

# Caloosa Belle



Vol. 89 No. 32

Thursday, August 9, 2012

50¢ Plus tax

## Better lunches, nutrition

by **Patty Brant**  
Caloosa Belle

It's back to school time. New clothes, books, pens, paper, notebooks - getting up in the morning! It's the same every year - the hustle and bustle of preparing the kids to take the next step in their education.

This year, however, parents will be getting a little help when it comes to school lunches.

First of all, you can go online to apply for free and reduced lunches from the Hendry County School District.

Apply from a secure Web site to your school - no paper forms to be lost or misplaced. Just go to [www.LunchApplication.com](http://www.LunchApplication.com).

The Web site will let you know exactly what information you need to provide. Once you apply, the district will determine your eligibility and send you a letter with the results.

Another online tool for parents is [www.LunchPrepay.com](http://www.LunchPrepay.com). Apply payments directly to your child's account online and check your

See Lunches — Page 2

See Page 4 for information about how to contact the newspaper

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Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

**The Give Back Committee is taking on a big job, fund raising in support of local causes. Their first project is to put lighting at the LaBelle Civic Park. Pictured from left: Brent Thigpen, Matt Germain, John Anderson, John Derleth and Chad Perkins.**

## Group finding ways to 'Give Back'

Welcome the newest group of local residents stepping up to support the community.

The Hendry County Give Back Committee is a non-profit group in LaBelle that plans to raise money to benefit our community.

The group has a five-person board consisting of local residents, who have come together as a non-profit organization to raise money for the beautiful town of LaBelle. Each year, a specific project, in Hendry County, will be chosen and through various fundraising events money will be raised to fund the project. The sole mission of this organization is to gather as a community to assist in the funding of various local projects that will enhance the lives of our local youth.

The 2012 fundraising event theme will be "Lighting of the Parks." The Hendry County Give Back Committee met with the Parks and Recreation director and came to a dual consensus that lighting of the parks will increase safety and security for all LaBelle residents.

Your Hendry County Give Back committee has reviewed and examined a total of 17 parks and has carefully chosen two that have become this year's focus. Due to occupancy and usage, the first choice is the LaBelle Community Civic Park (adjacent to LaBelle Elementary School). This park is becoming a popular spot for not only families, but also exercise enthusiasts and athletic events held throughout the year.

Not only will a portion of the park be lighted, but the group will also install a beautiful water fountain that was previously donated.

The second goal the committee chose is Bob Mason Park. Those that have been in the area for many years have watched a beautiful park being misused. The committee felt this park could be enhanced for a more family oriented atmosphere by installing lights. The lighting will ensure safety and security to this beautiful riverside park.

The Give Back Committee is also very excited about its future goals that will include fundraising events to benefit scholarship funds, LaBelle Little League, Pop Warner and numerous other wor-

See Give — Page 2

## Voting on going in Primary

by **Patty Brant**  
Caloosa Belle

Just five days away, the Hendry County Primary Election is on fire. Candidates are feverishly meeting the public, trying to get their message across.

A good number of Hendry's 16,927 voters have already cast their ballots. As of Tuesday morning, August 7, 845 early voters and 435 absentee voters had already made their choices.

Early voting ends August 11.

Hendry's party affiliations line up this way:

Democrats: 8,816  
Republican: 5,484  
Others: 2,627

Winning candidates in the Primary for each party will meet the opposing party's candidate in the General Election on November 6. The following candidates will be on the Primary ballot for LaBelle area voters:

### Sheriff

Republican candidates in the Primary are: Eliberto Carmona, Mark R. Chamberlain and Raymond A. Van Houten.

In the Primary Democrats voting for Sheriff will choose among: Matthew A. Beatty, Steven Maldonado and incumbent Steve Whidden.

The winning Republican and Democratic candidate will face each other in the General Election.

### Superintendent of Schools

Republicans squaring off in the

See Voting — Page 2

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## Back to School

CenterState Bank is taking donations for back to school supplies for Hendry County. We would gladly accept any donations our community would like to make. "Our Goal is to Stuff the Bus" so come into our office, located at 45 North Bridge Street, and pay us a visit, we would love your support. Supplies needed include #2 pencils, pens, backpacks, colored pencils, composition books, scissors, crayons, spiral notebooks, erasers, supply pouches, folders, paper towels, glue bottles, wide-ruled paper, highlighters and ziplock bags. April Cochram is pictured showing off some of this year's supplies.



Caloosa Belle/Dale Conyers

Supplies needed include #2 pencils, pens, backpacks, colored pencils, composition books, scissors, crayons, spiral notebooks, erasers, supply pouches, folders, paper towels, glue bottles, wide-ruled paper, highlighters and ziplock bags. April Cochram is pictured showing off some of this year's supplies.

## Voting

Continued From Page 1

Primary are Paul Puletti and Joel Williamson.

The winner will challenge incumbent Richard A. "Rick" Murphy in November.

### Supervisor of Elections

Democratic candidates for Supervisor of Elections in the Primary are Kim Harris-White vs. Brenda Hoots.

The chosen Democratic candidate will then compete against Rep. Kevin Drummond and Rose Raulerson-Mason (No Party Affiliation) in November.

### Florida Senate District 39

On the Primary ballot: Democrats Dwight Bullard, James Bush III, Sal Gutierrez, John JJ Johnson and Ron Saunders will vie for the opportunity to meet Republican Scott Hopes in the November General Election.

Races going directly to the November 6 General Election are:

### Property Appraiser

Incumbent Democrat Phillip Pelletier will face Republican and former Property Appraiser Kristina Kulpa.

### Clerk of Circuit Court

In November, incumbent Barbara Butler (Democrat) will be challenged by newcomer Republican Larry Wilcoxson.

### Tax Collector

Long time Tax Collector Peggy Hampton and Democrat is being challenged by political newcomer Republican Tom Corbitt in November.

### County Commission District #3

Incumbent Republican Tristan G. Chapman will be challenged by Democrat Don Davis.

### School Board District 4

Stephanie Busin, John Perry and Cynthia Luevano Potter are the candidates in this non-partisan race. Incumbent Matt Beatty is running for sheriff.

### Florida House of Representatives District 80

Republican Matt Hudson will meet NPA candidate Pam Brown in November.

Books will close for the November 6 General Election on October 9. Hendry County voters should remember that their Precincts may have changed and there are fewer polling places than in previous elections.

LaBelle area polling places include: Precinct 2 Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church, Precinct 3 LaBelle Civic Center, Precinct 5 Felda Community Center, Precinct 8 Pioneer Fire Station and Precinct 9 Grace Baptist Church.

All Hendry County voters should have a new Voter Registration Card with their Precinct listed and must also bring a photo ID with them to the polls. Acceptable IDs include: Florida driver's license, passport, military ID, debit or credit card with a picture ID, student ID, retirement center ID, neighborhood association ID and public assistance ID.

Books close for the General Election on October 9.

## Lunches

Continued From Page 1

balance - all at the same place. You can even receive a low balance notification so you can replenish the account with no lags.

There is a one-time \$10 membership fee. Money can be deposited into your child's account using your debit or credit card. You can deposit money into multiple students' accounts in one payment and view balances and get a low balance notification via email.

Another bonus - you can track what your child is buying for breakfast and lunch. The site provides access to a 90-day history of what students are buying for breakfast and lunch.

"Good nutrition is essential to learning. If parents stay involved with nutrition the way they do with grades, it benefits the child," said Darrell Harris, child nutrition director for Hendry County School Board.

The Child Nutrition Services, a non-profit group, operates nine cafeterias in Hendry County School District, the National School Lunch Program and National School Breakfast Program.

To learn more visit [www.LunchPrepay.com](http://www.LunchPrepay.com). To register you need your child's student ID number. If you don't have this number you can get it from your student's school.

The group provides healthy, nutritious meals at a reasonable cost and also nutrition education for students, introducing them to healthier meal choices.

The lunch [prepay.com](http://prepay.com) Web site was

developed by Education Management Systems, Inc., a K-12 administrative software company headquartered in Wilmington, NC.

The company develops, distributes and supports school accounting and food service management software in schools throughout the US.

## Give

Continued From Page 1

thy causes.

This year's event will be a rib cook-off competition on Saturday, September 29, at Barron Park. This event will showcase participants' grilling skills, as well as allow participants to compete for great prizes and bragging rights.

The event will consist not only of a rib cook-off, but kids fun zone, various vendors, live music, horseshoe tournament, food and soft drinks.

If you would like to be involved in this community event (cookers, vendors, sponsors, horseshoes, or just good ol' family fun.), Please visit their Web site at [www.hendrycountygiveback.com](http://www.hendrycountygiveback.com) or please call 863-342-4291.

This was created to be "LaBelle's hometown give back charity." All are welcome and encouraged to participate and enjoy.



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# Highlands and Glades: Scouting for lightning fires

Highlands & Glades Counties - Along with the rain came lightning. Lightning ignitions smolder for days before they start to show visible signs.

Scouting lightning ignitions is the responsibility of the fixed-wing spotter pilot from the Florida Forest Service.

“Using a lightning map, I make a flight plan to concentrate on positive lightning strikes. It’s commonly believed that the positive strikes, which are 5-10 times stronger than the negative strikes, are responsible for most forest fires.” says Sanne Esque, Airplane Pilot, Florida Forest Service (FFS)

Sanne continues, “As I fly I have up to 25 miles of visibility in our Forestry aircraft. It’s a very efficient way to spot the beginnings of a smoldering wildfire.”

Sanne covers 6 counties along her route and radios to FFS dispatch the location of the wildfires. FFS dispatch relays the information to State Firefighters in dozers and brush trucks and local fire departments to extinguish the fire.

Fixed-wing pilots are an essential element on wildfire scenes. These airplanes are used to scout-out wildfires and then serve as “eyes in the sky” for firefighters on the ground.

Smoke impedes ground crews so the pilot will communicate to the firefighters information such as, the location of houses, sheds and vehicles in relation to the direction of the fire.

The pilot can also locate roads and trails for access to the fire and also fences, and the gates to get through them.

They can make the firefighters aware of

ditches, flag ponds, power lines, and many other obstacles. The pilot can see the fuel types that the fire is moving into and thus assist the Incident Commander in determining the initial attack priorities and the necessity for possibly ordering more resources.

Recent wildfire activity in Glades County that Florida Forest Service responded to:

August 5, north of Gatorama; Cause: lightning; Acreage 35.

August 5, near Boar Hammock 1/2 miles from railroad; Cause: lightning; Acreage 35.

August 6: across from Gatorama near Boar’s Hammock; Cause: lightning; Acreage 30.



Submitted photo

## District Governor

**Stephen F. Schlueter, District 6960 Governor for 2012-2013 visited The LaBelle Rogary Club on July 31, 2012. DG Schlueter delivered to local members his presentation about upcoming plans, while keeping in mind his Rotary motto: “Having Fun...Helping Others.”**

## Arrest Reports

### LaBelle

Robert Franklyn Bearse II, 32, was arrested August 3 and charged with burglary of an unoccupied dwelling unarmed, dealing in stolen property, grand theft \$300-\$5,000, providing false owner information to pawn items under \$300. C. Buchhofer was arresting officer.

### Clewiston

Anthony Antoine Fuller, 35, was arrested August 4 and charged with a nonmoving traffic violation driving with a suspended license habitual offender. N. Krause was arresting officer.

Kenia Yanet Villatoro, 22, was arrested August 5 and charged with battery on an officer, firefighter, EMT, etc., and obstructing justice influence/intimidate/hinder a law enforcement officer in his duties. CPD Office Hicks was arresting officer.

Andy Jesus Alarcon, 23, was arrested August 4 and charged with criminal mischief \$300-\$1,000, burglary of an unoccupied dwelling unarmed and possession of burglary tools with intent to use. J. Perez was

arresting officer.

Jorge Luis Quinones 28, was arrested August 4 and charged with possession of a controlled substance without a prescription and possession of marijuana under 20 grams. N. Krause was arresting officer.

Jeffrey Bernard Williams, 47, was arrested August 3 and charged with possession of a weapon or ammo by a convicted Florida felon, possession of cocaine with intent to sell, etc., and trafficking opium or a derivative 4 grams to 30 kilograms.

Seth Wade Robbins, 42, was arrested August 7 and charged with driving with a suspended or revoked license habitual offender. He was arrested by Seminole Police Department.

Genell Roberts, 32, was arrested August 1 and charged with possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. J. Brown was arresting officer.

Margie Tess Billie, 29, was arrested August 1 and charged with possession of cocaine and possession/use of drug equipment. J. Brown was arresting officer.

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Se Vende Ropa de Segunda

**GIVE A HOOT**

Hello Hendry County Residents, this is Brenda Hoots candidate for Supervisor of Elections, asking for you vote! We have enjoyed visiting with voters in Hendry County. Also, I'd like to thank all those that came out to the forums sponsored by local organizations.

The **Primary Election** is quickly approaching on **August the 14th**. Just a friendly reminder, everyone cast your vote in the Primary Election. At 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 11, Early Voting will be ending. After Early Voting ends you will still have the option to vote Absentee or at the Polls on August 14th.

I am committed to do the best possible job serving you the public as your Supervisor of Elections. During my 21 years working with the Elections Office and as the Assistant Supervisor of Elections, I have acquired the experience and skills necessary to be your Supervisor of Elections. I am asking for your vote and the opportunity to ensure that the Hendry County elections continue to be done with accuracy and integrity. I give a Hoot! Asking you to Give a Hoot and Vote for Brenda Hoots for Supervisor of Elections.

Early Voting begins: July 30 through August 11, 2012

**OFFICE LOCATIONS:**  
Monday through Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle

Monday through Saturday - 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
100 E. El Paso Ave., Clewiston

**Vote Brenda Hoots for Supervisor of Elections**

Political Advertisement Paid for and approved by Brenda Hoots Democrat for Supervisor of Elections

## Career Corner

### The Boss

by Matt Kindermann

Recently, at the urging of my supervisor, I applied for an opportunity that I did not believe I was qualified for. During the interview, the panel asked what I thought was a more important trait for a manager; to be liked or to be respected.

I will relate to our readers that yes, in fact, I do follow my own interviewing skills advice!

This question allowed me an opportunity to highlight my managerial skills, and also point out the positive relationship between my own boss, Tim Nevarez, and I.

For those who know Tim, you understand what a likeable person he is. He has worked in this area for social services his entire 32 year career.

He is a 2011 graduate of Leadership Hendry/Glades, and he could identify who is who within the community and tell you a little bit about everyone.

He did not care much for public speaking, nor did he relish the limelight of the countless occasions he was recognized, but he could put anyone at ease with a warm smile, firm handshake and easy de-



**Matt Kindermann**

meanor.

I answered the interview question by stating that what made Tim such a successful manager was not because he was well liked, but because of his ability to always find the answer to any question or connect you directly to the person with the answers.

Tim did not earn respect by hoarding authority; he earned respect by sharing information and empowering his subordinates to develop their own strategies for success within the working boundaries. In short, my answer was that it was better to be respected than liked.

Tim was the foundational support behind this column, and edited Career Corner since its inception over a year ago.

Tim passed away peacefully last week in his home, days after the interview. Rarely does one get an opportunity to work for someone both well liked, highly respected and an advocate for their employees.

He will be sorely missed, and I thank him for his support and dedication to his co-workers and the community he selflessly served.

*Southwest Florida Works is the regional state workforce board for Hendry, Glades, Charlotte, Lee and Collier counties. For job search assistance or employer support, speak with an employment representative nearest you by going to [www.swflworks.org](http://www.swflworks.org) and click on "Locations."*

## Caloosa Baptist begins ministry in former Flora & Ella's

by Les Morgan

For nearly eight decades Flora & Ella's was a central gathering place and landmark known throughout South-west Florida.

People came from miles around to eat food served up country-style. It was a tradition for people show up Saturday morning to talk, drink coffee, eat grits and eggs with biscuits, and talk about their favorite fishing spot.



**Les Morgan**

In many ways, the former Flora & Ella's building will continue with what it has been known for over the years - a historic place for people to gather. And, folks will continue to travel various distances to meet, to talk, eat, and to share favorite fishing stories.

Only now the menu has been changed.

Instead of having white grits, manna will be served from God's Word.

And, in the place of fishing stories being told from having been in a boat, "fishers of men" stories will be recounted.

That's right - Flora & Ella's is now one of the educational buildings for Caloosa Baptist Church.

The building was purchased by Caloosa

Baptist Church several weeks ago. After some exterior cleaning workdays, and some "sprucing up" of the interior, last Sunday, the church started holding Adult Bible Studies in the well-known restaurant facility.

"We are very excited about having the new provision," said Dr. Les Morgan. "We simply had no more rooms for our ministry. The Lord has blessed us in many wonderful ways. Five years ago we had one Adult Sunday School class and about three of four children. Today we have four Adult classes, with a fifth one starting soon, and two additional buildings to house our children, and youth group.

"Every classroom, office and available space for our educational needs is occupied in our main building. Someone joked the only place left to hold another class was in either the broom closet or the restrooms. Neither option was very appealing!"

The church will be using their new facility to not only Bible Studies, but a foundational Christianity/New Believers class, as well as recovery groups, college and career Bible Studies, evangelism training, and other educational needs.

Within 90 days there will be a reception area added, as well as the secretary's and the pastor's office.

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# Caloosa Belle



### To Reach Us

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 518  
LaBelle, FL 33975  
Physical Address: 22 Ft. Thompson Ave.  
Phone: (863) 675-2541 • Fax: (863) 675-1449  
Website: [www.newszap.com/labelle](http://www.newszap.com/labelle)

### 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.  
E-Mail: [cbnews@newszap.com](mailto:cbnews@newszap.com)

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### Staff

News Editor: Patty Brant  
Advertising Services: Dale Conyers  
Advertising Services: Barbara Calfee  
Executive Editor: Katrina Elsen  
Publisher: Tom Byrd

### 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.

## Letter to the Editor

### Dear Editor,

On behalf of the members of American Legion, Post 130, Moose Lodge 2398, LaBelle DAV and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 10100, we would like to thank everyone for attending the ceremony at the LaBelle Veteran's Memorial Park and for supporting the Fallen Heroes BBQ dinner on July 21.

This was the fifth year we were able to raise awareness for our veterans and continue our efforts to build our memorial park. It would not have been possible without the participation of our local residents and business partners.

A heartfelt gratitude to these businesses: Winn Dixie, Babcock Furniture, Log Cabin, Sissy's Hair Salon, LaBelle Ranch Supply, White's Appliances, Auto Zone, Sherwood Williams Paint, B & J Auto, Suncoast Beverage Distributors, Lazy Acres Wood Work, Ace Hardware, Majestic Golf Club, Bridge Street Coffee, Plattners Dodge, Nathan's Hair Salon, Beef 'O'Bradys, Hungry Howie's, All Nails, Kinetico Water, Fort Myers Coca-Cola, Kenny's Tires, Derek's Detailing, Sal Cal Pizza, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Little Caesars Pizza, Saddle Up, Advanced Auto, Don's Steak House, Vicky's Lunch Box, Sun Tan Shop, Top Draw Bar and Grill, Lion's Den, Langford Ford, Firehouse Theater, Kiwanis of LaBelle, Sysco Foods, Caloosa Humane Society, Jason and Steve Catch and Release Fishing, Whisper Creek, Oxbow Grille Restaurant, Caloosa Belle, Akin-Davis Funeral Home and Mike Cox - MC Ventures Truck Bodies for donating goods and/or services.

Please reward these businesses with your patronage, whenever possible.

Because of your generosity, we were able to raise nearly \$4,000 towards the LaBelle Veteran's Memorial Park. Each year, this benefit is an expression of the commitment of our citizens and business owners to honor our veteran's. We are humbled by your kindness.

We would also like to thank the LaBelle Boy Scouts for their help in placing the 20 plus bricks. Thank you to the City of LaBelle for their special care and maintenance of the park, all year long.

In the coming year, there are plans to build a commemorative plaque to chronicle the park's history and remember local soldiers who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

May we always remember the sacrifices they have given for the freedom and liberties that we sometimes take for granted, each day.

Once again, thank you for making the Fallen Heroes Benefit such a success.

Sincerely,  
**The members of:**  
**American Legion, Post 130**  
**Disable American Veterans (LaBelle Chapter)**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 10100**  
**Loyal Order of the Moose, Lodge 2398**

# Thank You

## Professional, personal care

I would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards, and prayers during my recent health issues. It means so much to know people have genuine concern for your well being.

I would especially like to thank the EMT team, Randy Bengston and Sheriff Steve

Whidden. The EMT's were wonderful, they were very professional and made me feel safe. A special 'thanks' to Randy and Steve for keeping Joe updated along the way.

It is truly great to live in a community like LaBelle.

Sincerely,  
**Bobbie Spratt**



# Caloosa

Continued From Page 4

"Our heart is for the people of LaBelle and Hendry County," said the Pastor. "We are planning to use the restaurant setting and large industrial kitchen to help people, especially during the holidays with meals and other ways of assistance."

Caloosa Baptist is exploring many options to use our new edifice.

The church has a strong desire to be as large of a blessing as possible to benefit of the most amount of people.

One member commented, "This is a new venture for us and our church family is very excited about the possibilities before us. A provision from the Lord like this is not given to keep to ourselves. We are confident the Lord will direct us how to be the most af-

fective with this facility as we move through this next year."

*Caloosa Baptist is located across from City Hall on Highway 80 in LaBelle. Service times are 9:15 Bible Study, 10:30 Morning Worship and 6:00 pm for the evening service. Anyone who is not in another fellowship but is looking for a Gospel-preaching church is welcome.*

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Hello Hendry County Residents,

My campaign experience has been positive and rewarding. I've been out in the community meeting the residents, listening to their concerns and issues. It would be an honor to be your next Supervisor of Elections for Hendry County. I am dedicated and will truly serve you with integrity, loyalty and honesty. I want to take the elections office to a new level of leadership. I need your vote as your democratic candidate on August 14th. to accomplish my goals.

Sincerely, Kim Harris-White

*"When I was a young coach I used to say, 'Treat everybody alike.' That's bull. Treat everybody fairly." Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant*

**VOTE RIGHT  
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Political advertisement paid for and approved by Kim Harris-White, Democrat for Hendry County Supervisor of Elections



Submitted photo

## Kiwanis Club of LaBelle Receives Grant!

Recently, the Kiwanis Club of LaBelle was awarded a grant from the Florida Kiwanis Foundation. This was the first time a grant was issued to a Kiwanis Club in District 19. The Florida Kiwanis Foundation Trustee, Hannah Pelle was pleased to come to LaBelle to deliver the award in person. Ms. Pelle is also a member of the Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club in Ft. Myers. The grant will be used to purchase a large storage shed to be placed at the Kiwanis Thrift Store in LaBelle. Thanks to Kathy Woolston, the Thrift Store Manager for her hard work on the grant! Pictured left: Kathy Woolston-Kiwanis Thrift Store Manager, Hannah Pelle, Florida Kiwanis Foundation Trustee and Nell Broom-President, Kiwanis Club of LaBelle

# RAY VAN HOUTEN for HENDRY COUNTY SHERIFF

**Ladies and Gentleman of Hendry County:**

My team or I have visited almost every door in the County, handing out information about myself and the plan I have as Sheriff.

By Electing me Sheriff, I promise to put into action my Leadership abilities and diversified experience I have gained over the past 27 years as a Law Enforcement Officer, a Military Leader, and an Educator. To lead the good men and women of the HCSO in combating crime.

I promise to restore RESPECT INTEGRITY, and PRIDE to the HCSO

I would like to thank my opponents Mr. Carmona and Mr. Chamberlain for being gentlemen and good sportsmen during this election process; also for Mr. Carmona's 25 yrs of service in law enforcement and for Mr. Chamberlain's 26 yrs of service in corrections a feat not easily accomplished.

**On August 14, 2012 -Vote Ray Van Houten the right man for the job**

Political Advertisement Paid for and approved by Ray Van Houten Republican for Hendry County Sheriff



## Church Briefs

### LaBelle Gathering

Our next LaBelle Gathering meeting will be at East Side Baptist Church, 601 East Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle at 7 p.m. August 20. We will meet for dinner and a message. Hope to see you all there. For more information or directions call Mark White 239-707-6137 or Randy Way 863-885-1099.

### Fellowship, fun, discipleship

Caloosa Baptist Church has begun a College and Careers Class (post-high school to 24 years old) on Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Charlie's Coffee Shop. College and Careers will kick-off with a leadership study using Andy Andrew's The Traveler's Gift.

## Obituaries

### Raul Rodriguez, Jr., 31

LABELLE — Raul Rodriguez, Jr., passed away July 30, 2012, in Boca Raton.

He was born June 20, 1981, in Naples to Raul and Elena (Rodriguez) Rodriguez, Sr. Raul married Rosa Elia Salermon. He worked as a Logistical engineer.

Survivors include his wife, Rosa Elia (Salermon) Rodriguez; two daughters, Isabela Rodriguez, Alina Rodriguez; parents, Raul and Elena Rodriguez, Sr.; three sisters, Onieda Rodriguez (Lenin V. Montenegro), Oneida Rodriguez, Olinda Rodriguez (Jose R. Valle). He was a LOVING UNCLE to Armando, Hecty, Miranda, Lenin, Braylen and Austin "J". He also leaves behind his loving grandmother; many aunts; uncles; and other family members. He was a great son, brother, father, nephew, grandson, cousin and friend to all. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him. He took a part of our hearts with him and he left a part of his heart with everyone he knew.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10 a.m. Friday, August 3, 2012, at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, LaBelle with Father Chester Domaszewicz officiating.

Interment was in Fort Denaud Cemetery, La-



Mark your calendars for a time of fellowship, fun, and discipleship. If you have questions or to confirm your attendance please email Rhonda Kosh at shok02@yahoo.com.

### Prophecy expo

You can't afford to miss this. Program runs August 31-October 6 with speaker Pastor Lester Pratt Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings 7-9 p.m. at Fort Myers Shores Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 14830 Palm Beach Blvd. in Fort Myers. For information call Pastor Robert Ferguson 239-878-6750; e-mail evangelism1947@gmail.com.

Guest speaker for August 11 will be Pastor Victor Maddox; speaker August 18 will be our own Pastor Robert Ferguson.

Belle. Visitation with Rosary was Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Akin-Davis Funeral Home, LaBelle. You can light a candle and leave your condolences to the family at www.akin-davis.com. Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

The family of Raul Rodriguez Jr. would like to give all of our family and friends a huge thanks and gratitude for coming together at our most time of need. We are grateful for our family and friends making it possible for our son's beautiful ceremony and most of all, making it as memorable as he is and will be forever in our hearts.

Raul, Elena and family.

### Dewitt White, 82

LABELLE — Dewitt White, passed away August 4, 2012.

He was born November 1, 1929, in Lawrence County, Ga. to the late Harlow and Millie White.

Survivors include his sons; Ronnie White of LaBelle, Don White of Tenn. and Dennis White of Tenn.; step son, Leroy Howard of LaBelle; step daughters, Donna (Neal) Bower of Lehigh Acres, Carline Kenney of Bartow and Tammy (Fred) Landrum of LaBelle; brothers, Roger, Randall and Harold White; sisters, Doris Parker and Dorothy Faughn, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Christel M. Howard White; brother, Gene White; and sister, Mary Ellir White.

A memorial service will be held on a later date. Cremation Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

Don't forget Planting to Help our Community. Enjoy the experience of planting and growing herbs and vegetables - God's healthy way in our community garden. All are invited and it is free every Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information call Pastor Robert Ferguson 239-878-6750

### Feeding children

Local churches are banding together to eliminate hunger for local children, many of

whom only get a decent meal at school. Operation: Backpack will begin this fall, sending a backpack full of edible items home with needy children on Fridays. They will return the backpack on Monday. The churches will be partnering with local charities to multiply the effect of donations. The program will run during the school term for 40 weeks. Make checks payable to FBC-Operation: Backpack and donate at the office of First Baptist Church of LaBelle, 330 N. Main Street. Team signups for food distribution are available.



Submitted photo/Maureen Jordan

## Salvation Army, Rotary

LaBelle Rotarians supported the Salvation Army's recent peanut butter drive, collecting jars over the last two weeks and donating 43 to the cause. Pictured are: Maureen Jordan - Rotary Member, Lisa Sands - Salvation Army, Lester Baird - LaBelle Rotary Club President.

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## Community Briefs

### Help plan benefit for "Fred" Langdale

As you know, Moore Haven teenager, Kaleb 'Fred' Langdale lost part of his right arm in an alligator attack, Monday, July 9. A follow-up meeting in reference to the Kaleb "Fred" Langdale Benefit Field Day, a fundraiser to help with medical bills and getting him a prosthetic arm will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Moore Haven on Monday, August 13, at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Churches, clubs and any other organizations to area invited to come out and help support the cause.

A silent and live auction are also in the works. If anyone has any items they would like to donate, have any suggestions or would like to help out with the Field Day, please come out! You can contact Linda Peoples Martin at (863)227-0832. All of your support will be greatly appreciated.

### Improve customer service skills: Strategies for Success

The "season" is just around the corner and now is the time to start thinking about how you can serve your customers better.

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Clewiston Chamber of Commerce, LaBelle Chamber of Commerce and Hendry County Tourism Council are offering two free seminars on customer service to help businesses evaluate the way they meet customer needs.

With all the challenges small business faces it is pertinent that they be prepared to go that extra step. Frank Garcia of Clewiston will speak. He has a broad range of customer service experience and will share his knowledge and expertise.

The events take place Thursday, August 30, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Port LaBelle Inn, 1563 Oxbow Dr., LaBelle and Thursday, September 20, 2 p.m.-4 p.m. at Clewiston Inn, 108 Royal Palm Ave., Clewiston. Register on line at [www.fgcu.edu](http://www.fgcu.edu).

Once you are on the site go to seminars and scroll down to Improving Customer Service Skills and follow registration directions. If you have questions you can call 239-745-3701.

### Help with school supplies

The LaBelle United Way House, 133 N. Bridge Street is collecting school supplies for kids in need. If you would like to donate please drop off any of the following items:

Scissors, wide ruled paper, erasers, crayons, pencils, composition books, spiral notebooks, highlighters, pocket folders with clasps or glue.

### Danny Woosley Memorial Scholarship

The Danny Woosley Memorial Scholarship Foundation Banquet asks everyone to join them for a night of live music, dancing, a wonderful steak dinner, raffles. a silent auction and refreshments.

All profits go toward scholarships for graduates of LaBelle High School.

The event will be Friday, August 24, at Riverbend Motorcoach Resort, 5800 SR 80W. Tickets are \$80 for two or \$50 for one person. Sponsorships are \$300 for six dinners and \$100 in raffle tickets.

For tickets or information contact: Bryan Sanders at 863-234-8278; Keith Hall at 863-673-3023; Mara Woosley at [marawooz@comcast.net](mailto:marawooz@comcast.net), Tim Loyd at 239-777-8812; or Michael Reinbott at 863-673-2804.

### Help find lost wallet

Wallet lost Monday, August 6, afternoon, possibly in the area of Save-a-Lot. Blue, oblong. Reward offered. Please call 675-2771.

### Free eye exams

Spectacular Eyecare will be offering vision screenings for children ages 7-18 from now through September 30. If glasses are needed, they will offer a frame and lenses package at a reduced cost.

Call today for an appointment at 675-2015. Spectacular Eyecare is located at 70 W. Yeomans Ave.

### GOP to meet

The Republican County Executive Committee will hold its August monthly meeting at the LaBelle City Hall, 481 Hickpoochee Ave., Monday, August 20, at 7 p.m. Republican County Chairman Mel Karau invites all Republicans registered in Hendry County to

attend.

For further information please call 675 4063

### Free mini health fairs

August 9: 8:00 Collingswood; 9:00 Aqua; 10:00 LaBelle Commons, 1:00 Oakbrook Support group

August 13: 10:00 Harlem Gardens, 11:30 Clewiston Sr. Center

August 17: 11:00 LaBelle Sr. Center

August 20: 11:30 Moore Haven Sr. Center

### MCA August events

The Muse community Association August events include:

August 11, Country Jam Session and Pot Luck Dinner at 6 p.m.

August 16, Regular Board Meeting at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. All ideas and suggestions are greatly appreciated.

August 25, Country Jam Session and Pot Luck Dinner at 6 p.m.

All events are open to the public and will be held at the Muse Community Center Bldg. on Loblolly Bay Road (Hwy. 720)

Come out for a fun evening and meeting your neighbors. Refreshments will be served. For further information call 863-674-0467.

### Widows to meet

The Widows Support Group will meet August 16, at Forrey Grill at 11:30 a.m. All widows welcome.

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## Community Briefs

### Legion fish fry and Sunday breakfast

Join the American Legion for its fish fry the first Friday of each month, 5-7 p.m.

Check out breakfast the first Sunday every month, 699 SR 80W.

### Volunteer for Toys for Tots

Hendry-Glades Behavioral Health Center is the coordinator for The Marine Toys for Tots campaign in Hendry County this year. We would like to ensure that each child in need receives a toy.

To accomplish our goal, we are currently looking for volunteers and support. The types of assistance needed include, event sponsoring, distribution, sorting, delivery, collection box locations, window poster locations, storage, toy donations and cash donations. Also, if you would like to start lists of children in need please contact us and we will get the appropriate paperwork to you.

If you, your agency or group can help in any way, please contact, Lydia Rivera at Hendry-Glades Behavioral Health, 863-674-4050 or Joseph Hosick, 863-983-1423. Thank you for your consideration as this is a wonderful opportunity to serve the children of our community.

### Free technology series planned

A free Technology Summer Series & Business Networking program is planned for the Bridge Street Coffee & Tea Co., 23 Fort Thompson Ave., 6:30-7:30 p.m.

August 28: Social Media & Email Marketing

RSVP Maria at 863-342-8251 or email at maria@simplifiedtech.biz.

### Apply now for Leadership sessions

Leadership Hendry and Glades Counties is accepting applications for our Class of 2011 from anyone interested in learning about our communities and want to participate in an informative program that is fun.

Once you have been officially accepted you will be invoiced. Space is limited, so please return your application soon! Con-

tact Susan Jordan at (863) 612-4914 with questions.

### ACT offers counseling and related services

Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. is a non-profit agency serving victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in Hendry, Glades and Lee Counties. ACT offers individual and group counseling, safe emergency shelter, 24-hour hotline and forensic examinations for survivors of rape.

For more information please call 239-939-3112 or 1-888-956-7273.

### Big Bad Musical

The Firehouse Community Theatre's Children's Summer Theatre Program proudly presents, "The Big, Bad Musical" by Alec Strum and Bill Francoeur, August 10 and 11 at 7 p.m. and August 12 at 2 p.m.

The Big Bad Wolf is being sued by a storybook of characters who want to get even: Little Red Riding Hood, her Grandmother, the Three Little Pigs and the Shepherd in charge of the Boy Who Cried Wolf! Join us to see our cast of characters in action!

Tickets are \$12 purchased in advance or \$14 at the door until the show is sold out! To order your tickets in advance, call our ticket hotline (863) 675-3066 or email us at firehousecommunitytheatre.com.

The Firehouse Community Theatre is located at 241 North Bridge Street in LaBelle

or visit our website [www.firehousecommunitytheatre.com](http://www.firehousecommunitytheatre.com).

### VFW news

The VFW Post 10100 Ladies Auxiliary will be serving a beef brisket dinner on Friday, August 10, at 5 p.m. for \$7.

Enjoy the smoke free dining room, located on S. Hwy. 29 by the Rodeo Grounds. Get there early before we run out.

Come to VFW Post 10100 and check our inexpensive lunch menu.

VFW Post 10100 has bingo open to the public every Sunday at 2 p.m.

VFW Post 10100 serves the best Charcoal Grilled Hamburgers in town every Saturday from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. \$3 for the burgers and French Fries are only \$1 more. Serving stops promptly at 1:30 p.m. Please come early.

### Calf, horse found

The Hendry County Sheriff's Office recovered a calf off the road in the Keri/SR29 area over the July 28-29 weekend. The Hendry County Sheriff's Office also recovered a horse from running loose on the road in Montura on the evening of July 27.

A Shetland pony was found in the area of Everhigh Road, Ledeca, horses off Evans Road. Also and two horses have been recovered from the Montura area. If you have lost any of these animals, please contact the Ag Unit at 863-805-5000 or 863-674-5600.

### SHINE volunteers

SHINE, a Department of Elder Affairs and Senior Choices of SWFL partnership located in Sarasota, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Charlotte, Lee and Collier counties, is always looking for more volunteers. If anyone needs assistance or is looking for a great volunteer opportunity please call 866-413-5337.

Medicare Part D open enrollment dates are now October 15-December 7. That is a very important time period, for seniors to choose their Medicare Part D, prescription plans.

### Kiwanis meeting change

The Kiwanis Club in LaBelle meets each third Tuesday of the month at the Kiwanis Thrift Store. It meets regularly meets on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at Beef O'Brady's on Hwy 80. We have regular guest speakers from the community who give interesting, educational and valuable information about what's going on in our community.

### AMVETS

An AMVETS Post has been established LaBelle. Post 2012 is the first and only AMVETS Post in Hendry County. Any armed forces veterans honorably discharged since WWII are eligible for membership in the AMVETS. For more information call 863-675-8008 or 239-246-3094.

## Apply now for RCMA Head Start and Early Head Start

Apply now at Redlands Christian Migrant Association for Head Start and Early Head Start for the 2012-13 program year. Children from six weeks old to five years are eligible, with or without disabilities.

This program offers social, dental and health services as well as language and hearing screenings.

RCMA encourages and loves parent participation. Meals are provided.

Requirements include: proof of birth for the child being enrolled, income verification, if necessary.

For more information, call LaBelle CDC: Teresa Salazara or Cyndi Adame at 863-674-4510; Krome CDC Ken Carrion, Angie

Germany or Adela Vargas at 863-674-4515; Mira Verde Judy Morales at 863-674-4104; or Glades West CDC Telma Paz or Sylvia Stansly at 863-612-0783.

### Puede aplicar ahora para RCMA

RCMA Head Start y Early Head Start estan tomando aplicaciones para el ano 2012-13. Ninos de seis semanas a cinco anos de edad.

Este programa ofrece servicios sociales, dental, servicios de salud.

Tambien aceptando ninos con o sin discapacidades. Animamos y motivamos la participacion de los padres. Proveemos comidas saludables.

Requisitos: Prueba de nacimiento del nino/nina que va a enlistar; prueba de ingresos se es necesario.

Para mas informacion llame: LaBelle CDC: Teresa Salazara or Cyndi Adame at 863-674-4510; Krome CDC Ken Carrion, Angie Germany or Adela Vargas at 863-674-4515; Mira Verde Judy Morales at 863-674-4104; or Glades West CDC Telma Paz or Sylvia Stansly at 863-612-0783.

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# School Briefs

## Attention third grade parents

LaBelle Elementary School will hold a mandatory meeting for parents of students in the third grade welcome back meeting Thursday, August 16, at 5 p.m. in the school's media center.

Parents of third graders will receive important information for this school term.

## Voluntary Pre-K event

Children who have turned four years old by September 1, 2012, can participate in a free preschool program that helps prepare them for school.

The State of Florida sponsors Voluntary Pre-K at private child care centers. On Saturday, August 11, from 8-11 a.m. Children's Garden of LaBelle will be enrolling children for its VPK program.

It follows the same schedule as the school year, so preschool starts on August 20 and runs through June 6.

Four-year-olds will attend for three hours for free and limited scholarships are available for the rest of the day, Monday-Friday. Nutritious snacks and lunch round out this wonderful program for kids.

At the event on August 11 there will be donuts and juice for refreshments and bubbles for all the children.

Bring your child's birth certificate to enroll for VPK, as well as proof of residency (like a utility bill). Children's Garden is located on the corner of SR 80 and Martin Luther King Blvd. 863-675-3311.

## LMS plans open house

In an effort to accommodate our working parents, LaBelle Middle School will have an Open House on Thursday, August 16, from 5-7 p.m.

Parents and students are invited to pick-up student schedules in the cafeteria, take a tour of the campus and meet teachers. See you there!

## Visit LES classroom

LaBelle Elementary School will have Classroom Visitation on Thursday August 16, 5-6:30 p.m. School starts on Monday, August 20.

The school office is open 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for registering. Stop by and pick-up the school supply list.

## Algebra I End of Course exam

Parents and students, please mark your calendars for the upcoming Algebra I End of Course (EOC) Exam scheduled for August 9, 2012. Students need to report to LaBelle High School no later than 8:30 a.m. on the day of the exam.

Only students who took the Algebra I EOC at the end of the 2012 school year and did not pass are required to take the exam on August 9.

Algebra I EOC information and results were mailed with the students final report cards at the end of the school 2012 school year.

## UES plans new year

The teachers first day at Upthegrove Elementary School will be Monday, August 13. There will be an open house Thursday, August 16, from 4-5:30 p.m.

All parents/guardians and students who wish to meet their teacher for this school year are welcome. The first day of school will be Monday, August 20. If you have any questions please feel free to call the school at 612-0750.

## Register at WGS for K-8

West Glades School is now registering students for the 2012-2013 school year. If you have a child in Kindergarten through 8th grade that will be attending West Glades this next school year and did not attend this past year, please come in and register them as soon as possible.

The school office will be open Monday thru Thursday from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Supply lists and school calendars for this coming year available at the office.



Caloosa Belle/Patty Brant

## Rotary scholarship winners

Rotarian Mark Lapp presented the LaBelle club's two new scholarship winners to the membership at their July 24 meeting. Jordan Walls graduated from LaBelle High School in 2009 and earned her AA from Edison State College. She will graduate from the University of South Florida in Tampa in the Spring with a degree in communications science and disorders. She aims to become a speech therapist. Josh Hernandez is a 2010 LHS graduate. He will be attending the University of West Florida in Pensacola this Fall to study basic music education. He hopes to earn his masters one day. Josh wants to share his love of music by becoming a teacher. He said that everyone can "attach" to music. His personal preference include classical and Dub Step - a style of electronic dance music.

## Essilor Visioffice

Family Eye Care proudly offers patients the new Essilor Visioffice System. Visioffice is the newest and most precise instrument for proper fitting of prescription eyewear. It provides individualized fitting measurements that are unique to each patient that allow for better optical performance of your new glasses.

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The Essilor Visioffice optical measuring system provides doctors and other eye care professionals with all possible parameters needed for properly fitting spectacle lenses uniquely to each and every patient. These parameters are established prior to the lenses being made and allow for the production of all types of lenses for eyeglasses.



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FOR School Board District 4

Hello, I am Cynthia Luevano Potter I was born and raised in Hendry County and I'm running for Hendry County School Board District 4. Hendry County students **DESERVE** an **educated, experienced educator** to serve on the school board to manage the budget, policies, and speak up for our children. Education has changed and is moving forward fast. This **IS NOT** the time to neither repeat history and choose a candidate that is not familiar with a school's educational process nor choose a candidate without an educational background or experience. We need to **MOVE FORWARD** keeping our children challenged and ensuring that they are receiving a high quality **AND** well-rounded education.

**I'm Educated...** A graduate from Clewiston High School Class of 1988, I have a Master's in Educational Leadership K-12 from Florida Gulf Coast University, 2003

**I'm Experienced...** I am actively involved **TODAY** and have been for over 10 years in programs in our community that enhance our children's lives. I've been rolling up my sleeves for years and getting things done for children because they are our most valuable resource.

**I'm an Educator...** Educator for 9 years and understand the struggles of students, parents, and educators. It takes courage to do what is right for our children and it is my **MISSION** to ensure that our children receive a high quality and well-rounded education that prepares them for college or to be successful citizens in our community.

Vote for Cynthia Luevano Potter

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# Garcia contributes to USSSA win

LaBelle's own Austin Garcia continues to make a name for himself in baseball through his hard work and talent.

The LaBelle High School senior recently helped win the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) Gold Medal

Games championship at Kissimmee July 14-20. The tournament hosts teams from all over the world and was played in the Houston Astro Sports Training Complex.

Austin helped the USSSA 16u National Team bring home the gold after a week of great competition by defeating Canada, Puerto Rico, Venezuela and Italy.

"It was an unforgettable week of baseball," Austin said, "not only for being able to represent your country, but for meeting so many players from around the world that share the same passion for the game,"

In his championship performance Austin, a third baseman, turned in a 3-for-4 with a walk, a triple, double, single and a walk.

Austin is finished with summer ball and will begin to play fall ball with his travel team at the end of the month and get ready for the Power Showcase in December.

After graduating from LHS, Austin looks forward taking his baseball talent to the next level in college.



Submitted photo

Austin Garcia, center, with his USSSA coaches.



Submitted photo

Austin Garcia with his USSSA team.

## Support LHS Fall Sports Program

Looking for a way to advertise your business and support Hendry County student athletes at the same time?

The sale of athletics program advertisements helps fund sports programs, along with the sale of signs and sponsorships. Ticket revenue makes up the difference.

Program ad sizes: eighth of a page \$35; quarter page \$50; half page \$100; full page \$200.

Please email your information in PDF form to: [kelleyd@hendry.k12.fl.us](mailto:kelleyd@hendry.k12.fl.us)

Signs:

Football stadium: \$250; gym \$150; baseball field \$135; softball field \$125.

You can also display a sports schedule in your business or other location. That is also a great service to the students and the school.

To help with one of the programs, please call 863-674-4120 or email: [kelleyd@hendry.k12.fl.us](mailto:kelleyd@hendry.k12.fl.us)

## LHS Volleyball Schedule

Aug. 21: Preseason at Riverdale

Aug. 23: Preseason at Riverdale

Aug. 27: North Ft. Myers, H, 6/7:00

Aug. 28: Naples, H, 4:30/6:00

Sept. 4: Gateway, A, 6/7

Sept. 6: Bishop Verot, H, 6/7:00

Sept. 11: Dunbar, H, 6:00

Sept. 15: Riverdale Tourney (JV) A, TBA

Sept. 18: Clewiston, H, 6/7:00

Sept. 22: Riverdale Tourney, (Varsity), A,

TBA

Sept. 24: Gateway, H, 6/7:00

Sept. 26: Bishop Verot, A, 6/7:00

Oct. 2: Dunbar, A, 6:00

Oct. 4: Riverdale, H, 6/7:00

Oct. 9: Clewiston, H, 6/7:00

Oct. 12-13: Northside Tourney, St. Pete,

TBA

Oct. 18: Naples, A, 4:30/6:00

Oct. 22: Districts 4v5: Higher Speed, 7:00

Oct. 23: Districts 1v4/5; 2v3, Higher Speed, 7:00

Oct. 25: District Finals, LaBelle, 7:00

## Sports Shorts

### LaBelle High School Fall Sports Program

Program ads for our Fall Sports Program are being placed now! Show your support for LHS Athletics by placing an ad in support for your business or your favorite student athlete. This year we are looking for spon-

sorship of a one page ad for all of our Fall, Winter, and Spring Sport Seniors.

Senior ads are \$200 for a full page or \$100 for a half page. LaBelle High School also has advertisement on football field or gym this school year.

If you need information or you need to renew please contact Dave Kelley.

### Pop Warner information

Sign ups also during the summer at Winn Dixie on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Football \$105; Cheerleading \$120.

Anyone interested in coaching football this season is asked to contact Jose Zavala at 673-1188. Pop Warner football practice is ongoing at 6 p.m.

# SUMMER SPECIALS

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WITH THIS AD - GOOD TIL 9/30/12

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# Support Caloosa Humane Society Peace, Love and Paws Gala

The Caloosa Humane Society is planning its third annual Peace, Love & Paws Gala for Saturday, Oct. 13, at 5 p.m. at Riverbend Motorcoach Resort.

This beautiful evening reception features delectable dining by Cracker Cookin' & Caterin', a splendid display of silent auction items, a fun photo booth and other fabulous ways to support animals at the shelter.

The gala allows everyone to celebrate the mission and recognize those who make

a difference in the lives of homeless pets. As a non-profit organization, Caloosa Humane Society is completely reliant on fundraisers and donations to continue serving the community.

All proceeds from this event go to fulfill its mission - to serve, shelter and protect the homeless animals in its care. As a no-kill shelter, Caloosa Humane Society also provides low cost spay/neuter services to the community with the goal of reducing the extreme overpopulation of unwanted animals.

The Caloosa Humane Society is looking for sponsors for the Peace, Love & Paws Gala.

Businesses will be recognized in prominent material for the event and will receive special acknowledgment that evening.

Silent auction items are also needed.

For more information or to donate to this cause, call the Caloosa Humane Society at 863-675-0997.



## ESC nationally ranked

FORT MYERS, FLA. – Edison State College ranked in the Top 100 across several categories for Community College Week's annual Top 100 Associate Degree and Certificate Producers. The results cover the 2010-2011 academic year.

"We are pleased that a national publication recognizes us for our dedication to providing excellent educational opportunities with our associate degree offerings," said Dr. Jeff Allbritten, District President, Edison State College. "Such success is a great credit to the students themselves, most who juggle other responsibilities in addition to their studies, and our faculty, who work hard to help them reach their educational goals."

The annual report divides its results into two-year and four-year institutions. Edison State College's rankings are included with four-year institutions as follows:

- 49th for Associate Degrees, All Disciplines
- 27th for Associate Degrees, Arts & Sciences/General Studies
- 41st for Associate Degrees, All Disciplines

plines, Total Non-Minority

- 72nd for Associate Degrees, All Disciplines, Total Minority
- 95th for Associate Degrees, All Disciplines, African-Americans



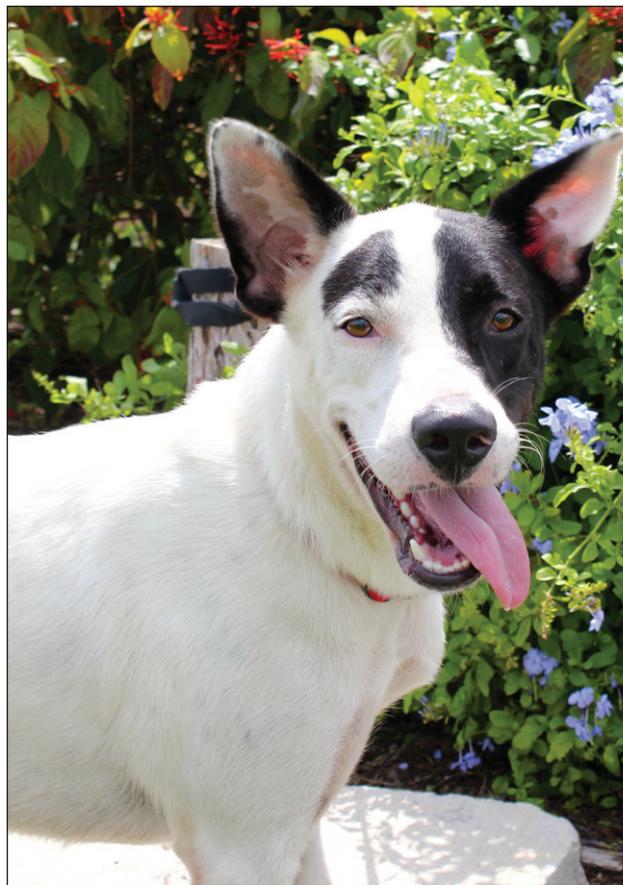
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Nationwide Insurance has partnered with Bruce Hendry Insurance in Immokalee offering Auto, Business Insurance, Life Insurance, Worker's Comp, Boat, Motorcycle, RV and more...

Call or stop by for an "One Your Side" review.

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Submitted photo/Tricia Boone

## Pet of the Week



Let Hidi show you how appreciative she would be to join your family! Hidi is a sweet girl and would love to have a family to call her own. Hidi's adoption donation is \$75. With an approved adoption application, you can take Hidi home with the following additions covered: Spayed, Rabies (4 months old), DH-PPC, Heartworm Test, Fecal Test, Heartworm Prevention, Deworming, Flea/Tick Prevention and a Microchip. Anyone interested in Hidi or any of our other homeless pets can come to Caloosa Humane Society at 1200 Pratt Blvd. and fill out an adoption application or call 863.675.0997. You

can also check out our Web site at [www.caloosahumanesociety.org](http://www.caloosahumanesociety.org) or find us on facebook for more information. Thank you so much for your interest in our homeless pets!



## Hendry Regional Introduces Dr. Neal Abarbanell, ER Medical Director



**Neal Abarbanell, M.D.**

Emergency Medicine Physician  
ER Medical Director

Dr. Neal Abarbanell came to Hendry Regional Medical Center as its new Emergency Room Medical Director in May of 2012. Since that time, he has assumed his responsibilities with great seriousness and a passion for excellence.

Dr. Abarbanell says, "We're an excellent team here, with wonderful nurses and doctors, and a supportive board and administrative staff. Our goal is for the community to have the best available emergency medical treatment, provided by skilled, professional, and courteous care providers. Emergency care is an integral part of this community; we should have peace of mind in knowing that there's an excellent hospital right here, close to home, ready to serve your emergency needs – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week."

## Kids! Get ready for school and have fun

Patrick Stewart Insurance and The Hair Studio will be hosting a free back to school event on Saturday, August 18, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 100 S. Hall Street, Suite A LaBelle.

They will be providing drawstring backpacks, haircuts, food, music along with entertainment for the children. It's a great way to get back into the school groove!

## Surf the library . . . Catch the reading wave!

Gene McAvoy and his wife, Donna, from the Hendry County Extension Office, were the speakers for story time on Tuesday, July 31. After learning about 14 different fruits and vegetables grown in this area and throughout the state of Florida, children were given a sample of each. Strawberries and watermelon seemed to be the favorites. It was interesting to find out that our state is the number one producer of so many different crops.

Thank you so much to the County Extension Office and especially to the McAvoy's for taking the time to make this great presentation. It was truly a hit.

Additionally, Barron Library would like to offer a very special thank you to LaBelle Kiwanis Club for sponsoring our program this summer. The club also provided funds for the purchase of all the 2012-2013 Florida Sunshine State books. The books are here and ready to be checked out.

Come by and see our ocean. It's full of sea creatures!



Submitted photo/Sally Berg

## Master of Science



Brianna Gutierrez Clayton received her Master's of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from South University in Savannah, Georgia, in June 2012. She has completed her Physician Assistant national certification and will be starting her clinical career at Olympic Physicians in Shelton, Washington. Brianna, a 2007 LaBelle High School graduate, earned her Associate's degree from Edison State College and her Bachelor's of Science in Biology from Florida State University. She is a member of American Academy of Physician Assistants and Association of Family Practice Physician Assistants. Brianna's husband, Austin, is an Army Ranger veteran and is continuing his baccalaureate studies in Washington.

### WEDDING

#### MELODY DANIELLE KOSH & MATTHEW WAYNE MUNDY

Melody Danielle Kosh and Matthew Wayne Mundy exchanged marriage vows March 31, 2012, at Barron Park, LaBelle. Melody is the daughter of Michael and Rhonda Kosh and Matthew is the son of Wayne and Barbara Mundy.

Danielle and Matthew graduated from LaBelle High School. Danielle is serving in the Army National Guard and will begin teaching at LaBelle High School. Matthew is a Software Engineer at CPR Tools and a firefighter with LaBelle Fire Department.

Dr. Les Morgan, Pastor of Caloosa Baptist Church officiated over the wedding. Danielle's maid of honor was Sandra Van Wagner and Matt's bestman was Cory Mundy. Danielle and Matt's wedding day was additionally blessed by their many family members and friends who shared in their marriage celebration.



"Captain" REMEMBER TO VOTE  
ON AUGUST 14

Mark  2012

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Political Advertisement Paid for and Approved by Mark Chamberlain, Republican for Sheriff of Hendry County

# Back to School health, safety and well-being

by Pat Dobbins

With only a few weeks left of summer break, parents are probably thinking about getting their child ready to go back to school. Along with school clothes and school supplies, parents should make sure preventative health measures are included on their child's back-to-school checklist.



Pat Dobbins

Success in school starts with keeping students healthy and safe. Parents should take their children to a healthcare provider for an annual "well-child" check-up and to make sure all vaccinations and medical records

are in order. Healthy eating, adequate physical activity and good sleep patterns are also instrumental to success in school.

Parents should talk with their children about traveling safely to and from school. This includes planning safe routes for walking or riding a bike, reminding them to stay on the sidewalk, crossing the street only at designated crosswalks, and showing them how to properly wear a bicycle helmet if they are riding a bike to school.

If your child is old enough to start driving a car to school, please remind them of some

of the basic rules of the road. Don't be afraid to talk to your teen about safe driving. Allow them to take Driver's Education if it's offered at their high school. Ask your vehicle insurance company about programs available to teach teens about safe driving tips.

Children in Florida should never have to be without health care. Insurance can improve a child's access to medications and treatment they may need to control childhood illnesses and decrease absences from school. The state of Florida offers KidCare, a health insurance program for children from

birth through age 18. Children can be eligible even if one or both parents are working. Children covered by Florida KidCare are eligible for comprehensive health care, including sports physicals, doctor visits, check-ups, immunizations, surgery, prescriptions, vision and hearing screenings, mental health care, dental check-ups and hospital stays. Students with access to these and other preventative health care services are likely to be healthier and perform better in school. For more information about KidCare, visit [www.FloridaKidCare.org](http://www.FloridaKidCare.org) or call 1-888-540-5437.

## ESC Granted NLNAC Accreditation for BSN Program

August 6, 2012 – FORT MYERS, FLA. -- The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc. (NLNAC) has granted Edison State College's baccalaureate nursing program initial accreditation for the Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN) program. The letter from NLNAC was received by Edison State College today.

"We are very pleased NLNAC concluded that our nursing program meets the high academic standards and level of rigor needed to earn this accreditation," said Dr. Jeff Allbritten, District President. "Thanks to the many academic leaders, faculty and staff who worked together to make this accreditation possible. The ultimate benefactors are the students we serve."

According to the NLNAC, Edison State College's initial accreditation is valid until Spring 2017, when the next evaluation is scheduled. Students who graduated from the BSN program this past Spring have the NLNAC accreditation with their degree.

The NLNAC is an accrediting organization for post-secondary and higher degree education nursing programs, ranging from practical and diploma to baccalaureate and clinical doctorates.

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**\$31,000** - Located in Oak Park 55+ community. Cozy 2/2 includes community amenities.  
**\$69,900** - 3/2 in Moore Haven Yacht Club 1200 Sq Ft.  
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**\$75,000** - 3/2 MH on 5 ac. in Muse w/deck & detached garage.  
**\$100,000** - Canal front 3/2 home. Upgrades and a spacious kitchen. In 55+ community.  
**\$184,900** - Spectacular custom manufactured home on the water with river/lake access in Moore Haven.

enclosed garage. Close to everything. Nice oaks.  
**\$79,900** - Beautifully remodeled 2/2. Features a dining room, living room and den. Also has a screened rear porch.  
**\$82,900** - Larger Port LaBelle home recently updated with new roof, paint, carpeting and cabinetry. 4/2 plus bonus room off the master bedroom. Double garage.  
**\$95,000** - Country home on acreage. Fenced property with five stall barn. Located in Glades County.

**EXECUTIVE HOMES**  
**\$198,900** - Superior two story, recently remodeled, wood floors, kitchen, baths redone in 2010 on 2.5 acs. Boat docks permitted. Ranchettes S/D.  
**\$287,500** - Historical home built in the 1920's in the heart of LaBelle on 1 ac. 6BR/2BA  
**\$399,000** - Beautiful River-bend Estates home with long range river views. Very unique layout. Club amenities. Boat dock included.

**HOMES**  
**\$39,999** - Old Florida style home in town. Remodeled with upgrades. Located on .5ac.  
**\$65,000** - 3BR/2BA home. Tile throughout. Features a split floor plan.  
**\$68,900** - Adorable furnished unit in the Villas @ Port LaBelle.  
**\$74,900** - CBS home located on private dead end road. Tile throughout. 3/2 with finished

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• 6/5.5 two story home in LaBelle. Close to schools and shopping. **\$219,000**  
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• Truly a gem! 1997 3/2 CBS home located in one of LaBelle's most desirable neighborhoods. Open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, in ground pool w/screen.

**\$159,200.**  
• Immaculate 3/3 in city of LaBelle. Two master bedrooms, family room, office, and spacious kitchen. **\$154,900.**  
• 5/3 CBS home situated on under an acre of living space with the ocean home. **\$129,000.**  
• Country get-a-way. 4/2 CBS home on 1.86+/- acres outside city of LaBelle. Large kitchen, living room and dining room. Nice polebarn/carport. **\$120,000.**  
• 2006 4/2 CBS home located minutes from town. Features 1,953 sq. ft. area, split floor plan, 3 bedrooms.

**UNDER CONTRACT**

• Beat the heat in this 3/2 pool home in Clewiston! Features custom wood cabinets, tile throughout, metal roof, completely fenced yard and... oh did we mention the pool! **\$95,000. Seller will contribute \$3000 for closing costs**  
• 2/1 on 5 acres in Ladeca. Seller financing. **\$90,000.**  
• 3/2 located in city limits. Spacious floor plan, fenced yard, screened porch. **\$68,000.**

• 3/2 on 2.36+/- acres outside of LaBelle. A little TLC will bring it a long way. **\$64,500.**  
• Investors! Two rentals on .76+/- of an acre. Located in LaBelle. Property includes 1 manufactured home and 1 small frame home. **\$60,000.**  
• 4/2 home in the heart of Clewiston. **SOLD**  
• 3/2 on 2.87+/- acres. Partially fenced, detached garage/workshop, spacious laundry room and living area. Stones throw away from boat ramps to Lake Okeechobee. **\$34,900.**

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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 Independent Newsmedia Inc. USA. 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 Independent Newsmedia Inc. USA style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk \*.

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Hours 8-2  
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Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

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

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

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**Air Conditioning Technician needed.**  
Must have Experience. Excellent salary and Benefits.  
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One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

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### Dental Assistant

Must have 1 yr. exp. Bilingual (Spanish/English) preferred. Competitive salary & excellent benefits. Fax resume to (863) 946-0145 or apply at Florida Community Health Center, 1021 Health Park Dr. Moore Haven, FL e-mail hr@fchcinc.org EOE/DFWP.

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Part Time, responsible for housekeeping duties. Handyman skills helpful.  
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When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

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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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## Computer/Supplies

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

**SCHOOL Computer** W-Flat screen, 100's of games & educational programs. \$50.  
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## Furniture

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## Apartments

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- 2 BEDROOMS AT \$364.00 PER MONTH
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**LOCATED AT: 6760 Santa Fe North LaBelle, FL**  
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**FREE GIFT FOR EVERY NEW RESIDENT!**  
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**\$20.00 cargo de aplicacion**

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- 3 RECAMARRAS A \$411.00 POR MES
- 4 RECAMARRAS A \$464.00 POR MES

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**Houses - Rent**

**Center LaBelle** - Old Florida House, 2BR, 1BA, LR/DR, eat-in kitchen, laundry hook-ups, enclosed porch; Window A/C's, city water & sewer; no pets; non-smkg. Env.; references; \$550/month; \$550 security; 863-675-2392.

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**Labelle** - 3 br/2 ba. Newer home. Excellent condition. \$700 month + Security. Call Rich at 863-517-0473.

**LaBelle, very nice 2BR** /1BA Duplex, city water/septic, C/A/H, laundry / storage / carport; non-smkg. env., no pets; \$550 month/\$550 sec., ref's & lease, 863-675-2392.

**PORT LABELLE** - New section. Large, new 3BR, 2BA, 2 car garage, 3069 NE Beechwood Circle. Near Schools. \$900 month. 1st, last & Security. 954-873-3322.

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 Alarmed Units • Security Cameras • Outside Storage  
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**LABELLE RENT-A-SPACE**  
 Cowboy Way & Kennedy Blvd. Monthly includes tax: 5'x10' \$42.80; 8'x10' \$53.50; 10'x10' \$58.85; 8'x25' \$96.30; 24 hr access \$25 returnable key deposit. 863-675-2392

**Real Estate**  
 For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Houses - Sale**

**House on 5 +/- acres, 3bedroom 2 bath, block house.** Dining room, living room, Florida room, plus extra room in back. Sears Rd \$125,000 863-673-2306

**Mobile Homes**  
 For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Mobile Home Rent**

**CLEWISTON/PIONEER 3/2,** Mobile Home, Very nice. New A/C. All appliances including Washer & Dryer. 10 fenced acres. Pets welcome. \$800 mo. 1st/last/sec. (954)815-6363

**FELDA** - 2 br/2 ba. Private location in Orange Grove. Good cond. \$500 month plus Security 239-369-9567.

**LABELLE** - 2BR, 1 1/2 BA, covered front & back decks, on 5 acres, \$600/mo, \$600 sec. References required. Call (239)246-5106.

**LaBelle** - 3 BR, AC Large deck, \$140 week, \$200 dep. Call 863-673-3658.

**Ortona 3br, 2ba** Nice front & back yard with oak trees. \$475 per month. \$300 deposit Call 863-675-3777

**Mobile Home Sale**

**4br, 2bath** like new bank repo. Hurricane wind zone III. Very easy financing with your good credit. Call Rick 863-983-4663

**5br, 2 bath** mobile home located on 1/2 acre lot in Horseshoe /Acre. Only \$59,900 with financing available. Call Rick 863-983-4663

**New 3br/2bath** double-wide only \$49,900 on your lot. We accept trade ins. Call Rick 863-983-4663

**Singlewide mobile home, 2br, 2bath** used Windzone II only \$7,900 Call Rick 863-983-4663

**Recreation**  
 For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Campers/RVs**

**Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels.** Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot. Call 941-347-7171

**Public Notices**  
 For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS**  
**Florida Department of Transportation Project**  
 Bids will be received by the District One Office until 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 16, 2012, for the following Proposals:  
 E1L60- Drainage Improvements, Sidewalk Construction and Installation of Steel Picket Railing on State Road 35 in Hardee County-Budget Estimate: \$158,354.00.  
 E1L67- Shoulder and Slope Repair, Sodding and Fertilizer in Desoto, Hardee, Manatee, & Sarasota Counties-Budget Estimate: \$172,500.00  
 E1L68- Removal and Replacement of Thermoplastic and Retro-Reflective Pavement Markings in Glades & Hendry Counties-Budget Estimate: \$100,000.00.  
 E1L69- Clearing & Grubbing, and Tree Trimming & Removal in Lee & Charlotte Counties-Budget Estimate: \$100,000.00.  
 Z1012- Pre-Event Hurricane Contract for Generator Installation in Polk, Highlands, & Okeechobee Counties  
 Z1013- Pre-Event Hurricane Contract for Generator Installation in Charlotte, Collier, Lee, Glades, & Hendry Counties  
 Z1014- Pre-Event Hurricane Contract for Generator Installation in Desoto, Hardee, Manatee, & Sarasota Counties  
 Complete letting advertisement information for this project is available on our website at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/contractsadministration/district1/> or by calling (863) 512-2559.  
 423182 CN 8/9,16/2012

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2444	2009	1144334-01000000290	Gregoria & Rosa Flores

 Lot 29, Twin Lakes Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 91 and 92, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **6th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **25th day of July, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 422723 CN 8/2,9,16,23/2012

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
3272	2009	4104329-020-000L0440	Anita Jagernauth

 Tract L44, Port LaBelle Unit 2, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 60, Public Records if Hendry County, Florida.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **6th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **25th day of July, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 422710 CN 8/2,9,16,23/2012

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2948	2009	2024329-67000A0040	The Land Doctor Investments, Inc.

 Lots 11 and 12, Block A, Sunset Park Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 1, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **6th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **25th day of July, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 422730 CN 8/2,9,16,23/2012

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2279	2009	1074433-03000020040	Mario Nodal

 Lot 4, Block 2, The Woodland Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 1 and 2, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **6th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **25th day of July, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 422725 CN 8/2,9,16,23/2012

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1594	2008	1154432-A0002060000	Maria C. Estrella & Rafael Estrella

 The West one-half of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of Section 15, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the South 40 feet thereof. Subject to an easement for an access road of the West 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 2551, Montura Ranch Estates, an unrecorded subdivision.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the Second Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **13th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **1st day of August, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 423333 CN 8/9,16,23,30/2012

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2591	2009	1214334-010-000Q0210	Sylbert Romely, Sylvester Joseph & Beris Campbell

 Lots 27 and 28, Block Q, Harlem Addition to Clewiston, Florida, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 79, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **6th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **25th day of July, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 422726 CN 8/2,9,16,23/2012

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:  

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1146	2009	1354331-010000H0110	Wycliffe G. Crosse & Pauline J. Crosse

 The Northeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of Section 35, Township 43 South, Range 31 East, Hendry County, Florida. Also known as Lot 11, Block H, Pioneer Plantation, an unrecorded subdivision.  
 Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.  
 All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.  
 Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the Second Thursday** in the month of **September, 2012**, which is the **13th day of September, 2012**.  
 Dated this **1st day of August, 2012**.  
 Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 423409 CN 8/9,16,23,30/2012

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE TO PUBLIC**  
 The Hendry County Hospital Authority Board of Directors will conduct a Budget Workshop on Monday, August 13, 2012 at 1:30pm in the Conference Room at Hendry Regional Medical Center, 524 W. Sagamore Avenue, Clewiston, FL 33440. The public is invited to attend. 423481 CN 8/9/2012

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

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

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO. 2011-CA-000867**  
 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff,  
 v.  
 THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF JOHN J. KENSTLER; JOHN KENSTLER, DECEASED, ET AL. Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
 TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF JOHN J. KENSTLER, DECEASED, AND ALL CLAIMANTS, PERSONS OR PARTIES, NATURAL OR CORPORATE, AND WHOSE EXACT LEGAL STATUS IS UNKNOWN, INCLUDING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST JOHN J. KENSTLER, DECEASED, OR ANY OF THE HEREIN NAMED OR DESCRIBED DEFENDANTS OR PARTIES CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED  
 Current residence unknown, but whose last known address was: 4031 ALBANY RD. LABELLE, FL 33935-5518  
 -And-  
 TRACIA LYNN HOLLINGSWORTH, and all unknown parties claiming by, through, under or against the above named Defendant, who is not known to be dead or alive, whether said unknown parties claim as heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, spouses, or other claimants.  
 Current Residence Unknown, but whose last known address was: UNKNOWN

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Hendry County, Florida, to-wit:  
**LOT 21 BLOCK 2150, PORT LABELLE UNIT 4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 86, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.**  
 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on DOUGLAS C. ZAHM, PA., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, on or before August 31, 2012 or within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 25 East Hickpoohoe Avenue, P.O. Box 1760, LaBelle, FL 33975-1760, either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
 WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court on this 24 day of July, 2012.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of the Circuit Court  
 By: /S/ J. Bevis  
 Deputy Clerk  
**If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. please contact Dawn Oliver, Court Operations Manager, whose office is located at the Hendry County Courthouse, 25 E. Hickpoohoe Avenue, LaBelle, Florida 33935, and whose telephone number is (863) 675-5229, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**  
 422724 CN 8/2,9/2012



Public Notice Public Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT County of Hendry, Florida, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:
Conde, Steve A., 739 Riverbend Dr, Apt B, LaBelle Sands, George C., 420 Martine Luther King Blvd., LaBelle Stanton, Christopher M., 407 E. Obispo Ave., Clewiston Wiggins, Marquis S., 125 N. Isora St., Clewiston Williams, Robert F., 777 Suwannee Ave., LaBelle

El Aviso se da por Este Medio:
Este aviso es para usted que su elegibilidad de votar esta en cuestion. Usted tiene que comunicarse con el Supervisor de Elecciones, del condado de Hendry, Florida, antes de 30 dias despues de la fecha de este anuncio publicado para recibir la informacion al respecto de su ineligibilidad potencial y procedimiento de resolver este caso.

Lucretia A. Strickland
Supervisor of Elections
PO Box 174
LaBelle, FL 33975
Hendry County, Florida
F.S. 98.075
08/16/2012

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT County of Hendry, Florida, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

Coalition of counties looks at condition of the dike

By Pete Gawda
INI Florida
OKEECHOBEE -- Unlike some meetings of a few years ago, the Wednesday, Aug. 1,

Public Notice Public Notice

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Public Notice Public Notice

REQUEST FOR BIDS
AIRGLADES INDUSTRIAL PARK
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES,
CLEWISTON, FL
FM# 410663-1-94
BID # 2012-24
OPENING DATE AND TIME: AUGUST 30, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

meeting of the County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries and Lake Worth Lagoon at the Okeechobee County Courthouse was marked by cordiality and consensus.

The organization is made up of representatives from Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Lee, Palm Beach, Hendry, Glades, Highlands

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and Osceola counties.
Okeechobee County Commissioner Frank Irby reported that his county was in the early stages of developing a public-private partnership for the revitalization of Okee-Tantie Campground and Marina.

"Martin County is in good shape," reported Martin County Commissioner Sarah Heard. "Our estuaries look good."

Glades County Commissioner Russell Echols, who chairs the coalition, reported that work is finished on the Harney Pond Canal in his county.

Ingrid Bond, project manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), gave an update on the Herbert Hoover Dike. For background, she stated that the dike is 143 miles long and contains five spillway inlets, five spillway outlets, nine navigation locks, nine pumping stations and 32 culverts.

She said the Herbert Hoover Dike is one of the few dams administered by the COE that is considered a level 1 risk. Of levels 1 through 5, level 1 is considered the most likely to fail. In response to a question, she

See Lake — Page 18

Public Notice Public Notice

1 - INVITATION TO BID
BID # 2012-03
CENTRAL COUNTY WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
HERBICIDAL MAINTENANCE OF CANALS AND LEVEE
Public Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the above referenced Herbi- cidal Maintenance of 32.625 Miles of drainage canals and 8 miles of levee project will be received by the Board of Central County Water Control District (hereinafter referred to as "CCWCD", "OWNER", and "DISTRICT") at the District Manager's Office at the following address:

# Lake

Continued From Page 17

stated that the number of level 1 dams varies but currently there are 16. The Herbert Hoover Dike has to compete with all the other level 1 dams for funding. Ms. Bond said that in the current fiscal year Congress appropriated \$85 million for the Herbert Hoover Dike. They are still waiting on funding for fiscal year 2013. Typically, she said, the Herbert Hoover Dike gets 20 to 25 per-

cent of COE funds allocated for damn safety. She said there will be a new dam safety report by 2014.

The COE has divided the dike into segments called reaches. They have completed 20.7 miles of cutoff wall in the center of the dike in the reach between Port Mayaca and Belle Glade. "We have changed our approach," Ms. Bond said. We used to have a reach-by-reach approach. We want to put taxpayers money on projects that are most at risk."

Now Ms. Bond said the emphasis is on replacing culverts which she said COE iden-

tifies as a higher priority. However, she said the reach 1 cutoff wall project will be completed to Belle Glade. Construction is currently under way to replace culverts 1 and 1A near Moore Haven as well as culverts 11 and 16 near Port Mayaca. The COE is in the process of abandoning culverts 7 and 9 and the Taylor Creek culvert, all in Okeechobee County.

"We are working with a schedule for culvert replacement," she said. The progress of the work relies on many factors including funding from Congress. She said the order of culvert replacement has to do with access. "Everything has to be done on the federal right of way."

Commissioner Echols expressed concern about not being informed of the shift in emphasis from dike rehabilitation to cul-

vert replacement. "It seems the game plan changes and we aren't kept up to date," he said.

The wet season began earlier this year on May 8. Therefore, water conservation areas south of the lake filled up quickly. Mr. Neidrauer said that water from those areas is being sent to tide to make more storage area for future rains this rainy season.

Currently, at just over 12 feet, Lake Okeechobee is in the beneficial use band of the Lake Okeechobee Regulations Schedule (LORS) used by the COE and no releases are called for. However, the Adaptive Protocol, a document used by SFWMD that interprets the LORS for environmental purposes, called for pulse releases to the Caloosahatchee Estuary in May, June and July. Currently the Adoptive Protocol does not call for releases because basin runoff is sufficient to maintain salinity.

Mr. Neidrauer said Lake Okeechobee has 99 active snail kite nesting areas in 2012—the highest number since record keeping began in 1992.

While predictions about the current rainy season are uncertain, he said predictions for the coming dry season are for above-normal rainfall.

"It is a delicate balance and there is a lot of competition for water." Mr. Neidrauer said of the process of regulating the lake level.

Commissioner Echols called for goals for next year. He asked that staff work with the individual members and put that item on the agenda for the September meeting. He noted there are many differences among the counties represented and he suggested they concentrate on areas where they are in agreement in formulating goals.

Martin County Commissioner Sarah Heard called for more substantive discussion on the health of the lake.

Hendry County Commissioner Karson Turner suggested sending two representatives of the coalition to Washington to lobby for their causes.

It was the consensus of the group to invite all 16 counties served by SFWMD to the December meeting.

Commissioner Echols said his constituents were disgruntled about unfinished projects. "Let's get something completed instead of a lot of projects on the board," he said, suggesting long-term leases for SFWMD property that will not be used in the near future.

"We all get frustrated with projects not being completed," added Commissioner Heard.

The coalition then passed a resolution seeking continued funding for the C44 reservoir and stormwater treatment area project on the St. Lucie Canal to ensure its completion.

Michelle McGovern of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson's office told the coalition that the senator is trying to find funding for the state to help with their projects and also assisting with grants.

"We are all in this together," asserted Paul Gray of the Audubon Society of Florida. "What happens in one part of the system affects another." He noted that two third of the marsh area of the lake is dry right now due, in part, to LORS. He said the lake level is kept down because of the condition of the dike. He said the Audubon Society was in favor of fixing the dike as quickly as possible. Until then he said it would help if all parties concerned would be as flexible as possible.

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BAR BINGO Every Tuesday (Members & Guests Only)  
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### Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR  
HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 2012-64-CP

IN RE: ESTATE OF  
RACHEL MITCHELL LANE  
Deceased

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Rachel Mitchell Lane, deceased, whose date of death was May 14, 2012, and the last four digits of whose social security number are

.....7109, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hendry County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Post Office Box 1760, LaBelle, Florida 33975. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is August 9, 2012.

Personal Representative:  
Eldene Spriggs  
462 South Missouri Street  
LaBelle, Florida 33935

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
Ralph Elver  
Attorney for Eldene Spriggs  
Florida Bar Number: 215848  
P.O. Drawer 2280  
LaBelle, FL 33975  
Telephone: (863) 675-5800  
Fax: (863) 675-4998  
E-Mail: ralph@labellelaw.com

### Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY  
FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO. 09-1160-CA

PREMIER AMERICAN BANK, N.A.,  
d/b/a FLORIDA COMMUNITY BANK,  
a Florida corporation,  
Plaintiff,

vs.  
JAMES M. LONG, JR., an unmarried  
man, all unknown parties claiming  
by, through, under, and against the  
above-named Defendant who are not  
known to be dead or alive, whether  
as unknown parties may claim an  
interest as spouse, heirs, devisees,  
grantees, or other claimants,  
Defendant.

#### NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: James M. Long, Jr.,  
2565 Evans Road, #A  
LaBelle, Florida 33935

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action  
to foreclose on the following described  
property in Hendry County,  
Florida, to-wit:

### Public Notice

The West 1/2 of the East one-half  
of the West one-half of the South  
one-half of the Southwest one-  
quarter of the Northeast one-  
quarter, Section 26, Township 43  
South, Range 29 South, Hendry  
County, Florida, less the North 30  
feet for road right-of-way.

has been filed against you, and you  
are required to serve a copy of written  
defenses, if any, to it on Kenneth  
K. Thompson, Plaintiff's attorney,  
whose address is 1150 Lee Boulevard,  
Suite 1, Lehigh Acres, Florida  
33936, on or before August 24,  
2012, and file the original with the  
Clerk of this Court, at the Hendry  
County Courthouse, 25 East High-  
poochee Avenue, corner of S.R. 80  
and Highway 29, LaBelle, Florida, ei-  
ther before service on Plaintiff's attorney,  
or immediately thereafter;  
otherwise a default will be entered  
against you for the relief demanded  
in the complaint.

WITNESS MY hand and seal of  
this Court on this 20th day of July,  
2012.

BARBARA BUTLER,  
CLERK OF COURT  
By: /s/ J. Bevis  
As Deputy Clerk

422644 CN 8/2,9/2012

### Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR  
HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 2012-58 CP

IN RE: ESTATE OF  
WALLACE RICHARD MCKENZIE  
Deceased.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of  
Wallace Richard McKenzie, deceased,  
whose date of death was May 7,  
2012, and the last four digits of  
whose social security number are  
0791, is pending in the Circuit Court  
for Hendry County, Florida, Probate  
Division, the address of which is PO  
Box 1760, LaBelle, Florida 33975.  
The names and addresses of the per-  
sonal representative and the personal  
representative's attorney are set  
forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and  
other persons having claims or dem-  
ands against decedent's estate on  
whom a copy of this notice is re-  
quired to be served must file their  
claims with this court WITHIN THE  
LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE  
TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION  
OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent  
and other persons having claims or  
demands against decedent's estate  
must file their claims with this court  
WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE  
DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION  
OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN  
THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN  
SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA  
PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER  
BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME  
PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY  
CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR  
MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S  
DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this  
notice is August 9, 2012.

Personal Representative:  
Wallace Victor McKenzie  
6206 Booth Road  
Ravenna, Ohio 44266

Attorney for Personal Representative:  
Ralph Elver  
Attorney for Wallace Victor McKenzie  
Florida Bar Number: 215848  
P.O. Drawer 2280  
LaBelle, FL 33975  
Telephone: (863) 675-5800  
Fax: (863) 675-4998  
E-Mail: ralph@labellelaw.com  
422644 CN 8/9,16/2012



Submitted photo/Susan Jordan

## Oh, my dears, what big talent you have!

The Big, Bad Wolf (played by Corbyn Kohutek) is on trial. His attorney, the Evil Stepmother (played by Alexis Burress) listens while the Fairy Godmother (played by Novie Kohutek) questions him. The Firehouse Community Theatre's Children's Summer Theatre Program proudly presents, "The Big, Bad Musical" by Alec Strum and Bill Francoeur, August 10 and 11 at 7 p.m. and August 12 at 2 p.m. The Big Bad Wolf is being sued by a storybook of characters who want to get even: Little Red Riding Hood, her Grandmother, the Three Little Pigs and the Shepherd in charge of the Boy Who Cried Wolf! Join us to see our cast of characters in action! Tickets are \$12 purchased in advance or \$14 at the door until the show is sold out!! To order your tickets in advance, call our ticket hotline (863) 675-3066 or email us at [firehousecommunitytheatre.com](http://firehousecommunitytheatre.com). The Firehouse Community Theatre is located at 241 North Bridge Street in LaBelle or visit our Web site [www.firehousecommunitytheatre.com](http://www.firehousecommunitytheatre.com).

# Country Rhythm Cloggers back from performance

A group of the Country Rhythm Cloggers traveled to and performed at Kings Mountain, Doswell, Virginia, on June 23-24. After the performances, the cloggers enjoyed the park and all the rides and the water park. Cloggers and their families enjoyed the park and sightseeing in Richmond, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

The cloggers, under the direction of Pat Bedingfield and Jesse Whitman, who performed are Wolfgang Lynn, Shelby Williams, Darian Leschewski, Myaa Barnhart, Charlie

Lynn, Shelby French, Jesse Whitman, Evaleyna Sabella, Lauren Holt, Daylin Leschewski, Mykah Anderson, Leyton Spencer, Cameron Kelly, Kaydence Tindall, Kensley Tracy, Camryn Nash, Cameron Perez, Cheyenne Griffin and Laeda Backes.

Country Rhythm Cloggers will resume classes on August 13. Beginners 4 p.m.; Intermediate 5 p.m.; Advanced 6 p.m. Anyone interested in more information or who wants to learn how to clog should call Pat Bedingfield at 863-675-5054.



Submitted photo/Pat Bedingfield

Country Rhythm Cloggers at Kings Mountain.

# CenturyLink employees, communities support food bank

CenturyLink, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) employees and the company's local communities collected 106,275 actual pounds of food and \$271,900 in the 2012 CenturyLink Feed the Children Backpack Buddies Food Drive, which took place June 25-29 in approximately 650 company locations across the country.

To further support its employees' efforts, the CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation contributed \$1 million to the drive.

Food banks can purchase food at a lower cost per pound than the average person could at a store, estimated on average to be six pounds of food per dollar given. Based on this calculation, CenturyLink employees, community members and the Foundation donated more than 7.7 million pounds of food to food banks across the country.

Locally, 55,906 pounds of food (including monetary donations, actual food items and the Foundation contribution) were collected

to benefit the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

Also, 23,676 pounds of food (including monetary donations, actual food items and the Foundation contribution) were collected to benefit the St. Matthew's House.

"We appreciate our friends and neighbors who joined with our employees in this worthwhile endeavor to improve the quality of life in our communities," said Taylor Chestnut, CenturyLink's vice president and general manager for southwest Florida. "Together,

we are working to help address the hunger issue faced by millions of people across the country as well as those here at home."

According to the 2010 Hunger Study by Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger relief organization, 37 million Americans, including 14 million children, are receiving food assistance annually, an increase of 46 percent since 2006. That means one in eight Americans now rely on Feeding America and its nationwide network of local food banks.



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# Re-Elect SHERIFF STEVE WHIDDEN Hendry County 2012



## Friends:

As you know, election year is here once again. I would like to express my appreciation for having the opportunity to serve as your Sheriff since January of 2009. When I ran for office in 2008, I campaigned on what I would do if elected Sheriff. Now, I have run on my record as Sheriff, which I am extremely proud of. I would also like to commend the men and women of the Hendry County Sheriff's Office for the many accomplishments that we have been able to achieve in these trying times. We have strived to bring honor, trust, stability and accountability to this office.

Like many Sheriff Offices throughout the state, we have been adversely affected by the economy. Realizing this, I had to make some "outside of the box" decisions to balance the budget, keeping your tax dollars in your pocket. It has been a struggle, but we have met and exceeded the goals I set for my first term

in office. This ad lists some of the accomplishments we achieved and how we met our goals, faced with funding shortages. Major accomplishments I would like to highlight during my term as Sheriff are as follows:

Although our nation has endured the worst recession since the 1930s; through unique budgeting techniques and extreme belt tightening, we have not increased the Sheriff's Office budget, while absorbing over 2.5 million dollars in federal and state mandated increases outside of my control. By reallocating resources and eliminating unneeded administrative positions, I've been able to add ten (10) additional deputies to the road providing full-time law enforcement to the outlying communities. Even in these economic times, we've been able to lower the overall crime rate with proactive patrols and better trained deputies. In the summer of 2012 the Hendry County Sheriff's Office will be a fully recognized, State accredited agency that will be held to a higher standard. We have also implemented numerous programs.

The future holds many challenges, and I look forward to serving you for a second term, as Hendry County needs stability in the Office of Sheriff. I know that together we can face these challenges. Thank you for your continued support and your interest in Hendry County.

Please vote August 14th 2012. If you have any questions, please contact me at home (863) 612-0678 or email via [steve@wewantwhidden.com](mailto:steve@wewantwhidden.com).

Sincerely,  
Steve Whidden, Hendry County Sheriff

## VOTE AUGUST 14

# MEET SHERIFF STEVE WHIDDEN

## Law Enforcement Experience: CURRENT HENDRY COUNTY SHERIFF

Albany Georgia Police Department Road Patrol Officer  
Hendry County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriff  
Hendry County Sheriff's Office Investigator  
(counter narcotics/general crimes investigator)  
United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)  
Clewiston Police Department Detective  
Clewiston Police Department Road Patrol Officer  
(Officer of the Year)



## Biography:

- Born: Naples, Florida
- Graduated: Naples High School
- Mother: June Raulerson
- Father: Lance "Bubba" Whidden
- Wife of 15 years: Cassandra Whidden
- Children: Steven (18) & Kasey (15)
- Grandparents: Griffen & Ressie Whidden
- Church: Caloosa Baptist

## Education:

- High School Diploma Naples High School
- Abraham Baldwin Police Academy Tifton, GA
- Kenneth A. Bragg Police Academy Tavares, FL
- Business Degree Univ. of Phoenix, AZ

## Business Experience:

- Current Four Year Sheriff / Administrator, Hendry County Sheriff's Office
- Inventor/Entrepreneur
- President/CEO Narc-Scent, Inc.
- Invented, Developed and marketed a Law enforcement tool that aids thousands of police officers throughout the country. This product was so successful that it was featured in a Nationally published magazine. (Law & Order)

## First term budgetary accomplishments - doing more with less

- **Sheriff's Budget** - I have not increased the Sheriff's Office budget, nor have I requested any additional funds from the County Commission, while absorbing over 2.5 million dollars in federal and state mandated increases outside of my control.
- **Reallocation of positions within the agency.** This allowed for the hiring of ten (10) additional deputies. Reallocating resources and eliminating unneeded administrative positions allowed for a reduction in the number of command staff from the prior administration. We went from eight employees with a Captain's rank or higher prior to my taking office to currently only four employees with Captain's rank and above. This includes the Chief Deputy and me.
- **Notice to Appear** - Since January 2009, all applicable non-violent misdemeanor arrests are given a Notice to Appear in Court rather than booking them into jail. This has reduced the average inmate daily population from 265 to 180, lowering the taxpayer burden of feeding and medicating these inmates. It costs taxpayers \$39.00 per day to house one inmate, not including medical expenses.
- **First On-Line Auction** - Have brought in \$90,184.11 since taking office. Parking lot auctions, held by previous Sheriffs, only yielded approximately \$10,000.00 average per year.
- **Fleet Gas Card Program** - Better audit trail. This program relieves unnecessary gas spending (cheaper fuel). The county buys 10,000 gallons of fuel at a time, if the prices at the gas stations drop below county price we go there, always getting the lowest price.
- **Investigative Cost Reimbursement** - Criminals reimburse the cost of the investigation, saving taxpayers money. This 1987 law had not been used until 2009.
- **Employee starting pay** - Reduced the starting pay for new hires while still remaining competitive with surrounding counties.
- **Unclaimed Evidence** - Utilized \$43,008.03 in unclaimed evidence money to help subsidize the budget.
- **Applied for and received Grants** - Supplements budget requests.
- **Scrutinizing Existing Contracts** - Renegotiated many contracts lowering prices, and eliminating frivolous costs to taxpayers.
- **Health Insurance Costs** - Along with the County, made adjustments to the health insurance program to offset an increase of over \$70,000.00 in health care premiums (the costs of health care premiums have increased 24% over the last three years).
- **Drug Seizures** - Have seized over \$133,111.51 in cash and tangible assets. All seized items being processed through the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act.
- **Donations** - Have received donations of vehicles and other much needed equipment from other law enforcement agencies. This helps offset deficiencies in budget.
- **Inmate Medical** - With the addition of a contracted negotiator, the agency has saved over \$300,000 in the first six months of this addition. This has a potential for enormous yearly savings. The county usually spends between \$400,000 and \$600,000 per year on medical needs for inmates.
- **Awarded a Grant for a Victims Advocate position.**
- **Upgraded to a new evidence room** - paid for with auction proceeds.

## Agency additions - protecting our community physically and financially

- **Additional Narcotics Team** - Implemented a second narcotics unit. Narcotic arrests have doubled.
- **Added Deputies** - Additional ten deputies to the road, to include the second narcotics unit, a four man K-9 highway drug interdiction unit and four COPS deputies. This allows full time deputy coverage to outlying areas.
- **Jail Improvements** - Brought the jail from a dungeon like environment to meet current Florida Model Jail Standards. We have incurred zero lawsuits since taking office.
- **Community Policing Unit** - Implemented the first "trained" Community Policing Team, which specifically targets troubled communities.
- **Promotional Testing** - Implemented testing and oral promotional board to ensure that the Sheriff's Office receives the best supervision possible. One member of the public is on each board.
- **Evidence Room** - Upgraded to a new evidence room - paid for with auction proceeds.
- **Updated Firearms for Officers** - Original firearms were in disrepair.
- **Re-Opened Civilian Gun Range** - Continue working with the County on improving the Gun Range for civilians - now open more days to the public.
- **Checks and Balances** - Implemented safe guards to the jail canteen account so that embezzlement won't happen again.
- **Training Division** - Implemented an in-house training division for members of the agency.
- **Technology Updates** - Updated computer network to allow for faster, more secure and stable communications.
- **Electronic Reporting and Citations** - Allows deputies to spend more time patrolling your neighborhoods and less time in the office writing reports.
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)** - Updated the SOP manual which was last updated in 1999. HCSO is now current with rules and regulations, Florida Statutes and Supreme Court case law in line with larger law enforcement agencies in the state.
- **Implemented Citizen Firearm Training Programs** - such as the concealed weapons permit class and civilian gun safety courses.
- **Federally Mandated Radio System** - Upgraded to the 800 MHz radio system for interoperability with no increase to the budget. This is the state law enforcement radio system. (FCC has mandated conversion to 800MHz or narrow band existing radios by 2013.)
- **K-9 Sweeps** - Random narcotic sweeps in local schools by the K-9 Units.
- **Website** - More convenient for citizens to review (we now have jail bookings and arrests available to the public on our website; [www.hendrysheriff.org](http://www.hendrysheriff.org))
- **House Cleaning** - Destruction of court evidence from closed cases dating back thirty years.
- **Community Social Outreach** - Facebook page for interaction and immediate updates at [facebook.com/hendrysheriff](http://facebook.com/hendrysheriff)
- **Video Visitation** - Implemented inmate video visitation (paid for by inmates through the inmate canteen account), which ensures officer safety by not having to move inmates from cell blocks to visitation.
- **Crisis Intervention Training** - Trained corrections staff and patrol supervisors to identify and provide the most effective and compassionate response possible to situations involving people in a mental health crisis.
- **Volunteers In Patrol** - From June 2011 to December 2011 the 60 volunteers put in 3,579 hours of patrol, saving taxpayers \$75,159.
- **Citizens Academy** - This free educational course offers an inside look into the day to day operations of the Sheriff's Office, while at the same time providing the community with an in depth understanding of Law Enforcement.
- **Consolidated Dispatch** - Combined dispatch centers into one Communications Division at Port LaBelle Annex eliminating duplication of services and allowing for better shift coverage.
- **Emergency Medical Dispatchers** - Communications Operators are now trained in emergency medical dispatch saving lives when time is of the essence.
- **Port LaBelle Annex** - Coordinated the purchase of the new annex building in Port LaBelle. We now have Criminal Investigations and Road Patrol under one roof, allowing for better information sharing resulting in more cases solved faster.

## Sheriff Whidden in the Community

- Started numerous community charity events such as The Annual Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Golf Tournament, The annual LaBelle and Clewiston Kids Fun Days and The Annual Hendry County Sheriff's Office "Ride Around the Lake" Motorcycle Rally, benefitting the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches.
- School Programs D.A.R.E (Drug Awareness Resistance Education), G.R.E.A.T (Gang Resistance Education and Training) and Sheriff's Explorers (14-21 year old youth interested in a career in law enforcement).