

Caloosa Belle



Vol. 87 No. 48

Thursday, December 10, 2009

50¢ Plus tax

At a Glance

Parade Friday

Don't worry, kids. Santa will still make it to LaBelle. Come on out to the parade this Friday, Dec. 11. Line up at U-Save 4:30 p.m.; start at 5:30 p.m. Join Santa and company! Bring your bicycles, trailers and homemade floats. Walk or ride. For information or to sign up call Melissa Castillo at 675-1090.

The Chamber's Christmas in the Park has not been rescheduled - Santa's agenda is just too full.

Light Up LaBelle

The Greater LaBelle Chamber of Commerce proudly presents its annual Light Up LaBelle Contest. Pick up your application at the chamber office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Residential and businesses are welcome. Judging will be Dec. 18 after dark. Applications must be returned to the chamber office no later than Dec. 12. For more information please call 675-0125.

Boat parade

Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. come to LaBelle's Lighted Christmas Boat Parade. Viewers, anywhere on the river between Barron Park and Aqua Isles. Boaters, gather at 6:30, 1/2 mile east of the LaBelle SR 29 bridge for a prompt 7 p.m. start. Lead boat will be on marine CH 71 and have a yellow strobe light. No entry fee, no sign up, no prizes, just plain enjoyment. Rain date, next day, Sunday, same time and place.

See Page 4 for information about how to contact the newspaper.

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County gets peek at future

by Patty Brant
Caloosa Belle

Even as it struggles through these difficult economic times, Hendry County is looking forward to the day when it all starts to move again.

Last month, the county commissioners held public hearings on future developments that, if they come to fruition, will preview big changes.

A plan that could create another city in Hendry County also found favor with the board. Also located in the southwestern section of the county, the Rodina Community Overlay is a new concept for Hendry County on 26,000 acres of Duda property west of SR 29. It has a future land use of agriculture.

Developers have a long range vision for the property which will require further comprehensive plan amendments later. The county will be able to exert more control when landowners want to build on the property.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) came into the discussion on this property. TDRs allow developers to transfer rights to develop one piece of property to another more suitable one, to sell rights to housing units to another developer.

Hendry County does not have a system for dealing with TDRs at this point. In the near future the county must decide what areas should be TDR sending or receiving areas.

Developers envision Rodina as a self contained development including space set aside for services

See FUTURE — Page 2

Animal Rescue: Substandard 'shelter' closed



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

These cats were some of the lucky ones that have a healthy life to look forward to after their experience at the Tenth Life Shelter.

Investigation nears completion

by Patty Brant

Caloosa Belle

It doesn't take much to get in over your head, even if you have



Submitted /Consie von Gontard
Jane Barry of Bay Area
DART and a new friend.

the best of intentions.

LaBelle Animal Control Supervisor Doug Morgan said he believes that's what happened at the Tenth Life Animal Shelter, located just off SR 80 between LaBelle and Clewiston on the previous site of Animal Rescue of LaBelle.

Authorities have been investigating the shelter where they say some 600 cats were discovered in various stages of health. A tip resulted in an unannounced visit to the shelter. Previous unannounced visits to Tenth Life uncovered no serious problems, LaBelle Animal Control Supervisor Doug Morgan said.

Many of the cats on premises that day were suffering from upper respiratory problems and

heavy parasitic loads.

Fifty-five animal experts came together that first day, setting up a triage center to categorize the cats' health status. Each was tagged, indicating categories from adoptable to euthanize.

Officer Morgan would not disclose the exact number of cats that were euthanized, but said originally it was thought up to one third of the cats would have to be euthanized. Fortunately the final number was not that high, he said. All remaining cats were vaccinated, checked for rabies, feline AIDS and feline leukemia. Those not inserted with microchips underwent that procedure so they can be tracked.

See CATS — Page 2

See FUTURE — Page 2

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Future

Continued From Page 1

such as schools, EMS and even a hospital. Such an ambitious project would require them to seek higher densities using TDRs.

That evening, they were asking for a blanket okay of residential areas, with individual plans to come later which could be either approved or rejected.

Dr. Richard Woodruff Wilson Miller spoke for the Duda family, saying this request would be part of a series of comprehensive plan amendments necessary to hone the project to completion. The Duda family has been in Hendry County for 40 years, and wants to stay here. They see this as a mutual process.

They were asking the county to add a new category to the county's comprehensive plan, called the Rodina Community Overlay. It would be specific to this new community only.

Representing the family, Tommy Duda told the board his family grows citrus, row crops, sod and sugarcane in Hendry. The Rodina Community would parallel their Vierra project developed around I-95 in 1989. That project now encompasses 120 businesses providing 6,500 jobs. It is home to 20,000 residents in a total of 4,800 homes as well as schools and other facilities.

The Rodina projects has regional landscape linkage with Corkscrew, the C43 Reservoir Wildlife Management, OK slough wetlands and panther habitat. It would provide blueways and greenways as buffers for sensitive environmental areas and recreational areas. Plans also include 13,000 acres for a permanent preserve, while still supporting a hospital, mall and job creation.

At this time, the county would not be committing to allow what could be some 21,000 housing units, just beginning the process that would allow the possibility of incremental housing developments.

Conservancy of Southwest Florida Julianne Thomas said she feels the plan is premature. She said there needs to be a distinction between conservation and agriculture easements. She asked that the plan not be transmitted yet.

From the Audubon Society, Pete Quasius agreed. He said it would be an appropriate receiving area for TDRs but that the issue is density. Although he felt it was a fine project, he wanted to know how it would effect

density in the rest of the county.

Commissioner Kevin McCarthy agreed that this is the type of development Hendry County is looking for but wondered how it would impact the growth and development throughout the county.

Dr. Woodruff explained that this would not commit the county to the entire 21,000 units, only giving them the right to phase up to 21,000. It could not prevent others from applying for anything.

Commissioner McCarthy commented that the whole plan will require long range planning and probably much discussion with DCA.

In the end the board voted 5-0 to approve transmittal of the amendment to DCA.

Gardenier

In the southwest section of the county, developers are seeking to change the land use category of property known as the Gardenier development, fronting on SR 82 and Church Road from agriculture to new mixed use.

The Hendry County Board of County Commissioners voted to relay the request for a comprehensive plan amendment to the Department of Community Affairs.

County Planning Director Vince Cautero provided an overview of the Gardenier project, situated on the north side of SR 82. He said developers are hoping to put in retail and residential uses. It is a long term project with a 30-year plan running till 2040.

The area is surrounded by mines, tank farms for oil collection and the county landfill. Mr. Cautero said the area is appropriate for intensive commercial/industrial use, but cannot accommodate residential use till approved by the commission. He said the biggest challenge to changing its use will be a traffic count on SR 82. Current plans would allow no more than 125 homes.

The proposed amendment was approved by the Local Planning Agency (LPA), Pete Quasius of the Audubon Society said he believes the plan is premature because it envisions homes in the middle of an industrial area. He said he feels it could be an employment center in that area.

Mr. Cautero said there would be little impact at this location as it would be predominantly nonresidential and that there are serious questions about where residential should go.

The commissioners voted 5-0 to transmit the application for the comprehensive plan amendment to DCA.

Officer Morgan said there were simply

Cats

Continued From Page 1

Volunteers from many organizations have assisted in caring for and locating appropriate places for the cats. Volunteers from the Bay Area Animals Disaster Response Team, which is affiliated with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Tampa Bay, were still there last week. They respond to animal disasters or large scale emergencies and are certified through the US Humane Society, FEMA and have taken Red Cross courses. Volunteers are trained for all emergencies including floods and aircraft evacuation and work with domestic animals, reptiles, livestock - all types of animals. The task force also included members of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Hendry County Sheriff's Office, LaBelle Animal Control and veterinarians from the University of Florida.

Dr. Melinda Merck, Senior Director of Veterinary Forensic Services at UF who worked on the Michael Vick animal cruelty case, was part of the team as well as Dr. Julie Levy, Director of Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida.

According to Officer Morgan, Maury Swee, owner of Tenth Life Animal Shelter, has had the facility since 2002. The facility received cats from various sources including individuals who released them for a "lifetime of care." Most of these owners put up a \$550 donation for the service. At the time the investigation began, the shelter had just three employees, although Officer Morgan said the shelter had up to eight or nine employees previously. He believes the shelter has possibly harbored up to 1,200 cats.

After the authorities' visit, Mr. Swee released some 530 cats to Officer Morgan of LaBelle Animal Control. Officer Morgan said the easiest course of action, given the number of cats involved, would have been euthanization of all the animals. However, most of the cats were savable.

Officer Morgan accepted Swee's release of cats with the stipulation that he (Swee) would be responsible for maintaining workers and the facility until Dec. 8 when the investigation was expected to be complete. Last week, cats were still being transferred to other agencies, being adopted to good homes or reclaimed by their owners.

Officer Morgan said there were simply

too many cats and not enough people to care for them. The investigation is continuing but, apparently, funding was not nearly adequate for such large numbers of animals. They did not have the right type of food and Officer Morgan said the wood enclosure on site is not a good material for a shelter because it is porous and harbors disease. Such a facility should be constructed of high tech nonporous materials that will resist passing diseases on from one animal to another.

He called the facility's records "a disgrace." The operation continued day-by-day, updating records and giving the animals basic care. Many groups and individuals have stepped up to help in the effort to care for these animals. Petsmart Charities donated 280 bags of kitty litter, 56 bags of food and 250 carriers. Best Friends of Utah sent donations and Officer Morgan said he was expecting a \$5,000 ASPCA disaster grant to help out. Agencies that specialize in relocating difficult cases, such as feral cats and those not acclimatized to people, are also helping.



Submitted photo/Consie von Gontard
UF's Dr. Julie Levy at Tenth Life.

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Public Forum

Speak Out has moved online, where it is quicker and easier to share your ideas and converse with others. Go to www.newszap.com, click on the community name and your local or state Public Forum. There, you can create new topics or comment on existing topics. What follows is a sampling of some of the discussions currently taking place. Thanks for participating!

Holiday disappointment

I know kids were really disappointed that the Christmas in the Park thing couldn't happen this year, especially since a lot of them won't be having such a great Christmas this year, what with people losing their jobs the rest of us just waiting for the other shoe to drop. Thanks to all the folks who worked hard to put it on. I know it was a disappoint-

ment to them, too. Now, everybody out for the parade tomorrow! And don't forget about the boat parade too. There's still fun stuff for parents and kids to do. Here's hoping Mother Nature is more sympathetic next year.

Swine flu

I see the health dept. is giving out the swine flu shots. Let's all make sure we get ours while we can.

Still give

I really liked the piece in last week's Caloosa Belle about the American Legion's Christmas dinner. He's right - no matter what we can all still give a little to help out our friends and neighbors.

Expanded target groups slated to receive H1N1 vaccinations

by Pat Dobbins

In showing our commitment to the health and safety of our communities, the County Health Departments within our region are expanding the target groups for the H1N1 vaccination. "Please know that your health departments are working very hard to organize convenient vaccination times and locations for you to receive the vaccine. We are very excited to expand the target group criteria," said Pat Dobbins, Administrator for the Hendry and Glades County Health Departments.

Please note***The target group has been expanded to include ALL persons aged 6 months through the age of 64. Additionally the target group has been expanded to include persons 65 years and older who have chronic health conditions.

These vaccinations are voluntary and free. Please attend one of the "after-hours" clinics listed below:

Clewiston - (1100 S. Olympia) - Monday - 12/14/09 - 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

LaBelle - (1140 Pratt Blvd) - Saturday - 12/19/09 - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The H1N1 vaccinations will be given to the following groups:

All adults aged 25 to 64 (with or without chronic medical conditions)

All Children and young adults age 6

months through 24 years

Pregnant women

People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months old

Health care workers and emergency medical services personnel

People over the age of 65 who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications (Which include: Diabetes, Asthma, Heart Conditions, Immune Disorders and any type of respiratory illnesses)

You can call the Hendry and Glades County Health Departments at:

LaBelle: 863-674-4041, Clewiston: 863-983-1408

Vaccination "walk-in" clinics are:

LaBelle: Wednesday afternoons 1-4 p.m. and Friday mornings 8-11 a.m.

Clewiston: Tuesday mornings 8-11 a.m. and Friday afternoons 1-4 p.m.

If you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, please talk to your local healthcare provider or the local health department. You can also call the Florida Flu Information Line at 1-877-352-3581.

*For web-based information please visit: www.myflusafety.com or www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/

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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. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.

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Faith in the Marketplace: We're waiting for Christmas!

by Fr. Alan Kelmereit

This season of the year is definitely a time of waiting. Most people are waiting for Christmas, some with happy expectations, and some with dread of everything they have to do, or think they have to do, between now and then. And face it, there is a lot to do. There are gifts to choose, find and purchase. There are card lists to update, and cards to write and send. There is the tree - what do we get this year, a real tree (they're getting incredibly expensive), an artificial tree (they're easy, and cheaper over time, but they are "artificial"), or no tree, just other indoor decorations. Oh, and don't forget to get the house decorations out and put them up.



Fr. Alan
Kelmereit

Let me propose something a little different. The real name of the season between now and December 25, known to a relatively few people, is Advent. At the heart of Advent is waiting for the coming of Jesus with a sense of joyful expectancy. And it's not just about Christmas. It's also a season of reminding ourselves that, just as he came once to be with us, he will return. And that second coming is an event to be anticipated with great joy, just as his first coming is an event to be celebrated with great joy.

So, how do we celebrate Advent in a way that helps us to prepare for Christmas more calmly and with less stress than usual? First, set aside a bit of time every day to read part of the Christmas story in the Bible. Read it with the family together, why don't you; perhaps in the morning, or at supper time. Do whatever works for your schedule. You can find all sorts of Advent devotional books with daily readings to help you think spiritually about Christmas. You're going to be near the stores shopping anyway, so it's no big deal to stop into a

bookstore to find one.

Something else while you're out shopping - don't ever pass a Salvation Army kettle without putting a dollar in. It's not much to you, but the Army makes incredibly good use of it helping people who desperately need help.

If you've been finding yourself missing church on Sundays this is a good time to go back. Don't feel embarrassed about missing - everyone will be happy to see you. If you don't have a church, start now to find one where you feel welcome, preferably one that can help you learn to use Advent time to prepare for Christmas, so that you'll have a place to be Christmas morning. And remember, whether you're going back or starting fresh, going to church is not about making you feel good, or happy, or righteous. It's about going to worship God, about establishing a relationship with him. It's something he wants, so if you don't have one, all you have to do is show up.

Finally, get real about the gifts. You don't have to give the biggest, best present ever, or the most expensive one. Dollar value is a really bad substitute for love value, and nearly every recipient knows the difference with crystal clarity. Christmas is a season for recalling and celebrating that God loved you enough to come, live as one of us, and die in order that you can have life, now and in the future. That's the gift of all gifts, and it's yours for the receiving. Have a peaceful Advent, and a blessed Christmas.

Fr. Alan is pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd, one block south of Rt 80 on Collingswood Pkwy, Port LaBelle. Services at 9:00 am Sundays and 9:30 am Thursdays. 863-675-0385. Faith-Marketplace@embarqmail.com

Thank You

Kindnesses to Kingshouse residents

Kingshouse Retirement Center wishes to thank Mr. Jim Conyers for the lovely flowers he brought to Kingshouse for Thanksgiving. KRC also wishes to thank Gloria Kirkwood for the videos she brought for the veterans to watch. All these acts of kindness are much appreciated by the residents and staff at Kingshouse. Thanks to those individuals who go out of their way to bring joy to our residents.

Stafford and Annette King

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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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.

Live the Season with drive through Nativity experiences

by Patty Brant

Caloosa Belle

Christmas is all about love and cooperation. In the Christian spirit, two LaBelle churches are coordinating their efforts to bring live Nativity scenes to the community.

This year marks the sixth time Life Ministries has generously heralded the season with its drive through Nativity. This year Healing Waters is also planning a drive through Nativity.

Healing Waters will be first to open its Nativity, which will run from Dec. 11-13. Life Ministries will follow up from Dec. 16-18. Both performances will be from 6-9 p.m.

Both are presented free of charge - not even love offering will be requested. Members of both churches are presenting these ambitious gifts as displays of faith.

Healing Waters is located at Birchwood and SR 80 and is setting up its scene behind the church. Members of the church were looking for a Christmas outreach and this seemed the perfect thing. Their initial Nativity scene drive through, entitled "Gift of Hope," follows Christ's story from Christmas to the cross.

Life Ministries' offering, called "Believe," starts at Genesis and continues the story all

the way to the Resurrection. Their productions include some 50 actors every night along with another 30 behind the scenes to set up stages, lights and complete the production.

Both presentations include stations where vehicles can stop to view scenes such as the Nativity, the dedication of Jesus as a baby, Jesus in the temple, the crucifixion and Jesus' empty tomb. At each station viewers will hear recordings of appropriate Scripture.

Members of Healing Waters are grateful to Life Ministries for helping them tremendously in their first effort.

Life Ministries has been putting on the Nativity scene every other year. The two churches are exploring the possibility of alternating years so the community will have a scene every year.

Asia Rodriguez of Life Ministries and Rita Dunne and Jennifer Griffin are pleased to be working together with a sense of unity and invite the community to enjoy the extraordinary spirit of the season at each drive through Nativity.

Don't forget the hot chocolate and cookies that will be served up at each with an extra helping of the meaning of Christmas.

Submitted photo

Exhibit for ACT

Local contemporary artist Raymond Hernandez was awarded the City of Fort Myers 2009 Arts and Culture Grant. The grant will sponsor the artist's exhibition "Now and Then" at the Arts for Act Gallery in downtown Fort Myers. Proceeds go to the Abuse Counseling and Treatment, a circle of support services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault serving Lee, Hendry and Glades counties. The exhibit showcases works from the late 1980s-2009 through Dec. 29. Along with the exhibition the artist will hold a workshop on acrylic painting to five area high school students sponsored by the Alliance for the Arts.

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Church Briefs

Enjoy spaghetti dinner at First Church of God

Enjoy a spaghetti dinner including green beans, salad, garlic bread, tea and dessert for \$5 at First Church of God on Hwy. 80W this Saturday, Dec. 12, beginning at 5 p.m.

Helping hands for Christmas

Marcia's Helping Hands Mission is preparing for Christmas Project. Last year this mission gave away 2,000 packages to families that had not been able to otherwise have a Christmas.

This year we are asking for you help in bringing local families some joy the Christ-

mas Season. There will be collection boxes placed at Family Eye Care and Carlson Memorial UMC. For items such as clothes, toys, shoes, socks, coloring books, crayons and candy. If you would like to send in a monetary donation please send it to Marcia's Helping Hands Mission at 3531 Ft. Adams Ave. LaBelle FL 33935. If you require additional information please don't hesitate to contact Marcia Carter at (863) 675-8607.

Ready for Bingo?

Bingo is played Fridays from September through May at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church on Bridge Street, LaBelle at 7 p.m. Early Bird starts at 6:45 p.m. Come join the fun and visit with your friends.

Community Briefs

Salvation Army volunteers

The Salvation Army LaBelle is looking for volunteers for its annual Christmas Kettle Campaign. Individuals, groups or organizations are needed to ring the bells for one day in 10 - one hour slots. Please call 863-674-1441. The campaign runs through Dec. 24.

Also, please sponsor a family for a Christmas Gifts or Food Box please stop by or call 863-674-1441. They anticipate a huge need in our area this year.

Christmas Trees are here!

This yearly fund raiser is an excellent way for our LHS Key Club to raise money for the projects they support. Sales are ongoing. The WGS Builder's Club will help as LaBelle Kiwanis Club members interact with our youth and serve our community. It is also a great way to develop leadership qualities in our future leaders.

Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving sales will be from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., with plenty of help on hand to trim and load your tree. After that, trees sales will be manned on Sundays from noon-7 p.m., Monday - Fridays from 3-7 p.m., and on Saturdays from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. You can always purchase your tree during normal Thrift Store hours, Monday-Friday as early as 9 a.m., but there is no trimming available.

Thanks to Mr. Lawrence O'Ferrell and Mr. Bob Moss delivery of 225 Fraser Firs from

Blue Ridge Trees in Sparta, NC are expected. Trees will range from 5'-9' in height, \$30 and \$65. We appreciate the support of our community.

LHS '60s reunion

If you graduated from or attended LHS from 1959-69 please mark the weekend of March 12-14, 2010, on your calendar for a multi-class reunion. If you would like to help plan or need more information, please call Sue at 863-675-4803 or Jayne at 863-517-0337.



Community Toy Drive

December 12, 2009
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Rodeo Grill and Salvation Army are teaming up to bring some holiday joy to the children of LaBelle. Bring an unwrapped toy on or before December 19th and receive soft drinks on the house!

We will be having pictures with Santa, car and bike show, music and family activities through out the day.

Ya'll come on down
Call 863-675-7006
For more information

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season!



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Community Briefs

We can still give

American Legion Post 130 is still looking for names and addresses of anyone in need of a Christmas dinner. Donations and volunteers are still needed for this very important annual project. Please call 675-8300.

Kids only shopping

Kiwanis Thrift Store will hold its 5th annual "Children Only Christmas Shopping" on Friday evening, Dec. 11, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Children ages 4-12 are welcome to come to the thrift store and shop for Christmas gifts for their friends and family. Volunteers will be on hand to supervise the younger children, if needed. free gift wrapping by LHS Key Club. Coffee, juice and snacks will be provided for parents while you wait.

Christmas toys needed

For the last several years the Salvation Army, the United Way, the LaBelle Post Office and the Hendry County Emergency Services have worked together to gather items for Christmas gifts for the children in western Hendry County.

The gifts, together with those donated by Marcia and Dick Carter, the Salvation Army Volunteers of The Year 2009, are distributed by the Salvation Army by the week before

Obituaries

Florine May Rhymes, 77

OKEECHOBEE — Florine May Rhymes, age 77, of Okeechobee, passed away Nov. 3, 2009, at St. Lucie Medical Center.

Born July 15, 1932, in LaBelle, to the late Rosie "Tony" and Ivy May she was a homemaker of the Brethren faith. She enjoyed yard work, gardening, reading and cooking. She was a member of the Brethren Church in Bassinger.

She was a beloved wife to Herman Rhymes; mother to Jody Rhymes and Judy Stacy all of Okeechobee; grandmother of three grandsons. She is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Grace Brethren Church with Pastor Jim Waters officiating.

Gladys Marie Altman, 85

LABELLE — Gladys Marie Altman, age 85, of LaBelle, passed away Dec. 4, 2009, in LaBelle.

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Christmas. Last year 2,000 kids were served through the efforts of all these agencies, missions and friends. There has been a marked increase in those needing assistance this year so community support of this project is greatly needed.

If you would like to donate an unwrapped gift for a precious child, you may drop it off any time at the Salvation Army, 180 North Main Street, the United Way House, 117 Fort Thompson Avenue or the Hendry County Emergency Services toy drive at the Winn Dixie Dec. 12.

Business questions answered

Another opportunity for the potential small business owner is made available by the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) of FGCU. Scheduled 10 a.m. to noon for Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Clewiston City Hall, 115 W. Ventura, Clewiston and again on Thursday at LaBelle City Hall, 481 W. Hickpochee Ave. the two hour workshops will answer the questions you need to ask yourself on your venture to starting your own business. Register on-line at www.fgcu.edu/sbdc: \$20 per workshop.

Prevent tobacco use

Tobacco-Free Partnership of Hendry

County

The Florida Department of Health announces a public meeting of the Tobacco-Free Partnership of Hendry County to which all persons are invited Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 4:15 p.m. at Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church, 310 Campbell St.

They will consider Tobacco Prevention & Policy Change Training. A copy of the agenda and/or meeting minutes may be obtained by contacting Valarie James, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, Hendry County Health Department, 1140 Pratt Blvd, or call 863-674-4041 ext 128 for more information.

Fill the ambulance

Hendry County Public Safety, Glades County Public Safety and the United Way would like to announce that the Second Annual Fill the Ambulance Toy Drive.

On Dec. 12, in partnership with the United Way the Second Annual Fill the Ambulance Toy Drive will be held in the Winn-Dixie parking lot, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Please bring toys for all age ranges of children or donate monetary contributions that will be used to purchase toys and meals for families in need.

Cruise to buffet dinner

The South Central Florida Car Club invites you to attend our Cruise-in and Christmas Buffet Dinner on Dec. 16, from 6-?? p.m. at Port LaBelle Inn. Enjoy all you can eat dinner buffet for \$15 with music and dancing to follow.

Please bring an unwrapped toy we can give to a child in Hendry and Glades Counties for Christmas and a car-related gag gift to swap with those attending the dinner. Call Tom Corbett at 863 234-8343 or Ellen Beers at 863 674-0128 for more information. The public is invited to come look at the neat cars, bring your own neat car, have a fantastic meal and listen to the great music. A cash bar will be available, door prizes and special prices for overnight quests at the Inn. Ya'll come!

No car and bike show

Due to unforeseen circumstances Rodeo Grill will be postponing the car and bike show originally planned for Dec. 12.

They are still working with the Salvation Army to collect toys for distribution here in

LaBelle. If you have any questions, please call Miss Jean at (863) 675-7006.

Toy drive and pulled pork

Bring a new toy or cash donation to Gator Bait Pub at Pioneer Plaza, Pioneer Plantation on Hwy. 80 east of LaBelle, on Dec. 19 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and get a free pulled pork plate.

MCA plans regular meeting

Mark your calendar for the regular monthly meeting of the Muse Community Association, Thursday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. It will be a short meeting with karaoke to follow. All residents are encouraged to attend and bring a friend. Refreshments will be served.

Turkey and ham shoot set

Come to the Turkey and Ham Shoot at Pioneer Volunteer Fire Department, 2499 Hendry Isles Blvd., Dec. 18-19 beginning at 7 p.m.

Free blood pressure check

Heartland Registry, Inc., a private duty nursing business, will host a free blood pressure clinic and refreshments during its open house Thursday, Dec. 17, from noon till 4 p.m. Heartland Registry invites everyone to visit their new location at 238 N. Bridge St. For further information you may call 675-1231.

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Community Briefs

No garbage pickup

There will be no garbage pickup on Friday, Dec. 25, or Friday, Jan. 1, in unincorporated Hendry County. Pickup will resume on the next scheduled pickup day. Please call 863-675-5252 with any questions.

First Bank playing Santa for the needy

First Bank is collecting items for the Salvation Army Food Pantry for the holidays. Please drop off canned food or dry goods to the LaBelle branch so that it can be distributed to the local citizens of Hendry County.

Storyteller at library

Willie Johns, a Seminole Tribe of Florida "Story Teller" will be the special guest at Barron Library on Monday, Dec. 14, at 3:30 p.m. He will be telling stories from the past as well as introducing children to some culture of the Seminole Tribe. All children attending will have a chance to win door prizes. Mark your calendar now and plan on bringing your children for this educational event on Dec. 14 at 3:30 p.m.

Skeet tourney planned

The Clewiston High School Criminal Justice Class and Clewiston Police Dept. Explorers are sponsoring a trap/skeet shoot Saturday, Dec. 12, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Hendry County Gun Range. Help send

the Criminal Justice class to Washington, D.C. Enjoy open or ladies tournaments. Cost \$50 for 50 targets.

All shooters must bring #8 shot shells, factory loads, please. All prices include lunch; prizes for top three finishers and last place. There will be a practice tower. All proceeds will benefit the CHS Criminal Justice class trip to Washington, D.C. and the CPD Explorers. If you have any questions please call Det. D. Colburn at 863-983-1474 at the CPD or email colburndj@fecnj.net. Make checks payable to Clewiston Police Explorers. You can send or drop off your registration at the CPD, 205 W. Ventura Ave., Clewiston, FL 33440. You may also register at the range that day.

Pancake breakfast

The Ortona Community Association will hold its first pancake breakfast of the winter season on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 7-9 a.m. at the Ortona Community Hall, Ortona Road (Highway 78A). The all-you-can-eat breakfast includes sausage, pancakes juice and coffee for \$4.

Special guest at boat parade

Dec. 12 the Annual Christmas Lighted Boat Parade will be floating by the park. Special Guest, Gioia Bruno from Expose will be singing and joining in the Christmas caroling! Gioia has given her time to us for the benefit of the animals. Venders and the concession stand will be open and serving a

delicious assortment of Christmas Cookies n snacks and hot Chili n Hot Dogs, coffee, hot chocolate, cold drinks. Proceeds from the concession go directly to the care of animals at the Caloosa Humane Society!

Breakfast with Santa planned

Breakfast with Santa will take place Saturday, Dec. 12, from 8-11 a.m. at the American Legion Post 130, 699 Hickpochee Ave. Pancakes, sausage, juice, milk or coffee. Free for children 8 and under, \$3 for parents and children over age 8. Be the first to let Santa know what you want for Christmas. Receive a small gift while they last. Bring your camera to take a picture. Elves, balloons and fun. Hosted by Auxiliary Unit 130.

Come to brunch buffet

Hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 130 a Brunch Buffet Sunday, Dec. 20, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Menu: scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, French toast, sliced ham and turkey, soup, fruit salad, rolls, condiments, coffee and tea. All you can eat for \$7. Public Welcome. Located at 699 Hickpochee Ave. (SR 80) LaBelle.

Come to roast beef dinner

Hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 130, a roast beef dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 16, from 5-7 p.m. Menu: roast

beef, baked potato, green beans, roll, coffee and tea. \$6. Desert available \$1. Public Welcome. Located at 699 Hickpochee Ave. (SR 80).

Widows to meet

The Widows' Support Group will meet for lunch at Victoria's on Dec. 17 at 11:30 a.m. They will have a free will offering instead of a gift exchange. All widows are welcome.

Give a memory for Christmas

Derek's Detailing is hoping to give back to the community this Christmas.

Please bring an unwrapped gift or \$10 to the shop at 283 S. Bridge St., any Sunday from 10 am.-3 p.m. Toys collected will be delivered to local kids in need on Christmas.

Free computer class

Each Monday morning at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon Pastor Avery teaches a one-hour computer class. For beginners and people interested typing, photo editing, movie making, E-mailing and searching the web. Computers are provided for the class or if the student has a laptop they can bring their own.

This a hands-on class. Just bring a note pad and pen. To reserve a place call (863) 675-0900. LaBelle Assembly of God is located at 123 Fraser Avenue (across from the Edward Upthegrove Elementary School).



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Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Services

Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Youth Group 6:30 p.m.

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Most assuredly, I say to you, he who has My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgement, but has passed from death into life. John 5:24

Crowd enjoys annual Capt. Hendry ECSWF fundraiser

The Education Center of Southwest Florida celebrated its 10th anniversary with the annual Captain Hendry Dinner fundraiser on the banks of the Caloosahatchee under the grand old oak trees last Thursday evening.

Although it was a bit wet, close to a hundred supporters attended and enjoyed a Christmas Season traditional dinner of turkey and ham with all the fixins catered by Gator Hammock. Entertained by Christmas tunes played by Music Mike, the crowd took part in a silent auction and then bid on live auction items, all donated by local businesses and individuals who support the Education Center annually.

The event this year was sponsored by First Bank, Florida Community Bank, Seacoast Bank, ALICO and the Hendry/Glades Regional Hospital.

School Briefs

Early dismissal planned

Hendry County Schools will be dismissed early on Friday, Dec. 18, for Christmas Break. Lunch will be served on this day. School bus drivers will follow their regular schedules based upon the schools early release time.

McTeachers serving tonight

Upthegrove Elementary School teachers and staff are working at McDonald's tonight Thursday, Dec. 10. The school will make a percentage of the profit of the sales between 5-8 p.m. Please come out and support our school.

Walk-A-Thon rescheduled

The LaBelle Elementary School Walk-A-Thon has been rescheduled to Friday, Dec. 11. Pre-K-2: 9 a.m.; Grades 3-5: 9:30 a.m.

Come to LMS Science Fair

Take notice of the hard work and brilliance demonstrated by the youth of our very own community! After three months of hard work and dedication, it's time for IMS students to present the conclusions of their individual science research projects.

The LaBelle Middle School science competition will be held during school hours on December 10. The highest scoring projects will qualify to advance to the Regional Science Fair in Okeechobee.

Students' projects will be on display in the Middle School gym on Thursday, Dec. 10, from 5-7 p.m. The LMS administration, teachers, staff and students invite everyone to share in the excitement of new discoveries, as students showcase their research and conclusions. More importantly however, is your support for the students, along with their perseverance and diligent work. At this demanding time of year we trust you will mark your calendars, then attend.

LHS: Gold for cash exchange

LaBelle High School will host a GOLD for Cash Exchange on December 15th from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the media center. Nobles Jewelers will make a donation to the LHS

All proceeds from the auctions and the meal tickets go to the operation of the Education Center during the 2010 year.

The board of the directors and staff of the education want to extend their sincere appreciation to all that helped make this fundraiser a success this year and ask that you continue to promote this career and technical education center located at 4930 SR Hwy 29 S in LaBelle.

A satellite Career and Service Center is now located on the campus operated by the Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board to help the unemployed and businesses seeking employees.

The website for the Education Center is educationcenterswfl.com and the email address is edcenter2002@embarqmail.com.

Call 675-6800 for additional information

about how you can support this non-profit 501 (C) (3) school. All donations to the Edu-

cation Center are tax deductible and 2009 is coming to an end very soon.



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

Kim Hamilton, left, took home the unique monkey art display created by Dobby, a 15-month-old white handed lar gibbon, being held by Dr. Debbie Misotti. Dr. Misotti's Talkin' Monkeys Project in Pioneer rescues unwanted and abused monkeys. The artwork is a means of raising money for the shelter.

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Marroquin celebrates 15 years in daycare field

Mary Ann Marroquin is being recognized for 15 years of service to this community. She is the center director and teacher of Marroquin's Learning Center.

The center holds an excellent license with the state of Florida D.F.C and also the Gold Seal. The center is accredited by the Nation Accreditation for Family Child Care nation wide



Submitted photo
Mary Ann Marroquin

(NAFCC). She has been working closely with the Southwest of FL Child Care, Community Coordinated Care for Children (4'c) and the Early Learning Coalition for the last 15 years.

Ms. Marroquin has provided V.P.K. since 2005 and, along with her staff, offers child care and teaching in English and Spanish to children one to five years and after school kids. She is proud to hold through the years, so many excellent parent recommendations.

Her philosophy is to be able to give all the children loving care and to teach them to accomplish their goals when they enter the public schools. She is a very friendly Christian person who gets along with her staff.

Marroquin Learning Center is considered to be one of the best in the community. Ms. Marroquin welcomes new children to the daycare located at 1172 Choctaw Ave and can be reached at (863)675-2057.

Submitted photo

The power of pennies

West Glades library students heard an FRA book titled "Listen to the Wind" by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth. They learned how Dr. Greg helped to build a school in Korphe, Pakistan, by having children from all over the world collect pennies and donate to the project. WGS library students collected "Pennies for Pantries" and were able to collect \$129.94 to purchase food for Thanksgiving baskets prepared by two school clubs. Thanks to parents who allowed their children to bring money in for this worthwhile project. Students realize that even our pennies add up and can be used to help others in need.



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Submitted photo
TOP: Carlene Campbell at her winning competition in Miami.

Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant
RIGHT: Carlene back in LaBelle with her first place trophy.

Chasing her body building dream

by Patty Brant
Caloosa Belle

Carlene Campbell has conquered another milestone in her quest to hone her body to perfection. She took first place in the 2009 South Florida Fitness and Figure Championship for women over 50. The competition was held in Miami on Nov. 28. The competition is a national qualifier - her success there means she can now compete at the tougher, higher national level.

Training at that level naturally gets harder, Carlene said, with a little less emphasis on cardio training, but the loss of more weight and body fat. She took off 1.5 pounds for the competition, making her a sleek 98 pounds, with just 6-7 percent body fat. She is now even leaner, with more muscle definition.

She was again coached by Shain Wyka for this event.

Carlene came home from her first competition, the Royal Palm Classic Body Building and Figure Competition last September, with a second place trophy in the open - tall category and a third in novice figure.

At 51, Carlene has been an avid fitness enthusiast for 23 years. She is a certified trainer, aerobics instructor and manager at the Big Iron Barbell.

Currently in the off season, both Carlene and her husband, Mark, are taking a much-needed break to reflect, relax and enjoy the holidays. She credits Mark with being her rock. She said he dries her tears when she's tired of trying and picks her back up. "He enabled me to do this," she said.

The couple is also choosing an event for Carlene for next Spring while she continues as a personal trainer and manager at Big Iron Barbell, giving 100 percent to training her clients.

Carlene wants to thank owners of the Big Iron Barbell Tara Beer, Amy and Glenn Holt as well as all her Big Iron family and friends for their support and enthusiasm.



Submitted photo
TOP: Carlene Campbell at her winning competition in Miami.

Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant
RIGHT: Carlene back in LaBelle with her first place trophy.

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• Relax the rural way! Situated on 1.25 acs in growing Montura, beautiful new 2006 3/2 manufactured home. SELLER FINANCING AVAILABLE! **\$129,900**.

HOMES

• Riverfront - Immaculate 3/2 waterway estate on 1.14+/- acres outside of LaBelle. Home is 2,425 sq. ft. of living area with overspacious kitchen, pantry, screened pool and a 1,944 sq. ft. workshop with office, bath and a generator compressor room. **\$795,000**.

• Horse lovers welcome! 4/2.5 on 3.24+/- in Port LaBelle Ranchettes. 2,500 sq. ft. of living area, 2 car garage, wrap around porch and more. **\$335,000**.

• Corporate owned! Gorgeous, needs a little TLC. **UNDER CONTRACT** 5.09+/- acres with caged cabinets, granite counter tops and lots more. **\$299,900**.

• Corporate owned! 3/2 CBS home on 6.48+/- acres with pool and completely fenced. **\$204,400**.

• 4/2 CBS home **SOLD!!!** outside of LaBelle. Needs some TLC. **\$107,500**.

• Corporate Owned! 3/2 2006 CBS home outside LaBelle in great condition and a few minutes from schools and shopping. **\$72,900**.

• Cozy 2/1 in Port LaBelle. Completely redone from top to bottom. Have to see! **\$70,000**.

• Corporate owned! **UNDER CONTRACT** home in new like condition, new roof, new windows. **\$125,000**.

• Corporate owned! 3/2 2007 CBS home in Lehigh Acres. **\$63,900**.

• Corporate owned! 3/2 2007 CBS home in Lehigh Acres. **\$129,900**.

• Corporate owned! 3/2 2005 CBS home in Lehigh Acres. Needs a little TLC. **\$50,000**.

• Corporate owned! 3/2 centrally located in Lehigh Acres. Close to schools and shopping. Needs a little TLC. **\$47,900**.

• Corporate owned! Centrally located in Lehigh Acres, 2/1 CBS home in good condition. **\$34,900**.

• Corporate owned! 3/2 on 49+/- in Lehigh Acres near SR 80. **SOLD!!!** tile, spacious rooms and great floor plan. **\$32,000**.

• Corporate owned! Little bit of TLC and this 3/2 home in Port LaBelle could be a beauty. **\$27,610**.

• Corporate owned! **UNDER CONTRACT** located in Lehigh Acres.

• Great investment potential! 1BR/1B home on a corner lot. Homes needs some work... but is priced to sell. **\$17,000**.

• Corporate owned! **UNDER CONTRACT** to 55+ community. Central location. Move in ready. **\$14,900**.

• Need more "living" room? 2,152 sq ft of luxurious living. This 4BR/2B home on 10+/- acs has it all, spacious family room, master suite w/ office, covered porch, and fencing for horses. This one is a steal @ only **\$250,000**.

• Size will surprise you! 2BR/2B home on 10+/- acres is very well kept. Features a warm comfortable living room w/gas fireplace, spacious kitchen, front & real covered porches. **\$55,000**.

• Affordable starter. 3/1.5 on corner lot in Moore Haven. **\$50,000**.

• 3/2 manufactured in city limits. Close to schools, shopping & easy access to SR80. **\$49,900**.

Call about our vacant land!

LOTS

• 2.72+/- partially fenced acreage in Muse. **\$75,000**.

• .29 +/- acre in Belmont S/D. Priced to sell at only **\$42,000**. **Possible seller financing**.

• Buy now, build later. Nice city lot in Belmont subdivision. **\$35,000**.

• Nice 1.25+/- ac. in Montura **\$8,000**.

• Call about our Port LaBelle lots!

COMMERCIAL

• Prime 20+/- ac potential commercial parcel located near West Glades Elem. in Muse & just minutes away from LaBelle. **\$3.50 per sq ft**.

• Invest now - build later! Corner lot outside city limits near town. **\$100,000**.

WWW.BELLEREALTY.COM

MANUFACTURED HOMES

\$29,000 - 3/2 in the city limits, needs TLC. Bank Foreclosure - Sold As Is.

\$59,000 - 3/2 in Ortona

\$64,900 - New MH on 1/2 ac off SR29

\$69,900 - 4/2 on 2 Ac. Foreclosure, Sold As Is - Over 2,000 sq. ft. built in 1996

\$79,900 - 3/2 on 2 ac. in Muse.

\$89,000 - 3/2 in Moore Haven Yacht Club 1200 Sq Ft.

\$117,000 - 4/2 Newer MH on 1/2 Ac, Seller Motivated.

REDUCED! **\$119,000** - 3/2 on 2 1/2 Ac Recent Updates 1436 Sq Ft.

\$125,000 - Newer 3/2 on a nicely located 5 ac. parcel in Muse.

\$150,000 - 3/2 on 6 Ac, Marshall Field Rd. Seller Financing.

\$375,000 - 3/2 on 30 Ac in Muse, Oaks, Creek, & Great Pasture.

HOMES
\$39,000 - Well maintained Country Village 2/2

\$69,000 - 2/2 Great Starter in Port LaBelle.

\$69,000 - 3/2 in town, corner lot.

\$74,000 - 2/2 in Port LaBelle, large porch.

\$79,900 - Newer 3/2, built in 2005, Short Sale.

\$125,000 - CBS 3/2 w/2 car garage on 2 ac, Short Sale.

\$129,000 - 3/2 Modular, Make Offer.

\$157,500 - 3/2 in Laurel Oaks, needs TLC, Seller Financing.

\$169,000 - Den on small lake, seller relocating.

\$179,900 - 4/2 in Muse Country Cabin on 2+ Ac.

\$225,000 - 3/2 in Gated Riverbend Estates, Seller says Make Offer.

\$299,000 - Country home on 5 Ac. many updates, newer roof, over 2,000 sq. ft. & 2 car garage.

\$13,500 - 1.25 Ac in Montura Ranches

\$49,000 - 2.2 Ac Rural Residential Fenced

\$65,000 - 4.2 ac. on Fernwood. Great buy!

\$69,000 - Estate Homesite in Oak Haven. 2 ac with great oaks.

\$83,000 - 6.5 Ac Very Private, F RD

\$100,000 - 2.5 Ac Hwy 27, Clewiston

\$125,000 - Ft Denaud Acres, 8 ac. private location

\$495,000 - Development Potential Platted lots on 16+/- Ac.

\$395,000 - 4.5Ac, 2400 Steel Bldg. Industrial, Possible Lease Option.

REDUCED! **\$399,000** - Short Sale! 2 Steel Bldgs, over 8000 Sq. Ft. Zoned PUD on 2+ Ac.

\$559,000 - 3 Ac +/- with Bldg on Sr 29, C-2 zoning.

\$675,000 - 5 Ac +/- Industrial. Will split, Cleared & Filled, Seller Financing.

St., busy downtown location w/older bldg.

\$395,000 - 4800 Sq. Ft. Steel Bldg. on fenced 1 Ac Industrial, Short Sale.

\$399,000 - 4.5Ac, 2400 Steel Bldg. Industrial, Possible Lease Option.

REDUCED! **\$399,000** - Short Sale! 2 Steel Bldgs, over 8000 Sq. Ft. Zoned PUD on 2+ Ac.

\$559,000 - 3 Ac +/- with Bldg on Sr 29, C-2 zoning.

\$675,000 - 5 Ac +/- Industrial. Will split, Cleared & Filled, Seller Financing.

WATERFRONT

\$55,000 - 2/2 MH in River Oaks/Ortona, now waterfront!

\$159,000 - Over 1 ac. on the main river, F. Denaud Rd.

\$189,000 - Manufac-tured home on 1 ac., Ortona

\$192,500 - Old Ft. Denaud 1 Ac.

\$199,000 - Hidden Hammock 1 Ac w/dock.

\$395,000 - High Elevation with long views, 5 Ac.

\$389,000 - 3/2 Super CBS River Home w/pool on Oxbow w/dock on double lot.

\$499,000 - Eagle Point 1Ac Deep Water & Protected Harbor w/ lg dock.

\$425,000 - 3/4 in Ft. Denaud on 2.6+/- ac with 228 ft. riverfront.

\$695,000 - Spectacular 7 Ac Pasture w/Oaks, 500 Ft on the River, Double Dock, Really Private.

LOTS & LAND

\$4,900 - Moore Haven Yacht Club lot

\$5,900 - Port Labelle Lots, Seller financing

\$9,900 - Mobile home lots, south of town

\$13,500 - 1.25 Ac in Montura Ranches

\$49,000 - 2.2 Ac Rural Residential Fenced

\$65,000 - 4.2 ac. on Fernwood. Great buy!

\$69,000 - Estate Homesite in Oak Haven. 2 ac with great oaks.

\$83,000 - 6.5 Ac Very Private, F RD

\$100,000 - 2.5 Ac Hwy 27, Clewiston

\$125,000 - Ft Denaud Acres, 8 ac. private location

\$495,000 - Development Potential Platted lots on 16+/- Ac.



Belle Realty Co.
863-675-7522
www.BelleRealty.com

FREE MLS ACCESS LINK: WWW.BELLEREALTY.COM

Terri Banksy - Lic. Real Estate Broker
Associates: Shary Weckwerth; Susan Hill,
Nick Rota, Lisa Andrews, Sandra Alexander
and Roxie Cisneros

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Post your ads in any of these newspapers for only \$8 each:

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun



Announcements

Important Information: Please read your ad carefully the first day it appears. In case of an inadvertent error, please notify us prior to the deadline listed. We will not be responsible for more than 1 incorrect insertion, or for more than the extent of the ad rendered valueless by such errors. Advertiser assumes responsibility for all statements, names and content of an ad, and assumes responsibility for any claims against the Delaware State News. All advertising is subject to publisher's approval. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any or all copy, and to insert above the copy the word "advertisement". All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. All ads must conform to Delaware State News style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk *.

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Garage/Yard Sales

Big Garage Sale
Dec 12, 7:30 am - ?
170 Bryan Ave
New & used clothes,
furniture & misc

Craft Show/Flea Market
GRANDMA'S GROVE
2250 State Rd 80 W,
LaBelle. Thurs., Dec 10th
8:30am - 12:30pm.
Lunch at 11:00 a.m.
For a table call Theo
(863)674-0622

LABELLE - 126 Clay Street, 12-12-2009,
8am to 12. New & Used Clothing & Xmas items
,Misc.Items

Yard Sale
Fri & Sat, Dec 11 & 12
2670 Evans Rd
3 miles from 29S on left
X-mas Decor, clothes,
scuba diving gear,
furniture & lots more

Garage/Yard Sales

LABELLE - 351 N Riverview St off Ft. Thompson, Fri and Saturday 12/11 and 12/12, 8am til ??? Huge multi-family sale at Ms. Doris'. Something for everyone!

How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

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

LABELLE - 7725 N. River Rd., Dec. 12th, 8 am - 1 pm. Huge 3-family yard sale.

Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

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

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in 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!



Employment

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time



UNITED STATES
SUGAR
CORPORATION

FARM MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

The Farm Maintenance Supervisor is responsible for effective execution of all maintenance work including projects. This position is responsible for the efficient and effective use of all manpower and other resources. Will develop personnel into a well trained, productive and engaged team. In addition, the Supervisor provides equipment-related expertise and technical guidance.

Responsibilities:

Controls quality, duration, cost, and thoroughness of all work. Ensures job quality and efficiency by frequently checking jobs in progress. Responsible for developing technician craft skills. Regularly hold safety, quality, consumer complaint, and financial information meetings.

Skills

Strong planning and organizational skills. Good written, communication, and math skills. Working knowledge of Computerized Maintenance Management System.

Mechanical and electrical background necessary and familiarity with different types of agricultural equipment including rolling stock (tractors, harvesters, implements, etc.), pump and power units along with conveyor systems.

Able to sketch and read blueprints and engineering drawings.

Supervisory experience with the ability to direct, coach and support.

United States Sugar Corporation is one of America's largest diversified, privately held agribusiness firms. The Company is headquartered in Clewiston on the southern shore of Florida's Lake Okeechobee between Fort Myers and West Palm.

Email your resume to Jdooley@ussugar.com
FAX 863-902-2886
OR Apply online at www.ussugar.com

Your community directory is a click away!

newszap.com

Free Speech Free Ads

Employment Medical

EXPERIENCED DENTAL ASSISTANTS

Would you like the opportunity to perform chairside dental procedures with our excellent dentists? We need EXPERIENCED Dental Assistants at our Family Health Centers Labelle and Lehigh locations. Radiology certification and expanded functions preferred. MINIMUM of one year as a practicing dental assistant REQUIRED.

APPLY ONLINE AT
[https://home.eease.com/
recruit/?id=50167](https://home.eease.com/recruit/?id=50167)

or fax resume to 239-278-3203.

Employment Part Time

Driver, Class B CDL with tanker endorsement. Excellent pay. 675-0636 239-896-2025

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds.

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.

Employment Medical



READING A NEWSPAPER...

saves you money by providing information about the best buys.

No wonder newspaper readers earn more!

Fitness Centers

Curves

DECEMBER SPECIAL
GIVE THE GIFT OF GOOD HEALTH
2 for the price of 1
Sign up Special
863-675-8446
439 W. Hwy 80 • LaBelle, FL

Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

Place your FREE CLASSIFIED AD



ONLINE 24/7

Place Your Ad Online,
From the Comfort
of Your Home

**WHEN YOU
WANT TO!**

www.newszap.com
& click on classifieds



Lawn Service

Lawn Service/land-scape, general repair and pressure cleaning
(863)673-6388 or
(863)675-1166

Real Estate Services

Cozy 3b/1b cottage
home in town. \$600/mo.
plus security dep. Avail.
immed. (863)673-0066 or
(863)673-0065

Get a quick response to
any item you may be sell-
ing with a classified ad.

Spacious 4b/2b home in
town. \$900/mo. plus se-
curity dep. Avail. 12/1.
(863)673-0066
(863) 673-0065

Merchandise
For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

**Computer/
Supplies**

Dell Computer -XP Pro,
fast, like new! w/ Moni-
tor, k/m/spks Call Tony
\$75.00. (863)517-2782

**Computer/
Supplies**

Dell -Vista, MSO2007, 2
gbam, 250 gb, 17" LCD
Like new! \$250 Tony.
(863)517-2782

Find it faster. Sell it sooner
in the classifieds

Furniture

Nice Queen size bed,
complete. Linens added
\$50.00 863-675-3032

Pets/Supplies

AKC Toy appenpincher
pups ready for holidays.
Japanese chin \$500 ea
863-675-1571

Sporting Goods

Tuff Stuff weight bench
with accessories \$300
863-675-7488

Shop here first!
The classified ads

Tools

Ingersond rand pro oil-
lube air compressor
135psi, 80 gal 230v
\$900 863-675-7488

**Agriculture**

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Livestock

**Holiday Pigs and
Suckling Piglets!! -
Babies and Hamp-
shires Great Gifts or
Holiday Fare! Males
and Females (12)
Breeding or Eating !!
Makes Great Pets
too!! Ready for Pick
up Call Mike. \$49
and up /neg.
(561)722-9702**

Join all the people who
say, "I sold it in the
classifieds."

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

**Rentals**

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Apartments

LARGE 1 BR furn. apt.
on Hall St. S., LaBelle. 5
mins. from shop., banks
& Courthouse. Inclds all
utils, W/D, Direct TV.
\$800/mo. 239-370-8532

Houses - Rent

COUNTRY VILLAGE
2br, 2 full ba, 1 car gar-
age. Very nice & clean.
No pets. \$650/mo
(863)675-0943 or
(863)673-7169

LEHIGH ACRES -Sale or
Rent, 3br, 2ba, 2 car
garage, \$74,900 or best
offer (239)860-8582

PORT LABELLE, 2/1 w/
Florida Rm., Screen
porch, garage & free
community heated pool.
No deposits. \$675 mo.
(863)885-2650

Port LaBelle, Large
3BR, 2BA. Nice neighbor-
hood. \$700 mo.
Margaret Barber Real
Estate. (863)675-5968
or (863)221-2944.

Spacious 1 bed /1 bath
home on Howe Ave.
\$575 mo 786-278-5821

Office Space Rent

Office Bldg. Shop
and Parking
(Out of City Limits)
Phone: 863-675-2648

Storage Space Rent**A Load & Lock
Storage**

5775 SR 80 • LaBelle, FL

863-674-1876

Alarmed Units • Security
Cameras • Outside Storage
Mobile Storage • 5x5 up to
10x30 Units • A/C Units
Penske Truck Rentals

**Bring this ad and
receive \$50 off
first months rent**

LABELLE RENT-A-SPACE

Cowboy Way & Kennedy
Blvd. Monthly includes
tax: 5'x10' \$42.80;
8'x10' \$53.50; 10'x10'
\$58.85; 8'x25' \$96.30;
24 hr access \$25
returnable key deposit.
863-675-2392

**Real Estate**

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Houses - Sale

IMMOKALEE - house
for sale, - 4BR/2BA,
\$109,900 or best offer.
Call 239-986-9395

**PALM HARBOR
HOMES**

Factory Liquidation Sale!!
Modular, Mobile, & Stilt
homes. 0% Down when
you own your own land.
Call 1-800-622-2832
for FREE Color Brochures

Land - Sale

Buy Now/Build Later
Port LaBelle, 10,000 FT.
VACANT LOT on paved
road w/utilities. Owner
Financing. Price to sell!
Call Owner 863-673-5071

RANCHETTE 1.25 acre

Montura - Ideal for RV,
Mobile or Primary Home.
Owner Financing \$2,000
Down. 863-675-1107
Se Habla Espanol

Mobile Homes
For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

**Mobile Home
Rent**

2 bed, 1.5 ba on 2 acs. 5
mi SE of LaBelle
\$400/mo, \$200 security
1-239-478-0173

LABELLE - 3BR, 1BA,
AC, lg deck, oak trees,
\$150/wk. \$350 to move
in. Call (863)673-5704

LARGE DW - On Caloosa
Loop near high school,
3BR/2BA, laundry room
w/ W&D, nice kitchen
w/upgraded appls.
\$750/mo + \$500 dep
(863)517-0188 must
have references.

MH - 3BR/1BA, oversized
lot, lg. trees, close to
town, lg. kit., \$625 mo.
(863)675-0104

Mobile Home Sale

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

FOR SALE OR RENT -
Large 3br/2ba older DW
w/large lot, on Dublin
Circle NE, in Horseshoe
Acres. \$49,500 owner
financing w/20% down
to qualified buyer
(863)517-0188

Mobile Home Sale

Find it faster. Sell it sooner
in the classifieds

LABELLE - Aqua Isles,
2br, 2ba, screened porch,
carport, completely fur-
nished w/W&D, Motiva-
ted Seller. Reduced price
\$15,000. Contact Larry at
(708)614-0707

Public Notices

For more listings,
go to
www.newszap.com

Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR
GLADES COUNTY,
FLORIDA**
CASE NO. 08-CA-000235

U.S. BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
v.

ANGELA FUSSELL; BILLY J. FUS-
SELL; PATRICIA A. FLETCHER; ROG-
ER DALE WILSON; KATHLEEN
WILSON; and all unknown parties
claiming by, through, under or
against the herein named Defen-
dants, who are not known to be
dead or alive, whether said unknown
parties claim as heirs, devisees,
grantees, assignees, lietors, creditors,
trustees, spouses, or other claim-
ants; TENANT #1 and/or TENANT
#2, the parties intended to account
for the person or persons in posses-
sion; NATIONAL CITY BANK, SU-
CESSOR BY MERGER TO HARBOR
FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant
to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure
dated December 2, 2009, in this
cause, I will sell the property situated
in GLADES County, Florida, de-
scribed as:

**THE WEST ONE-THIRD OF THE
NORTH ONE-HALF OF THE
EAST ONE-HALF OF THE WEST
ONE-HALF OF THE SOUTH
EAST ONE-QUARTER OF SEC-
TION 9, TOWNSHIP 42
SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST,
GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA.
LESS THE NORTH 30 FEET FOR
ROAD RIGHT OF WAY. TO-
GETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN
2004 GENL DOUBLEWIDE MO-
BILE HOME HAVING CIN NUM-
BER GMHG10660679B, TITLE
NUMBER 009539159; AND VIN
NUMBER GMHG10660679A,
TITLE NUMBER 0095338898**

a/k/a 26355 MUSE ROAD S.W.,
LABELLE, FL 33935

at public sale, to the highest and
best bidder, for cash, at the front
steps of the Glades Courthouse, 500
Avenue J, Moore Haven, FL South
entrance, Florida, at 11:00 o'clock
a.m. on 1/14/2010.

Any person claiming an interest
in the surplus from the sale, if any,
other than the property owner as of
the date of the lis pendens must file
a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated at Moore Haven, Florida, this
3rd day of Dec. 2009

Joe Flint
Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: Jennifer Bevis
Deputy Clerk
Douglas C. Zahn, P.A.
18820 U.S. Hwy 19 N., #212
Clearwater, FL 33767
(727)536-4911 Phone
(727)539-1094 Fax

In accordance with the Ameri-
can With Disabilities Act, per-
sons needing a special
accommodation to participate in
this proceeding should contact
the Senior Deputy Court Adminis-
trator whose office is located at
the Lee County Justice Cen-
ter, Room 1213, 1700 Monroe
Street, Ft. Myers, Florida,
33901, telephone number
(239) 335-2299;
1-800-955-8770 (V), via Florida
Relay Service, not later than
seven (7) days prior to the pro-
ceeding.

Public Notice**Public Notice**

Opportunities with SFWM Await Businesses
Session to provide information on upcoming
Prequalified Vendor Solicitation

West Palm Beach, FL — The South Florida Water Management District (SFWM) is hosting a series of informational sessions for businesses interested in learning about the District's upcoming solicitation for **CONTRACTOR PRE-QUALIFICATION**; **SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**. The sessions will give business owners and executives the opportunity to interact with contract specialists and project manager to discuss the upcoming solicitation. Each session will be held at the following locations /dates /times:

- **December 14th from 10:00-11:00 a.m.**: Clewiston Field Station, 2425 Hookers Point Road, Clewiston, Florida 33440, (863) 983-1431
- **December 17th from 10:30-11:30 a.m.**: Miami Field Station, 9001 NW 58th Street, Miami, FL 33178 (305) 513-3420
- **December 18th from 2:00-3:00 p.m.**: SFWM Headquarters, Storch Room, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 (561)686-8800

The purpose of the upcoming solicitation will be to obtain qualification and experience information from firms in order to pre-qualify contractors for major construction work in support of South Florida Water Management District Programs. Once qualified, contractors will be provided the opportunity to bid on construction projects throughout the South Florida area. Estimated values of these projects will range from \$500,000 to \$200,000,000. Contractors will be considered qualified by meeting a set of minimum requirements, as will be specified in the upcoming solicitation. Qualified contractors will then be categorized by project size (estimated contract value) and primary type of construction work. This solicitation will add firms to the previously established Qualified Contractors List. If a firm is currently pre-qualified with the District, that firm will not need to pre-qualify again unless applying for additional categories.

To learn more about the sessions, please visit www.sfwmd.gov or call Cathy Richards at (561) 682-2813. 341023 ON 12/09/09 & CGS 12/10/09

Public Notice**Public Notice****PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE**

Wanda and Larry Higdon
Okeechobee, Florida
The following vehicle will be sold
for non-payment of storage on:
December 24, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

1990 Ford F250 SLT Lariat
This ad is placed in accordance
with Florida Statute 1985,
Section 83.606
341029 CGS/CB 12/10,17/09

NOTICE TO PUBLIC
The Hendry County Hospital Au-
thority Board of Directors will con-
duct their monthly Board meeting
beginning at 1pm on Friday - Decem-
ber 18th, 2009 in the Conference
Room at Hendry Regional Medical
Center, 524 West Sagamore Avenue,
Clewiston, Florida.
341029 CGS/CB 12/10/09

**Create it yourself.
Sell it yourself.**
Create your FREE ad for
personal items under \$5000.
WACKY CAMERA - Digital.
Slightly imperfect, never captures
my best side! \$20 or best offer
Call 555-1025.

Place your FREE AD online:
24 hours a day, 7 days a week at...

www.newszap.com & click on classifieds

000 YOU DECIDE 000
What it SAYS → How it LOOKS → Add your PHOTOS
And before you know it, you've got an ad
online and in the paper!

**FREE!
Absolutely
FREE!**
So easy...and it's free!
CLASSIFIEDS
Go to www.newszap.com & click on classifieds

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

AIR CONDITIONING

COX
Air Conditioning & Electric, Inc.

AIR CONDITIONING & ELECTRIC • SALES & SERVICE • DUCT CLEANING
NEW, EASY FINANCING • AVAILABLE FOR ALL A/C BRANDS

863 675-0022
LICENSE #':CAC1815066 ER0001347

APPLIANCES & REPAIRS

WHITE'S
"SERVICE"
Is Our Most Important Product

FURNITURE & APPLIANCES
BEDDING
Serving LaBelle Since 1966

863-675-0717
**SALES, SERVICE
AND PARTS**
**TECHNICIAN
BOBBY WHITE**

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Chad Lutkenhaus making a name for himself at FGCU

LaBelle High School has turned out some fine young athletes, including Chad Lutkenhaus, who is currently a junior at Florida Gulf

Coast University. At 6'5" and 200 pounds, Chad plays small forward for the Eagles, but is currently sidelined with an ankle sprain.



Submitted photo

2009 LHS Basketball Team

Cowboys' basketball drops to 3-2 on season

After starting out the season with exciting wins against Immokalee, ECS and Gateway Charter, the LaBelle Cowboys dropped a hard fought game against the Clewiston Tigers.

Down eleven at half-time, the Cowboys had trouble at the free throw line going 13 for 25 in the second half. The upstart Cowboys feature five Sophomores and four Juniors. Senior Captain Adrian Pena has been steady but did not have a good night shooting against Clewiston. Dale Thompson, the other Cowboy returning Senior, was out to play in an All-star football game. Dale's athleticism was missed against a very athletic Clewiston team.

The youthfulness of the Cowboy team has shown in their sometimes inconsistent play. Examples would be the 52 first half points against Gateway Charter High and a season low 14 points versus Miami's Archbishop Curley. By mid-season we will have everyone playing more consistently, Coach Kelley predicted.

LaBelle's leading scorer is Sophomore point guard, Braxton Ford, averaging 17 points a game. The team's leading rebounder is also a sophomore, C.J. Jones, with 8.5 rebounds averaged each game. The Cowboys play at home on Dec.ember 10 against Dunbar and Dec. 17 against Gateway Charter.

Sports Shorts

Who wants a skatepark?

The Hendry-LaBelle Recreation Dept. is holding a meeting with all youth and adults interested in its skate park project Thursday, Dec. 17, at 5:30 p.m. at the Rec Office, 310 W. Cowboy Way. They will discuss fundraisers, look over park designs and choose a location for the park. If you have any questions feel free to call the Rec Office at 863-675-5347.

Attention shooters

Join the fun at the Hendry County Gun Range Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Shoot trap or skeet for \$4 per 24 targets. If you like night shooting come join the Caloosa Sports Shooters on Thursdays. For information contact Dave Alexander at 675-0500.

Caloosa Sports Shooters will be glad to work with non-profit organizations for fund-raisers at the range.

According to FGCU Head Coach Dave Balza, Chad has the most game experience of any of the current FGCU players. He has been a starter for the Eagles four times this year and four times last year. His three-year stats at FGCU include a team high of 66 games. He averages 16 minutes per game and us 43 percent from the field, Coach Balza said. Chad is also second in his team in steals. His teammates voted him team captain.

He has played Michigan State, the University of Miami, Kansas, University of Florida and other major Division 1 school. Coach Balza noted that Chad is a team leader and standout with a terrific work ethic.

"He does everything the right way on and off the court," Coach Balza said of Chad. This is Coach Balza's ninth year at FGCU and his 21st in coaching.

Chad is also a representative on the Eagle Council for the third year. There are two athletes from each team on the 30-member board which helps shape the department. Part of their focus on community service. Just last month members of the Eagles, including Chad, worked at the Community Cooperative Ministries Soup Kitchen. They participate in Eagle Reading - a program in which ball players read to elementary school students providing role models for fertile young minds. Another of the programs Chad has been involved in is Make a Wish, in which he took an eight-year-old boy who wants to be a basketball star under his wing. Chad and his teammates took the boy into

their locker room and made him feel like "one of the guys." In FGCU Toys for Tots fans can bring a toy to a game through Dec. 12 to be distributed to children's hospitals.

Coach Balza said Chad's parents are to be commended for raising a "solid kid" and that his yeas as a Cowboy football player helped him develop his toughness, hussle and physical style of basketball.

Not only has Chad earned a starting spot with the Eagles, he has been chosen for the All Atlantic-Sun Academic Team is a member of the Dean's List.



Submitted photos

FGCU's Chad Lutkenhaus, a former LaBelle Cowboy, playing hard at Miami.

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HRMC Convenient Care Center lights up for season

With colored lights, special events and smiles all around, Christmas is all around us and part of that wonderful feeling may be attributed to a beautiful Community Christmas Tree in front of the Hendry Regional Medical Center Convenient Care Center on Main Street.

The tree stands as a symbol of the season, thanks to the community spirit of the Hendry Regional Center Foundation. Members of the foundation, convenient care employees and members of the community gathered in front of the facility Dec. 1 for the tree lighting ceremony. Colorful lights sponsored by individuals filled the tree, honoring or memorializing loved ones.

Foundation Chairman Robbie Castellanos provided a few comments to mark the occasion. He told the group gathered outside the LaBelle facility that the foundation has raised some \$2.2 million for the Hendry Regional Medical Care system, including the facility in LaBelle. He said the foundation accepts all types of donations including a handicapped bus donated for transporting patients from Urgent Care to the medical center in Clewiston and clinical equipment which was then either used or sold to benefit the system. The foundation has provided \$100,000 worth of x-ray equipment at the

Convenient Care Center in LaBelle and for patient rehab in Clewiston.

Although we are all seeing difficult economic times during this traditional time of giving, Mr. Castellanos recommended that people continue to give. How much? "Give whatever makes you proud," was his suggestion. He reminded folks that every dollar donated goes into the health care system and to the community.

Members of the Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church choir added an extra touch of festivity to the brief ceremony with renditions of Silent Night and We Wish You a Merry Christmas.

Terri Lazar labored lovingly to decorate the inside of the Convenient Care Center while employees' efforts made sure the outside also reflects the glorious season we're in.

HRMC is undergoing some changes at this time. After some five years at its helm, CEO Craig Cudworth is taking a position in Texas to be closer to his grandchildren. Although he said it was a "very difficult decision," he is certain the hospital will be left in good hands. Lynn Beasley will serve as interim CEO beginning Dec. 19. A new CEO is expected to be named next February or March after a nationwide search.



Submitted photo

Members of the Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church choir added festive holiday music to the community tree lighting event Dec. 1.



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Submitted photo

Pictured from left: Scrooge (Bob Butts) and Jacob Marley (Jim Bishop).

Christmas Carol plays out on Firehouse stage

If you're one of those people who just doesn't feel like it's Christmas till you've heard Tiny Tim "bless us every one," then you can start celebrating. Get ready for Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" adapted for the stage by Anthony E. Palermo. This musical adaptation stars Bob Butts as Ebenezer Scrooge, Nancy McGlasson, Dave Johnson and Jim Bishop as First, Second and Third Spirits plus Charles Dickens' Marley's Ghost, Tiny Tim, the Cratchit family,

Fezziwig and Nephew Fred -- all of Dickens' children and characters!

There will be plenty of opportunities to catch this great Christmas classic with performances Dec. 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 and 20. Show times are 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$12 with reservation; \$14 at door. The Firehouse Cultural Center, 241 N. Bridge St., LaBelle. 863-675-3066.

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