigo dijo que el sospechoso se había movido allí recientemente, antes del incidente con la perrita, el hombre había aparecido con tres cachorros diciendo que los había encontrado, uno de ellos desapareció.

Dos días después del crimen la perrita comenzó a caminar, tuvieron que darle medicina para el dolor y antibióticos. Para los trabajadores que están acostumbrados a ver animales abandonados este crimen los sorprendió. La acusación en contra del sospechoso es difícil de creer. El estado de Florida no tiene leyes definidas en contra del abuso sexual de un animal por medio de una persona, en este caso específico, el abusador será acusado de crueldad animal. Mientras tanto la perrita se está recuperando en espera de ser adoptada.

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3/2 DERBY LN - Mobile - \$650/M  
3/2/1 4006 RYE CT - \$650/M  
2/2 1/2 on Showboat Plaza - \$700/M  
3/2/1 4023 E PALOMAR - \$700/M  
3/2 SEMINOLE on 1 acre - \$750/M  
3/2 340 N. RIVERVIEW ST. - \$750/M  
2/2/1 TOWNHOUSE - \$750/M  
3/1/1 CAR S. EDGEWATER - \$800/M  
3/2 4910 SEMINOLE on 1 acre - \$800/M  
3/2/2 + DEN 2,000 sq. ft. in Town - \$850/M  
2/2 CONDO - Furnished - Lehigh - \$1,000/M  
3/2 5/3 ON RIVER - For Sale Also - \$2,000/M

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**Log Cabin BBQ - Centrally located in LaBelle with 167 +/- feet of frontage on SR80. \$279,000!**

**\*\*\*\*\* HOMES \*\*\*\*\***

- Beautiful custom built home on river w/high ceilings, split floor plan, stainless steel appliances, caged pool and large patio area. Also includes a 10,000 pound boat lift. **\$25,000**
- Corporate owned! 4/3 caged pool, steel building, attached carport. Located in the heart of LaBelle. **\$151,000**
- Corporate owned and priced to sell! In Clewiston with spacious rooms located on a corner lot at intersecting canals. **\$114,900**
- Nice 3/1 CBS in Port LaBelle. Seller says make offer! **\$105,000.**
- Nice 3/2 in LaBelle. Ceramic tile, upgraded kitchen cabinets, appliances. **\$89,900.**
- Corporate owned! 3/2.5 pool home. Located close to town in Lehigh Acres. Needs a little TLC. **\$79,900.**
- Corporate owned in Lehigh Acres! 3/2 CBS home with a den. Ceramic tile, solid surface counter, great floor plan. **\$79,900.**
- Corporate owned! 3/2 CBS located in Lehigh Acres. Near shopping centers. Only minutes from Ft Myers. **\$78,000.**
- Fisherman's weekend retreat 3/2 stilt home, w/covered carport, fenced yard and in move in condition. **\$70,000.**
- Corporate owned! LaBelle 3/2 CBS located close to town in LaBelle. **\$69,900.**
- Corporate owned! 4/2 located in Sun-N-Lakes Subdivision near Lake Placid. Needs a TLC. **\$63,700.**

**Lehigh - Corporate owned! 2006 CBS home with over 1400 sq. ft. in good condition. \$57,000.**

**Corporate owned! 4/2 located only a couple miles away from Lake Placid. \$54,900.**

**2/2 on oversized corner lot in LaBelle. Ceramic tile, single car garage. Screened porch and lots more. \$54,900.**

**Lehigh - Corporate owned. 3/2 CBS, 2 car garage, breakfast room, large walk-in closets. \$49,900.**

**Lehigh - Corporate owned! 3/2 CBS in immaculate condition! 3/2 CBS located in LaBelle. \$49,900.**

**Lehigh - Centrally located 3/1.5 CBS home on 30 of an acre. \$40,000.**

**Great investment potential! 1BR/1B home on a corner lot. Homes needs some work... but is priced to sell. **\$25,000****

**\*\*\*\*\* MOBILE HOMES \*\*\*\*\***

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- Immaculate 4/2 on 9.54 acres. Spacious living room, family room w/fireplace, large master suite, lots, lots of more. **\$249,900.**
- Plenty of room for gardening on these 2.29 +/- acres with a 3/2 manufactured home. Motivated seller. **\$150,000.**
- Relax the rural way! Situated on 1.25 acs in growing Montura, beautiful new 2006 3/2 manufactured home with over 1100 sq ft of living area. SELLER FINANCING AVAILABLE! **\$129,900**
- Want country living without the long drive to the city? Get the best of both worlds with this 3BR/2BA home on 2.29 +/- acres on Case Road. Enjoy the quiet & privacy plus a wood burning fireplace, vaulted ceilings, and Texas sized rooms! **\$124,900.**
- Two for the price of one! All on one acre. 3/2 well maintained manufactured home plus a 2/2 manufactured home. Plenty of fruit trees and oak trees. All offers welcome! **\$114,900**
- Let's make a deal! 3 bedroom 2 bath home features built in cabinets, large master bath, spacious kitchen, and plenty of elbow room thru the rest of the house. Outside you will find a fenced yard and storage shed. **\$110,000**
- Needing Privacy? Beautiful 458 a/c +/- with older mobile home. (potential rental income) outside city limits. Priced to sell! **\$93,000**
- Great home, Great price, hard to beat! Remodeled 3/2 on .50 acre in Horseshoe Acres. A must see! **\$77,000.**
- Immaculate 3/2 located in LaBelle city limits. Fenced back yard, metal roof, paved circular driveway, and much more. **\$75,000**
- Starter home or investment! 2/1 on 1.86 acres with Florida room and covered porch. Priced to sell. **\$64,900.**
- Good starter home located in town. 2/2 with screened porch enjoying the view of the man made lake. **\$59,500.**
- Affordable starter or rental home. 3/1/5 on corner lot in Moore Haven. **\$50,000.**
- Corporate owned! 3/2 just a few miles south of LaBelle. Needs a little TLC. **\$48,900**

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- Call about our Port LaBelle lots!**  
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- Log Cabin BBQ - Centrally located in LaBelle with 167 +/- feet of frontage on SR80. **\$279,000!**
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5.74 +/- ac South of LaBelle. Zoned RG3M. **\$175,000**  
Beautiful wooded 5 +/- acres on Pine Ave in Muse **\$125,000**  
5 Acres just off of N. SR 29, beautiful oaks, partially fenced, great location **\$80,000**  
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- Auctions 105
- Car Pool 110
- Share a ride 115
- Card of Thanks 120
- In Memoriam 125
- Found 130
- Lost 135
- Give Away 140
- Garage/Yard Sale 145
- Personals 150
- Special Notices 155
- 900 Numbers 160

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IMMEDIATE OPENINGS. CDL-A teams & drivers willing to team. Company team splits \$1.06/mi. O/O.P teams earn up to \$2.25/mi. Hazmat required. \$2,000 team sign-on bonus. (800)835-9471

Learn to Operate a Crane or Bull Dozer Heavy Equipment Training. National Certification. Financial & Placement Assistance. Georgia School of Construction. www.Heavy5.com Use code "FLCNH" or call (866)218-2763.

Post Office Now Hiring! Avg Pay \$20/hr or \$57K/yr including Federal Benefits and OT. Placed by adSource not affiliated w/USPS who hires. Call (866)713-4492.

Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

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**Services 0152**

**Financial 300**

- Business Opportunities 305
- Money Lenders 310
- Tax Preparation 315

**Business Opportunities 0305**

100% RECESSION PROOF! Do you earn \$800 in a day? 25 Local Machines and Candy \$9,995. (888)629-9968 BO2000033 CALL US: We will not be undersold!

**CHOOSE YOUR HOURS. INCOME & YOUR REWARDS! CHOOSE AVON GWEN (888)265-1256**

DNA GUIDED NUTRITION The huge money maker in 2009. Call now to get all the information on the future of your HEALTH and your WEALTH! (877)388-3234

**NOTICE**

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

READING A NEWSPAPER... makes you a more informed and interesting person. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful!

**Special Notice 0155**

After 30 years you still light up my life!

**EXPRESS YOURSELF TO YOUR VALENTINE**

With an ad in the Caloosa Belle  
Call: 863-675-2541  
E-mail: cbadsales@newszap.com

**Financial 300**

Business Opportunities 305  
Money Lenders 310  
Tax Preparation 315

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**Employment Full Time 0205**

**HENDRY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**  
"Where It's All About Getting Better"

Full time - ER/CCU Nurse Manager  
5 plus yrs clinical exp req. Must also have 3 yrs of ER/CCU skill competencies with one year of mgmt exp pref. Must possess a valid FL RN license. ACLS and PALS req.

Full time - ARNP (Hendry Regional Cardiology)  
Must possess a valid FL ARNP license. 2+ yrs exp in a family/pediatric/urgent care setting pref. Must possess excellent communication skills to interact with patients, staff, and the community.

Full time - Laboratory Manager  
Must have a min of 5 yrs exp and FL license as a Clinical Supervisor in the areas of Chemistry, Hematology, Serology, Immunohematology, and Microbiology. Previous mgmt exp pref. Must also possess excellent customer services skills to interact with patients, staff, and visitors.

Full time - Administrative/Data Support Asst (Quality)  
Previous exp in an office setting pref. Must have exp with MS Office apps. Must possess excellent organizational, customer service and communication skills.

Full time - Department Secretary (Human Resources)  
Previous exp in an office setting preferred. Must have exp with MS Office applications. Must be conscientious of the confidential nature of personnel information and possess excellent written, verbal, and organizational skills.

Full time - Registered Nurse (Openings for Med/Surg/ER/CCU)  
Must possess a valid FL license w/ at least 1 yr. exp in area of expertise.

Full time - Radiographer/Mammographer  
Must be ARRT registered and licensed as a Radiologic Technologist in Florida

Full time - LPN (HFCC)  
Candidate must possess a valid Florida LPN license

Full time - Foundation/Marketing Assistant  
Must have exp with MS Office apps and possess a high degree of clerical and organizational skills with strong communication and interpersonal skills. Writing and graphics exp pref.

Full time - Med/Surg Manager/ADON  
Master's degree is desirable. BSN min. (5) yrs of recent clinical hospital exp. Demonstration of management communications, interpersonal and financial accountability skills through increasing job responsibilities and (3) years prior mgmt position. Licensed as an RN in the State of Florida. BLS, ACLS, and PALS certification req., RNC desirable.

Part time - HOUSEKEEPER (weekends)  
Must have 1-2 yrs Hospital or Hotel experience. Must be able to maintain a safe, sanitary environment.

www.hendryregional.org  
Fax resume to: 863-983-0805  
Drug Free Workplace • EOE

**Insurance**

DiPofi Insurance Agency, Inc.  
13 Missouri St Suite A LaBelle, FL (863) 675-1880

**Lawn & Garden**

GONZALEZ LAWN/LANDSCAPING  
Also do handyman jobs (863)675-1166 (863)673-6388

**Lawyers/Legal Services**

NEED A LAWYER? Personal Injury, Workers Comp, Criminal/DUI/Traffic, Divorce/Custody, Bankruptcy/Foreclosure, Wills/Probate. Get Help Now! AAA Attorney Referral Service (800)733-5342

**Education/Instruction**

DELIVER OUR PRECIOUS CARGO: Be a Hendry County School Board Bus Driver. Contact the Transportation Dept. at 863-674-4115

**Fitness Centers**

**Curves**

JOIN NOW  
50% OFF  
SIGN UP  
AND GET  
30 DAYS FREE

863-675-8446  
439 W. Hwy 80 LaBelle, FL

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds.

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

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**Appliances 0515**

ELECTRIC WATER HEATER 40 gal. - NEW IN BOX GE. 12 YEAR TANK WARRANTY. \$320. (863)634-6189

KITCHEN-AID WASHER and Dryer - Almond color - good condition; electric; will sell together or separate \$175. (863)763-1377

REFRIGERATORS - 2, good working condition, 1 lg., 1 small. \$140/will separate. Call 863-634-5236

SMALL REFRIGERATOR - Haier, 3 cu ft, like new, all manuals, paid \$91 sell for \$60 (863)763-0853

WASHERS & DRYERS STACK UNITS \$100 & up, 1 yr warranty REFRIGERATORS & STOVES (239)694-0778

**Barns Sheds & Lawn Items 0522**

SHED - 12x24, 4 windows, 2 doors, ready for electric. LaBelle \$1000. (863)612-0992

**Bicycles 0530**

THREE WHEELER - three wheel bicycle fair condition \$65. (863)467-9040

**Building Materials 0540**

FRENCH DOOR 36" - Brand new 36"x80" Maple wood Glass french door. \$100/leg. (863)357-2611

OVER THE fridge cabinet - 36"x12" natural solid oak over the fridge cabinet. \$30/leg. (863)357-2611

**Children's Items 0555**

CRIB SET (POOH) - 10 piece + free toys, everything great cond. call for info \$80. (843)271-0733

FISHER PRICE CRADLE SWING - Pd 150\$ Swings 2 ways, 6speeds +ALOT MORE! \$80. (910)546-2367

POOH SWING - Days of hunny infant swing. Like new, must see paid \$110 asking \$50. (843)271-0733

**Clothing 0565**

CLOTHING - Girls'

**Furniture 0610**  
**DINING TABLE** - Round wood/iron table w/4 chairs anytime \$150. (863)467-4945  
**ENTERTAINMENT CENTER** - for 32" TV All wood, storage drawers/glass door, \$200 (863)357-4532  
**LARGE LIGHT Oak Computer Desk** - Large good desk with lots of storage. \$40/or best offer. (863)467-7996  
**MAGNETIC TWIN SIZE MATTRESS** - Kenkopad, cost \$400 new, will take \$100, like new (772)971-9474  
**MATCHING BEDROOM Set** 3pc twin, - cottage style mattress included \$350. (863)983-7734  
**ROCKING CHAIR** - Wood and wicker. LaBelle \$20. (863)517-1663  
**SINGLE BED** bedroom sets (2) - with chest of drawers & dresser with mirror, new mattress covers, sheets and blankets all included. \$200. (863)467-0234  
**SLEEPER-COUCH** - 1yr old Black cloth.Good condition call before 9 pm leave message \$400. (863)763-8562  
**SOFA** - FLIP'S DOWN INTO DOUBLE BED. COLOR BLUE, EXCEL CONDITION \$175. (863)763-1997  
**SOFA SLEEPER** - Queen size, excellent condition very clean \$150/or best offer. (863)357-7065

**Golf Clubs/Equipment 0618**  
**GOLF CLUBS** - 4 sets, 1 left handed, metal woods, irons, putter, bag, balls, \$390 will sell sep. (863)946-3123  
**RIFLES, SHOTGUNS, PISTOLS** (30) Remington, Rugers, Brownings, S&W, Fox, \$5000 or sell sep (863)532-9881 Okeechobee

**Guns/Supplies 0619**  
**M1A RIFLE** - Springfield Army M1A. Never fired pre-ban. \$1600/neg. (863)673-3893  
**SAVAGE MODEL 99E** - .308 caliber with scope. Excellent condition. \$600/or best offer. (863)673-3893

**Health & Reducing Equipment 0620**  
**COMPUTERIZED TREADMILL** - Used 6 times. Can fold to store. \$458.00 New. \$250. (863)227-2567  
**EXERCISE TABLE** - Stauffer, motor driven. Works great. \$50 (772)971-9474  
**HEALTH EXERCISE bike** - New exercise bike with back support, programs, checks your pulse paid 300. \$125. (863)634-5236

**PRO-FORM TREADMILL** - Works perfect, spacesaver. w/2FREE wrist/ankle wgt. \$150. (910)546-2367  
**WEIDER PRO Club Weight Bench** - and 300lb weight set \$350/or best offer. (863)885-1172

**WESLO CADENCE TREADMILL** - 830 Extended stride, auto incline, \$125. Call (863)467-8681  
**WESLO G-30 treadmill** - An ideal treadmill for beginners, the Weslo G-30 offers a 1.0 Continuous Duty HP motor. Mint condition! \$100/or best offer. (863)634-5506

**Household Items 0630**  
**AUTO INFLATING AIR BED** - Plug in fill w/air, instant bed. Like New \$100. (863)357-6190  
 Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

**Medical Items 0650**  
**SCOOTER** - Meritus S541 \$695 (863)983-7949  
**SCOOTER** -Handicapped, 2 seater, 4 wheel, \$800 or best offer (863)467-6009

**Miscellaneous 0655**  
**AIRLINES ARE HIRING** - Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Housing available. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (888)349-5387.  
**ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE** from Home. \*Medical, \*Business, \*Paralegal, \*Computer, \*Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. Call (866)858-2121, www.CenturaOnline.com.

**FOUR LOW RIDER 17"** chrome rims, universal lugs, 2 tires \$100 For All (863)801-4940  
**GENERATOR** - 11 hp, 5650 watt, LaBelle \$300. (863)612-0992  
**NEW WELDER** Hobart 10,000 watt, 20 hp Kohler motor \$2,700 (863)840-0505

**NEW AVAILABLE!** 2009 POST OFFICE JOBS. \$18-\$20/HR. NO EXPERIENCE. PAID TRAINING. FED BENEFITS, VACATIONS. CALL (800)910-9941 TODAY! REF #FL08.  
**TWO Awnings** - 60" X 48" asking \$50 for both (863)467-6009

**WOOLEY SHED** - 14 X 22 A/C Auto garage door, paid \$9500 will sell for \$5000 Neg. (863)697-3108

**Pets/Supplies 0670**  
**AKC Affenpinscher** rare, non shed, toy size. Champion sired. \$575. Toy fox terrier \$200. (863-675-1571)  
**BLACK LAB** - 8 mos old, very friendly, neutered & housebroken, all shots, needs a yard. \$100 (863)484-2052

**CLEWISTON FREE 6** mth old Brown mixed female dog very friendly - \$0. (863)263-1601  
**CLEWISTON FREE Mixed** Hound Puppies 6 weeks old-2Boys & 3Girls - \$0. (863)228-7792

**FISH TANK 50 gal.** w/ stand, rocks, & 2 fish. Okeechobee. \$100/or best offer. (561)719-5411  
**JACK RUSSELL PUPS** - purebred, \$100, (863)675-2844

**YORKIE** - 2 - 12 week old females with papers and shots \$800 Firm, Ready to go! (863)467-0218

**Pools & Supplies 0685**  
**HOT TUB 4 person** - Octagonal hot tub, new pump, new motor,Runs great!!! \$1000. (863)233-1223

**Sewing Machines 0700**  
**COMMERCIAL SEWING Machine** - Works good. Must sell. \$150. (863)357-0166

**Sporting Goods 0705**  
**COMPOUND BOW BASS PRO** - PULLER,ARROWS,60 LBS.31"QUILL LIKE NEW. \$125. (863)763-4588

**MOTORCYCLE HELMET** - Brand new HBC Helmet. Open faced with visor. \$50. (863)357-2611  
**REMMINGTON** - 700 BDL, 270 New in box \$550. FIRM (863)697-1198

**SLATE POOL Table** - Large table (98" X 54") Leisure Bay, Blue felt top, great condition. Oversized ball and claw legs. Balls & Cues included. Contact Tues-Sun anytime \$650/or best offer. (863)467-7996

**Sporting Goods 0705**  
**SWAMP BUGGY**-Palm Beach Style 350 Auto, 400 Turbo Trans, Offset 12x24 Tractor Tires \$4500 (863)447-5456

**Stereo Equipment 0710**  
**SPEAKERS** - 2 15" Kicker CVR in box with 2000 watt amp \$600. (863)697-9014

**Television 0715**  
**PHILLIPS** - 60" Big Screen TV, Digital ready, very nice condition. Call Billy \$500 Negotiable (863)467-7011  
**TELEVISION** - 65", Mitsubishi, excellent condition, \$700 (239)340-8503  
**TELEVISION 52"** Phillips & Enter. Center - 74"Hx102"W, holds TV, \$650 for all or sell sep (863)675-8987

**Tools 0725**  
**CRAFTSMAN 10"** Radial Arm Saw - Excellent condition Hardly used. \$150/neg. (863)467-8823  
**CRAFTSMAN CONTRACTOR** - Craftsman 10" Cabinet saw. New Model 22114N \$500/firm. (863)467-8823

**PRESSURE CLEANER** - pressure cleaner with Honda engine. Like new condition. \$200. (863)467-5299

**Toys & Games 0730**  
**AIR HOCKEY Table** - Full Size - Like New-Played on only a few times. Includes Everything! \$100. (863)357-5773

**Wanted To Buy 0740**  
**WANTED: non-working** medical scooters. (863)610-1120

**Agriculture 800**  
**Christmas Trees** 745  
**Farm Equipment** 805  
**Farm Feed/Products** 810  
**Farm Miscellaneous** 815  
**Farm Produce** 820  
**Farm Services Offered** 825  
**Farm Supplies/Services Wanted** 830  
**Fertilizer** 835  
**Horses** 840  
**Landscaping Supplies** 845  
**Lawn & Garden** 850  
**Livestock** 855  
**Poultry/Supplies** 860  
**Seeds/Plants/Flowers** 865

**Farm Equipment 0805**  
**50 720 BUSH HOG** - 6 ft, Good Condition (863)430-6987

**Lawn & Garden 0850**  
**BUNTON ZTR Comm Mower** - ZTR 50"cut, 20HP Kohler Works great \$2400/or best offer. (863)697-2032

**CRAFTMAN RIDING lawn mower** - \$400/or best offer. (863)467-0218  
**LARGE STAGHORN AIR FERN** \$250 Water fountain pedestal style \$60.00 (863)610-2993  
**LEAF MULCHER** - Used very little \$195. (863)675-1218

**Moving Must Sell** - Like New Craftsman 5600 Watt, 10 HP Generator \$500 OB (863)763-5389  
**PUSH MOWER** - 20" B&S engine, runs and cuts great! \$35. (863)532-0188

**RIDING MOWER** - Huskee, like new, 42" cut, 22hp Kohler mtr., less than 20 hrs., \$1100. (863)843-0759 or (863)675-0910  
**RIDING MOWER** - Yard Man 42"cut, 15 HP Kohler Runs great. \$250. (863)532-0188

**Livestock 0855**  
**CATTLE OILER** - \$15 (863)675-0349  
**HEADGATE** - with mounting brackets \$100. (863)517-0470

**Okeechobee Livestock Market Sales**  
 Every Monday-12pm & every Tuesday-11am. 763-3127

**Seeds/Plants/Flowers 0865**  
**DWARF RED Button Ginger Lily** - Plants come in 1-3 gallon pot sizes \$12. (863)675-3741  
**LADY PALM** - Grows well inside or outside \$21. (863)675-3741

**Rentals 900**  
**Apartment** 905  
**Business Places** 910  
**Commercial Property** 915  
**Condos/Townhouses - Rent** 920  
**Farm Property - Rent** 925  
**House - Rent** 930  
**Land - Rent** 935  
**Resort Property - Rent** 945  
**Roommate** 950  
**Rooms to Rent** 955  
**Storage Space - Rent** 960

**Bank Foreclosures!** 4 Br \$25,000! Only \$225/Mo! 3 Br \$12,500! Only \$199/Mo! 5% down 15 years @ 8% apr. for listings (800)366-9783 ext 5669.

**Commercial Property 0915**  
**INDUSTRIAL WORKSHOP** - 4000 sq ft, w/offices, all new, \$1750/mo (863)675-3424

**Condos/Townhouses Rent 0920**  
**LABELLE - DUPLEX**, Belmont St., 3br, 1ba, \$700/mo. 1st + Sec., (863)517-0551

**Houses - Rent 0930**  
**3br, 2ba Foreclosure!** \$11,000! Only \$199/Mo! 5% down 15 years @ 8% apr. Buy, 4 Br \$259/Mo! for listings (800)366-9783 Ext 5798.

**CANAL HOME** - large 3/2, den, library, FL. room, w/d, huge private corner lot. Call 970-728-8011  
**COTTAGE FOR RENT:** Under the oaks, furnished or unfurnished, utilities incl. (863)517-1000

**Duplex Apt.** - 3 br, 1 bath on Belmont St. Very clean, yard is maintained, Adults Only. No Pets. \$650 per month. 1st month & \$650 sec. deposit + ref's. 863-612-9881 or 239-691-6847

**FRASER AVE.** - w/3BR/2BA, fenced yard w/shop, non smkg. env., no pets, lease \$625 mo. + \$625 sec. (863)675-2392

**LaBelle** - Immaculate 2BR, 2BA w/Bonus Den/Office. 1 Car garage. Fenced yard. Close to Rt. 80 & Shopping. \$725 mo. Call Kathy @ (239)690-3085 or Bill @ (239)849-0770

**LABELLE:** 3br/2ba, w/in city limits. \$650/mo + sec dep & ref. Non-smoking env, fenced yard. 954-325-0309  
**OAK AVENUE** - 2BR/1BA, c/a, nice, non-smkg. env., no pets, lease, \$575 mo. + \$575 sec. (863)675-2392

**PORT LABELLE** - 2003 4BR, 2BA, CBS home, close to elementary sch. Immed. move-in. \$1,000/mo. 1st, last & sec. 863-675-1380 or 863-517-0772

**PORT LABELLE**, 2BR, 1.5BA, single family house, w/garage, \$700 mo. plus sec. dep. 863-634-2975.  
**RENT/OWN:** LaBelle, 2/2 + office, pool, dock, 2 car garage & shop, exclusive area. 863-843-0237

**Office Space Rent 0937**  
**LABELLE** - Office Space in Strip mall, 800 sq ft, \$300/mo + deposit. (863)675-7555

**Roommate 0950**  
**MOORE HAVEN** - Furn. rm, A/C, Dish Satellite, Movie channels, Util incl \$125. wk, \$125. Sec dep (863)946-0355

**Storage Space Rent 0960**  
**FORT KNOX SELF STORAGE** - New lg. units avail., air conditioned & non-air, each unit alarmed, area fenced & well lighted, space for boats, trailers, RV & trucks. Manager on-site, 1025 Commerce Dr., LaBelle. 863-675-1025.

**LABELLE RENT-A-SPACE** - Cowboy Way & Kennedy Blvd. 5x10' \$42.80 mo. incl. tax. 8'x10' \$53.50 mo. incl. tax. 10'x10' \$58.85 mo. incl. tax. 8'x25' \$96.30 mo. incl. tax. 24 hr access \$25 returnable key deposit. 863-675-2392

**Real Estate 1000**  
**Business Places - Sale** 1005  
**Commercial Property - Sale** 1010  
**Condos/ Townhouses - Sale** 1015  
**Farms - Sale** 1020  
**Houses - Sale** 1025  
**Hunting Property** 1030  
**Investment Property - Sale** 1035  
**Land - Sale** 1040  
**Lots - Sale** 1045  
**Open House** 1050  
**Out of State - Property - Sale** 1055  
**Property Inspection** 1060  
**Real Estate Wanted** 1065  
**Resort Property - Sale** 1070  
**Warehouse Space** 1075  
**Waterfront Property** 1080

**Houses - Sale 1025**  
**FORECLOSED HOME AUCTION** FLORIDA STATEWIDE Auction starts Feb 7th 1000 Homes MUST BE SOLD! Free Brochure (800)678-0517 USHomeAuction.com REDC.

**LaBelle** - New Home Buyers Finish off that purchase right! Visit White's Furniture & Appliances 1060 Highway 29 South LaBelle (863)675-0717.

**Hunting Property 1030**  
**FATHER & SON** seeks to rent land for hunting squirrel, hogs or turkey. Respectful of property. Can pay reasonable fee. (561)248-2866

**Land - Sale 1040**  
**BUY LAND TODAY**  
 \* 5 Acres La Deca?  
 \* 2 1/2 Acres Pioneer?  
 \* 2 1/2 Acres Montura?  
 \*\*Port LaBelle - Lake Front?  
 \*\* Port LaBelle - Wooded?  
 \* Ideal for RV/Mobile Home  
 \*\*2nd Home/Retirement

**Also:** 1 1/4 acres in Montura w/Super Clean Late Model Double Wheel. \$92,400.  
**Call Owner (863)673-5071**

**Lots - Sale 1045**  
**20+ ACRES & POST & BEAM BARN** \$119,900. New 22X30 post & beam barn built on gorgeous 20+ acres in the country. Potential to subdivide. Near FL/GA border - 90 minutes Jacksonville. Excellent financing. Call now (800)898-4409, x 2167

**Florida Foreclosure!** 37 AC- \$39,900 Nice homesite setting in picturesque oak grove. Tons of deer & wildlife. Perfect for hunters! Call Jack at (800)242-1802

**Out of State Property - Sale 1055**  
 \*\*\*FREE Foreclosure Listings\*\*\* Over 200,000 properties nationwide. LOW Down Payment. Call NOW! (800)741-4732.

**Golf Lot Bargain!** NOW \$39,900 (was 139,900) Includes Membership! Rare opportunity to own a beautiful view homesite in upstate SC's finest golf community- NOW for a fraction of it's value. Paved rds, water, sewer, all infrastructure completed. Get much more for much less. Low rate financing available. Call now (866)334-3253 x 2126.

**MID TENN MTNS** By Owner, 5 acres, perfect mountaintop cabin-site w/woods. Small stream in back of property. A must see! \$26,900. Owner Financing (931)445-3611.

**TENNESSEE LAND RUSH!** 1+acre to 2acre homesites, wood, views. Starting at \$59,900. Tenn River & Nickajack view tracts now available! Retirement guide rates this area #2 in U.S. places to retire. Low cost of living, no impact fee. (330)699-2741 or (866)550-5263, Ask About Mini Vacation!

**VIRGINIA MTN CABIN**, Ready to move in! Great views! Near large stocked trout stream, private, 2 acres, only \$159,500. (866)275-0442

**Real Estate Wanted 1065**  
**WANTED** - COW PASTURE, 10-2000 acres, (561)248-2866

**Mobile Homes 2000**  
**Mobile Home - Lots** 2005  
**Mobile Home - Parts** 2010  
**Mobile Homes - Rent** 2015  
**Mobile Homes - Sale** 2020

**Mobile Home Rent 2015**  
**For Rent** - 2BR/2BA Mobile Home, w/20 acres, good for horses. \$700 mo. 239-693-2790

**LABELLE** - Case Rd, on 2 1/2 acres, small barn on back, bring your horses, \$725 mo. + sec. 239-209-0245

**LaBelle, 3 BR**, large deck with bench, all drywall, newly remodeled with new carpet. \$175/wkly. 863-673-5704

**Mobile Home Rent 2015**  
**MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT** 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms Low Deposits & Reasonable Payments 863-983-3554

**NEWLY REMODEL** - 3/2 on fenced acre. \$650 mo. 1st, last & \$500 sec. dep. + ref's. (863)517-1824

**Mobile Home Sale 2020**  
**3/2ba con** 1/2 acre de terreno \$3,000 de deposito. Llame para mas informacion 863-612-6511

**BANK REPO'S** MOVE TO YOUR LAND Mobile Home Angels 561-721-2230

**BHR** - 2br, 2ba, lg lot, 17 x 42 screened lanai, boat slip, underoof w/lift, sprinkler system, clean & quiet, sea wall & lake access, \$120,000 or lease option. (859)661-4344

**Casa manufacturada** 4/2ba \$49,000 Financiamiento rapido y facil. Si tiene el terreno posee. Llame para mas info 863-612-6511

**Casa manufacturada** lista para ser adquirida. Financiamiento disponible. Llame para mas info 863-675-8888 Lorena

**DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME** 3BR, 2BA, 1 acre corner lot. (863)673-0369

**LAKE ACCESS WATERFRONT** - SWMH, 1/1 with additional room, on rental lot. Call for details, leave msg (863)763-8054

**MOBILE HOME SALES** - Huge 4BR/3BA 32x80 Set up on Your Lot - \$550 Monthly 800-330-8106 or 863-467-8622

**MOBILE HOMES** Need your mobile home moved? We have 28 years experience. Call for your Free Quote! (863)983-8106

**OWNER FINANCING WITH 15% DOWN** 3BR/2BA Doublewide, lg, landscaped lot in Tanglewood near schools. Brick skirting, w/d, c/a, ready to move in. (863)-675-8010/675-4272

**Replace your old mobile.** 4/2ba DW only \$49,900 Bad credit, no credit, we can help if you own your own lot. Call for more info 863-612-6511

**Recreation 3000**  
**Boats** 3005  
**Campers/RVs** 3010  
**Jet Skis** 3015  
**Marine Accessories** 3020  
**Marine Miscellaneous** 3025  
**Motorcycles** 3030  
**Sport Vehicles/ATVs** 3035

**Boats 3005**  
**CENTER CONSOLE MAKO 17FT** Select - 90 HP Mercury on trailer, runs great. \$1350. (239)878-7533

**FIBERGLASS CANOE** Select - in great condition \$125. (863)234-0819 (239)645-9596

**HYDRASPORT BASS BOAT** 16'4", with a 115 HP Outboard Motor, New carpet & cover, Trailer included \$5000 Firm (863)467-2316

**OPEN BOW BOAT**, 17 Ft. w/ Trailer. \$300 FIRM (863)763-0812

**SULLIVAN, 1994** - 14' alum., 20HP Merc, Johnson tr mtr, live well, Magic tilt tr, 1,400. 863-763-2526

**Campers/RVs 3010**  
**HOLIDAY RAMBLER RAMBLER** 1972 - 2 axle, 2 a/c, interior needs work must sell \$700. (863)467-4650

**Holiday RV** - Breckenridge Park Model Dealer, New starting at \$24,900. Rt. 41 South, Ft. Myers, between Alico Rd. & Corkscrew Rd. (239)590-0066

**Holiday RV** - Cash for your RV or Park Model Trailer. (239)590-0066

**Itasca** by Winnebago, 1987 22' onan generator, self contained \$2,000 LaBelle (239) 200-1159

**JAYCO** - 1999, 27' MINI MOTORHOME- V10 Ford engine, 4 new tires, very low miles, needs some repairs, best offer gets it. can see at 4012 SW 11th way-Okee \$9,999 (863)634-5487

**JAYCO '01** - 35ft, 3 slides, loaded, \$13,900 (863)983-4949

**TRAIL-LITE BANTAM '99** - Kitchen & Bathroom, 26' w/Fold Out Ends, Asking \$4000 (863)467-0031

**Jet Skis 3015**  
**YAMAHA WAVERUNNER** 1994 - runs good trailer included new tires on trailer \$700. (863)801-3899

**Marine Accessories 3020**  
**BOAT MOTOR** - 15HP Long Shaft \$400/firm. (863)467-7606

**TRAILER HITCH** - for boat or trailer, off a Ford van, bolts on, cost \$120 asking \$80. Neg (863)610-0521.

**Motorcycles 3030**  
**SUZUKI RM 125 2000** - dirt-bike, very low hrs, runs good \$1000/or best offer. (863)763-6297

**TRAIL BIKE** 125 '04 - runs good, \$600 (863)801-5678  
**YAMAHA 750 VIRAGO 1992** - 17,000 miles, shaft drive, saddle bags, runs great. \$2300/or best offer. (863)357-6315

**Sports Vehicles/ATVs 3035**  
**HONDA RANCHER** - 2005, 350 4X2, low hours, good cond. \$2600 Neg.

# Marroquin's Learning Center earns national accreditation

(Salt Lake City, UT) – Mary Ann Marroquin, owner of Marroquin's Learning Center has recently been awarded a National Accreditation from the National Association of Family Child Care.

"I chose to pursue the accreditation," says Mary Ann, "because I wanted my large family day care to demonstrate its commitment to providing quality care for the children. This level of commitment sets my day care apart from the other average child care programs."

Mary Ann has been providing care in her home for 14 years and has been in the field of early childhood for 20 years. Her program offers many unique amenities such as bilingual teachers, a school readiness program, and the expertise to work with children with special needs or learning challenges.

Marroquin's Learning Center collaborates with the school district to provide Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) to four year olds. Mary Ann also works closely with the local health department, providing ear/eye tests for all the children each year.

The National Association of Family Child Care offers accreditation to providers across the country, aiding them in raising their standards of quality care. Mary Ann feels the self-study process in particular helped her to take a close look at her program to ensure that it demonstrated a high quality of care.

"This process also benefits the children and families," says Mary Ann, "to know that the children are in a very good and safe program and to know that the quality care never stops, it keeps on improving," she said.

The city of LaBelle benefits from accreditations such as this as it is an indicator that quality care is available for parents in this community.

Children benefit from accreditation as it indicates they will be cared for in a safe, nurturing environment and that their educational needs will be met.

In addition to NAFCC, Mary Ann belongs to the St. Jude Indian Children Association and the Boys Town Association.

Mary Ann plans on continuing her journey towards a higher level of professionalism and is expected to finish her Association of Arts degree in Early Childhood by next fall.

In addition, she is supporting her staff in reaching their goals of completing the Child Development Associate certification.

For more information about NAFCC, receiving an accreditation or finding an accredited provider, visit [www.nafcc.org](http://www.nafcc.org).

## About National Association of Family Child Care

The National Association of Family Child Care is a nationwide non-profit organization that serves family child care providers by offering national accreditation, representation on the national level on child care issues and policy, a national annual conference, and support in the important work they do.

For more information please visit: [www.nafcc.org](http://www.nafcc.org).

		
\$499,000 3/2 Riverfront pool home near park, boat ramp and town. All appliances included	\$195,000 2/2 on spacious 1 acre fruit trees +3 car detached garage. Great neighborhood	\$45,000 3/2.5 Privacy in Aquia Isles, 55+ Riverfront Community. Open House Sunday 2-4 p.m.



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239/564-2002 cell



Submitted photo/LHS

## Math honors

Newest initiates in the LHS chapter of Mu Alpha Theta, the national math honor society. They were inducted on Dec. 10. In the first row (from left to right) are: Jena Howard, Chandler Bridwell, Chelsea Bridwell. Second row are: Santiago Reyes (President), Alexa Pena, Shamus Samerdyke, Cynthia Rosario. Back row: Trevor Selph, Humberto Salinas, Jr., Justin Phillips. Not pictured: Wolfgang Lynn and Cody Suchowski.

# Get ready for third Annual Pet Fest

It's that time of year again. The third Annual Pet Fest, presented by the LaBelle Community Woman's Club, is scheduled for this Saturday, Jan. 17, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Barron Park.

The day will begin with the Blessing of the Animals and the pet parade.

This will be followed by events throughout the day. There will be food, vendors, exhibits and games for the kids.

Register your pets at 9:30 a.m. for the parade; at 10:00 will be the blessing of the animals with the parade to follow.

Entertainment takes center stage at 11:00 with the LaBelle Dance Studio, 11:45 agility training by Cabana Downs and the cloggers at 12:30.

Then at 1:30 enjoy a presentation by Debbie Missotti of the Talkin' Monkeys Project and a Hendry County K9 demonstration at 2:15.

At 2:45 will be the reading of names of deceased pets written on the Rainbow Bridge. Raffle



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

This young lad was happy to show off his pet turtle.

drawings wind up the day at 3 p.m.

The day will also include low cost pet vaccinations from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and pet grooming. There will also be face painting, a 4-H petting zoo, food and ven-

dors.

The LaBelle Woman's Club wishes to send a big thank you to LaBelle Chrysler and the Kiwanis for being sponsors this year.

For more information, call Sharyn at 863-675-6081.

# Help minimize the local wildfire threat

TALLAHASSEE – Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Charles H. Bronson today advised residents that below average rainfall for the last four to five months has significantly increased the state's wildfire risk.

The torrential rain associated with Tropical Storm Fay last summer has been all but offset by the recent drought. In fact, the Keetch-Byram Drought Index, which measures available soil moisture and runs from 0 (saturated) to 800 (desert-like), currently stands at 511 – more than double the normal drought index this time of year.

During the past year, 2,894 wildfires have burned nearly 106,000 acres in Florida.

To minimize the wildfire risk, Bronson is asking residents and visitors to do their part, including:

- Never leave any fire unattended.
- Clear an area to bare soil for campfires, and be sure they are put out before you leave.
- Report any suspicious fire by calling 911.
- Do not burn yard waste during dry, windy conditions.
- Do not toss cigarettes or other lighted materials out of car windows.

Moreover, Bronson encourages residents to protect their homes from fires by clearing leaves and pine needles from the roof and gutters, removing dead vegetation from around the home and trimming trees and limbs within 15 foot of a chimney.

For more information on fire prevention tips, as well as burning rules and regulations, visit the Florida Division of Forestry's website at [www.fl-dof.com](http://www.fl-dof.com) or call your local Division of Forestry office.



**LaBelle Tropics Realty**  
R. Trace Pfluge  
Broker

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Fax 239-243-0841  
Email: [C21BCRE@aol.com](mailto:C21BCRE@aol.com)



**PRICED REDUCED! \$7.50 sq. ft. Terms negotiable! Office Space for Lease** on South Main Street in LaBelle. Excellent location. Approx. 3700 sq. ft. May be leased as one office or split as two offices of approx. 1800 sq. ft. The north side consists of 5 offices, 2 bathrooms, 1 library, 1 kitchen. The south side consists of 1 lobby, 3 offices, 1 conference room, 1 library, and 2 bathrooms. Separate electric services.

**NEW LOWER RENTS! FOR RENT:**  
No smokers or pets please

2/2 - 1 car, S. Edgewater \$650/mo  
3/2 - 1 car, S. Edgewater \$625/mo  
3/2 - Large floor plan \$700/mo  
2/2 - On Rainbow Cir. - new carpet/vinyl & paint inside/out - \$625/mo  
2/2 - On Albany Rd. - new carpet/vinyl & paint inside/out - \$625/mo

**COMMERCIAL LOT (C-1), 1+/- AC. SR 29 S.** Close to an area of proposed development \$195,000. Seller Financing. Broker/owner

**SELLER FINANCING. INCOME PROPERTY,** 18 mobile homes and store/laundry off Cowboy Way, on Alice St. \$997,500. Possible Lease/Purchase

**INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY** corner of SR29S and S. Industrial Loop Rd. 1.1 ac. lot w/3000 sq. ft. building \$695,000

**9.9 ACRES** south of LaBelle. \$59,000.

**14+ ACRES,** Busy intersection in N. Ft. Myers. SE corner of I-75 and Bayshore Rd. Popash Creek runs thru site to river. \$2,900,000

**3 OLDER MOBILES** income producing SR29S on 1.38 acres \$195,000. Broker/Owner

**6 OAK COVERED ACRES** on Sunset Trail, Muse. Seller financing. \$109,000

**5+/-WOODED ACRES** with fixer upper mobile, Kirby Thompson Rd. Seller financing. \$165,000

**BEAUTIFUL TREE COVERED,** oversized lot, Thigpen Rd. \$59,900. Seller financing

**2 ACRE LOT** on Busy SR 80 in Alva. Front half +/- zoned commercial. \$395,000

**2 MOBILE HOMES** on half acre lot, Tangerine Ave. \$146,000.

**13.34 ACRES SOUTH OF LA BELLE.** \$6,000 per acre.

**24.67 ACRES SOUTH OF LA BELLE, OLD GROVE**  
WANTED: HUNTING LAND TO PURCHASE 75 ACRE MINIMUM



**COMMERCIAL LOT (C-1), 1+/- AC. SR 29 S.** Close to an area of proposed development \$195,000. Seller Financing. Broker/owner



**CONVENIENCE STORE** (formerly Circle K) with beer and wine license. Conveniently located on busy Cowboy Way Corner. \$399,000



**SELLER FINANCING. INCOME PROPERTY,** 18 mobile homes and store/laundry off Cowboy Way, on Alice St. \$997,500. Possible Lease/Purchase



**51.28 ACRES** east of LaBelle on Al Don Farming Rd. Secluded and heavily wooded. \$6,975 per acre. Seller Financing.



**INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY** corner of SR29S and S. Industrial Loop Rd. 1.1 ac. lot w/3000 sq. ft. building \$695,000



**900+ ACRES. GROVE** or cleared land. Will divide. \$8995 per acre. Bring offers.



**Sweetwater Land Co. LLC**  
LaBelle, Florida  
863-674-5740 • 863-517-1153

870 W. Hickpochee Ave. (SR 80)  
LaBelle, FL 33935  
Call for an appointment!  
Linda Dekle Davis Lic. Real Estate Broker  
Associate: Maria C. Llorca  
Se Habla Espanol

**Linda Dekle Davis**  
**863-517-1153**



**Full-Service Car Wash, Detailing Services & Oil Change Facility**

**MONDAY - Ladies Day**  
All Ladies Receive \$5.00 Off and a coupon for a \$2.00 Margarita (#3, #4, #5 or #6 Wash Package)

**WEDNESDAY - College Day**  
Show your college ID & get \$5.00 Off (#3, #4, #5 or #6 Wash Package)

**THURSDAY - MANLY DAY**  
All men receive \$5.00 Off and a coupon for a Free Draft Beer (#3, #4, #5 or #6 Wash Package)

**LEHIGH ACRES ONLY FULL SERVICE CAR WASH**

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 - 6:00  
Sat. 7:30 - 5:00  
\*Sunday 10:00 - 4:00

**5280 Lee Blvd. Lehigh Acres, FL 33971 (239) 479-5002**

**10,000 Arcos Ave. Estero, FL 33928 (239) 949-6031**  
\*Estero location closed on Sunday

**\$300 OFF Any Wash Package!**  
Limit one coupon per person per visit. Cannot combine coupon offers. CB109



Recently rezoned for commercial Approx. 1/2 acre \$129,900



Prime Corner on State Rd 80 in LaBelle city limits \$269,000



Two steel buildings with finished air conditioned offices \$325,000



4 1/2 acres Industrial in the Enterprise Zone \$649,000



B-2 Great location in city limits, Half Acre \$119,900



Riverfront 4/2+ Den Ortona \$199,999



Future commercial site west of SR 80/Cowboy Way \$1,000,000



500 FT of riverfront! 7 Ac. Current appraisal value \$975,000



Old Florida at its best! Prime hunting in Lake Placid \$15,000 per Ac.

**RECENTLY REDUCED**

17 Ac close to Felda	\$177,000
5 Ac Riverfront Estate	\$395,000
3/2 w/pool in Belmont	\$140,000
2/1.5 New Roof	\$79,000
3/2 2,000 Sq Ft. MH 2006	\$92,000
13 Ac/Upscale 3/2 in Muse	\$459,000

**Belle Realty Co.**  
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FREE MLS ACCESS LINK: [WWW.BELLEREALTY.COM](http://WWW.BELLEREALTY.COM)