

Glades County DEMOCRAT

Vol. 90, No. 34

Thursday, August 23, 2018

50¢ plus tax

Mast argues for lower Lake Okeechobee level
... Page 2

Obituaries
... Page 5

Red Cross offers back-to-school safety steps
... Page 6

Football around the lake
... Page 7

Loss of aquatic vegetation means 'the lake is hurting' ... Page 8

SWFRPC awarded grant to promote agriculture products ... Page 9

Lake Levels

14.59 feet
Last Year: 13.39 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.

gladescountymagazine.com

Moore Haven challengers sound off on issues

By Chris Felker
Glades County Democrat

Two challengers are in the running for Moore Haven City Council in Tuesday's election. Last week's Glades County Democrat profiled the incumbents seeking to retain their seats, Mayor Bret Whidden and Councilman Marc Decker.

The other two candidates are James T. Fielder and Wayne Clay Browning Jr.

Candidate profiles



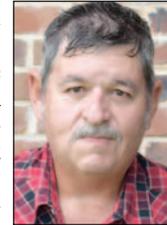
Wayne Clay Browning Jr.

Mr. Browning, 49, grew up in the city, graduating from Moore Haven High School with the Class of 1987; he played football, baseball and was active in FFA. He attended Edison Community College and Hodges University, also spending a semester in the West Technical School welding program. He's been married to his high school sweetheart,

Kim, for 28 years and they have two children, daughter Bailey Lyn, 22, and son Wyatt Claxton, 14.

He attends the First Methodist Church of Moore Haven and is a member of the Clewiston Elks Lodge. He listed volunteer involvement in several organizations, including the Volunteer Fire Department, the Chamber of Commerce of Moore Haven (past president) and Project Graduation (2014 president), among others. "Volunteering in Moore Haven is very close to my heart," he wrote.

A fourth-generation Floridian and fifth-generation agriculture laborer, Mr. Browning wrote: "I have been employed by Duda Ranches as a crop superintendent for the last eight years. Before I joined them, I worked for Florida Crystals for 16 years and United States Sugar for about 14 and a half years."



James Fielder

See ISSUES — Page 4



Special to the Glades County Democrat/Courtesy photo

Buckhead AMVETS show appreciation

AMVETS Buckhead Ridge Post showed their appreciation to the Moore Haven Elementary School teachers by personally delivering donuts for their third annual Teacher Appreciation Day. Joe Mansfield, Carla Shearer and Commander Bob Burnes, representatives for AMVETS, delivered donuts at 7 a.m. on Aug. 17.

Teacher test-training offered in Moore Haven

By Chris Felker
Glades County Democrat

The legwork that Glades County Schools Superintendent Scott Bass has been doing in trying to set up job training programs at the county's Regional Training Facility in Moore Haven is beginning to pay off, and the first program — aimed at assisting teachers and school districts — will begin in a few weeks.

Superintendent Bass announced Monday, Aug. 20, that a university in Fort Myers has committed to a test-preparation tutoring program in September for teachers in the region who need help in passing the state's tests administered for certification. The Florida Department of Education's general knowledge and subject area tests for teachers were rewritten in 2015, setting the bar that they must meet to become certified higher than it had been. This has resulted in difficulties for school districts statewide in keeping their teacher corps at full strength.

"It does not mean that teachers aren't intelligent," he explained, "but when you have an elementary teacher and they're having to do trigonometry problems on their test, it's difficult. So everyone across the state is seeing teachers having difficulty in passing their general knowledge test.

"We've partnered with FGCU (Florida Gulf Coast University) to address the teacher shortage and also getting teachers certified. And some of that is taking place at the training center, and we've actually also opened it up," Mr. Bass said. He explained that FGCU had agreed to provide instruction for 25 enrollees for what essentially will be a crash course for test preparation on two Saturdays in September.

With 19 in Glades County already having signed up, "we've got six spots left, so we're opening it up to other school districts and teachers. We've extended this out to Okeechobee, Highlands and Hendry (counties). FGCU is sinking a bunch of money into this," Mr. Bass said.

But any teachers, or districts in the region with interested instructors, who are able to

See TEACHER — Page 4



Mast argues for lower Lake Okeechobee level

By Katrina Elsken
INI Florida

STUART — Congressman Brian Mast's proposal to lower Lake Okeechobee to 8 feet by the end of the dry season to prevent wet season releases to the coastal estuaries was the topic of discussion at a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District briefing on Aug. 17 in Stuart City Hall.

Ernie Marks, South Florida Water Management District executive director, said trying to lower the lake to 8 feet would be dangerous for South Florida.

"What are the consequences of lowering the lake below 9 feet by the end of the dry season? We can't get there with the infrastructure we have in place today. So what do we have to do? We have to send more water west and more water east," he explained.

"We've got to send significant amounts during times you normally don't receive it, and more frequently," he said.

The infrastructure needed to send more water south is planned but not yet funded. "We need the additional infrastructure. We need the additional projects so we have the ability to do that," he said. Such a move would impact the water supply not only south of the lake, but also for the lower east coast, he said.

There is a high level of risk to forcing the lake down to 9 ft., he warned. "There is no guarantee when the rain will fall," he said.

What happens if the lake is at 8 ft. in May and the rains don't come when expected? Such a drought would cause the lake to fall to 7 ft. or lower, which would mean SF-WMD could not send any lake water to any of the users. There would be no water availability for all users, including the environment, he said.

Such a drought would mean long-term



impacts to fish and wildlife, he said. The SFWMD would not be able to deliver water to the Seminole Tribal lands. The water shortage would hurt residents and businesses from Palm Beach County to the Florida Keys, he said. There would be no water to fight fires. With no backup water supply from the lake, the Everglades would be at high risk of muck fires, which would destroy wildlife habit, he said.

With no flow from the lake, the Caloosahatchee River would no longer be navigable, Mr. Marks said.

In May 2007, during the drought that took the lake below 9 ft., "we had emergency orders to move water 20 miles from an existing reservoir to West Palm Beach. Their normal source of water is rainfall and the backup of Lake Okeechobee.

"Basically underground, you have a freshwater lens and a saltwater lens," he explained. "The saltwater lens was at risk to move. (In hydrology, a lens is a convex layer of fresh groundwater that floats on top of denser saltwater.) Once that saltwater lens moves too far to the west, you lose your well-fields," he said.

Mr. Marks said the solution to reducing lake releases to the coastal estuaries lies in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP) plans, which were approved but are awaiting federal funding.

Congressman Mast continued to argue to lower the level of the lake during the dry season.

"There are consequences with low water levels," he said. "But there are consequences with high water levels," he said.

He said the Army Corps' top priority is the integrity of the Herbert Hoover Dike. "Every inch of water off Lake Okeechobee means less risk," he said.

Alligator harvest began Aug. 15

Special to INI Florida

Florida's statewide alligator harvest, nationally and internationally recognized as a model program for the sustainable use of a renewable natural resource, began Aug. 15. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) issued more than 7,500 permits, including an additional 1,313 county-wide permits, as a method to help manage the alligator population.

Alligators are a conservation success story in Florida. They were included on the original federal endangered species list in 1967. Conservation efforts allowed the population to rebound, and they were removed from the list in 1987. Today, the state's alligator population is estimated at 1.3 million alligators and has been stable for many years.

For over 30 years, the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program has been providing sustainable hunting opportunities throughout the state. The FWC establishes management units with appropriate harvest quotas based on research and proven science to ensure

the long-term well-being of the alligator resource.

Recreational alligator hunting is just one part of the FWC's overall approach to managing the species. The FWC's Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program (SNAP) is another. People who believe a specific alligator poses a threat to people, pets or property should call FWC's toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286). When someone concerned about an alligator calls the Nuisance Alligator Hotline, we will dispatch an FWC-contracted nuisance alligator trapper to resolve the situation.

In addition, as part of a comprehensive effort to achieve alligator management goals, the FWC has issued an additional 21 Targeted Harvest Area permits that encompass 79 new areas. THA permits allow a managing authority to work directly with a designated FWC-contracted nuisance alligator trapper, making the process for removing nuisance alligators more proactive and streamlined.

CLEWISTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RENEWING MEMBERS

- American Legion Post 130
- Aruba RV Park & Resort, LLC
- Bass Busters Team Tournament Trail
- Boy, Miller, Kisker, & Perry, PA
- Clewiston Florist and Gifts
- Clewiston Rotary Club
- Cracker Cookin' & Caterin'
- Cross Training Min., Inc.
- Everglades Equipment Group
- First Baptist Church of Clewiston
- Gilbert Chevrolet
- H.E. Hill Foundation, Inc.
- Hato Potrero Farms, Inc.
- Hendry County Emergency Management
- Jericho International Missionary Ministry
- Pittman Contracting, Inc.
- Quality Telephone Service
- Raising Cane Rodeo, Inc.
- Royal Palm Trailer Park
- Royals Furniture
- Senator Kathleen Passidomo
- State Farm Insurance- Janne Jordan Agency
- Sugarland Masonic Lodge #281 F&AM
- McNicholas & Associates
- Okeechobee Landings RV Resort
- Jerry & Karen Cochrane
- Kristina Kulpa

CLEWISTON
Chamber of Commerce

I am Mercedes Perdomo Reese and I'm a candidate for Hendry County School Board District 4.

"Vote for change and new representation"

"A positive voice to represent you on the school board"

Vote for that change at the
Primary Election on August 28th

Paid Pol. Ad. Paid for and approved by
Mercedes Perdomo Reese for
Hendry County School Board District 4



Refrigeration ~ AC ~ Ice Machines

Serving the Lake Okeechobee
Region Since 1929



Jim and Monica McCarthy Clark

800.763.2114

Manitowoc® TRANE® Carrier®



St. Lic. #CMC054668

Published by
**Glades County
Democrat**
Serving Eastern Glades County
Since 1923

To Reach Us

Address: c/o Okeechobee News,
107 SW 17th St. Ste D., Okeechobee, FL 34974

Website: gcdnews.com

To Submit News

The Glades County Democrat welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, stories, ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 763-3134 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or emailed. The deadline for all news items is 12 p.m. Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication. Email: gdcnews@newszap.com

To Place A Display Ad

Call (863) 763-3134, deadline for all advertising is 12 p.m. Monday for the following Thursday's publication. E-mail: southlakeads@newszap.com

To Place A Classified Ad

Call (877)353-2424 to place a classified advertisement from home. The deadline for all advertising is 12 p.m. Monday for the following Thursday's publication. Fax: 1-877-354-2424
E-mail: classads@newszap.com

Advertising Billing Department

E-mail: billteam@newszap.com

To Start or Stop A Paper

Phone: (800) 282-8586

E-mail: readerservices@newszap.com

The Glades County Democrat is delivered by mail or subscribers on Thursday and is sold in racks and store locations in the Glades County area.

Call (800)282-8586 to report a missed newspaper or poor delivery.

Glades County Democrat
USPS 117920

Published Weekly by Independent Newspapers, Inc. for \$39.00 per year including tax. Periodical Class postage paid

Publisher: Katrina Elsen

Advertising: 863-763-3134

E-mail: okeeadsales@newszap.com

We Pledge ...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust.
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, 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.



Dueling pianos to raise cash for HRMC

Special to the Glades County Democrat

CLEWISTON — The Hendry Regional Medical Center Foundation is planning a "Keys to Health" Dueling Pianos event on Saturday, Sept. 29, at 5:30 p.m. at the Oak Grove RV Resort in LaBelle.

The HRMC Foundation invites anyone in-

terested to join its members for a fun-filled evening where their entertainers will compete on the pearly keys in a high-energy, all-request singalong, in which the audience will be just as much a part of the show as the pianists.

Tickets are \$75 and include heavy hors d'oeuvres; there will be a cash bar. Limited

bus transportation will be available from Clewiston to the event.

Tickets may be purchased at www.bidpal.net/duelingpianos2018, and more information is available by contacting Electa Waddell at 863-983-2735 or emailing ewaddell@hrmc.us.

FSW's Critical Thinking Series kicks off Sept. 6

Special to the Glades County Democrat

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) kicks off its fall Critical Thinking Lecture Series with "Voices in America: Diversity, Inclusion and Democracy," presented by FSW Dean of the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Dr. Deborah Teed, at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 6, at the FSW Thomas Edison Campus, Building AA-177, Fort Myers. Additionally, the presentation can be viewed digitally at the FSW Hendry/Glades

Curtis Center, Building A, Room 114.

Dr. Teed has spent nearly 20 years in higher education, earning her doctorate in comparative sociology from Florida International University. Prior to joining FSW, Dr. Teed served as associate dean of academic affairs and retention at Pasco-Hernando State College, Dade City, and dean of social sciences and business at South Puget Sound Community College, Olympia, Wash.

The FSW Critical Thinking Lecture Series features college and community leaders

who discuss how they use critical thinking skills in their profession or focus on critical topics from their area of career or academic interest. The series is free and open to the public. Presentations take place weekly, and the fall series runs September through November.

For more information on the FSW Critical Thinking Lecture Series, contact Whitney Rhyne, director of strategic initiatives, at (239) 433-6943 or Whitney.Rhyne@fsw.edu.

Glades EDC annual dinner is Sept. 6

Special to the Glades County Democrat

MOORE HAVEN — The Glades County Economic Development Council will present its 2018 annual dinner on Thursday evening, Sept. 6, at 6 p.m. at the Doyle Conner Building in Moore Haven.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP no later than Friday, Aug. 31, by email to info@gladesedc.com or by calling 863-946-0300. The keynote speaker will be Flor-

ida State Rep. Ben Albritton, R-56th District, who represents DeSoto, Hardee and southwestern Polk counties.

Prices are \$65 for Glades EDC members, \$75 for non-members and \$350 for a table sponsorship, which includes recognition during the program and four tickets to the event. Up to two additional seats are available at each table for \$50 apiece. The Doyle Conner Building is at 900 U.S. 27 S.W. in Moore Haven.

Labor Day parade is Sept. 1

The 2018 Labor Day parade will be held Saturday, Sept. 1. A poll was conducted through Facebook, and the community voted to change the event from traditional Monday to Saturday to help kick-off Okeechobee Main Street's festival in the park and Cattlemen Association's weekend rodeo events.

Glades at a Glance

Lions Club to meet Sept. 20

The regular meetings of the Moore Haven Lions Clubs for July and August have been canceled. The next meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 5:30 p.m. in the offices of the Glades County Sheriff's Office, 1297 E. State Road 78 in Moore Haven. When the Lions Club can be of assistance to anyone, please contact any member, including President James W. Hunter at 863-227-1327, Past President David Hardin at 963-227-3381, Treasurer Duane Pottorff at 863-227-0207 or Secretary Kirby Sullivan at 863-946-2556.

Meals served at Legion Post

Moore Haven American Legion Post 299, 600 River Road in Moore Haven, is sponsoring dinners in the Post Hall on each Friday and Saturday evening starting at 6 p.m. The post is sponsoring breakfast each Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon. Both events are open to the public and there is a small charge. Preparation and serving are under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Sparks. For information, call 863-946-2556.

BHR VFW serves dinner

The Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 East in Buckhead Ridge, will serve dinner on Friday, Aug. 24, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Menu includes 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 Gene and Patty. Proceeds benefits homeless veterans. For information, call 863-467-2882.

BHR Moose serves catfish

The Buckhead Ridge Moose Lodge, 1016 Linda Road, offers all-you-can-eat catfish on Friday, Aug. 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. for a donation of \$10. The public is welcomed.

BHR Moose serves up pizza

Buckhead Ridge Moose, 1016 Linda Road, will serve pizza and subs on Saturday, Aug. 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. Dine in or take out. For information, call 863-763-2250.

BHR Riders serves meals

The VFW Riders will serve a full breakfast from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and fish sandwiches and fries at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 25 at the Buckhead Ridge VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 East in Buckhead Ridge, to benefit veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

AMVETS serves breakfast

The AMVETS will serve a full breakfast

at the VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 East in Buckhead Ridge, on Sunday, Aug. 26, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Proceeds benefit veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

AMVETS serves up dinner

The Sons of AMVETS will serve a kielbasa and sauerkraut dinner on Wednesday, Aug. 29, at 5 p.m. at the Buckhead VFW Post 9528, 29012 State Road 78 East in Buckhead Ridge. Proceeds benefit veterans services. For information, call 863-467-2882.

BHR Moose serves pork dinner

Buckhead Ridge Moose, 1016 Linda Road, will have a pork chops dinner, fried or grilled, with all the fixings for a \$7.50 donation. Dinner is served on Wednesday, Aug. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is welcome.

HGUNC meeting set Sept. 7

Non-profit representatives and the public are invited to the Hendry/Glades Unmet Needs Coalition (HGUNC) meeting to be held on Friday, Sept. 7, at 1 p.m. at the Glades Regional Training Facility, 1030 Industrial Drive in Moore Haven. For information, call Terri Miazga at 813-892-5021 or email hgunc133@gmail.com.

Glades County courthouse invaders to be executed

By Chris Felker
Glades County Democrat

The county's historic courthouse building, a stately brick-faced edifice built in 1928, witnessed a unanimous death-sentence vote this month.

Some uninvited visitors have been ob-

served dining in parts of the building, and the Glades County commissioners decided the morning of Aug. 14 that they'd have to be exterminated. Those would be the two groups of termites (both dry wood and subterranean) that 20th Circuit Glades County Judge Jack Lundy complained had been

leaving their crumbs in plain sight.

County Administrative Assistant Susan Whidden reported that she'd talked with Clarke Pest Control to answer questions commissioners raised after quotes had been sought from four different pest-control companies, and they decided to go with

the Clarke company's low bid of \$27,250, including a \$4,000 soil treatment, with an annual renewal fee of \$4,185.

County Board Chairman John Ahern asked her to inquire whether it'd be possible to tent the building over the Labor Day weekend.

TEACHER

Continued From Page 1

come to Moore Haven and might want those spots need to act soon to get in on the first session, he added. The staff member to contact is Andi Canaday, director of secondary academic services, at 863-946-0202, extension 127, or by email at andi.canaday@gladesschools.org.

Talks on other classes ongoing

Mr. Bass was already in talks with FGCU representatives about establishing other programs that would be offered at the Glades County Regional Training Facility (GCRTF), so he reached out to them regarding the teacher issue and they were eager to help.

This will be the first taste of new educational offerings at GCRTF. "Starting in

January, FGCU will be offering their teacher immersion program classes, which are graduate-level classes of which eight can be used toward a master's degree in education. And FGCU is offering that to our participants in this program at a 50 percent tuition discount, which is huge, more than even their employees get on their courses," said Mr. Bass.

"The majority of the classes will be online; however, there will be some face-to-face meeting and those will take place here in Moore Haven at the training center," he explained. "So FGCU is really interested in being more of a partner to our area than they have been in the past, and this is one of the first steps that they're taking, and we're taking it with them."

Another step is an application FGCU is working on to be submitted for state grant money to finance teacher training. "This is just FGCU taking the initiative to help their rural partners. The grant, that is roughly

\$3 million, would also go to enhance education and help teachers in rural areas moving forward. If they get the grant, then I would expect FGCU to potentially make something permanent moving forward at the training center," Mr. Bass said.

iTech branch campus possible

In addition, arrangements are being made to establish what may amount to a branch campus of Immokalee Technical College, known as iTech, at the GCRTF, beginning with a set of vocational education courses for both high school students and interested adults.

The school districts of Okeechobee, Hendry, Highlands and Collier counties, along with county officials from Glades and Hendry, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and CareerSource all have been involved in these talks, Mr. Bass said.

At a meeting Aug. 3, he said, "basically

what we decided there, and which everybody was for, is Immokalee iTech coming to the regional training center as a branch campus, and any high school in any of those school districts could dual-enroll at the iTech center in Moore Haven. We want to make that an option available to high school students.

"But our main goal," he continued, "is looking at educating the out-of-school individual who is looking for a trade or something to better themselves."

Around \$5 million will be sought from the Job Growth Grant Fund established a couple of years ago through the Department of Economic Opportunity. Mr. Bass said he met recently with Gov. Rick Scott in Moore Haven, adding: "I feel like with so many school districts and different counties involved, this has got a really good chance of being funded.

"This could be a really good economic positive swing for Glades County and the region," Mr. Bass concluded.

ISSUES

Continued From Page 1

Asked who his heroes are, he wrote: "I am very lucky to have had two grandfathers, Jimmy Wilson and Floyd Browning, as well as a father, Wayne Browning, and a great-uncle, Cracker Spooner. My family has shaped me into the man that I am. The men I have listed are my heroes because each one of them has characteristics they passed to me."

Challenger Fielder, 63, was raised in Clewiston and has lived in Florida almost all his life, but only for four years in Moore Haven. He is a high school graduate who attended law school at the Lee County Area Vocational Technical School, now Fort Myers Technical College.

Mr. Fielder worked with the Hendry County Sheriff's Office as an agriculture investigator for 26 years and later retired from a job as a heavy equipment operator. He is married to Ana, who works for RCMA Glades Early Childhood Center, and they have three children and three grandsons.

Asked about activity in any clubs, charitable or civic organizations, Mr. Fielder wrote, "I help with the RCMA in Washington Park." He responded to a query about why he is running for a council seat by saying, "I want to help people and to make Moore Haven a better place to live."

He said he has no previous experience in government; this is his first run for office. Asked who his heroes are, he replied, "President Trump."

Three questions posed

What are the most important cou-

ple of issues facing the City of Moore Haven today? And what would you propose to do about them?

Mr. Browning: "The city of Moore Haven is a great place to live, but I believe it could be even better. I have a businesslike mind so I prioritize needs above wants. Currently, I believe Moore Haven needs to be made more appealing so that we can have an influx of businesses in our area. I would do this by working to remove older and substandard buildings and increase curb appeal. I also would like to work toward implementing a weekend farmers market in a central area for local vendors to showcase their goods and services. Currently, we do not have an area for that, so residents are forced to sell their wares roadside. A major issue I have in our community is a lack of activities for children to do. I would like to have an area where city children can raise project animals and have a community garden so that we can keep them out of trouble as well as educate them on agriculture and entrepreneurial skills."

Mr. Fielder: "To try to get the infrastructure back up to par because it has been neglected, and to try to get a grocery store here."

What do you think the city government can do to address the shortage of available jobs and affordable housing in Moore Haven?

Mr. Browning: "In order to address the shortage of available jobs, we need to address the problem of shortage of adult education in our area. I personally would love to see some sort of technical training brought to our city so that our residents can get the proper training to go out into

our community and do jobs that are needed. In regard to affordable housing, I have wanted housing for years for educators and first responders to be able to reside in. We need to focus on nice and affordable housing for the middle-class residents of our community. I would like to find a way to offer opportunities for our local contractors to be involved in the process of building this kind of housing. This way, not only are we addressing affordable housing, but the job shortage in our community as well.

Mr. Fielder: "Try to get more business here and to build more housing."

How do you think the City of Moore Haven could best attempt to attract new businesses?

Mr. Browning: "The proper saying here would be, 'If you build it, they will come.' I think in order to attract new businesses, we need to entice new businesses and residents. I would do this by improving the curb appeal as a whole in our community, offering new activities and building new housing. My campaign has been simple: Make a great place better. I want to keep small-town charm while adding new businesses within reason. I want to effectively and positively manage growth to make our small community even better!"

Mr. Fielder: "They would have to talk to the business and make a good offer to help them move to Moore Haven."

NOTICE OF MEETING 2018 HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD

PLEASE BE ADVISED that pursuant to Chapter 194, Florida Statutes, the HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD (VAB) will convene its Organizational Meeting on, **Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Commission Chambers at the Hendry County Courthouse, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida, for the purpose of considering matters pursuant to the requirements of Florida Statutes, Chapter 194 and other items as may be appropriate or timely. Petitions, complaints and appeals filed with the VAB will be referred to hearings conducted by Special Magistrates at the Hendry County Courthouse; or at other designated locations as needed.

This meeting is open to the public, and interested citizens are invited to attend. The Board will not be considering Special Magistrate recommendations at this meeting.

Anyone who appeals a decision made by the VAB will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

The VAB may discuss other related issues in addition to the above matters at the suggestion or request of the Chairman or members prior to or during the meeting.

Barbara S. Butler, Clerk,
Hendry County
Value Adjustment Board

Reflections from the Pulpit

Gifts: God's offer and a wise request

By The Reverend Samuel S. Thomas, Ph. D. +
Saint Martin's Church, Clewiston

Years ago Sears Roebuck used to publish toy catalogs at Christmas. I'd get one for my daughter and one year just before Christmas she asked me "What am I going to get for Christmas?" I didn't know if she had anything particular in mind but guessed that maybe there was something she wanted. I got the toy catalog and told her "Sit down and find me a page in that catalog where you don't have something on it. You may not have that doll house but you have a doll house. You may not have that bicycle but you have a bicycle. You don't have all of those books but you have lots of books."

She sat down, took the catalog and apparently couldn't find a page where she didn't have at least something.

I thought that "Maybe you're spoiled" or "You should be thankful that you have so much." We still searched and found her gifts for the Christmas celebration and she was happy.

Giving gifts can be a challenge for all of us. I am happiest when my recipient tells me that my choice was a thoughtful one or something needed. Many times there are "generic" gifts where I hope the receiver will understand my intentions and make use of what I chose. I've always heard "It's the thought that counts" and I have been pleased when someone who doesn't really know me can come up with something I can use or at least enjoy. Not too long ago, I heard about "re-gifting" and passing things along that weren't really needed when people feel an obligation to give something and

do not want something received to go to waste.

One Church developed a practice during announcement time to present members of the congregation with a token gift after telling of something noteworthy that the recipient had done for the Church or for someone. This "award ceremony" got longer and longer, and when I arrived at the Church I was told that I was the person who was to make the announcements-only! I was curious and tracked down the reasons for this rule. It seems that the gift-giving got more and more bizarre. Finally, one member got up and sang the praises of another member and made a presentation for all of the good works; a pair of socks! That brought the Sunday morning practice to an end; enough was enough!

Like all of us, I hope to give something that reflects my caring in my choice. As far as from God, I hope I ask things that are worthy of being asked for; remembering always that God knows better than I do about what I need. Most all of the "gifts" bestowed on me by ordination are to be freely given but I have two exceptions. I tell people that I do not bless "pretend marriages" or lottery tickets (and I've been asked to do both!)

Then I reflect on my gifts from God. Freely given and received with thanks; and with the intention to say "Thanks, Lord" when I needed something and God provided. We say "...thy will be done...." and need to remember that God gives according to what may be best for us even when we may not understand.

There is that request for a gift from God that was granted and God was pleased; and God threw in some additional guidance and something not asked-for in addition to a special request. I am referring to Solomon's request to God when he is about to become

King of Israel; 1 Kings 3:5ff. The Lord appeared to Solomon and said "Ask whatever you want me to give you (v. 5)." Solomon answered "You have shown kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued to show this great kindness to him and given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. Now, O Lord my god, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ... so give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong (vss 6-9)" We hear that "God was pleased" (v.10) and granted him "a wise and discerning heart (v. 12) and added a special place in the life of his people and a long life too. Solomon was known for his wisdom and counted among the greatest of the patriarchs.

Today my prayers are a bit vicarious for our leaders, but with the hope that they can be counted among those who were up to the challenges of our day. With elections in the offing, I pray that we may have wise leaders and those with discerning hearts too.

I do not try to second-guess motives or reasons for decisions: I rarely have all of the information that goes into decision-making but pray that the leaders we have lead with wisdom. Solomon asked for great gift but it was not too great for God to grant. He even threw in some gifts not asked for. I hope I do so in my own life when called upon to give. I also pray that His gifts may be granted to others according to the needs they are called upon to fulfill. Praying for wisdom and discernment; for ourselves and for others, are prayers that I count among the most worthy I can offer. I hope you share them too.

Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted by sending e-mail to obits@newszap.com. Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at www.newszap.com.

Pamela Hedick Davis, 73

PALMDALE — Pamela Hedick Davis passed away on Aug. 14, 2018 at Jupiter Medical Center in Jupiter.

Pam was born April 27, 1945 in Clewiston to William and Florence (Adkins) Hedick. She married Thomas "Tom" E. Davis on Jan. 9, 1965 in Moore Haven.



Pam was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She will be deeply missed by her entire family, and all those whose lives she touched.

Pam leaves behind her son, TJ Davis and his wife, Kimberly; grandchildren, Elisabeth and Madison; her companion, Wayne Holt; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Pam was preceded in death by both of her parents; her husband, Tom Davis; her daughter, Carolyn Denise Davis; three siblings, Irene Waldron, Callie Gunn and William Hedick, Jr.

Celebration of Pam's life was held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018 at Akin-Davis Funeral Home in Clewiston with Pastor Charley Watts officiating. Burial took place in Ortona Cemetery.

Ada V. Llorens

Apr. 7, 1932 – Aug. 13, 2018

WESTON — Ada V. Llorens, 86, of Weston, Fla., wife of the late Fernando N. Llorens, passed away peacefully on Aug. 13, 2018.

Born Apr. 7, 1932, in Guaimaro, Cuba, Ada met Fernando, the love of her life, in the sugar cane town of Elia, Cuba, in her early teens. The couple married in September 1949 and had three children. The Llorens family emigrated to the United States from Cuba in 1962, first living in Elizabeth, N.J., and eventually planting roots in the small agricultural town of Belle Glade, Fla.

An excellent cook who was well known for Cuban specialties such as vaca frita (a crispy shredded beef dish) and sopa de platano (plantain soup), Ada took great pride in caring for her husband and family. Her first grandchild was born in 1979, and over the years Ada became a proud grandmother of six. In 2014, she became a great-grandmother. Her family was truly the light of her life, and she was always happiest when spending time with them.

Ada's memory and legacy are carried on by her children Fernando Z. Llorens (Gail) and Beatriz L. Koltis (Peter); grandchildren Jacqueline Nelson (Bryan), Cristina I. Llorens, Joanna Alvarez, Jaimee Alvarez, Julia L. Koltis, and Peter N. Koltis; and great-granddaughter Tessa M. Nelson. In addition to her husband Fernando, Ada was predeceased by her daughter, Miriam L. Alvarez (Jose).

A Mass will be celebrated in honor of Ada's life on Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018, at 9 a.m., at St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church in Belle Glade, Fla. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Trustbridge Hospice Foundation at www.tbfdn.org

FWC expands access to boating safety exam

Special to INI Florida

Access to Florida's Boater Education Temporary Certificate Program has been expanded, thanks to work done by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to make allowances for online course providers to offer the required courses over the internet.

In August of 2017, the FWC amended Florida Administrative Code 68D-36.108 to allow the temporary certificate exam to be offered in an online version. This change makes it easier and more convenient for both vessel operators and vessel liveries to comply with Florida's boater education laws, which require liveries to verify that customers born on or after Jan. 1, 1988, have met Florida's boating safety education requirements before allowing them to rent their vessels.

Online temporary certificate exam providers will create a system that allows 24-hour, seven-day a week accessibility to the exam using tablets, laptops, or other electronic devices. This added convenience will make it easier for both visitors and residents by allowing them to take the test before a vacation to Florida.

Currently, one online boating safety edu-

cation provider, Boat Ed, has completed the process to offer the exam online. Boat Ed has been a leader and innovator in boating safety education since 1995. Study or learning materials are available on the Boat Ed site to prepare students for the exam, improve their boating knowledge and increase their chances of successfully completing the exam on the first try. The exam costs \$3 and study materials are available for an additional charge. A link to the exam can be found at Boat-Ed.com/FloridaRental/.

Prior to this change, paper exams were the only option and were required to be completed and passed by rental vessel operators. The ability for liveries to continue to offer paper exams has not changed with the addition of this online option. Liveries can still purchase and administer the paper exams, as long as their contract and insurance are valid. The temporary certificate exam is a knowledge check, not a full education course. It cannot be converted into a boater safety identification card that is valid for life. Temporary certificates are not valid in any other state and do not meet boater safety education requirements in other states.

The online exam will be 25 questions, randomly selected from a large pool of

questions. The cost for the exam will remain \$3. Upon successful completion of the exam, students will be provided an electronic proof of their successful completion and their passing score. A livery will be able to inspect this proof to ensure that a prospective vessel renter has met Florida's boating safety education requirements.

The new change offers various benefits to liveries:

- Liveries are not required to contract with any other company to use the online exam.
- A link that will send customers directly to the online exam can be provided by liveries.
- Liveries are not required to continue purchasing paper exams from the FWC.
- The burden of mailing paper tests back to the FWC is removed with the online option.
- Liveries will be able to provide speedier service to customers who take the exam in advance of renting.

The FWC encourages liveries to transition to the new online exam system to increase accessibility and streamline the testing process for renters interested in enjoying Florida's beautiful waterways by boat.

50 years of public health service celebrated

Special to The Clewiston News

On Saturday, July 14, a celebratory dinner was given in honor of Joanne Vorhees, an advanced registered nurse practitioner (or ARNP), who has served in the Department of Health in Hendry and Glades Counties for 50 years!

She began her long career in public health as a registered nurse for 25 years before pursuing her advanced degree as a nurse practitioner.

Ms. Vorhees has done it all, including epidemiology, prenatal services, immunizations, family planning, school health and much more. As an ARNP, she has provided women's health services for many genera-

tions of women.

"Joanne also performs disaster duties and is one of the most 'resourceful' nurse practitioners I have ever met!", said Jennifer Hood, ARNP, nursing director for the Florida Department of Health in Hendry and Glades Counties. "She has the knowledge and skills that have helped many of the people we serve."

Joseph Pepe, the health officer for the Department of Health in these counties, said: "Joanne has been loved by the community she serves. We hope she never retires! She is amazing and certainly a public health icon!" He read a congratulatory letter from the state surgeon general, secre-

tary of health for the State of Florida, Celeste Phillips.

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has started a Joanne Vorhees Nursing Scholarship for those interested in pursuing nursing. This scholarship is exclusive only to Hendry and Glades counties. We all can donate to this fund to show our love, respect, sense of community and admiration to this lady. To donate to the scholarship, you can visit the link : <http://bit.ly/JoanneVorheesScholarship>.

Special to The Clewiston News
Joanne Vorhees, ARNP, celebrated 50 years with the Department of Health.



Red Cross offers safety tips for new school year

Special to the Glades County Democrat

Summer vacation for students around the country has officially ended and the schools are now in session. So, while you're shopping for school supplies the kids will need, take a look at these safety steps from the American Red Cross for the start of the new school year.

Keeping all students safe is the primary concern for everyone, but there are special steps for parents of younger kids and those going to school for the first time:

- Make sure the child knows their phone number, address, how to get in touch with their parents at work, how to get in touch with another trusted adult and how to dial 9-1-1.

- Teach children not to talk to strangers or accept rides from someone they don't know.

"Preparedness is a top concern for ensuring the safety of our community," said Jill Palmer, executive director of the American Red Cross Southern Gulf Chapter. "Many students walk or ride the bus to school and we want to make sure they arrive safely."

School bus safety

- If children ride a bus to school, they should plan to get to their bus stop early and stand away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive.

- Board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver or attendant has instructed you to get on.

- Only board your bus, never an alternate one.

- Always stay in clear view of the bus driver and never walk behind the bus.

- Cross the street at the corner, obeying



traffic signals and staying in the crosswalk.

- Never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Getting to school

by car, bike, or on foot

- If children ride in a car to get to school, they should always wear a seat belt. Younger children should use car seats or booster seats until the lap-shoulder belt fits properly (typically for children ages 8-12 and over 4'9"), and ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.

- If a teenager is going to drive to school, parents should mandate that they use seat belts. Drivers should not use their cell phone to text or make calls, and should avoid eating or drinking while driving.

- Some students ride their bike to school. They should always wear a helmet and ride on the right in the same direction as the traffic is going.

- When children are walking to school, they should only cross the street at an intersection, and use a route along which the school has placed crossing guards. Parents should walk young children to school, along with children taking new routes or attending new schools, at least for the first week to ensure they know how to get there safely. Arrange for the kids to walk to school with a friend or classmate.

Drivers, slow down!

Drivers should be aware that children are out walking or biking to school and slow down, especially in residential areas and school zones. Motorists should know

what the yellow and red bus signals mean. Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop and motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off. Drivers in both directions must stop their vehicles and wait until the lights go off, the stop sign is back in place and the bus is moving before they can start driving again.

Prepare for emergencies, and take a first aid class

Know what the emergency plan is at your child's school in case a disaster or an unforeseen event occurs. Develop a family emergency plan so everyone will know who to contact and where to go if something happens while children are at school and parents are at work. Details are available at redcross.org/prepare. The Red Cross First Aid App provides instant access to information on handling the most common first aid emergencies whether it be before, during or after school. Download the app for free by searching for 'American Red Cross' in your app store or at redcross.org/apps. Learn and practice first aid and CPR/AED skills by taking a course (redcross.org/takeaclass) so you can help save a life.

AA meetings held regularly in Okeechobee

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are regularly scheduled in the Okeechobee area:

- Monday through Friday: noon open meetings at First United Methodist Church, 200 N.W. Second St.;

- Monday, 6:30 a.m., closed meeting at Okeechobee Christian Church 3055 S.E. 18th Terrace (Wolff Road);

- Monday at 6:30 p.m. open meeting

at, Presbyterian Church, 312 N. Parrott;

- Tuesday at 8 p.m. closed discussion meeting at Church of Our Saviour, 200 N.W. Third St.

- Wednesday at 8 p.m. closed men's meeting at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 901 S.W. Sixth St.; and,

- Wednesday, at 7 p.m., a speakers meeting at Detox of South Florida, 608 N.E. Second Ave.

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Dr. John Hankins
Independent-Fundamental

King James Bible ~ Old fashioned Preaching
Traditional Hymns

Service Times

Sunday School 10am
Sunday Worship 11am Sunday Night 6pm
Thursday Night Prayer & Bible Study 7pm

For more information, please call 863-214-6121

www.victorybaptistclewiston.com

705 S. Olympia Street
Clewiston, FL 33440

Located in the center of Clewiston

Football around the lake this week



Glades County Democrat/Richard Marion

Moore Haven senior John Cox played a crucial role in both the Terriers' undefeated season and their playoff victory against Glades Day. Now, the Terriers will attempt to repeat that success without him.

By Richard Marion
Glades County Democrat

- The Moore Haven Terriers were scheduled to face Jupiter Christian on Aug. 24, but Jupiter forfeited the game, giving the Terriers their first win of the season. The Terriers are coming off a historic undefeated regular season in 2017. However, they take the field in 2018 without one of their leaders on the team who was crucial during their undefeated run last year, senior quarterback John Cox. He signed on to play football at Colgate University after graduating. Second-year head coach Max Manin says he's aware that people are skeptical of the Terriers pulling off another undefeated season, and he's using that as motivation for his team.

- The Okeechobee Brahmans open their regular season on the road in Fort Pierce against the John Carroll Catholic High School Golden Rams on Aug. 24. Just as the Brahmans do, the Golden Rams have a new head coach this year, Mickey Groody, who was an assistant at Vero Beach in 2017. John Carroll is coming off a 2-7 record in 2017. Both teams won their preseason game the previous week, Okeechobee 21-20 against Jupiter and John Carroll 54-6 against Halifax Academy.

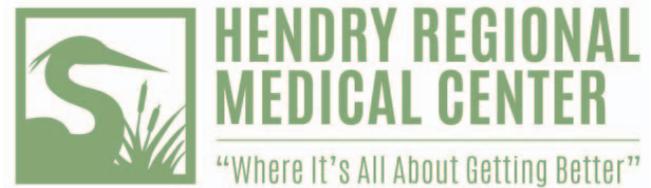
- The Clewiston Tigers will open their season at home against the Fort Myers Green Wave on Aug. 24. Second-year Tigers head coach Brad Garret and his team finished with a 5-5 record in 2017. Constant weather delays forced Clewiston to reschedule games all season last year, and it seemed as though the Tigers couldn't get their momentum going because of that. Clewiston will be fielding a young team this year after losing 25 seniors in 2017. They'll be leaning

on their veteran running back senior Trayquan Williams, who ran for 110 yards and one touchdown on 16 carries in their pre-season match against Avon Park.

- The Pahokee Blue Devils will be on the road for their regular season opener in West Palm Beach against Palm Beach Lakes High School on Aug. 24. Pahokee is coming off a 10-3-1 record in 2017 and made the deepest run in the playoffs of all the teams around Lake Okeechobee, losing in the state semifinals to eventual state champions Madison County. The Blue Devils beat Palm Beach Lakes last year 6-2. Pahokee looks to be in good shape for another playoff run as they'll have veteran running backs Jatarie Washington and Lavonski Willams back, both in their senior year.

- The Glades Central Raiders open their season in Fort Lauderdale against University High School. The Raiders are coming off a 7-4 season in 2017 and an appearance in the regional semifinals. Glades Central will be playing for a little revenge on Aug. 24 as University was the team to knock the Raiders out of the playoffs last year.

- The Glades Day Gators will be in Palm Beach Gardens on Aug. 24 facing the Benjamin Buccaneers to open their regular season. Glades Day finished 5-5 in 2017, but managed to sneak into the playoffs where they lost to rival Moore Haven in a thrilling regional semi-final that came down to the final seconds. The Terriers and Gators face each other again on Sept. 28 at Glades Day High School, in what should be an exciting rematch.



Stephen Purvis, D.O. Orthopedic Practice

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

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

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



PINK WARRIORS WALK 2018

5K WALK TO RAISE FUNDS
FOR **PINK** WOMEN'S
BREAST HEALTH

SATURDAY
20 OCT 2018
SUGAR FESTIVAL FIELD
7:00AM - REGISTRATION
9:00AM - WALK

**REGISTER
TODAY:**

WWW.BIDPAL.NET/PWW2018

Loss of aquatic vegetation means 'the lake is hurting'

By Katrina Elsen
INI Florida

High water levels are hurting Lake Okeechobee's ecological balance.

Water Resources Director Terrie Bates explained the issue at the July 12 meeting of the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

She said it is due to the lasting effects of Hurricane Irma, which churned the waters of the Big O and dumped enough rain to push the lake level up to 17.2 feet as the watershed to the north drained into the lake.

Because of that churning by Hurricane Irma's winds, turbidity levels and dissolved nutrient levels in the water remained high. In the dry season, the lake slowly dropped to 12.8 feet, but then it was quickly pushed back up by the heavy rainfall in May. The wet-season rains came too soon.

Phosphorus levels, although they have come down, are still significantly higher than they normally are at this time of the year, she said.

The lake has really been hampered three years in a row by very high stages, Ms. Bates explained.

The loss of aquatic habitat, both from the storm surge that ripped

vegetation out of the lake and from the high water levels, means there are fewer plants in the water column to uptake the phosphorus. The aquatic vegetation also provides critical habitat for fish and wildlife.

"The lake is certainly hurting," she said.

In 2009, the lake had about 46,000 acres of submerged vegetation. In 2015, Lake O had 33,345 acres of submerged vegetation, she said. After Hurricane Irma, it had 11,609 acres.

Because the dry season did not drop the lake low enough for a long enough time period, the vegetation around the lake's edges did not have a chance to recover, Ms. Bates said.

South of the lake, the Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) also took a blow from Hurricane Irma. The STAs processed a record 1.6 million acre-feet of water last year, she said.

In the Everglades, the tree islands are also suffering from high water levels for the third year in a row.

The damage to the marshes from the high lake levels means the lake's water is higher in phosphorus and nitrogen due to the loss of vegetation that would clean the water, Paul Gray, of Florida Audubon, explained at the July 31 meeting of the Okeechobee Rotary Club.

The loss of the plant communities means loss of habitat for fish and wildlife, he said.

Dr. Gray explained that the flood control

system was designed in the 1940s. Even then, officials knew it had to be a balancing act between flood control and water storage, he said. If you overuse the flood control system, you will have water shortages, he said.

The system needs to be fixed to prevent the extreme high lake levels, which result in harmful releases to the estuaries east and west, and the extreme lows, which mean water shortages for farmers and urban areas. The way to fix this is with water storage north, south, east and west of Lake Okeechobee, he said.

In the 1970s, the phosphorus level in Lake Okeechobee was about 40 parts per billion, he said. Water entering the lake is many times that level in phosphorus. The goal is to get it back to 40 ppb.

Dr. Gray said it would be possible to clean up the lake if authorities could control the flow into it. During drought years, he said,

when there is not so much water going into the lake, the phosphorus level in the lake water drops.

"When you have drought years and you don't

have the flow of nutrients into the lake, the lake got better," he said.

While some researchers thought the mud at the bottom of the lake would keep the nutrient level high, this did not turn out to be the case, he said. "This tells us we can clean up the lake if we clean up the watershed."

Storing water north of the lake can make it possible to clean the water before it goes into the lake, Dr. Gray continued.

Lake Okeechobee anglers have expressed concern that the state's aquatic plant management program could be harming aquatic vegetation that would be beneficial to the lake.

They are also concerned about the chemical spraying of vegetation on the Kissimmee River, which flows into Lake Okeechobee.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's contractors spray chemical herbicides, which, according to the FWC, target only the invasive species.

According to the Florida wildlife system Invasive Plant Management website, in 2016-17, Florida spent \$23,624,861 to control invasive plants on 80,417 acres. On Lake Okeechobee alone, in fiscal year 2016-17, \$2,454,320 was spent to spray 17,424 acres, including 13,731 acres of floating vegetation, 26.3 acres of hydrilla and 3,676.6 of other vegetation.

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will conduct a public hearing on a proposed text amendment to the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan and conduct a preliminary review of the related SR 82 Mixed-Use District Detailed Specific Area Plan (DSAP). The hearing will take place on **September 12, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, Florida. The LPA will determine if the amendment is consistent with the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan.

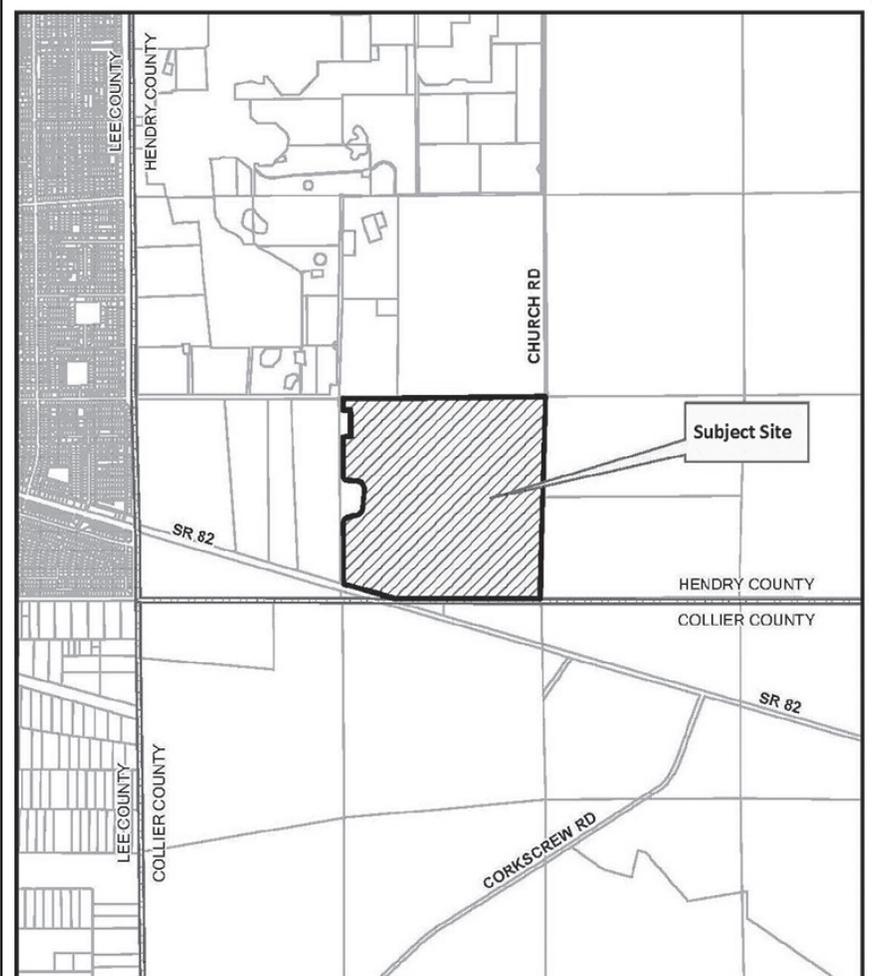
The recommendations of the LPA will be made to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The BCC will consider whether or not it wishes to transmit the amendment to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. This hearing will be held on **September 25, 2018, at 5:05 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse,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

Petition Number: CPA18-0005

Applicant: Stephane Gardinier o/b/o Gardinier Florida Citrus Inc. & HCGM, LLC, represented by Pavese Law Firm c/o Katherine English, Esq. and Waldrop Engineering c/o Alexis V. Crespo, AICP

Request: The applicant is requesting to amend the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan relating to the Future Land Use Element, specifically Objective 2.1, SR 82 Mixed-Use District, Objective 2.7, Development Districts for the Southwest Hendry County Sector Plan, Objective 2.9, DSAP Requirements for SR 82 Mixed-Use District, Objective 2.10, Residential/Non-Residential Development Ratio, and Objective 2.13, Water and Wastewater, and certain supportive Policies related to the aforementioned Objectives.

The DSAP RZ18-0005 will also be preliminarily reviewed with CPA18-0005, and includes the property shown below.



This transmittal hearing is the first step in a two step public hearing process to amend the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan. A second hearing will follow the Department of Economic Opportunity's review of the application.

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

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

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

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

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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

SWFRPC awarded grant to promote agricultural products

Special to the Glades County Democrat

On Aug. 10, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) announced that it has been awarded an Economic Adjustment Assistance grant in the amount of \$206,545 from the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. Sens. Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson called Margaret Wuerstle, executive director of the council, to congratulate council staff.

The purpose of the grant is to increase resilience and sustainability for small and medium-sized farms in Southwest Florida. The goal of the project is to develop new markets and increase revenues for the local farms in Southwest Florida that suffered catastrophic losses as a result of Hurricane Irma, assisting with their economic recovery and increasing their ability to weather future disasters.

The proposal is the result of a recent study financed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) that evaluated methods to assist small farms in economically depressed areas of Southwest Florida. The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) was a project partner in the original study, and will be a partner in the project funded by the new grant. The project will educate residents of Southwest Florida regarding the benefits of consuming fresh, locally grown food, thereby increasing demand for local products among consumers, local supermarkets, chefs, restaurant managers and other people within the food distribution system.

The agricultural sector of Southwest Florida (SWFL) was devastated by Hurricane Irma. As noted in the application, a local agriculture expert from the UF/IFAS estimated that SWFL may have suffered over \$2 billion of financial losses in agriculture from Hurricane Irma. Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam estimated \$2.5 billion in agricultural damages for the state and added that we are likely to see even greater economic losses as we account for loss of future production and the cost to rebuild infrastructure.

Agriculture is one of the dominant industry sectors in SWFL, particularly in the rural

areas such as Glades and Hendry counties, Immokalee and eastern Lee County. The data below from the most recent U.S. Census of Agriculture further illustrates the sector's significance in the region as well as the region's value to the state.

After the hurricane, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council began a \$30,000 agriculture sustainability study funded by the Florida DEO. The study aimed to gather small to mid-sized farmers in the SWFL Promise Zone area of Glades County, Hendry County and the Immokalee community in Collier County along with other regional agricultural stakeholders, such as UF/IFAS and the Farm Bureau, to determine what can be done to help these farms become more resilient to future disasters. The study's SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis identified several strategies to achieve sustainability including gaining access to new markets, the creation of a food safety plan template, the creation of a regional brand and the need for a marketing strategy.

The project being proposed to EDA involves taking the next steps to implement the strategies developed by the DEO study and includes the entire six-county region. These strategies were specifically developed by industry stakeholders as ways to help farmers gain much-needed resiliency post-Irma. Before the hurricane, agriculture was identified as an industry severely lacking in resiliency due to due to the seasonal nature of crops, high cost of production and long-term rate of return on investment.

Those limitations made the impact of the hurricane greater than on other industries and made recovery even more difficult. The strategies outlined in this project will remove several barriers that keep small to mid-sized farmers from expanding into new markets and increasing their sales. The systems and partnerships created through this project will reduce these farms' recovery time during the next economic shock. This increased productivity will give growers a higher margin for error when dealing with future disaster events.

Agriculture in Southwest Florida

County / Area	Number of Farms	Land in Farms (Acres)	Percentage of Land in Farms	Market Value of Land and Buildings (\$1,000)	Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold (\$1,000)
Charlotte	284	217,222	49.9%	\$1,100,658	\$103,401
Collier	319	123,608	9.7%	\$554,016	\$202,751
Glades	331	442,750	85.8%	\$1,352,943	\$106,518
Hendry	406	495,734	67.2%	\$2,010,994	\$499,926
Lee	844	87,125	17.4%	\$826,412	\$105,903
Sarasota	283	80,143	22.5%	\$170,809	\$25,033
SWFL	2,467	1,446,582	37.8%	\$6,015,832	\$1,043,532
Florida	47,740	9,548,342	27.8%	\$49,661,974	\$7,701,532

Source: U.S. Dept of Agriculture: 2012 Census of Agriculture

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will hold a public hearing on the following petition on **September 12, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, Florida. The LPA will determine if the petition is consistent with the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan.

The recommendations of the LPA will be made to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for final consideration at a public hearing. This hearing will be held on **September 25, 2018, at 5:05 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida.

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

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

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

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

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

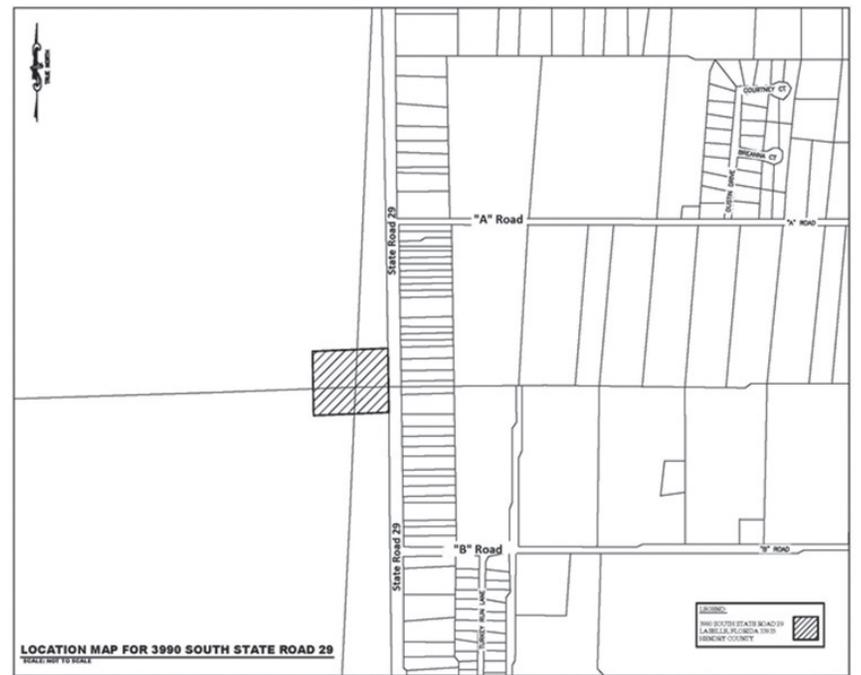
Si necesita la asistencia de un intérprete que hable español para participar en esta reunión, por favor póngase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240.

- Petition Number:** SE18-0001
- Applicant:** Florida Power and Light, represented by Darryl Kroeze, P.E., USA Engineering Inc.
- Resolution Title:** A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, GRANTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION 320-FT SELF-SUPPORT COMMUNICATION TOWER IN A GENERAL AGRICULTURE (A-2) ZONING DISTRICT.
- Project size:** +/- 6.65 acres
- Location:** 3990 S SR 29 & S SR 29, LaBelle, FL 33935 (Parcel I.D.s # 1-29-43-29-A00-0002.0000; 1-29-43-32-A00-0002.0000; 1-29-43-33-A00-0002.0000; 1-29-43-28-A00-0001.0000)
- Request:** The applicant is requesting a Special Exception for a construction of 320-foot self-support tower.
- Legal description of subject property:**

PARENT TRACT

A TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTIONS 28, 29, 32 AND 33, TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, WHICH TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

FROM THE WOODEN POST SAID TO MARK THE CORNER COMMON TO SAID SECTIONS 28, 29, 32 AND 33, RUN WESTERLY ALONG THE LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 29 AND 32 AS MARKED BY SAID POST FOR 299.35 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF LANDS HEREIN DESCRIBED. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN SOUTH, PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SR NO. 29, FOR 190.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF AN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT AS DESCRIBED IN O.R. BOOK 4, PAGE 14 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HENDRY COUNTY; THENCE DEFLECT 91°16'40" LEFT AND RUN EASTERLY, PARALLEL WITH SAID LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 29 AND 32 AND ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT, TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 32 AND 33; THENCE CONTINUE EASTERLY PARALLEL WITH A PROLONGATION OF THE SAID LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 29 AND 32, DEPARTING FROM THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LINE FOR A TOTAL DISTANCE OF 565 FEET FROM THE AFORE SAID CONCRETE MONUMENT, TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SR NO. 29; THENCE DEFLECT 88°43'20" TO THE LEFT AND RUN NORTHERLY ALONG SAID WESTERLY LINE (PASSING THROUGH A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE AT 161.10 FEET) FOR 505 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AT A POINT 117.9 FEET SOUTHERLY FROM U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MONUMENT 41RC 1952 TT; THENCE DEFLECT 91°16'40" LEFT AND RUN WESTERLY FOR 565.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN SOUTHERLY PARALLEL WITH SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR 315 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.



Online Classifieds

FloridaClassifieds.newszap.com Free Speech & Free Ads

Create Your Own Ads Online! Four weeks FREE... It's Easy!

Submit Your Free Online Classified Ad Today at FloridaClassifieds.newszap.com - Click on Classifieds

To place a classifieds ad in any of the following newspapers over the phone, call 877-353-2424

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun



· Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos

· Absolutely FREE!

· Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each

email:

classads@newszap.com

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

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

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

Employment - Full Time

Central County Water is looking to hire a High Duties include, Operation and maintenance and traffic repair and clean highway. Moves and loads supplies. Maintains, repairs, a route markers, and performs emergency such as: clean-up, trusses, placement of scridades; Performs equipment minor repairs, prevent fueling, and pre-trip in. Performs miscellaneous. Performs job documents. Performs related job. Cleans debris from ways. Must possess a valid and clean background.

Applications may be County Water Drainage Palm Street, (C Ranch Estates) 33440.

Employment

Employment - Full Time

A & M Labor Management, Inc. is hiring 50 farmworkers to plant and cut sugarcane crops in Glades, Hendry, Palm Beach, and Martin Counties, FL for a temporary period starting on 09/17/2018 and ending on 01/01/2019. The wages offered are the highest of \$11.29/hr. or applicable piece rates. Three (3) months verifiable work experience harvesting sugarcane is required. This job requires prolonged standing, bending, stooping, and reaching. Job is outdoors and continues in all types of weather. Workers may be requested to submit to random drug or alcohol tests at no cost to the worker. Workers must be able to lift and carry 70lbs. repetitively throughout the workday. Employer guarantees work will be available for at least three-quarters of the period stated. Required tools supplies, and equipment will be provided at no cost to worker. Housing will be available for workers who cannot reasonably return home after each working day. Transportation and meal expenses will be provided, or reimbursed after 50% of the work contract is completed, if appropriate. Applicants should apply for the position at their local State Workforce Agency office. Job Order Number: FL10739772.

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

Employment - Full Time

Cox Air Conditioning is looking for experienced A/C Service Tech and Installers. Must have at least 2 years' experience. Self-motivated, basic tools for the job. Clean driving record. Pay based on experience. Quarterly Bonuses. Take home vehicle. Stop in to apply at 99 N Industrial Loop, LaBelle, FL 33935.

Financial

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

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

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

Real Estate

Land - Sale

MOORE HAVEN Frontage - on Rt. US #27, **DEVELOPMENT SITE 2 ACRES ENTIRE CITY BLOCK**. Zoned commercial. Adjacent to court house, high school, etc. APARTMENT SITE (8 units) Near river. Walk to school. Townhouses or Rental Apartments. Call owner for details 863-673-5071

Recreation

Campers / RVs

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

READING A NEWSPAPER HELPS YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY.



No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!

Help Wanted: REPORTER

The Okeechobee News seeks a full or part-time reporter to cover crime, courts, and government, as well as some investigative reporting in Okeechobee County and surrounding areas.

Please email resumé and writing samples to kelsken@newszap.com



"Give me a Call"

Publishes Sunday and Wednesday

Great Branding & Image Building Opportunity

These business card sized ads are an affordable way to advertise!

Contact a Sales Representative today:

863.763.3134

okeeadsales@newszap.com

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

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

Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

Administration of Estates

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2018-CP-000008

IN RE: ESTATE OF IRVING L. BAKER
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Irving L. Baker, deceased, whose date of death was December 2nd, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Glades County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Avenue J #102, Moore Haven, Florida 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 August 16th, 2018.

Personal Representative:
Thomas E. Baker
18841 E. Water Drive
Unit D
Aurora, CO 80013

ROBERTO P. CELAYA SHEEHAN & CELAYA, P.A.
Attorneys for Personal Representative
300 DAL HALL BLVD.
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852
By: ROBERTO P. CELAYA
Florida Bar No. 20769
Email Addresses:
roberto@scjurs.com
278184 GCD 8/16,23/2018

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
TIMS TOWING & RECOVERY gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/07/2018, 10:00 am at 74 S INDUSTRIAL LOOP LABELLE, FL 33935, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. TIMS TOWING & RECOVERY reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

1G1JC12457288720
1996 CHEVROLET
1N4AL11D13C14570
2003 NISSAN
3FCMF53G7RJB12294
1994 FORD
282131 CN 8/23/2018

Administration of Estates

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2018-CP-000008

IN RE: ESTATE OF IRVING L. BAKER
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Irving L. Baker, deceased, whose date of death was December 2nd, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Glades County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Avenue J #102, Moore Haven, Florida 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 August 16th, 2018.

Personal Representative:
Thomas E. Baker
18841 E. Water Drive
Unit D
Aurora, CO 80013

ROBERTO P. CELAYA SHEEHAN & CELAYA, P.A.
Attorneys for Personal Representative
300 DAL HALL BLVD.
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852
By: ROBERTO P. CELAYA
Florida Bar No. 20769
Email Addresses:
roberto@scjurs.com
278184 GCD 8/16,23/2018

Public Notice

HENDRY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Clewiston, Florida

Notice to Public

The Hendry County Hospital Authority/ Board of Trustees will conduct their monthly Board meeting on Tuesday, September 4th, 2018 at 3:00 PM in the conference room at Hendry Regional convenient care Center, 450 S. Main Street, LaBelle, Florida 33935. 282163 CN 8/23/2018

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

Public Notice

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE WILL ACCEPT BIDS FOR THE LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY, APPROXIMATELY 15+ ACRES LOCATED JUST SOUTH OF OKEECHOBEE CENTER, BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 44 SOUTH, RANGE 37, PALM BEACH COUNTY.

ALL DETAILS AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATION OFFICE IN OSCEOLA CENTER, 1204 N W AVENUE L TERRACE, BELLE GLADE, FL.

ALL BIDS SHOULD BE SEALED AND CLEARLY MARKED AND MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE AUTHORITY'S OFFICE NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS AND TO WAIVE ANY IRREGULARITIES THEREIN.

282034 SUN 8/23/2018

Public Notice

Public Notice

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on September 11, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., at the Clewiston City Hall, Commission Chambers, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida, to consider an ordinance relating to alcoholic beverages entitled as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE HENDRY COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 1-15, PARKS, RECREATION AND SEMIPUBLIC PARKING LOTS, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 1-15-3, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PROHIBITED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, INCLUSION IN CODE, AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The meeting is open to the public. All interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry County Commission with respect to any matter discussed at such 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.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection on weekdays between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Office of the County Attorney, 110 Broward Avenue, LaBelle, Florida.

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 hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240. 282140 CN/CB 8/23/2018

NOTICE BBC meeting #2018-03

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Building Commissioners of the City of Clewiston, Florida, will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 5:30pm**, in the city hall commission chambers, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the disposition of the following properties located in the City of Clewiston:
113 N Francisco Street Clewiston, FL 33440 Block 156 Lot 1, GPOC 824 E Concordia Street Clewiston, FL 33440 Block 152 Lot 33, GPOC

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 18-175, Clewiston Code of Ordinances.

The City of Clewiston is an equal opportunity provider and employer. City Hall is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Accommodation requests or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact the City Clerk's office at (863) 983-1484, extension 227, or FAX (863) 983-4055 for information or assistance.

All persons interested may appear and be heard. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, the person will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, the person may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify the above Notice of Meeting of the Building Board of Commissioners of the City of Clewiston is a true and correct copy of said Notice and that I posted a true and correct copy of said Notice at the front and rear entrances of City Hall, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times.

CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA
Travis Rees, Building Official
281968 CN 8/23/2018

Public Notice

Public Notice

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE DISASTER EMERGENCY FUND

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on September 11, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., at the Clewiston City Hall, Commission Chambers, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida, to consider an ordinance relating to the disaster emergency fund entitled as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE HENDRY COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 1-2, ARTICLE IV, DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 1-2-61, DISASTER EMERGENCY FUND; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, INCLUSION IN CODE, AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The meeting is open to the public. All interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry County Commission with respect to any matter discussed at such 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.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection on weekdays between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Office of the County Attorney, 110 Broward Avenue, LaBelle, Florida.

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 hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240. 281981 CN/CB 8/23/2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, CIVIL DIVISION

Case No.: 2018 CA 000203
ST WEALTH PARTNERS, LP, Plaintiff,
vs.
RUBY C. SULLIVAN; ESTATE OF RUBY C. SULLIVAN; and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF RUBY C. SULLIVAN, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION: CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE -- PROPERTY

To: Ruby C. Sullivan, 5400 Mountain Gate Circle, Lakeside, AZ 85929. Estate of Ruby C. Sullivan, 5400 Mountain Gate Circle, Lakeside, AZ 85929. Unknown Heirs of Ruby C. Sullivan, 5400 Mountain Gate Circle, Lakeside, AZ 85929.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to Quiet Title to the following property in Hendry County:
Lots 33 and 34, Block 4486, Unit 63, Cape Coral Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 21, Pages 48 through 81, inclusive, of the Public Records of Lee County, Florida.
Has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Owen Sokolof, Esq., Sokolof Remtula Stengel, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 224 Datura Street, Suite 515, West Palm Beach, FL 33401, on or before Thirty (30) days from Date of First Publication of this Notice 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 and the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. DATED on July 2nd, 2018.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: J. Bevis
DEPUTY CLERK

Sokolof Remtula Stengel LLC
224 Datura Street, Suite 515
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
OSokolof@fordallitaw.com
SStengel@fordallitaw.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Telephone: 561-507-5252
272668 CN 8/16,23,30/6/2018

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE DISCRETIONARY ONE-CENT SMALL COUNTY SURTAX

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on September 11, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., at the Clewiston City Hall, Commission Chambers, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida, to consider an ordinance relating to the discretionary One-Cent Small County Surtax entitled as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE HENDRY COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 1-2, ARTICLE V, DISCRETIONARY ONE-CENT SMALL COUNTY SURTAX, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 1-2-74, USE OF PROCEEDS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, INCLUSION IN CODE, AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The meeting is open to the public. All interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry County Commission with respect to any matter discussed at such 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.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for inspection on weekdays between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Office of the County Attorney, 110 Broward Avenue, LaBelle, Florida.

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 hable español para participar un esta reunion, por favor pongase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240.

Run Date: 8/23/2018
281988 CN/CB 8/23/2018

Public Notice

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

Case No. 16000169CAAXM
WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR OPTION ONE MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-5, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, Plaintiff,
vs.
THERESA L. JOHNSON, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 10, 2016, and entered in 16000169CAAXM of the Circuit Court of the TWENTIETH Judicial Circuit in and for Hendry County, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR OPTION ONE MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-5, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5 is the Plaintiff and THERESA L. JOHNSON, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF THERESA L. JOHNSON; SAND CANYON CORPORATION F/K/A OPTION ONE MORTGAGE CORPORATION are the Defendant(s). Barbara Butler as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at 25 E Hickpochee 2nd Floor, Labelle, FL 33935, at 11:00 AM, on September 19, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOTS 7 AND 8, BLOCK D, LABELLE TERRACE, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 34, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Property Address: 272 E. LINCOLN AVENUE, LABELLE, FL 33935
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the sale must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
Dated this 14th day of August, 2018.

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

IMPORTANT

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are an individual with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding or other court service, program, or activity, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Requests for accommodations may be presented on this form, in another written format, or orally. Please complete the attached form (see website) and return it to doiver@ca.cjis20.org as far in advance as possible, but preferably at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance or other court activity. Upon request by a qualified individual with a disability, this document will be made available in an alternate format. If you need assistance in completing this form due to your disability, or to request this document in an alternate format, please contact Dawn Oliver, Court Operations Manager, phone (863) 675-5229, e-mail doiver@ca.cjis20.org
281545 CN 8/23,30/2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

Case No.: 22-2018-CA-000067
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff,
vs.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST, REBEN JACOB A/K/A RUBEN JACOB, DECEASED, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
GLORIA JACOBO
To: Last Known Address: 784 Avenue E., Moore Haven, FL 33471
Current Address: Unknown

ISLAND MOBILE NETWORK, INC., A DISSOLVED NEW YORK CORPORATION, BY AND THROUGH ALAN JACOBS, TRUSTEE
Last Known Address: 535 Broadhallow Road, Suite B29, Newville, NY 11747
Current Address: Unknown

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST, REBEN JACOB A/K/A RUBEN JACOB, DECEASED
Last Known Address: Unknown
Current Address: Unknown

ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS.
Last Known Address: Unknown
Current Address: Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Glades County, Florida:

LOT 7, BLOCK 72, CITY OF MOORE HAVEN, AS PER PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 72, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF DESOTO COUNTY NOW GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED HEREON AS A PERMANENT FUTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A SINGLEWIDE 1984 MOBILE HOME, BEARING TITLE NUMBER: 40334663 AND VIN NUMBER FLFLAD397004798, A/K/A 784 AVENUE E, MOORE HAVEN, FL 33471

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, of an Albertelli Law, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 23028, Tampa, FL 33623, and file the original with this Court either before September 17, 2018 service on Plaintiff's attorney, or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

This notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the **Glades County Democrat Newspaper**.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this court on this 7th day of August, 2018.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: Tami Simmons
Deputy Clerk

****See the Americans with Disabilities Act**
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Administrative Services Manager, whose office is located at Charlotte County Justice Center, 350 E. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda, FL 33950 and whose telephone number is (941)637-2281, within two (2) working days of receipt of this notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771. To file response please contact Glades County Clerk of Court, P.O. Box 10, Moorehaven, FL 33471. 280500 GCD 8/16,23/2018

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you.

No wonder newspaper readers enjoy life more!

Famous concert boat moors at Pahokee Marina

By Chris Felker
Glades County Democrat

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

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

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

The Point Counterpoint II (PCII for short) soon will be open to the public and hosting concerts or live theater on performance nights, when it will move into open waters and anchor just offshore from the newly renovated Pahokee lakefront park facilities and the Herbert Hoover Dike. The grassy dike and linear park will serve as the amphitheater, letting spectators enjoy live music from orchestras and other performers on the ship's band-shell-like stage.

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

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

His intent in bringing the boat to the small



Special to the Okeechobee News/Courtesy of AWSO
A performance aboard the Point Counterpoint II entertains a crowd in Dordrecht, Netherlands, in 1989. In Pahokee, the floating concert hall (shown with its top open) is undergoing renovations and soon will be the setting for sunset concerts on Lake Okeechobee.

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

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

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

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

"The boat belongs to Mr. Boudreau and the American Wind Symphony Orchestra, so whatever they decide to do with it is what they

will do. I think everything is up in the air at this point, exactly how all of that's going to work," Ms. Bohlen explained.

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

The vessel was transported here from dry dock in Illinois over the past several weeks. Mr. Lambert, who owns Cruise America Associates and is part owner of Okeechobee's Landing Strip Cafe, said, "It was towed down the Mississippi River all the way to New Orleans, and then a different tow company — and actually I did a little bit of the tow across the Okeechobee Waterway with them — towed it all the way." He said it is the largest boat ever brought through the waterway, "and this is certainly the largest vessel by far to ever go into the Pahokee Marina."

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

The ship's future, though, is going to be shaped by whatever arrangements emerge among Mr. Boudreau and the AWSO, the

City of Pahokee, the Pahokee Chamber of Commerce and, Mr. Lambert said, Everglades Reserves Holdings (ERH) along with many other local residents, laborers, philanthropists, school authorities and schoolchildren, too.

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

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

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



Special to the Okeechobee News/Courtesy of AWSO
The Point Counterpoint II (foreground) visits Tampa Bay in 1976, its debut year, during a tour of 76 U.S. cities in honor of the Bicentennial.

Pam's Plumbing, Inc.

Serving Glades, Hendry & Western Palm Beach Counties

New Construction • Remodel • Backflow Certified
State Certified Master Plumber

Commercial
&
Residential

Emergency Service

*Restrictions May Apply
Specialize In Residential Service & Repair
We Pump & Clean Septic Tanks!



Our Plumbers Are Uniformed And Drive Logo'd Service Vehicles For Your Security

Complete Plumbing Specialist
License CFC1428366 & Insured

863-983-7881

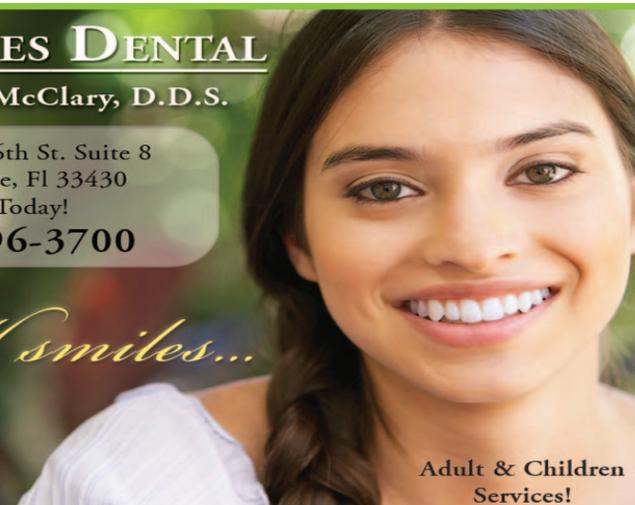
EVERGLADES DENTAL

Dr. Robert H. McClary, D.D.S.

417 N.W. 16th St. Suite 8
Belle Glade, FL 33430
Call Today!
561-996-3700

We're all smiles...

Por favor llame
para una cita.
Se habla español.



Adult & Children
Services!