

Caloosa Belle

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Delivering Western Hendry County's News Since 1922

July 5, 2018

SR 29 changes in the works

By Patty Brant
Special to the Caloosa Belle

Florida Department of Transportation is responding to complaints and suggestions from Hendry County residents and officials regarding the long-awaited widening of SR 29 south of LaBelle.

District 3 County Commissioner Mitch Wills said plans are being changed to better accommodate the intersection at SR 29 and N. Industrial Loop.

County Engineer Shane Parker explained the new layout this way:

The northernmost driveway to Porterfield Oil will be removed, leaving only one driveway connection to SR29.

Rodeo Drive will have a full median opening to SR29. There will be two driveway connections made on the north side of Porterfield Oil to Rodeo Drive allowing vehicles traveling southbound on SR29 to access Porterfield Oil from Rodeo Drive.

Vehicles exiting Porterfield Oil may use Rodeo Drive to access SR29 and turn south if they so choose without having to do a U-turn on SR29.

Vehicles exiting Porterfield Oil can use the southernmost driveway connection to SR29 or Rodeo Drive to access SR29 and head northbound.

With the help of local residents, Commissioner Wills and County Engineer Shane Parker have worked hard to impress the hazards of limited access to that intersection and others. FDOT's plans would have adversely affected farm trucking between LaBelle and Immokalee as well as area businesses and local traffic. Original plans would have been detrimental to road safety as well as driven up business costs over time.

Intersections at SR 29 and Case and Evans Roads are also potential trouble areas but have not been addressed as yet and Commissioner Wills said he knows of no plans to change them into one-way roads, as has been rumored.

In addition, Commissioner Wills said he has serious concerns about the roundabout planned for SR 29 and Cowboy Way. Drivers have a difficult enough time dealing with

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Caloosa Belle/Dale Conyers

GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE NEW WALL

Thank you to all who attended The Groundbreaking Ceremony Saturday, June 30 at the Veterans Park to locate "The Wall". The New Veterans Granite Wall is to be in Place by Veterans Day, November 11. All Veteran names that are on bricks at the park will be on the wall. August 1 is the deadline to make corrections or add new names to the wall. You can also contact Bob Kirkwood to obtain a digital list of the names at bobkirkwood9@gmail.com. They can be your sons, daughters, grandchildren, relatives and/or friends who are or were Veterans. Pictured from left to right: Marvin Ruble: 2018-19 VFW Commander & American Legion 1st Vice, Jim Rodgers: VFW Quartermaster & American Legion Executive Board, Steve Mockler: American Legion Finance Officer and Adjutant. Bill Davis: 2018-19 American Legion Commander, Bob Kirkwood: DAV (Disabled American Veterans), Dave Lyons: Mayor of LaBelle and Darrell Harris: Hendry County Commissioner.

Training center progress all behind the scenes

By Chris Felker
INI Florida

MOORE HAVEN — Glades and Hendry county commissioners and school district officials are coalescing around a more regional approach to get state funding dedicated to establishing new job training programs at the Glades County Regional Training Facility (GCRTF).

There weren't any breakthroughs to announce during their recent joint luncheon meeting at the training center, unfortunately. Negotiations are still in progress with state colleges and other school districts in southwestern, east- and west-central Florida. The participants did tacitly agree by the end of their June 12 confab, however, that to build on progress being made in those talks with various educational institutions regarding the needs and GCRTF's rich possibilities, they probably should join in lobbying legislators rather than continue in the scattershot

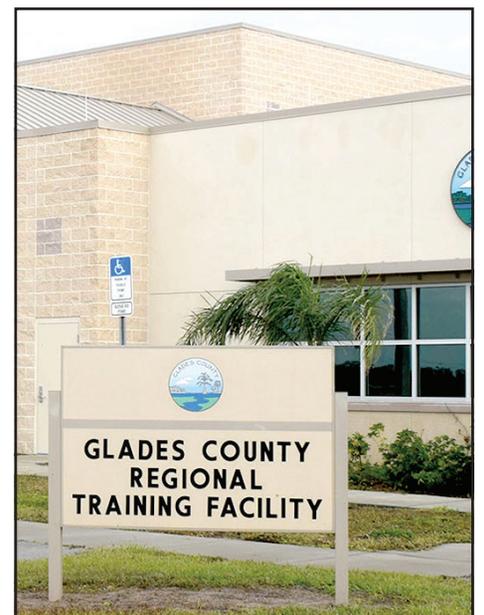
fashion that has so far reaped little success.

It's roundly agreed that regional job training programs are greatly needed by residents as well as businesses and governments in the rural counties of Glades, Hendry, Collier, Highlands and even Okeechobee and Indian River. The two things lacking seem to be, simply, a single leader and an overall plan.

With the departure in late April of Glades County Manager Paul Carlisle, who had been heading up the efforts, coordination has fallen to the Glades and Hendry superintendents of schools, Scott Bass and Paul Puletti, respectively.

Mr. Bass has been doing much of the negotiating, but he was absent, so Mr. Puletti gave the progress updates. "Right now, he is under discussions with iTech in Immokalee through Collier County, which has an eye on this facility as a potential branch campus of theirs," he said.

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Center

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“And then FGCU (Florida Gulf Coast University), the piece that is really intriguing to us, is that they are proposing to come in to offer alternative certification classes for teachers who are struggling with certification issues and with testing issues.” School districts increasingly are using qualified, degreed professionals in their classrooms because of a shortage of certified teachers, but those instructors have only three years to become state-certified, which has posed difficulties, Mr. Puletti said.

Glades County Board Chairman John

Ahern said he understood that the iTech possibility “sounds the most encouraging.” The FGCU idea, however, “would be something that would be good for Glades, Hendry, Okeechobee, Highlands, Palm Beach County and whoever. Where we’re at, right in the center, they can have classes here that would recertify somebody in the teaching field,” he said, asking Mr. Carlisle to speak about his contacts with Indian River State College, including a recent chat with the provost.

“At their Okeechobee campus, their welding school is over capacity from what I understood ... and I said: ‘Well, this one’s ready to go. All you need is the welders and that.’ And so, I would not leave anything off the table,” Mr. Carlisle said. “He was really intrigued with this facility and what they can

soon have an improved parking lot.

For years residents have looked forward to the promise of the Sports Park on Forrey Drive. It should one day become a real asset to the area – an entertainment and economic draw.

A joint effort with the City of LaBelle, city residents are assessed annually an additional \$25 to directly benefit the Sports Park and the county is always seeking additional state funding.

People using Bob Mason Park, off CR 78 north of the river, are enjoying new amenities thanks to the efforts of the LaBelle Recreation Board. Lovely pavilions, gazebos and grills, a small playground, restroom, benches and even a floating dock with several slips have brightened up the area.

“The BOCC is seeking input from the public,” Commissioner Wills said, adding that their response is welcome, and comparing it to a “report card.”

Commissioner Wills said he is using his platform trying to inform people properly of county business, trying to help create a place for people to get where they want to be.

In his second year as a county commissioner, he said he is proud of helping to enhance the information sources available to residents. Residents can now stream county meetings instead of having to take the time to actually physically be at a certain place and time. The commission is also seeking ways to improve feedback, he added.



INI Florida/Chris Felker

Hendry County Administrator Charles Chapman (left center, without tie) makes a point during the June 12 meeting at the Glades County Regional Training Facility.

offer from both the coastal (school), bringing them out here, and from Okeechobee.”

Asked about the FGCU idea, Mr. Puletti said alternative certification classes for teachers would be a great development. “This isn’t just a Glades or Hendry problem, this is throughout the state.”

Hendry County Commissioner Karson Turner asked questions about timing and costs but, with answers not readily available, he wanted to know the thoughts of other participants about making a joint funding request to the Legislature, saying he thought that would command lawmakers’ attention. No one disagreed.

Hendry County Administrator Charles Chapman suggested that, “once we have our ducks in a row with something that’s meaningful with some metrics behind it, with our lobbying team, we go to Heartland Consortium and make this a little bit bigger ask. It can help ... to push through multiple legislative delegations, not just your two and

our two (meaning Glades and Hendry counties and their school districts).”

Said Glades Commissioner Tim Stanley, “We’ve definitely got to have some kind of a plan.”

Summing up, Hendry County Board Chairman Mitchell Wills said: “We’ve got some really healthy conversations going. We just need to make sure going forward that we are all behind one thing, and if we can get the two counties, the school boards and the cities as well, we can all come together on the ask that we have for the region, it’s going to make a greater impact than each one of us trying to pull from different directions. The more that we can come together regionally, and even the outer areas, Highlands County ... it’s going to help the whole region as well.”

Mr. Turner said he didn’t see how lawmakers could refuse, considering that the state already has invested \$4.5 million in the GCRTF.

SR 29

Continued From Page 1

the four-way stop there, he said, and hopes FDOT will reconsider that also. He fears that school buses would not be able to handle a roundabout easily.

“FDOT is starting to work with us,” he said. “The key is to engage people. It’s a process.”

For the county’s part, he also said the dirt road leading off SR 29 to the animal shelter, is to be paved and county roads are constantly being analyzed and tended as money becomes available.

Fort Denaud Road is to be paved and slightly widened by the county and the long-awaited Helms Road Extension is expected to be open to traffic by the end of the year. One problem causing the long wait for Helms Road Extension is that the base material had to be redone.

County roadwork is coming along well and the five-year road plan for the entire county is progressing, he noted. The commissioner said he is looking forward to working with the Cities of LaBelle and Clewiston to compliment the county’s total road and infrastructure for expected growth. In addition, the county has been working with the School Board and Glades County to expedite and maximize local residents’ opportunities at the Glades County Regional Training Center.

The county has been steadily trying to improve maintenance at its parks. Davis-Pratt users are enjoying better drainage and will

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Jordan M. Parrish, O.D.
Randall T. Parrish, Jr., O.D.
L. Lamar Youmans, O.D.

Toxic algae found in the Caloosahatchee River

By Katrina Elskan

INI Florida

Low levels of the toxin microcystin were detected in water collected in Lake Okeechobee where a large algal bloom has been reported, according to the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation. Higher levels of microcystin were detected on the Caloosahatchee River in Glades County and in Lee County.

The highest level of toxins detected this week was in a sample collected on the Caloosahatchee River upstream of the Franklin Lock on June 26, with microcystin levels of 463.34 micrograms per liter.

To date, most of the samples from Lake Okeechobee have had no toxins detected or very low levels.

The World Health Organization (WHO) considers microcystin levels below 10 micrograms per liter to be safe for recreational contact.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection advises the public to stay out of water where algae is present, because you cannot tell whether or not an algal bloom contains toxins just by looking at it.

Most of the water flowing into the Caloosahatchee River is from local basin runoff. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has set the flow target at the Franklin Lock for 3,000 cubic feet per second (cubic feet per second). Higher flows may occur if there is a lot of local basin runoff. On Sunday, the flow from the lake at the Moore Haven Lock was only 370 cfs. Total flow at the Franklin Lock was 3,950 cfs.

- On June 21, a sample from the St. Lucie Lock in Martin County had *Microcystis aeruginosa* (a cyanobacterium) as the dominant taxon. No microcystin was detected.

- A sample taken June 25 on Lake Okeechobee at Moore Haven found *Microcystis aeruginosa* was dominant. Microcystin levels were 3.3 micrograms per liter. No other toxins were detected.

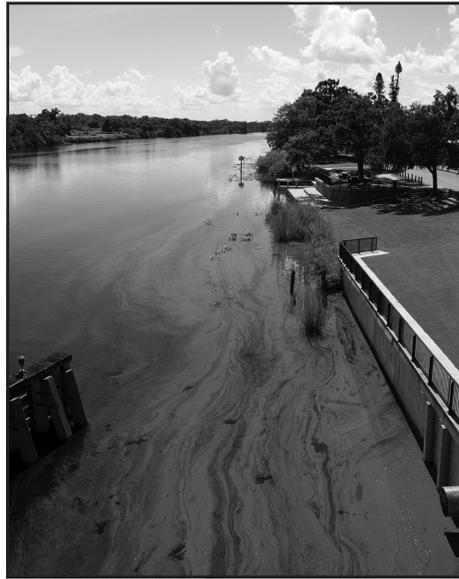
- On June 25, dense mats of algae were observed on the surface of the Caloosahatchee River at Ortona; *Microcystis aeruginosa* was dominant in the sample. Microcystin levels were 26.3 micrograms per liter. No other toxins were detected.

- On June 25, a sample taken at the Port Mayaca lock in Martin County had *Microcystis aeruginosa* dominant. Total microcystin level was 2.2 micrograms per liter. No other toxins were detected.

- On June 25, FDEP sampled an algae bloom at Port Mayaca in Martin County. The dominant taxon was *Microcystis aeruginosa* (a cyanobacterium). Microcystin levels were measured at 2.2 micrograms per liter

- On June 25, an algal bloom on the Caloosahatchee near S. Olga Road in Lee County had *Microcystis aeruginosa* dominant. Microcystin level was 25.41 micrograms per liter. No other toxins were detected.

- On June 25, microcystin levels of 308.07 micrograms per liter were detected in an algal bloom on the Caloosahatchee River at the Alva bridge. *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon.



Caloosa Belle/Dale Conyers
Even in black and white the algae bloom shows up as an oily residue on the Caloosahatchee River.

- On June 26, microcystin levels of 463.34 micrograms per liter were detected in an extensive algal bloom on the Caloosahatchee River in Lee County. *Microcystis aeruginosa* was dominant. Anatoxin level was 0.34 micrograms per liter.

- On June 26, a sample collected at the Swim Beach downstream of the S-79 water control structure on the Caloosahatchee River had microcystin levels of 6.5 micrograms per liter; *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon.

- On June 26, microcystin levels of 4 micrograms per liter were detected in an algal sample at the Tiki Hut at State Road 31 in Lee County.

- On June 26, an extensive surface bloom was observed upstream of the Franklin Lock. The dominant taxon was *Microcystis aeruginosa*. Microcystin toxins were measured at 464.34 micrograms per liter.

- On June 26, microcystin levels of 6.06 micrograms per liter were detected near the Orange River Tree Farm on the Caloosahatchee River in Lee County. Dominant taxon was *Microcystis aeruginosa*.

- On June 26, an algal bloom on the C-44 Canal in Martin County below the S-80 water control structure had mixed algae with no dominant species. Microcystin levels were 0.59 micrograms per liter. No other toxins were detected.

- FDEP also found visible algae on the surface of the water and in the water column in the C-44 Canal below the S-80 water control structure on June 26. Test results are not yet available.

- On July 2, more algae blooms were reported and samples taken in Martin, Indian River and Lee counties. Samples were also taken from an algal bloom on Lake Okeechobee. Test results to determine the type of algae and toxin levels (if any) take about four days.

CITY OF LABELLE REQUEST FOR VARIANCE July, 2018

Notice is hereby given that the Variance Board of the City of LaBelle, Florida will hold a public hearing on July 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall on 481 W. Hickpochee (S.R. 80) Avenue, LaBelle, Florida for the purpose of considering the following:

The request of Belle Arbor Planned Unit Development for a variance from the required front building setback of 20 feet as established in Ordinance No. 2017-06 . The applicant is requesting variances to the front setback, along Hickpochee Avenue, to allow for encroachment of three building corners. Setback #1 to be reduced to 15'-1", Setback #2 would be 10'-6" and setback #3 would be 13'-3". The variance request is for legally described real property:

LABELLE BEG NW Cor of NE ¼ Sec 8-N 89
DEG 01M 00S E 257.9FT-S 00 DEG 53M 41S E 50 FT TO
POB-N 89 DEG 01M 00S E 457.06 FT TO N R/W SR 80 SWLY
ALG R/W 490.16 FT-N 00 DEG 53M 41S W 136.72 FT-N 89

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard with respect to the proposed variance request. Interested persons may appear on their own behalf or agent or attorney. If anyone decides to appeal a decision made by the City of LaBelle Variance Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or at the hearing, a record of the meeting will be needed for the appeal and that for such purposes, may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL AID OR SERVICES AS ADDRESSED IN THE AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE (863-675-2872), NO LESS THAN FIVE (5) DAYS PRIOR TO THE ABOVE STATED HEARING DATE.

CITY OF LABELLE VARIANCE BOARD

City of LaBelle
Scott Korf, Chair



Caloosa Belle

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To Submit News

The Caloosa Belle welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 675-2541 to reach our newsroom. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.
E-Mail: cbnews@newszap.com

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The deadline for all advertising is 4 p.m. on Friday for the following Thursday's publication
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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.

Hendry Commissioner Swindle returned to seat with no opposition

Harris faces Diaz in District 2; School Board has two races

By Chris Felker
INI Florida

When the qualifying period closed on June 22 for the elections taking place this year, Hendry County Commissioner Michael Swindle had drawn no opponent for his County Board District 4 seat, so he will retain the office for another term.

The incumbent Republican represents the Clewiston area. His fellow incumbent Republican whose seat is up for election, District 2 County Commissioner Darrell Harris, will face one opponent, Kenneth C. Diaz of LaBelle, who has no party affiliation, in the Nov. 6 election.

There are several candidates in the race for Hendry County School Board seats who will face off in the nonpartisan election coinciding with the Aug. 28 primary.

Amanda Nelson of Felda retains her District 3 seat on the School Board, having drawn no opponent.

The other two school board seats up for election are in District 4, where incumbent Stephanie Schneider Busin faces Mercedes Perdomo Reese; and in District 5, where board member Jon Basquin faces Maureen Cervino Quintero. All the candidates live in Clewiston.

For the Hendry County Hospital Board, there will be no races, as incumbent Steven A. Nisbet Sr. of LaBelle in District 2 retains his seat with no opponent; and Elaine Wood, who filed and qualified to run in District 4, also drew no opposition. Both are thus declared elected to the seats.

Dike work on track, but funding critical

By Katrina Elsen
INI Florida

"We're in for a wet year," Lieutenant Colonel Jennifer A. Reynolds of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers told the County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries and the Lake Worth Lagoon at its June 1 meeting.

She said that, as high as the lake is now, if it had a large spike of water from a hurricane as happened with Irma, "the lake looks pretty bad." In the month following Irma's landfall, the lake rose by 3.5 feet due to heavy runoff from the north. "We are additionally concerned because all WCAs (Water Conservation Areas) are already above schedule," Lt.

Col. Reynolds continued. The WCAs south of the lake are already at capacity from rainfall in that basin even though water is moving south to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay at the maximum flow possible with the existing water control structures.

The corps started releasing water east through the C-44 Canal and west into the Caloosahatchee River on June 1 in an attempt to slow the rise of the lake. "We've had the wettest May on record," said Lt. Col. Reynolds. The month of May brought 11.01 inches of rainfall to the South Florida Water Management District, nearly triple the annual average of 4.04 inches, according to the South Florida Water Management District website.

The National Hurricane Center predicts

one to four major storms this year. "I think we can anticipate releases will continue for some time," said Lt. Col. Reynolds. She told the coalition that the work on repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike continue. "It's going well," she said.

"Everyone is talking about are we on track to complete in 2022?" she said. "Yes, we are on track, but there is a lot of distance between now and 2022."

Lt. Col. Reynolds said the president's budget for 2018 includes \$82 million for the dike repairs, and the State of Florida allocated \$50 million. For 2019, the president has requested \$96 million, she said. "That still needs an appropriations bill." Lt. Col. Reynolds said the project will need additional money in 2020, 2021 and 2022 to stay on track for completion in 2022. "When we don't get the federal funding on time, it affects the schedule to award contracts," she added. "It's not over yet," she continued. "Letters from Senator Nelson and Senator Rubio said that congressional intent was for it to be fully funded," she explained.

There are projects across the nation competing for that financing, she added.

She said funding for other water projects is uncertain. The president's budget for fiscal 2019 is putting emphasis on finishing projects that are already under construction, she said. This could mean delays for projects that are still in the design and planning stages.

"We all know the importance of the entire CERP (Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan) program," she said. Every project in CERP is an important part of the overall plan, she added. "The hard part is there is not enough funding to authorize all of the projects across the board. Every time we want to add something, there is that elephant in the room of what we are not going to do," she continued. She said the addition of the EAA reservoir to the Central Everglades Planning Project will mean there won't be federal funding for something else.

Did you wake up on the wrong side of the bed?

You know that old question "did you wake up on the wrong side of bed this morning?" A question used to ask someone why they are in such a bad mood can actually carry with it a valuable way of looking at life.

Let's call waking up on 'the wrong side of bed'; waking up in a negative mindset. There are a lot of things that contribute to the mindset that we adopt in the first moments that we wake up. If we didn't sleep well, if we were woken frequently throughout the night, and we didn't get sufficient and restful sleep then we may wake up with diminished energy and a negative mindset.

You've noticed, I'm sure, that when you wake up in this way things don't tend to get any better until we consciously choose to



Hunting Happiness
With Val White

shift our mindset or shift the vibration of our energy!

If we continue on, in the 'wrong side of the bed' mindset, we will find that we begin to experience more and more 'wrong side of the bed' experiences throughout our day. Maybe you stub your toe on the way to the bathroom, experience a lot of traffic and run late on the way to work, spill mustard on your shirt during your lunch break.

But if we notice that we are in that negative mindset before we leave the house and we take the time to shift our mindset, you will observe that you can take control on your outlook back and set yourself up for a great day, despite the fact that you 'woke up on the wrong side of bed'.

Federal funding for EAA reservoir could be delayed

By Katrina Elsen
INI Florida

Plans for a reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee could face funding delays.

While Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Army (Civil Works) R.D. James found the Everglades Agricultural Area reservoir plan feasible, the review assessment submitted to the Office of Management and Budget also imposed conditions for implementation.

"I have determined that the project identified in the Integrated Feasibility Study and draft Environmental Impact Statement is feasible and fully recognize the importance of this project to the restoration of the Everglades system," Mr. James wrote to South Florida Water Management District Executive Director Ernie Marks on May 30.

"I have simultaneously submitted my review assessment to the Office of Management and Budget for clearance to submit to Congress. My staff will keep you regularly

informed of our progress to complete the clearance process and submit your study to Congress," he stated.

The 86-page "Review Assessment of the SFWMD Central Everglades Planning Project Post Authorization Change Report, Integrated Feasibility Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement" identified "several technical, policy and legal concerns."

"From the geotechnical engineering perspective, a more robust design may be required to address all potential failure modes. The timing and ultimate delivery of project benefits will be dependent on the State of Florida demonstrating compliance with water quality standards set forth in court rulings and agreed to by project stakeholders. The Jacksonville District is currently undertaking the federal responsibilities associated with preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the SFWMD's tentatively recommended plan. Until these issues are

addressed, project benefits might not be achieved as described in the 203 study," the executive summary states.

The report questions whether the "additional flows of water diverted from the northern estuaries are essential to the restoration of the Central Everglades." In a June 1 letter to Assistant Secretary James, SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Federico E. Fernandez and Mr. Marks expressed concerns that "USACE Headquarters staff have laid the foundation for delay and avoidance of federal cost share. Despite congressional willingness to cost-share with the State of Florida, the review assessment reveals evidence that USACE staff seek opportunities to walk away from 18 years of congressional commitment to restore America's Everglades."

In response to the question of whether or not diverting lake flow now going to the coastal areas south, the water managers wrote, "Water wasted to tide in the northern estuaries is THE water needed to restore the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water within the Everglades system.

"We remain concerned the process will take too long to provide relief, especially considering the requirement to complete further validation reports. If not guided carefully by leaders such as yourself, the additional third step of a validation report could paralyze progress.

"Florida's economy depends on vibrant and healthy northern estuaries, restoration

of America's Everglades and a federal commitment to the same. To that end, the State of Florida will continue to seek that Congress direct the federal government to cost share this important restoration project," they wrote.

The proposed EAA reservoir will hold 240,000 acre-feet of water. An acre-foot is the amount of water it takes to cover 1 acre of land 1 foot deep.

On the same day SFWMD officials sent the response letter, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began releases to the C-44 Canal at Port Mayaca and the Franklin Lock at Moore Haven to attempt to offset some of the heavy flow entering Lake Okeechobee from northern runoff. Over the past seven days, flow into the lake has ranged from 4,976 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 7,293 cfs. Flow from the lake into the C-44 Canal at Port Mayaca has ranged from 794 cfs to 1,309 cfs. Flow into the Caloosahatchee River at Moore Haven has ranged from 1,526 cfs to 3,996 cfs. In the past week, the lake level has risen from 14.14 feet to 14.22 ft. No water from the lake has been released south. South of the lake, all of the water conservation areas are a foot above regulation schedule or higher. Flow south under the Tamiami Trail has averaged around 1,000 cfs. Two of the S-12 water control structures, which could send more water south, are closed to protect the nesting ground of the endangered Cape Sable sea sparrow.

Enterprise Holdings Grants \$5K for FSW Veteran Scholarships

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) Foundation received a \$5,000 grant from Enterprise Holdings Foundation. The grant is directed for scholarships for the college's student veterans. This is the third year that Enterprise has donated to FSW for this purpose.

"These students sacrificed to serve our country, and we want to show our appreciation for that when they return home and continue their education. A deep part of our culture centers on our special affinity for our military veterans," said Kayla Cramer, Talent Acquisition Manager, Enterprise Holdings.

From day one, members of the military have played an important role in the history and culture of Enterprise. After all, founder Jack Taylor was a decorated fighter pilot in WWII. He started his business with a big dream and the military values that would

become the foundation of Enterprise—both then and now. The Taylor family has continued to honor the leadership and vision that Jack instilled over half a century ago by playing a very active role in offering veterans and their families the support and training they need to be successful.

Florida SouthWestern State College is Southwest Florida's largest and one of the most affordable institutions of higher education. Annually serving nearly 22,000 students globally, FSW offers a variety of nationally-ranked, career-focused academic programs with two- and four-year degrees, and professional certifications. Students are also active in clubs and programs catered to their interests. FSW debuted its intercollegiate athletics program in the fall 2015. Visit www.FSW.edu for more information.



Courtesy photo/FSW

Kayla Cramer, Talent Acquisition Manager, Enterprise Holdings, presented a \$5,000 scholarship grant to Joe Kramp, Senior Development Director, FSW Foundation. This is the third year Enterprise Holdings has presented this grant to assist FSW veteran students. (photo courtesy FSW)



ANNOUNCEMENT OF LOCATION AND DESIGN CONCEPT ACCEPTANCE

SR29 PD&E STUDY
From CR 80A (Cowboy Way) to CR 731 (Whidden Road)
Hendry and Glades County, Florida

Financial Management # 417878 1 22 01
Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) #5531

On May 29, 2018, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016, and executed by FHWA and FDOT, granted Location and Design Concept Acceptance for SR 29 from CR 80A (Cowboy Way) to CR 731 (Whidden Road). The proposed improvements include widening SR 29 from two to four lanes within the project limits, which consists of a one-way pair utilizing Bridge Street and Main Street including the addition of a new bridge over the Caloosahatchee River and a modern roundabout at the intersection of CR 80A (Cowboy Way). Additional information is available on the project website at www.sr29labelle.com.

This project will now proceed to the next phase of development. For more information please contact:

Gwen G. Pipkin, Project Manager
Florida Department of Transportation
PO Box 1249, Bartow, FL 33831-1249
Contact phone # 863-519-2375

Church Briefs

VBS at First Christian Church

Come sail away with First Christian Church on a tropical adventure! Vacation Bible School will be held on July 9 - 13, from 9:00 to 12:00. We are located on the corner of Lee and Ford Streets. The "Shipwrecked - Rescued By Jesus" theme is full of bible adventures, games, music, and treats! For more information call, 863-675-1366.

Chosen"--The Life of David from Shepherd Boy to King!

The LaBelle Church of God will be having Vacation Bible School starting Monday, July 16 through Friday, July 20. It will be a week of games, crafts, songs, Bible stories, and more, as we explore the life of David. There will be classes for all ages from four years old through adults. Located at Highway 80 and Elm Street, the fun starts at 7 p.m. and lasts until 9:30 nightly. Everyone welcome!

Free Movie Night

First Baptist Church LaBelle, 330 N. Main Street, is hosting another free movie night on July 20 at 6:30 p.m. We will be showing "Paul, Apostle of Christ" and we would be happy to have you join us! This event is open to the public, so bring some friends and enjoy learning more about Paul.

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



Courtesy photo/Karen Hildebrand

Kids enjoy fossils at the Library

Children and parents gathered round the fossil display with RJ Reynolds at Barron Library on Tuesday, June 26 at the Fossil Hunt presentation.

Hendry County Community Emergency Response Team Training

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is all-risk, all-hazard training. This valuable course is designed to help you protect yourself, your family and your neighborhood in an emergency situation. CERT training teaches citizens to:

- Describe the function of CERT
- Prepare you, your family and neighborhood for a disaster
- Identify and reduce potential fire hazards
- Apply basic fire suppression strategies and safety measures
- Apply techniques for the three killers: Airway - Bleeding - Shock
- Conduct triage under simulated conditions
- Treatment area selection and setup

- Identify size-up requirements
- Debris removal and victim extrication
- Safety measures before, during and after search and rescue

CERT Training is 24 hours of initial training with an annual refresher course and is provided to anyone 15 years of age or older.

For additional information, please contact:

Hendry County Emergency Management - 863-674-5400

The CERT Program Training will be facilitated at the Hendry County EOC in LaBelle, 4425 West St Rd 80 LaBelle, Florida on the following dates:

- Saturday, July 14 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday, July 21 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday, July 28 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Courtesy photo/Trenton Muntz

Changing of the Guard

Picture from left to right: Joe Timm, President-Elect, Judi Kennington-Korf, Outgoing President and Rotarian of the Year Award Recipient, and Fred Kobie, incoming President for the Rotary Club of LaBelle. On Saturday, June 16, The Rotary Club of LaBelle hosted the Changing of the Guard Dinner to honor the 2017-18 Club Leadership and announced its' 2018-19 Club Leadership.

The Rotary Club of LaBelle Board of Directors for the 2018-19 Rotary year:

- President - Fred Kobie
- President-Elect - Joe Timm
- President-Elect Nominee - Kim Timm
- Immediate Past President - Judi Kennington-Korf
- Past President - Ron Zimmerly
- Secretary - Rick Scholl
- Treasurer - Brenda Hoots
- Director - Grayson Hicks

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Hanin Abou Ayash, MD is accepting new patients at our First Choice Kidcare office located at: 930 S. Main St., LaBelle, FL 33935

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Emergency Estuary Protection Wells proposed as temporary fix to lake releases

By **Katrina Elskén**
INI Florida

An emergency fix to harmful freshwater releases to the coastal estuaries could be built in just two to three years, while long-term solutions may be decades away.

“We are working on long-term solutions. We are working on projects such as C-43 and the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration projects. Even on the most aggressive schedule, the EAA storage reservoir is years away,” said Jaime Weisinger, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board Member, at the June 14 SFWMD governing board meeting.

“It is not going to be a silver bullet and it is not going to solve all of our problems.”

He said an emergency fix could be implemented in a 2-to-3 year time frame: “deep injection wells, or as I like to call them, Emergency Estuary Protection Wells.”

Deep injection wells send water through the earth into the Boulder Zone, in effect sending the water to tide by pumping it straight down.

District scientists estimate some of these deep injection wells could be ready in as little as 2-to-3 years using proven technology that is already being used in 250 parts of the state by utilities, he explained.

“The technology is proven. We have already looked at having anywhere from 30 to 150 of these Emergency Estuary Protection Wells. They would address some of the flows to the tune of about half a million to 2.5 million acre feet of water,” he continued.

“That’s a lot of water that wouldn’t end up in the Caloosahatchee estuary and on the beaches of Sanibel,” he said.

“Emergency Estuary Protection Wells would only have to be used in emergency situations, in our heavy rain situations like that, or like we had last year with Irma and the storms around Irma,” he said. They

would only be used when the level of Lake Okeechobee is rising so rapidly that the Corps of Engineers has no choice but to release water east and west to the coastal estuaries.

“It wouldn’t compromise any of our other restoration projects,” he said. “While these larger restoration projects were being built, Emergency Estuary Protection Wells could take that discharge water from the lake and protect the estuaries.”

The wells could be used both as a stop-gap measure and along with other restoration projects, as the district works on the long-term massive water storage projects.

“We’re only doing a pilot program right now,” said board member James Moran. “I think we should be full speed ahead on this.”

“These deep injection wells need to be moved up to save the estuaries,” Mr. Moran said.

“Bureaucracy takes too long. We need to think outside the box.”

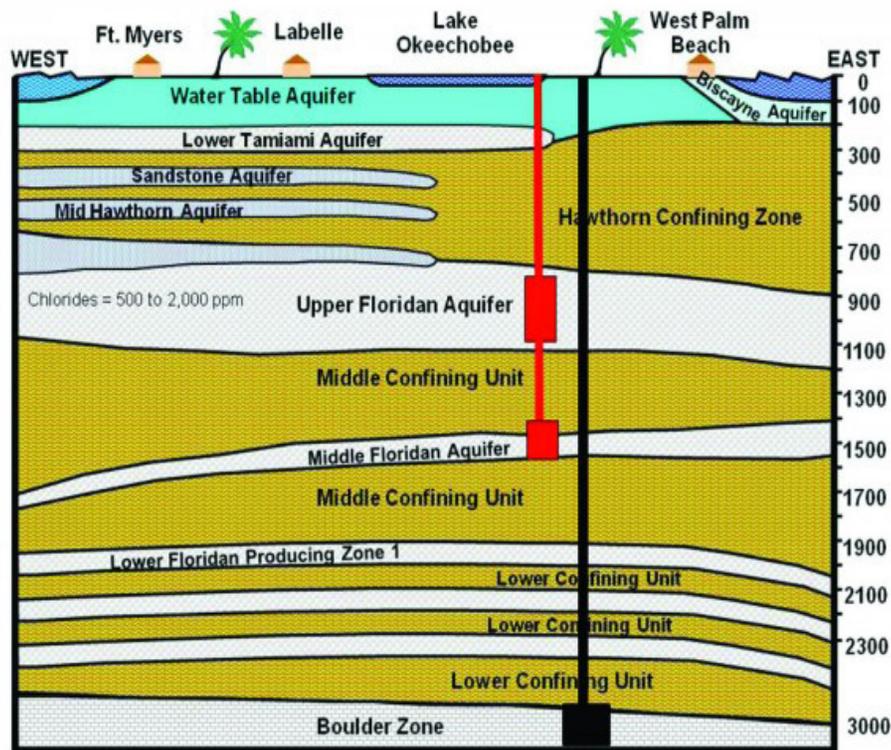
“Let’s get the show on the road. Let’s get this done. If we had these wells today, we wouldn’t be dealing with the discharges,” said board member Brandon Tucker.

“Somebody was criticizing the use of those wells, and saying ‘it would just be wasting that water.’ To me it is just sending that water to tide without having to bomb the estuaries with harmful discharges,” said board member Daniel O’Keefe.

“We’re not in the business of ignoring the fact that water is a resource,” said board chairman Federico Fernandez.

Emergency Estuary Protection Wells would be a stopgap measure while work continued on other projects to send the excess water from Lake Okeechobee south to Florida Bay.

“I think all of us here have been around long enough to know the effects of drought ... no one is advocating for wasting water,” he said.



Caloosa Belle/Dale Conyers

Learning about bees

During a recent field trip WMCA campers learned how bees make honey and how it's harvested from Rene Pratt at the Harold P. Curtis Honey Co.



Medical Cannabis

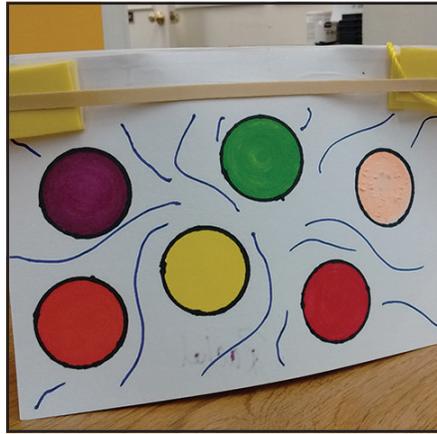
Juan R. Puerto, MD
555 N 15th St. Suite A
Immokalee, FL 34142

Some Facts:

1. NO ONE HAS EVER DIED FROM CANNABIS.
2. CANNABIS IS NOT A GATEWAY DRUG. IN FACT, IT IS A GREAT EXIT DRUG FOR OPIOIDS, ALCOHOL, AND OTHER HARMFUL SUBSTANCES.
3. CANNABIS DOES NOT KILL BRAIN CELLS. IT IS ACTUALLY A NEUROPROTECTANT AND SERVES TO PROTECT NERVE CELLS AGAINST DAMAGE, DEGENERATION, OR IMPAIRMENT OF FUNCTION.
4. ALL CANNABIS IS MEDICINE AND HAS MEDICAL BENEFITS. MAINLY AS AN ANTI-INFLAMMATORY AND PAIN RELIEVER.

Patients must first be diagnosed with a qualifying medical condition.
For a list of these conditions, you can contact our office at:

(239) 657-2779



Courtesy photos/Karen Hildebrand

STEAM Projects for Children

As a part of summer programming for children, Barron Library is utilizing the huge educational movement known as STEAM. The acronym stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. STEAM is using non-traditional learning styles, making learning fun, while making more sense to all types of learners. It is based on the natural ways that people learn and are interested in things.

The library has prepared a different STEAM project for each week, giving students an opportunity to explore new ideas. Projects offered the last few weeks, pictured below are: planting seeds and watching them grow, building a catapult, making sound spinners, and doing fossil impressions.

Help your child learn to: question like a scientist, design like a technologist, build like an engineer, create like an artist and deduce like a mathematician, ALL while playing like a kid!

Barron Library Happenings

ROCK YOUR WORLD AT BARRON LIBRARY – Tuesday, July 10 at 10:30 a.m., with Rock Jewelry, by Mrs. Cristina Hutson. Don't miss this opportunity to see how beautiful rock jewelry is made.

PAINTING WORKSHOP – Join the Confident Creator, and learn to create beautiful and fun abstract paintings that you will be proud of! **Monday, July 30 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**, all supplies will be furnished by your presenter. Class fee is \$10 and will be limited to the first 10 who sign up. Don't miss this awesome workshop.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME has moved to **Wednesday morning at 10:45**. Bring your little ones for fun stories and projects.

40 DAYS OF READING – selection lists available to pick up, or follow the library on Facebook to view daily readings. Keep reading during the summer so you are on point when school begins again in the fall.

BEGINNERS SEWING CLASS starts, **Monday, July 16 at 5:30 p.m.** – ages 14 and up, sign up today. There is a one-time

class fee of \$10 for five sessions.

QUILTING CLASS starts tonight, **Thursday, July 5th, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** There is a one-time class fee of \$10 for five sessions.

BARRON BOOK CLUB – Book selection for July is *Bel Canto*, by Ann Patchett. The club meets at the library the second **Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.**, next meeting July 9. Everyone is welcome!

CHESS CLUB – Offering a time for experienced players to compete, and also an opportunity to learn how to play, every **Monday evening from 5:39 – 7:30 p.m.**

STEAM projects available, a different projects each week, for elementary and middle school students. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Projects will be out and available during regular library hours, with the exception of Tuesday mornings, due to summer program.

FLORIDA SUNSHINE STATE BOOKS for 2018/2019 are now available.



Relay For Life of LaBelle Needs YOU!

**We are looking for TEAMS!
Churches, schools, non-profits, businesses, clubs, and friends!**



For More information:
Vicki Reynolds
 Event Lead
 863-234-2405
Amanda Dreszer
 Community Manager
 239-297-5484



Join Us in the Fight against Cancer

Courtesy ad

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Stop by your local banking center, or call us today so we can help you make homeownership a reality for you!



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FCBMortgageCentral.com



Community Briefs

Veterans Memorial Wall

Update to the LaBelle Veteran's Memorial Park. The bricks currently in the park are deteriorating and any plans to replace them were too costly, and it was decided to erect a granite wall to hold the veterans names and their branch of service. A list of the names can be found here <https://caloosabelle.com/human-interest/the-names-that-will-go-on-the-veterans-wall>. You can email DAV member Bob Kirkwood at bobkirkwood9@gmail.com to make a correction. No phone calls will be accepted for corrections. The cutoff date for any corrections will be **August 1, 2018**, any errors found after that date will be permanently engraved on the wall.

gmail.com to make a correction. No phone calls will be accepted for corrections. The cutoff date for any corrections will be **August 1, 2018**, any errors found after that date will be permanently engraved on the wall.

Widows Support Group

The Widows Support Group will meet **July 19 at 11:30 a.m.** at Sal Cal's Pizza. All widow welcome.

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Tie with a cord
- 5 Acute anxiety
- 10 Miss from Madrid: Abbr.
- 14 Texter's "That being said ..."
- 15 Get on the phone, say
- 16 Lustful look
- 17 *Miracle Mets center fielder
- 19 "If all ___ fails ..."
- 20 Weed whacker
- 21 Friskies eater
- 22 "Your choice"
- 24 Skip over in pronunciation
- 26 *Creator of Daffy and Bugs
- 28 Nevada gambling city
- 29 ___ for the course
- 31 Variety show
- 32 Dressing component
- 36 Nav. rank
- 37 *"Songs About Me" country singer
- 39 Dashboard meas.
- 41 Unsettled detail
- 42 Island near Venezuela
- 44 Mexican mama bear
- 45 Official records
- 49 *He voiced Buzz Lightyear in "Toy Story"
- 52 European toast
- 53 Come by
- 54 Fraternal club member
- 56 CCV x X
- 57 Roughly
- 58 *Three-time Super Bowl-winning Cowboys quarterback
- 61 Dumbfound
- 62 Wished (for)
- 63 Odometer unit
- 64 Pajama parts
- 65 Line in a ledger
- 66 Fret

- 3 Chinese noodle dish
- 4 Unit of resistance
- 5 Bay ___: Oakland's locale
- 6 Tidy
- 7 Joke
- 8 Bad thing to make in public
- 9 Bad thing to get at work
- 10 Record protector
- 11 Takes over for
- 12 Trial in simulated conditions
- 13 "You ___ My Sunshine"
- 18 Skating surface
- 23 Large game fish
- 25 Way in
- 26 High-level betrayal
- 27 "You betcha!"
- 29 ___ de gallo: salsa fresca
- 30 Chevy hatchback
- 33 [I don't remember the words]
- 34 Laudatory poems
- 35 Swedish furniture giant
- 37 Good sign from Ebert
- 38 Fargo's state: Abbr.

- 39 Yoga class rental
- 40 Before
- 43 They're waved by conductors
- 46 Say "I do," say
- 47 Husk-wrapped Mexican dish, and when divided in three parts, a hint to the answers to starred clues
- 48 Never seen before
- 50 Supple
- 51 Scandal-plagued energy giant
- 52 Enjoy the slopes
- 54 Watcher
- 55 Title for Godiva
- 57 East, to Ernst
- 59 Make a choice
- 60 Metric distances: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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xwordeditor@aol.com

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By Tom Uttormark and C.C. Burnikel
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01/13/15

Questions to Ask Your Financial Advisor

You should always be able to ask as many questions as you'd like when working with your financial advisor. So, before you have your annual review, think carefully about what you'd like to ask. Here are a few suggestions:

financial advisor.

Are my goals still realistic? When you first began working with your financial advisor, you may well have articulated a number of financial goals. For example, you might have said that you wanted to pay for most of your children's college educations, or that you wanted to retire at a certain age, or that you wanted to travel for two months each year during your retirement. In fact, you could have many different goals for which you're saving and investing. When you meet with your financial advisor, you'll certainly want to ask if you're still on track toward meeting these goals. If you are, you can continue with the financial strategies you've been following; but if you aren't, you may need to adjust them.

How will changes in my life affect my investment strategy? Your life is not static. Over time, you may experience any number of major events, such as marriage, children, new jobs and so on. When you meet with your financial advisor, you will want to discuss these types of changes, because they can affect your long-term goals and, consequently, your investment decisions.

How are external forces affecting my investment portfolio? Generally speaking, you will want to create an investment strategy that's based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. And, as mentioned above, you may need to adjust your strategy based on changes in your life. But should you also make changes based on outside forces, such as interest rate movements, political events, new legislation or news affecting industries in which you have invested substantially? Try not to make long-term investment decisions based on short-term news. Yet, talk with your financial advisor to make sure your investment portfolio is not out of alignment with relevant external factors.

Am I taking on too much – or too little – risk? The financial markets always fluctuate, and these movements will affect the value of your investment portfolio. If you watch the markets closely every day and track their impact on your investments, you may find yourself fretting considerably over your investments' value and wondering if you are taking on too much investment risk for your comfort level. Conversely, if you think that during an extended period of market gains your own portfolio appears to be lagging, you might feel that you should be investing more aggressively, which entails greater risk. In any case, it's important that you know your own risk tolerance and use it as a guideline for making investment choices – so it's definitely an issue to discuss with your

By making these and other inquiries, you can help yourself stay informed on your overall investment picture and what moves, if any, you should make to keep advancing toward your goals. A financial advisor is there to provide you with valuable expertise – so take full advantage of it.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Working together for your financial future



Joe Timm, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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Community Briefs

Barron Park House closing for summer

The Barron Park House Gallery and Gift Shop will be open until the end of June at which time it will close for the months of July and August for maintenance. In the meantime, take an opportunity to come by and view the art work of our skilled artists. The gift shop offers many creative gifts, greeting cards, craft items and art work for a very reasonable price. The Gallery hours are noon to 5:00 Thursday thru Sunday. Hope everyone has a good summer. See you in September!

American Legion Events

Happy Hour Monday - Friday 11a-6p. (April through September, Fish Fries are only held the First Friday of each month)

July 6 - Friday - 5-7 p.m. Fish Fry with assortment of fish, shrimp, crab cakes and chicken with cole slaw, baked potato or French fries and 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

American Legion Post 130 Meetings: (All Members welcome)

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

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

June 21 - Thurs - 7 p.m. - American Legion Family Installation of Officers

August 1 - Wed - 7:30 p.m. American Legion 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.

Friends of NRA invites you:

To the 4th annual Greater LaBelle Friends of NRA event on **July 20. Doors open at 6 p.m.** at the LaBelle Civic Center, 481 W. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, FL 33935. Contact Ron Zimmerly at 863-234-8397 or Ron@ThreeZEnterprises.com. For TICKETS and details www.friendsofnra.org/eventtickets/Events/Details/10?eventId=54958

Relay of Life Needs You

Relay of Life LaBelle needs you! They are looking for teams! Churches, schools, non-profits, businesses, clubs and friends! For more information call Vicki Reynolds, Event Lead at 863-234-2405 or Amanda Dreszer, Community Manager at 239-297-5484. Join them in the Fight against Cancer.

Hendry/Glades Unmet Needs Coalition: July Meetings

Do you have unmet needs resulting from Hurricane Irma and have exhausted all oth-

er resources? Please contact us to find out what support may be available for you and your family Contact Hendry/Glades Unmet Needs Coalition Coordinator: Terri Miazga Phone: 813-892-5021 Fax: 863-675-9393 E-mail: hgunc133@gmail.com c/o LaBelle United Way House 133 N. Bridge Street LaBelle, FL 33935. Non-profit representatives and other interested parties who would want to help Hendry and Glades County residents with unmet needs because of Hurricane Irma are invited to meetings at the following location and date: First United Methodist Church located at 331 West Osceola Avenue Clewiston, Florida 33440 on **Friday, July 20, at 5:30 p.m.**

Parkinson's Support Group

The Parkinson's Disease Support Group meeting at the Hope Senior Center on Cowboy Way on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, has voted not to meet in the months of July or August. Although not formally meeting, support is always available by calling 843-342-8013. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 11, 2018.

VFW Post 10100

ALL DINNERS FOR JULY ARE \$6.00!!!
July 6 Fri. Meatloaf by Chuck and Mary. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the cost \$6.00

July 7, Sat. Karaoke with Chris and Betty Ann, Music will start at 5:00 p.m.

July 13, Fri. Pork Steak Dinner. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m., cost is \$6.00.

July 19 Thurs. Lasagna Dinner. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m., cost \$6.00.

July 20, Fri. Karaoke with 2 Sharps. This is cover dish dinner. Music will begin at 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

July 28, Sat. Chicken and Rib Dinner. Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. and cost is \$6.00.

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

Queen of Hearts, drawing is at 7:00 p.m. 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.

Men's Night, Every Mon. Night 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$1.00 off exclude Draft and Soda.

Ladies Night, Every Thursday, \$1.00 off, exclude Draft and Soda from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Happy Hour: Mon.-Fri. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 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



Pet of the Week

The Caloosa Humane Society's pet of the week is Poncho a two year old Rhodesian Ridgeback hound mix. Look into those sweet brown eyes! Poncho is quite the gentleman and knows basic commands. He gets along well with cats and other dogs and humans of all ages. Poncho would be happiest in a home a lot like his personality, mellow and full of love. He keeps a very tidy kennel and is believed to be house trained. Poncho is heart worm negative, micro-chipped, dewormed, up to date on his vaccines and neutered. This handsome boy is ready for his forever home. If you have room in your heart and home please come and meet Poncho at the Caloosa Humane Society or check him out our website Caloosahumanesociety.org

Courtesy photo

REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY

Call about our vacant land!
LOTS

- Industrial Zoned property south of LaBelle. 4 parcels, total of 4.63+/- acres **\$540,000.**
- Vacant Industrial 4.5 +/- acres. Located in LaBelle, zoned LB-I-2. **\$125,000.**
- .29 +/- acre in Belmont S/D. Priced to sell at only **\$35,000.** Possible seller financing.

1.25+/- acre lots in Montura. Possible seller financing \$21,000.

- 1.25+/- acre tract in Hendry County **\$18,000.**
- 1.84+/- acres south of LaBelle **\$18,000.**
- 1.25+/- acre tract in Okeechobee **\$9,500.**

Call about our Pt LaBelle lots!

Please visit our website at www.newhorizons-re.com
580 S. MAIN ST. • LABELLE • 863-675-1973

New Horizons Real Estate Corp.
Greg Miners - Lic R.E. Broker; Associates - Delia Miners, Neal Livingston, Phil Lewis
Se Habla Espanol

Riverside
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COUNTRY LIVING ON 2.49 ACRES IN MUSE - This spacious 4 bedroom manufactured home features split floor plan, 16" tile flooring throughout, Kitchen upgrades include newer cabinetry. Exterior features include oversized covered carport, front covered porch and back covered deck which runs full length on the home. Property is completely fenced. **\$149,000**

FAMILY HOME - situated on 4.27 +/- acres in the heart of Muse. This CBS home offers more than 1500 sq. ft. of living space with an awesome open split floor plan, 3 BR/2 BA and a single car garage. tile floors throughout, an oversized family room that boasts a custom stone fireplace, a formal dining area with spacious kitchen, a walk in pantry and ranch style eat-in bar. **\$244,900**

www.labelleriverside.com
Riverside Real Estate
45 South Riverview Street • LaBelle, FL 33935
863-675-2718
SE HABLA ESPAÑOL • Marilyn Sears - Lic. Real Estate Broker

Stop in for a complete list of available properties or check us out online at:

www.BELLEREALTY.COM

Belle Realty Co.
863-675-7522

Terri Banky - Lic. Real Estate Broker
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RECIPE OF THE WEEK SUBMITTED BY SOUTHERN HERITAGE REAL ESTATE

Healthy Oatmeal Muffins

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 cups quick-cooking oats uncooked
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 2/3 cup cooking oil
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- Pecans (optional)
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- Blueberries (optional)
- 1 teaspoon salt

Preparation:
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In large mixing bowl, combine dry ingredients (not pecans or blueberries). Make a well in center of mixture. In a separate mixing bowl, combine the eggs, oil, and buttermilk and mix. Stir into flour mixture until combined. Fold in pecans and blueberries, if desired. Pour into muffin cups. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes. Before baking you can top with additional brown sugar and oats.

School Briefs

LHS Algebra Boot Camp

Do you need to pass the Algebra 1 EOC or PERT for a Graduation Requirement? Do you need a half credit in Algebra 1 to boost your GPA? If either of the following situations apply to you, then you need to attend the Algebra Boot Camp in July. Students have found more success with passing the PERT and this is your last chance to pass the PERT before the state no longer accepts scores in August. Mr. Ledford and Mr. Lee have helped

over 90 percent of students who attend summer school to pass the PERT! The boot camp will be at LaBelle High School from **July 9-July 27 (Mon-Fri)**. Please expect to be at the school from **7:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** If you have any questions please contact Tammy Bass at 863-674-4120.

Cowboy Day

LaBelle High School's Open House will be held on **August 8**. The schedule is as

follows: **9th Grade- 8:00-10:00 a.m.; 10th Grade- 10:00 AM-12:00 p.m. ; 11th Grade- 1:00-3:00 p.m.; 12th Grade- 7:00 p.m.**

Credit Counseling

The Home Ownership Resource Center of Lee County, Inc. ("HORC") in collaboration with Hendry County Housing and State Housing Initiatives Partnership ("SHIP") will be hosting credit counseling classes

to assist prospective home buyers with the opportunity to improve credit scores. One on one Counseling will be available at HORC's office by appointments only, after taking the class.

Classes will be held on a quarterly basis as follows:

Tuesday, July 17, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 16, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Dallas B. Townsend Agricultural Center, 1085 Pratt Boulevard, LaBelle, FL



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