

Caloosa Belle



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Delivering Western Hendry County's News Since 1922

September 6, 2018

Clewiston Elementary Schools placed on a brief lockdown

By Captain Susan Harrelle
Special to the Caloosa Belle

Clewiston Elementary Schools were on a brief lockdown on Wednesday, September 5 until deputies apprehended a man who entered Central Elementary School.



Nathaniel Lee

Deputy Julio Perez was on duty today at Central Elementary when he witnessed a man enter the front door of the school. He then heard Principal Melissa Carter say that the man was not permitted to be on their school campus.

The man, later identified as 27 year old, Nathaniel Lee, walked back out the front door of the school and off school property. Deputy Perez contacted road units to assist in locating Lee because they had lost sight of him. Perez then contacted Eastside/Westside Elementary School (ESE/WSE)

Resource Officer (SRO) Shanita Campbell to make her aware that he could now see Lee walking toward her school. Perez and Principal watched the man walk across the PE field of ESE schools.

Central Elementary and Eastside/Westside Elementary Schools were placed on a brief lockdown until Lee was taken into custody by deputies.

"This was a classic example of a working relationship between school staff and deputies," said Hendry County Sheriff Steve Whidden. "The job of the SRO is so vital and important. Every day that SRO puts on his or her uniform, they know there are thousands of parents relying on them to protect their children and keep the community and school campus safe. Today, that is exactly what they did."

Deputies transported Lee to the Sheriff's Office sub-station. After Lee struggled with deputies, he was placed under arrest for Trespass and Resisting Arrest without violence.

Sightings of veiled chameleons throughout southern Florida

By Geffory Ionescu
Caloosa Belle

There have been a lot of sightings of veiled chameleons throughout southern Florida. The veiled chameleon (*Chamaeleo calyptratus*) is a non-native lizard that has been present and breeding in Florida for about ten years. The species is native to the southwestern coastal regions of Saudi Arabia and western Yemen, where it inhabits mountainous coastal regions, inland river valleys and agricultural lands where there is more moisture. In Florida its habit is in low density suburban development areas peripheral to core urban areas, and small towns.

Veiled chameleons are not considered to be a threat to humans, but they might defend themselves when provoked. The threat to native species is unknown, but they could compete for insect prey with native lizards and potentially prey on smaller lizards.

Chameleons are common in pet trade, they eat almost exclusively insects and are

excellent climbers.

How can the public help?

Melody Kilborn of The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conversation Commission says to not release nonnative animals into the Florida ecosystem. It is illegal and can be harmful to the native wildlife: "Be a responsible pet owner and know what that animal requires before taking one on as a pet. If you have a veiled chameleon as a pet and no longer want to keep it, please call the Exotic Species Hotline at 1-888-483-3681 or participate in an Exotic Pet Amnesty Day, where pets like these can be surrendered with no penalty and adopted. Veiled chameleons are not protected in Florida, except by anti-cruelty laws, and can be removed from private property year-round with landowner permission."



Caloosa Belle/Geffory Ionescu

Wayne DeMeyere (right) with his son Caleb.

Wayne DeMeyere is running the Chicago Marathon for his son Caleb

By Geffory Ionescu
Caloosa Belle

Wayne DeMeyere is running the Chicago Marathon on October 7 for his son Caleb. His son was diagnosed with autism at the age of 9.

Wayne will be running for the charity Autism Speaks. Autism Speaks is an organization dedicated to promoting solutions for individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support. They strive to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder and advancing research into causes and better interventions or autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.

Wayne is raising money for the charity

and is halfway to his goal of \$1,000. "We have raised funds through Facebook and sold Autism Speaks bracelets at Two Peas during Autism Awareness Month," Wayne says, "I have been training a lot, getting prepared for the marathon. It has definitely been a challenge but I love running, especially when I get in that flow. Caleb runs cross country at West Glades as well so I'm hoping that when he gets older, maybe we can one day run a marathon together. All in all I'm excited to run the Chicago Marathon for my son!"

If you want to donate go to <http://act.autismspeaks.org/goto/waynedemeyere>

At Pahokee Marina, the biggest catch ever

By Chris Felker
INI Florida

PAHOKEE — Point Counterpoint II, the world-famous floating concert hall designed by the late master architect Louis Kahn and constructed for the United States' Bicentennial in 1976, moored at the city marina last week, and plans are being shaped for it to stay there permanently.

Formerly homeported in Talinn, Estonia, and having traveled more than a half-million miles around the world over the past four decades, the 195-foot-long, double-hulled vessel housing an acoustically engineered concert hall arrived late Tuesday night, Aug. 14, from Ottawa, Ill., at its new home in Lake Okeechobee's quiet waters on Palm Beach County's so-called "other coast."

The lakefront soon will have a claim to fame incorporating art, education, history, music, theater and live band, orchestral and theatrical performances that, it's hoped, will rival the Atlantic coastal beaches' allure and give Big Lake regional tourism a high-pitched electric jolt.

The Point Counterpoint II (PCII for short) soon will be open to the public and hosting concerts or live theater on performance nights, when it will move into open waters and anchor just offshore from the newly renovated Pahokee lakefront park facilities and the Herbert Hoover Dike. The grassy dike and linear park will serve as the amphitheater, letting

spectators enjoy live music from orchestras and other performers on the ship's band-shell-like stage.

The grand, silver 38-foot-wide vessel, which also has an art gallery, small theater and crew accommodations on board, is owned by Robert Boudreau of Mars, Pa., who in 1957 founded the American Wind Symphony Orchestra (AWSO) that has performed for decades on board the ship.

Now in his 90s, Mr. Boudreau long has encouraged music education through his work, having commissioned over 400 new classical compositions and consistently populated the orchestra with young professional musicians, numbering more than 1,500 since 1976. "This is my 61st year as the founder of the orchestra, and ... the floating arts center was built in Norfolk, Virginia, by Tidewater Corporation for a tour of 76 cities during the Bicentennial," he said.

His intent in bringing the boat to the small City of Pahokee, isolated as it is from the tourist-rich beaches and barrier islands lining the megalopolises of Southeast Florida, is to bring a much-needed boost to the Glades region's cultural, economic, educational and tourism prospects. Mr. Boudreau hopes to open a new pathway for artistically and musically inclined young people to the nation's best institutions of higher learning.

See Hall — Page 3



Special to the Caloosa Belle/Courtesy of AWSO
A performance aboard the Point Counterpoint II entertains a crowd in Dordrecht, Netherlands, in 1989. In Pahokee, the vessel is undergoing renovations and soon will be the venue for sunset concerts offshore from the Herbert Hoover Dike.

Membership Banquet planned

The Greater LaBelle Chamber of Commerce Membership Banquet is planned for October 1 at the Port LaBelle Inn. There will be a Meet and Greet from 5 - 6 p.m. with dinner starting at 6 p.m. The program will begin at 7 p.m. The guest speaker for the evening is Fred Ford from Airglades Airport. A limited number of tickets are now

available, individual tickets are \$30 each or you can get a sponsorship table for 8 at \$300. Tickets are available from any Chamber Member or from Diane at the Chamber Office. Call 863-675-0125 for more information. The venue and dinner are sponsored by Port LaBelle Inn and Sprout Catering.

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Electa Waddell 863-983-2735
ewaddell@hrmc.us



Submitted photo/Trenton Muntz

Recently at the Rotary

On Tuesday, August 28, the Rotary Club of LaBelle inducted 16 people into the Paul Harris Fellowship, including President Fred Kobie's family. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of US\$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Hall

Continued From Page 3

He is working closely with Pahokee Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Regina Bohlen, who is relieved that the PCII is finally here and excited by the possibilities it poses.

"My involvement in it is that, over the summer while I was off, I worked on trying to get it here," she said. "We've been working on it since like October, trying to get it down here, and finally it was on its way. This is a world-famous barge ... so we're really hoping that the tourism for that will have a very positive effect for Pahokee."

Ms. Bohlen said, and Mr. Boudreau confirmed, that he and his wife, Kathleen, are coming to Pahokee this week to meet with local officials, investors and educators about future plans for the Point Counterpoint II. She already has started a Gofundme page for the PCII and its resident orchestra but, she added, could not say what eventually might happen as to ownership of the vessel.

"The boat belongs to Mr. Boudreau and the American Wind Symphony Orchestra, so whatever they decide to do with it is what they will do. I think everything is up in the air at this point, exactly how all of that's going to work," Ms. Bohlen explained.

Robert Lambert, a partner in Everglades Reserves Holdings LLC — the investment group that is under contract to sublease Pahokee's lakefront marina, campground and restaurant once the city's state-financed renovations are complete — said, "Eventually, the city will buy it or we'll buy it."

The vessel was transported here from dry dock in Illinois over the past several weeks. Mr. Lambert, who owns Cruise America Associates and is part owner of Okeechobee's

Landing Strip Cafe, said, "It was towed down the Mississippi River all the way to New Orleans, and then a different tow company — and actually I did a little bit of the tow across the Okeechobee Waterway with them — towed it all the way." He said it is the largest boat ever brought through the waterway, "and this is certainly the largest vessel by far to ever go into the Pahokee Marina."

He and the ERH partners, including Mark Miller, who lives aboard a boat moored at the Pahokee Marina, have been working on plans to give the PCII a bit of sprucing up. "We're doing a little remodeling on it ... She's getting a nice paint job and some interior renovations."

The ship's future, though, is going to be shaped by whatever arrangements emerge among Mr. Boudreau and the AWSO, the City of Pahokee, the Pahokee Chamber of Commerce and, Mr. Lambert said, potentially Everglades Reserves Holdings (ERH) along with many other local residents, laborers, philanthropists, school authorities and schoolchildren, too.

"We're getting a lot of interest," he explained, continuing: "One of the main aspects of this whole plan is to teach some of the local residents, the youth in Pahokee, Belle Glade (and this region) how to play some of these wind instruments. In the past, Mr. Boudreau ... has always wanted to do that, and help these kids get scholarships into college. He's been very successful over the past years."

Last year, the the Point Counterpoint's success was celebrated with a 60th anniversary tour by the orchestra, which is a woodwinds ensemble using remarkably wide-ranging instrumentation.

Ms. Bohlen, looking forward to collaborating on the boat's future in Pahokee, said plans might be a little fuzzy right now, but "the main thing is that the boat is here, and everything else'll get worked out."

GFWC LaBelle Community Woman's Club September meeting

The club will meet on September 11 at the club house on Hwy 80 beside Ace Hardware. The meeting will start at 6 p.m. and is for anyone who is interested in joining and for all the prior members in the area. It will be a chance to get reacquainted with old friends and a time to make new ones.

There will be a meal of baked potato,



chili and all the fixings at 6 p.m. with the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.

There are many new things planned for the year and there is something for everyone to participate in and enjoy themselves.

For more information call Christine Eaton at 207-745-

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, September 13, 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 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

GENERAL ELECTION Books Close

REGISTER TO VOTE: For the November 6, 2018, General Election at the Supervisor of Elections Office, LaBelle Courthouse, the Clewiston Office, any Drivers License Office, Public Assistance Office and all Public Libraries. The Voter Registration Books close on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

ELECCIÓN DE GENERAL Libros Se Cierran

REGISTRESE para VOTAR: Para las Elecciones General el 6 de Noviembre, 2018, en la Oficina de Elecciones, en el Edificio de la Corte en LaBelle, y la oficina de Clewiston, y en la Oficina de licencia, Oficinas de Asistencias Publicas y Bibliotecas Publica. Los libros de registracion se sierra el Martes, 9 de Octubre, 2018 a las 5:00 p.m.

Brenda Hoots
Supervisor of Elections
Hendry County, Florida
Sept. 6, 2018
C.N. & C.B.
F.S. 97.055

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, September 13, 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.

Caloosa Belle

To Reach Us

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To Submit News

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

E-Mail: cbnews@newszap.com

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For Subscriptions

Phone: 1-800-282-8586

Visit caloosabelle.com

or email readerservices@newszap.com.

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Reporter: Geoffrey Ionescu

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.

Guest Op-Ed

If you're over age 65, there may be an important piece of mail headed to your mailbox. Starting this week, new Medicare cards are on the way to millions of Floridians and residents of four other southern states. The new red, white and blue paper card will not only look different, but it will also provide you with a new Medicare ID number.

Your new Medicare ID will be a unique combination of 11 numbers and letters, designed to cut down on potential fraud and identity theft. Until recently, Social Security numbers doubled as Medicare ID numbers, opening the door to potential identity theft and other forms of fraud. In fact, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services estimates that a whopping \$60 million dollars was lost to Medicare fraud and abuse in 2016.

But new Medicare cards don't make us immune to fraud. Scammers have been taking advantage of the situation. Some are reaching out to seniors, pretending to be Medicare representatives and asking to "verify their information." Other con artists are calling beneficiaries and asking for payment to "process their new cards." Don't be fooled.



Camilita Aldridge

SHINE Liaison
Area Agency on Aging for
Southwest Florida

To help fight Medicare scams, heed the following advice: Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask for personal information, so if someone calls you and asks for your Medicare number, don't provide it. Medicare cards are free and are being sent to you automatically from the Social Security Administration, so don't believe anyone who tells you that you need to pay a fee or file any special paperwork. And once you get your new Medicare card, you should destroy your old one. Also, beneficiaries now have the option to laminate the new paper cards as the signature line has been removed.

Finally, don't be concerned if you don't receive your card the same day as your

friends, family, or neighbors. With approximately 4.1 million Medicare beneficiaries in the state of Florida alone, it may take time to get your card. Most Florida cards should be delivered by October. To make things easier, you can ask Medicare to send you an email alert when your card is in the mail by visiting www.Medicare.gov/newcard and signing up for updates.

If you have questions about Medicare, your new card, or your Medicare benefits, contact the Area Agency on Aging's SHINE program for help. The SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) Program provides free, unbiased counseling for Medicare beneficiaries. SHINE is administered through the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and helps tens of thousands of Beneficiaries in our state every year.

SHINE is also the state's Senior Medicare Patrol provider. SHINE counselors can help you identify Medicare fraud and report scams if you suspect that you are being targeted. You can reach the SHINE program by calling the toll-free Elder Helpline at 866-413-5337 (866-41-ELDER) or by visiting www.FloridaSHINE.org.

Thank you

Sincere thanks

Our sincere thanks to everyone who expressed their love by providing food, sending flowers or cards and praying for our family.

We love you all,

The family of Linda Corbitt

Show the Love Benefit

Saturday, August 25th, was yet another great reason why we love this little town of LaBelle. The Show the Love Benefit for Joan "Chu Chu" Bloomster was a huge success. Chu Chu had recently suffered a severe stroke.

It's always a humbling moment when a benefit like this comes together. Chu Chu has been a longtime friend to so many of us, a Past Senior Regent of the LaBelle WOTM, Past President of the LaBelle VFW Auxiliary, and a longtime bar manager of the American Legion and a Veteran's ally for life. It only made sense to try to help, and what a show of support she got, as the benefit came together and produced some great

times and friendships through all of it. What a blessing it was to be a part of this event.

Desperado came and rocked the house, a big thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, to Robbie Music and Don Sparrow. We know you did it for Chu Chu - and you showed the love.

A gigantic thank you to the businesses who donated items...Two Peas Café, Quart House, Kenny's Tire of LaBelle, LaBelle Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Gator Hammock, American Legion Post 130, Unit 130 Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, Packy Crafts, Matt Palmer, Suncoast Beverage Sales of Fort Myers and the many individuals who donated baskets, cakes and food to auction off. We could not have done it without you.

We want to thank everyone who volunteered their time over the last couple weeks and the day of the benefit. Dick and Ruby Hammond we want to thank you for your generous donation that kicked the benefit off. If we've forgotten to mention anyone - we apologize, and your contribution was a

great help and sincerely appreciated.

A sincere appreciation to the community and visitors from around the area for coming out and joining the festivities and digging deep in their pockets to help. You made the difference.

We also would like to thank the American Legion Family for all their help. It reminds us that when times are tough we can pull together for the greater cause, to help a fellow member and friend, and this benefit proved it.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Chu Chu this past Sunday. She was a friend to many and will be greatly missed. The outpouring of love and friendship of those who were able to come visit in the final days were overwhelming, but at the same time showed what a difference she had made in so many lives. Please keep her Family in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

Cindy Pearce

Letter to the Editor

News from the Firehouse Community Theatre

The Firehouse Community Theatre is focusing on it's 26th Season! Rehearsals have begun for Night of the Teenage Zombies and Boeing-Boeing! Open Auditions for the season will be held Saturday September 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the theatre location.

Brochures for Subscriptions/Sponsorships have been mailed and responses are coming in, so call now to get your tickets! (863) 675-3066 (Leave a message and someone will return your call!) The theatre would like to send out a special thanks to Joel Hawkins and Maureen Doucette for representing the Firehouse Theatre at the Florida Theatre

Conference held in Winter Haven August 11 and 12. They took part of the cast from Al-most Maine and our local talent was awarded as follows: Timmy Smith: ALL STAR CAST, Natalie Welky: QUICK LEARNER (this was a special award that she won when judges found out she replaced a cast member last minute, she learned the part and wowed them!) James Shephard: BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR. CONGRATULATIONS to all!

The theatre held a second clean up day on Saturday August 18, thanks to volunteers for helping keep the theatre a clean, and attractive place to be: Another cleanup day will be held in September, the date will be determined shortly!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

OPEN AUDITIONS Saturday, September 8 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (following Directors meeting 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.)

NIGHT OF THE TEENAGE ZOMBIES, directed by Maureen Doucette Play dates: October 5 and 6, tickets available online at www.firehousecommunitytheatre.com or call message line 863-675-3066 (leave a detailed message).

BLOOD MOBILE Saturday, November 17 Noon to 6 p.m. at the Firehouse Community Theatre, join us in helping save lives.

Looking forward to a fantastic season of theatre!

See you at the Show!

Cindy Shough

President of The Firehouse Community Theatre



Submitted photo

Pet of the Week

Here's Tootsie! She's a domestic short hair, two years old and spayed. She's a laid back girl that's looking for her family. She's sweet and gets along with other cats. Tootsie is at home where you're at home. Come meet Tootsie at the Caloosa Humane Society, 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle, FL 33935, or check her out on our website Caloosahumanesociety.org.

Carlos Inocente Gonzalez honored as "Artist of the Month"

The Barron Park House Gallery and Gift Shop is pleased to recognize LaBelle's own Carlos Inocente Gonzalez as "Artist of the Month" for September. A large collection of his works will be on display throughout the month.

Many are familiar with Carlos's work because of his association with Gallery 101 in LaBelle and his work on the mural on the outside wall of the Caloosabelle office building. He has also painted murals in Pompano Beach and Fort Pierce. His artwork has won awards at the Barron Park House Gallery's "Perceptions" and "Inspirations" art shows. His work has appeared in selected exhibitions in Pompano Beach, Fort Pierce, Coral Gables, Fort Lauderdale, Miami, as well as Petoskey, Michigan and Rochester, N.Y. In addition, his art is in public, private and cor-



porate collections.

Carlos was born in Venezuela and studied at the Escuela de Artes Visuales in Maracay, Venezuela and was a graphic designer in Venezuela before moving to Florida.

The Barron Park House Gallery is located at 471 No. Lee St. in LaBelle. It is open Thursday thru Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

Barron Library Happenings

PAINTING WORKSHOP – The Confident Creator will be offering another workshop on **Monday, September 17, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**. Join the fun and see what you can create with paint and a little guidance. There is a \$15 fee for the workshop, to cover the cost of supplies. Register now, as seats are limited. Call 863-675-0833.

QUILTING CLUB – Interested in learning to quilt, or if you would just enjoy the company of others while working on individual projects, join this fun group on **Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30**.

CHESS CLUB – Offering a time for experienced players to compete, and also an opportunity to learn how to play, every **Monday evening from 5:30 – 7:30 pm**
PRESCHOOL STORY TIME – **every**

Tuesday morning at 10:45. Bring your little ones for fun stories and projects.

BARRON BOOK CLUB – Book selection for **September 10**, is By Invitation Only, by Dorothea Benton Frank. The club meets at the library the second Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. If you enjoy reading and discussing your thoughts, you may be perfect for the Barron Book Club. Everyone is welcome!

KOMPUTERS for KIDS – the library is still working with Computers for Kids Community Outreach of Southwest Florida, who make rebuilt computers available to families at an affordable price. Special offers available during this back-to-school season. Check them out at Barron Library.

Now Accepting New Patients Betsabee Castillo Guerrero, MD



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Church Briefs

A Gathering of Christian Men Meeting

We have a new meeting place. We will meet at Beef O'Brady's at 6 p.m. on Sept. 24 (Monday). Come early if you are going to order food. The meeting opens at 6 p.m. for fellowship. At 6:30 we have our business meeting. We hope all our area Churches will send a Pastor or representative. That way we can see what our community's needs are. All are welcome as long as you are doing your best to live by God's Rules. No one is perfect. I have to ask for forgiveness every day. Our goal is to keep LaBelle a great place

Obituaries

Joan 'Chu Chu' Larsen Bloomster, 66

LABELLE — Joan "Chu Chu" Larsen Bloomster passed away at home with her family by her side on Sept. 2, 2018.

Chu Chu was born in Elizabeth, N.J. on Jan. 23, 1952 to Edward James and Lorainne Ann Romond Larsen. She was a member American Legion Post # 130, VFW Post #10180, and the LaBelle Moose Lodge for many years along with her husband, David.

Chu Chu leaves behind her loving husband, David L. Bloomster of LaBelle; her children, Angel Drapal, Ryan Drapal, Chase Drapal; her grandchildren, Neil Drapal, Amber McDonald, Cove Drapal, Isabelle Drapal, Sebastian Drapal; her loving brother, James Larsen; her closest and dearest friend, Judy Skinner; her very large extended family all who loved and will miss Chu Chu.

Chu Chu was preceded in death by her parents, Edward James and Lorraine Larsen.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - LaBelle.

Tucker Scott and Jada Rae

HENDRY — Tucker Scott and his sister, Jada Rae, both of Palmdale, Fla., went to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus on Friday, July 6, 2018. They leave behind their parents, Raymond and Brooke Hendry; brother, Allan Hendry; grandparents, Raymond and Denise Hendry and Bruce and Cynthia Balmer; also many family members, friends and loved ones.

Family and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service in memory of Tucker and Jada at the Ortona Cemetery Pavilion, 8898 W. SR 78, Ortona, Florida 33471 on Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018 at 11 a.m.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.leememorialpark.com for the Hendry family. Info (239)334-4880.

to raise your family. That takes getting involved. Everyone has a talent. We need to get involved with how our community is doing. We welcome new ideas.

Hope to see you Sept. 24
Ed Kuntz, president

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.



Stephen Purvis, D.O. Orthopedic Practice

The offices of Stephen Purvis, D.O. Orthopedic Surgeon, located at 525 West Sagamore Avenue in Clewiston and 450 South Main Street in LaBelle will be closing effective August 31, 2018.

For any immediate questions, call 863-902-3093. Copies of patient medical records may be picked up at the orthopedic office located at 525 West Sagamore Avenue, Clewiston, Florida.

Please contact your Primary Care Provider for assistance in locating a physician to continue any ongoing treatment.

CITY OF LABELLE NOTICE OF PROPOSED ENACTMENT

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission, in its capacity as the LaBelle Local Planning Agency for the City of LaBelle will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.; AND, the City Commission will hold a public hearing on October 11, 2018 at City Hall at 481 West Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida for the purpose of receiving public comment on the following proposed rezoning ordinance:

CITY OF LABELLE ORDINANCE 2018-XX REZONE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF LABELLE ZONING MAP FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 257, 277, 295, 351 EAST YEOMANS AVENUE, 51 NORTH RIVERVIEW STREET, AND 50 NORTH OAK STREET, CITY OF LABELLE, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE ZONING DESIGNATION FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL (B-2) TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD); PROVIDING FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

COPIES OF THE ORDINANCES AND COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTION ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AT LABELLE CITY HALL AND A GENERAL LOCATIONAL MAP IS SET FORTH BELOW.



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.

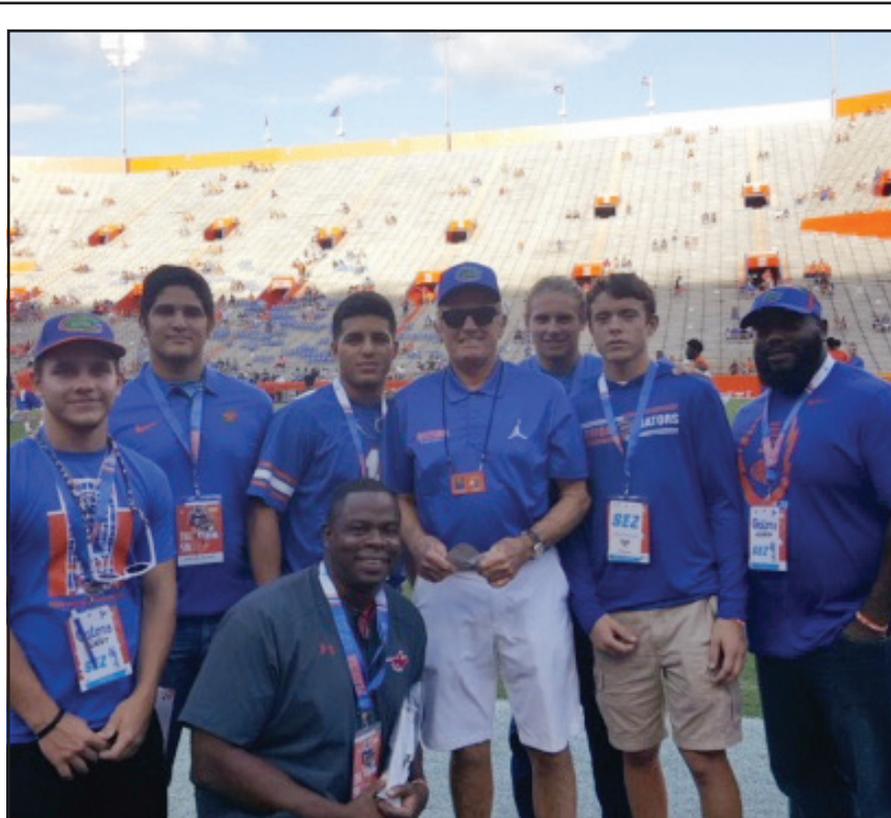
City of LaBelle City Commission
David A. Lyons, Mayor

LaBelle High School Students and Athletes of the Month for August



Submitted photo/Laura Lofton

TOP: LaBelle High School Student of the Month for August is Kyla Miller and Hector Zuniga. BOTTOM: Student-Athlete of the Month for August is Enrique Hernandez and Sadie Gaskins.



Submitted photo

Cowboys at UF

After a big win on Friday night the Cowboys are 2-0 for the first time since 2007! Coach London and Coach Willis took some players to UF for the Gators season opener on Saturday. They got to meet Steve Spurrier! Players who attended the game are pictured in no order: Agustin Perez, Ethan Wooddell, Leland Wilson, Jonathan Munson and Michael Ramos.

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

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Community Briefs

Happenings at the LaBelle Moose Lodge

The LaBelle Moose Lodge at 230 Jaycee Lions Drive will have: (863) 675-6255

Tuesday and Thursdays-Wings and Appetizers 5-7 p.m.

Friday and Saturdays-Dinner served 5-7 p.m.

Karaoke every Friday and Saturday @ 6:30 p.m. AND Sundays @ 4:00 p.m.

Monthly event calendars available!!

Chow Down Food Trucks Returning to LaBelle

They're back! Come one! Come all! Bring your friends and family to enjoy an evening of good food and fun when the Chow Down Food Trucks return to LaBelle on Thursday, September 20 from 5 to 9 p.m. They will be located on the corner of North Lee St. and Desoto Ave. This event is sponsored by the Barron Park House Gallery which will be open that evening. There will also be a bounce house for the kids!

MOPS Resumes

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) will begin their regular meetings with separate childcare on Friday, September 7 at First Christian Church at 9 a.m. Meetings are held on the first and third Friday of the month from September through May from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and childcare is provided at no cost. Expectant mothers and mothers with children from birth to age six are invited to join us for coffee, coloring, and conversation. Motherhood is hard, and we believe mother better when we mother together. MOPS is a place to find support and form sincere friendships. It is a place where moms can relax and find out they are not alone on this wonderful journey of motherhood. Moms will find themselves saying, "Me too." First Christian Church is located at 138 Ford Ave. LaBelle, FL. For more information contact Megan Narehood at (239) 206-9881 or email mopsoflabelle@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/MOPSoFLaBelle.



UES Students of the Month for August



Submitted photo

Upthegrove Elementary Schools K-2nd Grade Students of the Month for August
First Row: Rodolfo Rodriguez and Addison Gonzalez. **Second Row:** Francisco Villa, Jestin Davis, Fabian Orduna, Olivia Reyes and Denise Arias-Ruiz. **Third Row:** Miranda Edwards, Pablo Hernandez Bustama, Reillie Rodriguez, Jean Carlos Cardoza and Perla Martinez-Moreno. **Fourth row:** Troy Alvarado, Ivette Villeda-Madrid, Jay Adams and Adelaida Estrada.



Submitted photo

Upthegrove Elementary Schools 3rd - 5th Graders Students of the Month for August
First row: Isabella Zuniga, Christopher Jara, Kenneth Leon, and Colton Clark. **Second row:** Angel Puga-Arrieta, Antonio Arenivar, Matt Slade and Avleen Dhillon. **Third row:** Kollin Hodge, Jacob Davis, Vanessa Ramos, Alyssa Aguilar and Michael Allen.



Submitted photo

Summer Reading Winners

West Glades School students who chose to read and take AR tests during the summer were entered into a drawing each time they successfully completed a book. During the first week of school, two names were drawn out to receive a \$25 gift card from Wal-Mart. Congratulations to our winners Laeda Middleton and Elliot Cruz Gonzalez.

School Briefs

Sign up for RCMA now

RCMA Head Start Program is currently taking applications for registration for the 2018 - 2018 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 six weeks to five 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.

El programa de RCMA

El programa de Head Start esta aceptando solicitudes para 2018-2019 año escolar. 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 call 863-674-4510.

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Call: **K.C. Stanley-Lynn 239-634-6525**

HOMES

- Waterfront home in Caloosa Harbor Subdivision. Features 3/2.5, 2 car garage with over 3,500 sq +/- living area. Truly a beauty **\$625,000.**
- 3/3 home located in the heart of Clewiston Needs some TLC. **\$145,000.**
- 3/2 home in Port LaBelle. Open floor plan, fenced back yard, new roof and much much more. **\$145,000.**
- Great investment opportunity 3/1 home in Clewiston. Needs some TLC. **\$59,900.**
- Perfect for first time homebuyer or as an investment. 4/2 home in Clewiston. Needs some TLC. **\$59,900.**

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

RECIPE OF THE WEEK SUBMITTED BY SOUTHERN HERITAGE REAL ESTATE

Orange Citrus Bars

- Ingredients**
- 2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour (Divided)
 - 2 cups for crust, ¼ cup for filling)
 - ½ cup of confectioners' sugar
 - 1 cup butter, softened
 - 2 cups sugar
 - 4 large eggs
 - 1/3 cup of Florida Orange Juice
 - ½ tsp baking powder

- Confectioners' sugar for sprinkling

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 350.
 In a large bowl, combine 2 cups flour, and ½ cup of confectioners' sugar. Cut in butter with a pastry blender until mixture is crumbly. Press evenly into bottom of 13 x 9" baking pan. Bake 20 minutes, or until lightly browned. In a

medium bowl, whisk together sugar, eggs, and orange juice until well mixed. Combine the ¼ cup of flour and baking powder: add to sugar mixture, stirring to combine. Pour onto hot baked crust, and bake 25 minutes or until set. Cool, sprinkle with confectioners' sugar when served if desired.
 Enjoy!



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FAMILY HOME - 2BR/2BA plus den which could be 3rd BR, sunken family room with cabana style roof, eat in kitchen with breakfast bar & all GE Profile appliances, living room & dining room. Call us to find out more about this amazing home. **\$150,000**

HOME - Fall in love with this unique Brick/CBS construction split floor plan which offers over 2,100 square foot of living space. Interior features include a split floor plan with vaulted ceilings, sunken living room, 4+ bedrooms, 2 BA and a 2 car garage, well equipped eat in kitchen, with breakfast bar, pantry, pass thru window, formal dining area and separate den. Three sets of French doors all open to the rear screened lanai perfect for entertaining! new roof in 2017 and much more. **\$239,900**

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



WOW! THIS HOME ON AN OVER-SIZED .32 +/- ACRE, CORNER LOT is ready for you to move on in! Nicely landscaped with a large screened lanai, and irrigation

system. This home features new flooring, freshly painted, newer fixtures and fans. Both bathrooms have been completely updated also. The kitchen has a breakfast nook, and a dining room. The large lanai is perfect for relaxing or entertaining. This is a home that you are going to love coming home to. **\$129,000**

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Sherri Denning Licensed Real Estate Broker.
Associates: Beverly Curtis, Dottie Seibel, Emily A. Bates, Randy Williams, Susan Mercedes, Denise Walker, Gregory Bone, Lisa Cleghorn, Nikki Yeager, KC Stanley-Lynn and Wayne Simmons.

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 • Absolutely FREE!
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email:
 classads@newszap.com

Announcements

Give Away
MALE CAT 1.5 years old neutered, grey, all shots. To good home only. His name is Sweetie Pie and he is. 863-675-7664

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

Garage Sales

Garage/Yard Sales
LABELLE - 123 Hendry St, SATURDAY 9/8, 8am - 1pm Clothes, shoes, bikes, books, TV, Clothes dryers, copier/scanner/printer and more.

Employment

Employment - Full Time

A well-established juice manufacturer in Labelle, FL is looking for great people as well-rounded General Utility. Day and Night Shift available. Will train the right people. We offer employees a competitive compensation and an excellent benefit package that includes: Medical/Dental, Life, LTD, paid vacation, paid holidays, Profit Sharing and a 401k with match.

Apply in person at: Peace River Citrus Products
 6010 State Road 29 South Labelle, FL 33935
 Monday to Thursday 8:00am to 5:00pm
<http://www.peacrivercitrus.com/>
 EOE/DFW

Employment - Full Time

Busy Office looking for a motivated, organized & willing to learn person to join our staff.
 Monday thru Friday.
 Please call 863-675-4585 or fill out application at 890 Spratt Blvd LaBelle, FL



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www.carlsonumc.org

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Financial

Business Opportunities

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

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

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

Agriculture

Farm Services Offered

Palmetto Berries Cash for berries at the plant. We can help gather up the berries. Call Palmetto Joe at 239-867-8156

Rentals

FOR RENT
Apartments
 In city, 1 bedroom apt Adults only, No pets, No smoking. \$650/mo 1st and last. 863-517-0764

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

Office Space - Rent

Affordable single office for rent in LaBelle. Internet, kitchen, conference rooms, good parking, close in. Also virtual office services available. Call Lori 239-292-4458

Storage Space - Rent

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

Recreation

Campers / RVs

Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot. Call 954-595-0093

Automotive

2016 Nissan Rogue SL loaded, excellent condition. \$2000 and take over payments. Call Ronnie 863-673-0111 or 863-612-0877

Public Notices

Public Notice
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
 BILLS TOWING SERVICE INC. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/17/2018, 9:00 am at 176 N. INDUSTRIAL LOOP LABELLE, FL 33935, pursuant to sub-section 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. BILLS TOWING SERVICE INC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
 1GKDT13S322349385
 2002 GMC
 284901 CB 9/6/2018

Employment - Full Time

Hendry County BOCC is seeking applications for a **Field Technician**. Applications will be received at the Human Resources Department, 640 South Main Street, LaBelle, FL 33935. A complete job posting and application forms are available on the Hendry County website at www.hendryfla.net.

Hendry County is a VP, EEO/AA, DFWP employer and participates in E-Verify. Individuals needing assistance in the application process should contact the County Human Resources department at 863-675-5352

Employment - Full Time

Central County Water Drainage District is looking to hire a Highway Maintenance Tech. Duties include, Operating basic highway maintenance and traffic equipment to maintain, repair and clean highways and right-of-ways;
 • Moves and loads supplies and materials;
 • Maintains, repairs, and installs traffic signs, route markers, and pavement markings;
 • Performs emergency response activities such as: clean-up, traffic control, lane closures, placement of signs, and erecting barricades;
 • Performs equipment maintenance such as: minor repairs, preventative maintenance, refueling, and pre-trip inspections;
 • Performs miscellaneous labor tasks;
 • Performs job documentation
 • Performs related job duties as assigned.
 Cleans debris from roadways and right a ways.
 Must possess a valid and clean, driver's license and clean background check.

Applications may be picked up at Central County Water Drainage District, 475 S. Cabbage Palm Street, Clewiston FL (Montura Ranch Estates) 33440.

Employment - Full Time

A.Duda & Son's
Tractor Driver
 A.Duda & Son's has a great opportunity for a Tractor Driver at its Moore Haven and LaBelle Farms. Looking for a dependable team player.
 Duda offers great benefits and candidate must be able to successfully pass a drug/background screening.

Apply in person:
 A. Duda & Son's
 3635 North US 27
 Moore Haven, FL 33471

OR
 A.Duda & Son's
 12250 S. SR 29
 Felda, FL 33930
 Gate #4

Employment - Full Time

A.Duda & Son's
 A.Duda & Son's has a great opportunity for the following positions at its Moore Haven and LaBelle Farms. Looking for a dependable team player.

- Truck Driver (no CDL required)
- Tractor Drivers
- Ranch hands
- Forklift Operator
- Mechanic

Duda offers great benefits and candidate must be able to successfully pass a drug/background screening. Apply in person:
 A. Duda & Son's
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Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds." The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

Community Briefs

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)

September 7 - Friday - 5-7 p.m. Fish Fry with assortment of fish, shrimp, crab-cakes & 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 Public is Welcome.

"Like" our Facebook page to get all the weekly updates, the newsletters and calendars on our website at www.legionpost130.com American Legion Post 130 Meetings: (All Members welcome)

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

September 12 - Wed - 6 p.m. Sons of the American Legion meeting

September 20 - Thurs - 7 p.m. - American Legion meets

American Legion Auxiliary will not meet during September.

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.

Widows Support Group

The Widows Support Group will meet at Contreras Mexican Restaurant on **September 20 at 11:30 a.m.** All widows welcome.

Drug Hendry County Coalition/Hendry Tobacco Free Partnership Meeting

The Drug Free Hendry County Coalition and the Hendry Tobacco-Free Partnership meeting will be held on **September 13 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

VFW Post 10100

ALL DINNERS FOR AUGUST ARE \$6.00!!

Sept. 8, Sat. Fish Fry Dinner cooked by Shelly with all the fixin's Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the cost is \$6.00. Music by Razors Edge.

Sept. 14, Fri. Beef Tip & Noodle Dinner serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$6.00

Sept. 21, Fri. 2 Sharps Karaoke are in the House. Pot luck Dinner Bring your favorite dish. Music begins at 5:00 p.m.

SUMMER SPECIAL
Every Tues. Free pool table from 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Wear your VFW T-Shirt and get .50 off your drink. Beer and Soda excluded

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

Queen of Hearts, drawing is at 7:00 p.m. Hamburgers Every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Best Hamburgers and fries

in town. Grilled to perfection. Have it your way.

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

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

Happy Hour: Mon.-Fri. 11:00am to 1:00pm and 4:00pm 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.



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PO Box 912 LaBelle FL 33975
TONY

SW Florida volunteer earns statewide recognition **Community Briefs**

Mary Bartoshuk has been known for years for her tireless volunteer work across Hendry County and Southwest Florida. Now, Bartoshuk has earned statewide recognition from two powerhouse organizations in Florida's aging community. At the annual Florida Conference on Aging, held this August in Tampa, Bartoshuk earned awards from the Florida Council on Aging and AARP.

She was nominated for both awards by the Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida (AAASWFL), where Bartoshuk serves on the agency's volunteer Advisory Council.

On August 14, Bartoshuk was honored with a Quality Senior Living Award in the area of public service. The award, presented annually by the Florida Council on Aging and FPL, is one of the most prestigious awards in Florida's professional aging network. It honors an individual or organization that makes outstanding contributions to improve the quality of life for Florida's older adults.

"We nominated Mary because of her boundless energy and enthusiasm for serving our region's elders," explains Marianne Lorini, President and CEO of AAASWFL. "Every day she improves the quality of life for seniors in Southwest Florida. If ever there was a real life superwoman, it is most definitely Mary."

The following day, Bartoshuk earned the Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus Community Trailblazer Award, presented by AARP. This one-time award in recognition of AARP's 60th anniversary was presented to six recipients from

AARP's six regions in the state. Bartoshuk was selected as winner for Florida's Coast to Coast region, which represents fourteen counties.

"This award will never be given again, so this is an esteemed group of honorees," said Donna Ginn, state president of AARP Florida and award presenter. "This award celebrates and recognizes individuals... who demonstrate real vision. They are respected by their peers, are dedicated to their communities, do extraordinary work, and have found innovative and sustainable solutions to the issues in the areas where they volunteer."

Bartoshuk resides in LaBelle. She has been a member of the AAASWFL advisory council for eight years and also trained as a volunteer for the agency's health and wellness programs.

The Quality Senior Living Awards also recognized another group of honorees from Southwest Florida. Glades County Public Schools earned an award for service to seniors by an organization. The school district was nominated by Hope Connections, which partners with Glades County students to distribute food to low-income seniors.

The Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida is a nonprofit organization serving Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Sarasota Counties. The agency is committed to connecting older adults and adults with disabilities to resources and assistance for living safely with independence and dignity. AAASWFL is the state's design-



Submitted photo
Mary Bartoshuk earns well deserved awards.

nated Aging and Disability Resource Center for Southwest Florida.

More information about the Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida is available at www.aaaswfl.org or by calling the toll-free Helpline at 866-413-5337 (866-41-ELDER).

Yard Sale for the Animals

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

MCA Meeting planned

The Muse Community Association September meeting will be held on **September 10** at the county multi-purpose building, 3897 Loblolly Bay Road in Muse. Come enjoy a potluck at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you all there. "

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: **September 10**, October 1, November 5, December 3 and January 7.

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