

# Glades County DEMOCRAT



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50¢ plus tax

**Flood control systems protect South Floridians**

... Page 2

**Will feds pay share of cost for planned EAA reservoir?**

... Page 2

**MHES presents awards to students**

... Page 6

**Leadership program's Class of 2018 graduates**

... Page 6

**Algae coming from many discharge sources**

... Page 8

## Lake Levels

14.07 feet

Last Year: 12.05 feet

Source: South Florida Water Management District. Depth given in feet above sea level



See page 3 for information about how to contact this newspaper.

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## Wetlands project proposed north of lake

By Karina Elsken  
Glades County Democrat

A shallow reservoir and increased wetlands are proposed just north of Lake Okeechobee adjacent to the Kissimmee River in Glades County.

The Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project LOWRP) includes a Wetland Attenuation Feature with a footprint of approximately 12,500 acres, 80 Aquifer Storage and Recover (ASR) wells, restoration of the Paradise Run wetland and restoration of the Kissimmee River Center wetland, according to a presentation made to area landowners June 18 at the Williamson Center at the Indian River State College Dixon Hendry Campus in Okeechobee.

Brandon Tucker, a member of the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board, said "there is a need for storage north of the lake because we have to take care of Lake Okeechobee.

"This is somewhat personal a little for me," Mr. Tucker continued, explaining that some of the people who own the land within the proposed project footprint are people he has known his whole life.

He said he can support the project only if "I am completely at peace with what we are going to do here."

Mr. Tucker said based on the information he has so far, he believes the tentatively selected plan is the

best plan that has been presented to date.

"It's a plan I would support for a variety of reasons," he said.

This is a federal project, a Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) program, a federal program with the Corps of Engineers, and SFWMD is the local sponsor," explained Jennifer Leeds, SFWMD section administrator for Everglades Policy and Coordination.

She said LOWRP projects will benefit lake Okeechobee and also reduce harmful releases from the lake to the coastal estuaries.

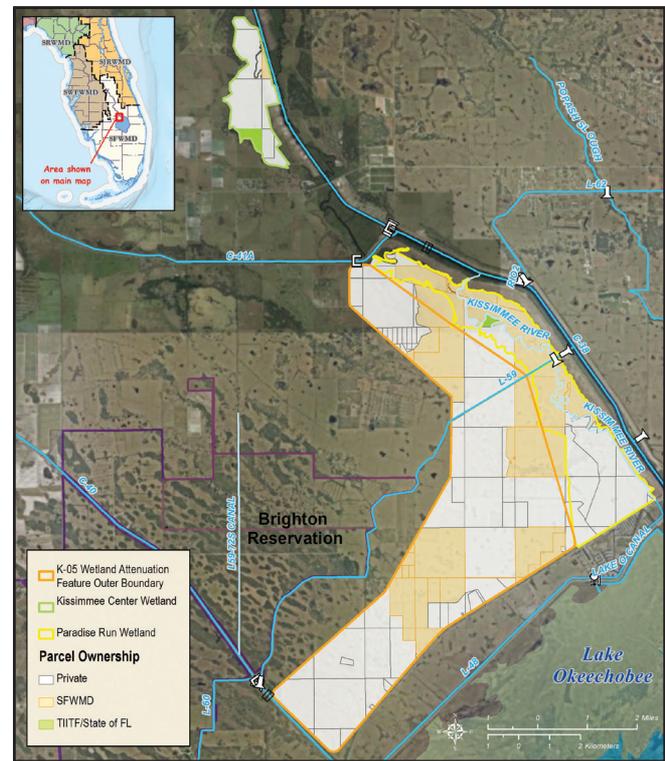
The site for the projects were restricted to the boundaries of CERP, she explained.

"We look at storage features that could be sited in these boundaries, Ms. Leeds said. Proximity to the Kissimmee River and to Lake Okeechobee were also factors.

She said the goals of LOWRP are to improve the quantity, timing and distribution of flows coming into the lake, to maintain ecologically desired lake stage ranges more often, to benefit fish and wildlife habitat around the lake, to reduce the estuary discharges from the lake and to provide water supply.

LOWRP includes 80 ASR wells, which would be located on right-of-way SFWMD already controls. These

See LAKE — Page 4



Special to INI Florida/SFWMD  
A shallow reservoir and increased wetlands are proposed just north of Lake Okeechobee adjacent to the Kissimmee River in Glades County.

The Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP) includes a Wetland Attenuation Feature with a footprint of approximately 12,500 acres, 80 Aquifer Storage and Recover (ASR) wells, restoration of the Paradise Run wetland and restoration of the Kissimmee River Center wetland.

## County considers 'fire tax' to improve service

By Chris Felker  
Glades County Democrat

Having dependably quick response in an emergency is a concern for many people in sparsely populated Glades County, and it's come to the forefront again because Muse area residents recently have raised questions about the fire station there.

Commissioner Donald Strenth had asked that a discussion about future fire protection services in Glades be put on the county board's June 12 meeting agenda. "I think for the betterment of the county, we could try to see about implementing the fire tax. I know people hate taxes," he said to break the ice on the topic. He explained he'd recently asked then-County Manager Paul Carlisle to

come up with some numbers on how much it would cost to offer a higher level of fire-rescue protection.

"He just made a random thing for me back when he was still here, and it looked like the tax, or fee I guess you'd call it, might range from \$175 (annually) per dwelling to maybe \$250-275 per dwelling, depending on how it's implemented," said Mr. Strenth. "In one lump sum, it sounds bad, but when you break it down it's pretty cheap to be able to have 24/7 fire-rescue on hand," he added, having calculated that higher-level protection would cost each resident about 69 cents a day.

County citizens presently depend on just two full-time firefighters and a volunteer corps plus a handful of support staff and Pub-

lic Safety Director Bob Jones. The county has three regions — the West District (Muse/Ortona), the Central District (Moore Haven area) and the East District (Lakeport/Buckhead Ridge) — that each rely on volunteer fire departments. This in essence poses an unmeasurable risk since the distance between Glades' communities ranges from about 20 to 30-plus miles, and many of the enlistees have full-time jobs. The county's two firefighters are stationed most of the time at the Emergency Operations Center/Public Safety Complex next to the sheriff's office on the west edge of Moore Haven, although their duties also include equipment and building maintenance plus

See TAX — Page 4



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# Flood control systems protect South Floridians

By Katrina Elskan  
INI Florida

The Central and South Florida Flood Control Project had some unintended consequences, but the project did what the engineers set out to do, and because of that flood control project millions of people now live, work, play and farm in areas that would otherwise be underwater part of the year.

The South Florida pioneers knew which areas would flood. They anticipated and found ways to live with periodic flooding. They built their homes on high ground ... or on stilts. During the wet season, some roads were regularly closed due to high water.

Today, most South Florida residents expect government to protect their homes and businesses from floods. They expect roadways to be safe and open.

"In 1947, we had these massive floods. We got about the same amount of rain in '47 that we got in 2016," said Water Resources Analysis Coalition member Mark Generales at the June 7 WRAC meeting.

"Did we have any flooding of any significance in 2016? To the best of my knowledge, we didn't," he said.

"The district has not done a good job of talking about what I think is its primary job, and that is public safety," he said.

At the June 14 meeting of the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board, Chairman Federico Fernandez said June is Flood Awareness Month.

"June represents an ideal time to remember the ability to live, work and raise families in South Florida depends on the work in many instances that we do here and water management systems across the board," he said.

"I am proud the work the district staff does ensures that the flood control system, built over 60 years ago for 2 million people, performs to today's standards of providing flood control services for more than 8.1 million South Floridians," he said.

## Flood control

In 1947, after several years of drought, Florida was deluged by rainfall that averaged 100 inches along the lower east coast, nearly twice the normal rainfall, according to the South Florida Water Management District records.

Next came the storms. In September and October, two hurricanes and a tropical storm battered the "Sunshine State," leaving most of

the state from Orlando south submerged. Roads and streets were flooded.

Cattle drowned, as did deer and other wildlife that could not find high ground.

Much of the ground had already been saturated before two hurricanes hit the state late in the year, and flooding throughout the region was devastating.

According to records in the University of Florida/IFAS library, in 1947 floodwater inundated outlying suburban areas of West Palm Beach, and 30 percent of the city of Fort Lauderdale, including the business

district, railroads, industrial and residential sections. Large areas in the western part of Miami and the outlying communities of Miami Springs and Hialeah were underwater.

The flood damaged roads, utilities, railroads and airports in the coastal area.

Newspaper articles from 1947 and 1948 tell the story. The Sept. 19, 1947, edition of the Okeechobee News called the Sept. 17 hurricane "the worst since 1928" and noted the heavy rainfall that came with the hurricane lasted more than a week.

"The town and most neighboring sections

were flooded with water and the cattle pastures were, most of them, almost completely underwater," the article states.

The Oct. 17, 1947, edition of the Okeechobee News relates, "Storm and flood damage over weekend was serious."

"Thousands of residents of lowland areas were forced to seek refuge elsewhere," the newspaper story continues. Throughout South Florida, thousands of refugees from the flooding were housed in schools and other public buildings.

The people of South Florida cried out for flood control, newspaper stories explain.

The State of Florida asked the federal government for a master plan to tame nature's excesses.

In 1948, the U.S. Congress adopted legislation creating the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project, the largest civil works project in the country. Construction began the next year and continued over 20 years as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the massive flood control plumbing system stretching from just south of Orlando to Florida Bay, according to the SF-WMD archives.

In 1948, the Florida Legislature created the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District, the predecessor to the South Florida Water Management District, to manage the C&SF Project.



# Will feds pay share of cost for planned EAA reservoir?

By Katrina Elskan  
INI Florida

Will the federal government fund 50 percent of the cost of the planned Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) reservoir?

At their June 14 meeting, members of the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board expressed concern that the federal government might not provide the expected 50-50 match to build the EAA reservoir. The reservoir is part of the approved Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). Florida Senate Bill 10, passed in 2017, moved up construction of the reservoir, which is intended to provide more water storage south of Lake Okeechobee.

"They did the study on the SB 10 reservoir, and to my surprise, to everybody's surprise, we discovered in the fine print of their attached discussion they think they are prohibited from participating in the 50-50 cost share because of water quality and other issues with the water coming from Lake Okeechobee into the reservoir," said SFWMD board member James Moran.

"We've got all of this time and energy we have spent over the last year putting a lot of other projects aside while our staff worked around the clock for the best part of the year to come up with the plan for the EAA reservoir, and now we find out that our federal partners question whether they can participate in the funding of it. I wish they had let us know a year ago. Maybe we could have done stuff differently.

"We have all these issues with our federal partners. Their failure to live up to the terms of the agreements with them punishes us.

"If the consent degree is violated, it's no skin off their nose. We're the ones under the federal order to get that done."

Mr. Moran said he has great respect for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and especially for Col. Jason Kirk and Lt. Col. Jennifer Reynolds,

but that he is frustrated with the federal bureaucracy.

"Perhaps it's time we look again at our local sponsorship of CERP and see if it is still in our best interest," he said.

"If our federal partners are not going to step up to the plate with the SB 10 and the EAA reservoir, I think we really need to start thinking about how do we look at this thing," agreed board member Brandon Tucker.

"It is increasingly frustrating," said board member Melanie Peterson.

"We're being put into a box where this is how it is supposed to be. We are doing our end of the bargain. They are not doing theirs," she said. "We need to think about how we fix this. How do we think outside the box and make this happen, with them or without them? Going along to get along isn't working. It's not acceptable."

"We're all trying to get across the finish line with a project that everyone agrees would be very beneficial," said SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Federico Fernandez.

"I am a major proponent for holding all parties involved to task," he said but added that he encouraged the board members to be patient.

SFWMD Executive Director Ernie Marks said the Corps of Engineers just received their work plan funding, so they don't yet know how much money could be available for the EAA reservoir project.

He said funding the reservoir is getting a lot of support from Florida's elected representatives in Washington, D.C., and from Tallahassee.

"The federal funding process is really confusing," said Lt. Col. Reynolds. "There are two different sets of appropriations that we receive."

She said the letter SFWMD received in May that stated the funding was not in the president's budget was because "at that time we did not have the money."

The work plan, she continued, is additional money that can be appropriated however Con-

gress chooses to give that money. "Between the time that we receive the president's budget and the time the work plan comes out, the corps submits work packages that identify additional funding that we could use this fiscal year," she explained.

She said there is consistently a problem with misunderstandings in Washington, D.C., in regard to CERP projects. There is a federal requirement that the CERP project receive federal matching funds, she said.

When the project is funded, it is estimated it will take about eight years to complete, with three years for engineering and five years for construction.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (Corps), will host a series of public meetings to discuss and seek input on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the South Florida Water Management (SFWMD) District Section 203 Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Southern Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) study.

Interested individuals, groups and agencies are encouraged to attend one of the meetings to learn more and provide comments on the environmental review of the study.

Each public meeting is expected to last approximately from 6 to 8 p.m., beginning with an open house at 6 p.m., and a formal presentation at 6:30 p.m., followed by a period for formal public comment. Corps and Water Management District staff will also be available after the meeting to answer questions.

Meetings are set for:

- Tuesday, June 26, Lee County Hyacinth and Mosquito Control District, 15191 Homestead Rd., Lehigh Acres, Florida 33971;
- Wednesday, June 27, John Boy Auditorium, 1200 South W.C. Owen Avenue, Clewiston, Florida 33440; and,
- Thursday, June 28, John F. and Rita M. Armstrong Wing, Blake Library, 2351 SE Monterey Rd. Stuart, FL 34996.

**The Clewiston Chamber of Commerce is seeking volunteer board members.**

**If you are interested in being part of the Chamber Board, please call Hillary Hyslope at (863) 983-7979 or email [clewistonchamber@embarqmail.com](mailto:clewistonchamber@embarqmail.com)**

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• 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, 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 to the prominence it deserves.  
• To provide a right to reply to those we write about.  
• To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



# Moore Haven traffic crash on U.S. 27

Special to the Glades County Democrat

MOORE HAVEN — A Coral Springs woman sustained serious injuries from a traffic crash in Moore Haven on Friday, June 15.

A Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) news release stated that at 3:12 p.m., a 2000 Ford F-350 pickup operated by Calvin Lee Billings, 28, of Moore Haven was eastbound on U.S. 27 in the left turn lane.

A 2000 Chevy Silverado operated by Joshua Mullins, 38, of Coral Springs was traveling westbound on U.S. 27 in the outside lane.

Both vehicles arrived at the intersection of U.S. 27 and 10th Street at the same time. The Ford pickup failed to yield to oncoming westbound traffic on U.S. 27 and proceeded to make a left turn onto 10th Street. As a result, the front of the Chevrolet struck the right rear of the Ford at the intersection.

Collision impact with the Chevrolet caused the Ford to rotate in a counterclockwise direction. The Ford came to rest in the southbound lane of 10th Street. The Chevrolet came to rest at the intersection.

It was reported that Mr. Billings was transported by Hendry County EMS to Hendry Regional Medical Center. Mr. Mullins sustained minor injuries, and the passenger in his vehicle, Jessica Simmons, 30, of Coral Springs, sustained serious injuries.

Mr. Billings was charged with failure to yield prior to making a left turn to oncoming traffic.

The traffic accident was investigated by FHP Trooper T. Parks, crash investigator.

# City kicks in to ensure future summer camps

**By Chris Felker**  
Glades County Democrat

After hearing the Glades Education Foundation's (GEF) update on plans for the summer camp to be staged out of Moore Haven Elementary School July 9-20, the City Council decided at its meeting June 5 to contribute toward keeping it going in future years.

Laura Perry of the GEF had just told council members she was almost sure costs

were covered for the approximately 30 kids who signed up to participate this summer, and heard compliments from Vice Mayor Dave McGee ("Very good") and Councilwoman Pat Lucas ("I think it's a great, great project"), when Mayor Bret Whidden asked, "If there was to be money left over, will it go in and be used next year in the same program?"

"Yes, it will," Ms. Perry said. "We consider that restricted funds ... so it's set aside and

that money is only used for summer camp."

"We're definitely going to look at budgeting for this project," said the mayor, entertaining a motion to donate \$1,000 toward camp expenses. Councilman Jake Eighner moved to do so but said, "I'd like to put it in there for \$1,000 for a period of three years, so they already know that next year they've got (money) coming from the city that they can count on."

The motion passed unanimously.

## Glades at a Glance

### Lions Club to hold meeting

The Lions Club of Moore Haven will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 21, at 5:30 p.m. in the Glades County Sheriff's Office, 1297 State Road 78 in Moore Haven. All visiting Lions and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate. The Lions provide guide dogs free of charge to blind persons and those with severely impaired vision. Dogs are likewise provided without charge to those with severely impaired hearing. For information, call 863-946-2556.

8:30 to 11 a.m. to benefit veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

### BHR AMVET serves sausage

The AMVET ladies will serve a sausage, pepper and onion dinner with macaroni salad and dessert on Wednesday, June 27, at 5 pm. at the Buckhead VFW Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 W. in Buckhead Ridge, to benefit veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

### BHR AMVET serves lunch

The AMVET ladies will serve a lunch of sausage, pepper and onion sandwiches on Thursday, June 28, at 11:30 a.m. at the Buckhead VFW Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 W. in Buckhead Ridge, to benefit veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

### Seeking leggings & flip-flops

The Rape Crisis Unit at Abuse Counseling & Treatment is seeking donations of new or gently used leggings and new flip-flops of any size to provide women who have been survivors of sexual violence. Their goal is to collect 50 pair of leggings and 50 pairs of flip-flops in the month of June. Drop-off location is the LaBelle United Way House, 133 N. Bridge St. in LaBelle. Please be sure to say the donation is for the Rape Crisis Center. For information, call 239-433-7559.

### HGUNC meeting set June 22

Hendry/Glades Unmet Needs Coalition (HGUNC) invites nonprofits' representatives and other parties interested in helping Hendry and Glades County residents with unmet needs because of Hurricane Irma to attend a meeting to be held on Friday, June 22, at 5:30 p.m. at the Glades County Regional Training Facility, 1030 Industrial Drive in Moore Haven.

### Soil & Water meeting

The Glades Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its regularly scheduled board meeting on Thursday, June 28, at 6 p.m. in the main room of the Dallas B. Townsend Agricultural Building, 1085 Pratt Blvd. in LaBelle. Meetings are open to the public.

### BHR VFW serves dinner

The Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 W. in Buckhead Ridge, will serve dinner on Friday June 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Grilled boneless rib eye steak, grilled pork tenderloin, fried fish and shrimp, baked and french fried potatoes, baked sweet potatoes, onion rings, salad and desert. Live music by Medicine Man. Proceeds benefits homeless veterans. For information, call 863-467-2882.

### BHR VFW serves breakfast

The AMVETS will serve a full breakfast on Sunday, June 24, at the VFW Post 9528, 29012 SR 78 W. in Buckhead Ridge, from

# HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Your local newspaper will be closed  
Wednesday, July 4th for Independence Day

## THURSDAY, JULY 5<sup>TH</sup> DEADLINE

Display Advertising .....	3 p.m. Friday, June 29
Classified Advertising .....	11 a.m. Monday, July 2
Obituary Deadline .....	3 p.m. Monday, July 2

*Have a Safe Holiday!*

# Landowners question LOWRP plan at June 18 meeting

By Katrina Elskén

Glades County Democrat

Glades County residents who own the land within the footprint of the tentatively selected Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Plan want assurances that the project will actually benefit Lake Okeechobee.

At the June 18 meeting with South Florida Water Management District Officials at Indian River State College, many expressed frustration with past dealings with the state and federal government. They also expressed concerns that the project may be detrimental to neighboring properties.

SFWMD already owns part of the land in the proposed project footprint of the wetlands attenuation area — a 12,500-acre L-shaped area that would provide shallow storage of 1 foot to 4 feet in depth. SFWMD also owns part of Paradise Run, where wetlands would be restored. Approximately 100 parcels ranging of varying sizes from a few acres to 1,800 acres are owned by 48 individuals and groups, according to SFWMD. The project footprint takes in 15-20 structures, including some homes, barns and out-buildings, according to Jennifer Leeds of SFWMD.

Keith Pearce, the most outspoken property owner at the meeting, owns about 1,800 acres. He said the project footprint includes all but about 100 acres of his land.

He said his family has ranched that area since the 1900s, running cattle there on open range before the lake was diked. Mr. Pearce said he is the fifth generation to run the ranch and he had planned to pass it on to his son.

Trading property is not a good option, he explained, because the SFWMD does not own any property “worth a third” of his land near the river and the lake. While the average cow/calf beef ranch operation in Florida needs about 5 to 10 acres per cow/calf pair, the lush grass growing on the former lake and river beds means he needs only about 3 acres to sustain a cow/calf pair, he explained.

“You are going to destroy some of the best agricultural land in this state,” he said.

Mr. Pearce said he does not think the project will hold water when the lake level drops because the water will move underground.

He said if they want to clean up the water entering the lake, they should clean it at the source of the problem — the orange groves and sod farms north along the Kissimmee River. He explained he has tests to prove that phosphorus levels leaving his cattle ranch are lower than the levels of the water entering it from the SFWMD canals.

“The system is broken,” he said. “We’ve been doing this for 22 years, and we’ve got

projects that have never been completed. We have seen places that have turned into jungles.

“We should have funding in place, appropriated and then, at that point, you start your research and do your homework and come to the landowners at that time to purchase it,” said Mr. Pearce. “Don’t leave us hanging out to dry.”

Brad Phares said his property is not in the footprint but that he’s concerned the project will “leak and seep.”

“If you think that is not going to be an issue for me and my family, we need to start rethinking everything,” he said. “I am not denying that we need something to address storage.

“Somewhere along the process, we are supposed to have a point where the geologists were going to come out and explain this,” he said. “There is a big difference between the ivory-tower world of theory and boots on the ground where you’ve lived here all your life and you have seen what has happened,” he continued.

“The fluctuation in that lake draws water far further than anyone wants to admit,” he said.

“When the locks are open, surface water disappears at Buck Island Ranch. When the locks are closed, that water pipes back up,” he said.

Glades County Commissioner Tim Stanley asked about the frontage on State Road 78. He was assured that the project is set back a quarter of a mile and the property on the highway will remain in private ownership. Mr. Stanley said with Bass Pro taking over the Okee-Tantie Recreation Area, that property will be valuable to Glades County’s tax base.

“Before we close on anything, I want to know that geotechnically we can use the property,” said SFWMD Governing Board member Brandon Tucker.

“We will make sure this is really going to work, not just come in and buy the property and 15 years later find out we’re not going to use it. We are going to make sure if we’re going to buy your land, we’re going to be able to use it for public benefit.”

Mr. Tucker asked landowners to allow SFWMD staff on their land for geotechnical evaluation.

“The best way to figure out where we are going is to let us on the property,” he said. “Let us figure out if this is going to work. If I find out today that half of that footprint is unusable, my opinion just changed.

“Let us on the property. Let us find out what is going on, and then we can give you some straight, clear answers,” he said.

## LAKE

Continued From Page 1

wells, which would have a footprint of less than half an acre per cluster, could provide 488,000 acre-feet of storage per year. (An acre-foot is the amount of water needed to cover 1 acre of land 1 foot deep.)

“It is important for us to co-locate the ASR wells with an above-ground lake feature,” she said. “Having a feature that is situated right adjacent to the lake allows us to pull water off the lake and put it in the storage area.”

She said water could be pumped into the shallow storage area from the river or from the lake.

Water would also be pumped from the riv-

er onto the wetlands areas, giving the plants in the wetlands the opportunity to remove some of the nutrients from the water, and then returned to the river.

She said using land close to the lake makes the projects most efficient, and thus the best buy for the taxpayers.

Ms. Leeds added that they did not want to do anything to disturb the Kissimmee River restoration work that is already underway, so areas near the river farther north were not considered as good options.

“When we get into drought times, instead of having water cutbacks, the ASRs will allow us to put water back into the lake,” she continued.

She said the plans have taken seepage concerns and locations of endangered spe-

cies into consideration.

The 12,500-acre wetland attenuation feature would hold water 1 foot to 4 feet deep, she said. The L-shaped project footprint would be about a quarter-mile off State Road 78, leaving the frontage on SR 78 in private ownership.

If the project is approved by the SFWMD board, land acquisition, including appraisals and negotiations to buy the land, could begin in 2022.

She said the first opportunity to ask Congress for funding will be in the Water Resources Development Act in 2020.

“Even though we aren’t in position to start buying land or start exchanging land, we’re close,” said Ray Palmer with the SFWMD Real Estate section. “When it is your land, you

want to know as much as you can as soon as you can. Next year, we can start talking to people about possible land exchanges,” he said, explaining that they will offer to trade landowners for land the district owns that is not needed for this project or other projects.

“We would like to get to know you better, find out what your desires are before we get to the point where we are going to send out a letter and let you know we are appraising your property for acquisition,” he said.

“We feel this is the best project we have right now that is actually going to provide some benefit to the lake,” said Ms. Leeds.

The Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) reservoir has benefits to decrease estuary discharges, she continued. “This one has benefit to the lake.”

## TAX

Continued From Page 1

required testing. Thus, they’re often away from the EOC.

That serves as the main county fire station, while there are firehouses in Buckhead Ridge, Ortona, Lakeport, Port LaBelle, Palmdale and Muse, whose facility was severely damaged by Hurricane Irma last year and now is being used only to shelter equipment.

The districts are set up “to achieve a better response of firefighters to a fire,” says the county’s website. Glades’ Public Safety Department is part of the “statewide Florida fire chiefs response team that can be activated in the event of an emergency,” the webpage says, and other fire departments in the region also can and do respond because of a mutual aid agreement.

Mr. Strenth focused his concern and de-

sire to improve the situation by saying: “If we go full-blown, I think we might stand a better chance of getting maybe more businesses, more industry in vs. working on a volunteer basis. Now, all the counties around us have a fire tax, and they’re all growing, and we’re just kind of sitting here. And ... it’s my feeling that we need it. The county’s big, it’s stretched out, we have volunteer fire departments everywhere, but people work and time is of the essence when a fire cranks up. What I’d like to see is the board agree to at least have a study made to see what would be involved and what the cost would be.”

County Board Chairman John Ahern responded, “This is something we’ve been through before, and I have talked to Mr. Helfenberger about it some.” He asked interim manager Joseph Helfenberger, who’s been on the job just over a month, to give commissioners his thoughts.

He said that from talking with Mr. Carlisle,

Mr. Jones and others, he’d learned that the county did a fire study in 2014 as required by law to implement a Municipal Services Benefit Unit for fire service, which could impose a “fire tax” countywide. Mr. Helfenberger said he believed staff assistance could reduce the estimated \$50,000 cost of a new study. “Contacting consultants, they’d do a study for about the same cost as last time. There have been some significant changes since last time; you probably need to have some major revisions of that study, in talking to Mr. Carlisle,” he said.

Mr. Ahern commented that he’d asked staff to compile preliminary information, so they could supply it to a consultant hired to conduct a study, and asked for other commissioners’ thoughts.

Commissioner Tim Stanley said he was concerned about the higher cost to businesses than residents for fire protection, and that whatever the county does, it has

to be for the entire county. “I don’t have a problem doing a study, but ... it’s going to be hard to do something like this. I would rather look at our budget and see if we can squeeze more firemen in,” he said.

Commissioner Donna Storter Long said she liked the idea of taking the previous study and working with the property appraiser’s office to plug in new data. She asked whether everything possible has been done to solicit more volunteers.

“I think we’ve done everything under the sun we can to get volunteers, and this is a 24/7/365 need,” answered Mr. Jones. “Tell me what you want, and we can give you pretty good cost numbers.”

After much more discussion, the board by consensus directed Mr. Helfenberger to gather more information, with facts and figures. “We need closer numbers so we can make somewhat of an educated decision,” Mr. Ahern concluded.

# Algae testing takes time, says Department of Environmental Regulation

By **Katrina Elsken**

INI Florida

Algae is part of the natural ecosystem in lakes, rivers and streams worldwide. Algae is ever-present in Lake Okeechobee, even when it is not visible in a bloom; boaters and fishermen are used to seeing algae in the water column or blown about by the winds.

Since the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began releasing water to the east through Port Mayaca lock and to the west through the Moore Haven lock, coastal officials have voiced concerns about the algae that may be in the lake water. In 2016, algae from the lake was blamed for seeding the massive harmful algal blooms that plagued the Treasure Coast.

So far this year, a small patch of wind-

blown algae was been found near the Port Mayaca Lock on Lake Okeechobee, on June 5. Toxin levels were very low at 0.6 parts per billion. The World Health Organization considers levels below 10 ppb to be safe.

At the June 7 Water Resources Analysis Coalition meeting, Chad Kennedy of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation explained that FDEP takes samples whenever algal blooms are reported, but it takes four days for the FDEP staff to analyze algae samples.

"This isn't something that you can do, run through a machine and get an instant number," he said.

"This is something folks have to do analysis on and quality assurance and quality control to make sure the information is accurate," he explained.

"If algae is present, it is not necessarily synonymous with toxins present," he said.

Mr. Kennedy said that the Corps of Engineers has personnel monitoring the locks and levee every day. In addition, water management personnel are out on the lake collecting samples. It's a big lake, he said. FDEP also seeks the public's help to monitor algal blooms.

"If you see an algae bloom, please call 855-305-3903. Please leave a message and we will call you back and get details about the bloom," he said. He added that algal blooms can also be reported on the FDEP website.

Mr. Kennedy said FDEP is looking for ways not only to monitor algal blooms but to treat harmful algal blooms when they occur.

He said FDEP put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) in March.

FDEP has about 60 people — scientists and individuals — "who said they had a solution to this problem," he said.

"Unfortunately, we only had four responses to that RFP when it really came right down to brass tacks," he continued.

"We have to protect the water. We are not going to let people disperse chemicals or anything like that which is going to have an adverse effect on the whole resource just to get rid of the algae.

"We had two responses that were deemed complete," he said. "Unfortunately, they did not respond to all the aspects of the RFP in a manner that the department felt comfortable moving forward with."

Mr. Kennedy said FDEP is working on a new RFP. "We are actively seeking people who can clean up and actively respond to these blooms if we do have a toxic bloom," he said.

"If you know someone that has a technology that is scalable and can be deployed on an ad-hoc, as needed, response, we are looking for that.

We are looking for ways to respond and clean up, not just monitor, algal blooms," he said.

## Nominations sought for 2018 Woman of The Year in Agriculture

INI Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam is now accepting nominations for the 2018 "Woman of the Year in Agriculture" award, which recognizes women in all areas of the industry who have made outstanding contributions to Florida agriculture. The deadline for submitting nominations is July 31.

Nominations may be submitted electronically by accessing the application located on the Woman of the Year in Agriculture page. Nominations may also be sent via mail or fax to Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Director of External Affairs Clay Hollis. Send completed nomination forms to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Plaza Level 10, The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800; fax 850-617-7744; Clay.Hollis@FreshFromFlorida.com.

More information about the "Woman of the Year in Agriculture" award and past award winners can be found at FreshFromFlorida.com.

For more information about the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, visit FreshFromFlorida.com.

## Reflections from the Pulpit

### More than just getting along: Oneness within ourselves, too

The Reverend Samuel S. Thomas, Ph. D. +

Saint Martin's Church, Clewiston

Recent graduations were celebrated to mark the completion of a rite of transition in the lives of many early adults and those in early years of their adulthood. Completion makes for significant changes.

Each graduation I celebrated opened doors and it introduced me to new chapters in my life that would not have been possible without having "run the course" and having the "crown laid up" that let me begin a new and special phase of my life.

God has created us to seek wholeness, completeness; "almosts" don't count, as the saying goes. We understand the anxieties and longings of those who are in transition in life; a couple in love who want to take the next step in growth in their relationship, an employee during a probationary period who wants to really have the job he's trying out, persons who immigrate and who are living but without citizenship, buying something and not completely being able to say "it's mine" until it's fully paid for; ceremonies of burning mortgages in Churches when the building is finally paid off; the list goes on and on.

When talking to couples about marriage, they've often told me that their current relationship is "not enough" and that they seek a more solid commitment to being one.

Parables about the lost sheep (Luke 15:3ff) and the widow who searches for a lost coin (Luke 15:8ff) are about the celebrations held when what was incomplete becomes complete once more: the lost sheep is found, the widow locates her coin. Now there is wholeness once more.

A more personal and complex example follows with the story of a "prodigal" son (Luke 15:11ff). It is no longer seeking out what was gone but the realization that an incomplete family might never be whole again. One of two sons asks for his share of his inheritance and leaves for a "far country." (v. 13). Things do not go well and there are no relatives to whom he can turn. He takes a menial job and then reflects on the better life back home. Luke reports that "When he came to himself...(v.17), he decides to go home if only to be one of the hired hands and not claim the rights of son-ship. As he nears his family home, the father welcomes him and orders the best robe for him, a ring for his finger, shoes for his feet and killing the fatted calf to make a feast of celebration (v. 22). Once more the family is whole, the child is whole, the story is understood as one of being complete once more. (A jealous older brother complains; the father reminds him "son, you are always with me and all that is mine is yours (v.31) - again a reassurance of his being an essential part of the family constellation; oneness where all play a vital part.)

Our created order that comes from God seeks that wholeness, oneness, completeness.

## SFWMD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fight Old World climbing fern

Special to INI Florida

WEST PALM BEACH — The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board on Thursday, June 14, approved a budget amendment that will clear the way for up to \$2 million per year in federal funding to help fight the spread of invasive lygodium, also known as the Old World climbing fern, in the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge in western Palm Beach County.

The funding will come from the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), which manages the refuge. USFWS leases the refuge land from the State of Florida under an agreement that includes numerous performance measures, including controlling the spread of invasive plants.

"We must control the spread of invasive plants such as lygodium to protect the investment of billions of Florida taxpayer dollars to restore the Everglades. SFWMD has shown it is committed to fight this invasive fern, and this money offers assistance with the federal government's obligation," said SFWMD

When the Lord prayed "...that they all may be one, even as we are one...(John 17:11)" He was calling for that completeness, that wholeness both within us and among us; even like the oneness of God Himself. The prodigal son had to come to wholeness within to bring a realization of a greater life and the true meaning of what family is about. The lost sheep deprives the shepherd of being the true guardian of the flock and must be found if he is to be true to his calling. The widow will need her lost coin that she is not deprived a part of what it takes for her to exist.

Today, these parables are played out in different ways. We suffer from opioid crises when addictions keep people from being how God intended them to be; we show concern for families that are separated due to political upheavals and migration, we are called to share our wealth with the less fortunate who do not have the same whole life that we enjoy. The work of religious bodies is to provide for those who are regarded as "less fortunate" and in reality are perhaps better described as having a "less than a whole life" which calls us to help.

The Good Shepherd has told us that He came "...that they may have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10)." That's more than existence; that's wholeness, completeness, oneness with God and one another; and in our very inner beings too.

Governing Board member Jim Moran, who spearheaded efforts to forge an agreement with USFWS to ensure more federal funding to fight lygodium in the refuge.

Lygodium has overrun countless tree islands, and its spread has increased by about 600 percent in the refuge over the past two decades. The invasive fern can cause the collapse of tree islands, a crucial part of the habitat in the ridge and slough ecosystem of the Everglades. It also increases the risk of wildfires spreading.

# Leadership program's Class of 2018 graduates

By Lisa Walker

Special to The Clewiston News

The Hendry Glades Adult Leadership Program of 2018 had its graduation ceremony on Wednesday, May 16. For participants, this program introduces, educates and provides hands-on experiences to various components of Hendry and Glades counties that ultimately make us who we are. It is an

eight-month-long course connecting and developing professional participants with the objective of becoming better aware, more knowledgeable and more engaged in their community. Anyone interested in joining the local Adult Leadership Program for 2019 should contact Leslie Leiva at [leslieleiva@qualityelectriccontracting.com](mailto:leslieleiva@qualityelectriccontracting.com) or Tuesday Tritt at [ttritt@first1bank.com](mailto:ttritt@first1bank.com).



Special to The Clewiston News/Courtesy photo  
Graduates of the 2018 Hendry Glades Adult Leadership Program are, from left, Lisa Walker, Emily Hunter, Belinda Smith, Luke Davis, Yara Sanchez, Libby Pigman, Matthew Howard, Kristi Biffar, Jennifer Lesley and Melinda Abreu.



Special to the Glades County Democrat/MHES

## MHES presents awards to fourth-grade students

Moore Haven Elementary School (MHES) presented fourth-grade students with awards during a ceremony for the fourth nine weeks of the 2017-18 school year.

Effort: Alexus Navarro, Laniya Ash and Ayden Thomas.

Citizenship: Addison Ridgdill, Mallori Norris, Marco Tapia and Dawson Seiler.

Improvement: Harley Pryor, Adolfo Paniagua and Thaddeus Johns.

Straight As & Es: Addison Ridgdill, Reston Stokes, Daniella Arroyo, Mariana Pardo, Alexiah Whidden, Laniya Ash, Hayden Hanawalt, Jennifer Lopez and Marco Tapia.

A/B/S Honor Roll: Emily Branch, Luke Flynn, Yeffer Lopez-Salas, Harley Pryor, Kimberlynn Toms, Hayden Woodward, Landon Adams, Aaryn Askew, Wyatt Keen, Gina Martinez, Daquon Adderly, Omar Bautista, Thaddeus Johns, Codey Loper, Caneil Satchwell, Ayden Thomas and Dawson Seiler.

Most Words Read in AR: Colton Hall-Paris, Addison Ridgdill, Landon Adams, Daniela Arroyo, Zaylie Green, Thaddeus Johns and Dawson Seiler.



Glades County Democrat/Courtesy of Glades County Republican Party

## Glades GOP awards Tyler McDuffie \$500 college scholarship

The Glades County Republican Party proudly awarded Tyler McDuffie a \$500 scholarship at its meeting Thursday, June 7, at the Glades County Library in Moore Haven. Mr. McDuffie is a 2018 graduate of Moore Haven Middle High School and will be attending the Tulsa Welding School in Jacksonville, where he will complete a 10-month program to become certified in welding and pipefitting. He is the son of William and April McDuffie of Lakeport. Glades Republicans are proud to help Tyler reach his goal of becoming certified as a professional welder. From left are Doug Korinke, Glades County Republican state committeeman; Priscilla Spooner, vice chairwoman; Donna Storter Long, treasurer; Tyler McDuffie; Laura Ahern, secretary; and Bob Murrhee, chairman.



Special to the Glades County Democrat/MHES

## Fifth-graders receive awards

Moore Haven Elementary School (MHES) presented fifth-grade students with awards during a ceremony for the fourth nine weeks of the 2017-18 school year. Effort: Ca'Nya McCoy, Yaneli Patishtan-Jose, Javaryn Harris and Emily Rico. Citizenship: Simon Centeno, Yesenia Juarez-Hernandez, Lindsay Miller and Kathrine Washam. Improvement: Addison Helfinstine, Hegan Williams, Samantha Dukes and Yosue Malvarez. Straight As & Es: Leyla Escobar, Cross Fulford, Yanevi Jose Matias and Brian Alfonso. A/B/S Honor Roll: Macy Cox, Addison Helfinstine, Allyson Lara, Cayson Holman, Maricela Ortega and Mariana Rico, Maria Tapia, Yesenia Juarez-Hernandez, Antonio Lopez, Allison Maria, Hegan Williams, Lindsay Miller, Anahi Rico, Alana White, Aracely Hernandez, John Lucas, Marcelino Salazar-De la Cruz, Myranda Thomas and Raymond James. Most words read in AR: Joseph Paris, Maria Tapia, Antonio Looez, Yesenia Juarez Hernandez, Ciara Wilkerson, Brian Alfonso, John Lucas and Emily Rico.

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## West Glades School kicks off its Summer Book Giveaway

Special to the Glades County Democrat/WGS

West Glades School (WGS) kicked off its summer reading program, which encourages students to "Be Wild Readers." Students in kindergarten through seventh grades were called to the Media Center, allowed to choose a new book and given information about summer reading options. For more information and a suggested list of summer books to read, go to the WGS Facebook page and encourage your child to spend some time reading this summer. WGS thanks the Glades County Youth Livestock organization for helping with the funding of their summer book purchases.



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# Algae coming from many discharge sources

By **Katrina Elsken**  
 INI Florida

Record rainfall in May and continuing heavy rains this month are causing ecological damage, according to a report given by South Florida Water Management District Water Resources Director Terrie Bates at the June 14 meeting of the SFWMD Governing Board. Algae found in the St. Lucie watershed is coming from many sources, not just from Lake Okeechobee, she said.

"The perception that there is this huge channel of the algae coming from the lake isn't correct," she said.

She said there are other sources of algae coming into the estuary from the local watershed.

The watershed that drains into the canals and waterways that discharge through the St. Lucie Estuary received over 450 percent of normal rainfall in May, she said.

"All of the area, when you have 450 percent of normal rainfall, everything has discharged into the estuary system, every canal, every stormwater pond," she continued. Algae is commonly present in all freshwater, and it tends to grow faster in stagnant

water. The heavy rainfall in May flushed out ponds and canals into the drainage system that goes into the St. Lucie Estuary.

She pointed out that there is even algae in the stormwater pond at the SFWMD main office. "It fills up. It discharges," she said.

"The lake has jumped very rapidly in the course of a month. It has gone up about a foot and a quarter," said Ms. Bates. "All of the effects around the system ecologically, the lake is feeling the same thing."

On June 1, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers started discharging water from Lake Okeechobee east and west, she continued.

"The discharge to the estuaries for the last week, about a third of the flows coming into the St. Lucie Estuary were from Lake Okeechobee. We're still having significant discharges coming from those local basins and tidal tributaries," she said.

Even before any discharges started from Lake Okeechobee, the estuary had already been completely overloaded with freshwater, she said.

"Now the lake is contributing to continuing those low salinity levels," she said.

On the Caloosahatchee side, about 50 percent of the freshwater flow going to the estuary is coming from Lake Okeechobee. She said the dark water plume seen on the Gulf Coast has to do with the tannin that is in the water from the Caloosahatchee.

"You can have algae that exists throughout the system that is not toxic," said Ms. Bates.

She said toxins have been detected in two samples but that, at such low levels, it is barely detectable. According to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, toxin levels have been less than 1 part per billion. The World Health Organization considers levels under 10 ppb to be safe.

She said satellite imagery shows very little algae in Lake Okeechobee. Algae is buoyant and moves with the wind, she explained. So you might see it one day and it is gone the next.

Board member Brandon Tucker, who represents St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, said he knows that in certain areas of central Martin County, runoff into the C-44 Canal was inundated with 2 feet of fresh-

water in May.

"The issues that we are seeing right now that are being talked about with any algae signatures on the South Fork of the St. Lucie, I would assume that is from local basin runoff," he said.

"This is not a Lake Okeechobee issue," said Mr. Tucker. "This is a local basin runoff issue."

He said they need to do more with Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells to slow local basin runoff into the St. Lucie. They also need to deal with the pollution from septic tanks in that basin to reduce the nutrient pollution to those waterways, he added.

"We need to be doing everything we can do in our local communities to deal with low-hanging fruit," he explained.

"If the EAA (Everglades Agricultural Area) reservoir were built and working today, it would have had no effect on what we saw in the St. Lucie basin," he said.

"We need solutions now, in the Caloosahatchee, in the St. Lucie, to deal with these big rain events."

## FDEP, SFWMD, NASA watch for algae blooms to check for toxin levels

Report algal blooms  
 by calling 855-305-3903

By **Katrina Elsken**  
 INI Florida

Images on the news of green water and coastlines choked with a thick green sludge are misleading, according to a South Florida Water Management District briefing on June 8. The images are from 2016 when a massive harmful algae bloom plagued the Treasure Coast. Scientists theorize the 2016 bloom was seeded by releases of freshwater from Lake Okeechobee and fed by high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus in the coastal basins.

That is not the situation today, said Terrie Bates, South Florida Water Management District Water Resources Division director.

SFWMD and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) regularly monitor area waterways for signs of algal blooms. NASA monitors conditions via satellite. In addition to the regular sampling and monitoring conducted by government agencies, members of the public are encouraged to report algal blooms when they see them.

It's not unusual, however, for a bloom to be reported and then disappear before it can be sampled. Algae floats and is pushed around by the wind and by moving water.

In the past two months, there have been three reports of algae sighted on or near Lake Okeechobee.

• On May 9, algae was reported at the Pahokee marina. FDEP took samples. No dominant species was detected. No toxins were detected.

• On June 4, a fragmented surface algal bloom was reported on Lake Okeechobee blown against the S-352 structure in Palm Beach County. A dominant strain was not detected. The toxin level was so low as to be barely detectable at 0.37 parts per billion. The World Health Association considers levels of less than 10 ppb to be safe for recreational uses.

• On June 4, a small surface bloom was reported near Port Mayaca. FDEP took samples. *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant strain. Toxin levels were 0.63 ppb.

• On June 18, Florida Department of Environmental Protection investigated reports of an algal bloom on Lake Okeechobee on the Palm Beach County side of the lake.

FDEP staff reported a dense surface film, about 1,000 square feet in size, wind-blown against the water control structure at Canal Point.

Algae is part of the natural ecosystem of the Big Lake, just as it is found in all freshwater. The combination of high nutrient levels and summer heat can cause the algae to bloom. Blooms are normal on the lake in the summer, but certain conditions may cause the algae to release toxins. Not all types of algae release toxins, and algae that can release toxins does not always do so. When a bloom is reported, FDEP takes samples to determine the type of algae in the bloom and to measure toxin levels, if any.

According to the FDEP, cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, are a group of organisms that can live in freshwater, saltwater or mixed (brackish) water. These kinds of organisms are naturally occurring in Florida's environment and are

also found all over the world. They are part of a healthy ecosystem and help support a wide variety of aquatic life.

When conditions are right, such as warm water and increased nutrients, these organisms can increase in numbers and accumulate in some areas of a water body. These blooms can sometimes be pushed near the shore by winds, waves, tides and currents. When this happens, people have a greater chance of contacting the blooms.

Not all algae produce toxins, and even if a species of algae is capable of producing toxins, it does not always do so. Many factors are involved in the creation of a harmful algal bloom, or HAB.

However, since you can't tell whether toxins are present by looking at the algae, FDEP advises residents and visitors to take

some common-sense precautions around algal blooms:

- Do not swim in areas where an algal bloom is visible.
- If you come into contact with an algal bloom, wash with soap and water.
- Do not eat fish harvested from areas in an algal bloom.
- Untreated water from the bloom area should not be used for irrigation where people will come in contact with it.
- Report all algal blooms. Call 855-305-3903 or go online to [floridadep.gov](http://floridadep.gov) and use the online form. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection investigates reports of algal blooms, and takes samples of algae found. Scientists need this data to determine the type of algal blooms and toxicity levels (if any).

### EVERGLADES DENTAL

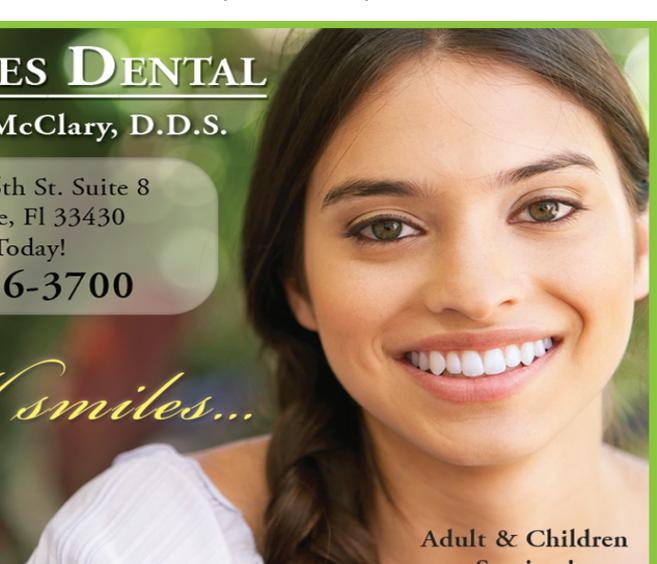
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**Hendry County BOCC** is seeking applications for a full-time Emergency Management Planner. Applications will be received at the Human Resources Department, 640 South Main Street, LaBelle, FL 33935. A complete job posting and application forms are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

**Hendry County 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](http://www.hendryfla.net). Hendry County is a VP, EEO/AA, DFWP employer and participates in E-Verify. Individuals needing assistance in the application process should contact the County Human Resources department at 863-675-5352

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**Public Notice**

**HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a special meeting on June 22, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Clewiston City Hall, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida, to discuss repairs and renovations to the Hendry County Courthouse, Hendry County Jail and other County facilities, LaBelle Airport Terminal construction contract matters, and issues related to all of the foregoing.

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

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que habla español para participar en esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240. 269460 CN/CB 6/21/2018

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

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**Administration of Estates**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA Probate Division CASE NO.: 1800002CPMXAX**

IN RE: ESTATE OF TAMMY SUE HELFINSTINE, Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the Estate of TAMMY SUE HELFINSTINE, deceased, whose date of death was December 15, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Glades County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Avenue J, Room 102, PO Box 10, Moore Haven, FL 33471. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is June 21st, 2018.

Personal Representative: JOSEPH HELFINSTINE 1052 Linda Rd. Okeechobee, FL 34974

Attorney for Personal Representative: WARREN B. BRAMS, ESQ. Florida Bar Number: 0698921 2161 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. Ste 201

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF HENDRY COUNTY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

Hendry County hereby provides notice that the following parcels of land owned by the County are available for sale and the County is receiving offers:

Parcel I.D.	Address
Parcel: 1-32-44-13-A00-0044.0000	615 Bald Cypress Ave, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-13-A00-0044.0100	621 Bald Cypress Ave, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-13-A00-0010.0000	835 N Verda St, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-13-A00-0015.0100	825 N Zambria St, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-13-A00-0056.0000	740 N Zambria St, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-14-A00-0082.0000	850 N Lindero St, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-15-A00-0174.0100	620 N Brida St, Clewiston FL
Parcel: 1-32-44-34-A00-0099.0000	625 S Coral St, Clewiston FL

Interested persons should contact Sam Walker, Sugar Realty, Inc., sam@sugarrealty.com, (863) 983-2933. 267981 CN/CB 6/14/2018

**Roofing**

Metal Roofs  
Re-Roofs  
Roof Repairs

**Roofing**

Seamless Gutters  
Soffit & Fascia  
Free Estimates



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

**Recreation**

**Campers / RVs**

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

**Public Notices**

**Public Notice**

**Administration of Estates**

WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33409  
Telephone: (561) 478-4848  
Fax: (561) 478-0108  
E-Mail: mgrbramslaw@gmail.com  
Secondary E-Mail: warrenbrams@bramslaw.onmicrosoft.com  
268204 GCD 6/21,28/2018

**Fictitious Name**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME**

The undersigned does hereby certify that Cezar Beavrides conducting a Lawn Maintenance business at Hendry, Florida, under the fictitious name of Beavrides Lawn Maintenance and that said firm is composed of the following persons whose names and places of residence are as follows:

**Cezar Beavrides**  
PO Box 372  
Felda, FL 33930

Ownership of Beavrides Lawn Maintenance is as follows:

**Cezar Beavrides**  
It is my intentions to apply to the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations to register the said name of Beavrides Lawn Maintenance under the provisions of Chapter 90-267, laws of Florida Acts of 1991.

Euria Petre  
DATE: 6/8/2018  
269320 CN/ 6/21/2018

**Fictitious Name**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME**

The undersigned does hereby certify that Shari Damewood conducting a Editorial business at Glades County, Florida, under the fictitious name of Damewood Editorial and that said firm is composed of the following persons whose names and places of residence are as follows:

**Shari Damewood**  
PO Box 697  
Alva, FL 33920

Ownership of Damewood Editorial is as follows:

**Shari Damewood**  
It is my intentions to apply to the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations to register the said name of Damewood Editorial under the provisions of Chapter 90-267, laws of Florida Acts of 1991.

Euria Petre  
DATE: 6/8/2018  
269320 CN/ 6/21/2018

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

Your new car could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**

Notice I hereby given that in accordance with chapter 77-562 Florida Acts of 1977, The Board of Supervisors of Hendry Hilliard Water Control District has caused to be prepared a budget of the cost of maintaining and operating all of the work and improvements of the District for the period beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019, and that said budget is on file in the office of the district, 5500 Flagpole Road, Clewiston, Florida.

The Board of Supervisors of Hendry Hilliard Water Control District will meet in the office of the District on June 26, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of hearing objections and complaints with respect to said budget.

Additionally, this notice advises that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry Hilliard Water Control District Board of Supervisors, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
HENDRY HILLIARD WATER CONTROL DISTRICT  
JOE MARLIN HILLIARD II  
PRESIDENT  
269689 CN 6/21/2018

**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**

Notice I hereby given that in accordance with chapter 77-562 Florida Acts of 1977, The Board of Supervisors of Sugarland Drainage District has caused to be prepared a budget of the cost of maintaining and operating all of the work and improvements of the District for the period beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019, and that said budget is on file in the office of the district, 5500 Flagpole Road, Clewiston, Florida.

The Board of Supervisors of Sugarland Drainage District will meet in the office of the District on June 26, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of hearing objections and complaints with respect to said budget.

Additionally, this notice advises that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Sugarland Drainage District Board of Supervisors, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SUGARLAND DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
BRYAN HILLIARD  
PRESIDENT  
269745 CN 6/21/2018

**Announcements**

**Miscellaneous Notices**

**Contractor Needed** that is licensed and insured to build a Preschool. Must be experienced with references or portfolio of work completed.

Please send information to: P.O. Box 433, Pahokee, Florida 33476 or abidingfaith.krobertson@gmail.com Attention: Shirley or KR

Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in the classifieds.

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

**READING A NEWSPAPER HELPS YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY.**



No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!

**Public Notice**      **Public Notice**

**INVITATION TO BID**

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Clewiston at City Hall, Attention: 2018 Sidewalk Improvement Project, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, FL 33440 until Wednesday July 11, 2017, 2:00 p.m. The Bids will be opened immediately following the bid submittal deadline at City Hall.

The project is titled 2018 Sidewalk Improvement Project. The work consists of installing approximately 440 linear feet of five-foot (5') wide, six-inch (6") thick concrete sidewalk with crosswalk signage and striping, and other associated work.

All materials furnished and all work performed, shall be in accordance with the plans, specifications, and contract documents pertaining thereto, which may be examined at the office of Johnson-Prewitt & Associates, Inc., 850 West Ventura Avenue, Post Office Box 1029, Clewiston, Florida 33440. The documents, plans, and blank bid forms may be obtained from this office for a NON-REFUNDABLE fee of \$20.00 per set.

A certified check or cashier's check on a National or State Bank or a bid bond in a sum not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid, made payable to the City of Clewiston, shall accompany each bid as a guarantee that the bidder will not withdraw from the competition after opening of the bids, and in the event the contract is awarded to the bidder, he will enter into contract and furnish the required performance and payment bonds, failing which, he shall forfeit the bid deposit as liquidated damages. The performance and payment bonds shall be executed by a fully authorized surety, acceptable to the owner and licensed by the State of Florida.

The owner reserves the right to hold all bids for thirty (30) days and to reject any and all bids, with or without cause, to waive technical errors and informalities, or to accept the bid in its judgment that serves the owner.

Al Perry, City Manager  
City of Clewiston, Florida

269749 CN 6/21/2018

**Public Notice**      **Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 2015-CA-000017**

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-AHL2, ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-AHL2, Plaintiff, V. DILLANA RANDANT; JAMES DAVID RANDANT; RONALD LEWIS LEE; SHARON C. LEE; CENTERSTATE BANK OF FLORIDA, N.A.; and UNKNOWN PERSONS IN POSSESSION, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Uniform Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 22, 2018 entered in Case No. 2015-CA-000017, Circuit Court of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit in and for Glades County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-AHL2, ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-AHL2 is the Plaintiff; and DILLANA RANDANT; JAMES DAVID RANDANT; RONALD LEWIS LEE; SHARON C. LEE; CENTERSTATE BANK OF FLORIDA, N.A.; and UNKNOWN PERSONS IN POSSESSION are the Defendants; Sandra Brown, Clerk of the aforesaid Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash in accordance with Section 45.031, Florida Statutes, on the Courthouse steps at 500 Avenue J, Moore Haven, Florida 33471, at 11:00 a.m. on June 28, 2018, the following described real property, situate and being in Glades County, Florida to-wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND IN SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 42 SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST, GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS; COMMENCE AT THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 23 AND RUN NORTH 00°71'7" WEST 112.63 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 23 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED THENCE NORTH 89°23'32" WEST, PARALLEL TO THE EAST-WEST QUARTER SECTION LINE OF SAID SECTION 23, A DISTANCE OF 2439.49 FEET THENCE NORTH 00°07'17" WEST PARALLEL TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 23, A DISTANCE OF 375.01 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89°23'32" EAST PARALLEL TO SAID EAST-WEST QUARTER SECTION LINE, A DISTANCE OF 2439.49 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 23; THENCE SOUTH 00°07'17" EAST, ALONG SAID LINE A DISTANCE OF 375.01 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Said sale will be made pursuant to and in order to satisfy the terms of said Uniform Final Judgment of Foreclosure. DATED: this 24th day of May, 2018.

Sandra Brown, As Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: Tami Simmons, Deputy Clerk

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. 266692 GCD 6/7,14,21/2018

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case No: 18-CA-347**

TAMMIE GARZA  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
PEDRO MURILLO MARTINEZ,  
Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE/PROPERTY**

TO: **Pedro Murillo Martinez**  
Current address unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to Quiet Title on the following property in Lee County, Florida:  
**Lot 4, Block 2150, PORT LABELLE, UNIT 4, according to plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 86 through 102, inclusive, of the Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.**  
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Jacqueline J. Peregrin, Esq., of Peregrin Law Firm, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 6621 Willow Park Drive, Suite 1, Naples, Florida 34109, on or before July 20, 2018, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. DATED on June 14, 2018.

Clerk of the Court  
By: J. Bevis  
As Deputy Clerk

PEREGRIN LAW FIRM, P.A.  
Jacqueline J. Peregrin, Esq.  
Florida Bar No. 0085264  
6621 Willow Park Drive, Suite 1  
Naples, Florida 34109  
(239) 349-2628 or Fax (239) 631-2304  
269715 CN 6/21/2018

**HENDRY-LABELLE RECREATION NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING CHANGE**

THE HENDRY-LABELLE RECREATION BOARD WILL HENCEFORTH CONDUCT ITS REGULAR RECREATION BOARD MEETINGS ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6:00 PM. AND ARE HELD AT THE HENDRY-LABELLE RECREATION OFFICE, 310 COWBOY WAY, LABELLE, FLORIDA. MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

WORKSHOPS, SPECIAL MEETINGS OR BOARD MEETINGS OTHER THAN THE ABOVE, AS WELL AS CANCELLATIONS OF REGULAR MEETINGS AND MEETING LOCATION CHANGES, ARE POSTED ON THE RECREATION BOARD WEBSITE AND ADVERTISED IN A LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE HENDRY-LABELLE RECREATION BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH A 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. PLEASE NOTE THAT MATTERS MAY BE DISCUSSED AT A MEETING WHICH ARE NOT ON THE PREPARED AGENDA FOR THE MEETING.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING A RECREATION BOARD MEETING, PLEASE CALL THE HENDRY-LABELLE RECREATION OFFICE AT (863) 675-5347.

IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY THAT WILL REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE OR ACCOMMODATION FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AT A MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT HENDRY-LABELLE RECREATION AT (863) 675-5347; HEARING IMPAIRED: FLORIDA RELAY 7-1-1; OR E-MAIL LILLYHART@HENDRYFLA.NET.

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

SI NECESITA LA ASISTENCIA DE UN INTERPRETE QUE HABLE ESPANOL PARA PARTICIPAR UN ESTA REUNION, POR FAVOR PONGASE EN CONTACTO CON RAMIRO RODRIGUEZ AL (863) 675-5347. 265310 CN/CB 6/21/12/2018

**Public Notice**      **Public Notice**

**South Florida Water Management District 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 permits@sfwmd.gov**

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, that the application(s) for permit described below has been received for project(s) in Okeechobee County. The application(s) and future additional application documents can be obtained by any of the following methods: 1) Accessing the District's website (www.sfwmd.gov) and clicking on Application/Permit Search on the ePermitting page; 2) Submitting a written request to the South Florida Water Management District, Attn: Regulation Division, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406; or 3) Submitting an electronic request at permits@sfwmd.gov.

Okee Land Turf LLC (Okeeland Turf) PO Box 833143, Miami, FL 33283, has submitted Application 180514-1 for modification of Water Use Permit 47-01084-W to irrigate 271.69 acres of agricultural lands. The water will be withdrawn from the Surficial Aquifer System and the project is located in Sections 32,33, Township 37 South, Range 35 East. 269368 CN 6/20/2018

**South Florida Water Management District 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 permits@sfwmd.gov NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, that the application(s) for permit described below has been received for project(s) in Hendry County. The application(s) and future additional application documents can be obtained by any of the following methods: 1) Accessing the District's website (www.sfwmd.gov) and clicking on Application/Permit Search on the ePermitting page; 2) Submitting a written request to the South Florida Water Management District, Attn: Regulation Division, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406; or 3) Submitting an electronic request at permits@sfwmd.gov.

Devils Gardens Drainage Association LLC (Devils Garden Drainage Association) 186061-12 for modification of Water Use Permit 26-00143-W to irrigate 899 acres of livestock lands. The water will be withdrawn from the Lower Tamiami Aquifer and the project is located in Sections 1-3, 10-12, 22-27, 34-36, Township 46 South, Range 33 East. 269376 CN 6/21/2018

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE SUGARLAND DRAINAGE DISTRICT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018, 10:15 AM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT HILLIARD BROTHERS OFFICE ON 5500 FLAGHOLE ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

BRYAN HILLIARD  
SUPERVISOR  
SUGARLAND DRAINAGE DISTRICT

269744 CN 6/21/2018

**Public Notice**      **Public Notice**

**PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION**

The purpose of this notice is to let you know that information about potential chemical hazards that exist in your community is available for your review at the office of Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, which serves the residents of Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, Hendry, and Glades counties. The information includes:

- \* The Southwest Florida LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan,
- \* Safety Data Sheets,
- \* Hazardous Chemical Inventory (Tier Two) Forms,
- \* Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Forms,
- \* Emergency Release Follow-up Reports,
- \* Hazards Analyses for Section 302 Facilities, and
- \* Other related information.

To review this information, please contact the LEPC Coordinator at the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, 1400 Colonial Blvd., Suite 1, Ft. Myers, FL 33907 at 239-938-1813, or visit [www.sfwfrc.org/lepc](http://www.sfwfrc.org/lepc). This notice is published pursuant to Section 324 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) (42 USC § 11044). 269304 CN/GCD/CB 6/21/2018

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE HENDRY-HILLIARD WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018, 9:15 AM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT HILLIARD BROTHERS OFFICE ON 5500 FLAGHOLE ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

JOE MARLIN HILLIARD II  
SUPERVISOR  
HENDRY-HILLIARD WATER CONTROL DISTRICT  
269688 CN 6/21/2018

Search obituaries nationally at <http://www.legacy.com>

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LANDOWNERS OF HENDRY-HILLIARD WATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to call of the Board of Supervisors of Hendry-Hilliard Water Control District, and in accordance with Chapter 298, Florida Statutes 1941, and law amendatory thereto, the Annual Meeting of Landowners of Hendry-Hilliard Water Control District, for the year 2017 will be held at the office of Hilliard Brothers of Florida, Ltd., 5500 Flaghole Road, Clewiston, Florida on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 9:00 A.M., for the purpose of:

1. Electing one (1) supervisor for a term of three (3) years.
2. Receiving annual reports and taking such action with respect thereto as the landowners may determine.
3. Transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Additionally, this notice advises that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry-Hilliard Water Control District Board of Supervisors, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, He will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, He 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.

Board of Supervisors  
Hendry-Hilliard Water Control District

By: Joe Marlin Hilliard II  
President  
269687 CN 6/21/2018

**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**

Notice I hereby given that in accordance with chapter 77-562 Florida Acts of 1977, The Board of Supervisors of Flaghole Drainage District has caused to be prepared a budget of the cost of maintaining and operating all of the work and improvements of the District for the period beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019, and that said budget is on file in the office of the district, 5500 Flaghole Road, Clewiston, Florida.

The Board of Supervisors of Flaghole Drainage District will meet in the office of the District on June 26, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of hearing objections and complaints with respect to said budget.

Additionally, this notice advises that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Flaghole Drainage District Board of Supervisors, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
FLAGHOLE DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
BRYAN HILLIARD  
PRESIDENT  
269741 CN 6/21/2018

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING HENDRY COUNTY CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Construction Licensing Board will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue, 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 Building, Licensing, & Code Enforcement at (863)675-5245; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail [mwilliams@hendryfla.net](mailto:mwilliams@hendryfla.net). Si necesita la asistencia de un interprete que hable espanol para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863)675-5240.

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Richard Yoraschek, Chairman  
Hendry County Construction Licensing Board

269631 CN/CB 6/21/2018

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE FLAGHOLE DRAINAGE DISTRICT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018 AT 9:45 AM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT HILLIARD BROTHERS OFFICE ON 5500 FLAGHOLE ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

BRYAN HILLIARD  
SUPERVISOR  
FLAGHOLE DRAINAGE DISTRICT

269732 CN 6/21/2018

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**Rawls real estate**

**CLEWISTON HOMES / MOBILE HOMES**

- 4/3.5 Large lot w/pool 1205 Pinewood \$439,9K
- 2/2 MH 551 Fleetwood St. ~~\$55K~~ Reduced 53,9K
- 2/2 Bass Capitol 707 Hoover Dike Rd. \$104,9K
- 3/1 Cottage Style, updated 420 W. Circle ~~\$199K~~ \$119,9K
- 825 S. Quebrada 3/2, granite upgrades \$195K

**MOORE HAVEN / LAKEPORT/SEBRING**

- 2/2 Waterfront/Lake Access Lowry Ln CBS \$174,9K
- 4/2.5 1519 Daniels Rd. 5 acres with pond \$369,9K
- 4/2 w/lrg. fam. room, 457 Ave. N \$164,9K

**COMMERCIAL / INVESTMENT PROPERTY**

- Industrial Park 3013 C.R. 835 (Open storage and Warehouse) Call for details
- 516 E Sugarland Hwy \$59,9K
- Medical office 51 Ave. J, Moore Haven \$139,9K
- .55ac. W. Sagamore \$179,9K

**RENTALS - RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL**

- 2BR/1BA, (1) Unit, 550 S. Lopez., \$650 mo

**ACREAGE, LAND & LOTS**

- Res. Lot 402 Pinecrest, Moore Haven \$7K
- 6 Buildable lots available in Sky Valley, Clewiston Starting at \$19K
- 2755 Milum Dr. Lakeport, 3.18 ac. Lake Access, waterfront, MAKE OFFER! \$175K
- 28 ac. Hwy 27 Frontage \$16K per acre, Venus, FL
- 77 ac. \$11,5K per acre, Venus, FL (great hunting)
- 10 ac. \$12.5K per acre, Venus, FL (weekend retreat)
- 901 Yacht Club Way \$8,9K
- Moore Haven Lots Starting at \$10K
- 20 Acres Hwy 80 Frontage \$18.5K per acre Owner financing

**1519 Daniels Rd., Moore Haven**  
Rare 4/2.5 on 5 acres

**Cheryl Eby Gutjahr (863) 228-1562**

**Anabel Miranda (863) 228 6296** Español

**Curt Thompson (863) 677-1064**

(863) 983-8559 528 E. Sugarland Hwy, Clewiston, FL See our other listings at [www.rawlsrealestate.com](http://www.rawlsrealestate.com)

# Take a hunter safety class

By Tony Young  
FWC

"Hunting teaches patience while fostering one of the closest relationships we can have with the natural world around us," said University of Florida rising sophomore Hanna Hodges. "Hunting also contributes to conservation."

Miss Hodges loves hunting for deer and turkeys with her family and boyfriend, and enjoys introducing new people to hunting and taking youth on their first hunting trips. However, that hasn't always been the case for her.

As a young girl growing up in a family that enjoys the outdoors, Miss Hodges spent many weekends fishing, boating, kayaking and hiking. But, she admits she was intimidated by some of the elements of hunting, and credits her father and the hunter safety class she took at age 10 for giving her knowledge and confidence to safely develop what became her greatest passion.

"My dad first introduced me to target shooting and hunting — he was a great coach," she said. "He actually introduced my mom and brothers, too — and now hunting is a family affair."

Miss Hodges' father signed her up for a weeklong Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) hunter safety camp at the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center during the summer before her sixth-grade year.

"It was a great experience attending the hunter safety summer camp at Beau Turner," she said. "I made numerous friends there and loved it so much that I volunteered there for several years."

Growing up in a hunting family and attending hunter safety camp had such an effect on Miss Hodges that she is now majoring in wildlife ecology and conservation and hopes one day to work in a field that blends hunting and conservation. And for this summer, she is proud to announce she will be a hunt camp counselor at the place where it all got started for her — the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center.

For more information on the center, which is east of Tallahassee, or to register your child for summer camp, go to [BTYCC.org](http://BTYCC.org).

If you haven't completed the state's hunter safety course requirement, now's a good time to sign up. Many of these classes, offered statewide, fill up fast.

People born after May 31, 1975, must complete the FWC's hunter safety class before they can buy the type of hunting license that allows them to legally hunt alone.

If you're a youngster and already into hunting, I suggest you go ahead and take a hunter safety class before you turn 16. And you can purchase your very first hunting license that's good until your 17th birthday.

Even if you were born before June 1, 1975, and are exempt from having to take the class, it's still a good idea because you'll learn so much. The FWC encourages beginning hunters to do so. Even the most experienced hunters will learn something new, which will help them become even better hunters or mentors.

If you're new to our state, these classes will make you aware of Florida's hunting

laws. Or if you just relocated from another town, the classes are a great way to meet other hunters. You can make some new hunting buddies or maybe even get a line on a great hunt club that's looking for new members.

You can register for a hunter safety class by going to [MyFWC.com/HunterSafety](http://MyFWC.com/HunterSafety) or by contacting your nearest FWC regional office.

## In Florida, virtual schooling also an option

Florida also offers a virtual school outdoor education course. This course, which combines hunting and boating safety, is free and open to Florida residents ages 12 to 18.

Participants will develop outdoor skills and learn about the benefits of physical activity while using proper safety procedures to experience a range of outdoor activities.

By meeting all the requirements of the outdoor education course, students will receive their Florida Boating Safety Education ID Card and be eligible to obtain a Florida Hunter Safety Certificate. They'll also earn half a credit for high school and meet public school requirements for taking an online course and a physical education course.

Registrations for these instructor-led courses are limited. Those who are interested can find out more at [MyFWC.com/HunterSafety](http://MyFWC.com/HunterSafety).

## Online training and skills day

A popular option for completing the hunter safety training is to take online training and a skills day. The online course is designed to help new hunters of all ages learn how to be safe and responsible hunters.

Before you begin the online training, you'll need to register to attend a skills day. Skills days are led by a corps of volunteer hunter safety instructors who give you the opportunity to demonstrate the skills you learned in the online course. Skills day takes about five hours to complete and includes time on the shooting range.

During skills days, you get hands-on training and must demonstrate proper firearm and tree-stand safety.

In the last hour of the skills day, you'll be given a standardized test of multiple-choice questions. You need to score 80 percent or higher to successfully complete the course.

## The last steps

After you pass the test for either course, you'll be given a temporary hunter safety card. You'll receive a permanent card in the mail about four to six weeks after the class. Once the hunter safety requirement is met, you can purchase your first Florida hunting license and be ready for opening day.

Just a couple of things for parents to remember: The course is designed for youth ages 12 to 16. If your child is younger than 18 years old, you must fill out our parental release form and present it to the instructor at all courses. Also, if your child is younger than 16, you are required to accompany him or her to all classes.

Register to take a hunter safety class today, 'cause the 2018-19 hunting season will be here before we know it. Remember, safe hunting is no accident.

# Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- |  |   |                                |                                   |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>  | <b>DOWN</b>                                 | 40 "Gilligan's Island" co-star | 55 Backstreet Boys contemporaries |
| 1 Pretense   | 1 Hunting                                   | 41 Prefix with carpal          | 56 Open a little                  |
| 4 Dissatisfied diner's decision  | 2 System of belief                          | 42 Green span                  | 57 Mysterious mountain climber    |
| 9 God of Islam   | 3 Like biohazards                           | 44 NASCAR racer                | 61 Chicago Fire's org.            |
| 14 To's opposite   | 4 One saying uncle?                         | 46 Busch                       | 62 Efron of "Neighbors" (2014)    |
| 15 Dry-__ board  | 5 Galeón load                               | 48 Fly in the ointment         | 63 Financial pg. debut            |
| 16 Run off   | 6 Brew dispenser                            | 50 Maine mail order giant      | 64 "Ask Me Another" ailer         |
| 17 Stereotypical rodeo nickname  | 7 Terre Haute sch.                          | 52 Japanese port               |                                   |
| 18 Online intrusion  | 8 Soft drink with a red-white-and-blue logo | 53 Dreadlocks wearer           |                                   |
| 20 "Downton Abbey" character Lady __ Crawley   | 9 Put off                                   | 54 Say                         |                                   |
| 22 "Get it?"   | 10 Spy thriller writer Deighton             |                                |                                   |
| 23 Helpful contacts  | 11 Romeo                                    |                                |                                   |
| 24 Complicated material, metaphorically  | 12 Cosmetic titan                           |                                |                                   |
| 29 Be a debtor of  | 13 Fells with an ax                         |                                |                                   |
| 30 Places to stand and deliver?  | 19 Nursery intruder                         |                                |                                   |
| 33 They can call you out   | 21 Bout enders, for short                   |                                |                                   |
| 36 Garden alignments   | 25 Garr of "Young Frankenstein"             |                                |                                   |
| 38 Busch Gardens city  | 26 Blizzard, e.g.                           |                                |                                   |
| 39 Walter Scott's title  | 27 Chisholm Trail community                 |                                |                                   |
| 40 Sponsor's purchase ... or what the starts of 18-, 24-, 51- and 60-Across can have | 28 Org. in many a spy thriller              |                                |                                   |
|  | 31 Olympian's weapon                        |                                |                                   |
|  | 32 Black Friday event org.                  |                                |                                   |
|  | 34 Muddy spot                               |                                |                                   |
|  | 35 Bill Bradley's alma mater                |                                |                                   |
|  | 37 Cassette half                            |                                |                                   |

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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xwordeditor@aol.com

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By Ian Livengood



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**Congratulations and best wishes to the Moore Haven Middle High School Class of 2018, and graduates of the Glades County SWAT Chapter, Maricela Rubio and Cristina Marie (not pictured)!**

**The Glades County SWAT Chapter is looking for more dedicated YOUTH to rise up and help stop the tobacco industry from callously taking our money and lives year after year. SWAT is committed to developing leadership skills in youth through training in tobacco issues, media literacy, community mobilization, policy process, presentation skills, evaluations skills, etc.**

**The Glades County SWAT Chapter has school-based SWAT clubs at Moore Haven Middle High School and West Glades School. For more information call (863) 265-6040; meetings are being held throughout the summer. Stand Up. Speak Out.**

**Join the fight against Big Tobacco now!**