

# Caloosa Belle



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50¢ Plus tax

## Chapman welcomed as new county administrator

by **Patty Brant**  
Caloosa Belle

Potential. Loads of it. With just a little over a month in his new position, that's what has struck new County Administrator Charles Chapman about Hendry County.

Economic and commercial development possibilities, along with a population he feels is "hungry" to make positive change happen, are the catalysts that will spur the county's future success, using the "raw ma-

terials" Hendry County has too often overlooked. His vision for the county isn't clear right now, but it's beginning to form as he digs in and learns about his new home. So far, he said he sees about 50 percent of Hendry residents - the "internal drivers" - have the will to get it done.

And, yes, he sees a meaningful conversation between LaBelle and Clewiston as crucial to a successful future - understanding that it won't be easy. He sees this process as "hands across the glades and groves" - a

focus on the common ground so important to underpin the county's success.

"A win for Clewiston is a win for LaBelle, and a win for LaBelle is a win for Clewiston," he points out. Hendry County residents need to learn to "celebrate our wins."

"We need to fall in love with who we are and where we are and what we want to become," he added. Mr. Chapman was born in Oxford, MS, moved to Crestview,



See **Chapman** — Page 2

**Charles Chapman**

## Remember Fallen Heroes

LaBelle's Fallen Heroes Benefit honoring the memories of Marine Staff Sgt. Christopher D. Strickland and Chief Warrant Officer Robert Hammett Jr., two local men killed in action in 2008, is planned for July 20. The event begins at 11 a.m. at VFW Post 10100, next to the LaBelle Rodeo Grounds, south of Cowboy Way.

Each year this is a joint community project, co-sponsored by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10100, American Legion Post 130, Disabled American Veterans

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

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Submitted photo/Waddy Thompson

## Firefighters respond to two blazes

LaBelle firefighters were kept busy recently with two structure fires. The first was June 30 at 835 Francis Court, off Avalon. An unknown factor caused an outbuilding to catch fire. The family was safe, but unfortunately lost their dog, which was in a kennel. Glades County provided mutual aid with water and personnel. Four fire apparatus were called to the blaze, three from LaBelle and one from Glades. On Saturday, July 6, fire did "substantial" damage to the home at 1336 Apache Circle in North LaBelle. Called in at 11:15 a.m. the residence was occupied but no one was there. As well as LaBelle, units arrived from Pioneer Plantation, Alva and LeHigh Acres to help quell the fire. Chief Clint Walker reported that one LaBelle firefighter sustained a minor facial injury fighting the fire. He was treated and released. Three trucks from LaBelle Fire Department, and one each from LeHigh, Alva and Pioneer Plantation, fought the fire. Chief Walker wants to remind everyone of the importance of having and keeping up smoke detectors in your home. Pictured: Two firefighters struggle to subdue the blaze on Apache Circle.

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## Chapman

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Florida, when he was 15. and was home-schooled until the ninth grade. Coming here from Gadsden County, outside of Tallahassee, he sees a fair comparison between the two, since both are strong in agri-business and have an ag based economy. Of course Gadsden's proximity to the capitol gives it a more diverse character.

His experience in North Florida includes achieving a BS and Master's degrees in science from Florida State University.

His career successes include selection to chair the College and University Relations Committee for the Florida Recreation and Parks Association Board of Directors, a promotion to the Gadsden County Manager position and oversight of five county departments: parks, information technology, solid waste, animal control and public relations. He is credited with increasing production and employee satisfaction in those areas, while reducing costs up to 15 percent in 2009.

He revitalized curbside recycling there and helped garner over \$5 million in state and federal grants. He earned the Emerging Professional Award from the Florida City/County Manager's Association; the Star Performer Award for Gadsden County and was appointed to the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance's Board of Governors. He became Gadsden County's Public Works Department Director in 2010.

From 2007-12 he consolidated legislative advocacy programs and developed consensus among his commissioners.

He sees Hendry on the forefront of a contracting ag economy, but ready to launch into a new future.

No surprise, unemployment is the Number 1 problem here, he said, with the need for appropriate job training at its core. He is looking forward to addressing this with "our school board partner."

There is a turnaround coming, he said, and Hendry County needs "smart planning" to be ready when it comes.

The other side of that coin is that locals want to preserve the area's identity rather than be overwhelmed by growth.

Hold on to our unique character is also an integral part of Hendry County's successful future, he noted. That future will be about being who we are, while still moving forward.

He said he hopes to draw residents into the process by taking advantage of many opportunities to get involved.

He'd love to get the community to commit to a program with at least one project per quarter that would expose unique local artists, craftsmen, farmers and others to a larger audience for their talents and wares. "Get a buzz going" about what Hendry County has to offer, he said.

As a whole, the county needs to identify its local legends - its shiny pearls that have been overlooked. "We need to brand ourselves," he said, to draw others in. The idea is to "reconnect" with ourselves and increase interest from the outside.

To date, Mr. Chapman said he has encountered no real negatives, although there is always some resistance to change by those not open to new ideas.

He commended the county commissioners on being "open and positive" and said he is very encouraged by a "wonderful county staff" that is focused on people.

He said he has found the board of county commissioners to be remarkably unified in its desire to be of service to the county and in its openness to building relationships.

The privatization of Airglades Airport is, of course, the county's premier economic development project, poised for growth. Still a few years shy of being implemented, it holds the promise of job opportunities with good salaries for local folks.

Airglades is an opportunity for locals to learn to take pride in and celebrate themselves, he noted.

Airglades is the keynote project at this time. Selling a county airport to a private entity - to Airglades International Airport (AIA) in this case - has never been done before by county or the FAA. It's a new and delicate process that both sides are feeling their way through.

When complete, AIA will attract contracts with distributors and light manufacturing. There are lots of positives in LaBelle as well. It's a nice small town, where people know everybody.

Mr. Chapman, his wife Karyn, and their three small children - Tyler age four, Addison two and Caleb five months - are very pleased to be here. His wife was raised in Palm Beach County and feels right at home here. In fact, he said that's one reason they chose Hendry County. They are also excited about the fact that Hendry County is right in the center of so much the area has to offer, from Disney to Florida's beaches.

He also said they love rural Florida, and

are eager to raise their children here, where people understand what it means to be a community.

Coming into his position, Mr. Chapman said he is learning, making notes. He is committed to presenting his ideas of "strategic intent" to the commissioners by the end of his six-month trial period.

He wants to engage the public all over the county in conversations over important issues including the budget and services. With a diverse population, public input is essential, he said, in order to "truly make the county commission yours."

He intends to do this through "speed dating" style workshops with their district commissioners. In this approach, individuals would spend a few minutes with their commissioner bringing up the issues on their minds. It's a way to outreach directly to residents who can share their priorities with their commissioner.

The traditional "government in a box," he said, does not work. Collectively, in a civil manner, the community can solve most problems. The key is for a government to be driven by its residents.

He also said he hopes to involve residents through an exercise in which individuals can take a stab at balancing the county budget, using the rules that apply to the commission, and coming up with a consensus of all their group.

A civil conversation between county staff and residents over the county's hot issues, perhaps over a meal, could spark a real beginning of collaboration.

Collaboration is a "tall order," Mr. Chapman knows, but said it needs to happen. People need to know their county government is on their side, he said and county employees need to feel they are full, valued stakeholders.

What Hendry County needs, he added, is a proactive board of county commissioners. All this is attainable, Mr. Chapman believes. He said there's a "hunger in staff already" that just needs to be tweaked to make the county better for all.

Mr. Chapman's idea is to play "small ball." Building relationships, "putting feet to good ideas," and finally learning to tell Hendry County's story will earn big dividends in the end.

The commissioners are looking forward to a good relationship with Mr. Chapman, that will benefit the entire county.

Commissioner Al Perry said that, halfway through the Skype interview with Mr. Chapman "I knew he was my choice." He said

he's been looking for an ethical leader that makes everyone proud of our great county. He added, "Choosing a good leader that will serve Hendry County for a long time is a very tough process. Mr Chapman has my full support and I hope he has a long prosperous career in Hendry County."

Commissioner Karson Turner echoes those feelings. "I feel that Charles possessed a confidence which was easily detected from the moment he began his interview and his detail for answering questions and giving specific examples of how he would measure and assess success versus failure was a huge positive for me personally. I also feel that he has a level of professionalism and understanding of a county like ours and the variables that you have to consider in doing the job.

He added that he looks forward to the county administrator "leading our county employee base into the future" and bringing the county together with some small successes which turn into big victories countywide. I also think he has the skill and will build the correct team to manage the job within our financial constraints."

He concluded, "This was a great process that our entire board and some key staff members engaged in. I think that while it was difficult for some to watch as we passed on other viable candidates I was extremely pleased and so proud of our board and Hendry County for choosing the right candidate. Charles is going to have a tough job ahead of him but we are looking towards building a better Hendry for generations to come. I like where we are moving. Our entire board felt good about this decision because it was the right decision. Now we have to pick up the pace a bit and get on this new path."

For Commissioner Darrell Harris, it was Mr. Chapman's answers that made him a standout. He said he believes Mr. Chapman can bring together county employees to improve morale that has been sapped by a lagging economy. "I expect him to lead staff with new ideas in savings and budget and work with the EDC to attract more businesses and jobs." He added that Mr. Chapman will have a good working relationship with staff and work for the good of the county.

"He's a good communicator and people person who worked his way up through the ranks."

Commissioner Harris concluded that, with his his experience and work background, the new administrator will be a good fit to address Hendry's problems.

## Heroes

Continued From Page 1

Chapter 144 and the Fraternal Order of the Moose Lodge 2398.

The event will include a pork dinner with all the fixin's for just \$8 (Free delivery in town.)

All proceeds go toward building and maintaining the LaBelle Veterans Memorial Park. This year, there will be a brick laying ceremony at 9:30 a.m. at the Veterans Park before the benefit begins.

For more information call 675-8008.



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# Talks of HCSO takeover of Clewiston Police Dept.

by **Melissa Beltz**  
The Clewiston News

Rumors about a possible absorption of the Clewiston Police Department by Hendry County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) have once again surfaced as of late. These rumors were confirmed by City Manager Al Perry on July 2.

Early budget discussions have led to talks about the Clewiston Police Department being "overtaken" by HCSO as early as October 1, when the new fiscal year begins.

While these sorts of discussions have come up in years past, the numbers are currently being crunched to see how much an absorption of the Clewiston Police by HCSO, or at least consolidation of certain services would save the city of Clewiston, according to City Manager Perry. Shared services could include dispatch and communications.

If the numbers come out in HCSO's favor and the city saves a large amount of money as a result of the takeover, certain aspects of the deal still remain a cause for concern; namely, if HCSO will absorb not only Clewis-

ton Police's territory, but its employees.

HCSO is also its own entity. Save for the Board of County Commissioners setting its budget, the buck stops with Sheriff Whidden, and no one else. The Clewiston Police, on the other hand, answers to the Clewiston City Commission and the City Manager.

Clewiston Police Chief Don Gutshall is not keen on the idea of HCSO possibly taking over his department.

"I, of course, do not think it's a good idea. ... I don't think you'll find the support for this in the community. I have full confidence in the [city] commission to do the right thing for the community," said Chief Gutshall, adding, "I still think [the Clewiston Police] is the best, most efficient law enforcement group around the Lake."

Regardless of the possible issues that could come with the takeover, until the numbers come back as to how much the city will save, the HCSO takeover will remain a whisper about town.

Sheriff Steve Whidden was not immediately available for comment.

## Arrest Reports

### LaBelle

Ronald Francis Daniels, 52, was arrested July 6 and charged with battery domestic by strangulation. G. Rodriguez was arresting officer.

Reuben Marquez III, 22, was arrested July 7 and charged with battery touch or strike and grand theft motor vehicle. G. Rodriguez was arresting officer.

Ricky Allen Nealy, 52, was arrested July 5 and charged with possession of a weapon or ammo by a convicted felon. R. Maldonado was arresting officer.

Cathavius Lenard Adams, 18, was arrested July 5 and charged with burglary of an unoccupied conveyance unarmed and grand theft motor vehicle. J. Conyers was arresting officer.

Paul David Church, 44, was arrested July 4 and charged with hit and run - failing to stop and remain at a crash involving injury. Reports indicate he struck another vehicle from the rear as it was stopped on CR 78 at a stop sign, then sped away. The victim called 911 and followed. Deputies stopped Church on MLK at West Seminole Ave. The victim said a child was complaining of pain but refused treatment. R. Maldonado was arresting officer.

### Clewiston

Luis Francisco Fuster, 28, was arrested July 7 and charged with burglary of a structure unarmed no person inside and resisting an officer - interfering with a law enforcement officer without violence. CPD Officer Malley was arresting officer.

Owenya Aquaria Evans, 22, was arrested July 7 and charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon no intent to kill. M. Brawner was arresting officer.

Robert Brian Caryl, 50, was arrested July 7 and charged with simple assault with threat to do violence, burglary of an unoccupied structure unarmed and grand theft \$300-\$5,000. A. Campbell was arresting officer.

Javier Pelon Rodriguez Jr., 18, was arrested July 5 and charged with possession of a weapon - short barreled gun, rifle or machine gun, contributing to the delinquency of a minor - causing a minor to commit an act of delinquency and resisting an officer - interfering with a law enforcement officer without violence. R. Shepherd was arresting officer.

Robert Morris McGee, 63, was arrested July 3 and charged with hit and run leaving the scene of a crash with property damage and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon no intent to kill. According to the sheriff's report, the victim was driving south on CR 833 when a Chevy Suburban with Wyoming tags struck his F-150. The victim followed and saw McGee in the Suburban turn into a dirt road with a gate. When he pulled up, McGee approached his truck and struck it with his hand, accused the victim of hitting his side mirror and pulled a gun out as he threatened to shoot. The victim was on the phone with the sheriff's office and was advised to back away, deputies were on their way. At the scene deputies found a Springfield semi automatic 40 caliber weapon in McGee's vehicle. EMS personnel treated facial laceration for McGee which he suffered shortly before the incident between McGee and the driver of the F-150. McGee's mirror was apparently struck in that other incident and parts of it flew inside McGee's open window, striking him in the face. R. Garcia was arresting officer.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PRELIMINARY PLAT APPLICATION HENDRY COUNTY

### RESCHEDULED LPA HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will hold a public hearing on **July 29, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, La Belle, Florida, to consider the Preliminary Plat Application of River Landings (PL13-0001), a subdivision of a portion of Sections 21 and 28, Township 43 South, Range 28 East. The subdivision is located north of SR 80, south of the Caloosahatchee River, and is adjacent to the west side of the Riverbend Motorcoach RV Resort.

Copies of the files and information regarding the petition are available for public inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 South Main Street, LaBelle, Florida, and may be viewed Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

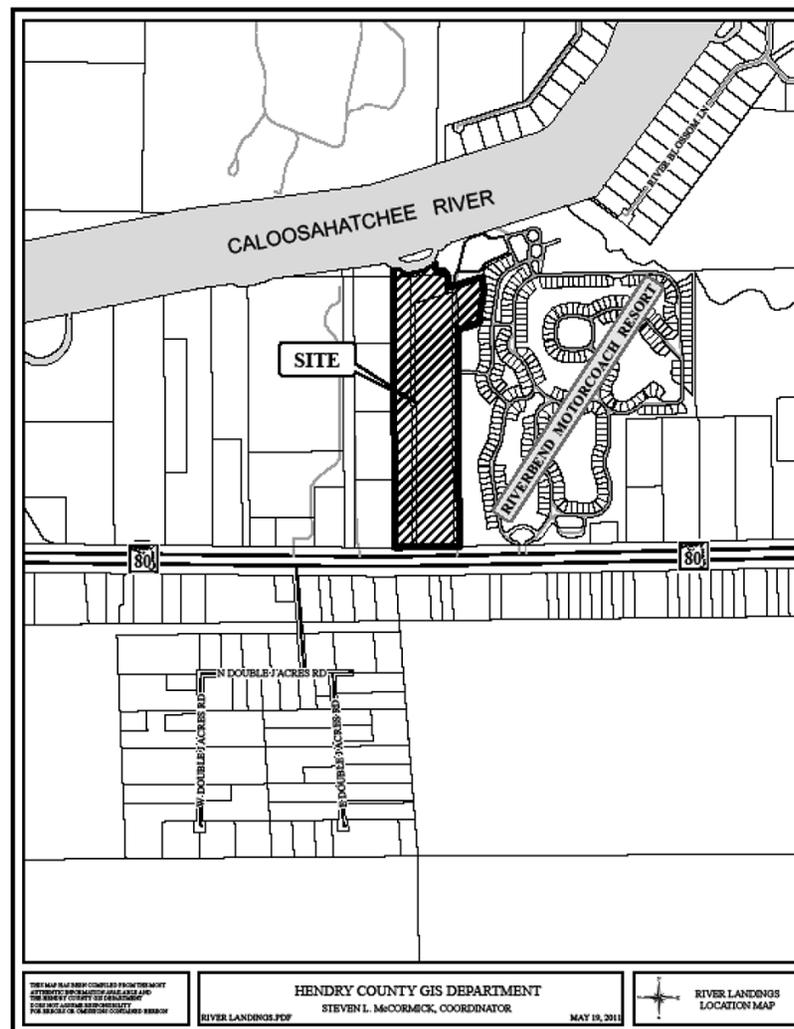
**Petition Number:** PL13-0001

**Applicant:** Tice Street, LLC, represented by Davidson Engineering

**Location:** 5992, 5970, 5942 West SR 80, LaBelle, FL

**Property size:** 30.20 acres +/-

**Request:** The applicant is seeking approval of a preliminary plat for a RV motorcoach development in accordance with RZ12-0007.



Orvell Howard, Chair  
Hendry County Local Planning Agency

# Things never change: Ten ways to kill a church

Recently I read a church newsletter that was written in 1959 entitled, "10 Ways to Kill a Church." I don't remember that year — as a two year old, I was in the church nursery that year. I was intrigued as to what was happening in the church world back in the last year of the 50's and wondered how things would compare to today.

The thing that interested me the most is how this list of "church killers" written in 1959 looks so much like the usual suspects in many church deaths today. See if you can note the resemblance.



**Les Morgan**

1. Don't come. One of the biggest church killers is waning attendance. Many people simply can't find the time to spend an hour or two in the Lord's house. We find excuse after excuse as to why we can't make it.

I wonder what our lives would look like if God only showed up at our house as often as we showed up at His. The Bible is clear about the importance of assembling or coming together (Hebrews 10:25).

2. If you do come, make sure it's late. Many worshipers (and apparently those of 1959) have a lackadaisical attitude toward worship. We have an "I'll get there when I get there" attitude when it comes to church attendance.

I wonder, however, if we showed up to our job the way we show up to our church ... how many of us would still be employed? We say that God is an "on time" God, but can He say the same about us?

A lack of punctuality when it comes to worship is a microcosm of our overall view of God. It says that whatever else we are doing is more important, and God can just wait until we get there. That attitude is a major church killer.

3. Only show up when the weather is good. We have produced a culture of "fair-weather" Christians, who only attend church when everything is going right in their lives. The moment a storm hits their life, they get mad at God, the pastor and the church. There are some people who you can tell exactly what's going on in their lives based upon their church attendance.

When things are great and they have a

little money in their pockets, they're on the front row singing "Amazing Grace," but as soon as they get laid off or deal with some sort of difficulty, they're ready to "curse God and die" (Job 2:9). The only thing that dies with that kind of attitude is the church.

4. Find fault with everything and everyone. Most homicide investigations begin by researching those who had something negative to say about the victim. Similarly, when a church dies, you can be sure that the fault finders are prime suspects. These are the folks who sit "in the seat of the scornful" (Psalm 1:1).

Fault finders can always SPOT a problem, but they never SOLVE a problem. Result: they are definitely church killers.

5. Never accept a leadership role or responsibility. Many people have a "renters" mentality when it comes to church; they take no ownership.

When you rent an apartment, if something breaks, you call the landlord to fix it. Since you don't own it, you have no obligation to fix it.

There are too many people renting pews (and some pulpits). However, Seth Godin was right when he said, "No one has ever built a statue to a critic." If we want to make a difference, we have to accept the responsibility to lead — whether formally or informally.

6. Get mad if you're not appointed to a leadership position. So many people in church are focused on titles. They want to be directors, deacons and dignitaries, and when they are not appointed to a position, they begin to stir up trouble. Reality: this is a manifestation of deep-seated pride, and pride is one of the most dangerous killers of all.

7. Never give your opinion in a meeting ... wait until AFTER the meeting. A surefire sign of a church that is on its deathbed is one that has major "meetings-after-the-meeting."

You know, where no one voices their honest opinion or offers useful insight during the official meeting, but are quick to huddle in a corner or the church parking lot after the meeting to harp on how "it ought to be done." There are chalk lines all over church parking lots outlining exactly where the murder took place.

8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary. Show up, go home, but don't be

an active, engaged member of the church. It's hard to reach "the least of these" when we're only doing the least we can do.

The sad reality, however, is that most people who only want to do the least, love to criticize those who are doing the most!

They howl about how the church is being run by a clique, when they never offered or took initiative to get any work done.

They just stand on the sideline and watch the church die. At the very least, they are an accessory to the murder.

9. Hold back on your giving to the Lord. Newsflash - It takes money to do ministry — especially to do mercy ministry for the underserved in our communities. Tim Keller says that "Mercy ministry is expensive."

When we hold back on our giving to the Lord and His work, we are limiting the work that can be done through the local church.

Additionally, since there are operational costs associated with a church or ministry, a lack of giving can lead to the church being foreclosed, laying off staff and other adverse results.

Some people say, "Well, all the church wants is money." The same can be said of Walmart, yet they keep taking their money there!

While I do not discount that there have been those who have abused and misused the church for financial gain, there are thou-

sands of churches serving in their communities who are dying because of a lack of finances.

When we stop giving, we are killing those churches ... and the countless lives they touch each day.

10. Don't reach out to the unchurched. The primary purpose of the Church is to introduce people to Jesus.

The people in the pews must take ownership of that responsibility and become "mini-churches" that reach out to the unchurched every day and bring them to the house of the Lord to be disciplined. Churches need regular and consistent "transfusions."

When new people are brought into the church, they bring new life and vibrancy. They ensure that the church doesn't get stuck in the old way of doing things. They bring fresh perspective, and they help keep the church alive.

Don't kill your church! Go and bring in some new people today

*Dr. Les Morgan is pastor of Caloosa Baptist Church, located on Highway 80 across the street from City Hall in LaBelle.*

## Letter to the Editor

### Where's the justice?

#### Editor:

I recently saw on TV a man walking across Florida or maybe the US. He was wearing sandals, protesting the death penalty. I believe he has the right to voice his opinion.

My question is: Has he ever had a close person to him murdered? This person lost their life. There are no deals to make to bring them back. There are always circumstances involved in a death.

Anyone committing a crime who kills a person should be put to death. Any premeditated killing should be dealt the death penalty. Any killing where there is no doubt who did the killing should carry the death penalty. A killing in self defense should be

legal with no penalty.

The justice system in the US is in need of major change. Any person who is too lazy to work to feed themselves gets arrested and put in jail. There they get free room and board for however long they are there. It used to cost \$85 a day to house a minimum security prisoner. I'm sure that has changed. You and I pay that bill. Where is the justice in that?

There should be work the prisoners can do to help pay for their room and board, medical expenses, etc., but that's only my opinion. This old citified country boy could be wrong.

**Ed Kuntz**

**Caloosa Belle**

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### To Reach Us

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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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### 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.

## Church Briefs

### VBS at First Christian Church

Save the date! Join First Christian Church for "Everywhere Fun Fair" Vacation Bible School July 22-26, 9 a.m.-noon.

Children will experience a global celebration in the setting of a world's fair and discover God's love can be found everywhere. For more information call 862-675-1366.

## Youth group to have movie night for Compassion International

by Sarah Lapp

On Sunday, July 14, the youth group of Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church will host a showing of "Monsters Inc." on the lawn near Upthegrove Elementary School (directly across from the church on 310 Campbell Street) beginning at 8 p.m. All proceeds go to Compassion International, a Christian organization which sponsors less fortunate children in third world countries.

Admission is free. The EDGE youth group will be offering concessions including snow cones, nachos, popcorn, cotton candy, and soda for purchase. Anyone in the community is invited and encouraged to bring lawn chairs, pillows or blankets.

Jessica Smith, a 2013 graduate of LHS and leader of the EDGE youth group, has taken charge of the fundraiser and dubbed it "Mission: Compassion Christmas." The goal of the fundraiser is to raise money for Compassion International so that they may purchase Christmas gifts to children that could use some cheer.

"My motivation behind this project is to give children joy through gifts. I want to provide them with just one day that they

can forget about all the poverty and hardships that they face in their everyday lives," Smith said.

The EDGE youth group has first-hand connections to Compassion International, as they have a sponsored child of their own.

"We have sponsored a six year old boy named Cristian Sanchez, who lives in the Dominican Republic, for two years. Our donations have helped him receive a better education and standard of living. This year we wanted to provide a Christmas present to Cristian. Any monies raised over that will go to Compassion International; they will distribute the revenue to various children, both sponsored and unsponsored," Greg Gunter, Interim Youth Director at Carlson said.

Sponsorship packets will be available at the fundraiser. The EDGE youth group and event coordinator Jessica Smith will be present to answer any questions and share their experiences with Compassion International. The invitation is open to all who wish to attend on Sunday, July 14. If you have any questions contact Greg Gunter at (863) 517-1088.

### Christian Men to meet

The July meeting of The LaBelle Gathering of Christian Men will be held at Healing Waters Church in LaBelle, located at 4501 Birchwood Pkwy., at 7 p.m., on Monday, July 15. All men of LaBelle are invited to join us for dinner and a message. For directions or information please call Clay Townsend at 863-674-0699.

### VBS at Central Church of Christ

Step Right Up... and Experience the Life of David.

Central Church of Christ in LaBelle, will hold Vacation Bible School, July 15-17, each morning from 9-11:15 a.m. A group of church workers from Jacksonburg Church of Christ in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, will be making the trip to LaBelle once again this year to present the Vacation Bible School. There will be classes for all ages, from preschool through adult.

In conjunction with the Bible School, the church will host a Gospel Meeting beginning Monday evening at 7 p.m. LaBelle's own, Lucas Curtis, a Senior at LaBelle High School, will be preaching the message on Monday evening, with guest evangelist, Steve Smallwood, preaching on both Tuesday and Wednesday evening.

### Hip, Hop, Hope VBW

Boys and girls, mark this date on your family calendar - July 29 thru August 2 - because you don't want to miss Vacation Bible School at Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church. You will be hip hopping through the week as you learn Bible stories and songs, music and dance, drama and make

crafts about how Jesus can make us glad each and every day.

Hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no fee for attending and lunch will be served each day.

Please register by calling the church at 675-0656 or stopping by the office. You will be given a music CD once registered.

### Iglesia Bautista VBS

Iglesia Bautista de Jesucristo, 214 N. 2d St., Vacation Bible School July 14-July 18, from 6-8 p.m. Grades kinder through sixth grade. Escuelita Biblica de Vacaciones grados kinder hasta grado 6.

### Life Ministries invites children to SonWest Roundup.

"We're ready for a Vacation Bible School your children will never forget," said VBS Director Marsha Bechtel.

"At SonWest Roundup your kids will find ultimate truth in Jesus! Children will have a great time singing songs, watching skits, creating crafts and playing games. But most important, they'll discover Jesus provides what they truly need in every challenge of life.

"We're looking forward to sharing this exciting event with the children and families in our neighborhood. We hope they will join us at SonWest Roundup. "SonWest Roundup begins July 15, 2013 and continues through July 20, 2013 at 725 Hickpooshee Avenue/Highway 80 West from 6-9 p.m. For information, call (863) 675-8855 Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 9 a.m. and noon. See you at the roundup!

## Obituaries

### Nadine W. Searcy

LABELLE — Nadine W. Searcy passed away June 19, 2013 in Winter Haven, Fla. at Winter Haven Hospital. She was born in Chipley, Fla.

She is survived by her sons, Ronnie and Marty Searcy; her two brothers, Hilton and Donnie Lewis; sister, Deani Searcy; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Sat., July 13, 2013 at the International Christian Fellowship Church, 233 Clark St., LaBelle, Fla.

### Joann Jennings Woosley, 80

LABELLE — Joann Jennings Woosley went to be with her Lord on July 3, 2013.

She was the daughter of the late L.M. & Erma Hand Jennings and is survived by three daughters, Patti Nixon (fiance Bob Carroll), Sherri Carpenter (Steve), and Mara Woosley (Tim Loyd); and one son, Larry Woosley (Ellen) and daughter-in-law, Sandra Woosley; twelve grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren, as well as a large and loving extended family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, W. G. Woosley; and two sons, Tommy and Danny.

Joann was a long-time member of and pianist for the First Christian Church in LaBelle. She was well-known in the community as the third-generation owner of Jennings Hardware, and her family was selected as the Swamp Cabbage Festival Pioneer Family in 1986.

Funeral services were held at the First Christian Church of LaBelle, 138 Ford Avenue, on Sunday, July 7, 2013. You may view the obituary online or leave condolences to the family at [www.akin-davis.com](http://www.akin-davis.com).

In lieu of flowers, her family requests donations be made to the First Christian Church Music Fund, PO Box 10, LaBelle, FL 33975 or the Danny Woosley Memorial Scholarship Foundation, 6340 Channing Ave., Ft. Myers, FL 33905 [www.dannywoosley.org](http://www.dannywoosley.org).

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home-LaBelle.



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Se Habla Español

## It's Hurricane Season be prepared

The SBDC at FGCU and Hendry County Emergency Management are partnering to bring you disaster plan information. Hendry County EDC will be present to provide information as well.

Presenters Amy Howard, Hendry County Emergency Management, and Dan Regelski, Director of SBDC, will focus on individual and business planning. Emphasis will be on the importance of planning ahead. Your plan

will include contact information if you need assistance after the fact. Individuals and businesses need to approach their planning differently and speakers will provide the information necessary.

Mark your calendar for this informative and useful workshop on Thursday, July 25, 1- p.m. at Edison State College in LaBelle. Register for this no cost workshop at [www.sbdccseminars.org](http://www.sbdccseminars.org) or call 239-745-3700.



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Caloosa Belle/Dale Conyers

## Rapids in Ortona?

Imagine! Last week's heavy rains created this little mini rapids running into the Caloosahatchee by the boat ramp just west of the Ortona Locks.



Submitted photo

## Seminole power at the library

'Tracking' through Florida continues this coming Tuesday, as Mr. Butch Wilson from the Clewiston Museum will be on hand to talk about fossils, how they were formed, where, and how to look for them. He will be sharing information about fossil digs and discoveries right here in Florida, and will have a small "dig" prepared for the kids to experience. "Ponce de Leon," along with his sidekick, will be back to tell us about his recent discoveries as well.

Thanks go out to Ms. Connie Killebrew for sharing legends of the Seminoles at this past weeks program. The kids really enjoyed the project, and seemed to love their headbands when they were completed.

Join them every Tuesday morning at 10:30, as we continue to explore and discover many of the special features the great state of Florida has to offer.

### "Florida Tracker" Schedule

July 16 Searching for Fossils with Mr. Butch, Clewiston Museum, 10:30 am

July 23 Seminole Tribe of Florida, 10:30 am

July 30 Miss Patty, Gatorama, 10:30 am

August 6 Florida's 500th Birthday Party, 10:30 am

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Submitted photo/Vicki Bass

## Felda students head to their future

Felda Community Civic Association presented its third annual scholarship on June 17. This scholarship program is supported by the Civic Association and the Felda Community. Hendry County School Superintendent Paul Puletti was on hand when the scholarships were presented. Pictured from left: Superintendent Paul Puletti, Cory Taylor (who will study nursing at FGCU), Gennifer Raulerson (an education major at South Florida State College), Kindall Tindall (who will study nursing at Ediston State College) and FCCA Scholarship Chairman Reuban Rodriguez. The Felda Community Civic Association would like to thank everyone who helped make this a success. The scholarship is available to Felda residents who are graduating seniors or continuing their education.



Submitted photo

## Rep. Hudson: Distinguished Advocate

The Florida Chamber of Commerce has named Florida District 80 Representative Matt Hudson as one of 29 legislators who earned the 2013 Distinguished Advocate award. Five of those 29 live in the Fort Myers/Naples area. There are 9 senators and 20 representatives on the list. Along with Rep. Hudson, other area legislators honored include: Representative Kathleen Passidomo (Naples), Senator LizBeth Benacquisto (Fort Myers), Senator Garret Richter (Naples) and Representative Matt Caldwell (Lehigh Acres). Each elected official on the list fought to put Florida in position to become the number one job creator in the nation. Representative Matt Hudson led the charge to reduce workers' compensation costs (HB 605/SB 662). Florida Chamber Distinguished Advocates are named annually and are special awards presented to legislators who go above and beyond in advocating pro-jobs legislative priorities to make Florida more competitive. The Distinguished Advocate award announcement is in addition to publishing grades earned by all 160 legislators on the Florida Chamber's Legislative Report Card in May, and naming Representative Larry Metz as the Florida Chamber's 2013 Most Valuable Legislator in June. Rep. Hudson (yellow shirt) is pictured receiving an award from the PACE Girls Center in Immokalee.



- Kara Helvey

Hendry Regional Medical Center is proud to announce the selection of Kara Helvey as the hospital's new ER Nurse Manager.

Kara was born in Pahokee Florida. She spent much of her childhood in the sweet town of Clewiston, visiting back and forth with her grandmother. Kara graduated from Glades Day School in Belle Glade. She attended Palm Beach State College and, in 1999, received her associate degree as a Registered Nurse.

Choosing a career in the medical field wasn't a big surprise for those who knew Kara. She comes from a family of doctors and nurses. Both Kara's paternal and maternal grandmothers were nurses. Her maternal grandfather was the renowned Dr. E.C. Johnson, a general practitioner and one of the founders of Everglades Memorial Hospital that was formerly located in Pahokee.

Having been employed at Hendry Regional Medical Center since 2002, Kara initially started on a per diem basis and later became a full-time employee. She has worked as an emergency room nurse, critical care nurse and operating room nurse at Hendry Regional. Kara assumes her new position with much experience and professionalism.

Kara is very excited about making positive changes in the emergency room at Hendry Regional Medical Center. Her goal is to increase patient flow and decrease patient wait time in the emergency room. She states that her personal vision aligns directly with the hospital's mission statement - To Excel in Quality, Compassion, and Innovation to make our Community Healthier. "I want the people in our community to be very proud of Hendry Regional Medical Center," says Kara.



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## Community Briefs

### Sunday evening family movie night

Sunday evening July 14 at 6 p.m. everyone is invited to see the movie "Meant To Be."

This is a Christian movie dealing with 20-year-old Nathan Burr (Bradley Dorsey) who loses his career and his girlfriend. He questions his purpose in life. Compounding his struggle, Nathan grew up in a foster home and never met his birth mother. He sets out on a quest to his birthplace to find his mother and come to terms with her rejection of him. Upon his arrival, Nathan checks into a hotel and meets Mave (Delia Reese), the hotel's housekeeper. With the help of Mave and his new friend Shelly (Kristen Renton), Nathan embarks on a journey to uncover the answers to his clouded past. Nathan will soon realize that God's plan for his life is much greater than he ever could have imagined.

LaBelle Assembly of God is located on Fraser Avenue across from the Edward A. Updegrove Elementary School. For more information call 675-0900. There is no charge for the movie and even the popcorn is free.

### Al Black of the Highwaymen at Barron Library

Al Black, one of Florida's Hall of Fame Artists and an original Highwaymen, will display his work at Barron Library, Thursday, July 18, from 4-8 p.m. Visit Barron Library and the art show and sale on July 18.

### Kids Expo donations accepted

The Salvation Army Kids' Expo Back to School, which will happen August 10, at Country Oaks Elementary School and at 315 S. WC Owens in Clewiston. There will be free eye screenings, dental screenings, kids hair cuts, hearing screenings, school shots, bike safety supplies, school supplies (limited) as well as healthy eating and nutrition tips, free kids books, weather information and education and hurricane and disaster information.

Look for these local businesses collecting specific items:

CenterState Bank is collecting composition notebooks - goal 200.

Seacoast Bank is collecting #2 pencils in packages of 12. Please drop a package (or two!) into the school bus in Seacoast lobby-the kids will really appreciate it!

Family Eye Care is a collection site for highlighters and is asking for 200 2-pack thin highlighters of any color.

If you would like to donate, please drop off your items at their front desk. Your support for the children of our community is much appreciated.

### Legion, SAL, Auxiliary to install officers

Thursday, July 18, the Installation of Officers will be a combined ceremonies for the American Legion, Sons of the American and the American Legion Auxiliary. It will begin at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Post 130 on Hwy. 80 West in LaBelle. Everyone is invited to join in the festivities.

### COFFO to meet

The Coalition of Florida Farmworkers (COFFO) will hold its quarterly meeting Friday, July 26, at 10:30 a.m. at the COFFO Immokalee Office, 214 A South 1st Street, Immokalee.

### Felda 4-H fundraiser

Felda Community Pioneers 4-H Club will have a pork dinner fundraiser Saturday, July 20, at the Felda Community Center from 5-8 p.m. (dine in or take out) and the LaBelle Extension Office (take out only). Additional raffle tickets will be available for \$1 each. Please contact Jesse Dunaway at 517-1360 if interested in purchasing a ticket.

### MCA events for July

July 13: Country Jam Session and Pot Luck Dinner will begin at 6:00pm til 9:00pm.

There will be no regular Meetings in July and August. Meetings will begin again in September. The third Thursday of the month. July 27, Country Jam Session and Pot Luck Dinner 6-9 p.m.

Jam Sessions are the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. Anyone is welcome to come and play.

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 information call 863-674-0467.

### Learn to grow tropical fruit trees

Tropical Fruit class and workshop. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturday, July 20.

Learn about growing: avocado, grumichama, jaboticoba, mango, longan, lychee, mamey sapote, and more. Speakers will cover cultural practices, pests, and tricks of the trade to grow subtropical-tropical fruit, from those you know to those you want to know better. Featuring: Chris Rollins, Director of the Miami Fruit and Spice Park; David and Jenny Burd, Friendly Burd Tree Service and Billy Hopkins, Hopkins Tropical Fruit Nursery. Hopkins Nursery will have fruit trees for sale after the classes. Sponsored by Horticulture Educator Doug Caldwell at Collier County University of Florida IFAS Extension, 14700 Immokalee Rd., 11 miles east of I-75; adjacent to the County Fairgrounds on 39th

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Ave. NE. Cost: \$5 by credit card on Eventbrite at: [www.tropicalfruits.eventbrite.com](http://www.tropicalfruits.eventbrite.com) or by cash or check (made out to 'BCC') at the door. Please register 3 days before the event so we know how many handouts to make and etc. Call 353-4244 if any questions.

### VPK at Children's Garden

Come and join Children's Garden of LaBelle for free Volunteer Pre-K registration July 20 from 9 a.m.-noon. there will be snacks, balloons and face painting for everyone registering.

### Fisheating Creek campground closed

High water levels have prompted the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to temporarily close Banana Grove Road, the boat ramp entrance road and the campground at the Fish Eating Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA). At this time, other portions of the WMA remain open.

The closure will be lifted as soon as conditions allow. This action is necessary to ensure the safety of those visiting the WMA.

If you have additional questions, please call the FWC's South Regional Office during normal business hours at 561-625-5122.

### ESC new look on web

Edison State College launched a new website. Check out the exciting new look and design, as well as navigate through the various options on the site, by visiting [www.edison.edu](http://www.edison.edu).

Visitors will be able to move through the new website with ease, by locating the site navigation tools that best fit what they need," said Jeff Stewart, Vice President for Research, Technology, & Accountability at Edison State College. "It is now easier for

potential students to learn about financial aid, the admissions process, academic offerings and more." For more information please visit [www.edison.edu](http://www.edison.edu).

### Volunteer for juvenile arbitration

The Hendry County Court Administration is seeking volunteers for its Juvenile Arbitration program.

The ideal candidate enjoys working with youth and has a strong desire to help them transition out of the Juvenile Justice system. Interested persons should contact Robin Manfredi, Court Operations Manager at 863-675-5374 for an application form and further information.

### Widows to meet

The Widows Support Group will meet at Vickie's Lunch Box July 18, at 11:30 a.m. All widows welcome.

### Arts of the Inland launches 2014 rates today!

Arts of the Inland (AOI) announces new membership rates for 2014. AOI is committed to presenting and promoting the visual, literary and performing arts and with the launching of the 2014 rates, they are presenting artists with many cultural opportunities. Upcoming events include an "Artful Evening" at Keiser University on July 11, "Perceptions" judged art show on November 10 and gallery shows/sales.

Join today and receive the 2014 rates which begin at \$25 for individual artists.

Contact LaVon Koenig, President, Arts of the Inland for more information by e-mail at [www.artsinland@gmail.com](mailto:www.artsinland@gmail.com) or call 239-303-5849. Website: [www.artsoftheinland.com](http://www.artsoftheinland.com).

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## Public Notice

## Public Notice

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the County of Hendry, the holder 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
1823	2008	1224432-01000810030	Celia Rubin + Ruth Czukerburg + Dalilah Czukerburg + Vivian Goldikener

Lot 3, Block 81, of MONTURA RANCH ESTATES, FIRST SUBDIVISION, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 3, at Pages 37, 38 and 39 of the 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 August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446367 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the German American Capital Corp. the holder 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
615	2010	1174329-07000000020	Agustin Atunez + Eusebia M Sanchez + Humberto Mendoza

Lots 82, 83 and 84, SOUTH LABELLE SUBDIVISION, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 49, 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 August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446362 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the TC 101, LLC, the holder 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
1049	2010	1044430-01000050020	Santos M & Irene Perez

The East 1/3 of Tract 3, Block 5, GERBER GROVES, SECTION ONE, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 14-22, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

The West 2/3 of Tract 2, Block 5, GERBER GROVES, SECTION ONE, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 14-22, 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 August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446356 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the German American Capital Corp. the holder 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
3041	2010	1144334-07000000060	Victor L Perez

Lot 6, MIDSTATE SUBDIVISION, a subdivision in a portion of unsurveyed Section 14, Township 43 South, Range 34 East, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 6, Pages 132 and 133, 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 August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446366 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## Public Notice

## Public Notice

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the County of Hendry, the holder 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
1862	2008	1224432-A0000710000	Juan Perez

The East one-half of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 24, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the North 40 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 5295, 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 First Thursday in the month of August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

44639 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the County of Hendry, the holder 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
2326	2008	1364432-A0001470000	Carlos A Alvarez

The East one-half of the Northeast one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of Section 36, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the North 40 feet thereof. Subject to an easement for an access road of the East 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 4014, 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 First Thursday in the month of August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446374 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the County of Hendry, the holder 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
3176	2008	2054329-A0000360200	Ruth W Stevens TR

Begin at the Southwest corner of Government Lot 5; thence N 00 degrees 31' 15" W, 1215.41 feet to the Point-of-Beginning; continue 31.71 feet; thence N 56 degrees 56' 49" W, 42.48 feet; thence S 33 degrees 03' 11" W, 23.32 feet; thence S 43 degrees 30' 32" W, 16.19 feet; thence N 46 degrees 29' 29" W, 44.01 feet; thence S 44 degrees 14' 42" W, 44.55 feet; thence S 79 degrees 51' 08" E, 124.72 feet to the Point-of-Beginning.

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 August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446378 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

## Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the German American Capital Corp. the holder 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
2595	2010	1364432-01000000120	Manuel A Marrero

Lot 12, THE WOODLAND II SUBDIVISION, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 12, 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 August, 2013, which is the 1st day of August, 2013.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2013.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

446364 CN 6/27/7/4,11,18/2013

## Community Briefs

## Be a school bus driver

Hendry County School District is recruiting substitute bus drivers. Training will be held July 29-August 8 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the LaBelle Bus Compound, 4040 Cowboy Way. Applicants are required to have a CDL driving permit before the first day of class. Anyone interested should contact the LaBelle Transportation Dept. at 674-4115 or the Clewiston Transportation Dept. at 983-1516 to register by July 22.

## HCSO recovers horses

The Hendry County Sheriff's Office Ag Unit has recovered two horses from running loose on the highways in Hendry County. If you have lost a horse, please contact the Ag Unit at 863-805-5000 or 863-674-0406.

## Museum sets summer hours

LaBelle Heritage Museum, 360 North Bridge Street, will be open Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. through August 3. The museum will close from August 5 until shortly after Labor Day; however, special tours for groups of five or more may be possible at other times with a minimum 24 hours advance request either

by an e-mail to [labelleheritagemuseum@comcast.net](mailto:labelleheritagemuseum@comcast.net) or a phone call to (863)674-0034.

## Fishing Camp comes to Riverside

Riverside Retreat and the Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network are offering a week-long day camp that focuses on freshwater angling and ecology. Children in the 3rd-8th grade will experience hands-on activities covering topics such as habitats, species ID, choosing and catching bait, basic boating safety, casting/reeling techniques and preparing their catch....plus lots of fishing! At the end of the week, families are invited as their children show off their skills and enjoy a fish-fry! Pick-up and drop-off will be available via the LaBelle/Hendry County Recreation bus at the former U-Save in LaBelle. Scholarships are available! Contact Chelsey Hernandez at 863-675-0334 or [RiversideRetreatPrograms@gmail.com](mailto:RiversideRetreatPrograms@gmail.com) for more information. Registration is available online at [www.RiversideRetreatUMChurch-Camp.com](http://www.RiversideRetreatUMChurch-Camp.com).

## FWC seeks public input on south Florida deer management

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will host a series of public meetings in July to help shape the future of deer management in Zone A of south Florida.

"We are working on an exciting project to establish deer management units (DMUs) throughout Florida," said Cory Morea, the FWC's Deer Management Program coordinator. "We are moving to a new model of deer management in the state in which hunters and other stakeholders will have a greater impact on deer management decisions."

DMUs will, where needed, divide the state into smaller geographic areas where deer population characteristics are similar. Right now, the state is divided into four management zones that are used to set hunting season dates based on deer breeding chronology.

One DMU is proposed for Zone A, which would include all or portions of Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Miami-Dade, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee and Palm Beach counties. The new DMUs are intended to allow the FWC more flexibility with deer management based upon the deer population, habitat conditions and public preference within each of the units.

"We surveyed hunters, farmers and other members of the public to determine attitudes and opinions regarding deer management, and we will be sharing the results of that survey at the public meetings. We will present information on the DMU model and will be gathering public input on deer management preferences," said Morea. "We are also proposing a change for the northern

boundary of Zone A so that it better matches the breeding chronology of the deer."

For people who cannot attend any of the meetings, there will be other opportunities to learn about this project and provide input.

"We have information on our website and we will be accepting comments online," said Morea, adding that public input will determine what changes may be made in managing deer based on public preference.

"Of course, we wouldn't do anything to risk the sustainability of this valuable public resource, but deer densities and other deer management preferences, such as antler regulations, can be adjusted to accommodate public preferences using the DMU model."

A technical assistance group (TAG), composed of members of the public, will be established to review all available public comments and make recommendations to the FWC on the DMU within Zone A. The public meetings and the TAG will be facilitated by a third-party vendor, Normandean Associates, which will submit a summary report to the FWC.

TAG members will be chosen based upon their expertise, their representation of an important interest group, and their willingness to dedicate some time to better deer management in Zone A. Anyone interested will be able to apply for TAG membership at the public meetings or on the FWC's website.

More information about the meetings, the proposed DMUs and the Technical Assistance Group and meeting information is available online at [MyFWC.com/Deer](http://MyFWC.com/Deer). Click on "Deer Management Units."

For more information, contact Cory Morea at 850-617-9487.

# Childhood sun exposure increases skin cancer risk later in life

New York, NY (July 2, 2013) – With the school year over and summer officially here, kids are spending more time outdoors. Exposure to the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays increases skin cancer risk, which can be dangerous and even deadly. Suffering one or more blistering sunburns in childhood or adolescence more than doubles a person's chances of developing potentially-deadly melanoma later in life. However, skin cancer is highly preventable, and adopting a complete sun protection regimen can drastically reduce skin cancer risk. There are many things parents and caregivers can do to keep children sun-safe, whether they are at camp, the beach or just in the backyard.

"Children are more sensitive to the sun, and the sun's rays are strongest during the summer months, when children tend to spend ample time outdoors," says Perry Robins, MD, President of The Skin Cancer Foundation. "Teaching children to adopt a sun-safe lifestyle when they're young will prevent skin cancer and encourage them to begin lifelong healthy skin habits."

Help children enjoy outdoor activities safely this summer with these tips from The Skin Cancer Foundation:

### At Summer Camp

- Remind kids to seek the shade: Tell kids to play in shaded areas in order to limit UV exposure. Check with counselors to see if there are adequate places for campers to seek shade during outdoor activities taking place between 10 AM and 4 PM, when UV

rays are most intense.

- Dress kids in sun-protective clothing. For optimal protection from the sun, send kids to camp in tightly woven or knit, dark- or bright- colored fabrics. Don't forget wide-brimmed hats (though a baseball cap is better than nothing) and wraparound, UV-blocking sunglasses.

- Practice sunscreen application beforehand. Teach children to apply 1 ounce (2 tablespoons, or about the size of a golf ball) of sunscreen to all exposed areas, 30 minutes before outdoor activities. Remind them to cover easily missed areas such as the back of ears and neck, and the tops of feet and hands. If camp rules allow, ask counselors to help children reapply sunscreen every two hours, or after swimming or excessive sweating. For extended outdoor activities, a broad-spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher is best.

### At the Beach

- Dress kids in sun-safe swimwear. Look for high-UPF (Ultraviolet Protection Factor) swim shirts or rash guards, and choose bathing suits that cover more skin, like one-piece suits and long trunks.

- Take extra precautions. Remember that water and sand reflect the sun's rays. Help children reapply sunscreen frequently, cover them up with clothing, and bring a beach umbrella for kids to play under. The most effective beach umbrellas provide a minimum UPF of 30.

- Talk to your teens about tanning. Teenagers may be tempted to "lay out" or visit

tanning salons. But there is no such thing as a safe tan, because tanning itself is caused by DNA damage to the skin. Remind teens that tanning increases skin cancer risk, and leads to wrinkles, blemishes and age spots later in life.

### Additional Skin Cancer Prevention Tips

- Avoid sunburn. It may seem like a temporary irritation, but sunburns cause long-lasting damage to the skin.

- Keep newborns out of the sun. Sunscreen should be used on babies over the age of six months.

- Practice what you preach. Incorporate these tips into your own lifestyle. You'll not only set a good example, but you'll reduce your risk of skin cancer, sun damage and skin aging.

For more information, visit [SkinCancer.org](http://SkinCancer.org).

### About The Skin Cancer Foundation

The Skin Cancer Foundation is the only global organization solely devoted to the prevention, early detection and treatment of skin cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to decrease the incidence of skin cancer through public and professional education and research. Since its inception in 1979, the Foundation has recommended following a complete sun protection regimen that includes seeking shade and covering up with clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses, in addition to daily sunscreen use. For more information, visit [SkinCancer.org](http://SkinCancer.org).

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## Edison State College building to be renamed

July 8, 2013 – FORT MYERS, FLA. – Following a licensing agreement between Edison State College and Presidio, Inc., Building G on the Edison State College Lee Campus will be renamed The Presidio Information Technology Center.

The new name went into effect July 1 and will remain for at least five years in exchange for a \$500 thousand reduction in the cost of a new Voiceover Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone system, its software and hardware, and its installation and implementation at all three Edison State College campuses and its center in LaBelle.

In preparation, the college will increase its bandwidth and the internet technology and network infrastructure at the Collier Campus will be enhanced. Installation will be complete in spring 2014. A ribbon cutting to celebrate the new name will be planned at the Lee Campus in the fall.

"It's a win-win when we can reduce the amount of money we have to spend," said Dr. Jeff Stewart, vice president, Research, Technology, and Accountability. "The new phone system will replace the antiquated system we have now. Instead of using a regular phone system, it will run over the college's internet network and provide a backup to the incoming calls. It will have caller ID and a missed call log, and can convert voicemail messages to email. It will be a more efficient system for our students, faculty, and staff."

Celebrating 50 years of excellence, Edison State College is Southwest Florida's largest, most accessible and affordable institution of higher education. Proud to be tobacco-free, Edison State serves more than 24,000 students across five counties and through Edison Online. For more information please visit [www.edison.edu](http://www.edison.edu).

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# Corps helps make Florida panther corridor a reality

By Erica Skolte  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Sometimes it really does take a village to accomplish an important goal. Numerous partner agencies, non-governmental organizations and ranchers came together in LaBelle recently to celebrate the acquisition of the American Prime property one year ago, and to chart the path forward. The purchase of this "keystone tract," now known as the Lone Ranger Forge, preserved a vital corridor for natural expansion of the endangered Florida panthers. The movement of the animals northward is considered to be one of the keys to the continued recovery of the species.

Panther scientists estimate that there are only 100 to 140 Florida panthers remaining in the wild, and the last remaining breeding population of Florida panthers is in south Florida, south of the Caloosahatchee River.

Though their home ranges are fairly large, female panthers tend to stay close to where they were born. When males mature,

they naturally disperse. Historically, this was a wonderful natural strategy for maintaining genetic diversity, as males could introduce fresh genetic material as they bred with small pockets of related females throughout the southeastern part of the country. With breeding populations in more than one area, there is less competition for prey, mates and territory, and intra-specific aggression, a leading cause of death second only to vehicle collisions, is reduced. And if there are separate populations in different locations, it is easier for the species to recover from the effects of a natural disaster or a disease outbreak.

Though there have been numerous stories of panthers with kittens north of the Caloosahatchee, none have been confirmed by panther scientists. However, maintaining a path for panthers to migrate to other areas is of the utmost importance.

The areas east and west of Lake Okeechobee were not previously connected; today, one may cross the state from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico on the

Okeechobee Waterway. In the late 1800s, the headwaters of the Caloosahatchee River were connected to the west side of Lake Okeechobee via a three-mile canal at the Moore Haven Lock and Dam. On the east side of Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie canal was cut at the Port Mayaca Lock and Dam, connecting the lake to the St. Lucie River. This presented a problem for the northward movement of panthers, in that they had to cross a wide body of water and climb steep banks caused by channelization.

Still, panther biologists have tracked the movement of male panthers with radio collars across the Caloosahatchee River in one key area. Animals don't move randomly through the wild; even creatures of different species tend to move through certain areas more frequently than others, sometimes even creating trails. The panthers coming out of south Florida seemed to be traveling along the edges of a natural waterway, and then following an agricultural ditch to a narrow spot along the Caloosahatchee River. It was this area that was identified as most

important to preserve and protect, so that panthers could continue to move northward in the future.

Just how special is this spot? During the meeting, neighboring ranchers Chris Asplundh and Dwayne House, provided some perspective on just how important this area is – though few people have been lucky enough to get a glimpse of a Florida panther in the wild, House and Asplundh say they see panthers in the area almost every week.

The 1,278-acre Lone Ranger Forge property where the ditch is located, fronts a narrow section of the Caloosahatchee River that is about 92 feet wide, only a few miles west of the Ortona Lock and Dam. The complex purchase of this key property last year, with an incredible number of moving parts, extraordinarily tight deadlines, and multiple legal and funding issues, was brought to a successful conclusion at the eleventh hour, due only to dedication and combined efforts of many individuals and groups working together to achieve a common goal.



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## RECIPE OF THE WEEK!

From Southern Heritage Real Estate  
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### INGREDIENTS

- 2 ½ cups sugar
- ½ cup water
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- ¼ tsp salt
- 2 egg whites
- 1 ½ tsp vanilla
- 1 cup chopped pecans

### DIRECTIONS

Mix together first 4 ingredients in a 2 qt cas-

serole. Loosely cover with a lid or plastic wrap. Microwave on high for 5-6 minutes or until boiling. Uncover and microwave on high for 8-10 minutes or until hard ball stage is reached (or longer in damp weather). Meanwhile, beat egg whites until sniff. Slowly pour hot syrup over egg whites while beating on high speed with a mixer. Add vanilla and continue to beat until candy holds shape. Fold in nuts and quickly drop by spoonfuls onto wax paper.



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