

Caloosa Belle

Vol. 88 No. 10

Thursday, March 11, 2010

50¢ Plus tax

At a Glance

Brick ceremony

American Legion Post 130 and VFW Post 10100 will install 13 more memorial bricks at Veterans Park across from the Courthouse. The ceremony will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 13. The public is welcome. Blue Star banners will also be awarded to the families of service members overseas.

Relay for Life Survivor Luncheon

Relay for Life's Survivor/Caregiver Luncheon will be held at the Dallas B. Townsend Center, 1085 Pratt Blvd. Sunday, March 14, at 12:30 p.m. Guest speaker Bruce Garrison, Unit Executive Director for the ACS, will speak about the American Cancer Societies patient services. Everyone bring your favorite dish and join us in Remembering and Celebrating our loved ones.

For more information: contact Tara Sherrod Event Chair 863-517-4167.

Moving On ceremony

The Honorable Judge Christine Greider and Hendry County Drug Court Team invite you to a Drug Court graduation and lunch at noon Thursday, March 18, in Courthouse 3. Please RSVP to JoAnn at 863-675-5225. Lunch and fellowship will follow the Moving On ceremony.

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

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Goldilocks: Lessons for life



Goldilocks (Amanda Brown of the State Attorney's Office) is "cuffed and stuffed" after Country Oaks second graders found her guilty of breaking and entering and criminal mischief. See story on Page 6.

Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

Hopes hang on new EDC director

by Patty Brant
Caloosa Belle

Economic development is a tricky thing. Hendry County's new EDC director Roger Harrison understands just how tricky it can be. It's a delicate balance of ingredients not so easy to quantify. But when you get it right, everybody wins. Business thrives; people thrive. The entire community hums along. Like the



Roger Harrison

rest of the country, Hendry County is trying to figure it all out, and it's Roger's job to steer the ship.

A Georgia boy, Roger has a masters degree in public administration. He worked with Coca Cola to help restaurants grow and also wrote grants for municipalities.

While on the University of Georgia public service faculty for economic development, he worked with a one-industry town to help residents diversify.

Diversification - that's the key to sustaining a healthy economy that will hold its own when one or another part of the economy drags. That will help even out the rough times.

With the vast majority of small

businesses in Hendry County providing 50-100 jobs, small business is the backbone of the community, Roger said. The government is the largest employer in the county. Industry is all important to the county because, like all counties, it can't raise enough in residential taxes to cover its expenses.

Hendry County has several important pluses - a "trifecta of transportation" Roger calls it - good rail, good roads and the river. It also has good air strips that enhance the overall business environment.

With a little over a month on the job, Roger has already seen the pride Hendry County leaders take in their cities. He said La-

See EDC — Page 2

Missing man mourned

by Patty Brant
Caloosa Belle

Even through their tragic loss, the Forde family is grateful for the efforts of many people who searched unceasingly for Ernest J. Forde.

An 85-year-old Alzheimer's patient, Mr. Forde wandered away from his home in Port LaBelle some time between approximately 10 p.m. Wednesday, March 3 and about 9 a.m. Thursday when his son realized he was gone.



Ernest J. Forde

See Missing — Page 2

Hospital referendum passes

Hendry County voters gave Hendry Regional Medical Center the go ahead to build a new emergency room at the Clewiston facility and to expand services in LaBelle.

Voters cast 1,542 ballots for the referendum, 620 against in the March 9 voting.



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EDC

Continued From Page 1

Belle focuses on the good of all and is the county's government center. Clewiston has a good industrial park, great water system, plenty of electricity - a natural economic engine.

His perception is that both cities have good little downtown areas that can be attractive to businesses.

The entire community must "reach deep and pull together as a cohesive unit, he said. At the same time, it's Roger's intention to increase the presence of the EDC and focus it squarely on encouraging healthy growth.

He plans to work with Edison State College and also the Education Center of Southwest Florida, Inc., to create a healthy worker pool for businesses interested in coming to Hendry County. Roger said small business owners, large corporations, the county and city commissions must all be partners in that endeavor.

He said the prospect of a rural broad

band grant is good and is very important to business.

He plans to bring effective project management to the EDC to make sure Hendry County is ready for businesses when they're ready for Hendry County.

People should not forget that a good economy and community development go together. Amenities build the kind of quality of life that attracts good people and businesses and provides more options for everyone.

Roger said there must be a strategic plan for growth, because unbridled growth is not a good thing for a community. It strips a community of the very things that people came there for.

He readily admits he doesn't have all the answers. "It will take a community effort," he said. Change, he said, must come incrementally with emphasis on small business - and that's everybody's business.

Missing

Continued From Page 1

Hendry County Sheriff's officers coordinated the search which included deputies, K-9s from both Hendry and Lee County Sheriff's Offices, a Lee County SO helicopter, along with family, neighbors and community members.

He was discovered, unresponsive, in the bushes off Commerce Drive, about 2.5 miles from his home Friday.

March 6 would have been his 86th birthday.

Mr. Forde's daughter, Jewel Owens, said her father had lived in LaBelle for 23 years. He was retired from Con Ed in New York where he began as a laborer in 1947 and retired as an electrical engineer in 1986. He served his country during World War II in the Navy and was a veteran of the battle at Iwo Jima.

Mr. Forde was a strong member of the community. He was a member of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church and the Holy Name Society; had been an active member of the LaBelle Kiwanis, American Legion Post 130 and a board member of the Port LaBelle Community Development District.

He had lost his wife, Yvonne, last year and is survived by four sisters; four children, brother-in-law, son-in-law; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A Requiem Mass is planned at Our Lady Queen of Heaven for 10 a.m. today (Thursday).

Preventive screenings March 18

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church is pleased to host the life-saving services of Life Line Screening, the nation's largest provider of community-based preventive screenings. The event is open to local residents and will be held on Thursday, March 18. The conditions for which Life Line Screening screens are considered "silent killers" because they often strike without warning. Provided screenings will include:

- Carotid Artery Screening - painless, non-invasive Doppler ultrasound.
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening - Ultrasound is used.
- Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening - PAD is also known as "hardening of the arteries."
- Osteoporosis Screening - Ultrasound is used to estimate the bone density of the heel.
- Atrial Fibrillation is an irregular heart beat (arrhythmia) that affects the atria - the upper chambers of the heart - and is the most common form of sustained arrhythmia.

To pre-register, contact Life Line Screening at www.lifelinescreening.com or call 1-888-653-6441.



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Commissioner Chapman recalls the past year on the county commission

Hendry County Commissioner Tris Chapman recently completed his first year on the board. As part of a commission that has overseen varied projects during this past year, the commissioner wanted to share some of his thoughts on his initial year.

He said he is most proud that the county staff and Constitutional officers have been able to do more with less. With the substantial decrease in property values - some ten percent - he noted that the average constituents' taxes have also decreased. In business and personally, the economy has forced us all to conserve - including local government. He also realizes that minimizing taxes has come at a difficult human price, including asking employees to share in health insurance costs. He commends employees for their dedication to good service.

He said he is also proud of grant writers Ron Zimmerly and Janet Papinaw, who have stepped up to the important job of finding alternative revenue sources for necessary big ticket items.

For instance, the intersection of US 27 and SR 80 - the worst intersection in the state and sixth worst in the nation - was not even on the Department of Transportation's five-year plan.

After lobbying both the Florida and US Departments of Transportation, the county now has \$35.2 million (\$22 million from state safety funding and \$13 million in federal assistance) to rebuild that intersection - this year. SR 80 widening is also being stepped up.

Commissioners understood that, as an evacuation route and farm to market road, improvements to SR 80 were essential, so they got very vocal and pulled together to get the action they needed, Commissioner Chapman said.

He added that the commission has worked as a team at both the state and national levels and maintained a good level of service throughout the county without increasing taxes.

For Commissioner Chapman, the most controversial subject over the past year has been what to do about the Clewiston sub-office. The question has been looming for over four years. Finally, just recently, the board

decided to build a new sub-office.

Commissioner Chapman commends the Constitutional officers, staff and Judge Sloan, who he said all pulled together to come to the decision. The size of the sub-office will decrease by about half, to 11,000 sq. ft.

Staffs of all the offices there will share a break area, copy and conference room and will be able to share the large auditorium at the health department when needed.

Capital funds could be used along with the \$622,000 insurance settlement from PKM insurance from the destruction of the old sub-office during Hurricane Wilma. No loan would be needed.

The new sub office will be located on Olympia by the health department in Clewiston.

The county plans to sell the old sub-office, along with the ASCS building and Wayside Park to help pay for the new construction.

In addition, the commission will save some \$150,000 on rent per year expended for current space, as well as having kept taxes down.

Commissioner Chapman said the board is hoping to come up with a similar plan for LaBelle's county offices. Currently, the county rents space at the Courthouse Plaza on Lee Street.

Commissioner Chapman believes that the public deserves to have access to county staff and supported the plan.

Looking to the future, Commissioner Chapman also looks to the Hendry-LaBelle Rec Dept. In particular, he is interested in advancing the proposed LaBelle Sports Park on Forrey Ave. He commends fellow Commissioner Darrell Harris' passion for recreation and youth saying, "Nobody sees all he does."

He is also pleased with the "great cooperation" between the City of LaBelle and the county on this project.

The opening of the new Emergency Operations Center next month will provide ample state-of-the-art building for emergency planning and training as well as operations during an actual emergency.

He also looks forward to a future for Hendry County in the biodiesel fuel field. A first-of-its-kind grant will usher in new possibili-

ties for land users, he believes.

Along with the biodiesel possibilities, Commissioner Chapman welcomes new Economic Development Council Director Roger Harrison, whose job will be to help build Hendry County's tax base.

Other steps forward the board has taken over the past year include repaving Keri Road and an additional eight miles of sidewalks.

Over his first year on the board, the commissioners said he has enjoyed the challenge in spite of today's tough economic environment and is proud of what the commissioners have accomplished as a board, even though they may not always agree. "Each brings something different to the board," he said, "each has a diverse background."

Commissioner Chapman sees the other new commissioner, Karson Turner from Clewiston, as an enthusiastic board member who brings valuable experience as a contractor. Veteran commissioners Kevin McCarthy of Clewiston and Darrell Harris of LaBelle, he feels, both have extensive histories with the county and its residents that are vital to the board's work. Commission Chairman Janet Taylor of Clewiston "has a passion for people," Commissioner Chapman noted.

Their differences strengthen the board, he feels, and all are good listeners.



Save Your Vision.

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March is Save Your Vision Month. The American Optometric Association (AOA) and Family Eye Care join in Save Your Vision Month to draw attention to the correlation between eye health and general health. Many times by conducting a comprehensive eye examination, optometrists can be the first to see developing diseases and conditions through the eyes of their patients.

Phone Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

With Link-Up America and Lifeline Assistance Programs, qualified low-income telephone customers can save money on installation charges and the monthly rate for basic local residential service. This includes access to long distance carriers, Emergency Services, Operator Services, Directory Assistance and Toll Blocking.

Link-Up America is a federally-sponsored program that provides discounted service installation charges to qualifying low-income customers. It provides a 50 percent discount, up to a maximum of \$30 for new residential installation charges for telephone service. The balance of the installation charges can be paid, interest free, over a 12 month period. In addition, the monthly service charge for toll restriction will be waived for customers requesting or required to have the service.

Lifeline Assistance is another federally-sponsored program for low-income customers. It provides a discount to the monthly charge for basic residential telephone service. Lifeline Assistance Program rates have been reduced and guidelines have been changed to allow for more low-income customers.

To qualify for both programs, customers may enroll in the CenturyLink Lifeline program by providing verification that they meet state low-income eligibility requirements. In addition, Tribal Telephone Assistance is available for those living on federally-recognized American Indian Tribal lands.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-800-366-8201 or visit www.centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline/Link-Up programs.



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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!

Keeping the elderly safe

It's such a shame about that poor man who wandered away from home and was found dead. My heart goes out to the family. My elderly mother doesn't need actual supervision but she does have one of those bracelets that electronically alerts a company when she has an emergency.

They're really a godsend for people who can't be with their elderly parent all the time.

Thank You

Successful Poppy Days

And now the Torch and Poppy red we wear in honor of our dead, fear not that ye have died for naught; we'll teach the lesson that ye wrought in Flanders Fields. Moina Michael

On behalf of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 130, we would like to thank the community for making our recent "Poppy Days" very successful. A big thank you to the U-Save, Winn Dixie and Save-A-Lot supermarkets and Ace Hardware for allowing the auxiliary volunteers to be at your locations in LaBelle for the distribution of the veteran-made handcrafted memorial poppy. All proceeds are used to aid our veterans and their families. Thank you all for caring!

For God and Country

**Diane Davis, Poppy chairman
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 130
LaBelle**

Heroic effort

I would like to offer my sincerest appreciation to all those dedicated people who searched so hard for my friend, Earnest Ford. You all put out such a terrific effort and didn't stop until he was found.

Any dog can bite: How you can prevent it

by Pat Dobbins

Even the cutest, cuddliest, fuzziest, sweetest puppy can bite. Most people are bitten by their own dog or a dog of someone they know. Unfortunately, some owners actually promote aggression in their dogs or allow aggression to go unchecked. Although media reports and rumors often give the impression that certain breeds of dog are more likely to bite, there is little scientific evidence to support those claims.

Dog bites are a serious problem. In the U.S. over 800,000 dog bites are reported annually. Many bite injuries go untreated. On average, about a dozen people die each year from dog bite injuries.



Patricia Dobbins

There are steps we can take to address this problem.

Who's being bitten? The number of recorded dog bite injuries is significantly higher in children than adults. The elderly and home service providers such as mail carriers, meter readers and cable workers are also high on the list of frequent dog bite victims.

What can you do? Be a responsible pet owner. Obey leash laws. Use a leash in public to ensure you are able to control your dog. If you have a fenced yard, make sure the gates are secure. Dogs are social animals and spending time with your pet is important. Dogs that are frequently left alone have a greater chance of developing behavioral problems. Keep your dog healthy. Have your dog vaccinated against rabies and preventable infectious diseases. Health care is important because how your dog feels directly affects how it behaves. Neuter your pet. Some reports suggest that neutered dogs may be less likely to bite.

Make sure your pet is socialized as a puppy so it feels comfortable around people and other animals. Don't put your dog in a position where it feels threatened or teased. Don't get a dog until your child is older, because so many dog bite injuries happen to young children. It is recommended that parents wait to get a dog until children are older than 4 years of age. Train your dog. The basic commands "sit," "stay," "no," and "come" can be fun activities that build obedience and trust between pets and people. Avoid highly excitable games like wrestling or tug-of-war.

How can you and your family avoid being bitten? Be cautious around strange dogs and treat your own pet with respect. Because children are the most common victims of dog bites, parents and caregivers should: NEVER leave a baby or small child alone with a dog. Teach children - including toddlers - to be careful around pets. Children must be taught NOT to approach strange dogs or try to pet dogs by reaching through fences. Teach children to ask permission from the dog's owner before petting the dog.

Other tips that may prevent or stop a dog attack include: Don't run past a dog. Dogs naturally love to chase and catch things. Don't give them a reason to become excited or aggressive. Never disturb a dog that's car-

ing for puppies, sleeping or eating. Never reach through or over a fence to pet a dog. Dogs can be protective of their territory, and may see your action as a threat.

If a dog approaches to sniff you, stay still. In most cases, the dog will go away when it determines you are not a threat. If you are threatened by a dog, remain calm. Try not to scream or yell. If you say anything, speak calmly and firmly.

Avoid eye contact. Try to stay still until the dog leaves, or back away slowly until the dog is out of sight. Don't turn and run. If you fall or are knocked to the ground, curl into a ball with your hands over your head and neck. Protect your face.

What should you do if your dog bites someone? Even if the bite can be explained (e.g., someone stepped on your dog's tail), it's important to take responsibility for your dog's actions by taking these steps: Restrain the dog immediately. Separate it from the scene of the attack. Confine it. Wash wounds with soap and water. Medical advice should be sought to evaluate bite wounds and the risk of rabies or other infections. Provide important information including your name, address and information about your dog's most recent rabies vaccination. If your dog does not have a current rabies vaccination, it may be necessary to quarantine it or even euthanize it for rabies testing.

What if you are bitten? If your own dog bites you, confine it immediately and call your vet to check your dog's vaccination records. Talk with them about your dog's aggressive action. Your vet can examine your dog to make sure it's healthy, and may provide you with information about training your dog. If someone else's dog bites you, first seek medical treatment for your wound.

Next, contact authorities and tell them everything you can about the dog: the owner's name, if you know the owner and the dog, the color and size of the dog, and where/when you encountered the dog. These details may help animal-control officers locate the dog in case rabies is of concern. Please call LaBelle Animal Control (863) 675-3381 or the Clewiston Animal Control (863) 983-1474.

Dogs are wonderful companions. By acting responsibly, owners can help to reduce dog bite injuries.

Earnest's family and friends could not appreciate your efforts more. We saw your hearts went out to him and the conditions you worked so hard under. Again, all your heartfelt efforts are sincerely appreciated.

Myrtle Johnston

SCF Booth

Perkins Swamp Cabbage Fritters and Gator Tail Booth would like to say thanks to the Swamp Cabbage officials for allowing us the honor to be a part of, and support to, our home town festival and for the opportunity to use our knowledge to bring forth a product that American Natives and our forefathers used. It is still a part of our natural resources today.

With the pride in a team of 25 plus years of experience, we are dedicated to guaranteeing you wholesome flavor and the highest taste in quality that you will find around South Florida Everglades.

A very special thanks to our friends and visitors for making it a success.

Thanks,
Dennis Perkins

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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.

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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To Reach Us

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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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Chamber: Hurray for Hollywood, LaBelle style

If you've ever wanted to be a movie star, the LaBelle Chamber of Commerce is offering you your chance! Saturday, March 20, will be the most glamorous evening of the year as the chamber puts on the Hollywood razzle dazzle for its \$10,000 giveaway in cash prizes.

Come looking like a movie star - you could go home with cash-filled pockets like one.

It will be the Academy Awards, LaBelle style, so come dressed as your favorite movie star.

You never know who you might run into - Marilyn? The Duke? James Dean? Brando? Someone may even ask you for your autograph.

Tickets for this gala annual event are \$125, available at the chamber or from any chamber director.

Besides admission to the grandest event of the season, you and your own co-star will enjoy a fantastic prime rib dinner served from 7-8 p.m. at the LaBelle Civic Center.

There will be plenty of action at the silent auction, a 50/50 contest and a costume con-

test (awards for the best leading man and leading lady). Open bar.

Who knows? You might even walk out with your very own Oscar, so have your acceptance speech prepared. And be ready for your closeup, dahling!

Gulf Citrus gala plans announced

Tickets are now on sale for the Gulf Citrus Growers Association Country Gala to be held Saturday, April 10, at 6 p.m. at LaBelle Civic Center (directly behind City Hall).

Guests will be treated to a steak dinner prepared by the Hendry County Cattlemen's Association. There will also be a live auction, raffles and a \$1,000 grand cash prize drawing.

Tourist Development gives away basket

The Hendry County Tourist Development Council (HCTDC), with help from Michelle Phillips of Florida Freshwater Frontier (FFF), manned a booth at the Swamp Cabbage Festival to disseminate information on tourism to festival-goers.

An added attraction was the gift basket giveaway courtesy of the HCTDC and the Harold P. Curtis Honey Company.

The lucky winner of the basket filled with honey and other local products was Nick Wegscheid. Congratulations to Nick!

For further information on tourism opportunities in Hendry County please call 863-675-5264 or 863-612-4783. For regional tourism information call FFF at 800-467-4540.

Tickets are \$120 per couple/admits two and can be purchased by calling or stopping by the Gulf Citrus office located at 255 Main Street, LaBelle. Phone: (863) 675-2180.

Proceeds from the gala benefit the community outreach and legislative efforts of the association on behalf of the citrus industry in Southwest Florida.

The Gulf Citrus Growers Association is a trade association representing the citrus growers of Southwest Florida.

Its geographical service area includes Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties. "Gulf Citrus" addresses key issues of economic importance to the sustainable growth and development of the citrus industry of Southwest Florida.

50 Fans = \$50.00 gift certificate to U-Save

*Each of the first two teams with 50 registered fans will receive one \$50 gift certificate. Must be "actively" reporting game scores, photos, etc. on the site to participate.





- 1) Have your family and friends find your teams on your "LaBelle Sports Network" site.
- 2) Click the "Become a fan" icon and provide an email address.
- 3) They have now "Become a Fan" of your team and will receive email updates as the stories are posted to the site.

To visit the LaBelle Sports Network, go to <http://fl.newszap.com/labelle/>, then click on the SPORTS tab on the upper right






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NOTICE

The Glades County School Board Regular Meeting Scheduled For March 25, 2010 at 9:00a.m.

In The Glades County School Board Meeting Room Has Been Rescheduled For March 22, 2010 at 9:00a.m. And Will Be Held At

West Glades School
2586 County Road 731
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On October 28, 1969, Roger and Marsha Alexander started their life together. With just a few people by their side, and before the justice of the peace they pledged their love for each other.

Despite not having much they began this life together, working hard for everything they got. Soon Children came along and the process of raising the first of four children began. Through the years they showed time and again how a real marriage was to work.

Each of their children took what they learned of marriage and stored it away until the day they would stand and get married. Eventually each one did and started their lives as a married person. On each of those occasions neither Roger or Marsha ever said a word of their longing to have a church wedding. Never once would they allow their children's day to be overshadowed by selfishness.

So, on March 20, 2010 with each of their children present, Roger and Marsha will get the opportunity to walk a church isle as they once again pledge their love for each other in a wedding renewal ceremony. The event will take place at Daniels Road Baptist Church at 5878 Daniels Parkway at 1:00 P.M.

They would like to invite all their friends they made over the years to come and join in this happy occasion. There will be a reception to follow at the church.

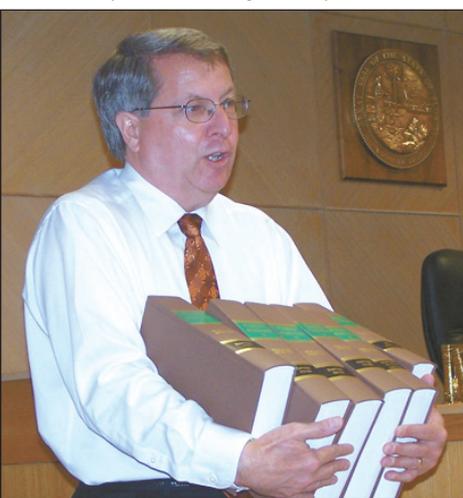


Country Oaks second graders' verdict: Goldilocks guilty

by **Patty Brant**

Caloosa Belle

It wasn't the trial of the century but it will have repercussions for many years to come. Second graders from County Oaks Elementary will remember their initial contact with the court system as long as they live.



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant
County Judge James D. Sloan gives Country Oaks second graders an idea of how complicated the law is by showing them volumes of law books.

After all, it's not every day you see Goldilocks hauled away in handcuffs.

But that's exactly what happened last month in County Judge Jim Sloan's courtroom. Justice was swift as the newly convicted felon was stuffed and cuffed and whisked off to do her time.

Actually, she wasn't really given a specific sentence. It was just "Guilty" and that was that.

So, maybe every point of law wasn't followed exactly to the letter, but the kids got the idea.

After studying the branches of American Government, they were there to get a taste of how the legal system works.

"It was their first exposure to anything like this," said teacher Kathy Sloan. "It was a good experience."

Letters the students wrote to Judge Sloan reflected their reactions to the special trip. Many of them were surprised to find out what happens in the Courthouse, a building they see every time they come through town.

They were excited about knowing what the judge does, along with the jury, and said they didn't realize how many laws a judge had to know.

They also found out just what a bailiff is and that their function is to make sure court

proceedings stay in order and to keep everybody safe.

Ms. Sloan, who happens to be Judge Sloan's wife, said several of her students have decided they want to be lawyers when they grow up. One wants to be a bailiff.

The entire proceeding brought home to them that somebody is in charge and that people who do wrong can be punished - a concept Ms. Sloan said pleased them.

They also appreciated that Judge Sloan took the time to answer their questions - something adults don't always do.

The judge also explained that it's important for them to stay in school and issued a warning: Make sure you go to school or

come back and see him in Truancy Court.

Second graders from Lisa Brookins, Lisa Williams, Sara Condon, Sue Gonsor, Linda Maddox and Becca Pratt's classes got the special kids' eye view of what happens in the courtroom Feb. 24 and 25.

In addition to Judge Sloan (who played himself), Amanda Brown of the State Attorney's Office played Goldilocks, Valencia N. Poitier of the Public Defenders Office represented Goldilocks, Assistant State Attorney Stephanie Bendeck prosecuted the case, and Court Bailiffs Queenie Bell and Mel Brant completed the cast of characters.

Community Briefs

Donations for Haiti

Seacoast National Bank is working with local chapters of the American Red Cross to support international relief funds for Haiti through financial support. Seacoast will accept monetary contributions (made payable to American Red Cross) at all Seacoast National Bank offices for the Red Cross.

Speak up for kids

Anyone interested in becoming a Guardian ad Litem Program volunteer should contact Angela Boykin, Volunteer Supervisor, at

863-674-4190, for more information. or see www.guardianadlitem.org.

Salvation Army open longer

The Salvation Army of LaBelle has extended its hours on Wednesdays only. It is now open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Wednesdays. Regular hours for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday remain 9 a.m.-2 p.m. All clients requiring assistance in Spanish are asked to schedule an appointment with Angie. She is available Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Please call if you have any questions 863-674-1441.

Obituaries

Aleta Mae Ballard

LABELLE — Aleta Ballard went to live with her family in Heaven March 6, 2010. A life long resident of Lee County, she was the daughter of the Reuben and Dora Corbitt also of Alva. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ernest Ballard; and two sons, Howard Long, and Steven Ballard.

She is survived by two daughters, Margaret Spencer (Tim) of Tennessee, and Debi Dilling (Jim) of Cape Coral; three sons, Edward Long (Carolyn), Clyde Ballard (Debbie), and Toby Ballard (Debbie), all of LaBelle; one sister, Glenda Warner (Bob) of North Carolina; 13 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at the Akin-Davis Funeral Home in LaBelle with Pastor Jay Goforth officiating. Visitation was held one hour before services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to

be given to the American Cancer Society in her name.

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National Mary Kay director visits area

Mary Kay National Sales Director Sherril Steinman visited LaBelle and Immokalee recently as a guest of Cindy Miller and Bonnie Keen, both sales directors in her national area. Sherril, a top trainer in Mary Kay, worked with consultants from Collier, Hendry, Glades and Lee counties during her two days here. She is considered a master teacher in the area of sales and booking.

Sherril, who lives on a farm in Pigeon, MI (population 1,200) joined the Mary Kay sales force on July 4, 1978. In her 32 years with the company, she has risen to the top, debuting as the 117th National Sales Director in May 2001. Sherril's success story was published in the April 2002 edition of Woman's Day magazine. She was also featured in the book "What's Missing" by author Rena Pederson. Sherril's story was in the chapter with news anchor Diane Sawyer and Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day-O'Conner.

As a director, Sherril has driven a career car since 1979, 15 times as a Cadillac qualifier. She has traveled to places such as Ven-



Submitted photo
Mary Kay National Sales Director Sherril Steinman with Cindy Miller and Bonnie Keen.

ice, Austria, Ireland, Hawaii and Australia as a top director, visiting abroad more than 45 times in her career.

Her highest monthly director's check was \$22,000 and she is a Mary Kay Million-

aire with over \$3 million in company commissions.

Sherril's favorite career memory is giving Mary Kay Ash a makeover in the ladies restroom in Paris.

Arrests

LaBelle

Jessica Crystal Zuniga, 23, was arrested March 8 and charged with criminal mischief \$200-\$1,000 subsequent offense. Ty Marshall was arresting officer.

James W. Farabee, 51, was arrested March 5 and charged with robbery with no firearm or weapon. Sgt. Olvera was arresting officer. He was also charged with possession of harmful new legend drugs without a prescription and counterfeiting of public certificates, etc., H. Bledsoe was arresting officer.

April Ann Dailey, 51, was arrested March 5 and charged with robbery without a firearm or weapon. Sgt. Olvera was arresting officer.

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Church Briefs

Pancakes and more

Christ the King Lutheran Church invites everyone to a pancake breakfast and yard/book sale, Saturday, March 13, from 8 a.m.-noon. Free will offering. The church is located 4/10 of a mile west of SR 29 at 350 CR 78.

Celebrate 11 years of service

The International Christian Fellowship wants to congratulate Pastor and Mrs. Sammy Co for their faithful service to the church and community. We will be celebrating 11 years of pastorate with a delicious dinner after service on Sunday, March 14. Come help us thank the Cos for their faithfulness to our community. Service starts at 10:30 a.m. with Sunday school and worship. Complimentary dinner will immediately follow.

CMUMC begins new service

Jesus said: "Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."—John 4:14

This community is filled with people who are spiritually dry and thirsty.

Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church has a new alternative worship service starting Sunday evening, March 21, at 7 p.m. It is called "The Oasis" because it is intended to provide a place of refreshment to all those who are "weary and heavy laden" and who are in need of Christ's "Living Water."

This new service will focus on worship and prayer so Carlson will grow and be a lighthouse for Jesus in this community.

The order of worship will consist of songs of worship accompanied by acoustical instruments, a short devotion and a time of intercessory prayer. If your heart is in the same place, please join them and experience the peace of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Cowboy Gospel

Come to hear the Cowboys Gospel at Felda Community Center March 16 at 7 p.m. Mary Alice Mott preaching.

Christian Men group to meet

Gathering of Christian Men will meet on March 15, at 7 p.m. at the Church of God on Hwy 80. The guest speaker will be Pastor Harold Hanks. Great fellowship! Men of all denominations are welcome. Come be a part of this growing organization. For more information please call Mark White at 863-675-1807.

Church to host yard sale

Twenty five plus families will host a gigantic yard sale on Saturday, March 13, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Pancake Breakfast from 8-11 a.m. Free will offerings will be accepted. The yard sale will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Everything priced to go. The church is one half mile west of S.R. 29 at 350 C.R. 78.

School Briefs

Prepare for SAT/ACT

Free SAT/ACT prep classes will be held at LHS Saturday mornings from 8:00-11:00 on April, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15 and 22. Sign up in Guidance!

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Cowboy baseball takes off

The LaBelle Varsity Baseball Team defeated Dunbar High last week, 8-1, and Evangelical High, 9-8, to improve its season record to 5-2.

Freshman pitcher Austin Garcia threw six strong innings, giving up one run on two hits. The big hard throwing righty struck out four Tiger batters while junior Josh McCardel pitched the final inning, striking out the side in order.

Sophomores Bo Meador, Steven Sodrel and freshman Tyler O'Ferrell collected two hits a piece for the Cowboys.

Against Evangelical, LaBelle scored three runs in the bottom of the seventh to pull out an exciting come-from-behind victory.

The Cowboys were behind 7-0 early in the game behind the strong hitting of the Sentinels, but chipped away throughout the game for the comeback win.

The Cowboys opened the seventh with singles from junior John Marotti and senior Angel Alvarez before Bo Meador walked. Tyler O'Ferrell then hit a ground to second base where it was misplayed for two Cowboy runs to tie the game. Josh McCardel then hit into a fielder's choice to score Meador from third for the game winner.

Alvarez, McCardel, Meador and O'Ferrell all had doubles for the Cowboys. Steven Sodrel pitched the final two innings for LaBelle, giving up no earned runs for the victory on the mound.

OSN unveils online sports directory

The online "LaBelle Sports Network" is designed to provide extensive visibility for local sports action in the LaBelle area. It's fun, interactive, and it is free to participants of all ages. LSN provides the opportunity for local sports teams, organizations and school athletic programs to display their team results and individual accomplishments for all to see – and various content each week will be extracted from the site to be printed in the Thursday edition.

We are excited to announce the release of our new online sports directory, a convenient online platform for schools, park and recreational facilities, sports clubs and academies, leagues and traveling organizations to share activity and program details.

If you offer a youth or recreational sport or activity feel free to contact Renee Hawley at rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com or call 888-853-7904 ext. 323 to register your program. You can also access it by going to newszap.com, click on your community tab, click SPORTS on the upper right part of the page and select LaBelle Sports Network. In the site click on the "directory" tab in the top menu. Submit your information by clicking the button on the bottom of the page. Directory content must be approved before it appears in online.



The LaBelle Youth Soccer Association has been building kids since 1995.

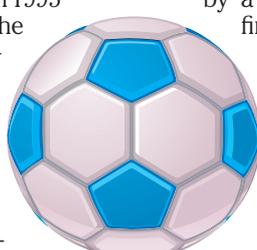
Featured Sports Organization of the Week

LaBelle Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

Featured Organization of the Week: LaBelle Youth Soccer Association, Inc. (LYSA)

Welcome to the LaBelle Youth Soccer Association, Inc. (LYSA). Our organization was founded in 1995

by a group of citizens. The first season of 1995 was during the summer and at 125ers. The weather the summer rains forced LYSA to move the games to the winter months between the end of football and the spring arrival of baseball. The league has flourished since those humble beginnings and has become the largest youth sports organization in western Hendry County. LYSA currently provides the opportunity for over



400 youth between the ages of 4 and 14 to play the fun and challenging game of soccer. Our league is co-ed and offers teams in five different age divisions: Under 6, Under 8, Under 10, Under 12 and Under 15. Our season typically begins in November and runs into February/March.

Games are currently played at the new recreation complex located on Jaycee-Lions Drive just west of LaBelle Elementary School and are on Sunday afternoons starting at 1:30 p.m.

Our organization is all-volunteer except for our trained referees. We are always seeking interested individuals to serve as board members, coaches and referees.

There are bleachers available for spectators and a concession stand at the complex serving a variety of food and drinks. Please come out and watch us play!



Kevin Lutkenhaus of the LHS Girls Basketball Team photos won the gift certificate from Forrey's Grill, presented by Barbara Griq-Bailey.

Sports Shorts

Cancer fundraiser

The Universe All-Star Cheer and Dance will raise both funds and awareness about Breast Cancer on March 13 at LaBelle Middle School. Doors open at 7:00 and all proceeds will go to Lucy's Angels.

Performances will be given by Universe All-Star Cheer and Dance, as well as other local performers for donations. There will be a \$5 charge at the door. Come out and support the girls and this important cause.

Sign up for Longhorn football

LaBelle Longhorn Football sign ups are at Davis Pratt Park Saturday, March 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Locker Room. Come sign up early for football. Make sure you have a spot on your team! For information call Debbie Alexander @ 863-673-4643.

Golfers play to cure cancer

Country Peddler's Relay for Life Team "MASH" is sponsoring a golf tournament to benefit LaBelle's Relay for Life 2010. The tournament will be held at Majestic Golf Club in Lehigh Acres on Saturday, March 20, 2010. The tournament will feature a scramble format with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Entry fee is \$45 per person and includes a cart. There will be lots of great prizes awarded at the conclusion of the tournament.

You may reserve a spot in the tournament by calling Lois at 863-517-2377, or you may sign up to play at Country Peddler Antiques in LaBelle or at Majestic Golf Club in Lehigh Acres.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a hole or donating a prize for our chance drawings, please call Lois at 863-517-2377.

Come join the fun and help us "MASH OUT CANCER!"

Attention shotgun shooters

First come shooters can get free lessons on trap and skeet shooting. Call Ed Kuntz for arrangements 675-6432. Range hours are Saturday and Wednesday 8 a.m.-noon. Lessons will be another time.

Also, come join Caloosa Sports Shooters (\$25 per year) and shoot at night on Thursday nights. All trap and skeet rounds of 25 targets are \$4 per round.

For more information call Dave Alexander 863-675-0500 or Ed Kuntz 863-675-6432.

Are you ready for tennis?

LaBelle High School is planning its Second Annual Tennis Tournament for March 27-28. Singles March 27 at 8 a.m.; doubles March 28 at 1:30 p.m. Call LHS for further details.

Check out the Sports Network online. Go to newszap.com, click on the LaBelle homepage, then click on the Sports tab in the upper right part of the page.

Poultry at LaBelle Livestock Show

Submitted by Sonja Crawford

The LaBelle Youth Livestock Poultry Show was held on Monday, February 15th with Mrs. Valerie Hirvela of Seffner, Florida serving as the official judge. The show was sponsored by Chris-Tel Construction.

In the Pee Wee Poultry Division receiving blue ribbons were Haley Harrell, Justin Mickelson, Zackery Pearson, Michelle Rego, and Lane Rutter.

Each exhibit was judged based on the Danish system; blue, red, or white. Many of the exhibitors showed more than one poultry entry. Alexas Caputo: 4 blue ribbons, 2 red ribbons; Jake Coronado: 3 blue ribbons, 4 red ribbons; Jessica Coronado: 4 blue ribbons and 2 red ribbons; Brittney Harrell: 3 blue ribbons, 1 red ribbon; Emily Kostoff: 2 blue ribbons; Dustin Padgett 8 blue ribbons; Austin Pearson: 2 blue ribbons; Neydel Rego: 1 blue ribbon, 1 red ribbon; Ciara Rutter: 7 blue ribbons; Dakado Rutter: 5 blue ribbons; and Stephen Woosley: 5 blue ribbons and 1 red ribbon.

Ciara Rutter captured the Best of Show trophy for Large Poultry Breeds with her Golden Campine hen. The Best Opposite trophy for Large Poultry Breeds was awarded to Stephen Woosley with his White Faced Spanish rooster. In the Small Poultry Breeds category, the Best of Show trophy was awarded to Brittney Harrell with her Mottled Cochin hen with Jake Coronado receiving the Best Opposite trophy for his Japanese rooster. Jake Coronado's Rouen received the Best of Show in the Waterfowl division. Dustin Padgett was awarded Best of Show



Submitted photo/Sonja Crawford
Stephen Woosley (1st place Senior Showmanship), Alex Caputo (2nd place Senior Showmanship), Brittney Harrell (2nd place Junior Showmanship), and Dustin Padgett (1st place Junior Showmanship).

with his Bronze/Bourbon Red Cross gobbler as well as Best Opposite for his Bronze Bourbon Red Cross hen.

In the Senior Showmanship Division, Stephen Woosley captured the first place award with Alexas Caputo winning the second place trophy. Dustin Padgett was awarded the first place award in the Junior Showmanship division with Brittney Harrell receiving the second place award.

The Poultry exhibitors are either members of the Pioneer Small Animal 4-H Club led by Pat Bosley or the All Kinds of Critters 4-H Club led by Kathy Mickelson.

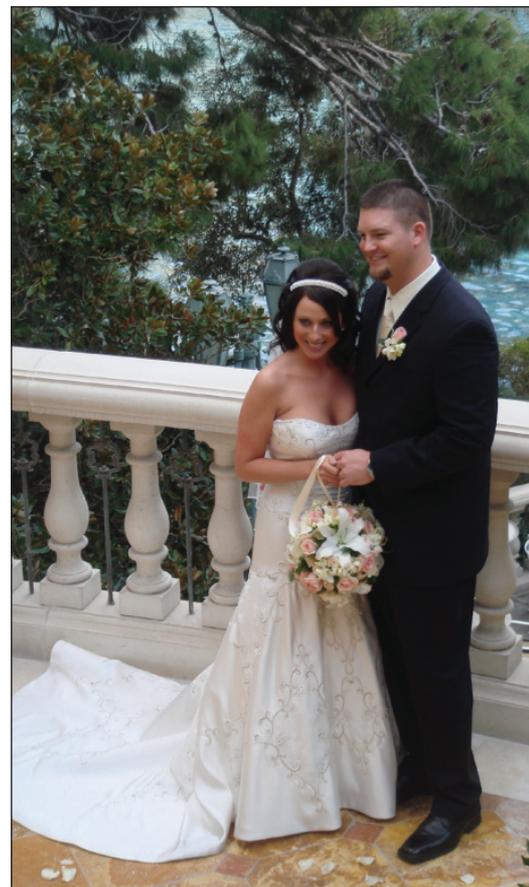
WEDDING

BETH ANN BLANKENSHIP & ERIC TOLAR

Eric E. Tolar and Beth Ann Blankenship were married Saturday, Feb. 20, at 2:00 p.m. in Las Vegas, Nevada. Eric is the son of Eugene and Jane Tolar of Felda, Fla., and Beth Ann is the daughter of Robert Blankenship and the late Beth Blankenship of New Port Richey, Fla.

The bride was escorted down the terrace steps of the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, by her father, Robert Blankenship. She wore an ivory A-line, strapless gown adorned with pearls and a waist length veil. The maid of honor was Jayme Van Hook, friend of the bride, Jennifer Davidson, friend of the bride, Ashley Tolar, sister of the groom, and Kristina and Brandi Blankenship, sister-in-laws of the bride. The groomsmen were best man, Cory Raborn of Labelle, Steven Campbell of Missouri and Marc Dominick of Tampa, all longtime friends of the groom, and Robbie and Brain Blankenship, brothers of the bride. The flowers girls were Breana, Brooke, & Caitlin Blankenship, nieces of the bride, and Bryce Blankenship, nephew of the bride. All of the bridesmaids carried a bouquet of different color roses and wore black dresses with colored sashes and matching shoes. The groomsmen wore black suits and matching ties to the ladies sashes and shoes.

The bride is employed at Bayonet Plumbing (family business) in New Port



Richey. The groom runs the couples business (Lenny's Sub Shop) in Tampa, Fla.

After a honeymoon to wine country in Sonoma Valley, CA the couple will return home to New Port Richey, Fla., where they will reside.

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Community Briefs

Sign up for Little Miss LaBelle

Final sign ups for the Little Miss LaBelle contest will be at the First Baptist Church of office on Thursday, March 11, 2010 from 5-6 p.m. Kindergarten ages 5 through 8th grade are eligible. Registration fee \$25. The Little Miss LaBelle pageant will be April. 17.

Glades offers emergency information

Come to an information fair at the Muse Community Association, Loblolly Road, March 13 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with Glades County Emergency Management, Health Dept., Mental Health Dept., Sheriff's Office and Red Cross providing information. CPR sign up, first aid classes for certificates. The bloodmobile will be on hand as well. Face painting and fun for the kids! MCA yard sale 7 a.m. (\$5 donation for a table) and pancake breakfast from 7-9 a.m. (\$3 donation). Enjoy hamburgers or hot dogs - kids free, donations are asked from adults, please.

The MCA will use any proceeds to continue expanding the playground across from the fire station. Call 863-234-2052 for information.

H1N1 vaccinations will be available and hurricane information as well. Take advantage and register for the Special Needs Shelter.

Day hike set for Fisheating Creek

Fisheating Creek day hike on March 13, to Fort Center Nature Trail sponsored by Fisheating Creek Sub-Chapter of the Florida Trails Association. Hike approximately 6 miles round trip (or less). FTA membership not required. Starts 8 a.m. Bring own food/water. For more info or directions, call activity leaders, Betty Loomis 863-946-3560 or Clint Pell 863-675-1773.

Drug Free Hendry Coalition to meet

The Drug Free Hendry Coalition & Tobacco-Free Partnership meets on the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 16, at the Carlson Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on 310 Campbell Street in LaBelle, beginning at 5 p.m. All residents are encouraged and invited to attend. Please contact Jeni Dyess at 863-674-4041 X143 or Jennifer_Dyess@doh.state.fl.us for more information.

Captain Hendry Crafters

The Captain Hendry Crafters and Artists 16th annual Spring Craft Show will be in Barron Park Saturday, March 13, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Come enjoy the handmade country crafts - jewelry, woodworking, photography, solar garden lights, plaster play-time, embroidery and more.

Featured attractions include the Highwaymen Artists (landscapes of rural Florida) and live music by Zena Gatch. Barbecue by Jonesez serving light breakfast and lunch.

For vendor information contact Cobie at 863-517-0369 or Judith at 863-234-9580.

VFW plans events

Thursday, March 11, **L&L Band**, 4-7 p.m. \$4 supper, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, March 12 **Pizza Day**, 11:30 a.m. till gone

Saturday, March 13 **Hamburgers** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Canteen yard and bake sale 7:30 am. **Two Sharps karaoke** 5-7 p.m. Bring a dish.

Sunday, March 14 **Turkey shoot** 1 p.m.

Are you caring for a loved one at home?

If you are caring for a loved one, you are invited to attend FREE caregiver training and education classes in Hendry County during the month of March. The CARE Program, Caregiver Assistance and Regional Education is providing educational classes with topics including: Exercise and the brain, Tools for successful caregiving, nutrition and healthy aging - among many other topics! PLUS information about services available to you.

Classes are twice a week for 2 consecutive weeks, with each class lasting 3.5 hours. Don't miss this opportunity to come together and learn with other caregivers how to better care for your loved one, as well as how to better care for yourself! Call immediately in order to get registered for CARE Classes!

Class dates and times: Tuesday & Thursday, March 9, 11, 16 and 18 from 1-4:30 p.m. Hosted by First Christian Church of LaBelle, 89 Ford Ave.

Widows to meet

The Widow's Support Group will meet at Don's Steakhouse, March 18 at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. All widows welcome.

LHS '40s and '50s reunion

If you graduated from or attended LHS during the 1940s and '50s please save Saturday, March 13, for a multi-class reunion at the Dallas B. Townsend Building, 1085 Pratt Blvd. beginning at 2 p.m. The cost will be \$10 per person. Please bring a salad, vegetable or dessert. To make reservations or for more information please call Martha Raye at 863-675-0891 or JoAnne at 863-675-1407.

Quit Smoking Now

Quit Smoking and Quit Chew/Spit Tobacco today! A Free community health promotion program to be held at the Hendry Regional Convenient Care Center, 450 South Main Street, LaBelle, through April 7, Wednesdays for five sessions 5:15-6:45 p.m. For information or to register please call Nora Duley-Maldonado/Valerie James at the Hendry County Health Dept. 863-674-4041 ext 128. You may be eligible for nicotine replacement therapy, gum, patches, lozenges while supplies last.

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PROCLAMATION CITY OF LABELLE

I do hereby Proclaim the City of LaBelle Election will be held on July 20, 2010, for the offices of Clerk Commissioner, and Treasurer Commissioner, (Deadline for petition method Noon, April 12, 2010 . Qualifying week Noon, May 10 to Noon, May 14. The voter registration books will close at 5:00 p.m. June 21, 2010.

Proclamacion de la eleccion por Ciudad de LaBelle el dia 20 de Julio 2010 por oficina secretario de comisionado, y tesorero de comisionado. (Fecha limite por peticion de medio dia el 12, de abril, 2010.) Tiempo de Calificar mediodia 10 de mayo, 14 de mayo, 2010. Los libros de registracion sierran 21 de junio, 2010 a las 5:00 p.m.

Paul Puletti
Mayor-Commissioner
City of LaBelle
Art. IV Sec. 20

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NOTICE OF MEETING HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD

PLEASE BE ADVISED that pursuant to Chapter 194, Florida Statutes, the 2009 HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD, will convene its final public, meeting THURSDAY, MARCH 18th, 2010, at 4:00 P.M. in the County Commission Meeting Room, Hendry County Courthouse, 25 East Hickpochee, LaBelle, Florida 33935, for the purpose of making final decisions based upon evaluations of the findings and recommendations of the duly appointed Special Magistrates on petitions duly filed with the 2009 Value Adjustment Board regarding 2009 property tax assessments, exemptions, deferrals, classifications and transfers of homestead assessment difference, and to certify the 2009 tax roll. The VAB may consider other items as may be appropriate or timely.

Anyone who appeals a decision made thereat will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Barbara S. Butler, Clerk
Hendry County Value Adjustment Board

LABELLE AREA REAL ESTATE

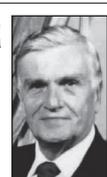
		
\$59,000 Beautiful lot in Caloosa Estates. Perfect for families on protected harbor, or retirees with walk- ing and biking	\$164,900 3/2 Unique Fisherman's Paradise acre/ river access, huge oaks, fenced, gated	\$165,000 2/2 on 1+3 detached neighborhood



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LaBelle, FL
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Donna Kane, Broker; Assoc: Trisha Arnold, Denise Walker, Beverly Curtis & Wayne Simmons

HOMES	tures many upgrades.
Custom 5BD/4.5BA pool home on 3 acs with metal roof, hardwood, floors, office, and alarm. Water heater, cooktop, dryer, pool heater, whole house generator are powered by propane. 2 car garage finished upstairs complete with a full bath. Call for detailed amenities list. \$560,000.	3BR/2BA 2 story home on 3.5 +/-ac. Dual a/c system 20'x62 pole barn, w/workshop. \$250,000.
3BR/2.5BA home in Old Fort Denaud. Split floor plan, formal dining room, large open kitchen, 10' ceilings, in-ground pool, screened lanai. Detached garage. \$350,000.	4BR/2.5BA CBS 3 story home within city limits. Features include 2 fireplaces, 3rd floor game room. Great for a growing family. \$199,900.
20 acres and a one bedroom cabin in excellent condition. Great weekend get-away. Seller financing available. \$299,900.	1BD/1BA brick home in city business zone. Perfect business location. \$165,000.
Beautiful 3371 sq ft. 3BD/2BA custom split floor plan home in Caloosa Estates. This quality built home offers many delightful features. Call for details. \$295,000.	5 CBS homes in Laurel Oaks S/D. 3 and 4 bedroom models available. Priced from \$145,000 to \$240,000.
Immaculate 3BD/2BA CBS home with new galvalume roof on 2 +/-acs. \$129,900.	Immaculate 3BR/2BA CBS home with new kitchen cabinets, appliances, and vinyl siding, large screened porch, \$79,900.
	Immaculate 3BD/1BA home w/metal roof. Loaded with upgrades this home is a must see. \$69,000.
	Rental
	• 2/2 Riverfront pool home - \$1,100/m

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MANUFACTURED HOMES

\$22,000 UNDER CONTRACT in the city limits. 3/2 w/ 1/2 ac. Bank Forfeiture. Call for details. As Is.

\$42,900 - 3/2 very clean home. Forclosures. Make offer.

\$49,999 - 4/2 in Tanglewood Oaks S/D. Close to schools

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

\$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.

\$130,000 - Newer 3/2 on a nicely located 5 ac. parcel in Muse.

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

HOMES

\$35,000 - Super cute, 2/1 block home w/galvalume roof. Short Sale

\$39,000 UNDER CONTRACT Well maintained CBS Village 2/2

\$42,000 - 3/1 Concrete Block Home. Perfect starter home or investment.

\$56,500 - Seller will pay \$2,500 toward repairs or closing costs. In the city, corner lot. 3/2

\$65,000 - Priced Approved! Concrete block, 3/2 built in 2005. Call Today!

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

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

\$169,900 - 3+/- acres. Call today!

\$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.

Unbelievable Reduced! \$309,000 - 3/2 Upgrades adorn CBS Country Pool Home w/outbuildings, riding arena, 13 Ac.

COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL

\$89,900 - 1/2 Acre Commercial Lot on Davis St.

\$199,000 - Vacant 2 ac. on SR 80, just west of town

\$200,000 - State Road 80 Corner 1/2 Ac, B-1 w/bill-board income.

\$249,000 - 1.25 ac. ft. hanged. Call for details. 1-2.

REDUCED \$299,000 - Short Sale! 2 Steel Bldgs, over 8000 Sq. Ft. Zoned PUD on 2+ Ac.

REDUCED \$295,000 - 1 ac on Main St., busy downtown location w/older bldg.

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

\$550,000 - 5 Ac +/- Industrial. Will split, Cleared & Filled, Seller Financing.

WATERFRONT

\$49,000 - 3/2 MH in River Oaks/Ortona, now waterfront!

\$139,900 - Over 1 ac. on the main river, F. Denaud Rd.

\$189,000 - Manufactured 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.

\$550,000 - Spectacular 7 Ac Pasture w/Oaks, 500 Ft on the River. Great investment, future land use 3 units per ac.

LOTS & LAND

\$4,900 - Moore Haven Yacht Club lot

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

\$7,000 - Ortona home-site, newer available.

\$8,900 - Mobile home lots, south of town

\$13,500 - 1.25 Ac in Montura Ranch Estates

\$39,900 - 2.2 Ac Rural Residential Fenced

DEAL OF THE DAY! \$49,900 - State Home site in Oak Haven. 2 ac with great oaks.

\$65,000 - 4.2 ac. on Fernwood. Great buy! Well, septic & pad in place.

\$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.

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Foreclosure Listings Available ... LaBelle & Lehigh. Call for details!

RENTALS
3/2 House \$750 / mth
2/1 Duplex Apartment \$700 / mth
1/1 Duplex Apartment \$600/ mth
1/1 Cottage \$600 / mth

FEATURES OF THE WEEK!
4BR/2BA CBS HOME in Port LaBelle Marina \$133,900
3BR/2BA HOME in Laurel Oaks minutes from Port LaBelle Marina \$133,900
3BR/2BA TWO STORY home on 2.8+/- Acres \$149,900
GREAT INVESTMENT! 3BR/2BA Home + 1BR/1BA Home + duplex (2BR/1BA + 1BR/1BA) located in the city on protected oxbow and access to the River. \$224,900

WATERFRONT
TWO BUILDABLE LOTS! 200+/- ft. on water w/60' dock & protected boat harbor. \$499,900 **OWNER FINANCING POSSIBLE**
3BR/2BA CREEKFRONT HOME w/Beautiful River Views plus Mother-in-Law apartment. \$350,000
INTRACOASTAL RIVERFRONT HOME plus dock-house, boat ramp, guest house & more. \$325,000
SPACIOUS 3BR RIVERFRONT HOME views of Intracoastal Waterway & Ortona Locks. \$269,000
3BR/2BA WATERFRONT HOME w/125' Caloosahatchee River frontage. \$284,900
WATERFRONT LOT! Protected navigable oxbow w/ direct access to river. \$109,900

HOMES
3BR/2BA HOME Bank Foreclosure! Fixer-upper! Moore Haven \$14,900
2BR/1BA RIVERFRONT HOME on 2+/- acres 3 homesites \$36,000 **PENDING**
3BR/2BA WELL MAINTAINED fully furnished manufactured home in the city. \$45,000
3BR/2BA HOME! Large Oaks & nicely landscaped. \$99,500
4BR/2 BA HOME on 2+/- acres family room. \$119,900 **PENDING**
3BR/2BA CUSTOM HOME built in 2006. \$124,000

HOMES ON ACREAGE
3BR/2BA HOME on 2.5 Acres west of LaBelle. \$130,000
3BR/2BA CBS HOME; 5+/- acres in the country. \$149,000
4BR/2BA MOBILE HOME! 5 +/- Acres, cleared w/ fence & pond. \$160,000
20+/- Acres zoned A-2 w/ 4 -plex rental unit \$249,900

CUSTOM 3BR/2BA HOME on 6 acres, detached barn and 1BR/1Ba efficiency apartment. \$400,000
3BR/2BA HOME on 1.37+/- Acre! Commercial Zoned, Hwy Frontage. \$450,000
3BR/2BA POOL HOME on 66.5 +/- Acres in Felda. \$739,900

ACREAGE
PRIME ACREAGE! 13.29 acres, 630 +/- feet frontage on paved State Road 29 in Felda. Zoned Ag-2, can be split into 2 parcels. Bring your agriculture business to this perfect location! \$398,000
2 +/- ACRES IN FELDA fronting on Hwy 29 possible commercial zoning. \$175,000
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! 20 m/1 acres, multi-family residential lots \$85,000
2.09 M/L ACRES w/large, beautiful oaks. \$58,520
61 +/- ACRES of Prime fertile land in Felda, less than \$8,600 / acre.
LOTS AVAILABLE... Please call for Details!

Marilyn Sears - Licensed Real Estate Broker • Sales Associates - Nancy Hendrickson, Margaret Whatley, Yvonne Doll, SE HABLA ESPAÑOL, Consuelo Tarin Lopez, Judy Cross McClure, Emily Figured, Mary Harris, Janet Papinaw and Shelly Cole

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UNDER CONTRACT
• Cozy 2/1 in Port LaBelle. Completely redone form top to bottom. Have to see! \$70,000.
• Lehigh Acres - 3/2 2007 CBS home w/2 car garage, ceramic tile, and spacious kitchen. \$59,900.
• Corporate owned! 3/2 2006 CBS home in Lehigh Acres near SR 80. Needs minor repairs. \$56,900.
• Corporate owned! 3/2 near schools. Move in ready condition. \$43,000.
• Corporate owned! 3BR/2BA located near schools and shopping. Needs a little TLC \$29,900.
• Corporate owned! Located in teh heart of Lehigh Acres. Close to shopping. \$25,000.
• Corporate owned! 2/2 Handyman special. Located in Moore Haven. \$24,900.
• Corporate owned! Centrally located in Lehigh Acres, 2+/- acres in good condition. \$24,900.
• Great investment potential! 1BR/1B home on a corner lot. Homes needs some work... but is priced to sell. \$17,000.

MOBILE HOMES
• 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 & rear covered porches. \$250,000
• Immaculate 4/2 on 9.54 acres. Spacious living room, family room w/fireplace, large master suite, lots, lots of more. \$154,900.
• Country living at its best! 3/2 on 2.30+/- acres outside city of LaBelle. Over spacious kitchen & masr bath. New carpet through out home. \$149,900.
• 3/2 manufactured home on 4+/- acres in Muse. Partially cleared and fenced. \$145,000.
• Relax the rural way! Situated on 1.25 acs in growing Montura, beautiful new 2006 3/2 manufactured home. SELLER FINANCING AVAILABLE! \$129,900
• Two for the price of one on 1 ac. 3/2 well maintained manufactured home + a 2/2 manufactured home. \$100,000
• 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. \$97,000.
• 4/2 on 10+/- acres in Pioneer Plantation. With 2,356+/- sq. ft. of living area, spacious living room with fireplace. \$89,900.
• Immaculate 3/2 located in City of LaBelle on oversized lot, features woodlike flooring and carpet, master bath has tiled shower, overspacious kitchen and much much more. Priced to sell at \$69,900.
• Let's make a deal! 3/2 home features built in cabinets, large master bath, spacious kitchen, and plenty of elbow room. Outside you will find a fenced yard and storage shed. \$69,000
• 4/2 manufactured home located in Immokalee near schools and shopping. \$55,000.
• Affordable starter. 3/1.5 on corner lot in Moore Haven. \$50,000.

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.
• 2 Montura lots - \$5,500 each
• 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.

Go To WWW.SOLAND.COM
To see Pictures & Visual Tours of all Our 180+/- Listings of Homes, Property and Commercial/Industrial Sites.
HOMES/HOMES/HOMES/HOMES/HOMES



• THIS SOUTHERN BELLE PLANTATION STYLE two story beauty boasting 10,000 +/- Sq. Ft. including front balcony, screened and open porches, and 2.5 vehicle garage and entry portico. The design includes two master suites- 1 upstairs and 1 downstairs; three other bedrooms; 4.5 baths and enough closets to enchant even a shopaholic! Mom and Dad both will enjoy the huge kitchen with 2 refrigerators and custom cabinets. 11 + beautiful wooded acres for horses, cows, etc- with more acreage available! Turn years of wishing for more space into years of enjoyment for your family! \$950,000



• BUILT IN 2000, this frame duplex has sturdy masonite siding, an asphalt shingle roof, and two carports- one for each unit. Each side of the duplex is 2BR/1BA with living, kitchen, dining, and utility areas. Convenient location on quiet side street. \$149,000



• VERY NICE GROUND FLOOR 2/2CONDO only steps away from the Port LaBelle Marina & The Port LaBelle Inn & Restauraunt. With tile in all living areas, carpet in bedrooms, screened lanai, solid surface counter tops, and much more. REDUCED! \$79,000



• SELLER WILL HOLD TERMS with minimal down!!!! Located in Harlem community of Clewiston subdivision come take a look at this decent single wide mobile home ready to be occupied. This 3 bedroom 1 bath home has washer/dryer hook up, refrigerator, stove & A/C unit. AGAIN, SELLER WILL HOLD TERMS WITH MINIMAL DOWN... BAD CREDIT OKAY! \$18,900

VACANT LAND/VACANT LAND/VACANT LAND
• A GREAT PRICE on 1.25 acre in Montura Ranch Estates! Current zoning allows for horses and other farm animals. Community pool, clubhouse and park are only minutes away! \$5,500
• 1.25 +/- ACRES near Lehigh Acres with Ag zoning! Convient location, with zoning that allows for horses and other farm animals! \$7,000
• A GREAT PRICE on 2.5+/- secluded acres in the country! \$10,000
• 10 +/- ACRES just north of the Lee County Line in Charlotte County for only \$36,900. Zoning allows for 1 unit per 10 acres, \$36,900
• LOVELY HOMESITE in deed restricted beautiful subdivision. This 1.00+/- acre homesite has the same benefits of being on the river, but not paying the river taxes! Boat ramp & boat dock available for weekend boating and peaceful scenery! \$50,000

CALL 863-675-4500

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Associates: Tony Barnes, Emily A. Bates
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Lisa Andrews, Sandra Alexander
and Roxie Cisneros

Community Briefs

Auxiliary canteen serves meal

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 130 serves food every Tuesday evening in the main hall during members only lounge bingo. 4:30-7 p.m. Sandwich or soup \$3.50 each, Lunch plate/dessert \$5; desserts \$1. (Menu varies each week). Public welcome; 699 Hickpochee Ave. (SR 80).

Be a safe boater

A one-day Safe Boating Class will be held Saturday, March 20 or 27 by the USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 9-4. Please call (863) 675-4790 for further information and leave a message.

Ortona pancake breakfast

The Ortona Community Association will hold its last Pancake Breakfast of the season on Saturday, March 13, from 7-9 a.m. at the Ortona Community Association, Ortona Locks Road (Highway 78A).

The all-you-can-eat breakfast includes our special recipe pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee for \$4.

Moose celebrate St. Patrick's Day

The LaBelle Moose Lodge is serving corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and rye bread on Wednesday, March 17, starting at 4 p.m. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day

with them. Members and prospective guests only.

Cattlemen's Association Ranch Rodeo

The Hendry County Cattlemen's Association present its first ever "Ranch Rodeo" Saturday, March 20, at the LaBelle Rodeo Grounds at 5 p.m. This elite rodeo will feature real Florida cowboys and cowgirls vying for the opportunity to compete at the Florida Cattlemen's Association state finals in Kissimmee. The rodeo is benefitting HCCA Youth Programs and Hendry County 4-H. Admission is \$5 and 10 and under are free!

Let's ride

The third Thursday breakfast/lunch motorcycle ride with Krusin with Kati and the gang will be going through the back roads up to Sarasota to Yoder's Restaurant. Meeting at Big V at 9 a.m., kickstands up at 9:45... For more info please call 239-246-3045 or email Krusinwithkati@aol.com

Lost your cows?

Two cows found running loose on the roadways of LaBelle. If you have lost any livestock, please contact the Hendry County Sheriff's Office Ag Unit at 863-674-5600.

Help for Haiti

The Salvation Army is seeking donations

for the people of Haiti. You can contribute in several ways: Text: "HAITI" to 52000 to give \$10 to The Salvation Army's relief efforts in Haiti. The \$10 will be applied to your bill; Log on to www.salvationarmyusa.org and make a donation; or call 1-800-Sal-Army. You may also drop off your check to your local Salvation Army office, 180 N. Main Street. Write "Haiti earthquake" on the memo line.

Eat with the Legion

Steak by the ounce dinner Saturday, March 13, from 4-7 p.m. Menu: steak - \$1 per ounce, baked potato, tossed salad and garlic toast 50 cents each. Dessert available \$1. Public welcome, 600 Hickpochee Ave. (SR 80).

Come to a **brunch buffet** hosted by American Legion Post 130 Sunday, March 21, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Menu: scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, French toast, roast beef, meatballs, soup, fruit salad, rolls, condiments, coffee and tea. All you can eat \$7. Public welcome. Located at 699 Hickpochee Ave. (SR 80)

Health, safety fair

Hendry Regional Medical Center in Clewiston invites everyone to a health and safety fair Sunday, March 14, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (no admittance after 3 p.m.) Exhibits, food, bounce house and screenings for numerous conditions including anemia, blood pressure, bone density, cholesterol, diabetes, eye and hearing, HIV and breast exams.

Bring your old eyeglasses to donate to the Lions Club.

Tax service available

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA) provides free and confidential filing of tax returns by IRS certified volunteers.

Services are targeted to families with children earning less than \$49,000. Provide the following: Valid Social Security numbers for taxpayer, spouse and qualifying children; All W-2 was and tax statements for 2009; Photo ID for signers (if filing jointly, both filers must be present to sign the return); 2008 tax return and other tax information. Come to the United Way office at 117 Fort Thompson Ave., through April 15. Appointments required. Dial 2-1-1 or 239-433-3900 to make an appointment or for information.

Love plants?

The Alva Garden Club will sponsor its annual plant sale Saturday, March 20, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Alva Museum, 21420 E. Pearl St., Alva. Also available will be homemade baked goods, a used book sale and a strawberry festival. While there, tour the 100-year-old Alva Museum, the historic Alva Methodist Church and the Reed Home. Proceeds go for the restoration of the museum. For information or directions call Nina Rigby at 239-728-3180



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 Thur. - 9:30 am
 Bible Study
 Thur. - 10:30 am
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 Fax (863) 675-0640
 E-mail: cmumc@embarqmail.com

Pastor John Bennett

WORSHIP TIMES

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

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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

BELLE GLADE - 608 EL Prado DR. Apt. 3, Mon. 3/8/2010, 9am-5pm. Apt. MOVING SALE!!!!
Daily until everything sold. 2 Bdrm sets, other furn.
also Misc. items, books, pictures etc.
Everything must go. 252-996-0863 (Betty, dial the 252)

BELLE GLADE - 608 EL Prado DR. Apt. 3, Mon. 3/8/2010, 9am-5pm. Apt. MOVING SALE!!!!
Daily until everything sold. 2 Bdrm sets, other furn.
also Misc. items, books, pictures etc.
Everything must go. 252-996-0863 (Betty, dial the 252)

Garage/Yard Sales

LABELLE - Belle Center Plaza on SR 80, 3/20/10. The local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi is having a yard sale on Saturday, March 20 at the Belle Center Plaza on SR 80. All proceeds to benefit the Beta Sigma Phi LaBelle High School College Scholarship. Come out early and help us support the young women of our community to have a brighter future. If you would like to donate any items for the yard sale, please call Tracy at 673-4147.

LARGE YARD SALE
Firehouse Cultural Center
241 N. Bridge St.
Sat., March 13th
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Everything from A to Z

Employment

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Employment Full Time

EMPLOYMENT
Hendry-LaBelle Recreation Board is accepting applications for a:
Recreation Staff Assistant.
Application must be submitted by Thursday, March 18, 2010 no later than 5:30 pm. Applications, job descriptions & requirements are available at the Hendry County Personnel department located at 165 S. Lee St., LaBelle, FL (863)612-4782 or (863)675-5347
Vet Pref. EEO. Drug Free. Applicants needing assistance in the application process should contact the Hendry County Commissioners HR Department

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

Employment Full Time

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

Employment Part Time

Port LaBelle Unit 4
Property Owner's Association is accepting applications for part-time pool attendant. Apply at the office 4051 NE Eucalyptus Blvd. 863-675-4168

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 Full Time

Financial

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Business Opportunities

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.

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
HENDRY COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Tourist Development Council will hold a regular meeting at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, 2010, at the Hendry County Administrative Office Conference Room located at 165 S. Lee Street, LaBelle, FL. This meeting is open to the public. The meeting site is accessible by the disabled.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/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.

Hendry County
Tourist Development Council
Karon Turner, Chairman
348344 CB/CN 3/11/10

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Proposal No. 2010-11
Sealed Proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Hendry County, Florida, at the Administrative Wing, Room A-226 (Clerk's Office) in the Hendry County Courthouse Complex, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida, until 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 7, 2010, for "Airlades 1942 Hangar Space." Proposals will be opened on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 2 p.m. or shortly thereafter, in the Administrative Wing, outside Room A-226 (Clerk's Office) in the Hendry County Courthouse Complex, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave. LaBelle, Florida.

A copy of the Specifications and Proposer's Instructions can be obtained from the office of the Hendry County Purchasing Department, located at 165 S. Lee St., LaBelle, Florida 33935, Post Office Box 2430, LaBelle, Florida 33975, or by calling (863) 675-5220 or (863) 983-1465.

The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals, with or without cause and/or accept the Proposal that, in its judgment, will be in the best interest of the County.

Janet B. Taylor, Chairwoman
Board of County Commissioners
Hendry County, Florida
348343 CB/CN 3/11/10

Public Notice

Notice of Meeting to Discuss
Responses to RFP 2010-09
Hendry County

Notice is hereby given of a meeting to discuss the responses to RFP 2010-09 for Jail Inmate Medical Services. It will be held on March 12, 2010 at 2:00 P.M., in Conference Room A-118, 165 S. Lee Street, LaBelle, FL 33935.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/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.
348275 CB/CN 3/11/10

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NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Writ of Execution, issued in the Circuit Court of Hendry County, Florida, on the 17th day of September, 2008, in the cause wherein Surf Consultants, Inc., as successor in interest to Direct Merchant Bank, N.A. is plaintiff and Barbara Freedland is defendant, being Case number 2008-164CC, in said Court, I, Steve Whidden, as Sheriff of Hendry County, Florida, have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the defendant Barbara Freedland, in and to the following described property, to-wit:

2007 Jeep Compass,
Vehicle Number
1J8FT4W97D219540,
Title Number 97750198.

And on the 15th day of April, 2010 at the Hendry County Sheriff's Office, LaBelle, Florida, at the hour of 11:00am, or as soon thereafter as possible, I will offer for sale all the said defendant's, Barbara Freedland, right, title and interest in the aforesaid property, at public auction and will sell the same, subject to taxes, all prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest bidder for CASH IN HAND, the proceeds to be applied as far as may be to the payment of costs and the satisfaction of the above-described execution.

Steve Whidden
Sheriff
Hendry County, Florida
By: Lieutenant Andy Lewis
348294 CN/CB 3/11,18,25,4/1/10

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SADD students work for positive message

by **Patty Brant**
Caloosa Belle

LaBelle High School students understand the dangers involved in using alcohol and other drugs. Members of SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions, help fellow students see the dangers as well.

With the help of John Varady, Coordinator for the Heartland Educational Consortium Alcohol Abuse Reduction, Jeni Dyess of the Drug Free Hendry County Coalition and SADD Advisor Augusta Ross, SADD students show it's cool to do the sensible thing.

Senior Candelaria Rodriguez, president of SADD, said misperceptions are huge risk factors in behavior. In other words: What you don't know, certainly can hurt you. SADD students work with a community coalition to change its focus to the positive. If students think "everyone is doing it," they are more inclined to engage in destructive behaviors. They believe the truth will make a huge difference in the lives of many young people.

For instance, Candy said that 71 percent of youth in Hendry choose not to drink alcohol; 88 percent say drinking does not make you look cool; 85 percent choose not to smoke cigarettes; and 93 percent say smoking does not make you look cool. The students are participating

in a two-year study of social norms, surveying 30-day use rates for students. It's a beginning in a long term process designed to change attitudes with regard to drugs and alcohol.

Students are taking their message to the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and other groups to ask businesses to help with signs.

SADD students cited reasons for their commitment to the cause. Junior Jiesha Stephens noted how embarrassing it can be for a family member to be drunk. Senior Kimberly Paz wants better role models to combat DUIs. Senior Myra Zamaron wants upperclassmen to be an example for younger students.



Submitted photo/MaryLee Baker

UES Students of the Month

Front row from left: Emmanuel Estrada, Leonardo Peguenos, Jaylyn Craft, Estefani Cruz, Laely Bottoms, Shaelyn Bodd. Second row: Alyxia Hernandez, Yanira Hernandez, Daisy Albritton, Samantha Hernandez, Ricky York. Third row: Imelda Casiano, Saby Smith, Brett Bassett, Miguel Cruz and Jaileen Galaviz. Back row: Anabel Navarro, Jose Jara, Ryley Bowen, Yartzel Ibarra, Mercedes Garcia. Not pictured: Seferino Solis.

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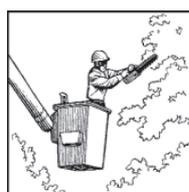
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4-H Dairy goats judged

by **Sonja Crawford**

The LaBelle Youth Livestock Dairy Goat Show was held on Thursday, Feb. 18. The official judge for the evening was Ms. Kim Kemp of Felda. The show was sponsored by Chris-Tel Construction. Florida Gulf Coast University sponsored the belt buckles.

The 30 PeeWee exhibitors received blue ribbons and medallions for their participation: Madison Alford, Hannah Bechtel, Jacob Bowen, Bryson Crawford, Pablo Dayton, Joshua Gillen, Pearl Gonzalez, Haley Harrell, Jason Harrell, Anna Lavender, James Lavender, Emily Markussen, Taylor McGill, Emilee McNeal, Justin Mickelsen, Kaelyn Murray, Ty Murray, Alisah Obern, Zachary Pearson, Alyssa Rodriguez, Vivianna Rodriguez, Katie Rose, Lane Rutter, Logan Sanders, Rylan Sanders, Kristern Saxon, Ty Saxon, Kendall Sharp, McKenna Smith and Dallen Steelman

Exhibitors were awarded blue or red ribbons for each dairy goat entry: Alexas Caputo: 1 blue ribbon, 1 Grand Champion rosette; Brittney Harrell: 2 blue ribbons; Dustin Padgett: 8 blue ribbons, 1 Grand Champion rosette, 1 Reserve Champion rosette; Austin Pearson: 1 blue ribbon; Xavier Pearson: 1 blue ribbon; Ciarra Rutter: 1 blue ribbon; Dakoda Rutter: 1 blue ribbon; Cassidy Willis: 4 blue ribbons, 1 Grand Champion rosette, 2 Reserve Champion rosettes; and Stephen Woosley: 10 blue ribbons, 3 Grand Champion rosettes, 1 Reserve Champion rosette.

The Best of Show trophy was awarded to Cassidy Willis with her dairy goat named Thyme. Thyme is a Grade Milker (3 years and over). Thyme was born on Jan. 17, 2006.

In the Junior Fitting and Grooming division; Dustin Padgett captured the first place award with Xievier Pearson in second place. In the Junior Showmanship division; Austin Pearson won the first place award with Dustin Padgett winning the second place award.

In the Senior Fitting and Grooming division; Stephen Woosley took first place receiving a trophy with Alexas Caputo winning the second place award. In the Senior Showmanship division; Stephen Woosley captured the belt buckle with Alexas Caputo winning second place.

Exhibitors who participated in the LaBelle Youth Livestock Dairy Goat Show were members of the Pioneer Dairy Goat 4-H Club under the leadership of Pat Bosley and the Udder Fun Dairy Goat 4-H Club led by Marsha Bechtel. All exhibitors did a great job exhibiting their critters; thank you club leaders and parents.



Submitted photo
**Best Doe
Cassidy Willis
with Thyme.**

This Nearly Was Mine

A Journey Through Carlton Country book review

Everybody's got a family, but not everybody has a family like Dr. Barbara Carlton. In fact, it is rare to find generation upon generation of a family that continually reaches beyond their present grasp, steps into the unknown and makes it their own.

This Nearly Was Mine A Journey Through Carlton Country by Dr. Barbara Carlton and Barbara Oehlbeck takes the reader along as the Carlton family history progresses from Revolutionary times to the Indian Wars of the 1800s to present day. The Carltons have lived, died, struggled and thrived through the generations. Always willing to do whatever was deemed necessary to reach their objective, they built a dynasty - layer upon layer - through hard work, dedication, perseverance and savvy.

The Carltons have always been foremost in their communities and their state, so it's not unusual that a book has been written about the family. It was almost inevitable. But this book is unusual in its treatment of the family as individuals, each using their own talents to reach their goal - goals that eventually merged into a mosaic that has helped make Florida what it is today.

Members of this unique Carlton family have brought their skills and determination to bear on their individual calling. Their stories are the stories of so many Florida pioneers: determination, vision, just plain grit. But the Carltons took their success to higher and higher levels.

Over the decades they've been up and down; worked their way up; lost it all, then worked their way back up again.

They've learned lessons, taken hard knocks, gave as good as they got and kept the faith.

This Nearly Was Mine A Journey Through Carlton Country opens the Carlton family's struggles to all, told in the individual stories of its members and friends. This beautiful hard cover work contains pages packed with full color pictures all the way through. It is published by Finney Company of Minnesota.

Respected Hardee County historian Spessard Stone, whose books include Hardee County: It's Heritage and People 2007 provided his own expertise to the work as well, ensuring an accurate accounting of the family's story.

This book is brimming with memories of pioneers - so close to their lives you can almost feel and smell Old Florida. It is a rambling overview of the Carlton family in small increments, intertwined with Florida's history, like traveling preacher Rev. James "Boss" Hendry, who was also a cattleman and merchant. From earliest days, the Carltons always had a symbiotic relationship with the land and civil service, beginning with John Carlton in 1775, a North Carolina farmer and judge. For the Carltons its always been about the land and about family.

The book follows the Carltons through the years - lean, hard, wonderful times.

Memories shed intimate light on the Carlton family and friends, and illuminates the way for anyone with a taste for the collective history of Floridians through the years.

The 361 pages in This Nearly Was Mine will take you on a journey through time and Florida, tracing the roots of one of the state's premier cattle families, sharing hard work and good times. It is an extraordinary history of one family, told with the hearty beauty of ordinary words.

If you'd like more information about this book, call Barbara Oehlbeck at 675-2771.

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