



THE Herald-Advocate

HARDEE COUNTY'S HOMETOWN COVERAGE

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Hardee Spared Deep Freeze

By TOM STAIK
Of The Herald-Advocate

Hardee County was spared the full-extent of the winter weather that blasted a large portion of the Sunshine State last week.

The region, however, saw back-to-back nights of freezing temperatures.

According to the National Weather Service, Wauchula

registered a low temperature of 32 degrees last Thursday morning.

The mercury dipped below freezing – to 31 degrees – the following morning, on Friday,

the Weather Service said.

The freezing temperatures did not go low enough for long enough to deliver severe damage to local crops.

Hardee County's agricultural

community took a proactive approach to dealing with the expected freeze.

Rows of young blueberry plants, many containing fruit, were covered in ice Thursday

morning along State Road 64 near the Charlie Creek community.

The field, planted last year, became a winter landscape of shimmering ice after overhead

misters doused the plants with constant moisture as the temperatures fell.

This method of freezing agricultural produce is common and is used to protect plants from colder temperatures, as the ice that forms acts as an insulation keeping plants – and fruit – at a steady 32 degrees even if the thermometer dips
See FREEZE A3

National Weather Service: Wauchula, 31°



PHOTO BY TOM STAIK

A blueberry field on the south side of SR 64 near the Charlie Creek community became a breathtaking sea of ice as temperatures dipped to freezing last Thursday morning. The ice formed after the field's

owner ran overhead misters in an effort to protect the plants and fruit from the below-freezing temperatures. The ice acts as insulation that keeps plants at a steady 32 degrees during short freezes.

County's Freezing Weather Response Questioned

By TOM STAIK
Of The Herald-Advocate

The Hardee County Emergency Operation Center's action plan for cold-weather events has prompted a local outreach group to question the county's response to last week's barrage of freezing weather.

The Hardee Help Center, in a series of emails to Emergency Management Director Jill Newman, questioned the county's readiness plan for cold weather after the EOC announced to The Herald-Advocate via email that the community outreach program would be providing assistance to the public as temperatures dipped below freezing.

In the emails, the Help Center outlined its limited assistance available to the public.

That help, the Help Center explained, was restricted to members of the public who meet specific requirements which limit help to families with small children, the elderly, and those who have been identified as chronically homeless.

"However, should someone not meet our criteria, what is the assistance that the public-safety agencies have in place, and should we refer them to your office?" the Help Center asked Newman.

"It may be reassuring to the general public to know that our local government is not only aware of the dangers in winter weather, but it has something in place to assist – even if it's not currently a cold-weather shelter," the email continued.

A request for information from The Herald-Advocate to Newman concerning the county's plans for the cold-weather event prompted the exchange with the Help Center.

In her response to the newspaper, Newman said the county "does not have a cold-weather shelter," and that the Help Center along with other undefined "public-safety agencies" would be planning to assist the public.

"Hardee County does not have a cold-weather shelter," Newman wrote. "Cold weather is one of our all-hazards that we plan and prepare for. Along with Hardee Help Center and other Public Safety Agencies, we plan to assist when needed. We have procedures in place for whatever disaster occurs and will handle on a case-by-case basis."

Newman issued a "Flash See RESPONSE A2

MLK Events Span 3 Days

Parade Saturday In Downtown Wauchula

By NAOMI EREKSON
Herald-Advocate Intern

The community of Hardee County will be coming together this weekend with the rest of the United States to celebrate a legacy of peace, free-

dom and equality.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be honored throughout the course of three days here as local citizens recognize the theme, "Together We Stand."

Weekend Events

On Saturday, there will be a parade held in downtown Wauchula on Main Street. It begins at 2 p.m.

The route starts on West Main Street and proceeds east and then onto Seventh Avenue. It will then continue south onto Orange Street and then head back to its starting point at the old junior high gym.

Laticia Wilkins of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Committee of Hardee County said a final number of floats is still unknown. However, the committee will have a couple floats and there will also be a motorcycle group from out of town riding in the parade.

The parade, which is expected to last about an hour, will likely include candy tossed curbside for spectating children to pick up.

On Sunday afternoon, a celebration service will be held in honor of Dr. King at Greater Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church at 5:30 p.m. Open to the public, the church is at 607 Palmetto St. in Bowling Green. Songs and skits will be the

main activities.

Then, on Monday, beginning at 9 a.m., there will be a breakfast and a breakout session held at New Mt. Zion AME Church at 1615 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. in Wauchula. This is also open to the public.

Wilkins said the menu will contain varied items, such as fruit and breakfast burritos. Pre-registration is not required, as "everyone just shows up," she added.

After breakfast, there will be a breakout session divided into age groups. These groups are for pre-kindergarten through third grade, fourth to sixth grades, seventh and eighth grades, high school, and adults.

This session will basically provide some pertinent history, depending on what each group teacher wishes to discuss. Some probable topics could include voting rights and other matters of equality.

Wilkins said the estimated time for the overall morning event will be roughly three hours, with the breakout session lasting from 45 minutes to an hour.

At 1 p.m. on Monday, there will be a time of fun, fellowship and food. "Fun Day at the Park" will be held at Magnolia Manor Community Park at See MLK A2

ART CONTEST



FILE PHOTO

The Herald-Advocate's annual contest for drawings for both the front and back covers of its Pioneer Park Days special section opened to entrants last week. Winning artists in both Adult and Children's divisions will receive cash prizes. Details can be found inside on A12. The deadline for entries is Feb. 5. The above photo shows last year's adult winner, Tracey Nix of Wauchula, with her artwork.

WEATHER

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
01/02	58	42	0.01
01/03	56	37	0.32
01/04	57	28	0.00
01/05	59	30	0.00
01/06	62	34	0.00
01/07	67	41	0.00
01/08	74	50	0.00
TOTAL Rainfall to 01/08/2018 - 0.35			
Same period last year - 0.84			
Ten Year Average - 49.17			
Source: Univ. of Fla. Ona Research Center			

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THE Herald-Advocate

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DEADLINES:

Hardee Living — Thursday 5 p.m.
School News & Photos — Thursday 5 p.m.
Sports — Thursday 5 p.m. (Weekend Events, Monday Noon)
General News — Monday 5 p.m.
Ads — Tuesday Noon

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Hardee County — 6 months, \$21 • 1 year, \$39 • 2 years, \$75
Florida — 6 months, \$25 • 1 year, \$46 • 2 years, \$87
Out of State — 6 months, \$29 • 1 year, \$52 • 2 years, \$100
Online — 1 month, \$5 • 6 months, \$19 • 1 year, \$37 • 2 years, \$70

LETTERS:

The Herald-Advocate welcomes letters to the editor on matters of public interest. Letters should be brief, and must be written in good taste, signed and include a daytime phone number.



Kelly's Column

By Jim

Congratulations to Alabama and head coach Nick Saban for winning another NCAA football title Monday night, 23-20 over the Georgia Bulldogs. Nick is now tied with the late Bear Bryant with six national titles. Go for seven, Nick.

The Florida Gators have a new head football coach in Dan Mullen. He will probably do good job in Gainesville.

Florida State University has a new head football coach in Willie Taggart. He also should do a good job in replacing Jimbo Fisher who took the top job at Texas A & M.

Congratulations to University of Central Florida for a 13-0 season and bowl win over Auburn. Head coach Scott Frost has now moved on to take over the football program at University of Nebraska where he quarterbacked as a collegian. The new UCF coach is Josh Heupel.

Margie Wickman, in her 80s, was knocked down by a car at Main St. and U.S. 17 Southbound Tuesday afternoon in Wauchula. She apparently suffered no serious injuries.

About two or three years ago Margie was knocked down by a car while crossing South 8th Ave. in Wauchula near her apartment, which she rents from Kayton Nedza. Margie is pretty tough.

Hardee County had some 30-degree weather and frost late last week and Saturday. Not a lot of major damage.

The citrus season harvest is underway. Prices are good, but volume is low. Florida has the smallest orange crop in decades.

The Tampa Bay Bucs finished the season at 5-11 after going 9-7 in 2016. Not easy to win NFL games.

Congratulations to the U.S. Congress and President Donald Trump on passing a new tax reform bill that will lower taxes and help further stimulate the American economy.

Thousand Trails, aka Peace River RV Resort, north of Zolfo Springs will soon have 160 sites re-opened following flooding by Hurricane Irma in September, reported resort manager Marilou Johnson.

Here's hoping for a very good 2018 year.

On This Day:

- In 1759 1st American life insurance company incorporated, Philadelphia
- In 1838 First public demonstration of telegraph message sent using dots & dashes at Speedwell Ironworks, Morristown, New Jersey by Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail
- In 1861 Alabama secedes from the Union (US Civil War)
- In 1867 Benito Juárez becomes Mexican president again.
- In 1897 M H Cannon becomes 1st woman state senator in US (Utah)
- In 1915 Col Jacob Ruppert & Col Tillinghast Huston purchase Yanks for \$460,000
- In 1922 Insulin first used on humans to treat diabetes, on Leonard Thompson, 14, of Canada
- In 1935 Amelia Earhart flies from Honolulu to Oakland Ca (non-stop)
- In 1949 Snowfall 1st recorded in Los Angeles
- In 1953 J. Edgar Hoover declines 6 figure offer to become president of International Boxing Club
- In 1964 1st government report warning by US Surgeon General Luther Terry that smoking may be hazardous

Warning" about the cold weather the morning of Jan. 3 — the first day of the freeze.

The warning contained weather information, but no information on how to obtain the aid she had previously told local media would be provided by the Help Center.

Highlands County, by comparison, had already announced it was opening a cold-weather shelter at the Agri-Civic Center in Sebring by that point. The effort was run by the Highlands County EOC.

915 Chamberlain Blvd. in Wauchula.

Like the other three events, this gathering is also free and open to the public. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be served.

Plus, there will be all kinds of games and activities for the whole family to enjoy. There will be bounce houses for kids and possible games such as volleyball and kickball, among others.

If you have questions regarding any of the upcoming events, you can call Wilkins at (863) 245-1022.

MLK History

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Ga., on Jan. 15, 1929.

From 1955 until his assassi-

RESPONSE

Continued From A1

Similarly, Polk County had announced several cold-weather shelters by that same time. Those shelters, unlike Highlands County, were manned by community outreach and faith-based groups while the Polk County EOC managed the response effort.

Hardee Help Center used its Facebook account to post information on the types of cold-weather assistance available on both Jan. 2 and Jan. 3.

Independent of both the Help Center and the EOC, volunteers with Cutting Edge

Ministries scoured the Wauchula area on the evening of the first night of freezing temperatures to find and aid the local homeless population.

According to Pastor Wendell Smith, his volunteers distributed pre-boxed meals and emergency blankets to several homeless people in the downtown area.

One homeless man, Smith said, had taken shelter behind a car wash on U.S. 17.

Another man, the pastor noted, was found taking shelter in a culvert.

MLK

Continued From A1

ination in 1968, King was a passionate leader of the Civil Rights Movement as he worked against racial segregation in the United States. His quest for peace and equality brought many nonviolent campaigns and protests to the nation, resulting in several Congressional Acts.

His most famous words, the "I have a Dream" speech, were spoken in 1963 at the "March on Washington" in Washington, D.C., a march for equal jobs and freedoms attended by a quarter of a million people.

He was the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize, at the age of 35 in 1964.

King is the only non-president to have a national holiday dedicated in his honor. He is

also the only non-president to be memorialized at the Great Mall in Washington, D.C.

Thanks to King, Congress passed two different civil rights bills for racial equality.

First, the Civil Rights Act was passed in 1964, eliminating racial segregation in the United States. This legislation made it illegal to discriminate against blacks and other minorities in hiring, public accommodations, education and transportation.

Then, the Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965, eliminating remaining barriers to voting for African-Americans.

King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn.

The identity of King's killer was James Earl Ray.

School Menu

MONDAY

Breakfast: cereal, donuts, french toast sticks, juice, fruit and milk

Lunch: hot dog (k-5), PB&J (k-12), pizza (k-12), chicken sandwich (6-12), baked beans, cucumber, garden salad (6-12), ham & cheese salad, fruit and milk

TUESDAY

Breakfast: cereal, poptart, biscuit & sausage, juice, fruit and milk

Lunch: pizza (k-12), PB&J (k-12), turkey pot roast (k-12), cheeseburger (6-12), spicy chicken sandwich (6-12), car-

rot sticks, green beans, garden salad (6-12), tuna salad, fruit and milk

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast: cereal, yogurt parfait, pizza, juice, fruit and milk

Lunch: fajita chicken salad, cheeseburger (k-12), PB&J (k-12), sloppy joe (k-12), beef/bean burrito (k-12), pizza (6-12), broccoli, mashed potatoes, garden salad (6-12), fruit and milk

THURSDAY

Breakfast: cereal, bread,

chicken biscuit, juice, fruit and milk

Lunch: chicken salad, pasta, (k-12), PB&J (k-12), pizza (k-12), chicken nuggets (6-12), spicy chicken sandwich (6-12), garden salad, corn, garden salad (6-12), fruit and milk

FRIDAY

Breakfast: cereal, yogurt, juice, fruit and milk

Lunch: chicken sandwich (k-12), PB&J (k-12), pizza (6-12), pizza (6-12), celery, french fries, yogurt, muffin platter, fruit and milk



KOVELS

Antiques & Collecting

By Terry & Kim Kovel

POCKET SUNDIAL

The sundial is a very early tool used to tell time. It is said that the earliest sundials were made in 1500 B.C., and variations were made in following centuries by the Greeks, Chinese and Romans. But the portable sundial carried on trips during the 18th century was needed only until railroads — not clocks — were popular. The sundial, if positioned and read properly, gave more accurate time than a clock. Pocket sundials were very popular in the 18th and 19th centuries in Europe and America. A surprising number are sold to collectors each year as ornaments or historic relics, or as interesting and attractive conversation



A small sundial by Michael Butterfield of Paris brought a big price at a Massachusetts auction. The unusual octagonal silver antique sold for \$3,198.

pieces. Auctions of scientific instruments sell sundials.

A recent Skinner sale in Boston had brass or silver examples, many from the 17th and 18th centuries. They were made by hand with engraved lines and letters, and an inset compass. The gnomon, the upright piece that casts the shadow, was made so it could fit into the case that held the rest of the sundial. A silver octagonal plate with lines, numerals and a hinged gnomon was kept in a felt-lined leather case. The 2-3/4-inch French late-17th century antique sold for \$3,198, including the buyer's premium.

Q: I have a small cut-glass bottle that has a glass stopper and a silver cap. The bottle is rectangular, about 4 inches long by 1/2 inch wide. I read that in Victorian times, a widow would collect her tears in a vial. Could my bottle be one of these?

A: Tear collecting is referenced in the Old Testament of the Bible, in ancient Roman and Greek writings, and in Victorian poems and novels, but whether tear collecting was fact or legend is unclear. In the mid-1800s, when Victorian mourning customs became popular, it is said vials were used to collect tears wept for the departed loved one. Later, the tears were sprinkled on the grave to sig-

nify the end of official mourning. Another version of the custom claims mourning would last until the tears evaporated.

It's difficult to imagine how a crying person could coax their tears into such a small bottle, but it makes a very romantic image. During the Victorian era, glass bottles were made with decorative caps, and were similar in shape to some scent bottles. Your bottle, cut glass with a silver filigree cap, is worth about \$30. If there is a mark on the silver maker's mark on the cap, it will be worth more.

CURRENT PRICES

Fur earmuffs, headband-style, cream color with burnt orange patches, bendable band, 1950s, 17 inches, \$20.

Doll, Sleeping Beauty, bisque head and arms, pale face, red lips, green eyes, pink-and-black dress and cape, black mohair, c. 1905, \$240.

Hat box, leather, holds stovepipe top hat, canvas interior, strap and lock, curved lid with top loop handle, c. 1830, \$775.

Tip: All types of lights — sunlight, fluorescent light and/or electric and LED lights — will harm paper.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit www.Kovels.com

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Corrections

At The Herald-Advocate, we want accuracy to be a given, not just our goal. If you believe we have printed an error in fact, please call to report it. We will review the information, and if we find it needs correction or clarification, we will do so here.

To make a report, call Managing Editor Cynthia Krahl at 773-3255.

Peace River Growers

Wholesale Nursery

Donnis & Kathy Barber
Hwy. 66 East
P.O. Box 760

(863) 735-0470
Zolfo Springs, FL

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY

- 11 — Hardee County School Board Meeting/ 230 S. Florida Ave., Wauchula/5 p.m.
 - 13 — MLK Parade/ Downtown Main Street/Wauchula/ 2 p.m.
 - 14 — MLK Celebration Service/Greater Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church/607 Palmetto St/ Bowling Green/ 5:30 p.m.
 - 15 — MLK Breakfast Breakout Session/ New Mt. Zion A.M.E Church/ 1615 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave/ Wauchula/9 a.m.
 - 15 — MLK Fun Day at the Park/ Magnolia Manor Community Park/915 Chamberlain Blvd/ Wauchula/1 p.m.
 - 15 — Open Mic Night/ Heritage Park/ 6 p.m.
 - 18 — Hardee and Peace River Soil & Water Conservation Districts Meeting/ 316 North 7th Ave Suite 101/ Wauchula/9 a.m.
 - 18 — Celebrate Life Banquet/Hosted By Choices Family Resource Center/ Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church/ 595 E. Main St, Avon Park/6 p.m.
 - 19 — Hardee County Comm. Meeting/ BOCC Office/ 6 p.m.
 - 19 — Movies In The Park/ Heritage Park/ 6 p.m.
 - 20 — Heirlooms & Originals/Heritage Park/9 a.m.
 - 20 — Peace River Pro Rodeo Classic/ Hardee County Cattleman's Arena/ 12:30 p.m.
 - 20 — Black & White Gala/hosted by Hardee County Chamber of Com/ Historic Train Depot/6 p.m.
 - 21 — Peace River Pro Rodeo Classic/ Hardee County Cattleman's Arena/ 12:30 p.m.
 - 23 — 2018 Teacher & Ed. Support Person of the Year Banquet/ Agri-Civic Center/ 6:30 p.m.
 - 25 — Hardee County School Board Meeting/5 p.m.
- ## FEBRUARY
- 1 — Hardee County Commission/ 8:30 a.m.
 - 2 — Historic Ghost Tour/ Wauchula/6 p.m.
 - 12 — Wauchula City Commission Meeting/6 p.m.
 - 13 — Bowling Green City Commission Mtg/6:30 p.m.
 - 13 — Hardee County IDA/EDC Meeting/ Commission Chambers/8:30 a.m.
 - 16 — Movies In The Park/ Heritage Park/ 6 p.m.
 - 16 — Hardee County Comm. Meeting/ BOCC Office/ 6 p.m.

Save The Date will keep residents informed of upcoming community happenings. To have your non-profit meeting or event posted for free, e-mail features@theheraldadvocate.com as far ahead as possible.

2016 Narcotics Sales Lead To Suspect's Arrest

By CYNTHIA KRAHL
Of The Herald-Advocate

A man who allegedly sold illegal drugs to a confidential informant back in 2016 found himself starting off 2018 in a jail cell.

Charles Andrew Manley, 48, of 1161 Downing Cir., Wauchula, was booked into the Hardee County Jail by the Drug Task Force on Wednesday morning of last week. He currently remains in custody in lieu of \$42,000 bond to gain his release pending trial.

Manley is charged with four counts of selling methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of a church, a first-degree felony, and two counts of possessing or delivering narcotics equipment, a third-degree felony.

His arraignment in Hardee Circuit Court before Circuit Judge Marcus Ezelle is set for Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 8:30 a.m. The Public Defender's Office

has been assigned to represent him.

Intelligence information gathered by detectives with the Hardee County Sheriff's Office ultimately led to controlled transactions arranged by the Drug Task Force on Dec. 19 of 2016 and Dec. 23 of 2016.

Both alleged buys utilized the aid of a confidential informant, Drug Task Force reports said.

The narcotics sales were pre-arranged, and were monitored by a team of detectives from the moment the informant's travels began until the alleged transaction and return travels were completed, the DTF said.

In the Dec. 19 incident, the informant was allegedly able to purchase 0.7 grams of meth from Manley for \$30, reports said.

On the second occasion, on



Manley

Dec. 23, Manley was alleged to have sold \$100 worth of meth to the confidential informant, the DTF said.

The suspected drug sales were conducted at a place of business within 700 feet of a church.

Field tests of the crystalline substance in plastic bags allegedly sold by Manley came back positive for methamphetamine. Warrants for Manley's arrest were later issued.

Schools Still Waiting For First FEMA Reimbursement

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

The check is probably not in the mail – yet.

The Hardee County School District is awaiting its first round of possible reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to mounting costs associated with damage from Hurricane Irma last September.

According to a report by Finance Director Greg Harrelson, the district has submitted \$272,345 in reimbursement requests as of Dec. 31 of last year.

No reimbursements have been received.

Another \$79,510 in purchase orders have been issued, Harrelson noted, but those 18 open purchase orders have yet to be processed.

Salary costs associated with the storm have topped \$50,000.

The district paid out \$42,971 to staff for work manning the county's two open evacuation shelters at Bowling Green Elementary and Hardee Junior

High School. An additional \$10,765 was paid to staff who worked on debris removal at the district's various properties. All told, staffing costs totaled \$53,736.

An additional \$20,274 was paid out to restock food stores at area schools – a combination of food used at shelters and the food lost when power was interrupted. The costs include gas and diesel fuel used during and immediately after the storm.

It remains likely that the shelter-related expenses will be fully reimbursed.

According to Harrelson, "shelter expense and protective measures" are covered 100 percent under federal reimbursement standards if they occurred between Sept. 4 and Oct. 3.

The debris clean-up – that included \$15,163 with private contractor Main Gate – will likely be reimbursed from federal officials at 90 percent of actual cost.

Many of the district's other storm-related costs fall under FEMA's cost-sharing program.

Under the reimbursement program, federal agencies provide 75 percent of funding, state government provides 12.5 percent of funding, and local government is responsible for the remaining 12.5 percent of costs.

The district's insurance – with a deductible of three percent of building value – is expected to play a "minor" role going forward.

"We have insurance coverage on \$166 million of buildings, before including portables and concretables," Harrelson noted. "Building values range from \$12,000 to \$11,089,155. The average building value is \$1,233,002 so three percent of that is \$36,990."

District officials have met twice with FEMA officials in face-to-face talks over pending claims, on Nov. 15 and Dec. 1. A third meeting in December was rescheduled to later this month.

The School Board will be briefed on the storm costs at 5 p.m. today (Thursday) during the its regular meeting.

Utilitech Receives \$66,250 CRA Grant

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

Utilitech will receive \$66,250 from the Community Redevelopment Agency for the renovation of the tech company's offices at West Main Street.

The Wauchula City Commission voted 4-0 to approve the request during its regular meeting Monday night at Historic City Hall. Commissioner Ken Lambert, recovering from brain surgery, was absent from the meeting.

Utilitech will receive half of the grant up front. The remaining \$33,125 will be available as a reimbursement for accrued expenses.

According to CRA Director Jessica Newman, Utilitech requested \$132,500 for the proposed renovations that include the construction of a fire wall around the stairwell, office and storage space on

the second floor, and improvements to the exterior of the building.

Brent Stephens represented Utilitech at the meeting.

"Any grant we are going to get is only going to help us grow more quickly," Stephens said.

The building, located at the corner of Seventh Avenue and West Main Street, was occupied by Utilitech last year following an extensive renovation of the first floor.

"We are continuing to grow," Stephens said. "This is a very busy section of our downtown, and we are excited to be there."

Due to a sloping roof, construction of offices will be limited to approximately half of the floor space on the second floor.

The remaining portion will be converted into storage, Stephens said.

The CRA grant program currently has \$100,000 in this year's budget.

Utilitech was the first applicant.

"They are the first request we have received," Newman said. "I did receive another phone call from someone interested, but they have not submitted an application."

At the request of Newman, a deadline of Sept. 30 was proposed in order for accounting to be completed during the current fiscal year.

A final contract between the CRA and Utilitech will be presented for signing at the February meeting of the City Commission.

Stephens said the grant will enable Utilitech to continue to develop white-collar jobs for the region at a faster pace.

"We are building jobs that nobody else is building," Stephens said.

2017 Florida Gas Prices The Highest In 3 Years

On average in 2017, motorists saw the most expensive gas prices in three years.

That upward trend carried into the new year, as the month of January had its most expensive start in four years. Florida gas prices averaged \$2.44 on Jan. 1, three cents more than the year before.

Last week, Florida gas prices were some of the most expensive in the Southeastern United States. The average of \$2.45 was 10 cents more than neighboring Georgia.

"After a quick jump at the pump last week, prices are relatively stable right now across the Southeastern U.S., and should begin to take a downward turn soon," said Mark Jenkins of AAA/The Auto Club Group.

"Gas prices normally decline during January and February, as gasoline demand hits the lowest levels of the year, he added. "The pump-price

plunge has faced resistance from oil prices, which have been trading at two-year highs. Oil analysts believe the oil market is somewhat inflated due to geopolitical tensions and supply concerns, but prices should decline soon."

Energy prices will be higher in 2018, according to the Energy Information Administration.

The EIA expects gas prices to average \$2.51 this year, 12 cents more than the annual average in 2017. The EIA also projects oil prices will average \$52.77 per barrel, nearly \$2 more than last year's average. Oil analysts at Moody's Investors Service expect crude oil prices to remain at \$40-\$60 per barrel.

Oil prices got a boost toward the end of 2017, carrying into 2018. Crude settled above \$60 during the last two sessions, the highest daily settlements since mid-2015. The late-year boost was due to multiple supply disruptions like the North Sea Forties and Libyan pipeline outages,

protests across Iran, and the cold snap across the United States increasing demand for heating oil.

Fortunately, the pipeline issues have been resolved, and the protests do not appear to be impacting oil production. This should help reduce the upward pressure on oil prices, Jenkins said.

2017's increasing oil prices, especially in the fourth quarter, led to increased investment in production and drilling. This allowed the U.S. to reach its highest crude production level since April 1971, officially confirmed by EIA last week.

For 2018, U.S. crude production is expected to hit 10 million barrels a day for the first time ever, helping the country to meet domestic demand and expand its exports to countries that have growing energy demands around the globe.

The total number of active rigs is 747, a full 222 more than the total number of active rigs at the beginning of 2017.

When recycling paper, white paper is most accepted. Paper mills that process recovered paper are set up to remove common contaminants such as staples and paper clips, so it is not necessary to remove these items. However, paper clips and binder clips can be removed and reused – furthering your recycling efforts.

FREEZE

Continued From A1

slightly lower.

Citrus groves, too, employed the method.

Groves across the area employed ground misters to protect the tree stock.

Friday morning saw large patches of white frost and ice along U.S. 17 from groves which were misting trees.

As the coldest days ended, Hardee County was spared the full extent of the freeze felt further to the north.

The winter storm forced the closure of Interstate 10 following freezing rain and snow, and accumulating snow was reported across the panhandle and north Florida.



PHOTOS BY TOM STAIK

Blueberries encased in ice show just how cold the temperatures got last week in Hardee County.



Citrus groves across the region employed misters to protect fruit stock from the freezing temperatures last week.

Couch Theater DVD Previews

By Sam Struckhoff

DVDs reviewed here are available in stores the week of Aug. 7.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

"It" (R) — A supernatural force (Bill Skarsgard) awakens every 27 years in the town of Derry, Maine, to haunt and hunt the town's children. A ragtag group of kids, some with demons of their own, band together to avenge a loved one and assert themselves in the face of this deadly terrorizer who takes the shape of its prey's deepest fears. It's based on a novel by horror master Stephen King, and director Andy Muschietti takes the solid story and backs it up with frighteningly memorable visuals. The kids are great, including the recently famous Finn Wolfhard of "Stranger Things." And the film is a phenomenon. My 9-year-old knows who Pennywise the Dancing Clown is, even though she has decidedly not seen the movie. If you like scary, this should already be on your pre-order list.



"My Little Pony: The Movie" (PG) — The world of Equestria, which is perfect and wonderful, is suddenly threatened by an outside force. This can be handled only by princess pony Twilight Sparkle, who will try to go it alone until her friends remind her that friendship is magic and friends help friends (and there is singing). Yes, the story is familiar, and you've seen some iteration of this movie before. But you haven't seen it with these songs or these stars (Emily Blunt, Kristin Chenoweth, Michael Pena, Liev Schreiber, Sia). How do you review a bag of cotton candy? It's essentially just a little pile of colored sugar all fluffed up and arranged on a stick. But it's somehow charmed, and the kids go nuts for it. Same here. Don't think too hard; just enjoy.

"The Foreigner" (R) — An IRA blast in London takes the life of a score of people, among them a bright young teen shopping for a prom dress. She also happens to be the daughter and last living relative of an unassuming Chinese immigrant restaurant owner, Quan (Jackie Chan). As the political blame

game and intrigue heat up, Quan sets out for justice, focusing on Irish government official and former IRA sympathizer Liam Hennessy (Pierce Brosnan). Quan's long-buried violent past serves him expertly in his quest for revenge. I think of Jackie Chan as the smiling, charismatic, death-defying kung-fu master, but here is a darker, stoic Chan, completely out of character and a reminder that he is an actor first.

"The Foreigner" (R) — An IRA blast in London takes the life of a score of people, among them a bright young teen shopping for a prom dress. She also happens to be the daughter and last living relative of an unassuming Chinese immigrant restaurant owner, Quan (Jackie Chan). As the political blame

Obituaries

In Loving Memory



MARIA ROZARIO MENDIOLA

Maria Rozario Mendiola, 28, of Hardee County, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018, in Polk County. Maria was born in Avon Park, on Dec. 11, 1989. She was a lifelong resident of Hardee County. She was a member of St. Michael Catholic Church and worked as a medical records clerk for Care Sync. She was preceded in death by maternal grandfather, Juan Cervantes. Maria is survived by her parents, Victor and Maria Carreno, of Wauchula;

grandparents, Isidro and Juana Carreno; grandmother, Santos Cervantes; her loving husband, Esteban Mendiola, of Wauchula; step-son, Esteban Mendiola Jr., of Wauchula; step-daughter, Alaynah Isabelle Mendiola, of Wauchula; brothers, Juan Isidro Carreno, of Wauchula, and Victor Alejandro Carreno, of Wauchula; sister, Mari Elena Carreno, of Wauchula; as well as several cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at the Robarts Garden Chapel today (Thursday), Jan. 11, from 6-8 p.m. A funeral mass will be held Friday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m., at St Michael Catholic Church. Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family FUNERAL HOME WAUCHULA



Provided as a courtesy of Robarts Family Funeral Home

In Loving Memory



JERRY KENNETH MEDLOCK

Jerry Kenneth Medlock, 83, of Hardee County, passed away on Monday, Jan. 8, 2018, in Hardee Manor. Jerry was born in Fort Payne, Ala., on May 20, 1934. He had been a resident of Hardee County for many years. Jerry was a member of First Baptist Church of Wauchula. He was a professor, working for Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, Penn. He served in the US Army Reserves for nine years.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Markelle Dumm; and a brother, Norman Medlock.

Jerry was survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Sharon Medlock, of Wauchula; daughter, Merrett Varner (Jerry), of Midlothian, Va.; son-in-law, Chris Dumm, of Joplin, Mo.; brothers Richard Medlock, of Titusville, and Jack Medlock (Leslie), of Birmingham, Ala.; and grandchildren, Catherine Dumm, Elanie Dumm, Madison Varner, Crews Varner, Macy Starr Varner, and Hudson Varner.

Graveside service will be at New Hope Cemetery today (Thursday), Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. Pastor Jerry Varner will officiate.

Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family FUNERAL HOME WAUCHULA



Provided as a courtesy of Robarts Family Funeral Home



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8:17tc

KAREN ELIZABETH ROGERS

Karen Elizabeth Rogers, 56, of Wauchula, died at Somers Hospice House in Sebring on Friday, Jan. 5, 2018.

She was born in Dade City, on May 18, 1961, and had lived in Hardee County most of her life, coming from Land O' Lakes. She was pentecostal by faith.

She was preceded in death by her father, Robert Lee Rogers.

She is survived by her mother, Barbara Rogers, of Wauchula; sons, Joshua Rogers, of Live Oak, and Steven Rogers, of Wauchula; brother, Richard Dwayne Rogers (Christine), of Land O' Lakes; sisters, Ginger Svendson (Kelly), of Sebring, and Susan Kristine Schroeder (Ted), of Hudson; and two grandchildren.

No services are scheduled at this time.

Arrangements were by Robarts Family Funeral Home.

In Loving Memory



MOISES AVALOS

Moises Avalos went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 29, 2017. He passed away at his daughter's home surrounded by his loving family.

Moises was born Aug. 15, 1924, in Mexico. He had been a resident of Hardee County since 1979. He was a Member of St. Michael Catholic Church in Wauchula. He worked as a laborer/harvester working with both citrus and vegetables.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ceveriano Avalos and Maria Rangel Avalos; as well as a son, Flaviano Avalos.

He is survived by children, Serafin Avalos (Lisa), Maria Elena Cortes (Ramon), Lorenzo Avalos, Pepe Jose Luis Avalos (Christina), and Balbina Miranda (Avelino); 25 grandchildren; 71 great-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A visitation was held in Robarts Garden Chapel on Jan. 1, 2018 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral service was held at St. Michael Catholic Church in Wauchula on Jan. 2, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family FUNERAL HOME WAUCHULA



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Protect The Vulnerable

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In Loving Memory



MANUELA ALCANTAR

Manuela Alcantar, 59, of Fort Meade, passed away on Friday, Jan. 5, 2018, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Alcantar was born in Texas, on Jan. 23, 1959. She had been a resident of Fort Meade for two years, coming from Bowling Green. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by two sons, Joel Alcantar (Erica), of Dallas, Ga., and Juan Alcantar (Julie), of Bowling Green; three daughters, Amanda Alcantar, of Fort Meade, Savannah Alcantar, of Fort Meade, and Reyna Ramirez, of Fort Meade; one sister, Patricia Duque, of Pell City, Ala.; and 11 grandchildren.

A visitation will be held at Robarts Garden Chapel on Sunday, Jan. 14, at 2 p.m. Funeral service will follow at 3 p.m. Reverend Philip Williams will officiate.

Interment will be at Wauchula Cemetery.

Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family FUNERAL HOME WAUCHULA



Provided as a courtesy of Robarts Family Funeral Home

ABOUT...

Obituaries

Obituaries are published free of charge as a public service, but must be submitted through a funeral home. A one-column photo of the deceased may be added for \$15.

Obituaries contain the name, age, place of residence, date of death, occupation, memberships, immediate survivors and funeral arrangements. The list of survivors may include the names of a spouse, parents, siblings, children and children's spouses and grandchildren, and the number of great-grandchildren. If there are no immediate survivors, consideration of other relationships may be given.

In Memory



CHARLES ROBERTS

Charles Roberts, 68, of Arcadia, passed away Friday, Dec. 29, 2017, in Arcadia.

Charlie was born in Newton, Ala., Aug. 3, 1949, and came to Wauchula, in his youth, from Alabama. He moved to Arcadia 35 years ago, and began his career in the citrus industry. He was a supervisor for Orange Co at the time of his retirement.

Charlie was a decorated Vietnam veteran, serving with the U.S. Army. He was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with 2 Bronze Stars, and the Army Commendation Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Charlie was a former member of the Arcadia Youth Rodeo Association and a former member of the

American Legion. Charlie was of the Baptist faith.

Charlie is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, Jena Wilson Roberts, of Arcadia; one son, Rodney Allen (Danielle) Roberts, of Arcadia; two daughters, Kimberly Jean Roberts, of Clearwater, and Delia Gregory, of Moultrie, Ga.; two brothers, Ray Allen Roberts and Michael Roberts, of Arcadia; four sisters, Olivia (Buel) King, of Wauchula, Brenda (Jimmy) Hill, of Ft. Meade, Patricia Roberts, of Bartow, and Nita Roberts, of Ft. Myers.

Charlie was preceded in death by his parents, Lewey Frank and Mary Ellen Windham Roberts; a brother, Harold Roberts; and a sister, Rita Pam Roberts.

A "Celebration of Life" for Charlie will be from 1-4 p.m. on Jan. 20, 2018, at the family farm.

Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 50 No. Hillsborough Ave., Arcadia, is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be made at pongerkaysgrady.com

Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home & Cremation Services Arcadia



Good Housekeeping

CHOCOLATE CHUNK COOKIES

This cookie is for people who like a little decadence in their afternoon snack.

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 8 ounces bittersweet chocolate, cut into 1/2-inch chunks
- 1 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped

1. Heat oven to 375 F. Grease large cookie sheet.

2. On waxed paper, combine flour, baking soda and salt.

3. In large bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat butter and sugars until creamy, occa-

sionally scraping bowl with rubber spatula. Beat in vanilla, then eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. At low speed, gradually add flour mixture; beat just until blended, occasionally scraping bowl. With spoon, stir in chocolate and walnuts.

4. Drop cookies by heaping measuring tablespoons, 2 inches apart, onto prepared cookie sheet. Bake cookies 10 to 11 minutes or until lightly browned. Transfer cookies to wire rack to cool. Repeat with remaining dough.

• Each serving: About 170 calories, 10g total fat (5g saturated), 26mg cholesterol, 130mg sodium, 19g carb., 1g dietary fiber, 3g protein.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our Web site at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

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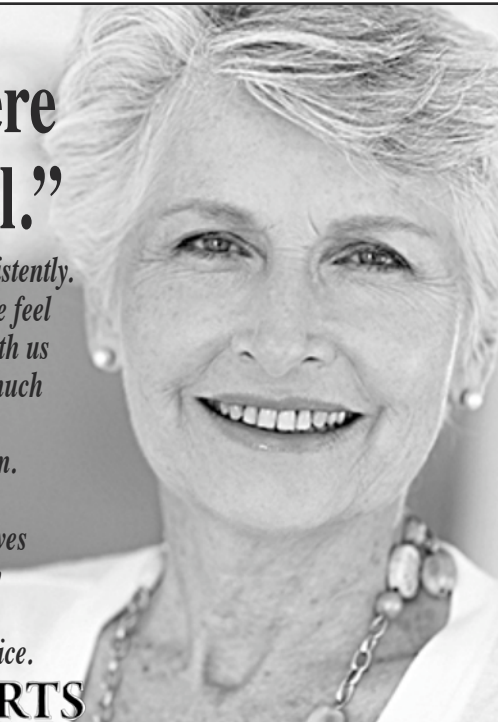
"They were wonderful."

We hear kind words consistently. We're proud that people feel comfortable enough with us to openly tell us how much they appreciate what we did for them. In fact, it's this appreciation that drives us to offer the very best in comfort, compassion and service.



View Obits at robartsfuneralhome.com

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1:11c

Obituaries

In Loving Memory

EARL STANLEY POWELL

Earl Stanley Powell, 70, of Wauchula, died Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2017, in Tampa.

He was born in Athens, Ohio, on Feb. 19, 1947, and had been a Hardee County resident for 30 years. He had been employed as parks and recreation supervisor for Hardee County.

Survivors include his wife, Connie Powell, of Wauchula; daughters, Angela Powell, of Bradenton, Tamara Hancock, of Duette, Valerie Black (James Dale), of Wauchula, Jessica See (Alex), of Wauchula, and Melanie Willis (Ben), of Fort Green; brother, Dean Powell (Donna), of Wauchula; sister, Jane Stanley, of Ona; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren who loved him dearly; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation was Dec. 30, followed by funeral services, at Robarts Garden Chapel with Pastor Jon Hanning officiating. Burial was in New Zion Cemetery.

Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family

FUNERAL HOME
WAUCHULA



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Robarts Family Funeral Home

SPENCER L. ADAMS
Spencer L. Adams, 84, died Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018, in Bartow.

He was born Aug. 18, 1933, in Fort Meade, where he remained a lifelong resident. He was a retired maintenance supervisor and planner for IMC Fertilizer Co., a U.S. Coast Guard Korean War veteran, and of the Pentecostal faith.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence O. and Louise Cooner Adams; step-mother, Mary Senterfitt Adams; brother, Richard Adams; sister, Marilyn Adams Turner; and his wife, Frances Stevenson Adams.

He is survived by his son, David Adams, of Fort Meade; brothers, Edward Adams, of Arcadia, Deleon Adams, of Zolfo Springs, and Lawrence Adams, of Chipley; sisters, Zelda Harrell, of Zolfo Springs, Carolyn Long, of Melbourne, Virginia Cochran, of Bowling Green, and Linda Quinn, of Bartow.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. today (Thursday), Jan. 11 in the Hancock Funeral Home Chapel, 945 E. Broadway, Fort Meade, with Rev. Joe Parrish officiating.

Arrangements were by Hancock Funeral Home.

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Hospital Hosts Free Vascular Health Talk

Dr. Thomas M. Shimshak, board-certified interventional cardiologist and medical director of Florida Hospital's Heart & Vascular Center, will present a free informational vascular lecture for anyone suffering from peripheral arterial disease or chronic limb ischemia.

P.A.D. affects nearly 20 million people. Symptoms can include pain, shiny smooth skin, non-healing sores, and pain or numbness of legs or feet. It reduces quality of life and increases the risk for major cardiovascular events and death.

Understanding peripheral

arterial disease can improve your quality of life, reduce the risk of amputation and improve survival.

This one-hour presentation begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 18, at Florida Hospital Wauchula, 735 S. Fifth Ave., Wauchula, in the second-floor Mildred Carlton Conference Room.

Attendees with a prior diagnosis of peripheral arterial disease or chronic limb ischemia may qualify and register for a free second opinion with Shimshak.

Call the Florida Hospital Helpline at (863) 402-3627 to register and reserve your seat.

HARDEE COUNTY FOOD PANTIRES

Alpha & Omega Freedom Ministries

113 N 7th Ave Wauchula, FL 33873

Tele: 863-773-5717

Requirements: Identification, Social Security card

When: Wednesday ONLY | 10 am – 12 noon

Bowling Green Church of God

121 W. Broward Bowling Green, FL 33834

Tele: 863-375-2231

Requirements: Identification

When: 3rd Saturday of the month | 9 am – noon

Cutting Edge Food Ministry

3059 Elm Street Zolfo Springs, FL 33890

Tele: 863-773-2484

Requirements: Identification

When: Tuesday & Friday
10 am – noon & 1 – 3 pm

First United Methodist Church of Wauchula

207 N. 7th Ave Wauchula, FL 33873

Tele: 863-773-4267

Requirements: ID & Physical address (Light Bill, Lease etc.)

When: 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month
1:00 – 3:00 pm (first come, first serve)

Other Program: Bagged Lunch - M, W, F
8 am – 12 pm for pre-school age kids & adults.

Wednesday Night Free Community Dinner:
5:30 – 6:30 pm

Hardee Help Center

713 E. Bay Street, Wauchula, FL 33873

Tele: 863-773-0034

Requirements: Application with proof of hardship

Programs: Emergency & Homelessness Assistance

For more information, Contact the Hardee Help Center

St. Michael's Catholic Church Food Pantry

408 Heard Bridge Rd, Wauchula, FL 33873

Tele: 863-773-4089

Requirements: Identification or Light Bill

When: Every Saturday 6:00 – 8:00 am

Rev. 12/19/20177

Good Housekeeping

DOUBLE CHOCOLATE CHERRY DROPS

The slight tartness of the cherries provides a delicious contrast to the double dose of rich chocolate from semisweet chunks and cocoa.

1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup (2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
1 cup sugar
1/4 cup light corn syrup
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 large egg
8 ounces semisweet or white chocolate, cut into 1/2-inch chunks
1 cup dried tart cherries

1. Heat oven to 350 F.
2. On waxed paper, combine flour, cocoa and salt.
3. In large bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat butter and sugar until creamy, occa-

sionally scraping bowl with rubber spatula. Beat in corn syrup, vanilla and egg until well-mixed. At low speed, gradually add flour mixture; beat just until blended, occasionally scraping bowl. With spoon, stir in chocolate chunks and cherries.

4. Drop cookies by rounded measuring teaspoons, 2 inches apart, onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake cookies 10 to 11 minutes or until tops are just firm. Transfer cookies to wire rack to cool. Repeat with remaining dough.

• Each serving: About 85 calories, 5g total fat (3g saturated), 12 mg cholesterol, 50mg sodium, 1g dietary fiber, 1g protein.

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By Healthy Exchanges

QUICK OAT KOLACHES

You couldn't ask for a better "out of the oven" warm treat to share with friends, whether they live next door or are from across the country.

1 3/4 cups Bisquick Heart Smart Baking Mix
6 tablespoons I Can't Believe It's Not Butter! Light Margarine
1 cup Quick Quaker Oats
1/4 cup Splenda Granular
1/4 cup fat-free milk
1 egg, or equivalent in egg substitute
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 cup spreadable fruit (any flavor)

1. Heat oven to 400 F. Spray a large baking sheet with butter-flavored cooking spray.
2. In a large bowl, combine

baking mix and margarine. Stir in oats and Splenda. In a small bowl, combine milk, egg and vanilla extract. Add milk mixture to baking mix mixture. Mix just until combined.

3. Place mixture on a large piece of waxed paper and knead lightly until smooth. Roll dough 1/2-inch thick and cut into 12 (3-inch) rounds. Place rounds on prepared baking sheet. Make an indentation in center of each and spoon 1 teaspoon spreadable fruit into indentation. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes. Place baking sheet on a wire rack and allow kolaches to cool. Serves 12.

• Each serving equals: 132 calories, 4g fat, 3g protein, 21g carbs, 279mg sodium, 30mg calcium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch, 1/2 Fat; Carb Choices: 1 1/2.

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OBITUARY POLICY

The Herald-Advocate publishes obituaries free of charge as a public service. Forms showing the information which may be included in a free obituary are available at local funeral homes or at our office.

Paid obituaries may include additional information and remembrances.

All obituaries, however, must be submitted by a funeral home. No personal submissions will be accepted.

ATTENTION: HARDEE COUNTY DISPOSAL CUSTOMERS

Due to the

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

there will be **NO** garbage pick-up

Monday, January 15th.

Garbage collection will resume on the next scheduled pick up day

Thursday, January 18th.



1:4,11c

REMINDER TO ALL CUSTOMERS:

All garbage should be out by 7am each morning, as route pick-up times are subject to change due to holidays, weather and other circumstances.

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January 15

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Local Mission Teams Host 'Dinner At The Hangar'

By **NAOMI EREKSON**
Herald-Advocate Intern

An estimated 135 guests dined at the Wauchula Municipal Airport on Sunday evening as local mission teams Harvest Aviation and SendMeMissions shared about the work they do.

A light meal was served at the free event, which included live music as Florida's First Assembly youth director David Adams and student Shayla Albritton led attendees in worship songs to open and close the affair.

Most of the airplanes that occupy the hangar were tied down outside to make room for the dinner and presentation. Guests of all ages had the opportunity to view the planes inside and out; some were even bold enough to climb inside to see how many people one small cargo plane could hold.

During the presentation, Harvest Aviation members Chuck McConkey and Mike Burch spoke about the purpose of the non-profit organization and what it means to other people.

"Go" means to get from one place to another, and that's where Harvest comes in," Burch said. He referenced Bible passages Matthew 28:19, known as the Great Commission, and Matthew 9:37-38, where Harvest Aviation gets its name: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask Him to send more workers."

Burch also talked about the key roles Harvest Aviation fills. The small organization trains mechanics and pilots who are interested in aviation so they can get the experience they need to serve with larger organizations such as Jungle Aviation And Radio Service, an aviation mission affiliated with Wycliffe Bible Translation.

Harvest also plays a major role in transporting supplies to missionaries in Belize, as it provides a significantly more affordable shipment than other sources would. The 35 missionaries who serve in Belize

use Harvest Aviation for their mailing location, and then a small cargo airplane is loaded up with the supplies and flies them to Belize.

Volunteers are also welcome at Harvest, as there is always a need for basic maintenance work such as sweeping floors, washing the airplanes and keeping the landscaping neat. Upon noting the importance of volunteer work, Burch introduced the mission's aircraft mechanic, Ronny Erekson, who presented a certificate of appreciation to Jim Marsh, a dedicated volunteer mechanic.

Then, former Belize missionary Jeff Ellsworth came to the podium and expressed his appreciation for Harvest and how this organization made much of his work possible. He talked about the time he used a game of paintball as an outreach tool. "We could not have done that without Harvest bringing the paintballs," he commented.

Ellsworth noted the fellowship and support that the crew from Harvest also provides. "When you're on the mission field, it can get lonely," he said. "You can have 100 people at your house but still feel lonely." Prayers and support from the Harvest Aviation crew filled that void, he added.

Ellsworth and his wife, Shira, are both pilots and aviation mechanics. They served as missionaries in Belize for 7-½ years and currently live in Sebring.

SendMeMissions team member Sarah Idsardi then talked about the purpose of this other local non-profit mission organization, which is operated 100 percent by volunteers. She noted that there are currently four to six partner churches in the community doing international mission trips.

Next, Harvest's main missionary pilot, Brian Smith, invited all the kids who were in attendance to come to the front to go on a mock flight to Belize with him. This mock flight consisted of a presentation explaining the process of flying to Belize. Smith had the help of a few volunteers to make

the presentation entertaining, as Oak Grove Baptist Church youth director Hank Baker along with Justin Davis and Catherine Kinzel dressed in costumes and feigned foreign accents to play the roles of Mexican police and authorities checking passports.

Once the mock flight ended, Harvest Aviation bookkeeper Anna Dickey talked about some of the mission's most recent trips to Belize. She showed pictures of other missionaries and residents in the areas they visited, along with occasional selfies of the crew members who went on the trips.

Closing out the presentation for the night was Hank Baker as he asked the question, "Why go?" He referenced the Great Commission and added, "That's what these two awesome organizations are doing. They are going and making disciples."

Baker closed the presentation by encouraging the guests to support mission partners Harvest Aviation and SendMeMissions. Some options for giving financially could be funding a mission trip for \$1,500 or donating money for the repairs of the Piper Seneca airplane.

"You can go, give, pray, or disobey," Baker said. "I gave you four choices, but the last one is not an option. Why wait for a special calling when you already have a command?"

This new partnership of two local mission organizations brings together 19 on Harvest's staff and varying numbers of SMM volunteers, depending on citizen involvement.

If you are interested in volunteering with either of these organizations, you can call Harvest Aviation at 773-3082 or SendMeMissions at 245-1587. You can also email either organization at info@harvestaviation.org or smm@sendmisions.com.

Harvest Aviation is located at the Wauchula Municipal Airport, 1314 Maurice Sonny Clavel Road, and SendMeMissions is in downtown Wauchula at 303 W. Main St., Suite 3.



PHOTOS BY NAOMI EREKSON

Dinner at the Hangar was held at the Wauchula Municipal Airport on Sunday night as local mission teams discussed a recent mission trip to Belize. Here, representing the local non-profit mission organization SendMeMissions, are (from left) Sarah Idsardi and Jamie Samuels along with Harvest Aviation mission liaison Jennifer McConkey.



Some guests take a look at an old airplane tied down outside the hangar.



An estimated 135 guests attended Dinner at the Hangar, many of them representing local churches and missions.



A table displays brochures and photographs providing information about Harvest Aviation.



Harvest Aviation's main pilot, Brian Smith (left), gave a mock flight presentation for the kids as he told them about the process of flying to Belize.



Catherine Kinzel and Justin Davis act as the Mexican police for the mock flight presentation.



Representatives of Harvest Aviation and SendMeMissions gathered in front of the Piper Seneca known as "The Triple Nickel" for a group photo.



Attending the dinner and presentation were former Belize missionaries Jeff and Shira Ellsworth and daughter Annabelle. The Ellsworths were missionaries in Belize for 7-½ years and currently live in Sebring.

Celebrity Extra



By Cindy Elavsky

Q: Can you tell me when my guilty pleasure, "The Royals," will be back with a new season?

—Melinda W., via email

A: The fourth season of the campy, soapy drama returns to E!

on March 11 at 10 p.m. ET/PT with 10 brand-new one-hour episodes. The latest season of "The Royals" picks up after the charming and potentially duplicitous Prince Robert (Max Brown) is crowned King of England. Prince Liam (William Moseley) and his recently de-throned uncle Cyrus (Jake Maskall) form an unlikely alliance; Queen Helena (Elizabeth Hurley) struggles to control her unruly brood as she figures out her role in the palace. And, after a heated on-again/off-again relationship, bodyguard Jasper (Tom Austen) tries to capture the heart of Princess Eleanor (Alexandra Park) one more



time just as they are about to face their biggest obstacle yet. The series also stars Genevieve Gaunt as Wilhelmina. "The Royal Hangover," which is the digital companion series to the scripted program, also will return March 11.

Q: Any chance of "Downward Dog" returning? We loved Nan, the lead character, and her dog, Martin, whose expression and voice was so lovable.

—Jan G., via email

A: ABC canceled "Downward Dog" back in June, after the sixth episode aired. (All eight episodes eventually did air.) According to the show's producers, ABC "loved it creatively and really wanted to make more, but couldn't find a financial plan to do so. ... We are deeply personally thankful to them for putting this show on the air and allowing us to make something really unique and uncompromising." At the time of the previous announcement, producers also stated their intention of shopping the

show around to other networks. As of this writing, it has not found a new home, so it's looking like that plan is dead in the water.

Q: Over the holidays I watched "Never Been Kissed," which I love, and it got me to wondering what David Arquette is up to now. What does he have upcoming?

—Kaylie F., via Twitter

A: David recently signed on to join the cast of "Memphis Fire," a new comedy about firefighters, based in Memphis, Tennessee. David plays Johnny Roberts, aka "Chief Roberts," a lovable screw-up who tries to keep everyone in his family and fire-station crew from setting themselves on fire. Chief loves his family, his city and pancakes, in that order. A simple man, he became a firefighter because his father was a firefighter, then was promoted to chief simply because he had been there the longest. The show also stars Noel Gugliemi, Peter Organ and Jeryl Prescott, along with show creator Derrick Redford. The pilot of the series is currently being filmed, most likely for the 2018-19 television season, with no word yet on which network might pick it up and when.

Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; or e-mail her at letters@cindy-elavsky.com.

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GREEN MACHINE



COURTESY PHOTOS

It was "the wearing o' the green" for kindergartners in Ashley Rigney's class at Hilltop Elementary School just before Winter Break, but not because of St. Patrick's Day. Instead, the children were celebrating "Grinchmas," in honor of Dr. Seuss' book "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." The fun day included a breakfast with, of course, green pancakes!



Top 10 Movies

1. Star Wars: Episode VIII - The Last Jedi (PG-13) Daisy Ridley, John Boyega
2. Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (PG-13) Dwayne Johnson, Karen Gillan
3. Pitch Perfect 3 (PG-13) Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson
4. The Greatest Showman (PG) Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams
5. Ferdinand (PG) animated
6. Coco (PG) animated
7. All the Money in the World (R) Michelle Williams, Christopher Plummer
8. The Darkest Hour (PG-13) Gary Oldman, Lily James
9. Downsizing (R) Matt Damon, Christopher Waltz
10. Father Figures (R) Owen Wilson, Ed Helms

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Celebrating This Day:

- Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friend's Day
- Cigarettes are Hazardous to Your Health Day
- Healthy Weight, Healthy Look Day
- National Milk Day
- Learn Your Name in Morse Code Day
- National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- Secret Pal Day

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a word to the wise



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FLORIDA HOSPITAL WAUCHULA

1:11c



As Seen From This Side
By Jerry "Gray Wolf" Phillips
Wauchula

Down memory lane... Ever heard of Dental Sweet Snuff? My mom's favorite dip. At a quilting bee, Mom would always sit the farthest away from the fireplace. She could spit 20 feet and spatter the backside of the fireplace without one drop falling on the quilt.

It was Sunday morning. My brother Ewart was a Southern Baptist preacher, home from Baylor University, and was to be guest speaker that morning.

Dad had borrowed an old '26 Model A from Mac Willis. A coupe with a rumble seat out back and two small jump seats behind the main seat.

My dad's side of the family seems to be able to laugh at most anything. Summers get hot in south Georgia, and Model As didn't have air conditioning.

Ewart was telling a funny joke and just as he got to the punch line, Mom was taking a dip of her snuff. She started to laugh at this joke just as a puff of wind helped her with her snuff. As a result, everyone in the front, Dad, Mom, Ewart and Jennie, turned a bright shade of brown.

Ewart was the guest speaker at the evening service. Dry snuff makes a big mess.

Maggie Valley, N.C.

How many times have you promised God if He would get out of a mess of your own making, you will never ask Him to do it again?

Other than New Year's promises. These don't count because you don't intend to keep them.

I've got to tell you one asked in earnest.

My cousin and her husband owned two large groves near Tampa. Every vacation, Tom wanted to go to Maggie Valley, N.C. for at least part of it. He just loved Maggie Valley. So much so, he told Etha that when they retired he wanted a place there.

The year before retirement, they bought some property and Tom supervised the building of a three-story log home. It was beyond any doubt a most beautiful home.

Retirement came, and in October, they moved in. Snow started to fall. Tom had not seen snow in Maggie Valley. They were at the beginning of the worst winter in recorded history.

The beautiful casement windows had snow up four feet, and it got worse. It was now powder. It was wet, heavy ice that stuck when the dogs had to go. Poor things.

Six months was Tom's limit. The house was for sale to anyone who could get to see it.

He promised God if He would help him out this once, he'd never ask for anything again.

So far as we know, he never did.

Many years ago, my cousin Johnny was blessed. He married the prettiest girl in Miller County, Ga.

I had the honor of attending Christmas supper at church here in Baldwin County, Ala.

I had lived there since 2003 until we moved to Florida in 2013. Four years have gone by. We grew older, and most grew uglier. I know I did.

I arrived at the supper first, and soon the dining hall began to fill. In a few minutes, all my old friends and new faces had almost filled the hall to capacity. None of us would win a beauty contest, including me.

About that time, an old friend stopped to talk with me. I had known David and Nancy for 10 or 12 years.

While we talked, I was still looking around, and a lady at the head of the tables turned and was now facing us. The most beautiful blonde lady stood there, and I'd swear a spotlight almost shown over her.

David, like Johnny before him, had married this teenager who has now blossomed into the most beautiful lady in Baldwin County.

Bowling Green Approves Duplex Apartment Project

By JIM KELLY

Of The Herald-Advocate

Up to nine duplexes, each containing two apartments, will be built on 2.57 acres at 4805 Church Avenue in Bowling Green. The owner is Howard Bolin.

The City Commission on Dec. 12 gave final approval to the request for the rezoning request from R-1 (single family residential) to R-2 (single and two-family residential). The vote was 4-1, with Cliff Lunn opposing.

A nearby property owner, Gary Albritton Jr., said this could have a negative impact on the neighborhood which has only single family homes. He cited extra traffic, noise, and potential residents who may have a criminal history.

"The very fabric and character of my neighborhood will change. We should have been given more notice. Most of the nearby residents do not speak English," said Albritton.

Bolin has owned the property since 2008. An old house at the north end of the property was recently torn down to make way for the duplexes.

The commission by a unanimous vote agreed to change the zoning from low density residential to commercial mixed use on 10 acres on Doc Coil Road. The property is owned by Tina Jacobs who plans to build a business on one acre for insurance and bail bonds. She currently operates that business on West Main Street in Wauchula. This amends Bowling Green's future land use map.

The commission approved a marketing agreement for the

National League of Cities Service Line Program. Representative Lee Zell had explained in November this agreement will allow the company to sell service monthly for sewer and water lines on private property and in homes. The city is responsible for sewer and water lines on city property and easements to the point where the lines enter private property.

The commission okayed redefining the city's boundary to incorporate a small parcel owned by Rafa Junior Holding, LLC at 530 Lake Branch Road south of the city sewer plant property. There is a house on the property.

The commission denied a request by Margarito Reyna to construct a tombstone cover in the city cemetery behind the recently closed First Methodist Church on Bryan Avenue. He wanted to build a 12 by 11-foot wide cover where his mother and father are buried.

"Cemetery rules preclude this," said Mayor Sam Fite. "The county Building and Zoning Department would not allow this."

City Attorney Gerald Buhr said, "A zoning change would be required, and it would have to be built to codes. This is not an allowable zoning use."

Fite said the church about 15 to 20 years ago said it would deed the church-part of the cemetery to the city but never followed through. He said the city is thus maintaining private property. The church owns the north third of the cemetery, said Fite.

Buhr said this results in the city spending public money on

private property. The mayor said the city should charge the church conference, located in Fort Myers, for the mowing and upkeep.

City Manager Jerry Conerly was instructed to contact the Methodist conference to discuss the situation.

A two-year extension for the services of Envisors Engineering was approved.

Conerly said a new net will be installed at the city tennis court soon.

The city gave a \$500 check to the Hardee Animal Rescue Team which has helped find a home for stray dogs and cats for years in the city and offered spaying and neutering on the animals, focusing mostly on the cats. HART was represented by Leigh Sockalosky. Trina Galvan has been the city's animal control officer since 2010.

Mayor Fite complimented the recent Christmas parade, Milk and Cookies with Santa, and the Christmas Lighting Contest in the city sponsored by the City Recreation Committee.

At the Nov. 14 meeting the city commission passed an ordinance related to adding pharmacies and banning medical marijuana dispensing facilities. This will likely prevent any medical marijuana dispensing facilities from locating within the city limits.

Sam Fite was re-elected mayor for the coming year, and Shirley Tucker was elected vice mayor. There was no opposition.

The commission approved a three percent increase in sewer and water rates as part of an

annual rate hike agreement previously passed, based on a recommendation by the Florida Rural Water Association.

Lee Zell of the League of Cities proposed a marketing agreement which the commission approved on the first reading, of offering private landowners insurance on their sewer and water lines. He later said if the landowners agree to buy the repair insurance, the monthly charge would be \$5.75 for a water line, \$7.75 for a sewer line, and \$9.90 within the home.

A first reading was approved on the Tina Jacobs property on Doc Coil Road for amending the land use on 10 acres.

A first reading was approved to allow Howard Bolin to build up to nine duplex buildings on 2.57 acres at 4805 Church Ave.

The city department heads each received a high rating for their job performance. Police Chief John Scheel received an overall score of 4.96 from the commission; City Manager Jerry Conerly, 4.86; and City Clerk Carmen Silva, 4.70. Pay raises were approved for all three.

Scheel's salary went up three percent to \$68,452.80 a year. Silva's pay went up three percent to \$41,121.60 a year.

Conerly requested the same salary as the police chief, and his salary increased to \$68,452.80 from \$61,880. He has been city manager for five years. The raises were made retroactive to Oct. 1, the beginning of the new year.

Commissioner Steve Spinks said the city is in better financial shape than five years ago. He praised the U.S. flags along U.S. 17 for Veterans Day.

Commissioner Shirley Tucker said the city is looking better. Commissioner Cliff Lunn praised the new city park playground at the Commerce Park. Conerly said he was proud of the city employees and said a water fountain is planned at the three city parks soon.

The commission approved a request by Scheel for a new 2017 or 2018 police car. The net cost, less the trade-in, will be \$33,151.

A 2016 city police car was recently severely damaged by an errant driver while the police car was parked by the Marathon gas and convenience store at the north end of the city. Fite said the car will be replaced.

Fite said he hopes the new \$1 million Fire/EMS station on West Main Street will be open soon.



City of Bowling Green donates \$500 to the Hardee Animal Rescue Team, represented by Leigh Sockalosky. From left are Bowling Green Animal Control Officer Trina Galvan, Leigh Sockalosky, and Mayor Sam Fite.

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Florida Public Service Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$22.00 per month and business services are \$33.00-\$35.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone or broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be 15 Mbps download and 2 Mbps upload or faster to qualify.

Lifeline discounts include a transfer restriction (port freeze). This means that you are unable to obtain the Lifeline discount on service with another provider for a period of time. The length of time depends on the services you purchase - 60 days for voice telephone service, 12 months for qualifying broadband service. Certain exceptions to the transfer restrictions may apply. See <http://www.lifelinesupport.org/ls/change-my-company.aspx> for more information.

A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone or broadband service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-855-954-6546 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.



NOTICE

DR-529
R. 12/09
Rule 12D-16.002
Florida Administrative Code

TAX IMPACT OF VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD

Hardee County Tax Year 2017

Members of the Board

Honorable Mike Thompson	Board of County Commissioners, District No. 5
Honorable Sue Birge	Board of County Commissioners, District No. 2
Honorable Garry McWhorter	School Board, District No. 4
Citizen Member Paul Paris	Business owner within the school district
Citizen Member Gordon Norris	Homestead property owner

The Value Adjustment Board (VAB) meets each year to hear petitions and make decisions relating to property tax assessments, exemptions, classifications, and tax deferrals.

Summary of Year's Actions

Enter whole numbers only. Do not include commas. Example: for \$1,222,333 enter "1222333"

Type of Property	Number of Parcels					Reduction in County Taxable Value Due to Board Actions	Shift in Taxes Due to Board Actions
	Exemptions		Assessments*		Both		
	Granted	Requested	Reduced	Requested			
Residential						\$	\$
Commercial			0	5	1	\$	\$
Industrial and miscellaneous						\$	\$
Agricultural or classified use			1	2	1	\$ 787,587	\$ 12,095.80
High-water recharge						\$	\$
Historic commercial or nonprofit						\$	\$
Business machinery and equipment						\$	\$
Vacant lots and acreage						\$	\$
TOTALS			1	7	2	\$ 787,587	\$ 12,095.80

All values should be county taxable values. School and other taxing authority values may differ. *Include transfer of assessment difference (portability) requests.

If you have a question about these actions, contact the Chair or the Clerk of the Value Adjustment Board.

Chair's name	Mike Thompson	Phone	863-773-9430	ext.
Clerk's name	Victoria Rogers	Phone	863-773-4174	ext. 7227

County Considers Canceling Its Annual Christmas Party

By MICHAEL KELLY
Of The Herald-Advocate

Low levels of employee participation and a high number of no-shows has county commissioners considering canceling the annual Christmas party.

Commissioner Sue Birge put the item on the agenda for discussion last week.

She said fewer than 25 percent of county employees signed up for the dinner, which was held at Mater's Steakhouse. Then, 25 of the 98 employees, commissioners and spouses or partners scheduled to attend never did show up.

Birge said the county had to pay approximately \$25 each for the meals of the people who never showed, so she had the excess meals boxed up and delivered them to the on-duty sheriff and fire/rescue employees that evening.

The county budgets \$1,500 per year for the party, and each

commissioner personally contributes about \$150 toward the cost of the meals and is also responsible for providing desserts.

Birge said only 44 employees of the 186 who work for the county signed up to attend.

"If this isn't something our employees want then we shouldn't put it in the budget," she said. "Maybe people are busy or they aren't interested in attending."

Birge said she checked with other county commissions and found most do not pay for a spouse's meal and many parties are held during the day. Some counties do not have any type of Christmas party for employees, she said.

Birge said she was not in favor of doing away with the party, unless it isn't well-attended.

Chairman Russell Melendy echoed those feelings, stating he would only consider cancel-

ing the party if it wasn't valued by employees.

She brought up the idea of offering a half-day of comp time instead of the party.

Commissioners Mike Thompson and Colon Lambert, along with County Manager Lex Albritton, were not in favor of giving out comp time because of the loss of productivity.

Thompson said some employees would miss not having a party, but a lot of them would not.

Lambert said the purpose of having a party is for an employee morale booster. He suggested each county department come up with an individual

party instead of a large countywide event.

Albritton said most departments already have individual parties during the Christmas season, and they are typically held during the workday.

"I am not in agreement with giving comp time at all," he said. "We have never had a huge amount of employees sign up, and we have always had people sign up and never attend."

Commissioners directed Albritton to bring up the issue during the weekly meetings with all the department heads and gauge the level of interest in the party and possible alternatives.



Wauchula Commissioner Recovering From Surgery

By TOM STAIK
Of The Herald-Advocate

Ken Lambert is recovering following surgery earlier this week to remove a tumor on the brain.

Lambert, a Wauchula city commissioner and local Realtor, went under the knife Monday.

The Wauchula City Commission was briefed by City Manager Terry Atchley on Lambert's condition during Monday night's regular meeting.

"The surgery appears to have gone well," Atchley said. Lambert was moved out of surgery around 4 p.m. and was

conscious and communicating a short time later, Atchley said.

"The doctors have been very optimistic," Atchley said.

According to Atchley, the tumor was discovered after Lambert began experiencing symptoms doctors originally believed to be cardiac in nature.

A battery of extensive tests eventually revealed the presence of the tumor, the city manager noted.

Atchley was not aware of details for Lambert's post-surgical treatment plan.

"We can just hope for a speedy recovery," Atchley said.

Apply For Corrections Course At SFSC

The South Florida State College Criminal Justice Academy is accepting applications for its next Basic Corrections Academy course.

This is the course required to become a state of Florida certified corrections officer.

Basic Corrections Academy classes will be held Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., beginning Monday,

Jan. 29.

By successfully completing 420 contact hours of training, students earn occupational certificates and are eligible to take the state certification examination.

The Criminal Justice Academy is located on SFSC's Highlands Campus. For more information, contact the academy at (863) 784-7285.



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Lake Placid	Avon Park	
Golden Corral 322 U.S. 27 South January 25, 2018 10 a.m.	Hotel Jacaranda 19 East Main Street January 30, 2018 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.	

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a joint meeting of the **HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** and the **PLANNING & ZONING BOARD** to consider a Proposed Change to the Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC South Pasture Mine on **Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 6:15 P.M.**

or as soon thereafter at the Hardee County Board of County Commission Chambers, Room 102, Courthouse Annex, 412 West Orange Street, Wauchula, Florida

Copies of the documents relating to this report are available for public inspection during regular office hours at the office of the Hardee County Mining Coordinator, 220 South Ninth Avenue, Wauchula, Florida, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. All interested persons shall have the right to be heard. In rendering recommendations from the Planning/Zoning Board and decision of the Board of County Commissioners, the Boards shall rely solely on testimony that is relevant and material. Although minutes of the Public Hearing will be recorded anyone wishing to appeal any decision made at the public hearings will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made by a court reporter.

This is a Disabled-Accessible facility. Any disabled person needing to make special arrangements should contact the County Manager's Office at least two (2) working days prior to the public hearing.

Russell Melendy, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

PUBLIC NOTICE

The **HARDEE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD** meeting as the local planning agency will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2018 6:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter in the **County Commissioners' Board Room Room 102, 1st floor Courthouse Annex 412 West Orange St., Wauchula, FL**

TO HEAR THE APPLICATION, TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT AND OFFER A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR

Agenda No. 18-06
Harvey Management Inc. requests approval of an amendment to Section 3.18.01.02 and Table 3.18.02.02(A) of the Hardee County Unified Land Development Code regarding Recreation Vehicle Parks and RV Campgrounds.

Roger Conley, Chairman

This is a Disabled-Accessible facility. Any disabled person needing to make special arrangements should contact the Planning and Development Department at least two (2) working days prior to the **P/Z Public Hearing**.

This Public Notice is published in accordance with the Hardee County Unified Land Development Code.

Prior to the **P/Z Public Hearing**, documents relating to the request is available for public inspection during weekdays between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. at the Planning and Development Department, 110 S. 9th Ave., Wauchula, Florida.

If you wish to discuss the request, it is suggested to call 863 767 1964 to schedule an appointment with Hardee County Planning and Development Department prior to the public hearing.

All interested persons shall have the right to be heard.

In rendering its recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners, the Planning/Zoning Board shall rely solely on testimony that is relevant and material

Although minutes of the Public Hearing will be recorded, anyone wishing to appeal any decision made at the public hearing will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made by a court reporter.

Crime Blotter

During the past week, sheriff's deputies and city police officers investigated the following incidents and made the following arrests:

COUNTY

Jan. 7, Kera Elizabeth Rayburn, 31, of 1126 Cardinal Rd., Wauchula, was arrested by Dep. Joseph Austin on a charge of violation of probation.

Jan. 7, Carlos Mitchel Llanos-Garcia, 37, of 2047 Rigdon Rd., Wauchula, was arrested by Det. Ryan Abbott and charged with battery.

Jan. 7, Carlos Rivera, 20, of 1833 U.S. 17 N., Wauchula, was arrested by Dep. Octavio Alvarez and charged unarmed burglary of a dwelling, larceny, resisting/obstructing an officer without violence and fraud—giving a false ID to law enforcement.

Jan. 7, a tag stolen on Adrian Lane, and criminal mischief on Moccasin Lane and on U.S. 17 North were reported.

Jan. 6, Carter Rucker, 25, of 712 Silversmith Cir., Lake Mary, was arrested by Det. Ryan Abbott and charged with possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 6, Sanjuana Calderon, 44, of 445 Calvert Rd., Wauchula, was arrested by Cpl. Chris Albritton on a charge of withholding support of children.

Jan. 6, Saul Castillo, 24, of 4710 Bowling Green Ave., Bowling Green, was arrested by Dep. Octavio Alvarez on a charge of violation of probation.

Jan. 6, a theft on Orchid Lane was reported.

Jan. 5, Eric Abbott, 26, of 712 Silversmith Cir., Lake Mary was arrested by Det. Ryan Abbott and charged with possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 5, a theft on U.S. 17 North was reported.

Jan. 4, Ossie Elliott Sambrano, 30, of 603 S. First Ave., Wauchula, was arrested by Dep. Donny Eversole on a charge of contempt of court.

Jan. 4, Daniel Ivan Cavillo, 20, of 693 Doc Coil Rd., Bowling Green, was arrested by Dep. Donny Eversole on a charge of contempt of court.

Jan. 4, Raul Junior Martinez, 28, of 797 La Playa Dr., Wauchula, was arrested by Dep. Joseph Austin and charged with larceny-petit theft.

Jan. 4, criminal mischief on Mansfield Road, and theft on Miller Road and on U.S. 17 North were reported.

Jan. 3, Charles Andrew Manley, 48, of 1161 Downing Circle, Wauchula, was arrested by the Drug Task Force (DTF) and charged with four counts of selling methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of a specified location and two counts of possession/manufacture/delivery of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 3, Robin Spiegel, 27, General Delivery, Clewiston, was arrested by Det. Michael Lake on a charge of failure to appear in court.

Jan. 3, a theft on U.S. 17 North was reported.

Jan. 2, Carlos Gutierrez, 19, of 777 Lake Branch Rd., Bowling Green, was arrested by Dep. Octavio Alvarez and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 2, Dalia Rodriguez, 39, of 817 E. Main St., Wauchula, was arrested by DTF and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 2, thefts at two locations on U.S. 17 North were reported.

WAUCHULA

Jan. 7, Daniel Dewayne Noblett, 53, of 116 Hilton Rd., Bowling Green, was arrested by Ofc. Kaleigh Anderson and charged with disorderly intoxication.

Jan. 7, a theft at La Playa Drive was reported.

Jan. 6, Mikey Retana, 24, of 4616 Chester Ave., Bowling Green, was arrested by Ofc. Kaleigh Anderson and charged with

possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jan. 6, a theft on Carlton Street was reported.

Jan. 5, a theft on Stenstrom Road was reported.

Jan. 4, Ryan Tyler Raulerson, 28, of 735 Old Bradenton Rd., Wauchula, was arrested by Ofc. Christopher Gicker on an out-of-county warrant.

Jan. 2, Anthony Michael Enriquez, 28, and Kasey Simone Hicks, 24, both of 427 Amanda Ln., Wauchula, were arrested by Ofc. Kaleigh Anderson and each charged with possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Hicks was also charged with possession of marijuana and violation of probation.

Jan. 2, a theft on East Main Street was reported.

Jan. 1, criminal mischief on North Florida Avenue was reported.

BOWLING GREEN

Jan. 5, Jesus Garcia, 31, of 854 Pleasant Way, Bowling Green, was arrested by Ofc. Breanna Locke and charged with battery, simple assault—intent/threat to do violence, battery on an officer, firefighter or EMT, resisting/obstructing an officer with violence and larceny—petit theft.

Jan. 4, a theft on Maple Avenue was reported.

Jan. 1, Christian Wabanimee, 18, of 4632 Pine Ave., Bowling Green, was arrested by Ofc. Breanna Locke and charged with trespassing—failure to leave property upon request.

PUBLIC NOTICE

You are hereby notified that on Thursday, January 4, 2018, upon public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners of Hardee County, Florida, adopted Resolution 2018-02 vacating and closing an Alleyway in the Limestone Subdivision, generally described as: All that part of the 15 feet alleyway located in the Limestone Subdivision, lying within Block 58 running north and south, west of Lots 1 through 7 and east of Lots 8 through 13 and bounded by Marion Street to the north, located in Section 10, Township 36 South and Range 24 East as shown in Plat Book 2, Page 1 of the Public Records of Hardee County, Florida.

Russell A. Melendy, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

1:11c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificates has filed the certificates for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 217 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2010
NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED: Frank Rivera and Katie Rivera
Parcel ID Number: 05-33-25-0090-0000J-0042

Description of Property:

LOTS 42 & 43 BLK J
MT ZION SUBD
05 33S 25E

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE, State of Florida. Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on February 7th, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Hardee County, Florida
Florida Ad No.: 1
By: Norma M. Juarez, Deputy Clerk
Tax Deed File: 252017TD022XXXX
Date: 12/13/2017
Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

1:11-25c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 175 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2012
NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED:
Sheryl Rory-Hudson and Dennis W. Robinson
Parcel ID Number: 05-33-25-0090-0000A-0016

Description of Property:

LOTS 16 & 17 BLK A MT ZION SUB
03 33S 25E
173P224 200925005155-ORDER/
5156-LTRS/5157-ORDER/5159-PET/
5160-PET/5161-AFF
200925008703-PET/8704-AFF/
8705-ORDER

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE County, Florida. Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on February 14, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Hardee County, Florida
Florida Ad No.: 1
By: Alicia C. Albritton, Deputy Clerk
Tax Deed File: 252017TD031XXXX
Date: 12/20/2017
Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

1:11-21c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 1049
YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2015
NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED: WELLS FARGO BANK NA

Description of Property (Parcel Identification Number 14-35-27-0000-09510-0000):

2 AC BEG AT SW COR OF SE1/4 OF SE1/4 & RUN N 169.60 FT FOR POB THEN CONTINUE N 493.80 FT TO NW COR OF S1/2 OF SE1/4 OF SE7/4 THEN RUN S 89 DEG 52 MIN E 109.69 FT TO PT IN C/L OF RORY ROAD THEN S 3 DEG 28 MIN W ALONG C/L OF DIRT ROAD 119.50 FT THEN S 18 DEG 37 MIN E ALONG C/L OF ABOVE DIRT ROAD 504.62 FT THEN N 69 DEG 16 MIN 43 SEC W 292.58 FT TO POB 14 35S 27E 318P754 431P738/FJ-DOM 467P418 201525004047 (LEGL ERR) 201625005413-POA 201725002035-POA/2417

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE, State of Florida. Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on JANUARY 24TH, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Hardee County, Florida
Florida Ad No.: 1
By: Norma M. Juarez, Deputy Clerk
Tax Deed File: 252017TD029XXXX
Date: 12/14/2017
Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

12:21-1:11c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificates has filed the certificates for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 864 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2010
NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED: PAUL A OLSON TRUSTEE (ESTATE OF)
Parcel ID Number: 10-34-25-0840-0000L-0001

Description of Property:

LOT 1 BLK L
SUBURBAN ACRES
432P704 PO-D/C696P1489

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE County, Florida.

Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on February 14, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Hardee County, Florida
Florida Ad No.: 1
By: NORMA M. JUAREZ, Deputy Clerk
Tax Deed File: 252017TD025XXXX
Date: 01/04/2018
Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

1:11-21c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 892 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2010
NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED: Nettie P Smith, Norma Augustine and Zephria Augustine
Parcel ID Number: 10-34-25-0843-00002-0087

Description of Property:

LOT 87
HARLEM HEIGHTS UNIT 2
164P188 DC-457P364 PMR 4/94
PRO-94-035 486P776
200725007936

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE, State of Florida. Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on February 7th, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Hardee County, Florida
Florida Ad No.: 1
By: Norma M. Juarez, Deputy Clerk
Tax Deed File: 252017TD021XXXX
Date: 12/13/2017
Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

1:4-25c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificates has filed the certificates for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 909 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2010
NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED: GILBERTO GONZALEZ AND MARY VICTORIA GONZALEZ
Parcel ID Number: 11-34-25-0840-00001-0034

Description of Property:

LOT 34 RIVER VALLEY SUBD
180P29 274P177 294P41 300P316
381P545

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE County, Florida.

Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on FEBRUARY 14, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
Clerk of Circuit Court
Hardee County, Florida
Florida Ad No.: 1
By: Norma M. Juarez, Deputy Clerk
Tax Deed File: 252017TD026XXXX
Date: 01/02/2018
Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

1:11-21c



TRANCE/FORMERS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TOY GIVEAWAY

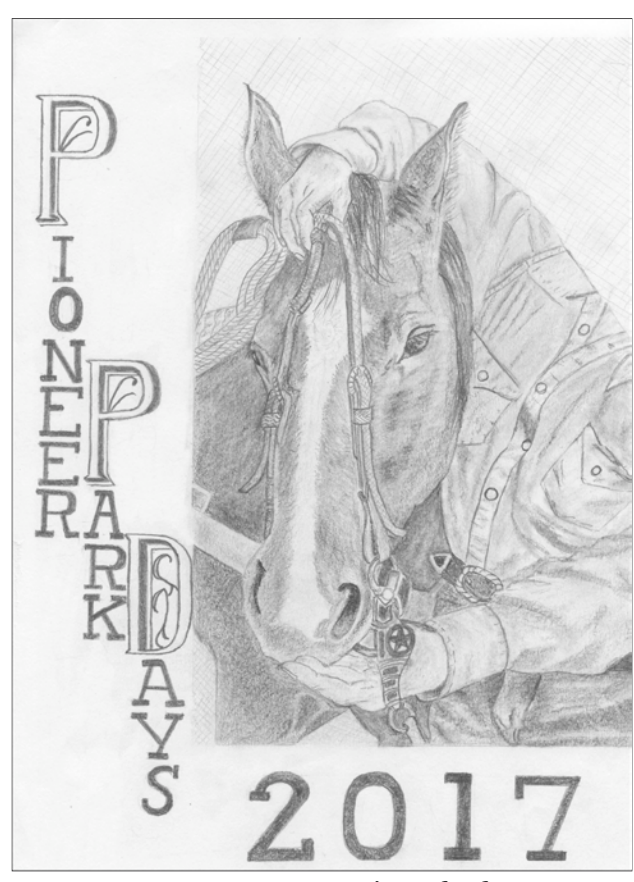
COURTESY PHOTOS • MONTAGE BY DARLENE WILLIAMS
 Trance/Formers Inc. gave away Christmas toys at its 5th Annual Toy Giveaway on December 23rd and 24th in Bowling Green, Wauchula, Avon Park, Sebring, and Lake Placid. About 200 children from East Coast Migrant Head Start Program, RCMA Centers, and Azalea Apartments were the recipients. Trance/Formers is a charity to help local disadvantaged young people with role models, mentoring, encouragement and christian training. The president is N'Kosi Jones of Bowling Green.

18TH ANNUAL

Last year's winner...

PIONEER PARK DAYS COVER ART CONTEST

The Herald-Advocate is seeking original artwork for the front and back covers of its annual special tabloid section on Hardee County's most popular festival. It could be yours!



Tracey Nix, Wauchula

ADULT DIVISION

- First place:**
- \$100 Cash.
 - Publication of your work on the front cover.
 - Your photo and biographical story inside.
- Second place:**
- \$50 Cash.
 - Publication of your winning entry inside the special section.
- Third place:**
- \$25 Cash.
 - Publication of your winning entry inside the special section.

CHILDREN'S DIVISION (12 AND UNDER)

- A free pass to Pioneer Park Days, publication of the artwork, plus . . .
- First place:**
- \$25 Cash.
 - Publication on the back cover.
- Second place:**
- \$15 Cash.
- Third place:**
- \$10 Cash.

RULES:

- 1) Open to all ages. Artist need not be a resident of Hardee County to enter.
- 2) Artwork must be original.
- 3) The festival theme of antique engines, farm machinery or pioneer life must be depicted.
- 4) Pen and ink, charcoal, dark pencil or black marker.
- 5) Art MUST fill an area 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches high. It must somehow include the lettering "Pioneer Park Days 2018" and either "50th Anniversary" or "50th Year." (Drawing must be VERTICAL, portrait, orientation.)
- 6) Deadline is Monday, Feb. 5, at 1 p.m.

JUDGES

- OPAL WILKERSON — PIONEER PARK DAYS DIRECTOR
- DONALD JACOBSEN — CHIEF JUDGE FOR 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
- MYSTERY ARTIST — WISHES TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS

TO ENTER:

Make sure the division, name, address and daytime phone number of the artist are attached to the drawing. Bring entries in person to the newspaper office at 115 S. Seventh Ave. in Wauchula, or mail to Cover Art Contest, The Herald-Advocate, P.O. Box 338, Wauchula, FL 33873.

Hardee Grad On Flawless UCF Squad

By TOM STAIK
Of The Herald-Advocate

Luke Palmer is now part of football history.

Palmer, a 2014 graduate of Hardee Senior High School, was among the roster of the University of Central Florida Knights football program that completed an undefeated season.

With their New Year's Day 34-27 win over 7th ranked Auburn in the Peach Bowl, the 10th ranked Knights became the only Division I football program in the NCAA to finish the season undefeated.



Palmer

Impressive results for any program.

But the Knights are not just any program – they are the reigning Cinderella darlings of the collegiate gridiron.

The turn-around comes two shorts years after the squad posted an 0-12 record in 2015 – the team's third such winless season in its history.

The win over the Tigers earlier this month marks the quickest turnaround in collegiate gridiron history.

Palmer, a 310 pound, 6'3" offensive lineman, played his first full season with the Knights as UCF faced the bitter depths of the 2015 season. As a redshirt sophomore in 2016, Palmer saw action in all 13 games as the Knights rebounded to post a 6-7 record as the season wrapped with a loss to Arkansas State in the Cure Bowl at Camping World Stadium in Orlando.

The former Wildcat saw action in all 12 regular season games, as a redshirt junior, as the Knights marched to its perfect season.

Enough to capture the American Conference Title, the Knights fell short of earning a bid to play in the Col-

lege Football Playoff, but got the consolation of the Peach Bowl bid against Auburn.

School officials have been highly critical of what they call a snub to its program.

UCF Athletic Director Danny White has led the charge for the Knight faithful.

White proclaimed the Knights the National Champions and vowed to raise a championship banner at Spectrum Stadium, to provide championship rings to the team, paid out championship



Luke Palmer (70) was a member of the undefeated UCF Knights squad this season.

bonuses to coaches, and arranged a Disney World parade to honor the squad.

Governor Rick Scott on Monday joined the fray as he penned a proclamation declaring the "2017 College Football National Champions in Florida."

The governor's proclamation came hours before the Georgia Bulldogs and the Alabama Crimson Tide were scheduled to face off for the National Title in the College Football Playoff Champi-

onship Game at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta.

Auburn, incidentally, beat both Georgia and Alabama in the regular season. The Bulldogs, however, would redeem themselves with a decisive win over the Tigers in the SEC Championship Game to earn their spot in the playoff series.

Palmer is the son of West and Laura Palmer. He is the

grandson of Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Palmer and James Prine.

As a Wildcat, Palmer was a three-year starter for the baseball team, and also participated two seasons in basketball. As a senior, he helped lead Hardee to the 2013 FHSAA regional finals. He recorded 74 pancake blocks and knockdowns that season.



Former Wildcat Luke Palmer (70) carries his helmet on the sidelines for the UCF Knights.

Wildcats Fall To Devils

By TOM STAIK
Of The Herald-Advocate

Despite leading six points heading into halftime, the Wildcats fell to the Red Devils on Friday (Jan. 5) in a road match, 57-64.

The varsity boy's basketball squad from Hardee Senior High School is now 0-2 on the season against the boys in red and black from Avon Park High School. The Red Devils spoiled Hardee's home opener, 73-51.

Friday's match saw the Wildcats take an early 15-14 lead by the end of the first quarter.

Hardee continued to outpace the Red Devils in the second quarter, 17-12, as they earned a 32-26 lead going into the locker room at halftime.

Momentum shifted to Avon Park at the start of the second half as the Red Devils outpaced the Wildcats 17-11 to tie the game at 43-43 at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter was all Avon Park as the Red Devils outpaced the boys in orange and blue, 14-21. Up by six

points at halftime, Hardee fell by seven points in the 57-64 defeat.

Kai Washington led Hardee in scoring with 14 points. Jean Youte recorded 13 points, Cody Helms recorded 11 points, Zachary Hooks recorded eight points, Samuel Louis recorded six points, and Randy McLeod recorded five points.

Hardee went 7-for-17 from the three-point zone on a strong effort from Helms, who went 3-for-5. Hooks went 2-for-3, McLeod went 1-for-1, and Washington went 1-for-5.

The Wildcats shot 57 percent from the free throw line as they went 12-21. Youte went 5-for-7, Washington went 3-for-5, Hooks went 2-for-3, Louis went 2-for-4, and McLeod went 0-2.

Hardee recorded 36 rebounds, 16 assists, and nine steals in the outing.

McLeod led the squad with two steals. Youte, Helms, Darius Johnson, Nick Nichols, Louis, and Tavon Faulk each recorded one.

Washington, Youte, and Helms each recorded three assists. McLeod and Louis recorded two assists, and Johnson and Nichols each recorded one assist.

Youte and McLeod each recorded 10 rebounds in the game. Helms recorded seven, Nichols recorded four, Washington recorded three, and Louis recorded one.

The match was Hardee's first game following the two-week winter break.

Sitting in last place in the Class 6A District 10 standings, the Wildcats were scheduled to face the DeSoto Bulldogs – a district foe hovering at the bottom of the rankings -- during a trip to Arcadia on Tuesday (Jan. 9).

The boys in orange and blue return home today (Thursday) for an 8 p.m. match as they host Lake Region (Eagle Lake) High School at Wildcat Gymnasium. The squad will also see action on Friday (Jan. 12) as they host district foes, the Booker (Sarasota) High School Tornadoes at 7:30 p.m.

Varsity Basketball Squad



PHOTOS BY TOM STAIK

The 2017-18 boy's varsity basketball squad are (front, from left) Jean Youte, and Adrian DeLeon; (middle) Tavon Faulk, Fred Hodges - Assistant Coach, Wally Helms - Varsity Head Coach, Aaron Myers - JV Head Coach, and Darius Johnson; (back) Randy McLeod, Samuel Louis, Nick Nichols, Kai Shakir-Washington, Cody Helms. Missing from picture are Jacob Rickett and Zachary Hooks.

Junior Varsity Basketball Squad



The 2017-18 boy's junior varsity basketball team are (front, from left) Fred Hodges - Assistant Coach, and Aaron Myers - JV Head Coach; (middle) Javier Figueroa, Josie St Louis, Earnest Graham, Jackson Casso, Mikie Cruz, and Tyler Abel; (back) Josh McQuaig, Trey Canary, Travon Thomas, Ryhem Lewis, Myron Renfro, Kolby Baker. Missing from picture is Parker Sasser.

Registration Deadlines Approaching For 2018 Heartland Senior Games

By NEIL SIMPSON
Of The Herald-Advocate

The deadline is fast approaching for the 2018 Heartland Senior Games.

The Heartland Games For Active Adults, organized by South Florida State College (SFSC), are open to men and women fifty years of age and older.

Registrations must be submitted to SFSC at least two weeks prior to the first event in which a person is entered.

The entry fee is \$15 for one day of competition or \$25 for multiple days.

All participants will receive a "dri-fit" shirt and a compli-

mentary lunch will be provided at many of the events.

Those wishing to take part in bridge, golf, swimming or shuffleboard are to register by Jan. 17.

For those wanting to play euchre or pickleball, entries must be received by Jan. 24.

The deadline for bowling, table tennis, mah jongg and cycling is Jan. 31.

Athletes wishing to enter the track and field or tennis competitions have until Feb. 9 to register.

Complete details can be found on the SFSC website at www.southflorida.edu/heartlandgames.

Registration forms can be downloaded from the website or picked up at the SFSC Bowling Green Campus or the Hardee Chamber of Commerce.

Medals are awarded to first second and third place females and males in each five year age group from 50-54 up to over 90.

Those finishing in the top five in the athletic events will qualify to compete in the Florida Senior Games which will be held in Clearwater from Dec. 1-9. From the Florida Games, finishers can move on to the National Senior Games which will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico from June 14-25, 2019.



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

Al Meixel, Carl and Shirley Harmon watch as Sam Rodenberger lines up his putt at the Torey Oaks Golf Club.

Make The Winning Score!

SPORTS NEWS DEADLINE IS THURSDAY AT 5PM

(WEEKEND EVENTS, MONDAY AT NOON)

Powder Puff Game Jan. 27

The annual Powder Puff Game to benefit Project Graduation will be held Jan. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at Wildcat Stadium.

The match-up – between the ladies of the senior the junior classes – will raise funds for the 2018 Project Graduation for graduating seniors of Hardee Senior High School.

Serving as cheerleaders will be select males from the junior and senior classes.

The concession stand will be open with a menu that includes pulled pork and strawberry shortcake.

“The only place you can get your fresh helping of strawberry shortcake before the strawberry festival even arrives,” noted Donna Parks, spokesman for Project Graduation.

The strawberries are coming from Wish Farms.

Admission is \$5.

Letter To The Editor

Jeremiah Was Looking For Food in Trash Cans

Dear Editor:

It is a few days after Christmas. Decorations are still up, probably until the New Year rings in and then we have to remember to write 2018 on letters and checks.

Traffic is still heavy, and folks are out and about on errands. I pulled into a convenience store and parked near the side of the building, with a clear view of the front of the store.

I removed my seatbelt and reached for my purse when I noticed a thin, but tall form of a young man dropping a backpack against the front of the store, and he began to remove layer after layer of sweatshirts and T-shirts...about six inches in all, until he was only wearing a sleeveless undershirt. He stretched his arms high in the cool air.

I wondered about him and concluded that he must be homeless. Next, I assumed that he would go into the store to wash. Where was his family? Where did he come from? What was his story and why was he homeless?

I sat and watched as he made his way from trash can to trash can, pulling out paper cups, drink what was left, looking into crumpled wrappers for something to eat. When he found a piece of food, he gobbled it into his mouth without haste.

He walked with a stride to look casual, perhaps so people wouldn't notice him. He

looked disappointed that he didn't find much to eat. My heart began to hurt as I thought about him once being a little boy and now searching trash cans for something to eat.

I thought about the many young people who get into trouble at an early age, maybe do jail time, can't find jobs because of their records, and how taking drugs robs their lives.

I knew there was a fast food place across the parking lot. I could help him buy a burger. I reached into my purse for a bill. No, that was not enough. What about tomorrow? I reached for a larger denomination bill.

Out of my car, I walked toward him. He looked surprised. That is when I met Jeremiah.

“That's a Bible name,” I said.

“I know,” he smiled with some pride in his voice.

“Do you have a mother?” “I have three mothers,” he answered, which led me to believe that he might have been in foster homes when he was younger.

I gave him the money and told him to buy a decent burger and pointed out the burger place across the parking lot.

“Oh, and the fries!” he gleamed. “I love the fries.” He showed such joy about a baggy of fries.

We stood only a foot apart and I could see that Jeremiah was covered with tattoos on both arms, shoulders, and neck, and there was evidence of holes in both ears for earrings. His hair was matted and pulled back, with a little peak

on top.

A moment later, I looked straight into his eyes, and for some reason, I couldn't look away. His eyes were fixed on mine. Eyes tell it all—they are the window to the soul. I saw Jeremiah inside there.

He was a real person, not scary and different like he looked. There was light in his eyes. There shown a personality, and there was a soul revealed. It was then that I felt the touch of his cupped hand on my shoulder. “Thank you,” he said, all with his lips, his eyes, and his hand.

“Where are you headed?” I asked.

“I'm going to see my children, and now I can get some fries and some toys,” he said, and his face lit up.

“Take care of yourself, Jeremiah. Be safe. I will pray for you.”

“I will,” he answered, and took his hand off my shoulder.

We parted ways. Jeremiah picked up his backpack and shirts. And headed across the parking lot. I went into the store, stood there, and sobbed in front of everyone. I had never seen anyone eat out of trash cans until this day.

Over the years, I've heard people say that if you give money to a homeless person, they will spend it on cheap wine. But that is not always the case.

There are many Jeremiahs out there. They probably began like you and me. They just didn't end up the same.

Carol Cowing
Winter Haven

In Other Action

BOCC

The Hardee County Board of County Commissioners considered the following items during its meeting last Thursday:

—approved an agreement to provide up to 10 hours of free Information Technology services to the Hardee Help Center each month.

—approved destroying public records that have met the minimum retention requirements per Florida Statute 257.36.

—approved a temporary special-use permit for locating a second manufactured home

for Norma Rehberg at 3749 Penny Dr.

—approved waivers of the purchasing policy to allow for the purchase of a used John Deere tractor for the Road and Bridge Department and for the purchase of multiple aluminum pipes for the Murphy Road Bridge replacement project.

The next regular Hardee County Board of County Commissioners' meeting will be Jan. 18 at 6 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at 412 W. Orange St., Wauchula.

Crop Update

January 8, 2018

General: According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, January 7, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 2.5 inches in Key Largo (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 33.5°F in Bloxham (Leon County) to 63.3°F in Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus: Temperatures this week in citrus producing counties were the coldest of the 2017-2018 growing season. Nearly all interior counties dropped a couple degrees below freezing on two consecutive mornings, while most coastal counties minimum temperatures hovered around freezing. The minimum temperature in Mount Dora, in the northern area was 28°F. Indian River's minimum recorded temperature was 34°F. Although below freezing in several counties, the temperatures were not cold enough and the duration was not long enough to damage the fruit or trees.

Rainfall was sporadic in the citrus region. Most stations in the southern area recorded less than half an inch of precipitation for the week. All other areas had between 0.5 and 1.5 inches of rainfall. According to the January 4, 2018, U.S. Drought Monitor, the complete citrus region remains drought free.

Grove operations included minimal spraying and harvesting. All growers continued irrigation practices. Field staff reported a few instances of sporadic bloom and new growth on citrus trees.

Fresh fruit harvest consisted primarily of mid-season oranges, grapefruit, and tangerines. Fresh harvest of early oranges and early tangerines (Fallglo and Sunburst) is nearly complete for the season. The majority of white grapefruit picked for fresh use went to the export market, while red grapefruit was more for domestic use. Some processing plants were closed on January 1, but all were up and running for the remainder of the week.

Fruits and Vegetables: Producers in Bradford County reported strawberry damage from the hard frost received. Blueberry and vegetable damage in Osceola County is still being assessed. Multiple reports of producers using freeze protection irrigation systems this week. Vegetable growers throughout the southern part of the state harvested heavily in advance of the cold. Many growers are now preparing land for spring crops. A wide variety of crops are coming to market, including beans, eggplant, herbs, peppers, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and zucchini.

Livestock and Pastures: Cold weather throughout the state and freezing temperatures from the Panhandle to the Central Peninsula damaged several pastures. Pasture quality continues to decline as a result of the low temperatures. Producers are feeding supplements as necessary. Poultry producers in Lafayette County reported an increase in fuel costs required to keep the birds warm. Cattle remain in mostly good condition throughout the state.

Think Someone Needs Help?

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE
1-888-373-7888
or
Text
“Help” or “Info”
to 233733

MEAL DEALS FOR ANY BUDGET

\$5 SMALL 2-TOPPING PIZZA (P2A5)

\$10 LARGE 1-TOPPING PIZZA AND REG. 3-CHEESER BREAD (P210)

\$15 LARGE 2-TOPPING PIZZA PLUS 8 WINGS (P215)

\$20 TWO LARGE 2-TOPPING PIZZAS, REG. 3-CHEESER BREAD & A 2-LITER (P220)

Limited time offer. At participating locations.



Hungry Howies
FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA

WAUCHULA
1038 SOUTH 6TH AVE.
Behind Dunkin' Donuts
773-2100

Make The Winning Score!

SPORTS NEWS DEADLINE IS THURSDAY AT 5PM (WEEKEND EVENT, MONDAY AT NOON)

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FIND NEW ROADS



<p>NEW 2017 CHEVROLET CRUZ LT</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H197</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$16,995</p>	<p>NEW 2017 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H156</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$18,995</p>	<p>NEW 2018 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J1088</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$23,995</p>
<p>NEW 2017 CHEVROLET SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H1293</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$26,995</p>	<p>NEW 2018 CHEVROLET COLORADO EXT. CAB</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J1239</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$24,995</p>	<p>NEW 2017 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS</p> <p>V6, Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H167</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$24,995</p>

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<p>2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H1622A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$12,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVROLET SPARK</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL</p> <p>Stk.#H1669AA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$7,995</p>	<p>2017 CHEVROLET VOLT</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise Only 7,000 miles</p> <p>Stk.#H209A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$25,995</p>
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<p>2014 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED</p> <p>Leather, Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise Only 6,000 miles</p> <p>Stk.#J1170AA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$23,995</p>	<p>2016 CHEVROLET SILVERADO LT 1500 CREW CAB 4X4</p> <p>V8, Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H1687A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$36,995</p>	<p>2015 FORD EXPLORER</p> <p>V6, Auto, Air, PW/PL</p> <p>Stk.#H1639A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$18,995</p>
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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Samaria in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Judges 11, what judge of Israel was a prostitute's son? Hosea, Jephthah, Samson, Lot
3. The 10 Commandments' tables (tablets) had writing on which sides? Front only, Both sides, Back only
4. From Esther 1, what king did Esther marry? Jehu, Omri, Ahasuerus, Zedekiah
5. Who asked, "If a man die, shall he live again"? Samuel, Judas, Job, Stephen

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Jephthah; 3) Both sides; 4) Ahasuerus; 5) Job
Comments? More Trivia? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.

Solunar Forecast

<p>1/11/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:19 AM Set: 5:51 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 32 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 2:39 AM Set: 2:03 PM Overhead: 8:24 AM Underfoot: 8:47 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 24% Waning Crescent</p> <p>Major Times 8:24 AM - 10:24 AM 8:47 PM - 10:47 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 2:39 AM - 3:39 AM 2:03 PM - 3:03 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>	<p>1/13/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:19 AM Set: 5:53 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 34 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 4:24 AM Set: 3:25 PM Overhead: 9:56 AM Underfoot: 10:20 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 10% Waning Crescent</p> <p>Major Times 9:56 AM - 11:56 AM 10:20 PM - 12:20 AM</p> <p>Minor Times 4:24 AM - 5:24 AM 3:25 PM - 4:25 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Good</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>	<p>1/15/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:19 AM Set: 5:54 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 35 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 6:04 AM Set: 4:56 PM Overhead: 11:31 AM Underfoot: ---</p> <p>Moon Phase 2% Waning Crescent</p> <p>Major Times --- 11:31 AM - 1:31 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 6:04 AM - 7:04 AM 4:56 PM - 5:56 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Better</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>	<p>1/17/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:18 AM Set: 5:56 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 38 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 7:37 AM Set: 6:37 PM Overhead: 1:07 PM Underfoot: 12:43 AM</p> <p>Moon Phase 0% Waning Crescent</p> <p>Major Times 12:43 AM - 2:43 AM 1:07 PM - 3:07 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 7:37 AM - 8:37 AM 6:37 PM - 7:37 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Best++</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>
<p>1/12/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:19 AM Set: 5:52 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 33 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 3:32 AM Set: 2:43 PM Overhead: 9:10 AM Underfoot: 9:33 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 16% Waning Crescent</p> <p>Major Times 9:10 AM - 11:10 AM 9:33 PM - 11:33 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 3:32 AM - 4:32 AM 2:43 PM - 3:43 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>	<p>1/14/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:19 AM Set: 5:54 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 35 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 5:15 AM Set: 4:09 PM Overhead: 10:43 AM Underfoot: 11:07 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 5% Waning Crescent</p> <p>Major Times 10:43 AM - 12:43 PM 11:07 PM - 1:07 AM</p> <p>Minor Times 5:15 AM - 6:15 AM 4:09 PM - 5:09 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Better</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>	<p>1/16/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:19 AM Set: 5:55 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 36 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 6:51 AM Set: 5:46 PM Overhead: 12:19 PM Underfoot: ---</p> <p>Moon Phase 0% NEW MOON</p> <p>Major Times --- 12:19 PM - 2:19 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 6:51 AM - 7:51 AM 5:46 PM - 6:46 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Best</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>	<p>1/18/2018 Sun Data Rise: 7:18 AM Set: 5:57 PM</p> <p>Day Length 10 hrs. 39 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 8:18 AM Set: 7:30 PM Overhead: 1:54 PM Underfoot: 1:30 AM</p> <p>Moon Phase 2% Waxing Crescent</p> <p>Major Times 1:30 AM - 3:30 AM 1:54 PM - 3:54 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 8:18 AM - 9:18 AM 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Best++</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -5</p>

Provided courtesy of solunarforecast.com

HARDEE LIVING

SFSC Presents 'Goodtime Tuesdays'

South Florida State College's popular Goodtime Tuesdays Matinee Series is now in full swing.

Matinee performances run January through March on every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. Comedy, theatricals, big bands, Broadway revues, country music, and popular entertainers perform in the 1,460-seat Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts on the Highlands Campus, 600 W. College Dr. in Avon Park. Parking is free.

"People love the variety of this series," said Cindy Garren, director of cultural programs at SFSC. "Plus, they can get home before dark. It's a delightful way to spend a Tuesday afternoon."

Ticket prices for the Matinee Series range from \$12 to \$28. Discounts are offered for a 10-show series subscription or five for a 15-percent discount.

Groups of 12 or more can save as much as 50 percent on admission, and the group organizer receives a free ticket.

Upcoming on Jan. 16, Dunlap & Pennington, who have been featured on PBS, perform Brahms to Broadway, Gershwin to Gaga on a grand piano and a 21st century instrument called a Wersi. A Wersi combines a computer, organ and electronic keyboard to create the sound of a symphony orchestra.

The hilarious Edwards Twins return on Jan. 23 to portray beloved celebrities in an energetic musical revue. You might see Bette Midler, Madonna, Neil Diamond, Sonny & Cher or Elton John. "This is a return engagement that is reminiscent of a Las Vegas revue," Garren said.

Jason Farnham, who has been called the "21st century Victor Borge," performs his

classical remixes on Jan. 30. Farnham's performance has been called a cross between Schroeder from the Peanuts cartoons, George Winsto and Victor Borge. Expect a fun audience sing-along.

Coming in February and March are: Branson on the Road, Feb. 6; former lead singer for The Lettermen, Mark Preston, Feb. 13; bluegrass virtuosos The Kruger Brothers, Feb. 20; The Diamonds in Jukebox Broadway, Feb. 27; Legends of Broadway, March 6; and folk legends The Brothers Four, March 20.

The SFSC Box Office is located at the Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts and is open Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tickets and videos of upcoming productions are online at sfscarts.org. Telephone orders can be made at (863) 784-7178.

TRAM TOURS



COURTESY PHOTO

Highlands Hammock State Park's winter tram tours are now being operated by the Hammock Inn Concession. Tours will depart at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. During the week, the tram will run Tuesdays through Fridays at 1 and 2:30 p.m. Tickets are now \$10 per person. Children 6-12 can ride for \$5 and those 5 and under are free. As the tour is very popular, visitors are advised to purchase tickets a day in advance or early on the morning of the tour. The narrated tour, which runs an hour and 15 minutes, offers visitors a unique opportunity to view alligators, water birds, deer and other wildlife relatively close-up as it runs through an old-growth hammock along Loop Road before turning off into restricted areas of cypress swamp, pine flatwoods and the South Canal. The state park is located at 5931 Hammock Road in Sebring. For more information, call the Hammock Inn at (863) 402-0061.



COURTESY PHOTO

The matinee series continues every Tuesday through March. Branson on the Road (above) will be featured in February.

SFSC Foundation Hosts \$1M Golf Shootout Fundraiser

The South Florida State College Foundation will sponsor its inaugural Million Dollar Hole-in-One Golf Shootout to benefit the Athletic Department next week.

The three-day golf shootout begins Thursday, Jan. 18, and will be held at Sun 'N Lake Golf & Country Club in Sebring.

All amateur golfers, age 18 and older, are welcome to participate.

On Jan. 18 and 19, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., golfers may register for the shootout at the Sun 'N Lake driving range.

They are welcome to purchase as many bags of golf balls as they wish to hit, and may participate as often as they wish throughout the two days. A bag of 10 golf balls will be \$10 per bag.

Golfers who get closest to the pin or get a hole-in-one on the driving range, will advance as top qualifiers.

The top 12 qualifiers will advance to the golf shootout on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 8:30 a.m. Each golfer gets one chance to win the \$1 million prize by shooting a hole-in-one at the par 3 18th hole.

If a player gets a hole-in-one, he wins \$1 million, which will be paid out over 40 years. If multiple players get a hole-in-one, they split the \$1 million dollars equally. If a player wins \$1 million, the second-place winner gets \$250, the third-place winner gets \$100, and fourth place receives a \$50 gift card from Sun 'N Lake Golf & Country Club.

If no one makes a hole in one, the player with a ball closest to the hole wins \$500, the second-place winner gets \$250, third place gets \$100, and fourth place receives a \$50 gift card.

Brookside Bluff News

By Jerry Smith
517-930-1524

For each of the next 12 weeks I will write an article about and for our park. Every article will be different with a positive twist.

It will be informative, serious and humorous. My background was in newspaper production with very little experience in writing. Although, I did articles as an apprenticeship teacher for 10 years. If you want something in this weekly publication please call me or stop in at 7723 Brookside Way.

No doubt we have a great park. It is mostly run by volunteers. We have a total of six paid workers, five of whom are part-time. Only one is full-time, and we all know him as Junior. Benny Boone and Terry Hayden are our maintenance supervisors. Linda Hutson does a great job running our office.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nan Whitmore will be our book keeper. Guen Quinn is in charge of keeping our Club House and all-purpose buildings in tip top shape. She does that with the help of her husband Rick.

We have a total of seven board members all of whom are elected by the residents of Brookside Bluff Condominium Association. In future articles we will look at all seven of these board members and explain their functions. Just don't ever let us forget that none of these individuals are paid to do this difficult job. 2017 was a difficult year for many of us and it was for our park as well. Hurricane Irma left her mark here and we are

still feeling its effect. Slowly we are getting back to normal thanks to all the volunteers. We have many golfers in our park and I don't golf so I need help getting that information in print. Please get me any golf events or personal achievements. It may well be that the men's morning coffee gathering in the club house may be the oldest running gathering in our park. Starting in the fall and all through April as little as four and as many as 25

gather for their morning ritual.

Coffee and a lot of conversation and topics keep the guys and a couple gals coming back for laughter and even some usefull information. Some of the regulars are: Delbert Beach, Benny Boone, Mike Buuck, Paul Conrad, R.J. Fink, Jan Hanson, Virg Hatfield, Bob Haunert, Dick Hester, Betty Lutz, Joan Mcvitte, Rick Quinn, Frank Trybulski, Jim Withers, Art Zackarias, Tim Marze, and Bob Ink.

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Inaugural Fundraiser Benefitting South Florida State College Athletics



JANUARY 18-20, 2018
SUN 'N LAKE GOLF COURSE
SEBRING, FLORIDA



QUALIFYING ROUNDS
Thursday, January 18, 2018
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Friday, January 19, 2018
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.





SHOOTOUT
Saturday, January 20, 2018
9:00 a.m.




For more information, call 863-453-3133.

Event Sponsor

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HARDEE LIVING

VETERAN TURNS 90



COURTESY PHOTO
World War II veteran Jack Trew, father of retired Hardee Senior High School teacher/coach Don Trew, celebrated his 90th birthday on Dec. 26. A resident of Ohio, he recently spent several months here in Wauchula visiting his son and daughter-in-law. Born in 1927, much of his youth was spent in an orphanage and working on an Ohio farm. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1942, and served for nine months before authorities realized he was underage. Trew was honorably discharged and told to go home, finish high school and return when he was legally eligible. He did just that in 1946, and finished serving his naval term. Trew spent his time in the Navy between two ships, the carrier USS Bonhomme Richard and the destroyer USS Douglas H. Fox. Trew is currently back home in Ohio but plans to return to Wauchula for future visits.

Hospital Head Remembers Dr. Fausto Garcia

A respected Hardee County physician died Dec. 29 after spending most of his life in the medical field.

Dr. Fausto Garcia was 89.

Garcia had served as head surgeon at the historic Hardee Memorial Hospital, now known as Florida Hospital Wauchula, for 13 years.

He was born in Manila, the Philippines, in 1928 and attended medical school at the University of Santo Tomas. He then immigrated to Jacksonville in 1960, where he completed his surgical residency.

His career as a doctor began in the emergency room in Nashville, Tenn., and was later established at Hardee Memorial Hospital as head surgeon. He served at HMH from 1970 to 1983 before furthering his career in Lake Wales and, finally, Clearwater.

Garcia retired from the medical field in 1999 and made a residence in New Port Richey.

State Sen. Denise Grimsley, Florida Hospital Wauchula administrator and once a registered nurse at Hardee Memorial Hospital, said of Garcia, "He was there when I started work in 1977. He was a really good surgeon, and we were very fortunate to have him."

**Don't Be Left Out!
 HARDEE LIVING
 DEADLINE IS
 THURSDAY AT
 5 PM**

Fort Green News

By Rilla Cooper
 773-6710

Greetings from Fort Green! It has been too cold for my taste but, believe it or not, I have a friend who says she loves this weather! I know we need some cold for the oranges but I still don't like it.

Too many obits in the paper. My sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Earl Powell. His daughter, Melanie, lives in Fort Green and I consider her family friends. Her dad was mighty young.

Then again, sympathy is extended to the family of Dr. Fausto Garcia. He was the chief of surgery at Hardee Memorial Hospital when I worked there in the '70s. He was a super surgeon and a terrific person. I remember him telling me one time that it made sense for him to sew his daughter's prom gown, since he knew how to make neat tiny stitches. I really liked Dr. Garcia.

Now, the important dates for Fort Green Baptist:

On Jan. 21, we will be celebrating the senior adults, for any over the age of 70. This all started way back when, when Charles Revell wanted to honor Buck Simmons. It just grew, and we decided to honor all over that magical age.

However, this year we must do it differently. There are about 45 over this age, so the only way we would have time to honor them all is just to present a slideshow with their photos and when they came into the church. In the past, the family had talked about their loved one. There will be a covered-dish dinner immediately

after the a.m. service, and the church will furnish the meat.

On Jan. 26, we will be having a movie night in the fellowship hall. The movie will begin at 6:30, and everyone is requested to bring a snack or two to share. Of course the movie is free! I still call movies "picture shows," but I am from the old school!

Brother Steve will be preaching a revival at Zolfo Springs Baptist beginning the p.m. service of Jan. 21 at 6, and then the next three days at 7. Services will go on as usual at Fort Green.

Billie Line is reported to be out of the hospital. Joyce Coker was finally well enough to return to church last Sunday. She has been sick with diverticulitis. Randy Perry was scheduled for heart surgery on Wednesday. B.J. Haney was sick with a migraine last Sunday and could not attend. Barbara Brannon is still sick with a bad cold, and her chronic asthma makes it worse. Josephine Abbott was able to return to church after a bad fall. Wanda and Bill Shoffner are still recovering from her stroke. Please pray for these and others you may be aware.

I goofed last week when I said Sandy was from West Virginia, as she is from Virginia and my other dear friend, Edith Bassett, is from West Virginia!

Mildred Abbott was a dear friend of mine and was a terrific seamstress. She made all of her husband Alton's shirts, and he was a big man. As she got older her eyesight got bad

and if her machine came unthreaded she would have to wait for her grandson, David, to come from school and re-thread it.

All this to say I was reminded of her last week when I could not thread my sewing machine. I ended up calling my granddaughter, Kaylee, to come over and thread for me. She was on her way to work. Amazing how so many of us get the same ailments as we age, but it did bring back good memories of Mrs. Mildred. We both modeled in the Tampa Fair on one occasion, and even though she was a good deal older than I was, we were still real good friends.

Charles Abbott teaches my Sunday School class and he said it had been so cold this past week that the chickens were lined up waiting to get into the deep fryer at KFC!

This past week's weather has amazed me, and sighs that none of us have ever seen. We say it is the signs of the times, and some people will not know what that means. I have never seen fish dying in Florida because the water was too cold nor the ocean washing so much water ashore it freezes around the cars!

School started back this week. I am thankful I do not work anymore. When I first retired I missed work and the people, but now I have grown to be thankful that if I don't feel good I can just stay on the couch!

Please remember to pray for one another, our nation and President Trump.

Jonathan Pleger, formerly of Bud's Barber Shop, will be located at 118 West Orange Street, Wauchula beginning January 16, 2018!

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Decades

What were Hardee Countians thinking and talking about in the 1960s, or maybe the '30s? Each issue, we will revisit that corresponding week and year in a decade past, using old copies of The Florida Advocate, the Hardee County Herald, or The Herald-Advocate. This week, the decade of ...

The '90s
 Jan. 8, 1998

Lucky Kids: There have been two automobile-related accidents in less than a month and both involved small children. The first accident occurred on Dec. 8 when a 13-month-old was playing behind a truck in her backyard when the driver backed into her. The most recent accident occurred in the Winn-Dixie parking lot when a 4-year-old pulled away from his grandmother and ran in front of a truck. Both children were taken to Tampa General Hospital and are well on the road to recovery.

Oil Rigged: A total of 690 customers of a now-defunct company have been left to clean up a mess, and the city of

Working Women: Hardworking women throughout the community will be recognized

HOME COMING CELEBRATION

IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

210 East Broward Street, Bowling Green, Florida 33834

Sunday • Jan. 14, 2018

MUSIC begins at 10:00am
LOCAL SINGERS

GUEST SPEAKER
Rev. Joel Tillis
 Suncoast Baptist Church
 Palmetto

Join Us For Lunch

Following the service, dinner will be served in the fellowship hall. Stay and have lunch with us. Bring your favorite dish of food to share.

There will be no evening service.

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Hardee County Chamber of Commerce

HONORING
"Women In The Workplace"
 Saturday, January 13, 1998
 Reception 6:30 p.m. - Dinner 7:00 p.m.
 Hardee County Agri-Civic Center

ONE DAY ONLY
TWO BIG SHOWS
CIRCUS PAGES

National Guard Armory
 418 S. Orange St., Wauchula, FL
WEDNESDAY JAN. 21, 1998

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TICKETS ON SALE: 4:30 and 7:30
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HARDEE LIVING

4-City News
By Henrietta Benson
448-6737

"Together We Stand" is the theme this weekend for the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. Saturday will begin with a parade on Main Street in downtown Wauchula at 2 p.m. Sunday at 5:30 p.m. will be the Martin Luther King Jr. service in Bowling Green at Greater Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, 607 Palmetto St. Monday will be a breakfast with breakout sessions at 9 a.m., to convene at New Mount Zion AME Church, 1615 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

Don't forget Monday at 1 p.m. will be the MLK Fun Day at the Park, with food, drinks and activities. The park is at the end of Chamberlain Boulevard. Please feel free to contact LaTicia Wilkins at (863) 245-1022 for more info.

Pray for all the sick. Shelby Spencer had oral surgery last Friday.

St. Paul AME Church of Fort Meade's Millie Sellers Women's Missionary Society Worship Service was on Sunday, Dec. 31. The Rev. An-

crum, pastor; Sister Shelia W. Wilcher, Conform and Transform, Romans 12:2. We must be connected to the Power Source, Their worship leader, First Lady Sis. Blanche An-crum.

Congratulations to Jerry Alexander on his newest post. He has been chosen as new councilman for the City Council of Arcadia, DeSoto County. We know him as Pastor Jerry Alexander of Elizabeth Baptist Church.

Happy birthday to January birthdays: Stacy Powell, Erica Harlee, Marcus Fulse, Lexie J. Peters, Mitzi Powell, Kim Gough, Samantha Baker, Michael Boyett, Suella Smith, Teresa Terrell, Bettye Steedley, Vicky Castaneda, Penny Smith, Sylvia Elbertson, Courtney Evans, Melanie A. Smith, Champ Fulse, Elizabeth Jaquez, Wyatt Maddox, Betty Howze, Jodi Barlow, Kay McDonald Patarini, Lawrence Thompson, Ja'Kaiden Davis, Goldia Ford, Irene Hurd, Ollie Daniels, Ashely Rolling, Holly Bryant, Eddie Cofield, Wanda Alt-

man, Diane Shelfer, Henrietta Benson and Carlton Hamilton.

My daddy, Henry Daniels, 82, passed on Jan. 9, 2002. He would be 98. I do miss him much. He was born in Fort Green, and was a truck driver.

Deepest sympathy to the Williams Family for the home-going of Emma Magnolia Williams. Memorial service was Saturday at Endtime Crossroad Ministry, Wauchula. She entered eternal rest on Dec. 28. She was born Oct. 24, 1926.

The memorial service consisted of songs, a poem from grandkids and great-grands, a selection and solo by son Ulysses Williams and long-time friend Jerry McCray, Pastor Dalton, Pastor Earnestine Richardson, the Community Choir and pastor Earnest Hearn.

Steven Malone is at home now after surgery. Please pray for the family of Agnes Corbett in Lakeland Regional Medical Center.

Let us keep our home-bound, sick and shut-in in our prayers.

New Year's Resolutions for 2018

The Herald-Advocate recently left New Year's Resolution blanks at five restaurants in Hardee County. Printed below are the results. In late December 2018 more restaurants will be added to the list.

Customers From Nicholas' Restaurant

"To get along better with my husband, to everyday love each other with more intent, to seek God and His Kingdom!"
—Anonymous

"A better year for me and my family. Put the past in the past and live everyday as a better one. Live life to the fullest. Love my family with all my heart."
—Anonymous

"To save money, get married, and start a new leaf."
—E. H.

"To love God more."
—H. M.

Customers From Giovanni's Restaurant

"To leave 2017 conflict in 2017."
—Anonymous

"To quit smoking. The original New Year's resolution."
—Anonymous

"Quit smoking!"
—Anonymous

"Find Romance"
—Anonymous

Customers From Gloria's Restaurant

"Better pay for our first responders and less pay for our county uppers."
—Anonymous

"Save money, spend more time with family, workout more often, and put down my phone."
—Anonymous

"Volunteer more, save more money, use my time wisely, don't waste a minute on things I can't change or don't have control over, love mother nature more, have a wonderful 2018."
—M. V.

"Be able to get out of bed, drive to Bowling Green, teach my class and make it home for supper."
—Johnny Parker, Caring People Recovery Center

"Be more like Jesus."
—Anonymous

"To work out and lose weight. To be nice to people. Get through the year."
—Anonymous

"Be kinder to my fellow man and be the best witness for my Savior and Lord."
—D. P.

"To stay well and continue to serve God, and try to volunteer some of my time wisely. Try to be friendlier. God Bless everyone in 2018 and now."
—Vickie and Lavoyd Hall

"To get out of my parent's house."
—Bridgette

"Save \$\$ for a vacation (If I ever get a vacation)."
—Anonymous

"Make more money. Become more independent."
—Anonymous

"Purchase two large fire extinguishers. One for the kitchen and one for the garage (Just in case of a house fire)."
—Diane Alderman Miller

Customers From Pioneer Restaurant

"To be kinder and soft spoken, help more people and be grateful for my blessings."
—Anonymous

"Stay alive."
—Anonymous

Customers From Double J Restaurant

"Get a promotion at work!"
—Anonymous

"Pay off debt!!"
—Anonymous

"Lose 60 pounds!"
—Anonymous

"Buy a new car and house."
—Anonymous

"Have no worries."
—Anonymous

"To lose 20 pounds."
—Anonymous

"To lose weight."
—Anonymous

"Strive this semester in college!"
—Anonymous

"Pay off bills."
—Anonymous

Letter To The Editor

Life Requires Choosing Wisdom Or Foolishness

Dear Editor:
WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IN LIFE?

What is most important in life? This question has always been debatable because life requires that we choose between wisdom and foolishness.

Wisdom often calls for endurance and self-sacrifice. Foolishness often disguises itself to be attractive and satisfying.

America's founders were willing to pay the price of endurance and self-sacrifice. Many of them recognized the God of the Bible as "the most important" person. Emphasis was given to marriage, family, and individual responsibility. Government was given to "we the people."

When "the most important" status is placed elsewhere, all of life is up for re-definition, including marriage, family, and individual responsibility. The lies of socialism are made to be attractive and appealing. Government is no longer "we the people;" even the value of

life is lost. At times of tragedy and death, what is most important often becomes crystal clear: only by looking to God can we find strength to keep going and find meaning in life.

I think of my wife's sister Valetta, who has experienced many tragedies. She married a talented young pastor. They were blessed with 3 children. When the oldest child was three years old, he died of leukemia; and then Valetta's husband died of Hodgkin's disease at the age of 32.

Valetta shares what happened nine years later: "On black ice near Indianapolis, a head-on collision took the lives of two vibrant Christian young people—my children,

Leon, age 17, and Lorna, age 15. God's Word assured me that the best day of their lives had happened. They were with Christ. They were more alive than I was. I began praying Romans 8:28: 'Please, Lord, bring eternal good out of this tragedy, and use your power to help me.'"

You can read more in her book, "Another Valley, Another Victory."

Life is a precious gift from God. We should seek what is most important because our lives and souls depend upon it. Choosing wisdom or choosing foolishness leads to very different eternities.

Virgil Ullom, D.D.S.
Babson Park

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"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." — 2 Chronicles 7:14
We need a healing in our land: and it comes through prayer and A GOOD REVIVAL to stir our hearts toward GOD!
Evangelist Keith Barron
will be at
Faith Temple Ministries Church Of God
Sunday January 14 • 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Anointed Worship led by Faith Worship Team in the a.m.
Jeff Edwards Sunday Evening
Monday thru Wednesday 7 p.m.
Monday Pastor Phillip Williams — Cornerstone
Tuesday with Pastor Terry Brown — Legacy Church
Wednesday with our own Faith Youth Band.
Pastors Wendell G. and Ty Smith
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ANNOUNCEMENT
South Florida State College
Nursing Program Accreditation
The South Florida State College Nursing Program is seeking continuing accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) for its Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (ADN) program.
The SFSC Nursing Department will host the ACEN visitation team as the final part of the accreditation process. You are invited to meet the ACEN visitation team and share your comments about the SFSC Associate of Science Degree in Nursing program at a meeting scheduled for:
Wednesday, Jan. 31, 3-4 p.m.
Dr. Norman L. Stephens Jr.
Health and Science Education Center
Room 138/150
SFSC Highlands Campus
600 West College Drive, Avon Park
Written comments are also welcome and should be directly submitted to:
Dr. Marsal Stoll,
Chief Executive Officer
Accreditation Commission for
Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
or email: mstoll@acenursing.org
Written comments should arrive by Wednesday, Jan. 25.
SOUTH FLORIDA State College
863-453-6661 southflorida.edu
soc1:11c

WES Students Take Laps In Annual Run



Wauchula Elementary School students, staff members and families gathered in Wildcat Stadium recently to cheer on the participants in the annual Bobkitten Run. This long-standing tradition at the school is open to all grades, and has kindergartners running one lap around the track. Kindergarten girls were (front, from left) place winners Amelia Roberts, Paris Lewis and Allison Perez; (back) Tory Daniels, Mariah Capron, Laura Ontiveros, Alissabeth Alexander, Layla King and Jacqueline Flores with Coach Lindsey Smith.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Kindergarten boys running a lap were (from front left) place winners Giovanni Torres, Xavier Hilario and Rolland Rivas; (back) Andrew Whidden, Jace Weiss, Jack Bond, Liam Nadaskay, Jaxson Hays, Brayan Vargas-Palacios, Jesus Antonio-Hernandez and Moises Rubinos.



First-grade girls rounding two laps for the Bobkitten Run were (from front left) place winners Taylor Johnston, Morgan Peterson and Kylee Miller; (back) Jocelyn Carmona-Alonso, Bella Mei Pazzaglia, Erin Malloy, Addilyn Hilton, Aryes Abbey, Elizabeth Margarito-Gomez, Kyaji Harris, Emmalyn Chester and Melissa Garcia-Torres.



First-grade boys running two laps were (from front left) place winners Joel Youte, Jason Rickett and Uriel Gonzalez; (back) Gunner Newman, Michael Capron, Tereon Snell, Derrick Pluskota, Tony Virgile, Bryan Hernandez-Patricio, Manuel Herrera and Justin Baker.



The Bobkitten Run meant two laps for second graders. Girls taking the challenge were (front, from left) place winners Shanah Virgile, McKenzie Parks and Mazie Pelham; (back) Toccar Daniels, Natalia Chavez, Evelyn Ramirez-Perez, Lily Southwell, Jennifer Torres, Amarr Bragg, Karley Williams, Emalyn Johnston and Amaia Paulino-Mendieta.



Second-grade boys taking the challenge were Kole Goodwyn and Bryan Canary, place winners Maverick Pleger, Elias Ramirez and Marcus Jaimes, and Francisco Lagunas-Vargas and Ross Rivas; (back) Oracio Duran, Reid Miller, Grant Bass, Berlens Sanon, Jud Hays and Victor Rodriguez with Coach Lindsey Smith.



The Bobcat Mile is for third through fifth graders, and includes four laps around the track. Third-grade girls were (front, from left) Jasmine Hall, place winners Elizabet Lagunas-Vargas, Lilyana Wilson and Monica Vazquez, and Itzel Diaz and Destiny Roberts; (back) Zoe Dials, Giselle Ramirez, Jermaiya Cunningham, Whitney Baker, Kaiya Capron and Kylie Rickett with Coach Lindsey Smith.



Third-grade boys running the Bobcat Mile were (from front left) William Fleurimond, place winners Travion Blandin, Nolan Roberts and Dalton Garner, and Cohen Trott; (back) Joshua White, Saul Hernandez, TyRin Graham, Nathan Svendsen, Ransom Dick, Garrett Miller and Seth Mullins.



Fourth-grade girls running the mile were (front, from left) Jissele Rivera, place winners Taylor McCants, Madelyn Nadaskay and Ty'lia Graham, and Alexandra Jackson and Liliana Acuna; (back) Ivy Pazzaglia, Jordyn Lozano, Saydee Herrera, Enalia Virgile, Brenda Vaquero-Bautista and Ellie Schontag with Coach Lindsey Smith.



Fourth-grade boys taking four laps were (from front left) Gauge Gardella and Ernesto Garduno, place winners Joseph Factor, Gaige Cartwright and Jeremiah Cabrera, and Cezar Ceja-Miranda and Christopher Grosu; (back) Izaiah Carlton, Cutter Travers, Ryan Rivas, Isai Lugo, Leo Marrero, Matthew Eisenhauer, Peyton Peterson and Wyatt Beattie.



Running the Bobcat Mile were fifth-grade girls (from front left) Addi Duncan and Aaliyah Bruno-Perez, place winners Jaeda Holley, Laina Canary and Sugar Blas, and Makayla Deleon; (back) Kristen Arce, Elizabeth Arana, Kayleigh Harris, Ava Roberts and Chalyah Young with Coach Lindsey Smith.



Fifth-grade boys taking the mile challenge were (front, from left) Felix Antonio-Hernandez, place winners Caleb Nadaskay, Raymond Norris and Jorren Bryan, and Ashton Bass and Bryan Myrick; (back) Miguel Aviles, Angel Patino, Micah Thompson, Landon Smith, Braden Tyson, Braden Moran and Braxton Rucker.



Students with special needs who tackled the challenge were (front row, from left) Jennyfer Velzquez-Dejesus, Daisy Hilario, and place winners Liliana Cardozo, Yurita Trejo-Zurita and Brandon Wisniewski; (back row) Gabriela Reyes and Raymond Lozano.

Inside Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

Renee Zellweger, whose last musical film was the Oscar-winning "Chicago" (2002), is taking on playing the iconic Judy Garland during the final six months of her life in the film musical "Judy." Zellweger, 47, will play Judy at 46 doing five weeks of concerts at London's Talk of the Town as she battled her managers (who were robbing her blind), her relationships (she wed musician Mickey Deems March 15, 1969), musicians and fans. The film will feature some of Garland's best-known songs. In 2001, ABC aired the two-part mini-series "Me and My Shadow: A Family Memoir," based on her daughter Lorna Luft's book, which won five Emmy Awards, including best actress for Judy Davis, who played Garland. Judy Garland died June 22, 1969, at 47, three months and seven days after marrying Mickey Deems.

Cher is returning to the big screen in the sequel "Mamma Mia, Here We Go Again." Returning from the original

"Mamma Mia" (2008) are Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Christine Baranski, Amanda Seyfried, Dominic Cooper, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgard and Julie Walters. New to the sequel are Andy Garcia, as Fernando (an Abba song title), Lily James, as the young Meryl Streep, and Cher as Streep's mother, Ruby Sheridan. The film features three Abba songs, "When I Kissed the Teacher," "I Wonder (Departure)" and "Angeleyes." Does Cher sing? We'll find out July 20.

James Franco's film "The Disaster Artist" (which he directed and played the man who made, arguably, the worst film ever) is having success, already grossing \$16.7 million of its \$10 million budget in limited release. Franco and the film were nominated for Golden Globes as best actor and best picture (in a musical or comedy). His next project will be directing and voicing the computer-animated film "Arctic Justice: Thunder

Squad," with Heidi Klum, Jeremy Renner, Alec Baldwin and Anjelica Huston, opening Jan. 26. Franco has completed acting in and directing "Zeroville," with Will Ferrell, Seth Rogan, Megan Fox, Danny McBride and Dave Franco.

Alec Baldwin has really amped up his movie career because of all the fire from "Saturday Night Live" and his portrayal of Donald Trump. In addition to "Zeroville" and "Downsizing," he's got a major role in "Mission Impossible 6," with Tom Cruise, Henry Cavill, Rebecca Ferguson, Simon Pegg, Ving Rhames, Michelle Monaghan and Angela Bassett, opening July 27. He's just completed filming "The Private Life of a Modern Woman," with Sienna Miller, and "Drunk Parents," with Salma Hayek. Baldwin started his career on Broadway playing Stanley Kowalski in "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Macbeth" and "South Pacific."

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Mary, Phyllis, Anna & Irene Daytona Beach 1947

Rose swimming 1948

John on his canoe 1950

Elizabeth playing tennis 1949

Arthur and Doris offshore fishing Islamorada 1947

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PROPERTY TAX SAVINGS

FILING DEADLINE: MARCH 1st

Exemptions are not transferable; a new application must be filed for any type of ownership changes.

HOMESTEAD

Exemption Up to \$50,000

FLORIDA LAW requires that applications be made by March 1st.

To be eligible for this exemption property owners must apply in person, and

- **Hold title to the property as of January 1, 2018**
- **Reside on the property as of January 1, 2018**
- **Be a Legal resident of the State of Florida as of January 1, 2018**

Bring the following: Florida Driver's License (showing current physical address) Social Security Cards, Florida vehicle license plate number(s), Florida voter's registration card or Declaration of Domicile. Other documents may be requested upon the applications review. If not a U.S. Citizen, a valid residency card will be required. If a mobile home is involved, bring registration certificate or title.

SENIOR EXEMPTION

Every person who is eligible for the homestead exemption described above is eligible for an additional homestead exemption under the following circumstances: (1) the taxpayer is 65 years of age or older as of January 1st of the year for which the exemption is claimed; (2) the annual household income of the taxpayer for the prior year must not exceed the adjusted gross income limits; and, (3) the taxpayer annually submits a sworn statement of household income to the property appraiser not later than March 1st.

AGRICULTURAL "Greenbelt" CLASSIFICATION

All owners or lessees of agricultural lands who are engaged in a "bona fide" agricultural business and desire to apply for agricultural classification for tax purposes must file the application with the Appraiser's Office between now and March 1st. Copy of lease required if applicable. Applications are available from our office or on-line www.qpublic.net/hardee.

Other EXEMPTIONS

DISABILITY	RELIGIOUS
DISABLED VETERANS COMBAT RELATED TAX EXEMPTION (65 and Older)	DISABLED FIRST RESPONDERS
DISABLED VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION (at least 10% war or service connected)	ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY TAX EXEMPTION
NON-PROFIT	WIDOWER/WIDOW

TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY (TPP) EXEMPTION

Every person, firm corporation, etc. owning tangible personal property used in a business, commercial venture, or rental property, is required to file an initial return with the Property Appraiser. Deadline to file the return is April 1st to receive exemption and avoid penalties.

Tax Exemption or "Greenbelt" questions; please contact us at (863) 773-2196.

KATHY L CRAWFORD

HARDEE COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

Courthouse Annex II
110 W. Oak Street, Room 103
Wauchula, FL 33873

Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m.

FILING DEADLINE: MARCH 1st

Courthouse Report

COUNTY COURT

The following marriage licenses were issued recently in the office of the county court:

Monty Justin English, 41, Ona, and Kathleen Louise Whaley, 40, Ona.
 Ramon Pablo Hernandez, 30, Zolfo Springs, and Odevilia Olmos, 31, Zolfo Springs.
 Dustin Dell Colburn, 23, Zolfo Springs, and Whitley Leighanne Sheffield, 28, Wauchula.

The following small claims cases were disposed of recently by the county judge:

Dennis Floyd vs. Julie Jones, the state Department of Corrections, voluntary dismissal.
 Suncrest Credit Union vs. Dana D. Richardson, dismissed for lack of progress.
 MidFlorida Credit Union vs. Candace K. English and others, judgment.

The following misdemeanor cases were disposed of recently in county court:

Johnny Benavides, resisting/obstructing an officer

without violence, transferred to pretrial diversion program, return March 7.

Oscar Castillo, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, probation 12 months, 30 hours community service, \$465 fines, costs and fees; possession of cannabis, not prosecuted.

Jimmy Granger, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, \$465 fines, costs and fees; possession of cannabis, not prosecuted.

Brianna Jo Hardy, domestic battery and misuse of wireless 911 system, transferred to pretrial diversion program, return Feb. 21.

Anthony Brian Lee, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, \$465 fines, costs and fees; possession of marijuana, not prosecuted.

Carlos Marquez, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, \$415 fines, costs and fees; possession of cannabis, not prosecuted.

Dana Nicole Martinez, petit theft, probation six months, banned from store, retail theft class, 30 hours community

service, \$8.99 restitution, \$450 fines, costs and fees.

Austin Todd Nellis, petit theft and resisting a merchant, transferred to pretrial diversion program, return Feb. 21.

Remedios Ortiz, violation of city noise ordinance, transferred to pretrial diversion program, return Feb. 7.

Johnathan Richey, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, \$465 fines, costs and fees; possession of cannabis, not prosecuted.

CIRCUIT COURT

The following civil actions were filed recently in the office of the circuit court:

Monica Elisondo and the state Department of Revenue (DOR) vs. Treyhmaine X. Small, petition for administrative child support order.

Samantha Lane and DOR vs. Robert David Lane Jr., petition for administrative child support order.

Stephanie Lashawn Thomas and DOR vs. Adrienne Alvarado, petition for administrative child support order.

Emily Louise Baker vs. Alexander Jackson Jr., petition for injunction for protection.

Berestine McLeod vs. Alfreda R. Burks, petition for injunction for protection.

Thomas O'Brien vs. Florida Commission on Inmate Review, petition to review situation.

The following decisions on civil cases pending in the circuit court were handed down recently by the circuit court judge:

Jonnie Anna Wright and Hardee Pace, divorce.

Samuel Macedo Cervantes and Maria Consuelo Banda, divorce.

Tammy Lang Blandin and Erik A. Blandin, divorce.

Meagan R. Judah Yodanis and Frank C. Yodanis, divorce.
 Brittany Olsen vs. Carolyn Olsen, injunction for protection.

Emily Griffin vs. William Griffin, injunction for protection.

Tia Michelle Davidson and DOR vs. Nattiel E. Camel, order.

Darci Orth and DOR vs. William M. Herrin Jr., order.
 Rausy Rodriguez Cardenas vs. Josefina A. Mason Monk, order.

Santos Martinez and DOR vs. Alma Mar, order on child support credit.

Rita Hernandez and DOR vs. Carolina Luna, judgment of enforcement of administrative child support order.

James D. Simmons and Joni L. Westmoreland Simmons, divorce.

Susana Luevano and DOR vs. Richard A. Lored, judgment on enforcement of administrative child support order.

Maria Montanez vs. Valentin Arrellano Abundo and DOR, modification of child support.

Wauchula State Bank vs. Richard E. Emerson, judgment.

Charity LaRage Graham and DOR vs. Devon LaRai Morgan, judgment on enforcement of administrative child support order.

Jose Esquivel and DOR vs. Jay Jesus Terrazars Jr., child support suspended.

The following felony cases

were disposed of recently by the circuit judge. Defendants have been adjudicated guilty unless noted otherwise. When adjudication is withheld, it is pending successful completion of probation. Sentences are pursuant to an investigative report by and the recommendation of the state probation office and also state sentencing guidelines. Final discretion is left to the judge:

Jose Angel Garcia, violation of probation (original charge possession of methamphetamine), probation revoked, Florida State Prison one year and one day, consecutive to sentences from DeSoto and Hendry counties, \$200 fees added to outstanding fines, costs and fees and placed on lien.

Joseph Bryant Herrin, violation of community control—house arrest (original charges grand theft and possession of synthetic cannabis), community control terminated unsuccessfully, outstanding fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

Jamie Samantha Hrabal, possession of methamphetamine and violation of community control (original charges possession of methamphetamine and neglect of child), community control modified to two years and to include inpatient treatment and be followed by two years drug offender probation, \$1,518 fines, costs and fees.

Dustin Phillip Moore, trespass and taking wildlife on roads or rights-of-way—amended to trespass, adjudication withheld, probation 12 months, concurrent with Charlotte County charges, forfeit weapon and ammunition, hunter safety course, 50 hours community service, no firearms, \$1,179.62 fines, costs and fees, from bond and

payment.
 Delisha Kenyon Redden, violation of community control (original charge possession of methamphetamine), reinstate community control with condition of 40 days in jail and electric monitoring, \$400 fees added to outstanding fines, costs and fees.
 James Anthony Reynolds, felony battery with great bodily harm—amended to domestic battery and misdemeanor charge violation of conditional release, 5 months in jail, \$2,107 fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

The following real estate transactions of \$10,000 or more were filed recently in the office of the clerk of court:

Devin G. and Arianna J. Lawrence to Devin G. and Arianna J. Lawrence, \$54,000.

Zita B. O'Brian to Steven L. and Robyn R. Withers, \$94,000.

Ofelia Villalva to Julian Garcia and Lisette Y. Villalva, \$89,500.

Guadalupe Reyna to Taurino Nolasco Medina and Victoria Cruz Hernandez, \$75,000.

Hardee County Clerk of Court to City of Wauchula in re: the estate of Leslie L. Lambert, certificate of title, \$12,000.

Oxxllet C. Owusu and Kathy H. Lee to Oxxo Research Inc., \$121,000.

Aaron Realty Plus Inc. to Teresa Miranda, \$61,600.

Miguel Angel Avila Iniguez and Maria Del Carmen Rodriguez to Elvira Felicity Servin and Julia Herrera, \$123,000.

Peter and Ana Sanchez to Paul M. Rivera, \$31,500.

Pamela R. Sellers and Kassie L. Knight to Philip W. Kersey, \$30,000.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are:

CERTIFICATE NO.: 933
 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011
 NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED: William A. Greenaway

Description of Property (Parcel Identification Number 26-34-25-0731-00001-0012):

DESCRIPTION:
 LOT 12
 TWIN OAKS MANOR
 367P586

SUBJECT TO RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

All of the property is in HARDEE, State of Florida. Unless the certificate or certificates are redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder on JANUARY 24TH, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.

Victoria L. Rogers
 Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
 Hardee County, Florida
 Florida Ad No.: 1
 By: Norma M. Juarez, Deputy Clerk
 Tax Deed File: 252017TDD032XXXX
 Date: 12/14/2017
 Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

12:21-1:11c

Flash Back

By Chris Richcreek

1. Name the group that released "It Only Takes a Minute."
2. Which vocal group released albums entitled "Bop Doo-Wopp" and "Vocalese" in the same year.
3. Who wrote and released "Put a Little Love in Your Heart"?
4. Which female artist first recorded "Walkin' After Midnight," and when?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Aruba, Jamaica, ooh I wanna take you to Bermuda, Bahama, come on pretty mama, Key Largo, Montego, baby why don't we go."

ANSWERS

1. Tavares, in 1975. The song went to No. 10 on the pop charts but disco was another story: It went to No. 2 for five weeks.
2. The Manhattan Transfer, in 1984. "Vocalese" netted 12 Grammy nominations, second only to the "Thriller" album by Michael Jackson.
3. Jackie DeShannon, in 1969. Annie Lennox and Al Green covered the song in 1988 for the film "Scrooged."
4. Patsy Cline, in 1957, after appearing on Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts TV show.
5. "Kokomo," by the Beach Boys, in 1988. The group recorded the song just in time for the release of the film "Cocktail" and was included in the soundtrack. "Kokomo" was nominated for a Grammy that year.

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Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA. CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO. 252017CA000238

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WANDA FAYE KING; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR

INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated December 6, 2017, and entered in Case No. 252017CA000238 of the Circuit Court in and for Hardee County, Florida, wherein FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION is Plaintiff and WANDA FAYE KING; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash 2nd floor hall outside room 202 of the Hardee County Courthouse, 417 West Main Street, Wauchula, FL 33873, 11:00 a.m., on January 24, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 3, BLOCK 7, AVALON PARK ADDITION TO WAUCHULA, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 2-75, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of the Court not later than five business days prior to the proceeding at the Hardee County Courthouse. Telephone 863-773-4174 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.

DATED at Wauchula, Florida, on December 6, 2017.

VICTORIA L. ROGERS, As Clerk, Circuit Court

By: Connie Coker As Deputy Clerk

1:11,18c

NOTICE OF FINAL AGENCY ACTION BY THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Notice is given that the District's Final Agency Action is approval of the application for an Environmental Resource Permit to serve Road Project activities on 0.14 acres known as Murphy Road Bridge Replacement.

The project is located in Hardee County, Section(s) 11 & 12, Township 35 South, Range 24 East.

The permit applicant is Hardee County whose address is 205 Hanchey Road, Wauchula, FL 33873.

The Permit No. is 47043325.000

The file(s) pertaining to the project referred to above is available for inspection Monday through Friday except for legal holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Southwest Florida Water Management District, 7601 Highway 301, North Tampa, Florida 33637-6759.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the District's action regarding this matter may request an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), of the Uniform Rules of Procedure. A request for hearing must (1) explain how the substantial interests of each person requesting the hearing will be affected by the District's action, or proposed action; (2) state all material facts disputed by each person requesting the hearing or state that there are no disputed facts; and (3) otherwise comply with Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. A request for hearing must be filed with and received by the Agency Clerk of the District at the District's Brooksville address, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604-6899 within 21 days of publication of this notice (or within 14 days for an Environmental Resource Permit with Proprietary Authorization for the use of Sovereign Submerged Lands). Failure to file a request for hearing within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any right such person may have to request a hearing under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice of agency action. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the District in this matter have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., to settle an administrative dispute regarding the District's action in this matter is not available prior to the filing of a request for hearing.

1:11c

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a joint meeting of the **HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** and the **PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD** for the purpose of receiving Mosaic Fertilizer LLC 2016-2017 Annual Reports for
 Fort Green Southern Reserves,
 Fort Green/Payne Creek Extension
 Fort Meade Mine North Hardee
 North Pasture
 South Pasture
 and
 South Fort Meade Mine, Hardee County

Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.

or as soon thereafter at the Hardee County Board of County Commission Chambers, Room 102, Courthouse Annex, 412 West Orange Street, Wauchula, Florida

Copies of the documents relating to this report are available for public inspection during regular office hours at the office of the Hardee County Mining Coordinator, 220 South Ninth Avenue, Wauchula, Florida, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. All interested persons shall have the right to be heard. In rendering recommendations from the Planning/Zoning Board and decision of the Board of County Commissioners, the Boards shall rely solely on testimony that is relevant and material. Although minutes of the Public Hearing will be recorded anyone wishing to appeal any decision made at the public hearings will need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceedings is made by a court reporter.

This is a Disabled-Accessible facility. Any disabled person needing to make special arrangements should contact the County Manager's Office at least two (2) working days prior to the public hearing.

Russell Melendy, Chairman
 Board of County Commissioners

1:11c

THE CLASSIFIEDS

ABOUT ... Classifieds

DEADLINETuesday noon
RATESMinimum of \$5.00 for up to 10 words. Each additional word is 25¢. Ads in all capitals are 35¢ per word. Headlines are \$2 a line. Blind ad box numbers are \$5 extra.
BILLINGAds must be pre-paid.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Agriculture | Mobile Homes |
| Appliances | Notices |
| Automobile | Personal |
| Boats | Pets |
| Furniture | Plants/Produce |
| Guns | Real Estate |
| Help Wanted | Recreational |
| Houses | Rentals |
| Livestock | Rentals, Commercial |
| Lost & Found | Services |
| Miscellaneous | Wanted |
| Motorcycles | Yard Sales |

Help Wanted

FULL TIME MAINTENANCE
 Person wanted for RV community in Bowling Green, FL. General knowledge of construction/maintenance/plumbing/electrical experience preferred. Apply in person at Pioneer Creek RV Resort, 138 East Broward Street, Bowling Green, FL 33834 or call our office at 863-375-4343.
 1:11-2:8p

LEARN TO DRIVE A TRUCK! Get your Commercial Driver's License today at South Florida State College. Scholarships available to eligible participants. 863-784-7033. 1:11-2:1c

FLORIDA FERTILIZER IS Hiring a warehouse employee who can operate a forklift and is computer literate. Apply in person at our office. 1:4tfc

MECHANIC NEEDED. Must have own tools. Apply in person at BG Small Engine, 4702 US Hwy. 17 N., BG. 12:21tfc

HELP WANTED: SERVICE Technician. Apply at Ullrich's Water Conditioning, 409 Goolsby Street, Wauchula. 10:19tfc

Lost/Found

HAVE YOU LOST A PET? Contact animal control in Bowling Green at 863-375-2255 to see if we have your cat or dog. We also have pets for adoption. 4:16dh/tfc

Pets

ADOPT A PET! If you have lost a pet or are looking for a new one, the City of Wauchula invites you to come and see if you can find the pet you're looking for. The Wauchula Animal Control is located at 685 Airport Road. Please call 863-773-3265 for more information. tfc-dh
ATTENTION! State Statutes 828.29 requires that all cats and dogs sold in Florida be at least 8 weeks old, have an official health certificate, have necessary shots and be free of parasites. tfc-dh

Rentals

HOUSES, COMMERCIAL, Industrial, 200/wk up. No deposits. 863-773-4567, 863-445-0915, 863-773-6616. 1:4-2:1p

ATTENTION! The Federal Fair Housing Act prohibits advertising any preference or limitation based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or the intention to make such a preference or limitation. Familial status includes children under 18 living with parents or guardians and pregnant women. tfc-dh

Services

I, JOE, WILL PICKUP for FREE old stoves, refrigerators, microwaves, freezers, lawn mowers and other metals. Call 863-245-9898. 12:14-1:11p

THE WAUCHULA LIONS CLUB collects NOT broken prescription eyeglasses, cases and sunglasses. Please drop off at 735 N. 6th Ave. tfc-dh

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Thursday 7:00 p.m., Grace Fellowship Church, 131 S. 8th Ave., Wauchula. Bill 727-326-3816. tfc-dh

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Candy E. Kendrick
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 DeSoto Memorial Hospital
 900 N Robert Ave
 Arcadia, FL 34266
 Phone: 863-494-8405
 Fax: 863-494-8400

cl:4, 11c

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 2007 GMC
 VIN: 1GKFK66857J230808
 8:00 A.M. JANUARY 30, 2018
 ROBERTS TOWING
 377 Old Dixie Hwy.,
 Bowling Green, FL 33834

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 2009 LINCOLN
 VIN: 3LNHM26T99R611853
 8:00 A.M. JANUARY 30, 2018
 ROBERTS TOWING
 377 Old Dixie Hwy.,
 Bowling Green, FL 33834

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 2003 FORD
 VIN: 1FMZU73K23ZB07354
 8:00 A.M. JANUARY 30, 2018
 ROBERTS TOWING
 377 Old Dixie Hwy.,
 Bowling Green, FL 33834

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 2002 Chevy Monte Carlo LS
 2 Dr Yellow
 VIN: 2G1WW15E329385381
 10:00 AM, JAN. 23, 2018
 HILL'S TOWING, INC.
 4205 US HWY 17 N.
 BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Hacienda Farms, Inc. is hiring 20 farmworkers to cultivate and harvest tomato crops in Collier County, FL for a temporary period starting on 02/07/2018 and ending on 05/28/2018. Three (3) months of work experience harvesting vegetables is required. The wages offered are the highest of \$11.29/hr. or applicable piece rates. 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 pre-hire drug or alcohol tests at no cost to the worker. Workers must be able to lift 70lbs. to shoulder height repetitively throughout the workday and able to lift and carry 70lbs. in field. 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 subsistence 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: FL10596970. cl:11,18c

68 temporary farmworkers needed for common field labor in tobacco, sweet potatoes, cotton, corn, soybeans and other diversified crops in Sampson County, North Carolina, for Blue View, Inc. with work beginning on or about 03/10/2018 and ending on or about 11/23/2018. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 1 month verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.46 per hour or applicable piece rates depending on crop activity. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to NCWorks Career Center - Sampson County, 115 North Boulevard, Clinton, NC 28328, (910) 592-5756 or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #NC10792873 EOE. H-300-17362-355442. cl:11c

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 ✓ Gas or Diesel Manual or Automatic Transmissions

ASE

25 temporary farmworkers needed for common field labor in cucumbers, soybeans, tobacco, corn, sweet potatoes, cotton and other diversified crops in Sampson County, North Carolina, for Kevin J. Lee with work beginning on or about 03/10/2018 and ending on or about 12/07/2018. The job offered is for a skilled farmworker and requires minimum 1 month verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.46 per hour and piece rate may be offered depending on crop activity. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to NCWorks Career Center - Sampson County, 115 North Boulevard, Clinton, NC 28328, (910) 592-5756, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #NC10793702. EOE. H-300-18002-133687. cl:11c

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cl:4,30tfc

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HARDEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

PAY RATE:
\$24,369.88 (\$11.72/hr.) - \$33,594.15 (\$16.15/hr.)

Responsible for operating trucks and moderate sized equipment. Ability to work tasks relating to solid waste disposal and customer service. High School Diploma or GED. Valid FL Class A w/Air Brake and Tanker endorsements. Must possess or obtain within 6 months of employment, a Florida Landfill Spotters Certification. Job description and application at County website, www.hardeecounty.net. Submit application to Hardee County HR Department at 205 Hanchey Road, Wauchula, FL 33873, Phone: (863) 773-2161. Open until filled. EOE-FM/V

cl:11c

HELP WANTED
UTILITY OPERATIONS
TRAINEE

\$19,760.00 (\$9.50/hr.) - \$28,080.00 (\$13.50/hr.)

CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

The City of Bowling Green is accepting applications for a full-time Utility Operations Trainee. This position involves work in the operations of the city water/wastewater service area treatment plants, collection, distribution & transmission lines, operation and maintenance. The successful applicant must have knowledge of occupational safety hazards and necessary precautionary measures and must possess the ability to learn methods of testing, performing simple repairs, and operating water and wastewater system related chemical, mechanical and/or electrical equipment. Applicant must possess a valid Florida driver's license and High School diploma or equivalent. This position will remain open until filled. All interested applicants must apply at CareerSource Heartland located at 324 Sixth Avenue North, Wauchula, FL 33873. No applications will be accepted at the City Hall. The City of Bowling Green is a Drug-Free Workplace and an Equal Opportunity Employer.

cl:11,18c

HELP WANTED
POLICE OFFICER
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

The City of Bowling Green is accepting applications for a full-time police officer. The successful applicant must possess a current Florida certification and fulfill the hiring prerequisites as set forth by the department, which includes a thorough background investigation and drug screening. The position will remain open until filled. To obtain an application, please contact Captain Brett Dowden or Chief John Scheel at (863)375-2255 or you may obtain one in person at 104 E. Main St. The police department offers competitive pay and benefits and an active, challenging work environment. The City of Bowling Green is a drug free workplace and an equal opportunity employer.

cl:11,18c

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 Avon Park, FL 33825

cl:5,4tfc

Happy Harvest, LLC is hiring 68 farmworkers to cultivate and harvest strawberry crops in Manatee County, FL for a temporary period starting on 01/16/2018 and ending on 04/10/2018. Two (2) months of work experience harvesting strawberries is required. The wages offered are the highest of \$11.29/hr. or applicable piece rates. 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 pre-hire drug or alcohol tests at no cost to the worker. Workers must be able to lift 50lbs. to shoulder height repetitively throughout the workday and able to lift and carry 50lbs. in field. 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 subsistence 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: FL10588640. cl:11,18c

GENERAL MAINTENANCE MECHANIC
PAY RATE:
\$28,128.45 (\$13.52/hr.) - \$38,775.38 (\$18.64/hr.)

Wanted for the Hardee County Facilities Department. Responsible for general and specialized tasks in the construction, renovation, modification, installation and repair of buildings, equipment, apparatus and facilities. This is skilled maintenance and construction work in various trades.

- **Two (2) years' experience in building/repair in one or more trades.**
- **Must have a High School Diploma or GED.**
- **May be required to possess a valid Florida Class "B" Commercial Driver's license.**

Complete job description and Application forms posted on County website @ www.hardeecounty.net. Applications accepted in the Human Resources Department @ 205 Hanchey Road, Wauchula, FL 33873, Phone: (863) 773-2161. **Position is open until filled.** Excellent Benefits including State Retirement. EOE- F/M/V.

cl:11,18c

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mark33862@gmail.com

cl:11tfc

9 temporary horticultural workers needed for nursery work in Lake County, OH, for Stropkey Nurseries, Inc., with work beginning on or about 02/27/2018 and ending on or about 12/15/2018. The job offered is for a skilled nursery worker and requires minimum 3 months verifiable nursery work experience (Horticultural Worker I). The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$12.93 per hour. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to OMJ Center Lake County, 177 Main St, Painesville, OH 44077, (440) 350-4000, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #OH3308148. EOE. H-300-17356-519245. cl:11c

THE CLASSIFIEDS

Services

VITAS INNOVATIVE HOSPICE Care offers a bereavement walk-in support group for those that have experienced the loss of a loved one. Beginning 9/2/16 every Friday at 1 p.m. in the VITAS office, 113 W. Main Street, Wauchula, 863-583-7100.
8:18tfc-dh

NEED A WELL OR HAVE PUMP TROUBLE? CALL ULLRICH'S PITCHER PUMP For complete well, sales, service and installation, call 863-773-6448.
7:18tfc

Services

DO YOU HAVE a problem with drugs? Narcotics Anonymous meets Monday, Thursday and Friday night 7:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, at the corner of Palmetto and 7th Ave., Wauchula. tfc-dh

IS ALCOHOL CAUSING a problem? Call Alcoholics Anonymous in Hardee county at 863-781-6414. Several weekly meetings. tfc-dh

ATTENTION! State Statutes 489-119 Section 5 Paragraph B and Hardee County Ordinance 87-09 Section 10 Paragraph D require all ads for any construction-related service to carry the contractor's licence number. tfc-dh

26 temporary farmworkers needed for common field labor in sod farming in Greeleyville, South Carolina and Soperton, Georgia, for BUY SOD USA, LLC, with work beginning on or about 03/10/2018 and ending on or about 12/01/2018. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 1 month verifiable work experience in sod farming. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$10.95 per hour. Workers must commit to the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to SC Department of Employment & Workforce, 3351 Sumter Hwy, Manning, SC 29102. (803) 473-2086, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #SC764887. EOE. H-300-17361-779544. cl1:11c

68 temporary farmworkers needed for common field labor in tobacco, sweet potatoes, and other diversified crops in Johnston County, North Carolina, for D&T Farms, Inc. with work beginning on or about 03/10/2018 and ending on or about 11/23/2018. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 1 month verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.46 per hour and piece rate may be offered depending on crop activity. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to NC-Works Career Center - Johnston County, 8998 US Hwy 70 Business West, Clayton, NC 27520. (919) 553-0953, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #NC10793143. EOE. H-300-17365-754266. 1:11c

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16 temporary horticultural workers needed for nursery work near Willard, North Carolina, for Johnson Nursery Corporation with work beginning on or about 03/12/2018 and ending on or about 08/06/2018. The job offered is for a skilled nursery worker and requires minimum 3 months verifiable nursery work experience (Horticultural Worker I). The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.46 per hour. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to NC-Works Career Center - Pender County, 904-A S. Walker St., Burgaw, NC 28425. (910) 259-0240, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #NC10793213. EOE. H-300-17365-946328. cl1:11c

150 temporary workers needed to harvest peppers, cucumbers and sugar canes near Palm Beach County, Florida, for JFT Harvesting, Inc., Farm Labor Contractor, with work beginning on or about 03/03/2018 and ending on or about 06/01/2018. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 3 months verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.29 per hour and piece rates may be offered depending on crop activity. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to Florida Dept. of Economic Opportunity, 107 East Madison Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399. (850) 245-7437, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #FL10603295. EOE. H-300-17358-171400. cl1:4:11c

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cl1:4tfc

7 temporary farmworkers needed for common field labor in rice, corn, soybeans and other diversified crops in Beulah, Mississippi, for ABA Farms Partnership with work beginning on or about 02/15/2018 and ending on or about 12/12/2018. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 3 months verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$10.73 per hour and piece rate may be offered depending on crop activity. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to Division of Workforce Solutions, 119 N. Commerce Ave., Cleveland, MS 38732. (662) 843-2704, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #MS240588. EOE. H-300-17348-459679. cl1:11c

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BRANDI MALDONADO.....414-3349
BRITTANY NICKERSON THURLOW.....446-2735
HIGHWAY 17 SOUTH, WAUCHULA, FL 33873 cl1:11c



Peavy's Ponderings

By Jonell Peavy

Sugar Possum of the late Truman Thomas

As I look back on Christmas I can see the changes that have taken place over the years. It's sad to say but some of the toys and electronics that were on the shelves in the stores for the younger generation I didn't know what they were or how to use them.

It seems like just yesterday when I was buying baby dolls for my daughters and toy cars and a BB gun for my son. The girls knew the names of all the dolls and what each one could do or say. They would see them on TV and then tell us which ones they wanted. I remember one of the dolls was named "Chatty Kathy," and I had to go all over the place before I found it in a store in Bartow.

The granddaughters were easy to buy for, too. They wanted baby dolls and tea sets. I can't count the times I was served mud pies from the tea sets and had to babysit their dolls while they cooked dinner for me. I don't know who enjoyed it more, me or the girls.

Buying for the great-granddaughters was a little different. Most of their toys were battery-operated. There was a keyboard, a toy guitar and a cassette player which had two microphones, one on each side, a walking kitty that said "meow," a dog that barked, among other small gifts.

The great-granddaughters also have tea parties to which I'm invited, but we don't have mud pies. They serve me cookies, chips, tea or cola, crackers or whatever I have given them from the kitchen. But I don't have to babysit their dolls like I did for the granddaughters.

My brothers and sisters and I didn't have many store-bought toys, but we still had fun. One of us used to curl up in an old tire, and one would roll it downhill. We tried to get out before it stopped and fell on us. It was fun while we were rolling downhill.

There was a grove by our house. If we could find a tree with low branches that we could sit on and our feet touch the ground, we would tie a rope on the limb in front of us. Therefore we had a horse we could ride by making the limb bounce up and down.

We also had a way to keep cool in the summer time. When they would lay the pipe to irrigate the grove, we had our own sprinklers to keep cool. We would play until Mama called us to put on dry clothes and get ready for supper.

So many memories.
Editor's Note: Jonell Peavy lives in Avon Park and can be reached at 863-453-3589.

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ORANGE & BLUE REVIEW



The "I" in AVID

by Nicole Aubry, HSHS AVID Teacher

There is a commonly held misconception circulating the halls of Hardee Senior High, and it has to do with the AVID Elective. This became apparent to me at Open House this year, when a student new to the AVID program, asked why he was in "this kind" of class. Both his tone and his facial expression spoke volumes. He saw the class, and his placement in it, in a very negative light. Since that afternoon, I've had countless conversations with students and parents alike, clarifying for them what AVID is and is not.

AVID is not a glorified study hall. It's not a class to remediate skills. It's not for everyone.

AVID stands for Achievement Via Individual Determination. While the title can be a mouthful, broken down, it's really quite simple. AVID, at its heart, is a philosophy. Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge. As an AVID Elective teacher, I can say without hesitation that the "I" in AVID is what makes the class unique. These students are driven internally and

individually. They have a goal in mind, be it college or career, and they will do what it takes to reach that goal. When an entire class is made up of students committed to their own learning because they recognize that learning can help them achieve their goals, the classroom transforms, along with the class. The class becomes like a family; the classroom becomes a vehicle through which they can facilitate their own learning.

This is best demonstrated by our use of class time. Twice a week, AVID students participate in tutorials. Students prepare a tutorial request form in which they identify a point of confusion in one of their academic classes. They bring this problem to their small group, and along with a college tutor, the peer group helps the students solve their points of confusion by asking guiding questions. The teacher is present, but the groups are run by the students and the college tutor.

Watching students take ownership of their learning is truly inspiring. Without the "I" in AVID, this could not take place. In a time such as this, it's refreshing to



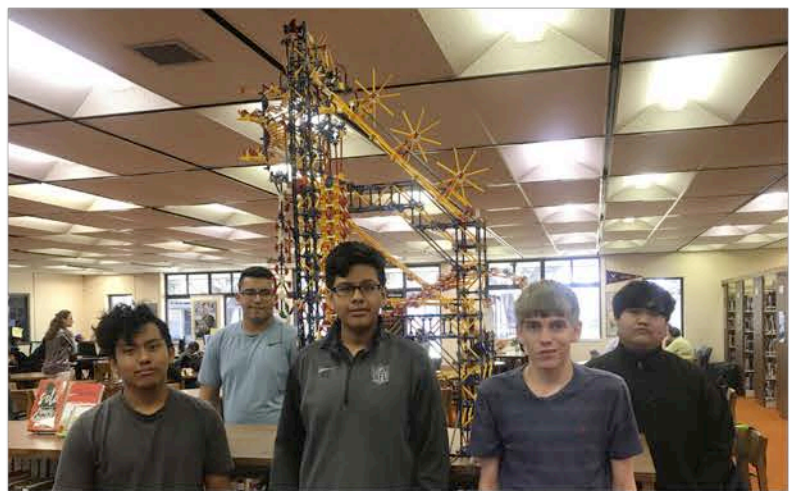
Individual determination is easier to maintain when supported by like-minded friends! Pictured here are AVID Students (L to R) Jesus Lopez, Salvador Alvarez, Lilianna Ramos, Maria Deloera and Cristina Lopez-Rojas attending the AVID Florida International University tour.

see a class full of young people eager to prepare themselves for the future, and willing to do so far in advance of graduation. Fostering their individual determination is a daily blessing.

HHS IN PICTURES



Mr. David Radford, Chorus Director, leads the HHS Chorus in a concert during one of our Lunch in the Commons Wednesdays. Students performed a compilation of solo and group seasonal melodies to set the mood for the upcoming holidays.



Working in the library's STEM Exploration Center before school and during their lunchtime, this group of students collaborated together to build a functioning scale model of a K'NEX "Big Ball Factory". This activity allowed them to build, investigate, discuss and evaluate scientific principles in action.



Laura Arce and Julissa Flores enjoy a cup of hot cocoa during the senior class hot chocolate social held on a cold December morning in the media center. Mrs. Diane Bryan hosted this event and serves as a Senior Class Sponsor.



Any day when we can celebrate the accomplishments of our students is a very special day at Hardee Senior High School. Congratulations to five seniors who were recently accepted to a college or university. Pictured are senior students (L to R) : Mallory Gough, accepted to Warner University; Lindsey Barwick, accepted to Florida Gulf Coast University and University of Central Florida; JaKevis Brown, choosing between Southeastern University, Auburn University, and Warner University; Avery Bunch will choose Florida Southern College or Auburn University; and Shelby Gibson, who plans to attend Florida Southern College.



Ag Angels, a local nonprofit organization, sponsors students in Hardee and Highlands Counties by making contributions to schools during the Christmas season. Pictured here are Mr. Scott Kirouac (C), Chairman and Founder of the Ag Angels project, presenting a check for \$2000 to Mrs. Mary Sue Maddox (L) and Hardee High School Principal, Dr. Michele Polk (R). This donation touched the hearts and lives of several students this year.

Calendar of Events

1/15	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - No school for students & staff
1/20	AFJROTC Military Ball - 5:00pm Hardee Civic Center
1/22 - 1/23	Senior Scholarship Meetings - During student's English Classes
1/26	Seniors Trip to SFSC