

# Caloosa Belle



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August 2, 2018

## Emergency Management holds training

By Geoffrey Ionescu

Caloosa Belle

Saturday July 28 was the Hendry County CERT training where Hendry County Emergency Management officials conducted training sessions for volunteers. Volunteers will help assist local citizens in case of any emergency event.

Richard Lehmkuhl is the new Hendry County Emergency Management Director. "The basic structure of the Hendry County Emergency Management falls under Incident Command Structure; everything is organized and compartmentalized in the most effective way to respond. So that we, for example, can expand on a small incident that turns out to be a big event. So it can be as big or as small as is needed."

Basically, we do the same thing that FEMA does but with a lot less resources because we're local," Richard explains, "Our job is to handle things locally. We work with the state and FEMA as a last resort. EM starts off with the Incident Commander, EMS and the Fire Department. If it gets bigger, the next step is reaching out to other counties and after that the state and then FEMA."

"A lot of people", Richard goes on, "when they think of EM they think of hurricanes, but we deal with every hazard that affects this community; oil spills, traffic incidents, wildfires, and also thunderstorms and floodings. In case of an emergency, we manage the Fire Department and EMS, but we also provide them with additional resources when needed."

"Today we train volunteers to be involved in and dedicated to their own communities in emergency situations," Richard says, "it is our goal to get volunteers in every community that can go door-to-door to determine whether or not people need help. We train the volunteers in basic first-responding on the community level; in basic first-aid and search and rescue. Because with any big event, all the resources primarily go to the mass-populated areas first and then the smaller communities."

### What is the best way to prepare for hurricane season?

"First of all you have to know and identify

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## LDRC plans a Saturday Market

By Geoffrey Ionescu

Caloosa Belle

The LaBelle Downtown Revitalization Corporation (LDRC) is announcing the LDRC Saturday Market. It will be held the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. beginning October through November. The first Saturday market in October will be held together with the Caloosa Humane Society's Yard Sale that is held on Park Avenue and Bridge Street.

Other small businesses will join the LDRC Market; Harold P. Curtis Honey Co. as well as Me and My Girls Antiques & Home Decor and lots more will be participating with

products of their own. LDRC is looking forward to see local farmers offering fresh fruit and vegetables. There will be plants and homemade creations like soaps, candles etc. Just as the DAV Flea Market that is held every Saturday.

LDRC hopes that the Saturday Market will bring more business to LaBelle and help the Disabled American Veterans in their fundraising efforts.

Various options are available for stalls. The application to sign up for the LDRC Saturday Market can be found on: <https://www.downtownlabelle.com/ldrc-saturday-market>.



## County keeps maximum tax rate at 2017-18 level

By Chris Felker

INI Florida

Hendry County commissioners unanimously approved a Truth in Millage (TRIM) notification to taxpayers setting the maximum county property tax rate for fiscal 2018-19 at the same level as last year, 8.4909.

However, they've already instructed their staff to find budget cuts so that they may instead adopt what's called the "rollback" millage rate — which would keep their overall revenue roughly the same as they received in 2017-18. That rate will be lower, but due to increased property valuations for residents, the amount they'll pay in property tax is not likely to fall by much, if at all. As of July 1, that rollback rate was estimated at 8.2053 mills.

A mill is \$1 in tax per \$1,000 in a property's assessed valuation, so for a house valued at \$150,000 after the homestead exemption, an 8.4909 rate would mean a tax bill of about \$1,274 while the rollback rate would make the bill approximately \$1,231. On May 22, the Hendry County Board had voted to make adopting a budget using the rollback rate their top fiscal priority.

The county commissioners also set their tentative and final hearings for adoption of the fiscal 2019 budget. The first will be at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, in the Clewiston City Hall commission chamber; the final, at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25, at the Hendry County Courthouse in LaBelle.

County Administrator Charles Chapman presented the latest estimated revenue and

budget numbers to the commissioners at their regular meeting Tuesday, July 24, in LaBelle, with his recommendation to set the TRIM rate at the same figure as last year's final tax rate. When he finished, Commissioner Darrell Harris asked, "Were you going to try to work back to get it to the rollback rate? Is that right?"

Mr. Chapman responded affirmatively, explaining, "The guidance document that I sent out for the budget requests (from department heads) asked for substantial reductions in the budgets where possible."

But there are more numbers yet to plug into the budget, he said. "The biggest process that we have to still identify is the final state revenue numbers; What are the bids on the

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## Hendry, Glades to look into algae cleanup grants

### Counties will see if they might qualify

By Chris Felker

INI Florida

With \$3 million in grant money just made available for any necessary algae cleanups by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, officials in Glades and Hendry counties are looking into the possibility that they might be able to use some of that help.

The FDEP announced the new grant program on Monday, July 23. Eligible are the counties of Glades, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and St. Lucie; and only the counties may apply. That means

any affected municipalities or other entities that operate public water access, whose officials want to seek a grant, must go through their county authorities first. The program is being provided under Gov. Rick Scott's declaration of an emergency in those seven counties last month due to the algae blooms that this summer have fouled parts of Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee river estuaries, their tributaries and other local waterways, including canals, but the opportunity expires with the governor's emergency order on Sept. 7.

The cash is being made available, according to FDEP, for "containment, removal, cleanup, elimination, transportation and disposal" of algae that's accumulated in plac-

es such as public and private marinas, boat ramps and other areas where the public accesses affected waterways.

In Hendry County, the Caloosahatchee River flows through its northeastern corner on its route through Lee County to the Gulf of Mexico. County Administrator Charles Chapman said Monday: "We just now received the application criteria for the grant. We're going through the process of looking at our estuaries and seeing if there are any projects that would fit the criteria."

He added that he hadn't gotten any reports from the engineering office yet, "but I hope to have that information either later this week or at the beginning of next week." But,

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## Training

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the possible hazards and threats. One of the most important things is to mitigate, make a plan of attack, prepare a basic survival kit for at least 72 hours. You need the basic survival needs: fresh water, food, clean air and warmth. Think about it throughout the year. Because the power can go out in any severe thunderstorm.

Buy supplies in small portions at a time, buy one extra can of beans or an extra gallon of water every time you go to the store and store it in a portable container, don't wait until the last minute to prepare. Count on the fact that help is not necessarily going to be there in the first 72 hours. Have a plan and work the plan."

For more information, pick up an "All Hazards Guide" in English or Spanish from the county office or the library. There will also be some guides available at the Caloosa Belle office. Visit [www.preparehendry.com](http://www.preparehendry.com) to find information regarding signing up for emergency alerts. Residents can also text "HENDRYFLA" to 888777 to anonymously sign up for emergency alerts.

## Grants

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Mr. Chapman explained, "There are different areas where ... tributaries that hold more stagnant water than flowing water may be having some algae problems. So we won't just take a quick look at it, and (county staff will) see if we can take advantage of this opportunity to do some environmental cleanup."

In Glades County, where both the Caloosahatchee and Fisheating Creek flow across nearly its entire width, County Board Chairman John Ahern noted that they also just learned of the grant money. The county is between managers now so administrative assistant/911 coordinator Susan Whidden was gathering relevant information, he said, explaining that she "was going to talk with David Miller, the city manager (of Moore Haven), and see" if any areas on the river need cleaning up.

"There are some areas where there's a little bit of a problem, but it's not like it was," said Mr. Ahern. "There's still a little left in the river, but it's not like it was several weeks ago when the river was green. Once they opened the locks and started flushing it, it cleaned up a lot."

In any case, the algae is not affecting anglers much, if at all. "From the people who've been on the lake, you know, the lake's been fine. They've caught a lot of fish," he related.

"The water's up pretty high in Fisheating Creek. My sister and brother-in-law were up there and fished last week, but ... they didn't

say anything about any algae."

Asked whether they've seen any algae blooms or clumps at Roland and Mary Ann Martin's Marina & Resort in Clewiston, general manager Ramon Iglesias said: "We've had some small (patches) of algae in some stagnant water, but I have never seen any guacamole — I call it the guacamole they keep showing the B roll of on the coast. No, very little."

Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management Department Director Deborah Drum said on Tuesday:

"In this particular event this year, Palm Beach County has not experienced the widespread blooms as other counties have. We are continuing to do our assessment on a weekly basis, and this week we're going out to the Glades region ... to look at some reports we've received of some blooms in the L-10 structure area and in and around the lake ...

"We all know that there was a massive bloom and continues to be a massive bloom in Lake Okeechobee proper that affects multiple counties," Ms. Drum continued, "but we have not seen widespread blooms in our coastal areas. And like I said, we're going to continue to assess if we have any accumulated areas in the western communities that might warrant looking into this program as a potential for removing algae or somehow mitigating for it."

In Okeechobee County, Administrator Robbie Chartier told commissioners at their meeting July 26 that there've been no reports of algae blooms in the county that would necessitate any cleanup. "I don't see a reason to apply," she said.

## Tax

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health insurance RFP (request for proposals) going to result in, in terms of savings; and those types of information moving forward."

He added, however, that everyone in the county courthouse knows it's the county board's intent to hold the line on spending. "Staff is very clear that we've heard the board's desire, and we're going to do our best to present that back to you," said Mr. Chapman.

Commissioner Michael Swindle asked, "As well as whatever our loan situation may look like for capital improvement projects that we need to get done?"

"Yes, sir, we'll have that information soon as well," Mr. Chapman answered.

At a June 22 special meeting, the commissioners had voted to authorize him to approach financial institutions and price lines of credit ranging from \$4 million up to their rough "total needs" price of \$5.4 million. Staff members are in the process of doing that now.

Mr. Chapman's report also listed measures he and the department heads have taken in past fiscal years to keep spending down: a hiring suspension, unless a position is justified by revenue generated and public demand; removal of funding from all vacant positions that are not required; utilization of the county's Solid Waste Reserve Fund; and identifying county properties that can be sold to private parties.

The report also notes that two cost increases are out of local control — Medicaid spending and health insurance costs. But the board previously voted to put health insurance out to bid for the new fiscal year; Mr. Chapman's report said the health insurance committee is waiting to receive an analysis of the bids from the county's insurance broker and will not decide what to recommend until at least the first full week of August.

# Sometimes life's not all fun and games.



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# PETA demands transparency from Primate Products

Special to the Caloosa Belle

Immokalee — Three years after a 2015 PETA investigation revealed at least 25 violations of animal-protection laws involving horrific conditions and systemic abuse at notorious monkey importer and dealer Primate Products, Inc. (PPI), PETA is urging its 6.5 million members and supporters to demand that the dealer reveal what happened to one monkey, named Loretta, whose tragic story is told in a new PETA video. PPI has refused to respond to PETA's request for information about her fate. So far, over 22,000 people have e-mailed the dealer wanting to know her whereabouts—and the e-mails continue to pour in every day.

PETA's investigation documented highly stressed monkeys living in bleak conditions of terrible privation. Loretta, a sweet, submissive monkey, was caged with incompatible ones who attacked her regularly. She had lacerations on her face and body and extensive hair loss, likely from plucking her own hair out—a sign of extreme psychological distress. In cold weather, the other monkeys huddled together, leaving Loretta to shiver alone. Although PETA's eyewitness repeatedly reported Loretta's compromised welfare to PPI supervisors, they trivialized or ignored the reports and allowed her condi-

tion to deteriorate.

"Workers at PPI allowed a gentle, terrified monkey to suffer without relief, even as she lost most of her hair in distress and trembled alone in the cold," says PETA Senior Vice President Kathy Guillermo. "PETA is calling on this horrendous monkey prison to stop hiding suffering in the shadows and to come clean about what happened to Loretta."

Following PETA's investigation of PPI, which revealed sick and injured monkeys forced to live in filthy, barren, and dangerous conditions, the U.S. Department of Agriculture cited PPI for at least 25 violations of animal-welfare regulations. The agency's investigative arm also opened a formal investigation, which is still ongoing.

PETA notes that PPI has shipped monkeys to the National Institutes of Health, Charles River Laboratories, and Columbia and New York universities and has received federal contracts worth more than \$19 million since 2000.

Broadcast-quality video footage from PETA's investigation is available upon request. For more information, please visit PETA.org.

## HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will conduct a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan. The hearing will take place on **August 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida. The LPA will determine if the amendment is consistent with the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan.

The recommendations of the LPA will be made to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The BCC will consider whether or not it wishes to transmit the amendment to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. This hearing will be held on **August 28, 2018, at 5:05 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida.

**Petition Number:** CPA18-0003

**Applicant:** Joe Marlin Hilliard, Trustee of the Joe Marlin Hilliard Revocable Trust dated November 5, 1973; Joe Marlin Hilliard as Trustee of the Marlin W. Hilliard Revocable Trust dated November 5, 1973; Joe Marlin Hilliard, II and Chelsa R. Hilliard; and Bryan R. Hilliard and Shea Hilliard

**Project size:** 904 acres +/-

**Location:** 6000, 5800, 5670, 5600, 4640, 4550 and 4520 W. US 27, Clewiston, FL 33440 (Parcel IDs: 1-33-43-10-A00-0001.0000; 1-33-43-10-A00-0002.0000; 1-33-43-10-A00-0005.0000; 1-33-43-10-A00-0006.0000; 1-33-43-11-A00-0003.0000; 1-33-43-11-A00-0004.0000; and 1-33-43-11-A00-0005.0000)

**Request:** The applicant is requesting to amend the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map by changing the future land use designation from Agriculture to Multi-Use Development on the subject property.

**Ordinance title:**

AN ORDINANCE OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING THE HENDRY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ORDINANCE 91-05, AS AMENDED, SPECIFICALLY BY CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP, MORE SPECIFICALLY BY CHANGING APPROXIMATELY +/- 904 ACRES OF LAND DESIGNATED AS AGRICULTURE TO MULTI-USE DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All interested parties are invited to appear and be heard. Oral and written comments will be accepted. A copy of the petition and ordinance are available for inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 S. Main St., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners' office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

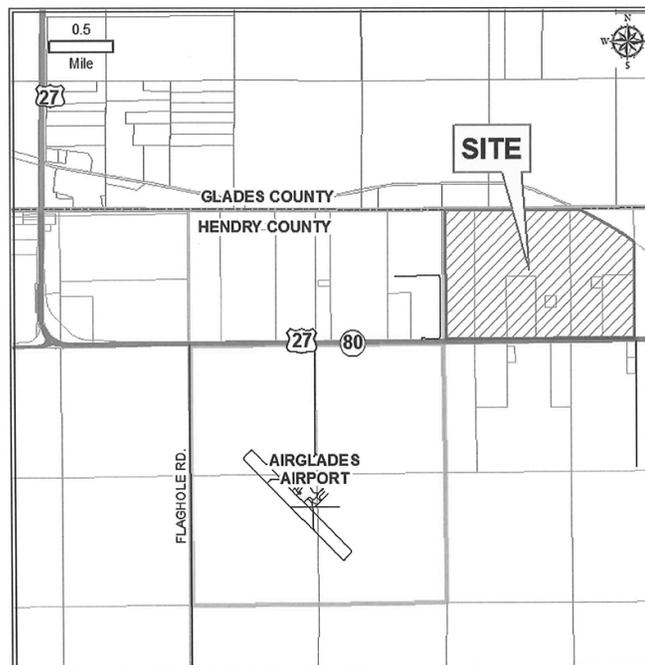
If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is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

Any questions pertaining to this matter should be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department by phone (863-675-5240), email (mjohnson@hendryfla.net), U.S. mail (P.O. Box 2340, LaBelle, FL 33975) or by fax (863-674-4194).

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at either meeting, please contact Hendry County Planning and Zoning at (863) 675-5240; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail [mjohnson@hendryfla.net](mailto:mjohnson@hendryfla.net).

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Si necesita la asistencia de un intérprete que hable español para participar un esta reunión, por favor póngase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240.



**ELECTION NOTICE**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PUBLIC TESTING FOR THE AUGUST 28, 2018 PRIMARY ELECTION**

Testing will be conducted on August 8, 2018, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Supervisor of Elections Office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle.

**CANVASSING BOARD MEETINGS**

The Canvassing Board will convene at the Supervisor of Elections Office located at 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle on:

August 8, at 2:00 p.m.	August 27, at 5:00 p.m.
August 24, at 5:00 p.m.	August 28, at 5:00 p.m.
August 25, at Noon	August 30 at 4:00 p.m.

for the purpose of Canvassing Absentee Ballots, Early Ballots, Provisional Ballots, and the Votes cast in the August 28th Primary Election. The Canvassing Board will also select the precinct for the Post Audit.

**THE PUBLIC TESTING, CANVASSING, CERTIFICATION AND POST ELECTION AUDIT ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**POST AUDIT**

The Canvassing Board will convene for the Post Audit on September 7, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

**AVISO DE ELECCION**  
**ES POR ESTE MEDIO DADO QUE LA PRUEBA PUBLICA DE LAS ELECCIONES PRIMARIAS DEL 28 DE AGOSTO DE 2018**

La prueba se conducira el 8 de Agosto 2018, comenzando a las 2:00 pm en la Oficina de Supervisor de Elecciones, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle.

**REUNION DE LA JUNTA DE ESCRUTINIO**

La Junta de Escrutinio se reunirá en la Oficina de Supervisor de Elecciones en 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle:

8 de Agosto a las 2:00 pm	27 de Agosto a las 5:00 pm
24 de Agosto a las 5:00 pm	28 de Agosto a las 5:00 pm
25 de Agosto a las Noon	30 de Agosto a las 4:00 pm

con el propósito de sollicitacion boletas ausentes del Escrutinio, y boletas de votar temprano, boletas provisionales, y los votos emitidos en la eleccion general del 4 de noviembre. La Junta de Escrutinio también seleccionará el precinto para la auditoría posterior.

**LA PRUEBA PÚBLICA, ESCRUTINIO, CERTIFICACION Y POST ELECTORALES ESTÁN ABIERTAS AL PÚBLICO**

**AUDITORIA POSTERIOR**

La Junta de Escrutinio se reunirá para la auditoría posterior el dia7 de Septiembre a las 4:00 pm.

**Brenda Hoots**  
**Supervisor of Elections**  
**Hendry County, Florida**  
**CN & CB**  
**Publish Aug 2, 2018**  
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**F.S. 101.5612**  
**F.S. 101.591**

# 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.  
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## To Place a Display Ad

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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.

# Floridians advised to watch out for panthers

**By Chris Felker**  
INI Florida

While two new litters of three Florida panther kittens each have been reported so far in 2018, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), mortality among the endangered species also grew, with three deaths during the past two months pushing the toll to 18 for the year.

The latest casualties were discovered at the southern end of their range. A 4-year-old male found July 21 on Stewart Boulevard in Collier County, near the Picayune Strand State Forest, was the most recent; and a younger male's carcass was discovered June 25 on State Road 29 a couple of miles south of County Road 858 in Collier. Both were struck fatally by vehicles. The other death was of a 9-month-old male panther struck on CR 833, just north of CR 832 in Hendry County, and found June 20.

A new litter, just 26 days old, was discovered on a private ranch and recorded by the FWC on June 16, two males and a female born to a mama panther wearing tag FP246. The other consisted of two females and one male born to tagged panther FP220 in the Big Cypress National Preserve, Turner River Unit, and recorded March 20.

During the past two months, there have also been four panther depredations of livestock and pets reported, all in Golden Gate Estates inside Collier County. The animals killed were a calf, a cat, a goat and a miniature donkey.

Scientists from the FWC along with wildlife advocacy organizations have been working this year to publicize a program that can help people keep their outdoor pets and livestock safe from the predator. Another part of these people's job of protecting the endangered species and keeping human neighbors, children, pets and livestock safe from them in their Southwest and South Central Florida rangelands is advising how motorists can avoid harming Florida panthers in roadway encounters.

Sixteen of the 18 panther deaths this year

were caused by vehicle collisions, two from unknown causes. One mortality, in May, occurred along a part of Alligator Alley that had been fenced to keep panthers off the road, but in a spot where the fencing was breached by Hurricane Irma.

Bids for replacing that fence had been received by the state only the day before that panther fatality in May. Unfortunately, according to an FWC research scientist, neither the Federal Highway Administration nor Florida Department of Transportation considers that type of repair to be an emergency.

Elizabeth Fleming, senior Florida representative for Defenders of Wildlife, said at the time that "we have been requesting that FDOT make repairing damaged fencing a priority," but that did not happen soon enough. With more areas of downed fencing still needing replacement, state authorities are asking motorists to be on heightened alert in panther crossing areas (which are clearly marked by cautionary yellow FDOT signs).

The FDOT and FWC request that drivers exercise additional caution while driving in areas of Southwest Florida that are panther habitat, especially near Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park, and always use their headlights beginning at dusk and continuing until sunup.

Motorists and truckers also are asked to report injured or dead panthers to the FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

The panther, Florida's official state animal, has been listed as a federally endangered species since 1967. As the state gains more human inhabitants, suitable habitat for panthers shrinks. Florida panthers normally live in remote, undeveloped areas. But while both the number of panthers and the number of people living and recreating in Florida are growing, so also are the chances of an encounter with a panther.

Encounters with Florida panthers are relatively rare but do occur, particularly in rural parts of Southwest Florida. If you live, work or play in panther habitat, there are things you can do to enhance your safety and that

of your friends, family and animals.

If you encounter a Florida panther:

- Keep children within sight and close to you.
- Give the panther space. Most Florida panthers will avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- Do not run. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact.
- Avoid crouching or bending over. Squatting or bending over makes you look smaller, resembling a prey-sized animal.
- Make yourself appear larger. Open your jacket, raise your arms, throw stones, branches, etc. without turning away.
- If attacked, fight back with whatever is at hand (without turning your back).

For more information, read the FWC's flier on Panther Safety Tips. Anyone who feels threatened by a panther, or who has lost pets or livestock to a panther, is requested to call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922), or #FWC and \*FWC on a cellphone.

There are also things residents can do to make their yard less attractive to panthers. Individual circumstances vary, but options to consider include:

- A secure enclosure or electric fence about 2 feet high around animal pens.
- Motion-activated lighting (a light that is always on may help you to see what's happening but will not deter a panther).
- Clear or mow vegetation that may provide concealment for panthers.
- Do not feed wildlife because panthers may be attracted to areas where prey animals congregate.
- Construct a secure pen for pets and livestock.

The FWC offers further tips on its website, along with detailed instructions about how to build panther-safe outdoor enclosures for outdoor pets or livestock. Help is available also from Defenders of Wildlife, which may assist farmers or private livestock owners in financing construction of outdoor pens.

To learn more, go to their website at [www.defenders.org](http://www.defenders.org).

# Okeechobee Waterway plan under review

Special to the Okeechobee News

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District released the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for updating the 1986 Okeechobee Waterway (OWW) and Lake Okeechobee (LO) Master Plan. A public workshop is scheduled in LaBelle and public comment will be accepted through Sept. 21.

A Master Plan is required for each civil works project for which the Corps has administrative responsibility. It serves as a planning document that anticipates what could and should happen at a Corps project, but is flexible enough to address changing conditions. The primary goals of this Master Plan are to update the overall land and water management plan, resource objectives, and associated design and management concepts, which:

1. Provide the best possible combination

of responses to regional needs

2. Contribute toward providing a high degree of recreation diversity within the region
3. Emphasize the particular qualities, characteristics, and potentials of the project; and
4. Exhibit consistency and compatibility with national objectives and other state and regional goals and programs.

This Master Plan update includes current and projected future land use and recreational sites adjacent to the OWW and LO Project. The project is located in south central Florida within Glades, Hendry, Lee, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and Martin Counties.

This update of the OWW and LO Master Plan does not include operations of Lake Okeechobee or components of Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation. Items related to those projects are or will be covered under separate studies and future NEPA assess-

ments.

Features being considered for replacement from the current Master Plan are:

- Conversion of the abandoned campground at Moore Haven West to a Wildlife Management Area with access to the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail and day use area. This area could potentially include a new canoe/kayak launching facility and repair or upgrading of the existing boat ramp.
- Closure of the W.P. Franklin swim beach, while maintaining the picnic and fishing areas. Closing the beach would entail removing buoys and swimming signs and discontinuing sand renourishment, due to safety concerns. This site could include a canoe/kayak launch.

The draft document and information regarding the public workshop and how to submit comments are available at: <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/OWWMasterPlan-Update/>

## Hendry County Schools Open House

<b>Wednesday, August 8th</b>	a.m.
Central Elementary School - 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Country Oaks Elementary School – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Eastside Elementary School – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Upthegrove Elementary School – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Westside Elementary School – 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	LaBelle Middle School – 12:30 – 2:20 p.m.
Clewiston Middle School – 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.	LaBelle High School – 9th grade – 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Clewiston High School – 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	10th grade - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
LaBelle Elementary School – 9:00 – 11:00	11th grade – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
	12th grade – 7:00 p.m.

## Sign up for RCMA now

RCMA Head Start Program is currently taking applications for registration for the 2018 – 2019 program year. This program offers Social, Dental, Health Services, as well as Hearing and Vision Screenings. Specialized in working with children with disabilities and their families. Meals are provided free of cost. REQUIREMENTS: Proof of Birth for child being enrolled, income verification is necessary, accepting children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old. For more info: RCMA Port LaBelle CDC, 6760 Santa Fe North, LaBelle, FL 33935. Located at Mira Verde Complex. Phone 863-674-4532.

Este programa ofrece: Servicio Dentales, Sociales y de Salud, Así como Pruebas de Lenguaje y Auditivas. Nos Especializamos en servicios para niños con impedimentos o limitaciones. Nosotros animamos la participación de los padres en la educación de los niños. Proveemos todas las comidas libre de costos. REQUISITOS: Certificado de Nacimiento, Verificación de Ingreso es necesaria. Aceptamos niños de 6 semanas hasta 5 años de edad. For more info: RCMA LaBelle CDC, 3749 State RD 29 S LaBelle 863-674-4510; RCMA Krome 551 W Cowboy Way 863-674-4515; RCMA Glades West CDC. 2500 S County Line RD 731 W 863-612-0783; RCMA Port LaBelle CDC, 6760 Santa Fe North, LaBelle, FL 33935. Situado en el Complejo Mira Verde. Teléfono 863-674-4532.

### El programa de RCMA

El programa de Head Start esta aceptando solicitudes para 2018-2019 año escolar.

## CITY OF LABELLE

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED ENACTMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency and the City Commission, for the City of LaBelle, will hold public hearings on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall on 481 West Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida for the purpose of receiving public comment on the following proposed ordinance:

#### ORDINANCE 2018-09

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4-77 OF THE CITY OF LABELLE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE TO ALLOW FOR EXCAVATIONS EXCEEDING FIFTY THOUSAND (50,000) CUBIC YARDS, AND FIVE ACRES IN SIZE, BY SPECIAL EXCEPTION WITHIN THE AGRICULTURE ZONING DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. Interested persons may appear on their own behalf or by agent or attorney. If anyone decides to appeal a decision made by the Agency/Commission with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or hearing, a record of the proceeding will be needed for the appeal and for that purpose(s), may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceeding 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 AT 863-675-2872, NO LESS THAN FIVE (5) DAYS PRIOR TO THE ABOVE STATED HEARING DATE.**

City of LaBelle City Commission  
David A. Lyons, Mayor

## HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will conduct a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan. The hearing will take place on **August 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, Florida. The LPA will determine if the amendment is consistent with the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan.

The recommendations of the LPA will be made to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The BCC will consider whether or not it wishes to transmit the amendment to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. This hearing will be held on **August 28, 2018, at 5:05 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hicpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida.

**Petition Number:** CPA18-0004

**Applicant:** Southern Gardens Groves Corporation

**Project size:** 682 acres +/-

**Location:** W. US 27 (NE corner of Whidden Corner), Clewiston, FL 33440  
(Parcel IDs: 1-32-43-01-A00-0003.0000; 1-33-43-06-A00-0001.0000; 1-32-43-12-A00-0001.0000; 1-33-43-07-A00-0001.0000; 1-32-43-12-A00-0005.0000; 1-33-43-07-A00-0002.0000; and 1-33-43-07-A00-0001.0100)

**Request:** The applicant is requesting to amend the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map by changing the future land use designation from Agriculture to Multi-Use Development on the subject property.

**Ordinance title:**

AN ORDINANCE OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING THE HENDRY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ORDINANCE 91-05, AS AMENDED, SPECIFICALLY BY CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP, MORE SPECIFICALLY BY CHANGING APPROXIMATELY +/- 682 ACRES OF LAND DESIGNATED AS AGRICULTURE TO MULTI-USE DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All interested parties are invited to appear and be heard. Oral and written comments will be accepted. A copy of the petition and ordinance are available for inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 S. Main St., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners' office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

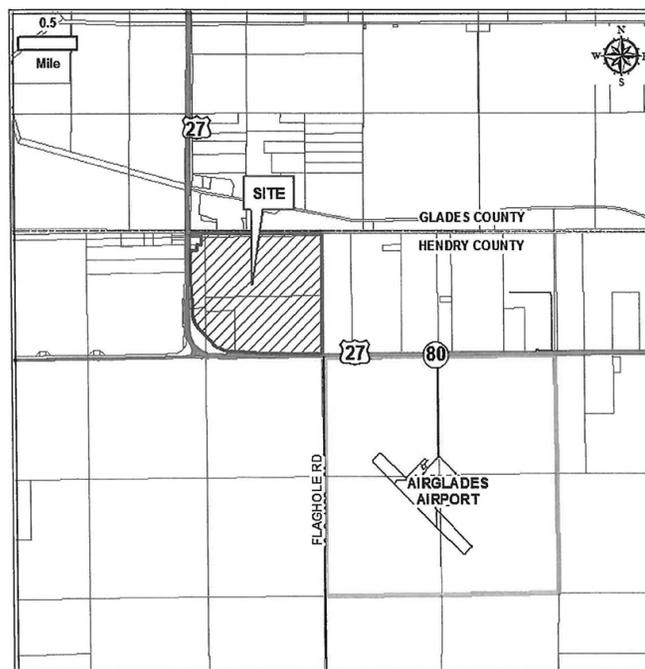
If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is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

Any questions pertaining to this matter should be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department by phone (863-675-5240), email (mjohnson@hendryfla.net), U.S. mail (P.O. Box 2340, LaBelle, FL 33975) or by fax (863- 674-4194).

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at either meeting, please contact Hendry County Planning and Zoning at (863) 675-5240; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail [mjohnson@hendryfla.net](mailto:mjohnson@hendryfla.net).

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Si necesita la asistencia de un intérprete que hable español para participar un esta reunión, por favor póngase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240.



# Joanne Vorhees recognized for outstanding service

On Saturday, July 14, an amazing late afternoon event took place to recognize and honor one of Hendry County's premier professionals! Joanne Vorhees, ARNP, (Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner), has served women in the Department of Health's Women's Health program in Clewiston, LaBelle, and Moore Haven for 50 years! And she's NOT done yet! The Staff and Leadership decided it was time to honor this icon serving the community and Public Health. Joanne has served the community and helped women who are underserved and without the needed resources for healthcare.

Joanne was hired into the public health arena by Dr. Workman and Margaret Morgan. These names may only be recognized by a few Clewiston folks. Prior to coming to Public Health, she practiced nursing at Hendry General (Hendry Regional Medical Center) in the Emergency Room and surgery.

Joanne was a Public Health Nurse for 25 years before pursuing her advanced degree

as a nurse practitioner. At that time, she did it all, from epidemiology to prenatal services, immunizations, family planning, and more! Joanne has been a great resource to the Health Department and the community! Joanne continues to serve women but now has served generations of women! "Joanne also performs disaster duties and is one of the most 'resourceful' Nurse practitioners I have ever met!," said Jennifer Hood, ARNP, Nursing Director for the Florida Department of Health in Hendry and Glades counties. "She has the knowledge and skills that has helped many of the people we serve."

Joanne's husband, Boyd, Jr. and his father, Boyd Sr., (both deceased) worked many years at United States Sugar Corporation. Her son, Craig Davis attended Hendry County schools and lives in West Palm and has two sons and one daughter. Her grandson, Cody is a 23-year old Corpsman who wants to become a Physician's Assistant. The family has been long time residents of Clewiston and Joanne says she "would not want to live anywhere else!"

## Summer school students take a field trip around LaBelle

Each year Hendry County Schools offer a summer program to students of migrant workers through the federal programs. This year the elementary students of LaBelle Schools studied cities, so to end the unit of study, students took a field trip around LaBelle to see how a city works together.

The trip started at City Hall where students learned about the responsibilities of the city commissioners and the Mayor. They were given a presentation by, Mike Boyle, who explained how the city was zoned for different operations of the city. Students learned that they can be more knowledgeable about what the city is doing if they attend the city commissioners meetings. Student Sebastian Raymundo said, "He like that we went to city hall and the the kids could ask questions."

Next students visited the LaBelle fire station, students learned about different tools and trucks used by our city firemen and women. Robby White and Amy Yeomans explained what types of tasks the fireman and woman have to do in an emergency. Firefighter Meghan also demonstrated what a firefighter looks like all geared up! "I liked that we went to the Fire Department and they showed us what the people put on," said Christopher Ochoa-Ramirez.

Students then traveled to Walmart. The staff at Walmart was so excited to have us there for a tour, even making all of the students name badges! Students saw the store-room and how it was organized, along with a tour of the entire store. They met different types of workers and saw how they did their jobs. Abraham Leon-ortiz said, " I liked that Walmart showed us Walmart and that we got to go to the break room and have snacks: cupcakes, oranges, and juice."

Students finished the trip with a visit to the Zak Reyna playground and heard from

the Parks and Rec Director about the different parks in the area. Brenda Hoots also came to the park and spoke to the students about the importance of voting for local, state and national positions so that the right people get in office to make the right decisions. Mrs. Hart from the Department of Recreation sent them on their way with a bag of summer goodies.



Courtesy photo

**Robby White and Amy Yeomans explained what types of tasks the fireman and woman have to do in an emergency.**

Joseph Pepe, the Health Officer for the Department of Health in these Counties said "Joanne has been loved by the community she serves. We hope she never retires! She is amazing and certainly a Public Health Icon!" He read a congratulatory letter from the Surgeon General, Secretary of Health for the State of Florida, Celeste Phillips, M.D.

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has started a Joanne Vorhees Nursing Scholarship for those interested in pursuing higher education in Nursing. This scholarship is exclusive only to Hendry and Glades counties. That's where we all come

in! We all can donate to this fund to show our love, respect, sense of community, and admiration to this lady. Joanne could have gone anywhere with her skills. She stayed in our rural communities where she quietly made a difference. We need the community to help by donating to the scholarship initiative. No amount is too small (or too large). It's another way to show love to these rural communities. Please help. Donate. Change a life in Hendry and/or Glades counties. The URL is: <http://bit.ly/JoanneVorheesScholarship>

## CITY OF LABELLE BUDGET WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of LaBelle will hold a workshop/special meeting to consider the proposed 2018-2019 budget for the City of LaBelle and any other matters to come before it, at 4:30 p.m., on Thursday, August 9, 2018. The workshop/special meeting is open to the public and will be held in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, 481 W. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle. Everyone is invited to attend.

If you need assistance, as per the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify the Clerk at least two days prior to the meeting at City Hall 863.675.2872.

### ELECTIONS OFFICE NOTICE

AUGUST 28, 2018

PRIMARY ELECTION

#### EARLY VOTING

Will be August 13 - August 25 for the Primary Election at the: LaBelle Elections Office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave. and Clewiston Elections Office, 1100 S. Olympia Street; Weekdays 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Weekends 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### VOTE BY MAIL

Vote By Mail Ballots are also available. TO REQUEST A BALLOT BY MAIL FOR THE ELECTION CALL 863-675-5230 OR 902-3392.

#### DISABLED

Anyone unable to Vote their ballot without assistance such as blind, loss of limb, or illiterate, please contact the Supervisor of Elections.

#### ELECTION DAY

The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm for voters to cast their ballot. Please bring a photo and signature ID with you to the polls.

### AVISO DE LA OFICINA DE ELECCIONES

28 DE AGOSTO 2018

ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA

#### VOTAR TEMPRANO

Será el 13 de Agosto hasta el 25 de Agosto para la Elección Primaria en la Oficina de Elecciones en LaBelle, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave. y en la oficina de Elecciones en Clewiston, 1100 S. Olympia Ave. Días de la semana de las 9:00 am hasta las 6:00 pm. Fin de semana de las 9:00 am hasta las 5:00 pm

#### VOTE POR CORREO

Boletas para votar por correo están disponibles. PARA SOLICITAR UNA BOLETA AUSENTE LLAME LA OFICINA DE ELECCIONES 863-675-5230 O 863-902-3392.

#### INCAPACITADO

Cualquier persona que no puede votar su boleta sin ayuda, como ciegos, la pérdida de una extremidad o analfabetos, diríjense a la Supervisor de elecciones.

#### DIA DE LA ELECCION

Las urnas se abran desde las 7:00 am hasta 7:00 pm para que los votantes a emitir su boleta. Por favor traiga su identificacion con su retrato y firma para las urnas

**Brenda Hoots**  
Supervisor of Elections  
Hendry County, Florida  
Publish August 2, 2018  
F.S. 101.68  
F.S. 101.5612  
F.S. 101.591



Courtesy photo/Karen Hildebrand

### Rock Jewelry and Recycled Art

Participants in Barron Library's Rock Your World, enjoyed presentations by both Cristina Hutson and Carlos Inocente. Mrs. Cristina showed the children numerous different kinds of rock used in jewelry making, and then demonstrated how she makes earrings from them. Mr. Carlos, along with his helper, Michelle, showed the students how to use all different kinds of trash to create beautiful pieces of art. Following his presentation, all of the children had the opportunity to create a 'one of a kind', big, beautiful piece of art. (see photo)

Barron Library wishes to thank ALL presenters from this summer's program ROCK YOUR WORLD at BARRON LIBRARY! It takes so many willing participants to make the library's summer programs a success. Thank you to all the families and day camps, who brought your children to the weekly sessions as well.

### Barron Library Happenings

**PAINTING WORKSHOP** – Join the Confident Creator, and learn to create beautiful and fun abstract paintings that you will be proud of! **Monday, August 6, 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 . . . MOVING AGAIN**, this time back to **Tuesday morning at 10:45**. Bring your little ones for fun stories and projects.

**BARRON BOOK CLUB** – Book selection for **August 13**, is The Lying Game, by Ruth Ware. The club meets at the library the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

If you enjoy reading and discussing your thoughts, you may be perfect for the Barron Book Club. 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.**

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

**KOMPUTERS for KIDS** – the library is still working with Komputers for Kids Community Outreach of Southwest Florida, who make rebuilt computers available to families at an affordable price. Check them out at Barron Library.

Courtesy photo/Karen Hildebrand

### LIBRARIES ROCK

Rock Your World at BARRON LIBRARY, has come to an end. The last program was an awesome time with Patty Register, from GATORAMA, as our presenter. The children always look forward to the chance to actually hold an alligator. Thank you Ms. Patty, we appreciate you! Check for details, at Gatorama.com, on the upcoming Hatching Festival. It will begin around August 18 . . . what fun it must be to hold an alligator egg while it's hatching! COOL!



# Eli's Western Wear

Annual  
Back to School

# SALE



## August 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

### 25% OFF

All Shirts, Jackets, Boots, Shoes, Caps, Purses, Backpacks, Wallets, Belts, & Socks!

### 15 - 25% OFF

All Jeans & Shorts

Clearance Racks up to 50% OFF

Tax FREE  
Aug. 3 - 5

Sale excludes: Saddles, Tack, Ropes, Jewelry, Felt & Straw Hats, and Accessories

**Okeechobee**  
907 NW Park Street  
(863) 763-2984

**Arcadia**  
1011 E Oak Street  
(863) 494-6088

**Dundee**  
27995 Hwy 27  
(863) 439-6655

Can't make it to one of our three locations?  
Shop the sale online!

[www.ElisWesternWear.com](http://www.ElisWesternWear.com)

## Obituaries

### Anthony Curella, 66

LABELLE — It is with great sadness that the family of Anthony Curella announce his passing on July 28, 2018.

Anthony was born Nov. 3, 1951 in Buffalo, N.Y., to the late Bernard and the late Jessie (Hoyal) Curella.

Anthony has been married to his high school sweetheart and best friend Pamela (Langlois) Curella for over 42 magical and wondrous years.

Anthony will be lovingly remembered by his caring and compassionate wife, Pamela; his daughters, Theresa M. (Curella) See and husband Catlin See, Marie A. (Curella) Hubner and husband Scott Hubner; and his son, Anthony A. Curella. Anthony is also survived by his grandchildren, Ulton and Amsten See and Mason Hubner. He is also leaving behind his brothers, Bernard and Joseph Curella; and his sister, Angelina Salisbury; and nephew, Fred Taylor. He was also preceded in death by his step-mother, Jackie Cruella.

Anthony held various positions over the years from a skilled carpenter to a heavy equipment mechanic. However, those who knew him well know that his true passion in life aside from his family was music. An avid bass guitar player and talented vocalist, Anthony performed all over this state and for various charities over the years. Anthony lived to bring people together through song and always believed that good music helped the soul. Many people knew of Anthony



and his late father Bernard Curella by way of their bar, the Alva Country Diner formally Bernie's Hideaway.

A Celebration of Anthony's life will be held Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018 at 11 a.m. at Akin-Davis Funeral home. Visitation will be one hour before the celebration. Burial will be in Fort Denaud Cemetery.

A go-fund me account has been created in loving memory for Anthony's final expenses @ [www.gofundme.com/swmryz-help-us-say-farwell](http://www.gofundme.com/swmryz-help-us-say-farwell)

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

### Irma Catherine Howard, 86

LABELLE — Irma Catherine Howard passed away July 24, 2018 in Lehigh Acres. She was born Aug. 21, 1931 in Wauchula.

Catherine was a lifelong resident of LaBelle and a member of Eastside Baptist Church. She was a faithful Christian, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend who will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her son, Leslie Howard and wife, Cyndee; daughter-in-law, Lisa Howard; brother, Dr. Terry O'Banion (Yolande); sister, Jackie Bryant (Norman); grandchildren, James, Josh, Catherine, Justin, Lindsey, Melanie; and ten great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald E. Howard; son, Warren T. (Tim) Howard; and great-grandson, Carter Howard.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 11, 2018, 10:30 a.m. at Caloosa Baptist Church Grace Building in LaBelle with Brother Jim Lanier officiating.

Cremation Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.



Courtesy photo

### Pet of the Week

This handsome cowboy is Tex, a 3 1/2 year old neutered hound mix. He is sweet, a little bit shy and gets along with other dogs. He's anxious to ride off into the sunset with his furever family. Come say howdy to Tex at the Caloosa Humane Society, 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle, FL 33935, or check him out on our website [Caloosahumanesociety.org](http://Caloosahumanesociety.org)



### 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**



For More information:  
Vicki Reynolds  
Event Lead  
863-234-2105  
Amanda Dreszer  
Community Manager  
239-297-5484

## Relay For Life of LaBelle Needs YOU!

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



**Join Us in the Fight against Cancer**

Courtesy ad

Courtesy photo



## Kiwanis present check

The Kiwanis Club of LaBelle presented a \$1,000 check to the Hendry/Glades Unmet Needs Coalition. The donation was matched by the United Way for Hendry and Glades counties. Pictured are members of the Hendry/Glades Unmet Needs Coalition Board Members (Left to right) Harry Vasquez, Frank Harris, Lisa Sands (United Way), Tena Harris, Yvette Wingate, Margaret England (also a Kiwanis member) and Terri Mizaga.



Courtesy photo

## Invitation to the candidates

LaBelle Assembly of God is extending an invitation to all candidates to attend the church with the purpose of having informed voters. The Candidates do not speak in the church service. Following the service they pass out printed campaign material. And then there is what Pastor Avery calls THE ROAST where the hard questions are asked. On election day the pastor and the church does not want the voter looking at a bunch meaningless names. They trust informed voters that will improve our government and our lives. This Sunday, August 5 we will be having two candidates for the Hendry County School board. Mary Robinson is leading this project, if you are a candidate you can call her at 863-517-2677 and she will schedule you into the service. LaBelle Assembly of God is located at 139 Fraser Avenue. Everyone is welcome including all candidates. For more information call 675-0900. If you have a question about whether your vote counts. The last city election was decided by two votes.



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Randall T. Parrish, Jr., O.D.
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familyeyecare@embarqmail.com  
familyeyecarelabelle.com

## Church Briefs

### Free Movie Night

First Baptist Church LaBelle, 330 N. Main Street, is hosting another free movie night on August 10 at 6:30 p.m. We will be showing "God's Not Dead" and we would be happy to have you join us! This event is open to the public, so bring some friends and enjoy.

### Youth Group

First Christian Church, located at the corner of Lee and Ford Streets, would like to invite all children ages 5 - 18 to our Wednesday Night Youth Group. The basketball hoops are warmed up and games are ready to entertain, excite, and promote Christian fellowship. The evening also includes indoor games, a time of music, skit practice and more. This is a great summer activity that will carry on through the year. If you'd like

more information, please contact Cindy or Dave Alexander at 863-673-7567 or 239-340-1575. Hope to see you here!

### 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

First Baptist Church of LaBelle  
Flag Football/Cheer Leading  
Online registration open NOW  
[www.registration.upward.org/UPW66757](http://www.registration.upward.org/UPW66757)  
or [www.fbclabelle.org](http://www.fbclabelle.org)  
Call Preston Long 863-673-3044

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
LaBelle, Florida

Sign up NOW \$75.00 per child  
(sibling discount available)  
Ages: 4 yrs - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Deadline for registration is August 14, 2018  
Registration forms are available at anytime  
at First Baptist Church Office

# Smart-phones should be a supplement to our everyday lives

By **Geoffrey Ionescu**  
Caloosa Belle

The internet is an irresistible place. We are constantly, mindlessly scrolling through the virtual world. We carry our phones with us all day, and put it next to our beds when we go to sleep. This has given us short attention spans, anxiety and restlessness. Of course, our smart-phones have so much positive influence on our everyday lives. But we have to be aware of the social consequences that come with it. Our smart-phones should be seen as something that is supplemental to our everyday lives, as opposed to a replacement for our everyday lives. It is very easy to give in to the constant stream of information and distraction, because it distracts us from ourselves and it makes us feel good.

Sherry Turkle, a researcher on psycho-analysis and human-technology interaction says that we are “alone together”. People want to be with each other, but also elsewhere at the same time. According to Turkle, people are becoming more and more lonely, but at the same time afraid of intimacy. We are only at the foot of the mountain when it comes to understanding technology and the internet, and increasingly our smart-phones are impacting our everyday social lives.

When we text or post something on Facebook, we have time to delete, edit and change our words. We can paint an ideal picture of ourselves. But this is not who we are. When having a face to face conversation with somebody, sometimes we get awkward and don't know what to say or uncontrollably blur out in comprehensive gibberish. But that is what makes us human.

Another effect of our smart-phones is that we are always on, always connected,

we are constantly being bombarded and interrupted with pictures, videos, texts and emails. Our brains are being overloaded with information. But these distractions make us feel good, if only for a brief moment. We get used to instant gratification; Don't remember that actor's name? Google it! Every answer is at our fingertips, but we keep scrolling and swiping, because we are never fully satisfied.

I'm not saying go on a Buddhist-meditation retreat to re-connect with your inner-self. But we have to realize that more and more social media is replacing actual social interaction with other physical human beings. Because of this we lose the capacity to develop meaningful human relationships.

This continuous stream of information is not good for our brains either; every now and then our brains need downtime: a moment of rest, of silence, to give chance for self-reflection. A few years ago these moments of downtime happened when waiting for the bus, when walking to class or waiting for a meeting to begin. Now, the only safe-zone seems to be the shower. We need that moment of silence, to self-reflect, to be able to let ourselves feel bad about something, to give in to our emotions and accept them, instead of flowering them up with another Snapchat filter.

In these moments of silence – in between chaos and distractions – is where ideas happen, where we build a foundation for our minds and where our imagination flourishes.

## Community Briefs

### Widows Support Group

The Widows Support Group will meet August 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Amigos and Beer. All widows welcome.

### Attention teens and tweens!

The Firehouse Community Theatre would like to invite all teens and tweens (ages 11 to 17) to audition for an upcoming play: “Night of the Teenage Zombies.” Auditions will take place on Saturday, August 4 from 10 a.m. to Noon at the Firehouse Community Theatre. The play will be directed by Maureen Doucette. Rehearsals will start the week of August 6. Play will run October 5 and 6. If you have any questions, please call the Firehouse Community Theatre at (863) 675-3066, leave a message and someone will return your call!

### Parkinson's Support Group

The Parkinson's Disease Support Group meeting at the Hope Senior Center on Cow-

boy 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.

### La Leche League of Hendry County

The La Leche League will meet the second Thursday every month from 5-7p.m. at Barron Library, 461 N Main Street, LaBelle. At La Leche League Meetings we provide breastfeeding education and support. You can look, listen and ask questions. Some parents help each other and find friends. Come when you can and leave when you need to. You are always welcome! The League will meet on the following dates in 2018: July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13. For more info call Maria at 863-612-6264 or drop her an email too Maria.LLHendryCounty@gmail.com. You can also learn more at <http://lll-florida.com/lalecheleague/>



Courtesy Photo/Kass Vincent Whidden

## Randant assumes crown

Due to some unforeseen circumstances, we would like to announce that our 1st runner up, Taylor Randant has taken over as the reigning 2018 Swamp Cabbage Queen. We know Taylor will do a great job finishing out the remainder of her year. Please join us in congratulating our 2018 Swamp Cabbage Queen Miss Taylor Randant.

## TURN YOUR DREAMS OF HOMEOWNERSHIP INTO A REALITY!



GET ON THE  
**PATH TO BUY THE HOME YOU'VE ALWAYS  
DREAMED ABOUT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.**

Homeownership is a dream that FCB can help you make happen, and it's easier than you think!

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- Limited assets for a down payment
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Our local underwriting team offers personalized service that helps you get approved, fast decision making, and low fixed rates with flexible terms so you can easily manage your first mortgage.

**We also offer a range of resources that can help you get mortgage-ready:**

- First-time homebuyer workshops that qualify you for key programs like Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance, where available
- FCB's comprehensive new website, [FCBMortgageCentral.com](http://FCBMortgageCentral.com), with a range of free tools that help you get to closing days faster

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



Florida Based. Florida Focused.

Speak to our team at 1-877-313-9103  
[FCBMortgageCentral.com](http://FCBMortgageCentral.com)







# Community Briefs

## Veterans Memorial Wall

All Veteran names that are on bricks at the Veterans Memorial Park will be on the new veterans granite wall to be in place by **Veterans Day, November 11, 2018**. A list of updated names can be found at [www.Davchapter144.org](http://www.Davchapter144.org). E-mail Bob Kirkwood at [bobkirkwood9@gmail.com](mailto:bobkirkwood9@gmail.com) to make corrections. August 1 is the deadline to make corrections or add new names to the wall.

To add new names of Veterans, applications are available at the Caloosa Belle office, VFW and American Legion. Checks for \$100 must be made payable to "Fallen Heroes" and may be mailed to the American Legion, Post 130, 699 W. SR80, LaBelle, FL 33935, or dropped off at the Legion lounge. Your sons, daughters, grandchildren, relatives and/or friends who are or were Veterans are eligible to be placed on the wall.

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sardine cousin
  - 5 "My take is ..."
  - 10 Princess from Amphipolis
  - 14 Iota
  - 15 One-up
  - 16 "Head With Pipe" artist Nolde
  - 17 Watchable, in a way
  - 18 Jar for leafy vegetable storage?
  - 20 2000s World #1 female golfer
  - 22 Nurture
  - 23 Word with cake or break
  - 24 Actor Jackie's pet fish?
  - 27 "\_\_\_ Love" (Maroon 5 hit)
  - 29 Smoking, perhaps
  - 30 Half a score
  - 31 1959 novel in whose film version Mary Crane became Marion Crane
  - 33 Giant
  - 36 Rabbit's friend
  - 37 Opine ... or create four long answers in this puzzle?
- DOWN**
- 1 More than peck
  - 2 Head \_\_\_
  - 3 Besides
  - 4 Plymouth's county
  - 5 Org. with a multi-ring logo
  - 6 "No \_\_\_!"
  - 7 Whitewater figure
  - 8 Pitcher?
  - 9 Green sage
  - 10 Survey taker, at times
  - 11 Text clarifier
  - 12 Compliment on a course
  - 13 Antacid brand word
  - 19 Old PC monitors
  - 21 Martin's start?
  - 25 Hollywood glitterati
  - 26 Sambuca flavoring
  - 28 On a sugar high, say
  - 31 Psychologist's concern
  - 32 Quaker Honey Graham \_\_\_
  - 33 Toast, with "a"

- 34 U.S.-U.K. separator
- 35 "Truth is more of a stranger than fiction" writer
- 37 The works
- 38 Second section of Verdi's "Requiem"
- 39 Fit nicely
- 40 Quarters, e.g.
- 44 Daffy Duck has one
- 46 Move on a screen
- 47 Shakespearean heiress
- 48 "But I digress ..."
- 50 Trainee
- 51 Marine predators
- 52 Bygone birds
- 53 Mango tango smoothie server
- 55 Prefix with cordial
- 58 Post-spill need
- 59 \_\_\_-Aztec languages
- 60 See 49-Across

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

W	O	W	S	S	C	U	M	T	R	A	C	T
I	M	A	C	H	O	H	O	H	I	T	O	N
D	A	T	A	E	N	O	S	E	V	E	N	T
T	H	E	M	A	R	C	H	H	A	R	E	
H	A	R	C	P	U	L	A	R	V	A	E	
		S	M	E	A	R	C	A	M	P	A	I
H	I	K	E	D	O	L	A	Y	O	L	D	
I	D	I	G	T	A	L	L	Y	F	L	O	E
L	E	I	P	O	L	O	C	R	O	W	D	
D	A	N	C	E	M	A	R	A	T	H	O	N
A	L	G	O	R	E	M	O	I	C	C	S	
			W	H	I	P	P	E	D	C	R	E
S	A	M	B	A	S	O	L	D	E	L	M	O
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E	M	M	Y	S	T	R	E	E	R	O	O	K

xwordeditor@aol.com

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By Julian Lim  
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## Yard Sale for the animals

The Caloosa Humane Society is holding a yard sale on Sat. Aug 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with many items including rugs, clothing, decorations & knick-knacks, vintage items, tools, collectables, household necessities, books, furniture & lots of new items! Have fun and help support our mission and the animals in our care. Location: 390 N. Bridge St. (behind and in the LaBelle Auction building, corner of N. Bridge St. and Park Ave.) For more info call 863-675-0997.

### Public Notice

**HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on **August 14, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.**, at the City of Clewiston Commission Chambers, Clewiston City Hall, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida, to discuss: a request to rename the Harlem Civic Center to the Harlem Civic and Cultural Center.

The meetings is open to the public. If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Please note that matters may be discussed at the meeting which are not on the prepared agenda for the meeting.

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at the meetings, please contact Hendry County Administrator's Office at (863) 675-5220; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail [keitha.daniels@hendryfla.net](mailto:keitha.daniels@hendryfla.net).

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240. 278394 CN/CB 8/2/2018

### Public Notice

### Hendry County Legals

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:**

Daniel I Delacruz 275 E. Seminole Ave. LaBelle, FL 33935  
Michael J. Deluca III 4451 CR 78 Ft. Danaud FL 33935  
Victor M. Duprey 215 N. Utopia St. Clewiston, FL 33440  
Robert L. Everett 1850 Old US 27 Lot 31 Clewiston, FL 33440  
Stephanie Gonzalez 570 Courtney Ct. LaBelle, FL 33935  
Frances A. Hodges 721 Mississippi Ave. Clewiston, FL 33440  
Brodrick D. McKenzie 524 E. Sagamore Ave. Clewiston, FL 33440

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Hendry County, Florida, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this published notice to receive the information regarding the basis for your potential ineligibility and the procedure to resolve this matter. Failure to respond may result in a determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor, and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system. Call 863-675-5230 or 863-983-1592.

**El Aviso se da por Este Medio:**

Informamos que su elegibilidad para votar esta en cuestion. Usted tiene que comunicarse con el Supervisor de Elecciones, del condado de Hendry, Florida, a mas tardar 30 dias despues de la fecha de este aviso publicado para recibir la informacion al respecto de su ineligibilidad potencial y el procedimiento de resolver este caso. La falta de respuesta puede resultar en la determinacion de ineligibilidad por parte del Supervisor, y su nombre sera eliminado del sistema estatal del registro de votantes. Llame al 863-675-5230 o 863-983-1592.

**Brenda K. Hoots**  
Supervisor of Elections  
PO Box 174  
LaBelle, FL 33975  
Hendry County, Florida  
F.S. 98.075

277367 CN 08/02/2018

### Hendry County Legals

### Public Notice

**HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF BUDGET WORKSHOPS**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a workshop on August 14, 2018, at 4:00 p.m., at Clewiston City Hall, Commission Room, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida to discuss the 2018-2019 county budgets and related issues.

The Board will also hold a workshop on August 28, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida to discuss the 2018-2019 county budgets and related issues.

The meetings are open to the public. If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at these meetings, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Please note that matters may be discussed at the meetings which are not on the prepared agenda for the meetings.

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at either meeting, please contact Hendry County Administrator at (863) 675-5220; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail [keitha.daniels@hendryfla.net](mailto:keitha.daniels@hendryfla.net).

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240. 278296 CN/CB 8/2/2018

## Tobacco-Free Meeting

The Drug Free Hendry County Coalition and the Hendry Tobacco-Free Partnership meeting will be held on August 9, at 4:00 p.m. at the Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church- Fellowship Hall, 310 Campbell St. LaBelle, FL. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information call Andrea May at 863-674-4041 ext. 6017 or email [Andrea.May@flhealth.gov](mailto:Andrea.May@flhealth.gov).

## 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.

### Public Notice

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING HENDRY COUNTY RFP 2018-18 FOR ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE HENDRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County RFP 2018-18 Selection Committee will hold a meeting on **August 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Board of County Commissioners' Administrative Office, 640 S. Main St, LaBelle, Florida. The meeting is open to the public.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Please note that matters may be discussed at the meeting which are not on the prepared agenda for the meeting.

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at the meeting, please contact Hendry County Keitha Daniels at (863) 675-5220; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail [keitha.daniels@hendryfla.net](mailto:keitha.daniels@hendryfla.net).

Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5220. Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. 278320 CN/CB 8/2/2018

### Public Notice

### Public Notice

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS HENDRY COUNTY, CITY OF CLEWISTON & CITY OF LABELLE DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL SERVICES**

**RFP No. 2018-17**

**Opening Date and Time: August 9, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.**

The Hendry County Board of County Commissioners, the City of Clewiston and the City of LaBelle are seeking proposals to obtain the services of qualified firms to remove, process, and lawfully dispose of disaster generated debris (other than hazardous materials and household putrescible garbage) from public property, public rights-of-way, publicly maintained canals, publicly maintained waterways, natural waterways and private roadways in unincorporated Hendry County, the City of Clewiston and the City of LaBelle in response to an emergency event such as, but not limited to, hurricane(s) or other natural or manmade disaster(s). Vendors must have the capability and ability to rapidly respond to wide scale debris volumes typically produced in hurricanes, tornadoes, and other disaster types as well as small scale debris volumes.

The Vendor must handle debris management activities in Hendry County, Florida in accordance with applicable regulations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida Department of Health (FDH), Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in conjunction with the local governments' needs. The Vendor shall have an excellent understanding of the documentation involved for the reimbursement from FEMA, FHWA, or other Federal Agencies, and the State relief programs to make the process of cost recovery efficient and accurate. The processes and documentation required will be in strict compliance with FEMA, FHWA, or other Federal Agencies, and other State relief program regulations regarding eligibility. Contracts must meet rules for Federal grants, as provided for in Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200 in order to be eligible for reimbursement under the Public Assistance Program.

In order to be considered, proposals must be received by the Board of County Commissioners at the C.E. Hall Building (Clerk's Office) in the Hendry County Courthouse Complex, 25 E. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida by August 9, 2018, at 2:00 p.m., at which time all proposals will be recorded in the presence of one or more witnesses.

A copy of the Instructions and Request for Proposal documents can be obtained by visiting the County's website located at [www.hendryfla.net](http://www.hendryfla.net) under the public information tab, or by calling Kelly O'Nan at (863) 612-4727, or e-mailing [Ms.O'Nan@konan@hendryfla.net](mailto:Ms.O'Nan@konan@hendryfla.net).

Non-mandatory pre-bid meetings will be held on Wednesday August 1, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Hendry County Engineering Department located at 99 E Cowboy Way, LaBelle, FL 33935 and Thursday, August 2, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Janet B. Taylor Auditorium located at 1100 S. Olympia Street, Clewiston, FL 33440.

This solicitation does not commit Hendry County, the City of Clewiston or the City of LaBelle to award any contracts or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this solicitation. The County reserves the right to cancel this procurement or reject any and all responses for any reason set forth in Hendry County Code Section 1-2-185(c)(3)a and may choose to re-procure at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners.

Hendry County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. 275086 CN/CB 7/19/26;8/2/2018

### Public Notice

## Community Briefs

### Hendry Democrats meet in LaBelle on August 18

Hendry County Democrats will meet at LaBelle's Big V Restaurant one block west of the Hendry County Courthouse on SR-80 on Saturday, August 18, for a 9 o'clock breakfast meeting to plan GET OUT THE VOTE for the August 28 Primary Election that will choose the Democratic Candidate to be Florida's next governor and the opportunity to learn more about the unopposed Democratic candidates whose names are already set to be on the November 6 General Election Ballot that include Tony Aguilar running for Hendry County Property Appraiser, Jennifer Boddicker running for Florida House of Representatives District 80, and Annisa Karim running for Florida Senate District 27. Mary Barzee Flores running for U S Representative CD 25 and incumbent U S Senator Bill Nelson are already experiencing a barrage of extremely negative TV spot announcements since Florida is considered a "must win" state for control of the U S Congress.

All interested Democrats and like-minded voters are welcome to join a cadre of already active local and area Democrats for breakfast at the Big V Restaurant, well-known throughout Southwest Florida for its biscuits and sausage gravy. Remember, all politics is local. Even one vote can make a difference in the outcome of an election as it could make or break a tie. Florida Election law calls for tie votes to be broken by "drawing straws" or tossing a coin. Let's make the outcome of the 2018 Florida Election the "Will of the People" and not random chance!

### Swamp Cabbage Festival Committee Meeting

The Swamp Cabbage Festival will meet the first Monday of each month in preparation for the 2019 Festival. The meetings are open to the public as well as anyone interested in volunteering. Please join us at LaBelle City Hall, 481 W Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, FL 33935 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call our office at 863-675-2995. Meeting Dates: August 6, September 10, October 1, November 5, December 3 and January 7

### American Legion Events

Happy Hour Monday - Friday 11a--6p; Lounge opens 10 a.m. M-Sa; 12 noon on Sunday.

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

August 3 - 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)

August 2 - Thurs - 6 p.m. DAV (Disabled American Veterans) meeting

August 8 - Wed - 6 p.m. Sons of the

American Legion meeting

August 16 - Thurs - 7 p.m. - American Legion & American Legion Auxiliary meet

September 5 - 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.

### MOPS Summer Fun

During the month of August, we will have movie days at First Christian Church, a play date at Zach Reyna Playground, and our Open House. All events are on Friday mornings at 10 a.m. **Movie Days are: August 3- Ice Age (The original), August 17-Wall-E, and August 31- Finding Nemo. The playdate is August 17** at Zachary Reyna Playground. Our Open House will be **August 24** at First Christian Church. All events are free. First Christian Church is located at 138 Ford Ave. LaBelle, Florida 33935. Zachary Reyna Memorial Playground is located at 800 Jaycee Lions Dr. LaBelle, FL 33935. For more information contact Megan Narehood at (239) 206-9881 or MOPSOFLA-BELLE@gmail.com.

### VFW Post 10100

ALL DINNERS FOR JULY ARE \$6.00!!!

**Aug. 3, Fri.** Meatloaf by Chuck and Mary. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the cost \$6.00

**Aug. 4, Sat.** Karaoke with Chris and Betty Ann, Music will start at 5:00 p.m.

**Aug.11, Sat.** Pork Loin Dinner. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m., cost is \$6.00.

Steve White is in the HOUSE! Karaoke starts at 6:00 p.m.

**Aug.17 Fri.** 2 Sharps Karaoke and cover dish dinner. Music will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Aug. 24 Fri. Ham Dinner. Serving begins at 5:00 p.m., cost \$6.00.

#### SUMMER SPECIAL

Every Tues. Free pool table from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wear your VFW T-Shirt and get .50 off your drink. Beer and Soda excluded.

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

Queen of Hearts, drawing is at 7:00pm.

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

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

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

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

## Help Protect Vulnerable Family Members from Scam Artists

If you have older family members whose cognitive functions or decision-making abilities have declined, or who are lonely or recently widowed, you might need to help protect them against financial scams. What steps should you take?

First of all, try to gain a good sense of their overall financial activity. Look for red flags, such as a reluctance to discuss money matters, consistently unpaid bills, unexplained withdrawals, mysterious wire transfers or a sudden need to purchase large quantities of gift cards. And watch out for new "best friends" or caretakers who show an unusual interest in your loved one's finances.

Whether or not you've observed any of these activities, you can help your elderly family members by making these moves:

Have checks (such as Social Security payments) directly deposited. You can help your family members avoid a lot of potential trouble by having their checks deposited directly into their bank accounts.

Seek permission to become a joint account owner. By becoming a joint account owner on your elderly family members' checking and savings accounts, you can review statements for suspicious activity. Of course, your loved ones may be initially reluctant to add your name, but if you have a good relationship with them, you should be able to explain the benefits.

Shred bank statements, credit card offers and notices of lottery or sweepstakes winnings. One of the most useful gifts you can give to your elderly family members may be a shredder. Encourage them to use it to shred old bank statements, credit card offers and other financial documents.

Get on a "do not call" list. Telephone scammers are persistent and devious. By registering your family members' house and cell phones at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov), you may be able to reduce their exposure to unwanted calls.

Obtain power of attorney. By creating a power of attorney, your loved ones can designate you or another trusted relative or friend to assist with their finances now – for day-to-day assistance and protection from scammers – and later, should they become incapacitated. Again, you will need to employ some sensitivity when discussing this issue.

Check references of caretakers. As mentioned above, some caretakers are, unfortunately, dishonest. Before you hire one, check out this person's references. And even when you do, be careful – scam artists have been known to use accomplices as references, so you will need to be thorough in your research and questions.

Get to know your family members' financial advisors. If possible, become acquainted with your older family members' financial advisors. Any reputable advisor will welcome a connection with their clients' loved ones. And if you are involved in any estate plans, this multi-generational relationship will prove beneficial for everyone.

Ask to meet any new "friends" they have met online. When someone is lonely, they become vulnerable to on-line friendships. Sometimes, these new friends make promises of meeting, but never show – and then they suddenly need money for one reason or another.

It can be challenging to guard against all threats posed by the scammers of the world. But by staying alert and taking the appropriate preventive actions, you may be able to help safeguard your loved ones' financial security.

*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

100 South Hall Street Suite B  
La Belle, FL 33935  
863-675-5026  
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

# FSW Names Psihountas Business Dean

FORT MYERS - Florida SouthWestern State College has named Dr. Debbie Psihountas as Dean of the School of Business and Technology for the college.

She will oversee the plans and execution of educational activities and programs for the School of Business and Technology.

Dr. Psihountas was most recently a professor of finance at Webster University in the Walker School of Business and Technology, and held several leadership positions over the years at Webster including MBA director, Business department chair, Interim chair of Business and Management programs at Webster's Geneva, Switzerland cam-



pus. She's also previously worked as adjunct faculty at several universities while also working full-time in the private sector. In 2012, she was named as an American Council on Education Fellow, and worked with the president of Ball State University for the 2012-13 academic year. She has also previously held a number of sales, consulting, and corporate leadership positions with organizations including NCR Corporation, Merrill Lynch, and Procter and Gamble.

Psihountas has been recognized as a St. Louis Business Journal Most Inclusive Leader, a YMCA Women's Leader of the Year, a 2008 Woman of Achievement by the Hellenic Spirit Foundation at the University of Missouri St. Louis, and has been a grant recipient and commencement speaker in addition to holding a number of committee chair and other leadership roles. She earned her bachelor of science degree in International Business, with honors, from Bowling Green State University, her MBA with a concentration in quantitative analysis from the University of Cincinnati, and her Ph.D. with a major in finance and a minor in real estate

from the University of Cincinnati.

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Courtesy photo/Trenton Muntz

## Recently at the Rotary

On Tuesday, July 24, the Rotary Club of LaBelle heard from Patricia Dobbins. Ms. Dobbins informed the Club of scholarships that are available to students in Hendry and Glades Counties, including the Anne Vorhees Nursing Scholarship and the First Generation Scholarship. Pictured - Patricia Dobbins with Fred Kobie, President of the Rotary Club of LaBelle.



**For Sale by Owner Home \$184,900** (3bed/2bath - 1,536 sq/ft) - Beautiful Port Labelle home in Laurel Oaks. Well maintained. New stainless steel kitchen appliances. Washer and dryer included. Screened in back patio. High ceilings in family room. Large master bedroom and walk-in closet. Willing to negotiate some on price. Call or text home owner directly at 863-673-6500.



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

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**BRAND NEW CBS, 4 BEDROOM HOME IN LABELLE**, Priced to sell! This home features tile throughout, an open floor plan, granite counter-tops, stainless steel kitchen appliances, and a huge laundry room! This is perfect for a growing family, or has great investment potential as a rental! Located in an area that is still mostly undeveloped, with very little traffic, close to schools, and central water. **\$159,900**

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

**Herbed Linguine with Shrimp Ingredients**

- ½ pkg of Linguine, cooked al dente
- ½ lb. medium shrimp, cooked and peeled
- ¼ cup sour cream
- ½ cup half-and-half
- 3 TBLSP freshly chopped basil
- 2 TBLSP freshly chopped Parsley
- 2 TBLSP Shredded Parmesan
- ¼ tsp salt

**Preparation:**  
In a large non-stick pan over medium heat, combine half-and-half, basil, parsley, Parmesan and salt. Add linguine, tossing gently to coat. Cook 5 minutes; stir in shrimp. Cook 1 more minute, or until thoroughly heated. Remove from heat and stir in sour cream. This is a great quick meal. Enjoy!

## Sports Shorts

### Cross Country Practice

The first day of LHS cross country practice was Tuesday, July 31 at 6:30 a.m., for all returning varsity runners. J.V. and new runners will start **Monday, August 13** after school. All runners must have an updated FHSAA sport physical before they can participate.

### Football Practice

Football Practice began Monday, July 30. If you are interested in playing football please contact AD/HC Chris Siner at [SinerC@hendry-schools.net](mailto:SinerC@hendry-schools.net). Go Cowboys!

### Attention Golfers

Any one interested in playing golf for LaBelle High School this year, practice will begin on **August 6 at 3 p.m.** Golfers (Boys and Girls) should report to the ag room and remember you must have a physical on the FHSAA form. If you have any question contact Coach Burton at 674-4120 ext 282 or 673-4047.

### Yard Sale Fundraiser

Come sell or shop at the LaBelle Longhorns Booster Club's Yard Sale Fundraiser on **August 11 starting at 8 a.m.** at the Davis Pratt Football field. If you have been thinking about having a yard sale, this is the perfect place to come and sell. Yard sale spaces are \$25 for a 12X12 spot. Rent a space and keep the profits. For more information or to reserver your spot call Paige at 863-517-0168 or email at [pnf1985@gmail.com](mailto:pnf1985@gmail.com). Spread the word and Thank You for your help to support the LaBelle Longhorns.

## LHS Counselor's Corner: Back to School Edition

We are excited about the upcoming 2018-2019 school year!

Parents and students, please be advised that FSA and EOC scores can be viewed via the FOCUS parent/student portal. Directions to set up the parent FOCUS account, can be found on the LaBelle High School website.

Schedules will be available to view/print beginning on **August 6** via the FOCUS parent/student portal. We encourage students to view their schedules in advance of Cowboy Day to allow more time to meet teachers and find their classes.

### Wednesday, August 8 Cowboy Day Schedule:

Each grade level should report to the auditorium first. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend. Students will be given locker assignments, bus information, parking decals, and ID badges on Cowboy Day.

- 9th grade: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**
- 10th grade: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
- 11th grade: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
- 12th grade: 7:00 p.m.**

## School Briefs

### LaBelle Back to School Expo

The LaBelle Back to School Expo will be from 4 - 6 p.m. on August 2 at the LaBelle Civic Center, 481 W. Hickpochee Ave. (behind City Hall). Help prepare our students to get the best start on the 2018-19 school year. Receive valuable information for families. Backpacks with some school supplies will be distributed to the first 300 children (k-12 only/Child must be present). For more information contact Lisa at the United Way at (239) 433-7559 or Melissa at the Department of Health at (863) 302-6039.



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