

# Caloosa Belle



Vol. 95 No. 14

Delivering Western Hendry County's News Since 1922

April 5, 2018

## County Board proclaims Hendry a 'Purple Heart County'

By Tara Ionescu

Special to the Caloosa Belle

The Hendry County Commission meeting of Tuesday, March 27, started off with the proclamation of the county as a "Purple Heart County." Hendry County has a highly decorated veteran population including many Purple Heart recipients. The Hendry County Board encouraged citizens to show their appreciation of the sacrifices that Purple Heart recipients have made, and recognized and honored the combat-wounded veterans residing here.

Commander Jack Wagner and the executive team of The Military Order of the Purple Heart of Chapter 696 were in attendance to receive this dedication. Chapter 696 encompasses all of Lee, Hendry and Collier counties.

Also during the meeting, former Hendry County Commissioner Donald Allen Davis was remembered and honored. He passed away March 22, 2018, in Lehigh Acres. The Hendry County Board proclaimed that, annually, May 25 will be known as Commissioner Don Davis Day as a celebration of his life.

First thing on the agenda was the problem of code enforcement cases and existing liens, and commissioners reviewed a PowerPoint report submitted by Margaret Emblidge, director of planning and community development. From 2011 through 2018, she said, there have been a total of 297 liens on

124 properties, with the amounts varying from \$280 to \$6,660, totaling \$114,930. The main problem with these liens is enforcing them, she says.

At the moment there are three code enforcement officers for about 40,000 people. The county does not have the manpower to enforce these rules, which leads to neglect of properties, which in turn affects the aesthetic value of whole neighborhoods, the report showed. Commissioners discussed how to enforce community pride and to move communities in an upward and progressive fashion. County Administrator Charles Chapman asked the board to review the report and get back to him on how members wished to proceed.

"By the way, we are proactive and reactive" on these cases, Ms. Emblidge said.

She also presented an amendment to the Hendry County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1-14.5, on noise control, for consideration, specifically to provide exceptions to the noise restrictions for the Airglades and LaBelle airports, local railroads and sugarcane farming activities.

"What we're proposing today is revisions that would basically exempt the activities that are within both the Airglades Airport and the LaBelle Airport, as well as stating that the railroad operations and such would be exempt. Some of this is given, but it's better to have it on paper for the sheriff to

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Special to The Caloosa Belle/Tara Ionescu

Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 696 executive team and the Hendry County commissioners pose with a Purple Heart.



Submitted photo/Megan Narehood

Dave Bogart, resident of LaBelle, asks for Barron Park to have one main purpose instead of being a hybrid park at the Barron Park Workshop on March 22.

## Committees formed at Barron Park Workshop

By Megan Nicole Narehood

Special to the Caloosa Belle

Three committees were formed at the Barron Park Master Plan Workshop on March 22 to come up with a concept for Barron Park. The committees formed are the playground committee, safety/fixtures committee and character/beautification committee.

The playground recommends the best location for the playground, it's style, and the age range. The character/beautification committee recommends the style of design and buildings that will be in the park, landscaping, and if recreation should be included. The safety/building committee includes lighting, pathways, park rules and hours, and buildings needed.

Shellie Johnson, former City Planner for LaBelle, said she thinks having the community work together to form committees is a great idea.

"The purpose behind these concept plans is to generate conversation so the designer can understand what components you want in the park," said Johnson, "It is ground zero."

"You have to come to an agreement on what elements you want in the park," said Johnson.

Johnson said some "hot topics" are parking along the river or no parking along the

river, splash pads, and playgrounds.

Brent Keller with Ensite agreed with Johnson and said the Barron Park Plan "should be talked about but should be an executive decision."

"The best way for there to be an executive decision is to understand the goal of the park and I've not yet heard that," said Keller.

"The thought of having a goal for the park never occurred to me when we started designing this," said Commission Julie Wilkins.

Commissioner Daniel Akin told those who attended the meeting why having a plan for the park is important.

"We have to make a decision as to what we want to do before we can apply for grants," said Akin.

Ramiro Rodriguez, Hendry LaBelle Recreation Director, agreed a decision must be made regarding the direction of the park.

"We have to identify what kind of park it is going to be," said Rodriguez, "is it going to be a recreational park or a passive park."

"Barron Park should be beautification 120 percent with landscaping, nice grass, irrigation, and nice flowers," said Rodriguez, "So people can sit down to drink their coffee in the morning in nice benches and enjoy the day."

Rodriguez said he would suggest the

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# Hendry County zeroing in on future land uses near Airglades

By Chris Felker  
INI Florida

Hendry County commissioners got a brief overview last week on public informational meetings that county staff conducted March 19-22 at three locations regarding the land use study that's in progress for areas around the future Airglades International Airport.

What brought up the topic was the county board's consideration last Tuesday, March 27, of an amendment to its noise ordinance that would exempt activities at the Airglades and LaBelle airports. The commissioners voted to table action until April 24 because they thought it unwise to enact a blanket exemption.

During that discussion, County Administrator Charles Chapman was explaining that under the proposal, "an airport activity would never violate the noise ordinance."

Hendry County Commissioner Michael Swindle asked Margaret Emblidge, the director of planning and community development who was explaining the measure, "And you have the contours of where those areas are around the airports ... that show where that noise level would be? You may want to follow up on the discussion that coincides with the hearings you've been having, how that all ties together."

Those public meetings had been conducted the evenings of March 19, 20 and 22 at three Clewiston venues, giving an overview of the planned expansion of Airglades and providing residents an opportunity to give input. The county's land use study is being coordinated with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) under a Competitive Florida Partnership Technical Assistance Grant.

Ms. Emblidge said: "We ... were conducting a land-use study for the properties that are around the Airglades Airport, getting ahead of the curve to determine what uses would be appropriate in what locations, looking at the compatibility – primarily looking at the fact that residential, for example, wouldn't be compatible right next to the airport. But those noise contours that you're referring to do define the areas where we would be looking at limiting various uses. Those contours specifically are from (the Federal Aviation Administration), and FAA has specific restrictions."

She explained that the county staff was to send its first report to DEO last Friday, with an assessment of the nearby properties and summaries of the three community outreach meetings, one with the property owners and the others geared toward nearby residents.

Commissioner Karson Turner asked,

airports."

There followed a long discussion during which the commissioners expressed concern about land uses that might come after the airport expansion and potential noise from those that might be greater than that of jets taking off or landing.

Ms. Emblidge and Administrator Chapman said that from what they were hearing, the noise control exemptions needed to be changed or limited, and he suggested that the board continue the public hearing.

The conclusion was that most commissioners did not feel the county should act to allow a full exemption of the noise control on both airports at present, so Mr. Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Swindle, to continue the public hearing on this ordinance to April 24.

"Those hearings spoke specifically to noise control, that there's buffering that's in place, and now we're going to reverse that?"

"Not at all, sir," said Ms. Emblidge.

Mr. Chapman jumped in to clarify: "We've got the noise ordinance and we've got the airport zoning ordinance. Those are two separate and distinct things." He went on to explain that their agenda item that night was only the noise ordinance.

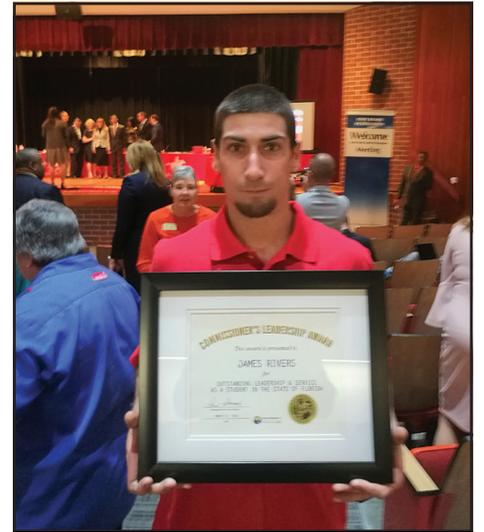
"The two, somewhat, interrelate to each other," said Commissioner Swindle. "A good example is that one of the businesses wants to do jet engine testing, and they want to be able to do it and not worry about the folks around there complaining."

"Chairman Mitchell Wills said, 'We've got to be careful with this noise ordinance stuff. We need to make sure that we're staying consistent.'" The noise ordinance change was then delayed, but Ms. Emblidge described for the board the next steps in the planning process for properties near the Airglades site, which is along U.S. 27/State Road 80 a few miles west of Clewiston:

"We will be bringing to the board two land-use alternatives for the area around the airport. And then staff will be looking for direction on which way we want to go, as in ... types of future land-use map amendments we might want to look at, or creating an overlay for the area so we aren't necessarily changing the land use or the zonings on the properties that are in that area but we are affording them an overlay."

She explained that the latter measure would be "somewhat like the west Hendry planning overlay that's in the northwest area of the county, and somewhat like the sector plans that we have, with the Duda sector plan and the southwest Hendry County sector plan, where you have basically an overlay of uses that (developers) can pursue but they'd still have to come in to us for a zoning process for us to be able to review and ensure that they're appropriate land uses and there's appropriate infrastructure for those land uses."

The Hendry County Board last month approved the eventual sale of the county airport property to Airglades International Airport LLC, a partnership of Florida Cargo Fresh and SugarHill.



Submitted photo/Tara Ionescu

## Rivers receives Commissioner's Leadership Award

On Tuesday March 27 The State Board of Education awarded James Rivers the reward for "Outstanding Leadership & Service as a Student in the State of Florida". Rivers had to overcome specific learning disabilities and processing disorders to enter Immokalee Technical College where James earned his certificate in Auto Tech. With these skills he pursued a career of welding and has been working at MC Ventures in Labelle for over a year. James is the first person in his family to attend and graduate from higher learning.



Submitted photo/Helen Mead

On Tuesday, March 20, the Kiwanis Club of LaBelle welcomed guest speaker, Lisa Sands from United Way. She discussed the upcoming event "Swing Into Spring" which is their annual fundraiser/dinner held at Riverbend MotorCoach Resort in LaBelle. Tickets are on sale now at United Way and Sponsorships are available. Contact United Way for more details. The LaBelle Kiwanis has been a Sponsor for United Way for many years. Lisa explained how United Way changes lives for the better. When people invest in United Way, they help people in need. It helps to make families strong, feed the hungry, help children grow and develop to their full potential and help families restore their lives. All of the money raised stays local!! Any gift to United Way goes directly to meet the needs of our local communities in Hendry/Glades making our communities a better place to live and to work. LaBelle Kiwanis President, Sue Williams is pictured with Lisa Sands, United Way Manager Hendry/Glades.

## BOCC

Continued From Page 1

be able to enforce this. The other item was specifically for exempting sugarcane activities because that's such a mainstay with our economy," Ms. Emblidge said.

She noted that it was a public hearing, but no one asked to speak.

After Commissioner Michael Swindle made a motion seconded by Commissioner Emma Byrd to approve the changes, Commissioner Karson Turner asked, "So the recommendation is to completely exempt airport activities from having any noise control whatsoever?" Ms. Emblidge replied, "Yes. It's the industrial and aeronautical activities that are located within the properties of the

## School Brief

### School Board to hold forums

The Hendry County School District will host two forums to discuss the proposed Guardian program. Meetings will take place at the LaBelle High School Auditorium on Monday, April 9 at 7 p.m. and at the Clewiston High School Auditorium on Thursday, April 12 at 7 p.m. This discussion regarding school safety concerns and ideas is open to the public.

## Park

Continued From Page 1

parks focus be on family and not on recreation.

"We find if you don't turn the parks into a family park you get the element of kids who do graffiti and vandalism," said Rodriguez, "Once you turn the park into a family park where the entire family is involved it makes the environment of kids that do graffiti and destruction move to someplace else."

Dave Bogart, resident of LaBelle, said he would like to see a "beautiful central park" but the decision for the direction of the park must

be an executive decision.

"This has to be an executive decision by someone who says we go tourist attraction, beautiful, peaceful, city park or recreational park utilitarian," said Bogart, "You have to have one way or another way, there is no in between."

Jamie Bartley, resident of LaBelle disagrees with Bogart.

"I think we can combine all the elements and have a beautiful park," said Bartley.

"Barron Park is a passive park with elements of recreation, it's a hybrid," said Commissioner Wilkins, "We need to evolve, and the question is where."



# Lake level expected to continue to drop

By Katrina Elskén

INI Florida

Water managers predict that the level of Lake Okeechobee, at 14.37 will continue to drop and could reach 12.5 feet by June. If it happens, that dry-season drop would be beneficial to the lake's ecology, according to biologists.

"It's dry. In the near term, it is going to stay dry," said Cal Neidrauer, South Florida Water Management District chief engineer, Hydrology and Hydraulics Bureau, at the County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and the Caloosahatchee Estuaries and the Lake Worth Lagoon at its March 16 meeting in the Historic Okeechobee County Courthouse.

He said there is too much uncertainty to predict what will happen when the wet season starts in June.

"After Hurricane Irma, things dried out," he said. "We had four consecutive months of below-average rainfall.

He said the district has had only about 55 percent of average rainfall during the dry season so far.

The largest rainfall deficit is in the upper Kissimmee basin. He said water levels are dropping in Chain of Lakes, and these levels are ecologically desirable.

The lake level is tracking downward, he said. Relative to last year, it's a foot and a half higher than a year ago.

The water levels in the water conserva-

tion areas (WCAs) south of the lake are at or below schedule, which gives the green light for sending water south, he continued. Water flow from the lake to the south is about 900 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Water has been released to the south for the past six weeks, he said.

No water from the lake has flowed east to the St. Lucie this year.

Flow to the Caloosahatchee River is limited to the amount of water needed to supplement basin flow and maintain the desirable salinity levels in the river and the Caloosahatchee estuary. Since Jan. 5, plus flows to the Caloosahatchee have been about 354 cfs.

"Looking ahead, the drought monitor for Florida is showing a good portion of the state in dry conditions," Mr. Neidrauer said. "We are seeing the areas of drought conditions growing, which makes sense considering the rainfall."

Weather forecasters predict a high chance of below-normal rainfall in April, he said.

"We are currently experiencing La Niña conditions. We're likely to receive below-average rainfall for the next month or so."

Seven projections done using data from other La Niña years indicate the lake will drop to 13 feet by the first week in June. Four of the seven projections indicate the lake will fall to between 12 and 12.5 feet by the first week in June.

"Our biologists say if that happens, it will be good for the lake," he said.

The wet-season rainfall is very difficult

to predict," said Mr. Neidrauer. The current analysis indicates about 10 percent chance the lake level will rise to the point that it will require harmful releases to the coastal estuaries in September, and about a 20 percent chance that harmful freshwater releases will be required in October.

Coalition members present at the meeting were Glades County Commissioner Weston Pryor, Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann, Highlands County Commissioner Jack Richie, Okeechobee County Commissioner David Hazellief, Hendry County Commissioner Karson Turner, Martin County Commissioner Doug Smith, Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Osceola County Commissioner Cheryl Grieb and St. Lucie County Commissioner Frannie Hutchison.

In other business March 16, Hendry County Commissioner Karson Turner was re-elected chairman of the coalition. Osceola County Commissioner Cheryl Grieb was elected vice chairwoman.

The 16-county coalition had planned a fly-in March 21 to Washington, D.C., but only two coalition members were available that day.

"If we can't get more of us to go, we should perhaps reschedule," said Commissioner Smith. "If we don't go up en masse, my concern is we may be sending the wrong message."

The coalition agreed to reschedule the trip for April. The Florida Association of Counties (FAC) is already planning a trip to D.C. in

April. Commissioner Turner suggested they take advantage of the fact that many commissioners from the 16 member counties will already be there.

"Going up there with just one or two or three of us is not worth the trip, and not worth asking the Congressmen and women to come and meet with us," said Commissioner Mann. "But the FAC agenda is different than this coalition's agenda."

"We should coordinate, and borrow and steal commissioners from the 16 counties to be part of this," said Commissioner Mann. He said other commissioners from the 16 coalition member counties could participate if the designated coalition representatives were not available.

"There is nothing more important to our 16 counties than water issues," he said. "We need to not get ourselves diluted by a broader agenda."

Commissioner McKinlay suggested they ask FAC to put a 16-county coalition meeting on their agenda.

All of the coalition members reported good things happening in their counties.

"All is well in the best county in the state," said Glades County's representative.

Commissioner Pryor said Glades County is moving forward on a septic-to-sewer project.

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Fax: (863) 675-1449  
Website: www.caloosabelle.com

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- 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.

## Lake

Continued From Page 3

Hendry County's representative asked that the coalition consider a resolution in regard to chemical spraying of aquatic vegetation in Lake Okeechobee. Commissioner Turner suggested they ask the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection to look at the manner in which the spraying occurs, and its schedule.

"Highlands County has got everything going for it," said Commissioner Richie. "We all have blue roofs.

"We had a direct hit, as most of you know, and many if not most of the roofs were affected in Highlands County.

"The water tables are great and the fire conditions are terrible," he said. "It's an anomaly having so much water in our lakes right now and everything else turning into a desert from lack of rain."

Commissioner Mann said Lee County is still suffering from Irma and dealing with hurricane damage and hurricane cleanup.

"Ironically, Hurricane Irma hit Lee County on Sept 10," he said. "On Sept. 10, 1960, Hurricane Donna took almost the same path.

"Donna came at such an angle that she pulled all of the water out of the Caloosahatchee River and the river was dry – it was almost biblical.

"Hurricane Irma hit a slightly different angle and resulted in flooding," he said.

He said they have discussed what they can do to clean the debris out of the dozens of rivers and creeks.

"When you flood, you have to get that water out to the Gulf of Mexico as fast as you can," he said.

If hurricane debris is not cleaned up before the wet season, flooding could again be a problem.

"Some of the creeks, it's frightening how

thoroughly they are log-jammed. It is going to be an enormous undertaking to clean that up," he said.

"I think Lee County has done a better job of learning, and now we are working to improve that situation," he said.

"Flooding hurt a lot of people."

Martin County Commissioner Smith noted that Indiantown incorporated last year and just conducted elections for city officials. Hobe Sound is also on the incorporation route, he said.

He said the coral reef from the area near the St. Lucie Estuary to Key Biscayne is in significant peril.

He said they are studying water quality along all of the inlets.

"We will have significant amounts of data to determine what is damaging our reef," he said. He added that reefs near Guam, Samoa and Hawaii are suffering the same type of damage.

"At the rate at which this thing is accelerating, we need everyone's help to find out what is happening and stop it, or at least slow it down," he said.

Commissioner Hazellief said Okeechobee County will continue to work on septic-to-sewer conversion.

He said Bass Pro has signed an agreement to build a resort on the Okee-Tantie property.

"That can be a big thing, just thinking about the advertising they will do for this area," he said.

Osceola Commissioner Grieb said Osceola County is seeking help to control future flooding. She said they will be pushing for a survey of the northern section of Osceola County.

Commissioner McKinlay said Palm Beach County is in diligent conversation with the South Florida Water Management District for the Loxahatchee River restoration project.

She said DEP and SFWMD have signed off on plans for the Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir.

"We are happy we were able to negotiate

that deal without taking any land out of agricultural production," she said.

Commissioner McKinlay said the state budget did not provide any money for stormwater improvement projects for the Belle Glade, South Bay and Pahokee area. The outdated stormwater systems are the reason those communities have to back-pump into Lake Okeechobee to prevent flooding, she added.

Palm Beach County was pleasantly surprised to receive another \$980,000 this (state legislative) session, she said.

She said state money should not be used to repair the Herbert Hoover Dike because the project is already fully funded by federal dollars. The state money could be put to better use funding other projects, she added.

"We don't need to be putting our state dollars toward the infrastructure projects," she said.

"The president needs to tell the corps to use that money and move forward."

She said the state had already committed \$100 million to speed repairs on the dike.

"Yes, we want this repaired; yes, we want it sped up. But the federal government has already fully funded it.

"Florida taxpayers should not have to pay twice with our income tax dollars and our state tax dollars," said Commissioner McKinlay. "I don't want the state to be put in the position that we have to put another \$100 million of state dollars into that project. We don't know who will be sitting in the governor's chair next year."

Commissioner Hutchinson said St. Lucie County will ask voters to pass a half-cent sales tax for 10 years, with that revenue to go to stormwater projects.

"Amen to Okeechobee County and Bass Pro," said Commissioner Mann. "It is a major statement when a major corporate entity like Bass Pro Shop is investing in Lake Okeechobee.

## Thank you

### Thank you LES

Hello my name is Kristen Pyle, but Y'all may know me by my maiden name Wilson. Having grown up in a small town I now know the Greatness and Love a Small Town can bring. I would like to thank the people of LaBelle for the support and prayers while I was sick, and the LaBelle Elementary School staff for putting together the fundraiser. We are so blessed to live in a small community where we help one another. Thank You Buddy Taylor for contributing the cole slaw, Robbie Hull for his Grill-Master skills in cooking the meat and His Vision Our Hands for their donation.

**Kristen Pyle**

### DKG Meeting

At the last DKG meeting, we announced the success of the Scholarship Game Day event. Thank you to all who helped in some capacity towards this event, especially to those who purchased tickets. As a result of this success the Scholarship Committee is able to award three \$500 scholarships. The winners will be announced on May 8 and LHS Senior Awards Night.

Future events include, Induction of new officers on May 7, Operation Backpack on

May 10, and The Community Outreach Committee is planning another event for May 17th to recognize retired teachers.

**Ann Daniel, M.Ed**

### Whisper Creek Chapel

Whisper Creek Chapel, a church that meets in the Rec Hall at Whisper Creek RV Park is donating \$3,300 to the Salvation Army to be used to help the youth of La-

Belle. The church meets December through March and is composed of "snowbirds" from the US and Canada. Along with Sunday offers, the church holds a spaghetti dinner, back sale and a pie auction to raise funds. Cooperation between the Whisper Creek administration and the Chapel committee has been great, enabling us to make this donation.

**Pastor Chuck Elston.**

## Speak Out

### Another Day in Bedrock

Welcome to another day in bedrock, what is going on? Helms Road is at a stand still again or are they just waiting for the weeds to grow up again before they attempt to do the asphalt again? The re clearing and prepping has been for ever, plus the time it took to complete the curbing dates back to the 60's and 70's. Why can we not find out when this project will be complete, no one will give us an answer? The road is a big plus for all that is a mess on Cowboy Way mainly the schools.

### Residential Mechanic?

From a family with children What is happening with all of the truck yards in r/r areas , I have seen many items in the news over the past few years and nothing is being done.

We have mechanic shops migrant camps that are a danger to all of us. If you drive a truck for a living and have to come home and go to work in it, It can be understood. Having a half a dozen or more and also having a mech shop is bad for the ground as well as water etc. When is this going to end' The noise is every day



Submitted photo

## Pet of the Week

Whisper is a 1 year old Domestic Medium Hair mix. She is as sweet as pie. She would prefer to go home with someone who will hug her and snuggle her daily. Please consider opening your heart and your home to sweet Whisper. Caloosa Humane Society Adoption Center is open Monday and Saturday 11-4 and Tuesday through Friday 11-5. We are located at 1200 Pratt Blvd., LaBelle. For more information on Whisper or any of our other sweet feline residents, please call 863-675-0997.

### ACROSS

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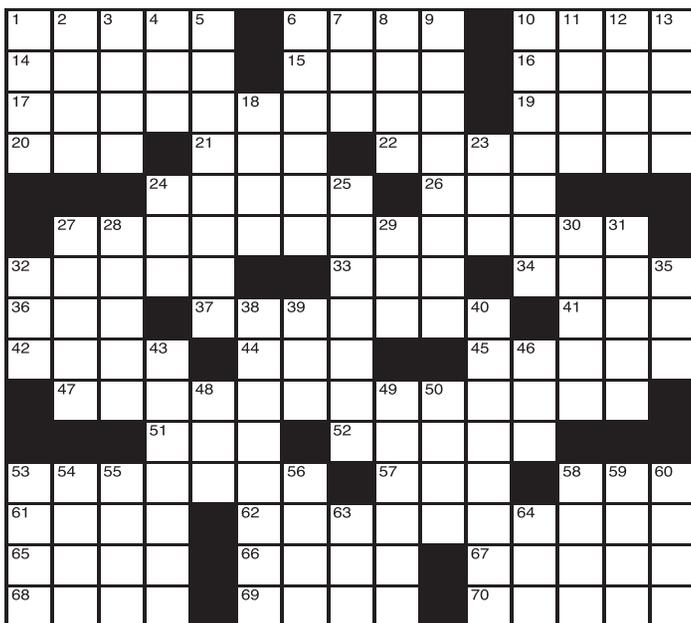
- 43 Saloon souvenirs
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- 48 Break bread
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- 50 Unravel at the edge, as threads
- 53 Switch positions
- 54 Move, in real estate lingo

- 55 Switch partner
- 56 Fully cooked
- 58 All over again
- 59 Low in fat
- 60 Soldier's group, a member of which might be stationed at the start of 17-, 27-, 47- or 62-Across
- 63 Old vitamin bottle no.
- 64 Once \_\_\_ while

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



xwordeditor@aol.com



### DOWN

- 1 Dogpatch creator Al
- 2 Melville novel
- 3 Light fog
- 4 Suffix with Marx
- 5 Fried Taco Bell offerings

By Jerome Gunderson  
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# A CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON 2017-2018

## Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center



**Molodi**  
**An Experiment in Body Percussion**  
**Friday, May 4**  
**7:30 PM**

VISIT [www.dollyhand.org](http://www.dollyhand.org)

All dates, artists and programs subject to change.

Box Office 561-993-1160  
 Buy tickets @ [www.dollyhand.org](http://www.dollyhand.org)

1977 College Drive, Belle Glade, FL 33430



**PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE**



Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts

## Welcome to LaBelle's Community Ladies Bible Study



Submitted photo/Cliff Avery

### Community Ladies Bible Study

A new Bible study has just begun on the Book of Romans at LaBelle Assembly of God. This study is made up of our area churches and ladies gather every Friday at noon to fellowship around God's Word. Paul presents the Good NEWS: Salvation is available to all, regardless of a person's identity, sin, or heritage. We are saved by grace (unearned, undeserved favor from God) through faith (complete trust) in Christ and His finished work. Through Him we can stand before God justified, "not guilty" (3:21 - 5:21). With this foundation Paul moves directly into a discussion of freedom that comes from being saved-freedom from the power of sin (6:1-23), freedom from the domination of the law (7: 1-25, freedom to become like Christ and discover God's limitless love (8: 1-39). All ladies are welcome! LaBelle Assembly of God is located on Fraser Avenue, across from the Edward A. Uptegrove Elementary School. For more information call 675-0900 and ask for Kathy

## Church Briefs

### Women's Conference

Community Harvest Worship Center Women's Conference will be on April 14 with the Rev. Marilyn Weeks from Brooksville FL. A very powerful woman of God, she has been in ministry for over 40 years. Preaching and teaching the word of God seeing many healed, delivered and set free. Theme: In every season; to everything there is a season. A time for every purpose under heaven. Registration starts at 9:00 a.m., service 10:00 a.m., Lunch following the service. Registration is \$20. For more information call 863-673-6328 or 863-675-0938.

### Gran Campaña

### Garden of Prayer

LaBelle Community SDA Ministries extends our 11 a.m. Sabbath morning Pastoral Garden of Prayer to anyone and everyone whose mind is heavily burdened. You know how heavy your situation is. James 5:16 reminds us to pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results.

You can join our prayer list of over 100 by sending your family's

name to P.O. Box 1885 LaBelle, FL 33975.

**Pastor Rupert A. Balfour, PhD**

### Good Shepherd

### Schedule

**Thursday, April 5** - Healing Service 09:30 - 10:30 a.m. • Bible Study 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Sunday, April 8** - Worship Service 10 a.m.

**Friday, April 13** - Final Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner of the Season 5 p.m. Raffle Drawing for Quilt at 7 p.m.

**Sunday, April 29** - Worship Service 10 a.m. officated by Bishop Dabney Smith - Diocese of South West Florida

### A Gathering of Christian Men

The monthly meeting of A Gathering of Christian Men will be held at the Dallas Townsend Building, 1085 Pratt Blvd. on the third Monday of each month. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with a Pot Luck meal. Please remember to bring a dish to share. We will then continue with our business meeting. You are really needed.

## Obituaries

### Andres M. Herrero, Sr.

LABELLE — Andres M. Herrero, Sr., passed away March 31, 2018 in Hope Hospice, Lehigh Acres. Andres was born Nov. 11, 1940 in Havana, Cuba and came to the United States in 1957. He became a U.S. Citizen Nov. 1978. He attended High School and earned a degree in accounting in New York. He moved to Miami in 1968 and later relocated to LaBelle in 2002. He attended the LaBelle Church of God.



Survivors include his wife, Ruby (Deese) Herrero; children, Andres Herrero, Jr. (Lisa), Alexander Herrero (Katherine); grandchildren, Shahidy Benito, Alexander Arocha, Brandon Herrero, Elizabeth Herrero, Isabelle Herrero; and two great-grandchildren, Emerie and Zulian Benito; nephews, Charles E. Hicks, Jr. (Vicki), Earl David Hicks (Karen); nieces, Carma Hicks (Park) and Glenda Brooker (Gordon); along with a host of family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hope Healthcare Services, 1201 Wings Way, Lehigh Acres, Florida 33936.

Funeral services were held graveside at Fort Denaud Cemetery on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. with Pastor Cliff Gobble officiating.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

### Robert B. Hegley Jr., 58

LEHIGH ACRES — Robert B. Hegley Jr. passed away at home.

He was born Aug. 24, 1959 in , Pennsylvania, to the late Robert B and to Chalys Hegley.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1977 to 1983.

He has been instrumental in the car business in Hendry County for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Dawn (Peace) Hegley; one son, Robert B Hegley 2nd; three daughters, Khari Ford, Caitlyn Ford and Cooper Ford; mother, Chalys Hegley; three brothers, Chris Hegley, Steven Hegley and Lee Hegley.

A Memorial Service is Pending.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

### Norman Rynning, Sr., 83

LABELLE — Norman Rynning, Sr., formerly of LaBelle, passed away on March 31, 2018 in Pembroke Pines.

Services will be held at Fred Hunter's University Drive Home on Friday, April 6, 2018 beginning at Noon. Visit FredHunters.com for more information.

### Elsie Faye Foster, 89

LABELLE — Elsie Faye Foster passed away March 31, 2018 in LaBelle, FL.

She was born Nov. 28, 1928 in Greensboro, N.C., to the late Rupert B. and Elsie (Busick) Bynum.

Survivors include a son, Frank Stephen Foster; a daughter, Faye Suzanne (Roger) Burg; grandson, Robbie (Nikki); granddaughter, Shelby (Kyle); and one great-grandchild.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

## Hendry Regional Medical Center Welcomes



Lisa Marra,  
MSN, ARNP-C,  
a family  
nurse practitioner!

**Hendry Regional Convenient Care Center**  
450 South Main Street, LaBelle.

To schedule an appointment call 863-675-2356.



**HENDRY REGIONAL  
MEDICAL CENTER**

"Where It's All About Getting Better"

## School Briefs

### Project Graduation

LaBelle High School is planning this year's Project Graduation event. All parents of juniors and seniors are encouraged to participate in the planning process. The next planning meeting will take place on Monday, April 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the LaBelle High School Media Center.

Project Graduation is an all night party for graduates at the school the night of graduation (May 19 this year). The intent is to give the class one last time to be together and in a safe environment. Each graduate receives gifts throughout the night, food is provided, and various types of entertainment are provided. We greatly appreciate the help of parents and the wonderful support of local businesses.

### LHS Curriculum Night 2018

Students and parents are invited to attend this year's curriculum night at Labelle High School. This is an opportunity to view the existing and new programs for the 2018-2019 school year. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. \*From 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. there will be an information session for incoming freshman and their parents in the auditorium.

At 6:30 p.m. the cafeteria will be open to all. LHS coaches and club sponsors will be available to answer questions. In addition, representatives from Florida Southwestern College and Fort Myers Technical College will be present to discuss dual enrollment opportunities. LHS faculty and staff looks forward to seeing you there.

# Dairy Goat Show during LaBelle Youth Livestock Show

By Sonja Crawford

Special to the Caloosa Belle

The LaBelle Youth Livestock Dairy Goat Show was held on Thursday, February 15. The official judge for the evening was Mr. Clint Webster of Ft. Myers, Florida. The show was sponsored by MJRDB Architecture LLC. The Belt Buckles were sponsored by Phil and Gail Pelletier, Randy's Garage, Rick's Barbershop and Two Peas Café.

The evening began with the peewee dairy goat show with Justin Davis, Kassie Dupree, Fabiola Gonzalez, Gabriella Hernandez, Benito Hernandez, Vaughn McAvoy, Zachary Morgani, Sadie Pelletier, Cameryn Perkins, Nora Potter, Saoirse Potter, Anabeth Raulerson, River Stevenson, Kynlynn Waldron, Gracie Washam, Shelby Zilen, and Hunter Zilen showing dairy goats. The exhibitors walked the goats around the ring and were asked questions about the goat they were showing. All the peewee participants received medallions for their great dairy goat showmanship.

In the 4-H/FFA Show, the dairy goats were judged on the Danish system. The show consisted of several exhibitors showing more than one dairy goat: Ariana Alexander - 5 blue ribbons, 3 grand champions, Gwendolyn Ash - 3 blue ribbons, 2 reserve champions; Kirsi Dunaway - 8 blue ribbons, 4 grand champions, 2 reserve champions; Brigid Potter - 2 blue ribbons; Siobhan Potter - 1 blue and Gracie Swails - 3 blue ribbons, 1 grand champion.

The Best of Show buckle was awarded to Kirsi Dunaway with her dairy goat named Billy Jean. Billy Jean Nigerian Dwarf (Milker 3 years and up) and was born on February 15, 2015.

Ariana Alexander captured the first-place award with Brigid Potter in second place in the Junior Showmanship division as well as in the Fitting and Grooming division.

Gracie Swails took the first-place award with Kirsi Dunaway winning the second-place award in the Intermediate Fitting and Grooming category. Kirsi achieved the first-place award in the Showmanship division with Gracie in second place.



Submitted photo

**Kirsi Dunaway - Best of Show.**

Gwendolyn captured the first place Senior Fitting and Grooming award as well as the Showmanship award.

The sponsor of the show is greatly appreciated as well as the LYL committee, 4-H leaders and parents. All the exhibitors did a great job exhibiting their goats. The exhibitors who participated in the LaBelle Youth Livestock Dairy Goat Show were members the Udder Fun Dairy Goat 4-H Club led by Tricia Gonzalez or Felda Community Pioneers 4-H Club under the direction of Stephanie Dunaway and Ginger Swails or the Clewiston FFA Chapter led by Jenny Goeff and Kaylynn Mullins.



Submitted photo

**LaBelle High School Student of the month for February are Benjamin Molina and Alondra Reyna.**



Submitted photo

**Student-Athlete of the Month for February - Angelica Cuellar, not pictured, Juan Zamora.**



Submitted photo

**Upthegrove Elementary School's Students of the Month for January. Adamary Rodriguez, Angel Resendiz, Kaleb Acuna, Jae-P Casiano, Alexandra Tack, Cassandra Salazar, Drayton Akin, Christopher Cepero, Darey Raya, Ana Lopez, Jenna Grimaldo, Isac Moreno, Sebastian Santos, Misael Resendiz-Salazar, Aliza Garza, Jack Cruz, Peyton Deas, Eli Austin, Pablo Hernandez, Zoey Johnson, Juan Enriquez, Alexander Mejia-Santizo, Tanaija Merancin and Cooper Smith. Not pictured: Kiana Rodriguez and Jay Adams.**



Submitted photo

**Upthegrove Elementary School's Students of the Month for February. Raul Rivera, Jailee Vasquez, Daniel Rasgado-Martinez, Elsy Marquez, Vanessa Morales, Izayah Woodham, Megan Perez, Matthew Stuhlman, Braulyne Flores, Emalee Pequeno, Karol Brooks, Alyssa Aguilar, Saraya Allen, Genesis Hernandez, Jaslene Martinez, Michael Heredia, Bryleigh Deleon, Benjamin Newell, Jordyn Garza, Brilee Fussell, Ayden Arenivar, Aldoleao Salguero, Jennifer Hernandez and Mia Campbell. Not pictured: Owen Deerey and Jenniyah Woodham.**



# The Girls Weightlifting All-Area team was announced

Congratulations Senior Angelica Cuellar and Freshman Jenna McClain, who are nominated for Female Weightlifter of the year and will be honored at the Southwest Florida Sports Awards Banquet on May 23.

First Team Senior - Mercedes Garcia Honorable Mentions were given to Babi Gal-damez, Macy Martinez and Miriam Ruiz!

Coach Chelsa Skipper and Jennifer McClain were named Coaches of the Year.

We are very proud of how these ladies not only represented the Cowgirls this season but also the sport!

The Southwest Florida Sports Awards recognizes and honors the top athletic accomplishments in Southwest Florida High School Sports. This event is hosted by The News-Press and Naples Daily News. The event will take place May 23, at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, 13350 FSW Pkwy Fort Myers. The show features various awards, contests and a special appearance from celebrity guest, John Kruk. The red carpet will open at 6 p.m. and the awards show begins promptly at 7 p.m.



Submitted photo

Coaches Jennifer McClain and Chelsa Skipper- News Press Coaches of the Year Girls Weightlifting.



Submitted photo

Angelica Cuellar, Mercedes Garcia and Jenna McClain at State 1A weightlifting competition 2018. All were honored in News Press All Area Sports Awards.



Submitted photo

## FHSAA State Qualifiers:

Congratulations to Seniors Santiago Morales, Felix Flores, and Edward Brown, Junior Jamie Deras Jr., and Sophomore Jonathan Castro for moving on to the Boys Weightlifting Class 1A State Finals on the 6th of April at Arnold High School in Panama City. At the Region 8 Championships on the 24 of March, the Cowboys were Regional runner-ups and also District runner-up.

A few highlights of the season: Santiago Morales holds the school record in two different weight classes, 119 weight class; clean and jerk 235 lbs and total weight combined 445 lbs. In the 129 weight class; clean and jerk 245 lbs. Christopher Sarabia broke the school record in 238 weight class by benching 315 lbs. The Cowboys finished the regular season by capturing one first place and two third place team trophies this year.



Submitted photo

## West Glades Spirit Week Court

Nevaeh Anderson, Kylie Lowman, Allyssia Razo, Abigail Smallwood, Michelle Rego, Columba Deras, Case Hendry, Juan Diaz, Isaac Deleon, Edgar Guzman, Weston Nesbitt and Michael Stanforth.



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&

The Optical Center

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LaBelle, Florida (863) 675-0761



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L. Lamar Youmans, O.D.



# Online Classifieds



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- Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos
  - Absolutely FREE!
  - Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each
- email:**  
classads@newszap.com

**Employment - Full Time**

**Employment - Full Time**

Hendry County BOCC is seeking applications for a **Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator**. Applications will be received until position is filled, please apply at the Human Resources Department, 640 South Main Street, LaBelle, FL 33935. A complete job posting and application forms are available on the Hendry County website at [www.hendryfla.net](http://www.hendryfla.net). Hendry County is a VP, EEO/AA, DFWP employer and participates in E-Verify. Individuals needing assistance in the application process should contact the County Human Resources department at 863-675-5352

**Hendry County Clerk of Court is seeking applications for Staff Accountant**

Staff Accountant job duties:

- Maintains and balances an automated consolidation system by inputting data, scheduling required jobs, verifying data
- Analyzes information and options by developing spreadsheet reports, verifying information
- Prepares general ledger entries by maintaining records and files, reconciling accounts
- Prepares payments by accruing expenses, assigning account numbers, requesting disbursements, reconciling accounts
- Answers accounting and financial questions by researching and interpreting data
- Protects organization's value by keeping information confidential
- Accomplishes accounting and organization mission by completing related results as needed

Requires a BS Degree in Accounting or 5 years of accounting experience. Please send resumes to: Clerk of Court, PO Box 1760, LaBelle, FL 33975, Attention: Finance Director

**Reading a newspaper provides the opportunity to get involved in your community.**

*No wonder newspaper readers are more popular!*

**Garage Sales**

**Garage/Yard Sales**

**Huge Yard Sale**  
2805 Case Rd  
Fri, **April 6**, 9am-5pm  
Plumbing, Electrical  
Truck parts, BBQ grills,  
tools, Dressers, beds,  
shelves, Dolls, Torches,  
owner tanks, Welder,  
Clothes, Furniture  
Continue Sat **April 7**,  
1pm to ???  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Huge yard sale**  
235 Favor Ave  
Sat **April 7th** 7am to 12  
Clothes, some new  
furniture, TV and more

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

**Employment**

**Employment - Full Time**

**Person wanted to work in orange grove, lawn maintenance & clean up. \$12 hour, must speak English. Flexible hours. Possible Full Time. (239)565-5033 or (239) 369-9567.**

**Roofing**

Metal Roofs  
Re-Roofs  
Roof Repairs

**Financial**

**Business Opportunities**

**NOTICE**

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

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

**Roofing**

Seamless Gutters  
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Free Estimates

**Bryant Roofing Inc.**

Lic#CCC1325950 Office: (863) 675-7045  
1050 Commerce Dr. Suite B. Fax (863) 612-1158

**Rentals**

**Storage Space - Rent**

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

**Mobile Homes**

**Mobile Homes - Sale**

**Mobile Home fixer upper** 3 bedrooms, 2 bath large screen room. Quick Sale. 863-328-0002

**Recreation**

**^01**

**Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot. Call 954-789-7530**

**Tree Removal / Trimming**

**HUNTER TREE SERVICE**

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- Stump Grinding
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**Public Notices**

**Public Notice**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Fort Knox Self Storage located at 1025 Commerce Drive, LaBelle, Florida 33935 intends to sell or otherwise dispose of the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (83.801-83.809). The public sale or other disposition of the following household/Misc items property will take place at Fort Knox Self Storage 1025 Commerce Drive, LaBelle FL 33935 beginning on April 7, 2018 at 11:00am. This public sale requires a \$0.00 cash deposit on all winning bids.

**Comey Jones**  
**Nancy Cantu**  
**Janna Taylor**  
**Dessie Thomas**  
**James Elliott**  
**Ernest Snyder**  
**Shantae Broughton**  
**Erelisha Bell**  
485130 CB 3/29/4/5/2018

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

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME**

The undersigned does hereby certify that Armando Herrera conducting a cerakoting business at 137 S. Industrial Loop Suite 3, LaBelle, Florida, under the fictitious name of Herrera Cerakoting and that said firm is composed of the following persons whose names and places of residence are as follows:  
**Armando Herrera**  
**137 S. Industrial Loop Suite 3**  
**LaBelle, FL 33935**  
Ownership of Herrera Cerakoting is as follows:  
**Armando Herrera**  
**137 S. Industrial Loop**

**Tree Removal / Trimming**

**Public Notice**

**CITY OF SOUTH BAY Advertisement for Invitation To Bid Modernization of Parks and Recreational Facilities**

Bids for Modernization of Parks and Recreational Facilities must be submitted to the City of South Bay at the Office of the City Clerk, 335 SW 2nd Avenue, South Bay, Florida 33493, by Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 4:00 PM and opened immediately thereafter. Any bids received after the designated closing time will be returned unopened.

The purpose of this Invitation To Bid is to seek service of a qualified, licensed professional contractor to provide construction services to the City of South Bay for the Modernization of Parks and Recreational Facilities.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 10:00 AM at Commission Chambers 335 SW 2nd Avenue, South Bay, FL 33493. An original and five (5) copies of the bid, a total of six (6), plus 1 copy of the bid on CD in PDF format must be submitted in sealed envelopes/packages addressed to: Jessica Figueroa, City Clerk, City of South Bay, Florida, and marked **Modernization of Parks and Recreational Facilities**. Proposers desiring information for use in preparing bids may obtain from the Clerk's Office, 335 SW 2nd Avenue, South Bay, Florida 33493, Telephone (561) 996-6751 or copies of the ITB NO: 2018-03; requirements may also be obtained by visiting the City's website at [www.southbaycity.com](http://www.southbaycity.com).

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids and to waive any technicalities or irregularities therein. Contract award shall be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. Proposers may not withdraw their bid for a period of ninety (90) days from the date set for the opening thereof.

Funding for this project is provided through Palm Beach County's Department of Housing & Economic Sustainability with funds provided by the U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. This project requires compliance with the Davis-Bacon and Related Act whereby all laborers and mechanics are required to receive the prevailing wage rates as contained in the bid documents.

All MBEs, WBEs, SBEs and Section 3 businesses are encouraged to participate in the project.  
Jessica Figueroa, City Clerk  
253148 CGS 4/5/2018

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY HENDRY COUNTY STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP (SHIP) PROGRAM**

Hendry County hereby announces that funds for Housing Assistance are available from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program. Funding for fiscal year 2016/2017 through fiscal year 2017/18 have been allocated from SHIP. Funds will be made available for first-time homeowners' assistance.

Hendry County will be hosting two homeowner orientations to explain the program details and answer questions applicants may have. The first homeowner orientation will be conducted on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Hendry County Extension Office, located at 1085 Pratt Boulevard, LaBelle, FL 33975. The second homeowner orientation will be conducted on Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Hendry County Annex Offices, Janet B. Taylor Auditorium, 1100 S. Olympia Street, Clewiston, FL 33440. Individual applications for down payment assistance will be available beginning on Friday, April 27, 2018 through Friday, May 25, 2018 or until funds are expended. The applications will be available on the Hendry County website and at the Hendry County Housing Department locations at 133 N. Bridge Street, LaBelle, Florida and 1100 S. Olympia Street Clewiston, Florida. Contact the Hendry County Housing at 863-675-5297 or Sabrina.Gadson@hendryfla.net for more information. The program does not reimburse for homes that has already been purchased.

The application period is for thirty (30) days, beginning Friday, April 27, 2018 or until all funds have been expended. Applications will be available between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. All applications must be received by the Housing Department, 133 N. Bridge Street, LaBelle, Florida by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 25, 2018.

Pick up/drop off time for the Clewiston office is as follows: Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm and 9:00 am until 4:00 pm Thursday and Friday. Pick up/drop off times for the LaBelle office is as follows: Monday through Wednesday 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. Thursday and Friday 9:00 am until 12:00 pm.

All SHIP assistance recipients must agree to comply with all SHIP Program criteria and requirements as set forth in Chapter 67-37, Florida Administrative Code and are frequently modified and amended. The Hendry County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to close any program application period by Board resolution. Hendry County SHIP programs do not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, familial status, disability, age or any other protected classes.

**HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IS A FAIR HOUSING, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER, AND DISABILITY ACCESSIBLE JURISDICTION**  
485015 CN/CB 3/22,29/4/5,12,19/2018

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds. Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

## Community Briefs

### Friday Night on Ft Thompson

The last concert of the season will be on **April 6**. It will be youth night and (hopefully) kids will come watch other kids perform. SO head on down to Ft Thompson from **6 to 9 p.m.** to watch the local LaBelle youth perform.

### Yard Sale for CHS

The Caloosa Humane Society is holding a yard sale on **Sat. April 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** with many items including collectables, furniture, tools, lots of clothing, cribs, books and much more. Have fun and help support our mission and the animals in our care. Location: 390 North Bridge St. (behind and in the LaBelle Auction building, corner of North Bridge St. and Park Ave.) For more info call 863-675-0997.

### American Legion Events

(April through September Fish Fries are only held the First Friday of each month)

**April 6 - Friday - 5-7 p.m.** Fish Fry with assortment of fish, shrimp, crabcakes & chicken with cole slaw, baked potato or French fries & roll \$9. Homemade desserts by the American Legion Auxiliary are available \$1/slice to support our Veterans. Karaoke begins at 7 p.m. Dining room is smoke free and open to the public.

"Like" our Facebook page to get all the weekly updates, the newsletters and calendars on our website at [www.legionpost130.com](http://www.legionpost130.com)

American Legion Post 130 Meetings: (All Members welcome)

**Ap. 5 -Thurs - 6 p.m.** DAV (Disabled American Veterans) meeting

**Ap. 11 - Wed - 6 p.m.** Sons of the American Legion meeting

**Ap. 19 - Thurs - 7 p.m.** - American Legion Meeting and American Legion Auxiliary Meeting

**May 2 - Wed - 7:30 p.m.** Riders meeting

American Legion Post 130 is located at 699 SR80 West, across from the Shell station. For further information call 863-675-8300. Dining room is open to the public and smoke free.

### Bird Banding

Mark your Calendars for the Hendry-Glades Audubon Monthly Program at 7:00 p.m. at Dallas Townsend Agricultural Extension located at 1085 Pratt Blvd., LaBelle on **Monday April 9**. Nancy Laframboise, a licensed bird bander, will present "Bird Banding 101 and Painted Bunting Research". Bird banding is a scientific research tool used to study many aspects of birds' lives. Banding is done by highly trained and licensed people who have worked under a trainer. Safety of the birds is the primary concern. In addition, one must usually have both federal and state permits to band. For information about Hendry-Glades Audubon or STA 5/6 Bird Trips contact Butch Wilson 863-983-2870 or Margaret England 863-517-0202 or visit [www.hendrygladesaudubon.org](http://www.hendrygladesaudubon.org) or Facebook at Hendry-Glades Audubon.

### Free HIV testing



**April 10** is tagged as National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. People 13-24 years old account for about 22 percent of the new HIV infections in the USA and 51 percent of those don't know that they are infected. This age group is also least likely to be in care if infected. In observance of NYHAAD, the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH in Hendry and Glades counties will offer free HIV testing for anyone on Tuesday, April 10, from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1:00-4:30 p.m. at the following locations: 1100 Olympia St (Clewiston), 450 S. Main St. (temporary LaBelle), and 1021 Health Park Dr. (Moore Haven). Stop HIV. Know your status. Get tested.

### VFW Post 10100

Free Juke Box on Fri. night from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Queen of Hearts Drawing is at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday night.

Hamburgers Every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Best Hamburgers and fries in town. Grilled to perfection. Have it your way.

Ladies Night, Every Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ladies drink at 1/2 Price. Happy Hour: Mon.-Fri. - 3:00 p.m. til 8:00 p.m.

1st Thursday of every month House Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

1st Thursday of every month Veterans Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2nd Wednesday of every month The Auxiliary Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Bingo every Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Turkey Shoot 2nd and 4th Sun. of every month at 1:00 p.m.

Hall rental available to the PUBLIC. We are a Smoke Free Dining Room. We are located on Hwy 29 next to the Rodeo Grounds. For further information call 863-675-8008.

### Scholarship Opportunity for FL Southwestern Graduates

The Rotary Club of LaBelle is offering a scholarship to a student who has attended and graduated from Florida Southwestern College (or will graduate by August 2018) and will be attending a public university or college in the State of Florida in the fall as a junior. There are some specific requirements applicants must meet. For more details and to request an application you can send an e-mail to [jordan2200@embarqmail.com](mailto:jordan2200@embarqmail.com) or request one from the Financial Aid office of Florida Southwestern College. Applications must be submitted and received by midnight **May 11, 2018**.

### Widows Support Group

The Widows Support Group will meet April 19 at 11:30 a.m. at the Log Cabin BB Que. All widows welcome.

### Barron Library Happenings

CHESSE CLUB - Offering a time for experienced players to compete, and also an opportunity to learn how to play, every Monday evening from 6:00 - 8:00.

BARRON BOOK CLUB - book selection for **April 9**, Before We Were Yours, by Lisa Wingate. The club meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 pm, at the library.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

SCORE Seminar - Simple Steps for Starting Your Business, on the dates below from 5:30 - 7:30 pm:

Spanish sessions, **April 5, and May 3**

English sessions, **April 19, and May 17**  
PRESCHOOL STORY TIME - Bring your toddlers/preschoolers for stories and a fun activity, every Tuesday morning at 10:45.

BASIC COMPUTER CLASS - Call the library to reserve your place in the next class. There is a \$20 fee for the five sessions. Class size is small, so don't delay.

### The Food Trucks are back

The Food Trucks will be back at the Barron Park House, 471 N Lee St at Barron Park on Thursday, April 19t from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Art Gallery will be open for your viewing pleasure. There will be bounce houses for the kids and don't forget the good food from the food trucks.

### Friday Night Bingo

The Ortona Community Association weekly Bingo is back. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with hamburgers, hot dogs chicken patties, snacks, soda and ice cream for sale. Games begin at 7:00 p.m. and last cards are sold by 6:45 p.m. Proceeds from bingo and food sales support programs for Ortona

children. OCA Events are held at the Ortona Community Building, 2086 Ortona Locks Road (Hwy 78A). For further information contact: Fran Way at 863-675-7880 or email [franwayrn@aol.com](mailto:franwayrn@aol.com).

### La Leche League of Hendry County

The La Leche League will meet the second Friday every month from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at Parrish Chiropractic, 80 N Main Street, LaBelle. La Leche League helps mothers breastfeed through education, encouragement and mother-to-mother support. We offer informal monthly gatherings, email and phone support for pregnant and breastfeeding women. Dads, children, and breastfeeding support people welcome. Come join us!

### Research Lecture Series at FSW

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) presents a Research Lecture Series at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 11, at the FSW Thomas Edison Campus Rush Auditorium, Building J, Room 103. The Research Lecture Series will highlight the research of several FSW faculty and students.



Submitted photo

### Coming to the Firehouse

In celebration of 25 years of the Firehouse Community Theater, the Firehouse Singers will present a musical review called "Looking Back and Forward" on **April 6-8 and 12-15**. Under the direction of Nick Fidanza, the Singers will perform songs from their past and will also do some songs which will be new to them. Songs from the 20s up and from every genre will be heard! So get your tickets early because it is sure to sell out! **Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances start at 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoon performances start at 2 p.m.** Tickets can be obtained online at [Firehousecommunitytheatre.com](http://Firehousecommunitytheatre.com) or by calling the ticket hotline at (863) 675-3066. Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$16 at the door. The Firehouse Community Theatre is located at 241 N. Bridge Street in LaBelle, FL. Pictured starting with the back row from left to right Barbara Dinsmore, Carolyn White, Jesse Cuello, Ed Soulliere, Bill Bower, DeAnne Sawyer, Jo Coombs and Cindy Shough. Middle row L-R: Katie Redmond, Don Dinsmore and John Wall on piano. Front row L-R: Barbara Brandenburg McDowell, Sue Wild and Tina Johnson Kirby

# Legacy Moss Landing holds style show

By Jo Coombs

Special to the Caloosa Belle

Gorgeous women wearing beautiful clothes is always a winning combination. This was very apparent to the eye at the Legacy Moss Landing (Aqua Isles) 2018 Style Show held on March 1.

Fashions through the Decades was the

theme with clothes, jewelry and other accessories from the 1880s through 1970s.

Music filled the air with a quartet singing songs for everyone's enjoyment. They started with Yankee Doodle of which early versions of this song are dated back before the Seven Years' War and the American Revolution (1775-83). They sang favorites

of everyone such as "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," "Sentimental Journey" and ended with Three Dog Night's 1970s classic "Joy to the World."

Fashions from each of the decades were modeled by the ladies. Music from their particular decade was played to enhance each model's walk down the runway. The models' clothes and accessories were furnished by James and Darien Workman of The Curiosity Shop in Fort Myers.

Attendees at this function also got involved in the festivities. There were tables of about eight women each representing a particular decade or event in that decade. There

was a Roaring 20s, an American Bandstand, and a Rosie the Riveter table just to name a few. These ladies also dressed according to their decade.

With the fashion show over, it was time for lunch. The ladies decided there wouldn't be any catering done this year, and that they could handle the lunch themselves - and they did! The fabulous food was served "family" style by waiters (men from the park).

Beautiful women, magnificent clothes and accessories, and men waiting on everyone, what a way to spend a few hours! Guess this could be considered being in "Hog Heaven!"



Submitted photo/Jo Coombs

The theme for this years even was Fashion Through the Decades.



Submitted photo

**Pre-K - 2nd Leaders of the Month for January for Country Oaks Elementary**  
 Bottom row: Violet DePue and Sofia Hernandez. Second row: Ericce Radfore, Aliana Ruiz Leon, Bre'nay Beckworth, Nicolas Alanis, Aaron Delgado and Violet Lazalde. Third row: Demet'rauh Johnson, Stephen Guerrero, Olivia Walker, Angelina Aguilar-Avila, Aryanna Zamudio and Camrynn Martinez. Forth row: Georgina Hernandez, Katherine Ordunez-Paxtor, Angel Moreno, Luzmaria Ascenio, Amaiah Meyer and Ximena Chavarria-Munoz.



Submitted photo

**3rd-5th Leaders of the Month for January at Country Oaks Elementary**  
 Top row: Ricardo Banda, Jarely Trejo, Isaiah Santamaria, Yaritza Matias, Giuliana Guare and Jaliza Ortiz. Middlerow: Lizandra Rodriguiz, Jazmin Raya, Clifford Love, Daniel Rivas, Jesus Moreno, Epifanio Hernandez and Zach Sutton. Bottom row: Adriel Valdez, Emanuel Nieto, Roi Santamaria, Jacob Woods, Daniel Sanchez, Adyn Gallegos and Dulce Bocanegra Morales.

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### RECIPE OF THE WEEK SUBMITTED BY SOUTHERN HERITAGE REAL ESTATE

**Creamy Tuscan Garlic Chicken**  
**Ingredients**  
 • 1 1/2 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts thinly sliced  
 1 tsp. Italian seasoning  
 2T. olive oil  
 1/2 c. Parmesan Cheese  
 1 c. heavy cream  
 1 c. spinach, chopped  
 1/2 c. chicken broth  
 1/2 c. sun dried tomatoes  
 1 tsp. garlic powder

**Preparation:**  
 In a large skillet add olive oil, cook chicken on medium heat for 3-5 min. on each side until brown and no longer pink in center. Remove chicken and set aside. Add Heavy Cream, Chicken Broth, Garlic Powder, Italian Seasoning, and Parmesan Cheese. Whisk over med/hi heat until thickening. Add spinach and Sun Dried Tomatoes and let simmer until spinach wilts. Add Chicken back to pan and serve over pasta if desired.

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