

LIVESTOCK SECTION INSIDE!



THE Herald-Advocate

HARDEE COUNTY'S HOMETOWN COVERAGE

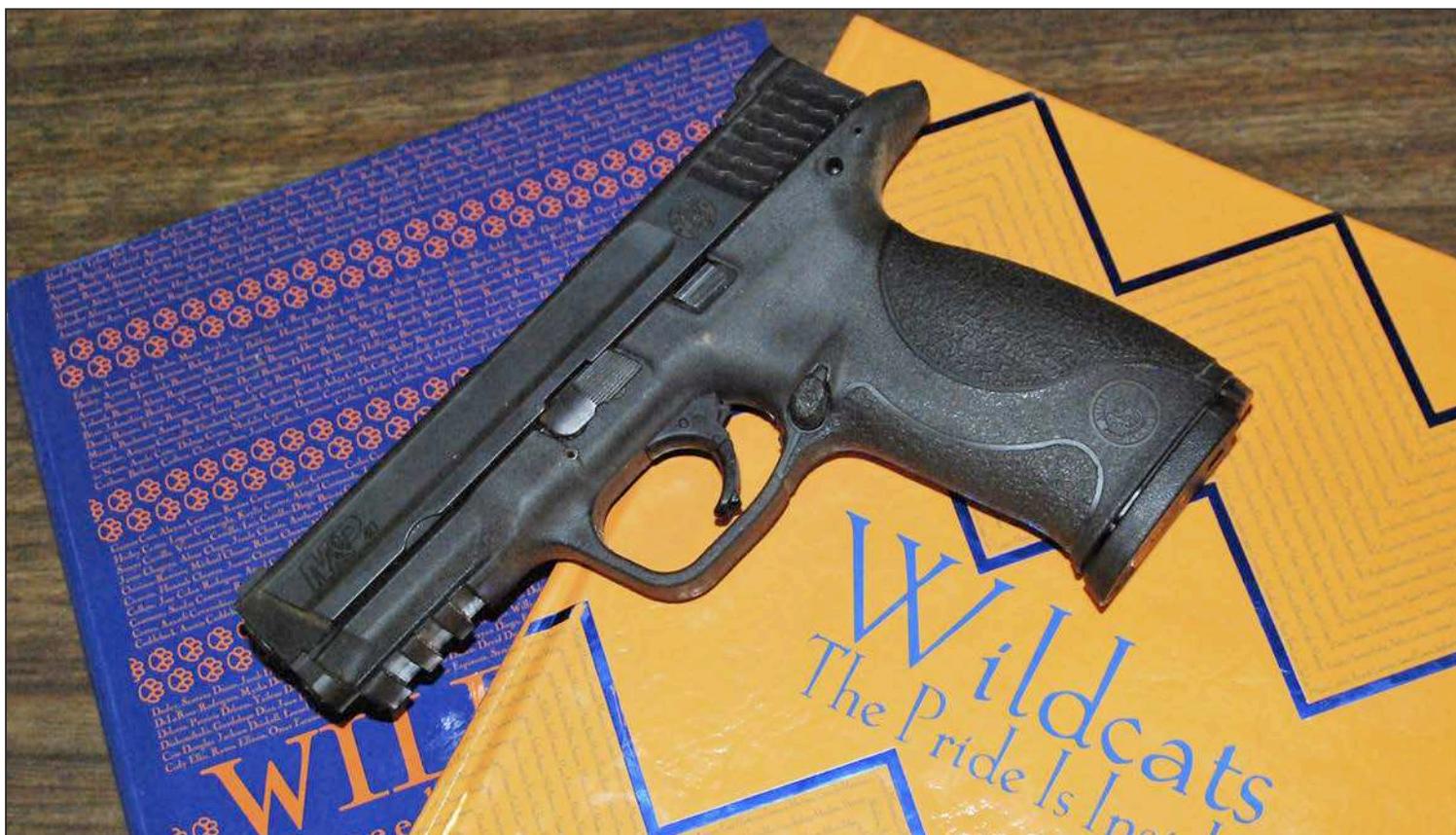
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Thursday, March 8, 2018

ARMED & EDUCATED



Tallahassee Takes Aim At School Safety

The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, the most massive overhaul of mental health and gun safety regulations in decades, was approved by the Florida Senate on Monday and now heads to the Florida House. It sets the minimum age to purchase a gun at 21, strengthens the Baker Act, and gives local law enforcement authority to arm school employees.

Four out of seven Hardee County school have a gun in them on any given day.

The weapons are tightly controlled.

The handlers – lawmen all – are highly trained.

The guns serve as the measure of last resort for the four school resource officers tasked with the mission to protect and serve Hardee County's seven schools.

Yet, the number of armed individuals on local campuses may soon explode.

The Florida Legislature stands poised to adopt what has been termed the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

The widely controversial bill passed the Florida Senate on

Monday in a 20-18 vote and now heads to be taken up by the Florida House, where it is expected to be heard prior to the close of the Florida's legislative session on Friday.

The bill is the Legislature's response to the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in the Parkland community of Broward County on Feb. 14 that left 17 students and faculty dead. Fourteen others were injured, several with life-threatening wounds.

The Senate's action comes less than three weeks after the tragic events that have sparked a cultural shift across the Sunshine State as accused murderer Nickolas Cruz sits behind bars.

Cruz, a 19-year-old former student at the Parkland school, stands charged with 17 counts of premeditated murder.

Students and survivors from the massacre have been credited with igniting the #NeverAgain movement, which has included widespread school walkouts and demonstrations across the nation calling for the enactment of a ban of military-style rifles.

Cruz, it is alleged, used an AR-15 military-style rifle in the Valentine's Day death bath.

It is believed the attacker reloaded the weapon as many as 10 times during the assault. The bullet barrage ended only after the gun jammed.

The AR-15 is one of many rifles that can be purchased by adults at the age of 18 in the state of Florida. Survivors clamored for that law to change as they pushed for an all-out ban of military-style weaponry.

The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act does not address the issue of the legal sale of military-style weaponry but does take aim at elevating firearm safety.

Under the provision, a three-day waiting period would be required for the purchase of all firearms – not just handguns as current law provides. Exceptions are included for concealed weapons permit holders, individuals with a valid Florida hunting license, and active members of the military or law enforcement and corrections officers.

Also included is a ban on specific gun accessories often used to turn a legal weapon into an illegal weapon.

Bump-fire stocks – a gun accessory that allows a semi-automatic rifle to act like an automatic rifle – are banned outright under the bill.

The accessory cannot be "imported, transferred, distributed, sold, keeping for sale, offering for sale, possessing, or giving away within the state," according to a statement released by the Florida Senate following Monday night's vote.

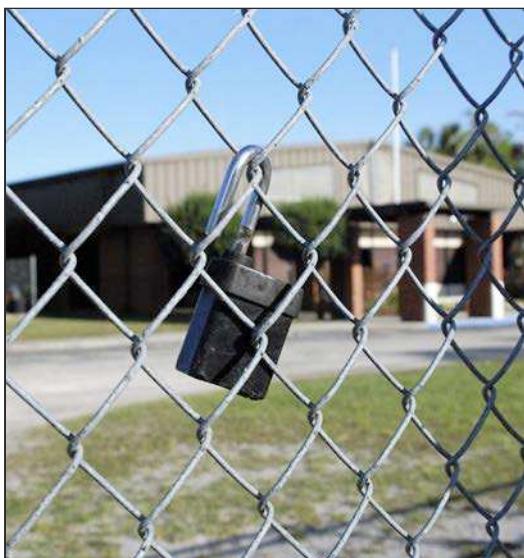
A bump-fire stock was used by the shooter to rain nearly automatic fire from a hotel room in Las Vegas that left 58 nearby concert goers dead last October.

The most sweeping change to state gun law in decades, the measure also bans the sale of all weapons to anyone under 21 years of age.

Current law allows rifles and shotguns to be purchased by anyone 18 years of age. Persons under 21 years of age are already prohibited from purchasing a handgun under federal law.

Additionally, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act adds teeth to Florida's Baker Act, creates a system for the confiscation of weapons by law enforcement under certain conditions, allows for the arming of certain non-law enforcement school employees, and provides more than \$400 million in funding for additional school resource officers, campus safety improvements, and increased juvenile mental health treatment.

See GUNS A3



Will local schools be under perpetual lock-and-key? Local officials are trying to figure out an answer as they chart a course for school safety.

Text & Photos By TOM STAIK

WEATHER

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
02/27	85	60	0.00
02/28	85	57	0.00
03/01	84	62	0.00
03/02	82	65	0.00
03/03	78	41	0.00
03/04	76	36	0.00
03/05	78	38	0.00
TOTAL	Rainfall to 02/26/2018 - 3.24		
	Same period last year - 3.16		
	Ten Year Average - 49.17		

Source: Univ. of Fla. Ona Research Center

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THE Herald-Advocate

HARDEE COUNTY'S HOMETOWN COVERAGE

MICHAEL R. KELLY
Co-Publisher and EditorJAMES R. KELLY
Co-PublisherCYNTHIA M. KRAHL
Managing EditorJOAN M. SEAMAN
Sports Editor EmeritusNOEY DeSANTIAGO
Production ManagerTOM STAIK
Sports EditorDARLENE WILLIAMS
Assistant Production Manager

115 S. Seventh Ave. • P.O. Box 338

Wauchula, FL 33873

Phone: (863) 773-3255 • Fax: (863) 773-0657

Ads@TheHeraldAdvocate.com
Publisher@TheHeraldAdvocate.com
Sports@TheHeraldAdvocate.com

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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

Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam recently said unfair trade agreements threaten Florida agriculture, citing cheap strawberries from Mexico that compete with Florida strawberry growers.

Hardee County Fair President Terry Atchley said the recent county fair set a modern day attendance record. The total attendance was about 16,000. This figure includes paid, free and multiple attendance.

Attendance at the recent 114th Annual Florida State Fair in Tampa was about 425,000, reported Fair Chairman Doyle E. Carlton III. Attendance is audited by the state.

3 Generation Marine in Zolfo Springs will have to leave its location soon due to a pending land sale, and owner Mike Shaw is looking for a new site. Otherwise he may have to move his business to Highlands County.

There is a big orange blossom bloom underway in Hardee County, keeping honey bees busy.

Regular unleaded gasoline in Wauchula was \$2.449 a gallon on Tuesday.

The Florida high school boys' basketball tournament is going on this week at the RP Funding center in Lakeland.

The Tampa Bay Bucs currently have the No. 7 overall pick in the upcoming NFL draft. The Bucs fell to 5-11 last season following a 9-7 mark in 2016.

March Madness is named for basketball tournaments but can also include turkey hunting.

In the photo below is Michael Kelly who shot this 18-pound gobbler Monday morning at Fisheating Creek.

I am glad the state prevailed some years back to make the creek a hunt management area available for the public to enjoy through a quota system.



NEW ROAD OPENS



PHOTO BY TOM STAIK

Traffic backed up on Monday as a host of Department of Transportation workers prepared to officially open a portion of the new U.S. 17 corridor through Zolfo Springs. The new concrete road has curbs and gutters, a raised median, sidewalks and a seven-foot bike lane. State troopers were on hand to assist with traffic rerouting and there is new signage, pavement markings and a traffic light at U.S. 17 and SR 66. By Tuesday afternoon, drivers were adjusting. This trucker is turning onto U.S. 17 from SR 66.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was English theologian Edwin Abbott Abbott who made the following sage observation: "Men are divided in opinion as to the facts. And even granting the facts, they explain them in different ways."

• You may be surprised to learn that hot and cold running water has been around for thousands of years. Members of the upper class in ancient Egypt used copper tubing to pipe it into their homes.

• If you take a close look at New Hampshire's Constitution Bill of Rights, you'll find "the right of revolution" enshrined in it.

• GPS is a powerful tool that has changed the way we navigate the world. Of course, it's not without its problems. Take, for instance, the case of the 23-year-old Canadian woman driving through the Ontario town of Tobermory. She was a stranger there, so — as most of us would — she was using her GPS. Evidently, she was so intent on following the directions provided to her that she wasn't paying attention to where those directions were taking her — that is, until she ended up in Georgian Bay. She made it to shore safely, but her car didn't.

• It seems that artist Leonardo da Vinci pioneered the paint-by-numbers style of art. He would sketch a piece, then number certain sections for his assistants to paint.

• Before the middle of the 18th century, it was not unusual for members of a play's audience to be seated onstage, just a few feet from the performance. If viewers thought an actor's performance was particularly bad, they might even try to bump the performer off the stage.

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Corrections

COURTHOUSE REPORT

The "Marriages" section of the Courthouse Report published in last week's edition contained an error. The correct entry is: Andrew "Andy" Martinez Jr., 23, Wauchula, and Noemi Cabrera, 17, Bowling Green.

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 Krah at 773-3255.

Frankie's HAIR SALON

773-5665

116 Carlton St. • Wauchula
Hours:
Tuesday - Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-3

Crop Update

March 5, 2018

General: According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 4, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 2.3 inches in Perry (Taylor County). The average mean temperature ranged from 62.4°F in Bloxham (Leon County) to 75.8°F in Key Largo (Monroe County).

Citrus: Temperatures were slightly cooler this past week in the citrus region, but still warmer than normal. Afternoon highs were in the mid-70s to the mid-80s; nighttime lows were in the 50s over the weekend and in the 60s the remainder of the week. Rainfall was still lacking in the complete citrus belt. Most monitored citrus stations recorded less than a tenth of an inch to no rainfall for the week. According to the March 1, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, all of Orange, Seminole and Collier Counties, about half of Osceola County, and the southern portion of Hendry County are experiencing abnormally dry conditions. The remainder of the citrus region is drought free.

Grove operations included fertilizing, spraying, applying herbicides, diskling, and brush removal. Irrigation is still being run regularly. Citrus bloom on oranges is in various stages from blossoms beginning to pop out to full and open bloom. Grapefruit has not yet begun its normal bloom period.

Mandarin harvest included Royals and Honey tangerines and Minneola tangelos. Grapefruit harvest is continuing to slow down. The majority of what is being harvested is going to the processed market. At least two processing plants are running Valencia oranges, with a few more planning on opening this week. Some operations are waiting for higher ratios and better juice quality before getting started.

Fruits and Vegetables: Watermelon planting started in Levy County. Limited rainfall has many producers using irrigation. The high temperatures in February caused many crops to be at least a week ahead of schedule. A wide range of crops came to market, including avocados, beans, boniatos, cabbage, eggplant, green beans, herbs, leafy greens, malangas, peppers, squash, sweet corn, and tomatoes.

HARDEE COUNTY FOOD PANTRIES

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 | 8 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. 12/19/2017

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH

- 8 - Walk-n-Talk/Peace River Park/322 E. Main St, Wauchula/ 9 a.m.
 - 8 - HC School Board Meeting/230 S. Florida Ave., Wauchula/5 p.m.
 - 12 - Wauchula City Commission Regular Meeting/ 6 p.m.
 - 13 - Financial Fitness Class/Hardee Help Center/2 p.m.
 - 13 - Healthy Eating Class/ Hardee Help Center/713 E Bay St, Wauchula/2 p.m.
 - 13 - Fitness in the Park/Yoga/Heritage Park/5:30 p.m.
 - 13 - B.G. Commission Meeting/104 E. Main St., Bowling Green/6 p.m.
 - 15 - HC Commission Meeting/BOCC Office/412 W. Orange St., Room 103, Wauchula/ 6 p.m.
 - 16 - Movies in the Park/ Heritage Park/ 6 p.m.
 - 17 - Heirlooms & Originals Student Business Fair/ Heritage Park/ 9 a.m.
 - 19 - Open Mic Night/ Heritage Park/ 6 p.m.
 - 20 - EDA Meeting/HC Commission Chambers/8:30 a.m.
 - 20 - Devotion & Lunch/ Hardee Help Center/Noon
 - 20 - Fitness in the Park/Yoga/Heritage Park/5:30 p.m.
 - 21 - IDA/EDC Meeting/ HC Commission Chambers/8:30 a.m.
 - 22 - HC School Board Meeting/5 p.m.
 - 23 - Leadership Luau/ Leadership Hardee/ Wauchula Train Depot/6 p.m.
 - 23 - Story of Jesus/ 7:30 p.m.
 - 24 - Story of Jesus/ 7:30 p.m.
 - 27 - Fitness in the Park/Yoga/Heritage Park/5:30 p.m.
 - 27 - Z.S. Town Commission Meeting/6 p.m.
- APRIL**
- 2 - Wauchula City Commission Workshop/5 p.m.
 - 4-7 - Bensen Days/ Wauchula Municipal Airport/8 a.m.
 - 6 - Story of Jesus/ 7:30 p.m.
 - 7 - Story of Jesus/ 7:30 p.m.
 - 13 - B.G. Commission Meeting/6 p.m.
 - 12 - HC School Board Meeting/5 p.m.
 - 12 - Wauchula City Commission Regular Meeting/ 6 p.m.
 - 13 - Story of Jesus/ 7:30 p.m.
 - 14 - Story of Jesus/ 7:30 p.m.
 - 19 - Financial Fitness Class/Hardee Help Center/10 a.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.*

Certain School Staff Can Be Armed

Local school officials are concerned about the possibility the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act could disrupt campuses. The law bans teachers from being armed, but opens the door for other school employees – administration and support staff – to carry a concealed weapon after training and completing a mental-health screening.

Support of the bill in the Senate was not overwhelming, nor did support follow traditional party lines.

State Sen. Denise Grimsley (R-Lake Placid) was one of a handful of Republicans to cross party lines to join the majority of Democrats who opposed the bill.

"At the end of the day, there were good school safety measures in the bill, but I wasn't convinced that restricting law-abiding citizens' access to guns would solve the problem," said Grimsley, a Hardee County native.

"We also miss a big part, and that is prevention," Grimsley added. "The shooter had a troubled life, and most children like him are lost before they ever reach kindergarten. How do we prevent our children from growing up to be angry adults? That is a question yet to be answered. We need more concern for human life in this society, and that can't be legislated."

Yet, legislate the Legislature continues.

This week's Senate approval of the bill came with an 11-hour compromise to tone down one of the Act's more debated provisions – arming school staff.

The bill's original language would have given local sheriffs wide authority to arm classroom educators in a program that would mirror an initiative by Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd that has provided "sentinels" – armed and trained school employees – to protect the campus of Southeastern University.

A second Polk County school, Babson Park's Webber International University, has also announced plans to implement the program.

Monday's floor debate saw the language toned-down to limit the sentinel program – termed the Coach Arron Feis Guardian Program – to include only non-classroom teachers.

Feis, an assistant football coach at Marjory Stoneman Douglas, lost his life protecting students during the massacre.

The bill language would allow Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps staff, teachers who are current service members, and instructors who are current or former law enforcement officers to participate.

Participation in the Guardian Program would be entirely voluntary. Staff would not be forced to participate and each of the 67 counties would be allowed to either opt in or out of the program.

"Guardians" would have to complete 132 hours of comprehensive firearm safety and proficiency training.

The bill includes \$67 million – \$1 million per county – to fund the program.

Arming school staff – particularly teachers – has proven a divisive point across the state and locally.

"I have spoken to many schools employees, and there seems to be just as many in favor as there are opposed to the proposal," said John Eason, chief of the Wauchula Police Department.

Area principals seem to be widely opposed.

Bowling Green Elementary School Principal Kathy Clark is against the measure.

"I am not sure that arming teachers is the answer. I feel that it is too much of a responsibility and burden for teachers," Clark said.

Tammy Pohl, principal of Zolfo Springs Elementary School, also has reservations.

"At this time, I do not feel as though having guns on campus is a solution. We are educators of children," said Pohl.

More Resource Officers Coming

The legislation also requires that every school be serviced by a full-time school resource officer. A move welcomed by school administrators, it will come at a sizeable financial cost to the Sheriff's Office and the Wauchula Police Department.

Zolfo Springs and Bowling Green are two of the three schools not currently served by a full-time resource officer.

The schools, along with North Wauchula Elementary School, will likely see a full-time law enforcement presence if and when the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act becomes the law of the land.

The Act requires each district school board and school district superintendent to "cooperate with law enforcement agencies to assign one or more safe-school officers at each school."

The legislation includes \$97 million in additional safe-school funding that typically supports school resource officers.

The requirement, though supported by educators, is likely going to come at a significant cost to local government.

Sheriff Arnold Lanier told the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners last week that they could expect a \$300,000 increase in his budget in the next fiscal year if the legislation moves forward.

The funding, the sheriff said, would allow the Hardee County Sheriff's Office to hire and outfit – including a marked patrol vehicle – three school resource officers.

Zolfo Springs school administrators say they are optimistic about getting a full-time officer.

"I am very open to having a full-time school resource officer on campus at Zolfo Springs Elementary School," Pohl said. "This is something that I feel our parents, community, and staff members have been wanting for quite some time. We currently share a resource officer with other schools in the district, so the time spent at ZSE is very minimal but extremely valuable to me."



A school resource officer's patrol vehicle sits outside Hardee Junior High School.

Wauchula officials are also planning for additional staffing costs.

"Right now I am looking at budgeting for another full-time officer," Eason said.

The additional officer, the chief said, would allow Wauchula Elementary to have a full-time officer on duty during all school hours, even if the current officer takes vacation or is out sick.

The full extent of the implications of the resource officer mandate remains unclear.

Not directly addressed in the legislation is if a resource officer would be required at all on-campus events and not just the regular school day.

"There are unknowns," Eason said. "What do we do for 'Meet Your Teacher Night' or anything else that goes on after hours?"

"It all comes with a cost," added Bob Shayman, superintendent of schools.

Yet, as Parkland learned last month, school resource officers are not a perfect solution.

Scot Peterson, now retired, was the school resource officer assigned to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on that tragic February day.

Peterson, who was armed, sought shelter outside the building as the shooting spree raged, according to numerous accounts.

The Broward County Sheriff's Office said Peterson had spent 27 of his 32 years in law enforcement as a school resource officer.

Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel allowed Peterson to retire following the incident, but at a press conference said the former deputy – trained to take down an active shooter – should have "addressed the killer. Killed the killer."

Broward County Superintendent of Schools Robert W. Runcie was direct in his public statement.

"I'm in shock and I'm outraged to no end that he could have made a difference in all this," Runcie said. "It's really disturbing that we had a law enforcement individual there specifically for this reason, and he did not engage. He did not do his job. It's one of the most unbelievable things I've ever heard."

Peterson, and the Broward sheriff's response, are the subject of multiple ongoing investigations.

Still, local officials stand behind the county's four school resource officers.

Asked if he had any doubt his officer would confront an active shooter, Eason replied: "None at all."

Shayman, too, was unflinching in his support.

"Three out of the four I have absolutely, no doubt, would confront the shooter, and the fourth I am sure would do the very same," Shayman said.

Hardee Senior High School principal Dr. Michele Polk, whose school is routinely patrolled by two school resource officers, is equally confident in the lawmen tasked with protecting her students and staff.

"I am confident in the ability of our school officers to respond appropriately to any critical situation that might arise requiring law enforcement intervention," Polk said.

Schools Scouted For Security Improvements

District school staff and local law enforcement have begun the task of preparing a master plan for providing additional security at local schools. Fencing, cameras and door locks are being considered. Securing Hardee Senior High School and Wauchula Elementary School will likely be the most intensive of the projects.

High-profile by its nature, armed security measures remain only one piece of a much larger puzzle in safeguarding schools.

Another string in the web is the potential "hardening" of school campuses.

Legislators have included \$98 million earmarked for a grant program for "improving and hardening the physical security of school buildings."

The meaning and definition of the physical security improvements remains nebulous.

Hardee High principal Polk says the lack of clear definition is helpful in avoiding a one-size-fits-all approach to school safety.

"A blanket response is generally not going to be the best fit for every school," Polk said. "Each school facility is designed differently and requires a different plan to limit access and ensure the safety of students. Across Florida, it is common to see high school campuses designed as 'open plans' that provide unique challenges in this effort."

Hardee High is one such "open" campus.

Entry onto the grounds can be gained by any number of points.

The band practice field borders a citrus grove. Front gates near visitor parking provide open access to the campus. Athletic facilities lay just outside the main gates.

"It is one of our hardest schools to secure because it is so spread out," Shayman said.

Security concerns at the county's largest school have prompted several onsite inspections by school administrators and law enforcement.

"We are currently working with the sheriff's department and district office to reassess our needs and consider changes that will improve the security of our students and staff," Polk said.

Deputy Superintendent of Schools Todd Durden has been leading the security inspections for the district.

"We are continuing to meet with the Sheriff's Office to develop a workable plan," Durden said. "We have had a couple of walk-throughs at the senior high, and hopefully will make it through the other schools by Friday," Durden said.

Wauchula Elementary is another campus of concern. Though largely more secured than the senior high, Wauchula Elementary poses its own set of challenges for administration and the Wauchula Police Department.

"There are a lot of ways to gain access to the campus," Eason said.

Visitors to the School Board chambers and the old junior high complex – the district Exceptional Student Education offices and



School resource officers at Hardee Senior High School use marked patrol vehicles to make their presence known.

March 8, 2018, The Herald-Advocate A3

the old gymnasium – have access to the elementary school. The campuses and offices are intertwined. Once a person is on the old junior high campus, he can easily travel to just about anywhere on the elementary campus.

"Anybody going to the football stadium has access," Eason added. "It is a difficult campus to fully secure."

Limiting access, though possible in some form, remains costly.

Alternative means of protecting classrooms are a more likely option.

According to Eason, one such option would be the installation of steel hinge blocks on classroom doors. The steel sleeves, he said, slide over door mechanisms quickly and prevent entry from the outside.

Though every school could benefit on some level from security hardening, others have less pressing logistical challenges to overcome.

"We have security measures in place, but working to upgrade measures on our campus is something that I will always support," Pohl noted.

Clark, who met with Bowling Green Police Chief John Scheel on Tuesday to discuss security plans, believes some simple solutions would go a long way to adding security at the campus.

"We could benefit from cameras, doors that lock from the inside, maybe a buzzer system in the office to buzz people in," Clark said.

"We already have many barriers and safety precautions in place at Bowling Green Elementary," Clark added. "For example, we are a fenced campus and we require all of our teachers to keep their doors locked all day. All visitors are required to come through the office and must produce a photo ID. Children are not allowed to leave campus with anyone that is not on their emergency card."

The Act also requires schools to designate a "district school safety specialist" to serve as a point of contact for all public safety matters.

Baker Act Gets Teeth, Mental Health Addressed

Schools will likely see additional funding to provide mental health services for students, and law enforcement will get the ability to take weapons from those held involuntarily under the Baker Act. A court process is being established to create a Risk Protection Order. The order, enforceable up to a year, strips guns away from those deemed a public safety threat under very specific conditions.

Mental health legislation is also included in the Act through broadening the scope of the state's Baker Act.

A law enforcement officer who takes a person into custody for an involuntary evaluation under the Baker Act would be allowed to seize the person's firearms for up to 24 hours after they are released from examination.

Lawmen would further be allowed to petition the court for a "risk protection order" against individuals deemed a "high risk" of harming themselves or others through possession of a firearm.

Qualifying "high risks" would include drug and alcohol abuse, a mental health crisis, or documented violent behavior.

Those orders would be issued through the court system and could be enforceable for up to 12 months, and later extended on a case-by-case basis.

Without a court-mandated "Risk Protection Order," lawmen would likely not have many direct opportunities to remove guns under a Baker Act.

At the Wauchula Police Department, for example, lawmen worked 15 Baker Act cases in 2017. In the majority of those cases – 12 total – officers acted as a transportation service from a local medical facility to the Peace River Center in Bartow.

Medical personnel, and not lawmen, issued the Baker Act.

Only three of the 15 cases were actually conducted by officers.

Those three law enforcement Baker Acts are the only such involuntary commitments that would qualify under the law.

If lawmen were concerned about the threat of one of the Baker Act patients certified by medical officials, they would have to petition the courts for a "Risk Protection Order" in order to proceed.

"There is a lot we just do not know yet of how the process may work," Eason said.

"I can't think of a time in recent years that we have had that concern," the chief added.

The mental health component of the legislation also includes an earmark of more than \$69 million for the Florida Department of Education to fund mental health programs.

The Hardee County School District currently employs, directly or through contract, three school psychologists.

Priority for school-based mental health assessments is given to emergent cases where students exhibit various red flags that become a concern for staff.

"If there is an emergency concern, we try to make sure that there is not a wait time for the students to get evaluated," Superintendent Shayman said.

The communication network operates around the clock.

Staff – from administration and teachers to custodians and bus drivers – are encouraged to report any tidbit of information that can potentially have a negative impact on a student's mental health.

"If a student's home burns down over the weekend, we are sharing that information and getting them support," Shayman said. "If a family member is involved in a tragedy, we share that information. If a family is going through a divorce, we make sure the appropriate people know the information so they can be there to help the student cope."

At Parkland, school officials were aware of red flags in the shooter's behavior, too.

To what extent that information was acted on remains the subject of ongoing review, but according to public records, law enforcement and school officials were notified of concerns over Cruz's behavior no less than 40 times in a three-year span leading up to the massacre.

Taking action on early warning signs, local officials say, is critical to preventing tragedy.

"If we can do early identification, it is key to preventing tragedy," Eason said.

A stumbling block remains overcoming the "stigma" of mental health issues.

"We miss red flags because people are afraid of reporting them because they are afraid of the community finding out," Eason said.

Baker Acts, the chief stressed, are not subject to public disclosure.

"The important thing is to share information, no matter how small," the chief said.

Citizens Challenge Mosaic's Increased Truck Trips

By MICHAEL KELLY
Of The Herald-Advocate

Several local citizens have filed a lawsuit in Circuit Court challenging the recent decision of the Hardee County Commission and the Planning and Zoning Board allowing Mosaic to haul up to 268 loads of rock per day from its South Pasture Mine located in Fort Green to the South Fort Meade Mine east of Bowling Green off of County Line Road.

The lawsuit, filed Mar. 2 by 19 local residents, claims the county failed to provide adequate public notice of the proposed change, which increased the number of allowed truck trips per day between the two mines from 68 to 268.

"Plaintiffs request an order from this court quashing and reversing the decisions of Hardee County, and rendering null and void the quasi-judicial approval of Resolution 18-06 for failure to provide adequate due notice, constitutional procedural due process, and essential requirements of law as contained in the Hardee County Code," the lawsuit reads.

The meeting was advertised in The Herald-Advocate to amend the Master Mining and

Reclamation Plan and approving a Mining Major Special Exception Use but did not specifically notice the increase in trips moving phosphate rock between the two mines.

The lawsuit contends the quasi-judicial disclosures failed to satisfy constitutional procedural due process because it did not adequately notice the subject matter to the public.

The suit also questions whether essential requirements of the law have been observed and whether the administrative findings and judgement were supported by competent substantial evidence during the proceeding.

Mosaic requested the increased truck trips after making the decision to "idle" or close its Plant City fertilizer plant for at least one year. That location had been used to process all the raw rock produced by the South Pasture Mine, which was transported by railroad.

In November, Mosaic spokesperson Heather Nedley said the rock from the South Pasture Mine would be either trucked or railed to other Mosaic processing plants in response to the Plant City

facility closing. Mosaic CEO Joc O'Rourke said "Plant City is the highest-cost facility amongst our Florida operations, and it requires a disproportionate amount of sustaining capital each year," when the company announced the closing.

He said Mosaic would consider reopening the facility, which employed 430 workers, in the future if phosphate demand increased.

Commissioners and Planning and Zoning board members approved the increased trips for a temporary two-year period.

The trucks were to travel on Mine View Road in Fort Green and turn east on S.R. 62 before turning north onto U.S. 17 traveling through Bowling Green and turning east onto County Line Road to the South Fort Meade Mine.

Petitioners in the lawsuit include Henry and Dorothy Kuhlman, Donald Chancey, Brooks and Nancy Armstrong, Robert and Rhonda Cole, Donald McClellan, Larry McClellan, William Frank Kirkland, Darnea A. Williams-Tatis, Travis Clay, Amy Kirkland, Horst Witschonke, Nancy Craft, Billy Hill, Janice Hill, James Hill and Donald Samuels.

The case has been assigned to Circuit Judge Marcus Ezelle. A hearing date had not been set by press time.

Nedley said Tuesday the county observed all required processes and Mosaic is confident the decision will stand.

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 '00s

March 6, 2008

Main Makeover: On both sides of U.S. 17 and all along Main Street, a new streetscaping project is taking place. Stretching from Fourth Avenue to Sixth Avenue, the \$1.4 million project has begun with the removal of portions of sidewalk in front of the historic Wauchula City Hall. Improvements will consist of inlaid walkway pavers and ramps, bright new benches and trash receptacles. The project will go as far west on Main Street as funds allow.

Vice Vandal: The second of two boys is waiting to serve his sentence after vandalizing

the new Hardee Junior High School. The 15-year-old will owe \$33,834.76 in restitution to the Hardee County School Board, which must be paid off by his 19th birthday. He was also assessed another \$440 in additional fines and will be required to work 300 hours of community service. He has been given a 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. home detention curfew until room is made for him at the Department of Juvenile Justice's detention center.

No Neckties: Dr. Ross A. Hendry's "Over the Fence" column for the week talks about his early days in veterinary school and how he was determined to dress professionally in a shirt and tie. He learned a rough lesson about wearing ties in veterinary practice when he tried tubing a horse that had colic. The result went from having a bloody tie to a green tie when he attempted to soak his favorite blue and yellow accessory in cold water. He never wore a tie in his practice again.

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Dr. Richard Goldfarb, the medical director for the company states, "Statins and other drugs can create as many health problems as what they are developed to cure. Soluble fiber is one of the most important natural ingredients you can consume for overall good health." For the first time, Dr. Cade's original delicious tasting formula "Choles-terAde" is now available at these select retailer or call 877-581-1502. www.drinkcholesterolade.com

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Health-Care Provider Earns Vaccination Program Awards

By NAOMI EREKSON

Herald-Advocate Intern

Sonni's Pediatrics in Wauchula has been recognized for the second time in three years for its work in the Vaccinations For Children program.

Karen Fowler, a representative of the program, recently presented the staff at Sonni's Pediatrics with two certificates for outstanding service.

Fowler said this pediatrics office was the only one in her district to have received both certificates, one for service to 2-year-olds and one for service to adolescents. Her area covers Polk, Osceola, Okeechobee, Hardee and Highlands counties.

The 2-year-old series of vaccines includes four sets of DTaP, three sets of Polio, one set of MMR, three sets of Hep B, one set of varicella (also known as chickenpox) and four sets of the Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV). DTaP prevents the three deadly diseases of diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough;

MMR prevents measles, mumps and rubella; and PCV prevents 13 different diseases caused by streptococcus pneumoniae bacterium.

VFC is a program that is funded by the federal government, providing vaccines to children who would otherwise not receive required vaccines due to their family's inability to afford them. Vaccines are purchased at a discount by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and are then distributed to state health departments or local public health agencies.

These facilities then distribute the vaccines free of charge to private physician offices and public health clinics that are registered as VFC providers. Sonni's Pediatrics is one of those providers.



PHOTO BY NAOMI EREKSON

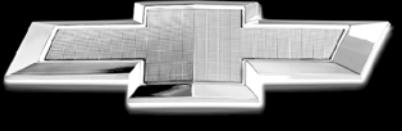
The staff at Sonni's Pediatrics was recognized for outstanding service in the federal Vaccines For Children program. Pictured (from left) are office manager Daffne Woodward, Selena Cruz, Key Marie Cruz, Sara Rudnik ARNP, Dr. Raji Sonni, Dr. Maria Perez, VFC Coordinator Karen Fowler, Keyra Diego, and assistant manager Reyna Molina.

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VARSITY BOYS TENNIS

Wildcats On Win Streak

By TOM STAIIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

The Hardee Senior High School boy's tennis squad has lobbed its way to a 4-1 record.

The squad opened the season with a 6-1 win over Avon Park on Feb. 12.

Action continued on Feb. 15 as the squad bested Lake Placid, 7-0.

The Wildcats downed the DeSoto Bulldogs on March 1, 7-0.

The most recent win came March 2 as the boys bested Van-

guard School with a 7-0 score.

The only loss of the season came on Feb. 13 as the Wildcat squad lost 0-7 to the Sebring Blue Streaks.

Players, in rank order, are: 1. Rawson Aubry; 2. Lane Parks; 3. JC Thomas; 4. Isaiah Torres; 5. Joshua Albritton; 6. Owen Schraeder; 7. Hugh Pate; and 8. Roman Almaguer.

Parks is the only senior.

"We have a strong team this year and hope to return to regionals," said head coach Dennis Aubry.



COURTESY PHOTO

Member of the Hardee Senior High varsity boys tennis team are (from left) Owen Schraeder, Isaiah Torres, Roman Almaguer, Rawson Aubry, Lane Parks, Hugh Pate, Joshua Albritton and JC Thomas.

VARSITY GIRLS SOFTBALL

Pitch Perfect*Lady Cat Has Perfect Game In 15-0 Mercy Win Over Devils*By TOM STAIIK
Of The Herald-Advocate

The Lady Devils were screaming for mercy after three innings following a visit last week with the Lady Wildcats that saw a pitch-perfect performance by Hardee hurler Stephanie Derringer.

The girls in orange and blue from Hardee Senior High School unleashed a resounding 15-0, three-inning smackdown of the ladies from Avon Park High School on Feb. 27.

"It felt really good," said Derringer, a sophomore on the Hardee squad.

It was the first perfect game of the season for the Lady Wildcats and the first perfect game for Derringer.

The first run for Hardee came in the bottom of the first inning following a triple fly ball to center off the bat of Destinee Jackson that allowed Ashley Patterson to score. Jackson crossed home in the next at bat following a group off by Alayna Carranco. Derringer provided the final run of the inning following a fly ball by Amari DeLeon, bringing the score to 3-0.

Scoring on steal, Sarah Carlton provided Hardee with its first run in the bottom of the second/ Marissa Rodriguez was next to score following a hard ground ball off the bat of Mallory Gough. Patterson and Jackson both scored on a line drive to center field off the bat of Caranco. A triple fly ball to right field by Stephanie Derringer allowed Carranco to score. Derringer crossed home on a fly ball to left field off the bat of Lillian Salazar. Salazar then scored on a ground ball to center off the bat of Rodriguez, bringing the score to 11-0.

Carranco started the scoring in the bottom of the third inning following a bunt by Benavidez. A double line drive to left field off the bat of Carlton allowed Derringer, Benavidez, and Alexis McBride to score. The game ended with a 15-0 score under the mercy rule at the end of the third inning.

Hardee had 15 runs off 13 hits. Derringer led the team with three runs, Patterson, Jackson, and Carranco had two runs, and Gough, Salazar, Benavidez, McBride, Carlton,

and Rodriguez each recorded one run. Derringer had three hits, Rodriguez and Salazar had two hits, and Patterson, Jackson, Carranco, Benavidez, DeLeon, and Carlton each had one hit.

Derringer held the mound for the Wildcats all three innings and gave up no hits or runs.

Hardee Downs Mulberry, 10-2

The Lady Wildcats delivered a 10-2 defeat of the Mulberry High School Lady Panthers on the road last Friday (March 2).

Hardee took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Gough got the scoring started when she reached home on an error from the Panther pitcher. Patterson scored next following a ground out by Jackson.

The Lady Wildcats extended their lead to 7-0 in the top of the fourth inning thanks to a spectacular five-run rally. McBride and Figueroa struck first following a single ground ball off the bat of Benavidez. Carlton and Benavidez scored in the next at-bat when Gough knocked a fly ball to right field. Gough would eventually score following a ground ball off the bat of Jackson.

Three more Wildcat runs came in the top of the sixth inning. A single line drive off the bat of Salazar allowed Gough to cross home plate. A hard ground ball off the bat of McBride in the next at bat allowed Patterson and Derringer to score, bringing the score to 10-0.

Mulberry's only runs came in the bottom of the sixth, bringing the score to 10-2.

Hardee had 10 runs and 13 hits in the outing. Gough and Patterson each had four hits, and Jackson, Salazar, McBride, Figueroa, and Carlton each had one hit. Gough had three runs, Patterson had two runs, and Derringer, McBride, Figueroa, Carlton, and Benavidez each had one run.

Pitching duties were shared by Carranco and Derringer. Carranco pitched five innings and allowed five hits and two runs. Derringer allowed one hit and no runs in her 2 innings on the mound.



PHOTO BY TOM STAIIK

Stephanie Derringer, a 10th grade student at Hardee Senior High School, pitched a perfect game against the Avon Park High School Red Devils last week.

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Hardee Wildcat Football Awards 2017



Alex Hernandez was named 2017 Mr. Wildcat. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete that best displays the characteristics of a Wildcat football player in the classroom, on the field and in the community.



Kai Washington was recognized as the 2017 Most Outstanding Offensive Player. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions on offense.



Matt Tyson was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Defensive Player. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions on defense.



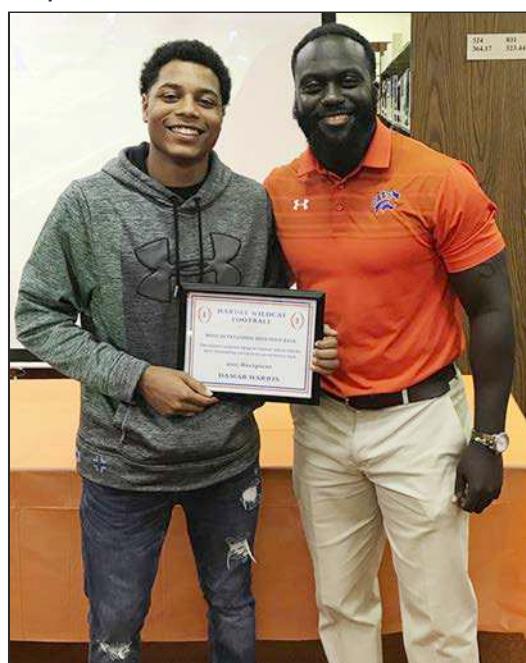
Leo Duarte was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Special Teams Player. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions on special teams.



Quintin Lindsey was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Receiver. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions as a receiver.



Isaac Moreno was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Linebacker. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions as a linebacker.



Damar Harris was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Defensive Back. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions as a defensive back.



Marcelin Cimeus was named the 2017 Most Improved Offensive Player. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete that showed the most improvement on offense.



Griffin Clark and **Dylan Davis** were honored with the 2017 Academic Awards. The award acknowledges the student-athlete with the highest GPA during the football season.



Four Wildcats were honored as the 2017 Unsung Heroes. **Lane Parks** was recognized for 'Character.' **Renton Roberson** was recognized for 'Attitude.' **Floyd Rice III** was recognized for 'Trust.' **Dustin Willis** was recognized for 'Strength.' The award acknowledge the student-athlete with unnoticed but key contributions in the areas of Character, Attitude, Trust, and Strength - CATS.



Samuel Louis was named the 2017 Most Improved Defensive Player. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete that showed the most improvement on defense.



Myron Refoure was named the 2017 Rookie of the Year. The award is acknowledging the performance of a student-athlete in their first year of varsity competition.

Also receiving awards were **Bo Villarreal** who was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Lineman. The award is acknowledging the Student-Athlete with the most outstanding contributions on the offensive/defensive line. And **Randy McLeod** who was named the 2017 Most Outstanding Offensive Back. The award is acknowledging the student-athlete with the most outstanding contributions as an offensive back.



Rob Davis was named the 2017 Coach of the Year. The award acknowledges the coach whose efforts greatly exceeded expectations.

COUNTY FAIR WINNERS

The Hardee County Commission honored local youths who won a blue ribbon, best of breed, showmanship or pageant awards at the recent Hardee County Fair during their meeting last week. Chairman Russell Melendy congratulated all the winners who were able to attend, telling them they set goals and worked hard to accomplish them.

SHOW AND TELL ...

As best I remember, it began the day Mark brought his new football to Zolfo Springs Elementary. Suddenly, he was the most popular boy in first grade. I had previously held the title (at least, in my memory), but Mark usurped my position. All the kids gathered around Mark at recess. He was the new king of the playground.

I went home that afternoon and demanded my mother buy me a new football. I wanted to reclaim my position, and I was sure a new football would do it. My mother was old school. You could threaten to hold your breath until she gave into your demands, and she would briskly say, "Go right ahead. I'm cooking fried chicken tonight and your brother will get both legs." Manipulating a kid with threats of fried chicken is cruel and unusual punishment, and I caved every time.

The agony of recess continued. Mark was the king of the playground, and I was a has-been. It was a long fall and winter.

Spring came, the orange trees were in bloom, and it was baseball season. Mama in a spurt of generosity bought me a baseball. I'm not sure why. We lived a mile from the nearest neighbors, so there was no one to throw it to. My dog Moe just ran off with it when I threw it to him.

Lying in bed that night, it hit me: I could bring my baseball to school! Maybe my baseball was my chance to regain the recess throne.

It worked like a charm. Mark's football was forgotten, and



Directions
By Clay Smith
Hardee County Native

we played baseball (or a first-grade version of it) all through recess. Once again, I was the king.

Aren't you glad we grow out of such childish thinking? Aren't you glad no adult is ever envious? Aren't you glad adults don't compete with each other? Aren't you glad no one

measures self-worth based possession comparison? Reality is we compare the size of our houses, the newness of our cars, and achievements of our children. Adults haven't come that far from recess.

Salvation, among many other things, means you no longer have to play the comparison game. Jesus comes to teach us a different way to live. It's not wrong to want nice things or have nice things. It is toxic to base your human value on what you own.

That's why the Apostle Paul said to us, "I know both how to make do with little, and I know how to make do with a lot. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of contentment - whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need, I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

Your worth is not based on what you have, but who you have. If you have Jesus, you have everything you need.

Is it time for you to get off the comparison treadmill and be content with Jesus?

Hardee County native Clay Smith is lead pastor at Alice Drive Baptist Church in Sumter, S.C. He and his brother and sister still own the family ranch in the Lemon Grove community east of Wauchula. You can follow him at unlikelyclay.com.

ARCADIA RODEO

PHOTO BY KATHY ANN GREGG

The 90th annual Arcadia All-Florida Championship Rodeo runs today (Thursday) through Sunday in its new home, the Mosaic Arena. This Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association competition features traditional roughstock events of bareback, saddlebronc and bull riding along with timed events of tie-down and team roping and steer wrestling. The women's and junior barrel racing are sponsored by the Women's Professional Rodeo Association. Each day's performance begins with the Shoot-Out Gang and the mutton bustin'. Locals who may be competing are Pat Carlton and Charles W. "Trae" Adams III in the tie-down roping, Corey Fussell in saddlebronc riding, Parker Carlton in steer wrestling, and Jamie Lewis in barrel racing. Saturday morning at 10 is a parade through Arcadia. The rodeo grounds open at 11, with rodeo action starting each day at 2. Advance tickets are highly recommended, and can be obtained online or by calling (863) 494-2014.

**Peavy's Ponderings**

By Jonell Peavy
Sugar Possum of the late Truman Thomas

For all you strawberry lovers, the fields are open. Since I am unable to get out in the sun my son, daughter and granddaughter loaded up containers and went strawberry picking.

I spent Saturday evening washing and stemming the ones they picked for me and getting them in the freezer. I kept plenty out of the freezer just to eat and we also share with family and friends.

I'm enclosing the address and phone number if anyone of you want to get strawberries. They are huge, bright red, and very juicy and sweet. They are \$3 for a one gallon bucket. The address is 3875 West Lake Buffum Road and the phone number is 863-797-5527. They are open six days a week and my son said they have strawberry ice cream this season, and they all said it was delicious.

We usually make at least two trips to get more berries. I put enough in the freezer to make strawberry preserves, to have enough to last until next season. Since they are frozen I can make them anytime.

It's so nice to have family that cares enough to take time out of their busy schedule to come just to visit. Saturday my niece and her children came over bringing lunch and stayed for a long visit. Then on Sunday my daughter and son-in-law came over and brought lunch for the three of us.

They all look after my welfare, and my children, grandchildren, sister, brother, and niece don't wait for me to call them, they just seem to know when I need something done and they come do it.

I know I am blessed to have the love and support of all of them, and I only wish everyone could have that needed support as they get older.

Keep me in your prayers, and a blessed day to all of you. Editor's Note: Jonell Peavy lives in Avon Park and can be reached at 863-453-3589.

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Obituaries

In Memory



DANIEL JONATHAN WILLIAMS

Daniel Jonathan Williams, of Brandon, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018.

Born May 11, 1936, in Hardee County, to Broadus and Elsie Williams, he was the 5th of 7 children. He served five years in the US Navy, graduated from the University of Florida with an Agricultural Engineering degree, was a registered Professional Engineer and a member of the First Baptist Church of Brandon. His family was his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three siblings; and granddaughter, Lauren Phillips.

He is survived by his wife, Audrey Jones Williams; daughters, Okle (Richard) Miller, Elizabeth Williams and Kimberly (Kevin) Jahn; granddaughter, Audrey Miller and siblings, Marilyn Ford, Shirley Pauley and David Williams and their families.

Funeral services were March 7, at the First Baptist Church of Brandon, with the family receiving friends one hour prior to services. Interment followed at Bloomingdale Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Gideon's International.

Please sign guestbook at SouthernFuneralCare.com. Arrangements by Southern Funeral Care Brandon

In Loving Memory



MARY LOUISE MADISON

Mary Louise Madison, 78, of Zolfo Springs, died on Feb. 27, 2018, at South Bay Hospital, in Sun City Center.

She was born in Clarksdale, Miss., on Dec. 4, 1939, and moved to Hardee County from Apopka, in March 1974. She was a homemaker and a member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marilyn Madison-Knuckles.

Survivors include her son, Berlin Madison, of Washington DC; daughter, Saundra Madison, of Riverview; sister, Virgie Mae Morton, of Mound Bayou, Miss.; seven grandchildren, Evelyn and Victoria Madison, Keshia Chambers, Jaleesa and Brittany Knuckles, Joshua Gause, and Sierra Tate Madison; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 10, at 11 a.m. at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Zolfo Springs. Burial is in Lakeview Memorial Gardens, Sebring.

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



KRISTA LYNN JOHNSTON

Krista Lynn Johnston, 52, of Wauchula, died at her home on Friday, March 2, 2018.

She was born in Hardee County on July 22, 1965, and had been a lifelong resident of Hardee County.

Krista was Baptist by faith.

She worked as a supervisor for TLC.

She was preceded in death by her son, Andy Johnston.

She is survived by her father, Donald Albritton; mother, Judith Allen Albritton and Mama 2 Sheila Harper; her loving husband, Ricky Johnston, of Wauchula; sons, Michael (Renee) Johnston, of Ft. Meade and Josh (Temple) Johnston, of Wauchula; brother, Mike (Tonya) Albritton; and three grandchildren.

Visitation was March 6 at Roberts Garden Chapel, with funeral services on March 7 in the Garden Chapel. Duane Porter officiated. Burial was at Mt. Pisgah Cemetery.

Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family

FUNERAL HOME
WAUCHULA



Provided as a courtesy of Robarts Family Funeral Home



LURENA BLANDIN

Lurena Blandin, 79, of Wauchula, died Feb. 28, 2018. She was born Oct. 28, 1939, in South Bay.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 10 at 1 p.m. Funeral will follow at 2 p.m. Services will be at Magnolia Manor Cemetery, Wauchula.

Arrangements by Williams Funeral Home.

In Loving Memory

MARY LINDA ALBRITTON KING KILPATRICK

Mary Linda Albritton King Kilpatrick, 98, of Bowling Green, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, March 5, 2018, at the home of her son Donald, surrounded by her family.

She was born Saturday, Feb. 21, 1920, in Ft. Green, and moved to Bowling Green in 1943.

She was preceded in death by her parents Niram and Priscilla Albritton; husbands, James King and Irold "Pat" Kilpatrick; daughter, Polly Naomi King; and great-grandson, Ezekiel Drasdo.

Survivors are: son, Douglas King (Kathy), of Lakeland; daughter, Mary Linda Reas, of Ft. Meade; son, Ronald Kilpatrick, of Bowling Green; son, Donald Kilpatrick (Cathy), of Bowling Green; daughter, Sharon Elise Bearce (Robert), of St. Petersburg; son, Alton Augusta "Boogie" Kilpatrick (Stacey), of Bowling Green; 19 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren and 24 great-great-grandchildren.

Expressions of comfort may be made at robartsfh.com.

Robarts Family

FUNERAL HOME
WAUCHULA



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FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

View Obit at robartsfuneralhome.com

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Death Notice

DIANE GRUEBEL

Diane Greubel died March 6, 2018. Visitation is today (Thursday), March 8, at Roberts Garden Chapel, from 6-8 p.m. Services are at 4 p.m. on Friday (March 9) at First Baptist Church, Bowling Green.

Arrangements by Robarts Family Funeral Home.

ABOUT...

Obituaries

Obituaries are published free of charge by The Herald-Advocate 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.

Funeral homes can submit obituaries to obits@theheraldadvocate.com.

order to maintain utilities.

—listened to Town Attorney Gerald Buhr's comments regarding an ethics class he will teach. This event was scheduled for the day of the town's regular meeting in April. The class will be on April 24 from 1 to 5 p.m., and the regular meeting will be at 6 p.m.

—heard Town Manager Linda Roberson's comments regarding the repair of a manhole and the purchase of a new town company vehicle. A Ford Fusion will be purchased for \$17,776 and a manhole on Diana Street will be repaired for \$12,250.

—accepted the Sheriff's statistic report for the month of January. The report noted 11 offenses, 30 calls for information, 17 tickets and no driving under influence. Offenses recorded were two batteries, one battery on LEO, a business burglary, a child abuse, one criminal mischief, one driving with a suspended license, an identity theft, one illegal use of a credit card, one invalid driver's license and one possession of cocaine.

The next Zolfo Springs Commission meeting will be Tuesday, March 27, 6 p.m., at the Zolfo Springs City Hall, 3210 U.S. 17, Zolfo Springs.

Comfort Foods Made FAST AND HEALTHY!

By Healthy Exchanges

CHEESY CABBAGE OVER MASHED POTATOES

If this doesn't make your Irish eyes smile, nothing will!

6 cups purchased coleslaw mix

1/4 cup Land O Lakes Fat Free Half & Half

1 1/2 cups diced Velveeta Light processed cheese

1/8 teaspoon black pepper

1 1/3 cups instant potato flakes

1 1/2 cups boiling water

2 tablespoons Land O Lakes no-fat sour cream

1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon

I Can't Believe It's Not Butter Light Margarine

Continue cooking over low heat until cheese melts, stirring often.

2. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, combine dry potato flakes and water. Mix well to combine. Stir in sour cream and margarine. For each serving, place 1/2 cup potatoes on a plate and spoon about 1/2 cup cabbage mixture over top. Makes 4 servings.

TIPS: 1) 5 cups shredded cabbage and 1 cup shredded carrots may be used in place of purchased coleslaw mix. 2) To make into a main dish, stir 1 full cup 97 percent fat-free ham into mixture when adding cheese.

1. In a large skillet sprayed with butter-flavored cooking spray, saute coleslaw mix for 6 to 8 minutes. Lower heat. Stir in half and half. Add Velveeta cheese and black pepper. Mix well to combine.

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Flash Back

By Chris Richcreek

1. Who released "Every Which Way But Loose," and when?

2. Which duo released the 1980 version of "All Out of Love"?

3. Name the group that released "Paloma Blanca."

4. Who released "Levon"?

5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "You take the grey skies out of my way, You make the sun shine brighter than Doris Day."

ANSWERS

1. Eddie Rabbit, in 1978. It was on the soundtrack of the film of the same name, starring

Clint Eastwood. Eastwood played a trucker with a pet orangutan named Clyde.

2. Air Supply. The song went to No. 2 in the U.S. but reached only No. 9 in their native Australia.

3. The George Baker Selection, in 1975. It appeared on Billboard's Easy Listening and Hot 100 charts and has been translated into versions all over the world.

4. Elton John, in 1971.

5. "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go," by Wham! in 1984. Songwriter George Michael says the idea for the song came to him when Andrew Ridgeley (the other half of Wham!) left a "wake me up" note for his parents. He'd inadvertently penned in an additional "go" in the sentence. It became the song's title.

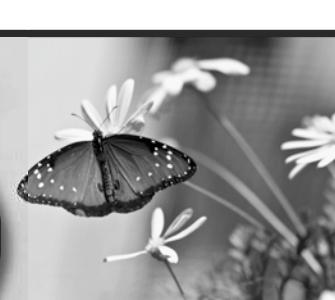
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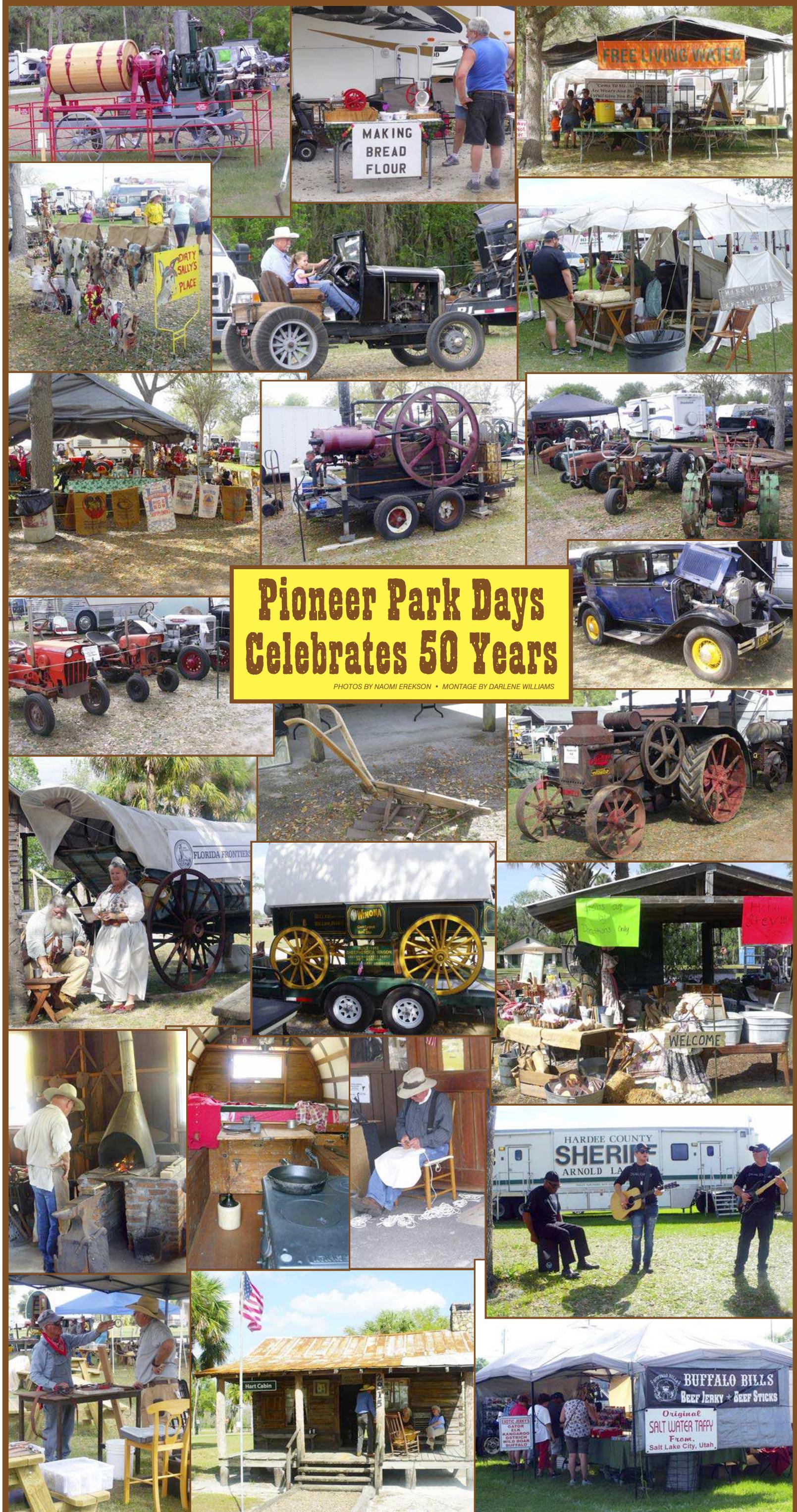
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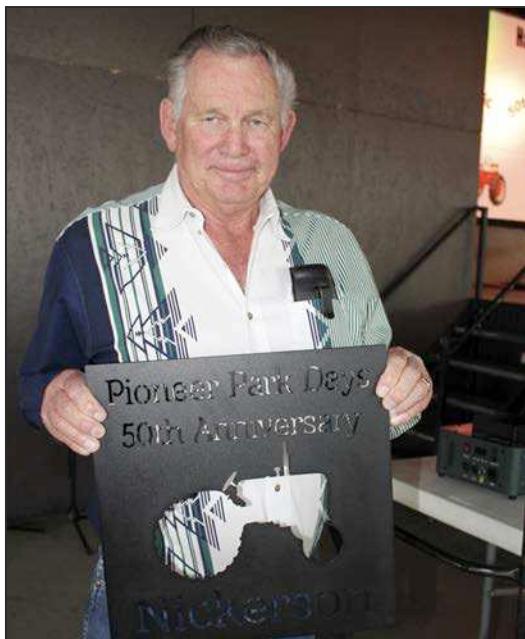
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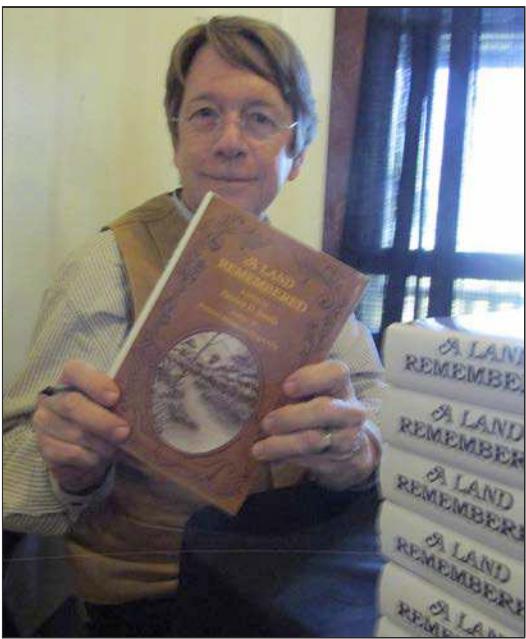
Pioneer Park Days 2018



PHOTOS BY JEAN KELLY
Roger Nickerson, brother of Earle Nickerson, representing the Nickerson Family receives a plaque in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Pioneer Park Days (PPDs). Earle was a co-founder of Pioneer Park Days along with Tony Ullrich.



Joey Rugenstein of Sebring, an avid Flywheeler, has been an exhibitor all 50 years of Pioneer Park Days (PPDs). He was only 15 years old when he began. Now Joey's son Ricky is an exhibitor alongside his Dad, and they hope to be there another 25 years.



Rick Smith, son of author Patrick D. Smith, gave his 241st program on his late father's writing career Saturday at Pioneer Park Days. Rick and his wife Kim, who live in California, sold and autographed books, the most famous being "A Land Remembered" followed by "Forever Island."



Representing the Ullrich family Friday night at the awards ceremony are (left to right) Ami Ullrich Willis, daughter of the late Tony Ullrich, one of the founders of PPDs in 1968; Jenny Ullrich, Tony's wife; Barbara Sutton, Tony's sister; Sarina Ullrich Paris, niece; and (front row) Tanner Willis, Tony's grandson.



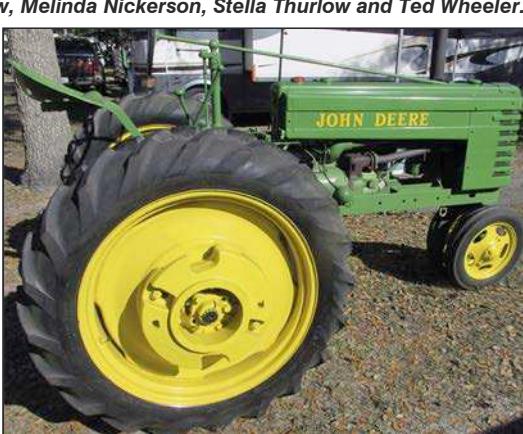
Hardee County Commissioner Mike Thompson accepts PPDs' 50th Anniversary plaque on behalf of the Board of Hardee County Commissioners from Sam Fite, Mayor of Bowling Green.



Representing the Nickerson family at the ceremony were (left to right) Triston Montgomery, Ryan Moore, Kevin Moore, Lauren Moore, Roger Nickerson (son of Earle Nickerson, Pioneer Park Day founder), Leanne Moore, Wyatt Montgomery, Judy Nickerson, Connie Montgomery, Rod Montgomery, Norm Nickerson (son of Earle Nickerson), Hixon Thurlow, Brittany Thurlow, Jeremy Thurlow, Melinda Nickerson, Stella Thurlow and Ted Wheeler.



A Rumley Oil Pull Tractor from PPDs of years past.



Dr. Elver Hodges and his daughter Margaret Blanco of Wauchula attended the Patrick D. Smith presentation. Dr. Hodges will be 106 on Aug. 2.



Antique International tractor.

On This Day:

- In 1929 US worker union commission reports of slavery in Liberia
- In 1936 The first stock car race is held in Daytona Beach, Florida.
- In 1939 Lenore Coffee & William Joyce Cowan's "Family Portrait" premieres
- In 1941 1st baseball player drafted into WW II (Hugh Mulcahy, Phillies)
- In 1943 Limited gambling legalized in Mexico
- In 1943 US Ladies' Figure Skating championship won by Gretchen Merrill
- In 1943 US Men's Figure Skating championship won by Arthur Vaughn
- In 1945 International Women's Day is 1st observed

Use Free App To Report Sightings

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission is hoping Florida residents and visitors to take an active role in conservation by using a new app to report fish and wildlife observations.

From fish kills to exotic species to trapped or injured wildlife, the FWC Reporter app connects citizens to FWC experts directly from their Apple or Android devices.

The FWC often relies on re-

"This app strengthens our relationship with the public by engaging people and streamlining communication with our staff," said Gil McRae, director of FWC's Fish & Wildlife Research Institute. "This is a great opportunity to incorporate citizen participation into our research and management efforts."

ports from citizens to protect and manage Florida's diverse fish and wildlife.

To make a report, users select a category from the menu, provide relevant information, and submit photos if available.

Download the free FWC Reporter app and become a partner in conservation. It's available from the App Store or Google Play.

Solunar Forecast

3/8/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 6:44 AM

Set: 6:31 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 47 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 12:09 AM

Set: 11:17 AM

Overhead: 5:45 AM

Underfoot: 6:09 PM

Moon Phase

57% Waning Gibbous

Major Times

5:45 AM - 7:45 AM

6:09 PM - 8:09 PM

Minor Times

12:09 AM - 1:09 AM

11:17 AM - 12:17 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Average

Time Zone

UTC: -5

3/9/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 6:43 AM

Set: 6:32 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 49 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 1:02 AM

Set: 12:00 PM

Overhead: 6:33 AM

Underfoot: 6:57 PM

Moon Phase

50% Last Quarter

Major Times

6:33 AM - 8:33 AM

6:57 PM - 8:57 PM

Minor Times

1:02 AM - 2:02 AM

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Average

Time Zone

UTC: -5

3/10/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 6:42 AM

Set: 6:32 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 50 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 1:53 AM

Set: 12:45 PM

Overhead: 7:20 AM

Underfoot: 7:44 PM

Moon Phase

38% Waning Crescent

Major Times

7:20 AM - 9:20 AM

7:44 PM - 9:44 PM

Minor Times

1:53 AM - 2:53 AM

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Average+

Time Zone

UTC: -5

3/11/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 7:41 AM

Set: 7:34 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 53 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 3:42 AM

Set: 2:33 PM

Overhead: 9:08 AM

Underfoot: 9:32 PM

Moon Phase

30% Waning Crescent

Major Times

9:08 AM - 11:08 AM

9:32 PM - 11:32 PM

Minor Times

3:42 AM - 4:42 AM

2:33 PM - 3:33 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Average

Time Zone

UTC: -4

3/12/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 7:40 AM

Set: 7:34 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 54 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 4:28 AM

Set: 3:24 PM

Overhead: 9:56 AM

Underfoot: 10:20 PM

Moon Phase

22% Waning Crescent

Major Times

9:56 AM - 11:56 AM

10:20 PM - 12:20 AM

Minor Times

4:28 AM - 5:28 AM

3:24 PM - 4:24 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Average

Time Zone

UTC: -4

3/14/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 7:38 AM

Set: 7:35 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 57 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 5:54 AM

Set: 5:09 PM

Overhead: 11:31 AM

Underfoot: --::--

Moon Phase

8% Waning Crescent

Major Times

--::-- - --::--

11:31 AM - 1:31 PM

Minor Times

5:54 AM - 6:54 AM

5:09 PM - 6:09 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Good

Time Zone

UTC: -4

3/15/2018

Sun Data

Rise: 7:39 AM

Set: 7:36 PM

Day Length

11 hrs. 59 mins.

Moon Data

Rise: 6:33 AM

Set: 6:03 PM

Overhead: 12:18 PM

Underfoot: --::--

Moon Phase

4% Waning Crescent

Major Times

--::-- - --::--

12:18 PM - 2:18 PM

Minor Times

6:33 AM - 7:33 AM

6:03 PM - 7:03 PM

Prediction

Hunting or Fishing

Better

Time Zone

UTC: -4

I am not your preacher. I only hope to help you become a better person tomorrow than you were yesterday. Today is the only day you have to accomplish this. It is not a New Year's resolution.

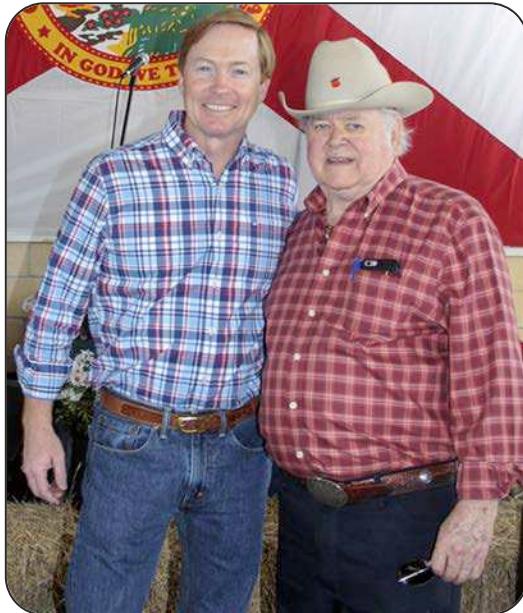
Do you think you are a good person? Answer these four questions.

First question. Have you ever told a lie? Any kind about anything.

Second question. Have you ever stolen anything? A piece of bubble gum, candy, a pencil or picked up some money you know someone dropped?

— HARDEE LIVING —

Putnam Attends Friends Of Florida Ag Dinner In ZS



PHOTOS BY KATHY ANN GREGG
Gubernatorial candidate Adam Putnam with Friends of Florida Agriculture BBQ host Ben Hill Griffin. The event was held at Griffin's Peace River Ranch in Zolfo Springs.



Buddy and Brie Putnam with daughter Paislee. He is the son of the late Will Putnam; the family ranch is in Western Hardee County.



COURTESY PHOTO
Rodeo writer and photographer Kathy Ann Gregg with Ag Commissioner Adam Putnam, who is running for Florida governor.



Candidate Adam Putnam (third from left) with David and Tanya Royal and their son, Kalan.



Local law enforcement officers present at the event were (from left) sheriff's K-9 officer Cpl. David Cruz, Hardee County Sheriff Arnold Lanier and Dep. Donald EverSOLE.

Brianna Waters Takes Crown As Cattlemen's Sweetheart

The Hardee County Cattlemen's Association selected a new sweetheart just in time for the 77th running of the Hardee County Fair.

Brianna Waters, 17, of Bowling Green, was selected.

Brianna is a senior at Hardee Senior High School and is the daughter of Dustyn and Tammy Waters.

For applicants to be eligible for the Cattlemen's Sweetheart title, young single women must be a high-school senior or up to the age of 23. They must also have a parent who is a member of the Hardee County Cattlemen's Association.

Brianna's father is a member, allowing her to be considered for this honor.

The new sweetheart has already participated in numerous events, primarily at the County Fair, including the livestock shows and auction.

"Cattle is really big in this county, and I thought it would

be really neat to represent it in this way," she said.

"I hope to represent our county in a positive way and be a good role model for anyone else who wants to apply (for this title in the future),"

she added.

After high school, Brianna plans to attend South Florida State College and earn her degree from the dentistry program there, as she aspires to become a dental hygienist.



PHOTO BY MARIA TRUJILLO
The Hardee County Cattlemen's Sweetheart for 2018 is Brianna Waters of Bowling Green.

Roundup

Sign Up For Garden Workshop

The Hardee County Extension Service is planning a vegetable gardening workshop on Thursday, Mar. 29, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Dinner and educational materials will be provided. Fee is \$10 and can accompany pre-registration.

The workshop is on common pest problems, good and bad critters and pollinator protection, presented by extension service agents Jonael Bosques and David Austin. For more information, call 773-2164 or email mwa@ufl.edu.



West Place Apartments

**Saturday
March 10th
2pm - 4pm**

**Corner of 7th & Main
Wauchula**

the YMCA **LEARN EARLY**

VPK Education Program

NEW PROGRAM STARTING SOON!

The Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program – or VPK – is a free prekindergarten program for 4 and 5-year-olds who reside in Florida.

8-11am for the VPK program and wrap around services will be 11am-6pm.

MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

HARDEE COUNTY FAMILY YMCA

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Fax: 863.773.4581
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sarasotaymca.org/hardeeymca
or on Facebook @hardeeymca**



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— HARDEE LIVING —

SPECIAL SERVICES

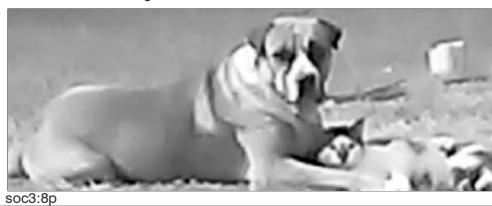

COURTESY PHOTO

The Wylers on Wheels will be appearing at Maranatha Baptist Church in all services this Sunday. Evangelist Douglas Wyler preaches in a powerful yet practical way that has challenged people in churches nationwide. The Wylers on Wheels have inspired and encouraged people across the United States and Canada through message and music. Services are at 10 and 11 a.m. and at 1 p.m. Maranatha Baptist Church is at 2465 Oxendine Road in Zolfo Springs.

LOST DOG

Bull Mastiff Cur very playful and sweet, very loving. He was lost between Steve Roberts Special and Hwy. 66 in Zolfo Springs, he has no collar but he is vaccinated, his name is Hercules and will come to a whistle and clapping. He belongs to my 4 year old granddaughter.

Please contact me at 863-245-8291 or my son at 941-321-6840



soc3:8p

Top 10 Movies

1. Black Panther (PG-13) Chadwick Boseman, Michael B. Jordan
 2. Game Night (R) Jason Bateman, Rachel McAdams
 3. Peter Rabbit (PG) animated
 4. Annihilation (R) Natalie Portman, Jennifer Jason Leigh
 5. Fifty Shades Freed (R) Dakota Johnson, Jamie Dornan
 6. Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (PG-13) Dwayne Johnson, Karen Gillan
 7. The 5:17 to Paris (PG-13) Alek Skarlatos, Anthony Sadler
 8. The Greatest Showman (PG) Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams
 9. Every Day (PG-13) Angourie Rice, Justice Smith
 10. Early Man (PG) animated
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ABOUT... Hardee Living

Hardee Living prints your news on people, clubs and organizations, including meeting summaries, births, children's and senior citizens' birthdays, engagements, weddings, silver or gold anniversaries, church events and military assignments.

Forms are available at our office. For engagements and weddings, a photo should be included. Publication is free of charge. Coverage of weddings over three months old will be limited to a photo and brief announcement. Deadline is 5 p.m. on Thursday.

• 5% of the world population lives in the US but 22% of the world's prisons population are held in the US.

Greetings from Fort Green! Pioneer Park was wonderful with the weather cooperating. There was a light breeze and plenty of sunshine.

I always try and get something at Lorraine and John Gillespie's booth, and this year was no exception. Jane Klein was there with her delicious jams and jellies. I missed the vegetable booths, but later read they were way back at the far end of the flea market near the Nickerson building. It would be great if the special part of the paper telling about the functions could be published the week before. I went on Thursday and did not get my paper until Thursday afternoon, so of course I did not read the paper until I got home. If I had known of all the special activities going on Thursday, I would have enjoyed seeing them.

As it was I had the best swamp cabbage I have eaten in my life outside of the museum. The lady cooking said she was not demonstrating how to cook but to taste. Some Northern ladies were sampling and did not appreciate the wonderful treat. The cook said she put real cream in hers and not canned cream, which I have always used in the past. No more! I can certainly learn and will always use whipping cream in the future and cut the pieces real small.

There was a lady showing how to cut them up, and they had some cabbage heads on display. The music was real good in this area.

Ida Mary Haney was holding the fort down in the Clarence Bryant Blacksmith Shop. Bryant's wife was a Blackburn, so some call it the Blackburn Blacksmith Shop and I don't know the proper

name. Ida Mary said she was one of the few last generations. I thought this added something to the shop. It was moved from Bowling Green to the park.

I saw George Wilson and he was dressed in railroad attire and said he was driving the train but, leave it to me, I thought he meant one of the trams to give people rides until I read the paper. I would have gone Friday after learning all the important things going on but had too much to do at home.

Sandy Scott outdid herself on all the stories in the paper about how the train got to Pioneer Park, how it first started, and the barefoot mailman and so much more you need to read the entire article. I am saving mine to read again someday!

They tried to make this 50th anniversary a memorable day and very good, and I say they hit the nail on the head!

It would probably be too expensive but it would be nice if everyone was given a program upon entering, with the different types of vendors located on particular rows. I never found any cane syrup, and it is possible there was not any, but with a program I would have known where to look. I hope it continues. It is a good outreach for Hardee County.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Brave Noah, as he made his final journey early in the morning on Feb. 26. His memorial service is planned for Fort Green Baptist on March 24. Call the church for the time, as it had not been decided when I typed this.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of Kris Albritton Johnston. She is young, as she and my daughter were in Bowing Green Elementary at

the same time. I am so sorry for her family. I did not even know she had been sick.

Danny Keene came through his surgery with flying colors as did little Eli Samuels.

Nancy McQuaig has some relatives who were injured in a four-wheeler accident when the gas tank blew up. They are still in the hospital. Jessica Gill Ruiz has a broken ankle and they had to put in rods and, I believe, a bone graft. She is suffering a lot. Judy Miller is still in need of prayer as is Kenny Lambert. Please pray for these and others you may know about.

Our niece and husband, Dale and Kay Silverman Burch, are visiting their aunt, Avis Sasser, for a few days. They live in Macon and it is always great to see them.

Holly Brown was at church last Sunday morning. She is celebrating "Spring Break," but had to return as she has a part-time job. She said she has learned to manage her time better and I am saying if nothing else that is quite an accomplishment, but she always made good grades. She and her sister, Hannah, are two beautiful young ladies.

Shirley Searcy called me and told me she heard that Fran Sayre died last week in Valdosta, where she lived. She did not know any particulars but drove to the cemetery and there was a new grave in the Searcy plot. I'm not sure if Eleanor was her sister or not, but she died some time ago. I used to see her daughter, Paula, but have not in some time.

O'Taters will be celebrated at church on March 18 immediately after the morning service.

Please pray for each other and our nation.

Letter To The Editor

How Roxie Bentley Chose Her College

Dear Editor:

My name is Roxie Bentley. Do you remember where I told you Frampton Hill is located? Is it in Florida? Georgia? South Carolina? Think about it.

One afternoon, when we were almost through with our chores, my brothers and I noticed lots of Army trucks and GIs were on the highway in front of our home. They were parked on the far side of Highway 17. There must have been a hundred or more Army trucks and more recruits.

Daddy told us to stay on our side of the highway and leave the soldiers alone, keep on with what we were supposed to be doing. We were told by our parents those fellows were on maneuvers.

The next day they were gone. I went on snooping around and found several things my Daddy could use. Oil cans full of oil, a canteen, etc.

After this, it was getting close to Christmas. I was in the 11th grade. My daddy heard from the man whom he had been working for. He wanted us to move during the Christmas holidays to a small country town named Ehrhardt, S.C.

The house was located in a grove of pecan trees. Some of the pecans were huge, some very small, very delicious.

My oldest brother Caswell

was in the Army stationed in Fort Jackson, soon to be shipped overseas. My brothers Jack and Levic and my sister Mae were enrolled in the high school in Ehrhardt.

I could not go to school there. I was taking shorthand, bookkeeping, and typing, plus English, history, literature, etc. These courses were taught in a much smaller town than Ehrhardt, called Lodge.

Daddy made arrangements for me to go with two teachers and two other young people to Lodge, S.C. There were 13 young people in my class.

One of the boys in my class dropped out because he said he knew he could not graduate, so 12 of us graduated in June.

I knew we did not have money for me to go to college. I wanted to join the Wacks, the Waves or something like that and let Uncle Sam pay for the rest of my education. My parents said "no way. You won't know how to take care of yourself. There are fellows who would take advantage of you."

My daddy's brother and his wife wanted to help, to let me choose where I wanted to go. In the meantime, my mama had an aunt and cousin who lived in Cleveland, Ohio, who were coming to Homestead, Fla., to visit my grandmother and some of Mama's brothers. Aunt Lill and cousin Sylvia took me to Homestead with them.

They seemed to understand our circumstances and wanted to help. When we left Homestead, Sylvia stopped at the courthouse in Miami to let US go into the boardroom of education to see if I might be hired for a teaching position. That did not turn out because I did not have a degree—no college at all at that time.

My parents finally let my daddy's brother and his wife help me go to the college of my choice.

That is the reason I chose Florida Southern College in Lakeland.

I'll leave the rest of the story for later.

Roxie Bentley
Wauchula

Open House

Join Us

Friday, March 9th
4 – 7pm

Lydia's House

406 East Bay Street, Wauchula
A Christian home/program for women
coming out of destructive lifestyles.

Drop by for a tour of the house.
Enjoy delicious homemade
refreshments provided by our
local community friends.

For more information call
863-773-0877



HISTORIC HOME BUILT IN 1906

soc3:8c

— HARDEE LIVING —

NEW RODEO ARENA



Attending last Thursday's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Mosaic Arena in Arcadia were (from left) Kim Welch Strickland, Carl McKettrick and Nancy Higginbotham. Strickland, who grew up in Wauchula, was Miss Rodeo Florida 1982 and regularly helps with one of the refreshment tents at the annual Arcadia Rodeo. McKettrick is co-owner of Arcadia Stockyards, one of the sponsors of the Peace River Pro Rodeo Classic that held its fourth annual event in Wauchula in late January. Higginbotham is a Member of the Rodeo Association, and her husband, Alfred, is on the Board of Directors.

PHOTO BY KATHY ANN GREGG

CAT IN HAT



COURTESY PHOTO

To celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday, which was Friday, former Bowling Green Elementary teacher Pam Roberts came to the school dressed as the famed and beloved Cat in the Hat. She read to all the kindergarten students. The students had been studying Seuss and his literary works all week!

4-City News

By Henrietta Benson

448-6737

Bowling Green's First Black History was celebrated with a program Feb. 24 at Greater Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church. Elder Emanuel Reed, pastor; Bro. Leonard McGill, emcee; Nick Jones, Scripture; Oveida Berrien, dance.

The Oldest Mothers were: Inez S. Hill and Bertha L. Fulse. Mother Hill was 101 and mother Fulse 105 at the time of their deaths. Four churches were honored: Chester Grove MB, 115 years; Greater MPB Church, 105 years; St. John AME, 110 years; and New Life Power Outreach Ministry, 19 years.

The four Oldest Family Estates in Bowling Green are the Parrishes, Jacksons, Snellings and Browns. The descendants are: Tillmans, Ball/Woodall, Bakers, McCrays, Greens, McIverys, Ervin, Hill, Brown, Bryant, Snelling, Fulse, Ryals, Jackson and Shaw.

Presentations were given to Mary Alice Tucker as the first black mayor; Dee Williams-Tatis, postmaster; James Atanda, first pharmacist; Dr. Sheryl B. Mosley, first young black principal; Joann McCray, the longest School Board worker; Jewell Fulse, RN of Bowling Green; Henrietta Benson, news correspondent; Lester Fulse, contractor; Brian Kemp, first black head coach of Hardee County; Diane Smith, elected supervisor of elections; Mae Robinson principal in Hardee County during the 1990s-2000; Garry McWhoter, first black School Board member; Shirley McWhorter, judge in Dade County, from Hardee County; Zeke Mowatt will be in services March 20-22 at Greater Works Ministry in Winter Haven.

The 100 Women in Pink convened at Greater Works Women's Ministry. The speaker will be Co-Pastor Diane Watson this Saturday at 7 p.m.

St. Paul AME Church, the Rev. Rubin E. Anrum, pastor, of Fort Meade, 31 S.E. Dr. M.L. King Ave., will hold Revival 2018 "Receive Your Better" at 7 nightly, 5 Sunday.

The oldest living are Betty Snelling and George Ryals.

Next generation present were Naomi Lindsey and Henry James McIvery.

This was the first black history of Bowling Green. If anyone has black history information, feel free to participate next year. Hats off to the committee that put this event together.

True Miracle Church of the Living God, Overseer Dolly M. Cook, pastor, at 313 W. Pine St. in Arcadia, celebrated its church anniversary. Theme: A Church Still Standing on the Word of God. Services were March 2-4 and continue this Sunday at 11 a.m. All welcome.

St. Paul AME church will host an evening of Grace Splendor Excellence this Saturday. Special guests: Elder J. Burrows and CWP, Katina Willis, Mia Lomax, Ginger Shiver, many more, all at the Fort Meade Community Center.

Deepest sympathy to the Burns family in the passing of Lurena B. Blandin, who was at Hardee Manor.

City-Wide Mission Society of Bowling Green convened Monday evening, Feb. 26, at Greater MPB Church. Sis. Barbara Barnes, president, spoke on "Prayer Express Thanksgiving," Psalm 100 and Psalm 103.

Remember the sick: Rosie Lee Clark, Daisy Spann, Sam Berrian, Thelma Blakley, Ronnie Rivers and E. Martin.

Congratulation to Larissa North on being crowned the 2018 Kindergarten Princess. She's a student at Hilltop Elementary School.

The Youth Take Over will be in services March 20-22 at Greater Works Ministry in Winter Haven.

The 100 Women in Pink convened at Greater Works Women's Ministry. The speaker will be Co-Pastor Diane Watson this Saturday at 7 p.m.

St. Paul AME Church, the Rev. Rubin E. Anrum, pastor, of Fort Meade, 31 S.E. Dr. M.L. King Ave., will hold Revival 2018 "Receive Your Better" at 7 nightly, 5 Sunday.

Guest pastor Wayne Howard, March 25; pastor Bernite Campbell on March 26; and Pastor Andre Camp, March 27. All welcome.

March 16-17 at Greater Works Ministry, Youth & Young Adults Take Back. The speaker Friday evening at 7:30 will be Shena Livingston. Saturday, March 17, speaker will be Korey Mickie at 7 p.m. Tarry Service.

Deepest sympathy to the Madison family on the home-going of Mary Louise Madison of Zolfo Springs. She was 78, passed away Feb. 27. Born in Clarksdale, Miss., on Dec. 4, 1939, she came to Hardee County from Apopka in 1974 and was a homemaker. Funeral services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Paul MB Church.

Weather was very good Thursday-Saturday for Pioneer Park Days.

Endtime Crossroad Ministry's annual Women's Conference will convene March 16 and 17 nightly at 7:30. Theme: Diamond in the Rough. Featured speakers will be overseer Deloris Williams and Sherri White. For information, contact Minister Patricia Camel at (863) 781-6788.

Coming soon: Bowling Green will be having its Easter Weekend Celebration.

Class Of '65 Reunion This Saturday

The Hardee High School Class of 1965 will be holding its annual picnic this Saturday at Pioneer Park in Zolfo Springs.

The gathering begins at 11 a.m. and will run until about 6 p.m. It will be held in the historic pool pavilion.

Classmate Pete Marovich will be cooking chicken on the grill. All others are asked to bring covered-dish picnic foods and desserts to share.

Attendance is free. A donation box will be available to anyone wishing to share in the costs of renting the pavilion and other incidentals.

RSVP to Donna Scott at (704) 617-4255.

**Hardee C.I.
Happy Birthday
Robert Martinez
"Smiley"
I Love You Baby
Love Your Baby**

soc3:8p

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

CLASS SCHEDULE

**Free 5-Week
Quit Smoking Now Program**

Weekly Wednesdays

March 21 - April 18

12:00 - 1:00 pm

**Florida Hospital
Wauchula**

735 South 5th Avenue

Wauchula, 33873

In the Chapel

**FLORIDA HOSPITAL
WAUCHULA**

**To Register or Learn More
Call 1-877-252-6094**

FREE

Nicotine replacement patches, gum and lozenges.*

*While supplies last and if medically appropriate.

FREE

Community, worksite and clinic groups offered.

Programs cover all forms of tobacco.



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tobaccofreeflorida.com/quityourway



QUIT YOUR WAY

Quitting tobacco isn't easy. Finding help should be. Tobacco Free Florida offers free tools and services to help you get started.

FLORIDA
HEALTH

QUIT YOUR WAY

Quitting tobacco isn't easy. Finding help should be. Tobacco Free Florida offers free tools and services to help you get started.

CLASS SCHEDULE

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WAUCHULA**

**To Register or Learn More
Call 1-877-252-6094**

GROUP QUIT

Is the in-person option of Tobacco Free Florida Quit Your Way services.

toll free 877-848-6696
tobaccofreeflorida.com/quityourway

3:8c

Crime Blotter

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

COUNTY

Mar. 4, Tiffany Marie Dianne Nikel, 25, of 3011 Logue Rd., Myakka City, was arrested by Dep. Joseph Austin and charged with battery and resisting/obstructing an officer without violence.

Mar. 3, a residential burglary on Popash Road and criminal mischief on CR 664 were reported.

Mar. 2, Matthew Carroll, 18, of 852 Pleasant Way, Bowling Green, was arrested by Dep. Kim Pfeiffer on a charge of contempt of court.

Mar. 2, Rodney Allen Smith, 39, of 3395 N. Nursery Rd., Zolfo Springs, was arrested by Dep. Ryan Abbott on an out-of-state fugitive warrant.

Mar. 2, burglary of a conveyance on Honeysuckle Street and a theft on U.S. 17 North were reported.

Mar. 1, Shannon Lee Stewart, 41, of 1734 Cape Coral Parkway, Cape Coral, was arrested by the Drug Task Force (DTF) and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia and a traffic charge.

Mar. 1, criminal mischief on U.S. 17 North was reported.

Feb. 28, Derek Dempsey Alday, 34, of 7156 Cloud Nine Ranch Rd., Ona, was arrested by Dep. John Layport on a charge of contempt of court—violation of an injunction for protection.

Feb. 28, a theft on U.S. 17 North was reported.

Feb. 27, Timothy Nekada Burks, 50, of 689 Chamberlain Blvd., Wauchula, was arrested by Sgt. Danny O'Bryan on five counts of failure to appear in court.

Feb. 27, criminal mischief on Finch Drive was reported.

Feb. 26, James Anthony Reynolds, 49, of 3891 Edison Ave., Bowling Green, was arrested by Cpl. Chris Albritton and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Feb. 26, thefts on two locations on U.S. 17 North and on Old Bradenton Road were reported.

WAUCHULA

Mar. 4, Jesus Venegas Montoya, 37, of 616 N. Ninth Ave., Wauchula, was arrested by Ofc. Bryanna Lott and charged with misuse of E911 system and resisting/obstructing an officer without violence.

Mar. 3, Sabrina Ann Brown, 47, of 316 E. Palmetto ST., Wauchula, and Jennie Marie Smith, 36, of 346 River Chase Cir., Wauchula, were arrested by Ofc. Michael Barry and each charged with disorderly conduct—affray.

Mar. 3, a fight on River Chase Circle was reported.

Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

FILE NO.: 25-2018-CP-000019

IN RE: ESTATE OF ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Antonio Rodriguez, deceased, whose date of death was October 9, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hardee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 417 West Main Street, Wauchula, Florida 33873. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is March 8, 2018.

Attorney for Personal Representative:
Logan Elliott, Attorney
Florida Bar Number: 86459
Elliott Law, P.A.
5105 Manatee Avenue West,
Suite 15A
Bradenton, FL 34209
Telephone: (941) 792-0173
Fax: (941) 240-2165
E-Mail:
logan@elliottelderlaw.com

Personal Representative:
Robert M. Elliott
5105 Manatee Avenue West
Suite 15
Bradenton, Florida 34209

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

FILE NO.: 252018-CP000018

IN RE: ESTATE OF ROLAND LEE SKIPPER
a/k/a ROLAND L. SKIPPER

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Roland Lee Skipper, deceased, whose date of death was December 22nd, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hardee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 417 West Main Street, Wauchula, FL 33873. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is March 1, 2018.

J. Michael Swaine
SWAINE & HARRIS, P.A.
Attorneys for Personal
Representatives
425 South Commerce Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870
Telephone: (863) 385-1549
Florida Bar No. 95615
E-Mail Address:
mike@heartlandlaw.com

Personal Representatives
Margaret R. Dunaway
5176 Sweetwater Road
Zolfo Springs, FL 33890

Mar. 2, burglary of a conveyance on South Sixth Avenue (U.S. 17 South) was reported.

Mar. 1, a vehicle stolen on North Third Avenue and a theft on South Seventh Avenue were reported.

Feb. 26, Abul Kalam Azad, 40, of 1086 Downing Cir., Wauchula, was arrested by Ofc. Kaleigh Anderson and charged with battery.

Feb. 26, Miranda Gayle Maness, 20, of 1731 S. Duette Rd., Myakka City, was arrested by Ofc. Christopher Gicker and charged with fraud—displaying a stolen forged check.

Feb. 26, a theft on East Main Street was reported.

BOWLING GREEN

Mar. 4, Jose Lopez, 58, of 350 Manatee St., Bowling Green, was arrested by Ofc. Breanna Locke and charged with disorderly intoxication.

Mar. 4, a fight on East Main Street and a vehicle stolen on Pleasant Way were reported.

Mar. 3, a theft on First Street was reported.

Mar. 2, Maria Del Carmen Lopez Delgado, 26, of 4512 Mason-Dixon Ave., Bowling Green, was arrested by Ofc. Breanna Locke and charged with battery and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Feb. 27, a theft on Hardee Street was reported.

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

CASE NO. 252016CA000488

CAMILO MORILLO and ROSA MORILLO, husband and wife,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MANUEL A. FORMOSO AND MANUEL FORMOSO;
UNKNOWN TENANT(S);
VICTORIA L. ROGERS, CLERK OF COURTS FOR HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; STATE OF FLORIDA; HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA; and CITY ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY, a Florida

corporation,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO F.S. CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS GIVEN that pursuant to Final Default Judgment and Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure and for Attorney's Fees and Costs entered by the Court on February 26, 2018, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the second floor hallway outside of room 202 of the Hardee County Courthouse located at 417 West Main Street, Wauchula, Florida, on the 21 day of March, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., the following-described property:

The E½ of SW¼ of Block 16, LESS the North 55.0 feet thereof, of the Original Survey of the Town of Wauchula, in Section 3, Township 34 South, Range 25 East, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 1, page 29, of the public records of Hardee County, Florida.

DATED this 26 day of February, 2018.

VICTORIA L. ROGERS,
Clerk of Courts
Hardee County, Florida

By: Connie Coker
Deputy Clerk

3:8,15c

The Herald-Advocate

Hardee County's Hometown Coverage
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Wauchula, FL 33873
Telephone (863) 773-3255
www.TheHeraldAdvocate.com

By: Christine Freijosio
Deputy Clerk

IF A NONLAWYER HELPED YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM, HE/SHE MUST FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW: This form was prepared for the Petitioner. This form was completed with the assistance of: Daniel Rodriguez, 1573 N. Florida Ave., Wauchula FL 33873, 863-245-5101

2:15-3:8p

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, Petitioner,

vs.

RICHARD A. WORLEY,
Case #40921 & 41004,
Respondent

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Luciano Villar Cevilla 2049 Rigdon Rd., Wauchula FL 33873

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR ADOPTION

TO: Luciano Villar Cevilla 2049 Rigdon Rd., Wauchula FL 33873

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: RICHARD A. WORLEY,
Residence Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for stepparent and adoption has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Blanca Flor Aquino Salas whose address is 314 Walton Ave., Wauchula FL 33873, on or before March 16, 2018 and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 417 W. Main St. Room 202, Wauchula FL before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you failed to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

DATE: February 8, 2018

VICTORIA L. ROGERS,
Clerk of the Circuit Court

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 a Water Use Permit to serve agricultural activities. The total authorized withdrawal is 617,000 GPD, Peak Month is 2,147,000 GPD, and Maximum is 6,268,400 GPD. The project is located in Hardee County, Section(s) 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 31, 32 and 33, Township 36 and 35 South, Range 23 East. The permit applicant is Quail Creek Farms, Inc., whose address is P.O. Box 329, Wimauma, FL 33598.

The Permit No. is 20003514.005.

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 US 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.), or 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. 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.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Pursuant to F.S. 197.512

Victoria L. Rogers
Hardee County, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

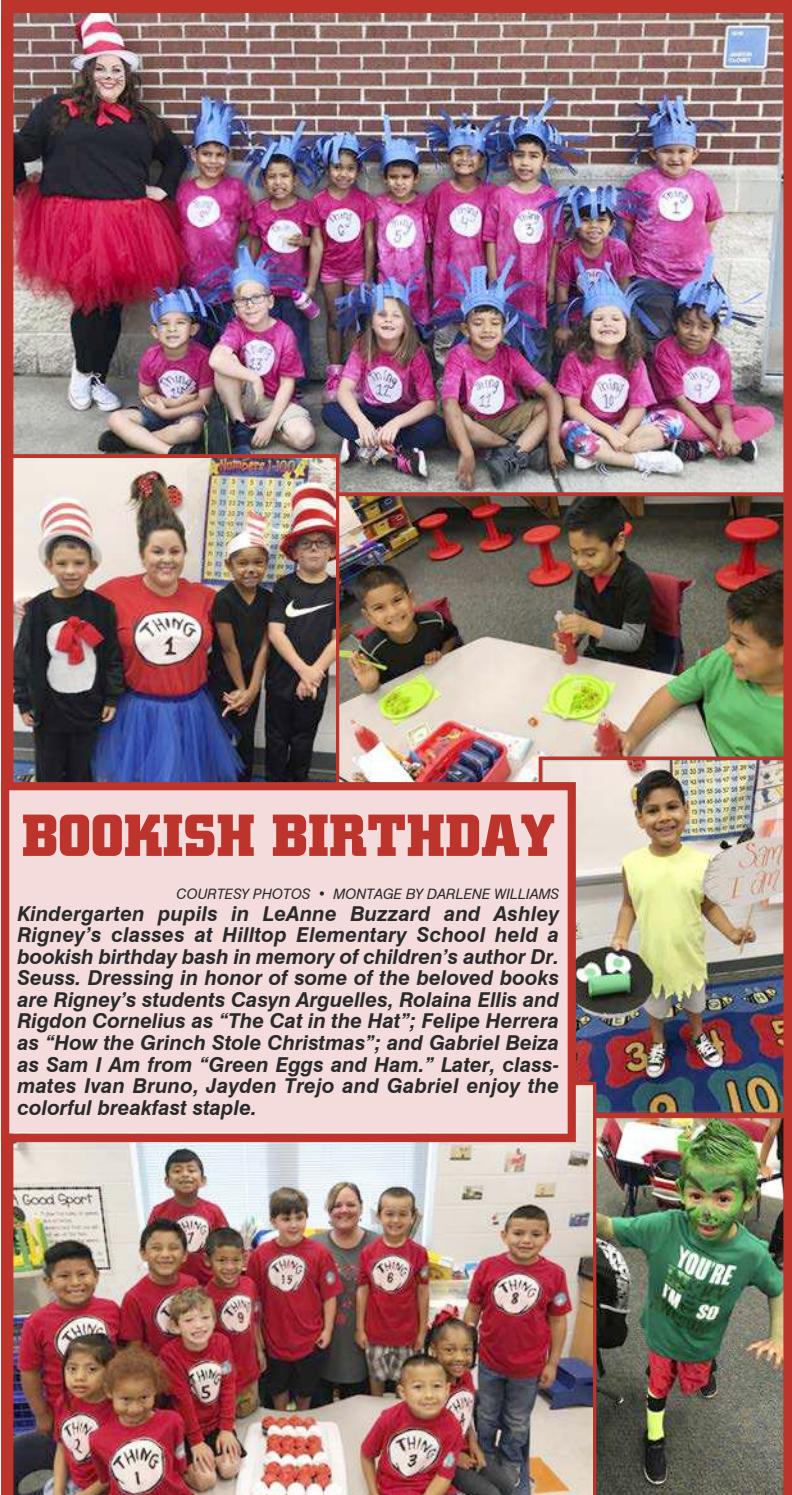
Tax Deed File: 252017TD023XXXX

Date: 02/20/2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

WARNING THERE ARE UNPAID TAXES ON THE PROPERTY WHICH YOU OWN OR IN WHICH YOU MAY HAVE LEGAL INTEREST.

The property will be sold at a public auction on the 4th day on April, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., unless the back taxes are paid. To make payment or for questions concerning real property taxes, contact the Hardee County Tax Collector's Office at (863) 773-9144 (PO Box 445, Wauchula, FL 33873). To receive further information regarding the Tax Deed Sale, contact the Hardee County Clerk of the Courts, immediately, at



THANK YOU OUR BELOVED, FRANCISCO J. FIGUEROA, 28, BETTER KNOWN AS PACO,

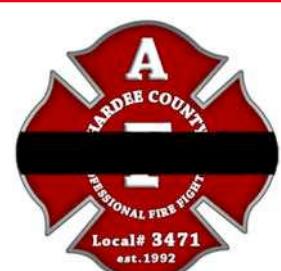
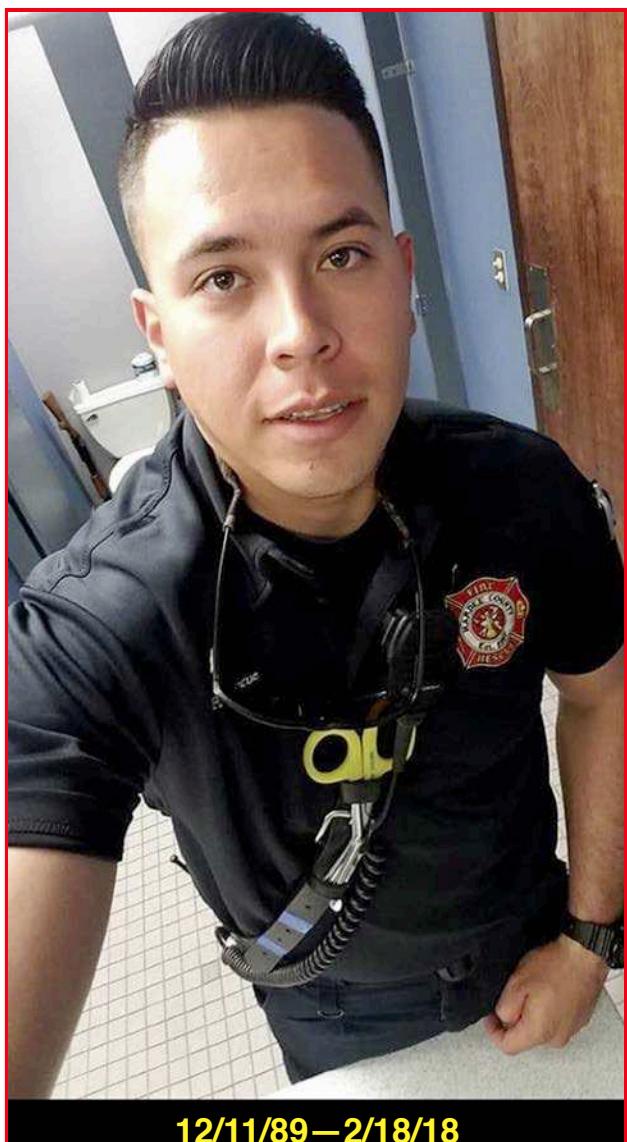
passed away in a tragic accident February 18, 2018. A Firefighter/EMT of Hardee County Local 3471, A Marine in the United States Marine Corp and in active reserves, served his country and his community that he loved.

The family of Paco would like to thank Hardee County, the Fire Department (both local and from surrounding counties), Law Enforcement, The United States Marine Corp, and the community of family and friends for the outpouring love and support that was extended to us during our time of grief.

We will be forever grateful for the overwhelming acts of kindness to us.

REST IN PEACE OUR BELOVED PACO!

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.
John 11:25*



Courthouse Report

COUNTY COURT

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

Andrew "Andy" Martinez Jr., 23, Wauchula, and Noemi Cabrera, 17, Bowling Green.

Alejandro Alvarez-Ortega, 35, Fort Meade, and Shanteria Reeshay Flowers, 33, Fort Meade.

Alexes Palacios Sanchez, 24, Wauchula, and Liliana Iniguez, 23, Bowling Green.

Perfecto Morales-Gutierrez, 33, Bowling Green, and Aurora Lopez-Velasco, 32, Bowling Green.

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

Valencia Garden Apartments vs. Ivory Davis, judgment of tenant eviction.

Midland Funding vs. Kenneth Harris, default judgment.

Liberty Acres Fertilizer Corp. vs. Central Florida Produce, voluntary dismissal.

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

Damian Efrain Fuentes, DUI, probation 12 months, license suspended 10 months, ignition interlock six months, 50 hours community service, \$1,653 fines, costs and fees.

Otis Downs, criminal mischief, 26 days in jail with credit for time served, \$450 fines, costs and fees.

Christian Wabanimkee, trespass on an occupied structure/conveyance, 35 days in jail with credit for time served, \$450 fines, costs and fees.

Mercedes Cisneros, petit theft, completed pretrial diversion program, not prosecuted.

Peregrino Mendoza Cortez, domestic battery, completed pretrial diversion program, not prosecuted.

Charles Kevin Franklin, taking wildlife on roads or rights-of-way and illegal taking or possession of deer or wild turkey, transferred to pre-

trial diversion program, return Mar. 7.

Amy Rodriguez Iacino, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, probation 12 months, 25 hours community service, \$540 fines, costs and fees; possession of marijuana, not prosecuted.

Raul Martinez Jr., petit theft, 25 days in jail with credit for time served, \$520 fines, costs and fees.

Eric Treyvon Nelson, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, probation 12 months, 30 hours community service, \$540 fines, costs and fees; possession of cannabis, not prosecuted.

Ashley M. Ramirez, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, \$540 fines, costs and fees; possession of marijuana, not prosecuted.

Chad Richardson, possession of cannabis, adjudication withheld, and possession of drug paraphernalia, probation 12 months, 30 hours community service, \$540 fines, costs and fees.

Jessica Ruiz, possession of drug paraphernalia, adjudication withheld, \$540 fines, costs and fees; possession of marijuana, not prosecuted.

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

Jerry Lee King and Jennifer Lynn Corbin King, divorce.

Wilner Charles and Moviette Charles, divorce.

Rosalba Sanchez and the state Department of Revenue (DOR) vs. Norberto Juarez Colorado, petition to register child support order from the state of Washington.

Makayla Brooke Williams and DOR vs. Dylan R. Martinez, petition for administrative child support order.

Lisa Cuglietta vs. Derek Dempsey Alday, petition for injunction for protection.

Jose Gonzalez and Carla Gonzalez, divorce.

Kelly Louise Purser and Michael David Purser, divorce.

Teather D. Swearingen and DOR vs. Jane Marie Williamson, petition for child support.

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

Camilo and Rosa Morillo vs. Manuel A. Formoso and Manuel Formosa and others, default judgment of mortgage foreclosure.

Jacqueline Faulk vs. Angel Simmons, dismissal of injunction for protection.

Environs De Valores Nacional Corp. vs. Maria Elena Flores d/b/a Flores Multiservices, order.

Peachtree Settlement Funding vs. H. Moore, order on settlement payment rights.

Spring Home Consultants vs. Skye Cotton, order on settlement payment rights.

Kelly Vang vs. Ramiro Trevino, order.

Triest Irrigation vs. Central Florida Produce, voluntary dismissal.

Progressive American Insurance Co. a/s/o Gordon Allen vs. Michael C. Selvey and Timothy Nevins Jr., voluntary dismissal of defendant Timothy Nevins Jr.

Heide Sharp and Michael David Sharp, divorce.

Linda Christine Reyna Howell and Rufus Howell, divorce.

Monica Young and David Duane Young, divorce.

J&J Sports Productions Inc. vs. Tex-Mex Winghouse Inc. and others, petition for summary judgment denied.

The following felony criminal cases were disposed of recently by the circuit judge. Defendants have been adjudicated guilty unless noted otherwise. When adjudication with 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.

Saul Alamia, possession of methamphetamine, possession of cocaine, possession of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia, drug offender probation three years, license suspended one year, \$1,628.52 fines, costs and fees.

José Luis Castillo, resisting an officer without violence, probation 12 months, \$45 days in jail, probation reinstated with additional two years, \$625 fines, costs and fees plus \$300 fee added to outstanding fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

Terry Lamar Castillo, violation of community control—house arrest (original charge possession of methamphetamine), probation revoked, 364 days in jail with credit for time served, \$1,182 fines, costs and fees.

Saul Castillo, violation of community control—house arrest (original charge possession of methamphetamine), probation revoked, 364 days in jail with credit for time served, \$1,182 fines, costs and fees.

Charity Flynn, two counts burglary of structure, battery on a law enforcement officer, robbery, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, two counts trespass in structure/conveyance, criminal mischief, grand theft of a firearm, resisting an officer without violence and petit theft, found not guilty by reason of insanity.

Dione Shanta Graham, resisting an officer with violence—amended to resisting an officer without violence, adjudication withheld, 25 hours community control, \$2,969.40 restitution, \$1,418 fines, costs and fees; two counts of burglary of conveyance, grand theft and grand theft auto not prosecuted.

Ricky Minaker, violation of community control (original charge battery on a pregnant woman), community control revoked, Florida State Prison 60 months, \$300 fees added to outstanding fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

Pedro Pasquera, violation of community control (original charge possession of synthetic cannabis), community control modified to add one year drug offender probation, \$300 fees added to outstanding fines, costs and fees.

Adrian Rodriguez, violation of probation (original charges two counts possession of methamphetamine), probation revoked, Florida State Prison 22 months, \$300 fees added to outstanding fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

Cecilio Rojas Jr., false imprisonment—amended to criminal mischief, adjudication withheld, probation 12 months, anger management class, \$1,232 fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

Jason Steinberg, possession of cannabis, possession of cocaine, possession of lysergic acid diethylamide and possession of drug paraphernalia, transferred to drug pretrial in-

grand theft auto, not prosecuted.

Daniel Jenkins, violation of probation (original charge possession of synthetic cannabinoids, cathinones or synthetic phenethylamines), probation revoked, Florida State Prison nine months with credit for time served, \$300 fees added to outstanding fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

Terry Lamar Pelham, criminal mischief and violation of probation (original charge aggravated child abuse), 364 days in jail, probation reinstated with additional two years, \$625 fines, costs and fees plus \$300 fee added to outstanding fines, costs and fees placed on lien.

William Wyat to Edrigue Virgle, \$15,000.

Amy S. Crews as co-trustee to Bayside Community Church of Sarasota Inc., \$375,000.

James A. Corliss and Betty L. Brown-Corliss to Jimmy Russell Hayes and Bonnie Presley, \$24,000.

Dion Fisher to Ivan Santos Rodriguez and Odelys Alvarez Medina, \$55,000.

Charles J. and Marlene Isom to Jesse R. Pruitt Jr. and Shirley A. Gearhart-Pruitt, \$23,500.

Lloyd Monroe Coleman Jr. as trustee to Ricardo and Edna Blas, \$55,000.

Billy Ray Owens Jr. to Equity Trust Co., \$60,000.

Robert L. Shiver to Higher Development, \$18,000.

Johny Lee and Cheryl T. Baker and Jeffrey Baker to Johny Lee and Cheryl T. Baker, \$62,000.

Bennett E. Weed and Joshua

Weed and Tina K. Leconte as trustee to Jimmy D. and Evelyn J. DeLarosa, \$209,900.

J. David and Phyllis T. Fitzgerald to Thomas A. and Pamela E. Berry, \$27,700.

tervention program.

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

Jose L. Bautista to Joel Sanchez Cruz and Reynaldo David Sanchez Bautista, \$20,000.

Wayne Collier to Johnny M. and Connie W. Trammell, \$73,500.

Daniel B. and Jessalyn M. Christenson to Yolanda Christine Hernandez, \$153,000.

Martha D. Ladwig to Robert C. Brown, \$50,000.

Albert Wiesbauer as trustee to Thor and Naphou See, \$67,500.

Kelli L. and Corey Richardson to Marilyn K. Peterson, \$80,900.

William H. and Sharon A. Carter to Harry W. and Gloria J. Linehart and Harry N. Linehard Jr., \$49,000.

William Wyat to Edrigue Virgle, \$15,000.

Amy S. Crews as co-trustee to Bayside Community Church of Sarasota Inc., \$375,000.

James A. Corliss and Betty L. Brown-Corliss to Jimmy Russell Hayes and Bonnie Presley, \$24,000.

Dion Fisher to Ivan Santos Rodriguez and Odelys Alvarez Medina, \$55,000.

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Notices

CITY OF WAUCHULA NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The City Commission of the City of Wauchula will hold a General Employee Pension Meeting Monday, March 12, 2018, during the regular scheduled City Commission Meeting which begins at 6:00 p.m.

The meetings will be held at the Commission Chambers located at 225 East Main Street, Wauchula, FL 33873.

Pursuant to Section 286.0107, Florida Statutes, as amended, the City Commission hereby advises that if any interested person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at the proceedings, he will need a record of the proceeding and that, for such purposes, he may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

The City Commission of the City of Wauchula, Florida does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discriminatory policy involves every aspect of the Commission's functions, including ones access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, should contact the City Clerk at (863) 773-3131.

CITY OF WAUCHULA
S/Richard Keith Nadaskay Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST
S/Holly Smith
City Clerk



3:8c

PUBLIC NOTICE Citizens Advisory Task Force Meeting

The Town of Zolfo Springs CDBG Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF) will hold a public meeting on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:00 PM. The meeting will be conducted in the Zolfo Springs Town Hall / Civic Center, 3210 US Highway 17 S., Zolfo Springs, FL 33890.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss community needs and to provide recommendations to the local governing body as to the program area, activities or funding category that should be considered when drafting the Town of Zolfo Springs' FFY2017 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application.

The CATF is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Amanda Wallace at (863) 735-0405, at least five calendar days prior to the meeting and an interpreter will be provided. Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the CATF should contact Amanda Wallace at least five calendar days prior to the meeting and a language interpreter will be provided. To access a Telecommunication Device for Deaf Persons (TDD) please call (800) 955-8771. Any handicapped person requiring special accommodation at this meeting should contact Amanda Wallace at least five calendar days prior to the meeting.

THE TOWN OF ZOLFO SPRINGS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER, HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE AND FAIR HOUSING JURISDICTION. THIS LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE EMPLOYMENT OF SECTION 3 & W/MBE PERSONS.

3:8c

CITY OF WAUCHULA NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The City Commission of the City of Wauchula will hold the regular scheduled meeting Monday, March 12, 2018 at 6:00pm, or as soon thereafter as it reasonably can be held. The agenda can be viewed at 126 South 7th Avenue or www.cityofwauchula.com.

The meeting will be held at the Commission Chambers located at 225 East Main Street, Wauchula, FL 33873.

Pursuant to Section 286.0107, Florida Statutes, as amended, the City Commission hereby advises that if any interested person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at the proceedings, he will need a record of the proceeding and that, for such purposes, he may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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CITY OF WAUCHULA
S/Richard Keith Nadaskay Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST
S/Holly Smith
City Clerk





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3:8c

2018 HARDEE COUNTY FAIR 4-H & FFA SHOWS & SALE



PHOTO BY MARIA TRUJILLO

GRAND CHAMPION STEER

Exhibitor: Griffin Clark

Sale Price: \$5.50

Buyer: Circle C



PHOTO BY DARREN DANIELS

Rebekah Erekson won Best of Show, Best of Breed and First Place Senior Division Showmanship with her English Lop rabbit.



PHOTO BY DARREN DANIELS
Best of Show Poultry Grand Champion and Best of Class Grand Champion Bantam Division went to **Samuel Hughes** with his B.B. Red Old English.



PHOTO BY DARREN DANIELS
Mady Tyson (FFA Jr) won Grand Champion Commercial, Supreme Champion Female, and second place in the intermediate showmanship division.

GRAND CHAMPION SWINE

Exhibitor: Riley Kate Albritton

Sale Price: \$8.50

Buyer: B-2 Farms

Rabbit, Fowl, Beef/Dairy/Heifer, Swine Shows

Photos by Darren Daniels

Market Steer Show

Photos by Naomi Erekson

Swine Showmanship

Photos by Tom Staik

Livestock Auction

Photos by Naomi Erekson & Maria Trujillo



RESERVE CHAMPION STEER

Exhibitor: Kara Durrance Sale Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Vandolah Power



Cade Deemer received the titles of Grand Champion and Best of Breed for his Flemish Giant rabbit.



The titles of Reserve Champion and Best of Breed went to Janelle McDuffie for her Dutch rabbit.



RESERVE CHAMPION SWINE

Exhibitor: Jamie Walker Sale Price: \$5.50
Buyer: All Creatures Animal Hospital



PHOTO BY DARREN DANIELS
Best of Show Poultry Reserve Champion, Best of Class Reserve Champion Bantam Division and first place senior showmanship division went to Scottie Meeks with his Black Old English.



Dean Clark was chosen as Reserve Champion Commercial Heifer and first place in intermediate showmanship.



PHOTO BY NAOMI EREKSON
GRAND CHAMPION CITRUS
Exhibitor: Peyton Lambert Sale Price: \$3,200
Buyer: Dr. Barbara Carlton



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FACTORY REBATES - 4,000

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MSRP \$25,705
ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 5,000

NOW ONLY \$20,705*

E131305


NEW 2017 JEEP PATRIOT SPORT

Customer Preferred Package (U-Connect® 8.4 w/Bluetooth, SiriusXM®, 17" Aluminum Rims), Power Value Group, (Power/heated Mirrors, Power Windows, Keyless Entry), AutoStick® Automatic Transmission

MSRP \$25,230
ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 4,000

NOW JUST \$21,230*

E141441


NEW 2017 JEEP COMPASS LATITUDE

Remote Start, Back-up Camera, Cruise Control, Automatic Transmission, Power Windows & Locks

MSRP \$26,285
ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 5,000

NOW ONLY \$21,285*

E163786


NEW 2018 DODGE CHARGER SXT PLUS

Parksense® Rear Park Assist, Parkview® Rear Back-up Camera, Remote Start System, Uconnect®, Apple CarPlay® Capable, Power Heated Driver/Passenger Seats, SiriusXM®, 20" Gloss Black Aluminum Rims, Sport Suspension

MSRP \$32,885
ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 1,500
FACTORY REBATES - 3,000

NOW JUST \$28,385*

E724393


NEW 2017 DODGE DURANGO SXT

Customer Preferred Package (Power/Lumbar/Heated Front Seats, U-Connect® w/Bluetooth, ParkSense® Park Assist w/Stop, ParkView® Rear Back-up Camera, 3rd Row/7 Passenger Seating, Navigation, SiriusXM®)

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ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 5,600

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FHL572326


NEW 2017 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT

2-Door, Power Windows, Power Locks, V-6 Engine, Hard Top, Tow Package

MSRP \$32,995
ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 2,000

NOW JUST \$30,995*

E714136


NEW 2017 RAM 1500 SLT CREW CAB 4X4

- Trailer Tow w/4 Pin Connector Wiring, Remote Keyless Entry, Locking Tailgate, Uconnect® 5.0, Integrated Voice Command w/ Bluetooth, SiriusXM®, Big Horn Package (Katzkin Leather Seats, Parkview® Rear Back-up Camera, Parksense® Rear Park Assist)

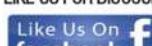
MSRP \$50,730
ALAN JAY DISCOUNT - 4,510
FACTORY REBATES - 6,750

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RABBITS



Savanna Willis won Best of Breed in the mini rex division.



Best of Breed in the polish division went to Laney Kate Johnson.



The title of Best of Breed in the holland lop solid division went to Jake Harvey.



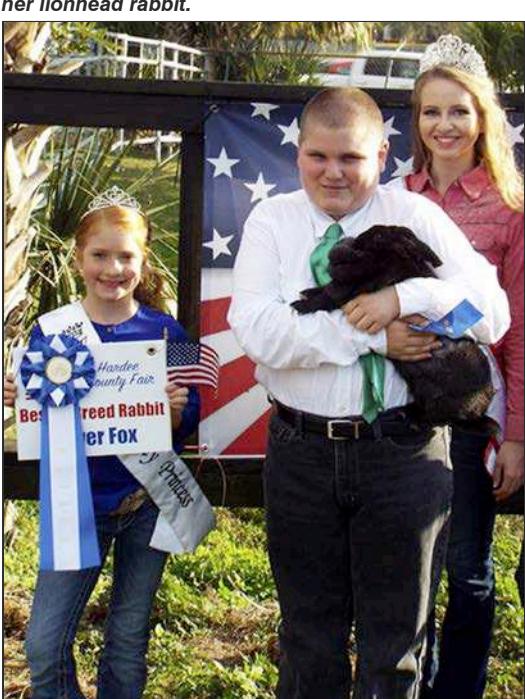
Best of Breed in the netherlands dwarf division went to Alice Walkington.



This jersey wooly rabbit won Best of Breed for Natalie Hines.



Also winning Best of Breed was Adriyana Avalos for her himalayan rabbit.



Josiah Burch won Best of Breed Assorted Division and third place Showmanship in the Junior Division with his Dwarf Hotot rabbit.



Numerous rabbits are examined one by one as part of the judging process.



Sometimes the waiting is the hardest part.



This little one holds his rabbit close as he waits his turn.

Not Pictured
Best of Breed – Holland Lop Broken Payton May

Showmanship Awards

Cloverbud Division
1st - Caroline Cornell
2nd - Ryland Smith

Junior Division
1st - Jackson Shoffner
2nd - Jaymie Chancey

Intermediate Division
1st - Christian Avalos
2nd - Hailey Bryant

FOWL



Winning Grand Champion in the turkey division was Larit Vansickle.



The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion in the waterfowl division was Abigail Erekson with her Rouen ducks.



The Standard Grand Champion and Best of Class standard game division, Jayden Burch (left), is shown with his Ameraucana. The Standard Reserve Grand Champion and Best of Class standard mediterranean division was Chelsea Deese (right) with her Buff Leghorn.



Pictured above in no particular order are the Best of Class bantam division Champion Samuel Hughes with his B.B. Red Old English and Reserve Champion Scottie Meeks with his Black Old English; Best of Class Single Comb Clean Legged Division Champion and Reserve Champion Warren Bryant with his Dutch; Best of Class Rose Comb Clean Legged Division Champion and Reserve Champion Ashlynn Parrish with her Golden Seabrights; and Best of Class Feather Legged Division Champion Larit Vansickle with his Mille Fleur Belgian Bearded D'uccle and Reserve Champion Caleigh Deese with her Buff Silkie.



Pictured above in no particular order are the Standard Division winners American Best of Class Champion Jillian Thompson with her Blue Ladd Wyandotte and Reserve Champion Christian Avalos with Silver Laced Wyandotte; English Best of Class Champion Braddock Dickey with his Buff Orpington and Reserve Champion Paige Justice with her Australorp; Best of Class Continental Champion Christopher Castaldi with his Polish Golden Laced and Reserve Champion Jacey Patterson with her Polish Golden Laced; Best of Class Mediterranean Champion Chelsea Deese with her Buff Leghorn and Noah Deese with his White Leghorn; and Best of Class Game Champion Jayden Burch with his Ameraucana and Reserve Champion Khale Dickey with his Ameraucana.



This little guy answers the judges questions in the hopes of placing in the showmanship division.



Receiving first place showmanship mini division was Lily Southwell.



Second place showmanship mini division was Reid Miller.



Placing third in showmanship mini division was Cade Deemer.



Warren Bryant received first place showmanship junior division.



Showmanship second place junior division winner was Jewel Sockalosky.



Receiving third in showmanship junior division was Ashlynn Parrish.



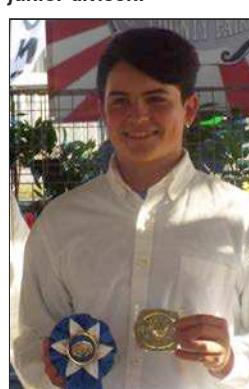
Intermediate division first place showmanship winner was Chelsea Deese.



Second place showmanship intermediate division was Paige Justice.



Jordyn Southall received third place showmanship intermediate division.



Placing first in showmanship senior division was Scottie Meeks.



Showmanship second place senior division went to Noah Reese.



Senior division third place showmanship winner was Kylie Shenefield.

BEEF BREEDING/DAIRY/HEIFER



Heath Hendry earned the title of Reserve Supreme Champion Heifer, Grand Champion in the charolais female division, and third place in the intermediate showmanship division.



Julia Ribaudo earned the title of Grand Champion in the dairy division.



Samantha Shackelford was named the Reserve Champion in the dairy division as well as Reserve Champion in the braham influence heifer show.



Kipp Cooper earned several titles including: Grand and Reserve Champion in the brahman female division, Grand and Reserve Champion in the brahman bull section, Grand Champion in the braham influence heifer portion, as well as taking first place in the senior showmanship division.



Grand Champion in the simmental female division went to Hardee FFA Sr.



Hardee FFA Sr took Reserve Champion in the simmental female division.



Wyatt Haney won first place in the junior showmanship division.



Bridgette Conley earned third place in the senior showmanship division.

Not Pictured
Austin Chapman
Second Place — Junior Showmanship



Alyssa Beers received second place in the senior showmanship division.



Making up games was a great way for these princesses to stay occupied during the long waiting periods between events.

ORANGE & BLUE REVIEW



Medical Skills Students Study History

by Tracy Napier, HSHS Nursing Teacher

Hardee Senior High School's Medical Skills class encompasses a variety of learning concepts including making practical health decisions, introductions to health professions, disease prevention, the legal aspects of health, stress management, personal conditioning, and safety.

In a recent classroom study, students were tasked with researching areas of medical history. Six groups of six students each made a collective decision as to which part of the medical history timeline they would focus on in their study.

Group one chose infections and the discovery of vaccines. Another group turned to the invention of microscopes. Still another, Barber Surgeons, who were often talked into various procedures due to the mechanical ability of the equipment they possessed, and their unique ability to wield a knife. A different group decided to focus on Chimeras of the Twenty First Century. Chimeras are animals chosen to

grow human organs for accelerating the process of obtaining transplant organs. Another group chose the Beginning of Transplantation Success, and Failures. The final group which followed decided to investigate the Use of Artificial Hearts, and 3-Dimensional Prototype Hearts.

Interesting facts revealed in the final group study is that criteria are in place for patients who are able to request the artificial heart transplant. The patient must have exhausted all other health options, and must have 30 days or less to be considered for the heroics of attempting the artificial transplant. Students found the person who has, to this point, been living the longest is four months plus. The 3-dimensional printer heart has not been thoroughly tested to the extent of being reliable for humans.

All of the medical history areas that were researched provided students with a greater understanding of the beginning, middle, and continuing process and changes medicine has made over time.



After finishing a unit covering the Medical History through the ages, groups were challenged to use writing, inquiry, collaboration, and organization skills, to research an area of the medical history timeline. The topics included pasteurization, bacteria, microscopes, and organ donation. The young ladies pictured above clearly demonstrated proficiency as they share 21st Century findings regarding the pros and cons of using an artificial heart compared to the 3-D printed heart. This team included a patient's criteria to be a heart candidate, and the time that a current patient has survived with the artificial heart. Pictured below from left to right are: Leimi Moreno, Destinee Baker, Sayra Campos, and Ederika Austin.

HHS IN PICTURES



The Hardee County Chamber of Commerce recognizes Trevor Scott as the February Chamber Student of the Month. Trevor was selected for the award based on his involvement in AFJROTC school activities and his leadership qualities. Pictured here is AFJROTC Cadet, Trevor Scott with ROTC instructor, Colonel Stephen McDaniel.



Fans come out and show their spirit in support of the Hardee Senior High Boys' Basketball Team! Pictured here are supporters from left to right: Jarisa Lyndsey, Tyresha McIvory, Destiny (DJ) Jackson, Taleia Moreno, and Mercedes DeLeon.



Congratulations to this week's college bound seniors! Pictured here from left to right are: HSHS Principal, Dr. Michele Polk recognizing Jasmine Almaguer and Sayra Campos for being accepted to South Florida State College; Elsa Valdez-Garcia accepted to Polk State College; Nelsa Sigin's acceptance to Barry University and Chuasyeng Vue also being accepted to South Florida State College. Hardee High School faculty and staff celebrate these students' accomplishments.



Hardee County Commissioner and Chairperson of the Hardee County Republican Party Executive Committee, Ms. Sue Birge recently visited Hardee Senior High School to present our AFJROTC Unit and Cadets a donation of \$500.00. This donation was in appreciation for the efforts of the thirty (30) HSHS Cadets that served at the Ronald Reagan Annual Dinner on August 31st. The cadets comprised the entire table service team, serving 400 diners a meal catered by "Double D Meats." The committee's donation will help support cadets attending Team America Rocketry Challenge finals held in Virginia this May. Donations will also help defray the entry fees for the drill and physical fitness competition that four (4) teams of our cadets will be attending later this month at Melbourne High School. Cadets pictured (L to R) are: C/MSgt Michelle Perez-Avila, Delta Flight Sergeant, C/1Lt Maddie Warnock, Delta Flight Commander, Ms. Birge, Hardee County Commissioner, and Colonel Stephen McDaniel, AFJROTC Instructor.



Shauna Norwood attends South Florida State College as a collegiate student. Shauna participated in the Take Stock in Children program where she was awarded a scholarship and was one of six students in the state of Florida to receive the Asofsky Family Foundation scholarship. Invited to Governor Rick Scott's office for a three day meet and greet, she met numerous government officials in our state capital. Shauna closed out her visit attending a Legislative Reception in the Governor's Club Dining Room. Shauna will complete her Associate degree this May from SFSC, then transfer to the University of South Florida's Medical Technology program where she will study cell abnormalities. Her future plans are to pursue a Cytopathologist specialization, a study of cancer cells, at Central Piedmont College in North Carolina. Congratulations Shauna!

Calendar of Events	
3/10	SAT Test - 8:00am HSHS Cafeteria
3/12 - 3/16	Spring Break - No school for students & staff
3/21	Senior Class Luncheon - 11:00am - 1:00pm HHS Media Center
3/30	Good Friday - No school for students & staff

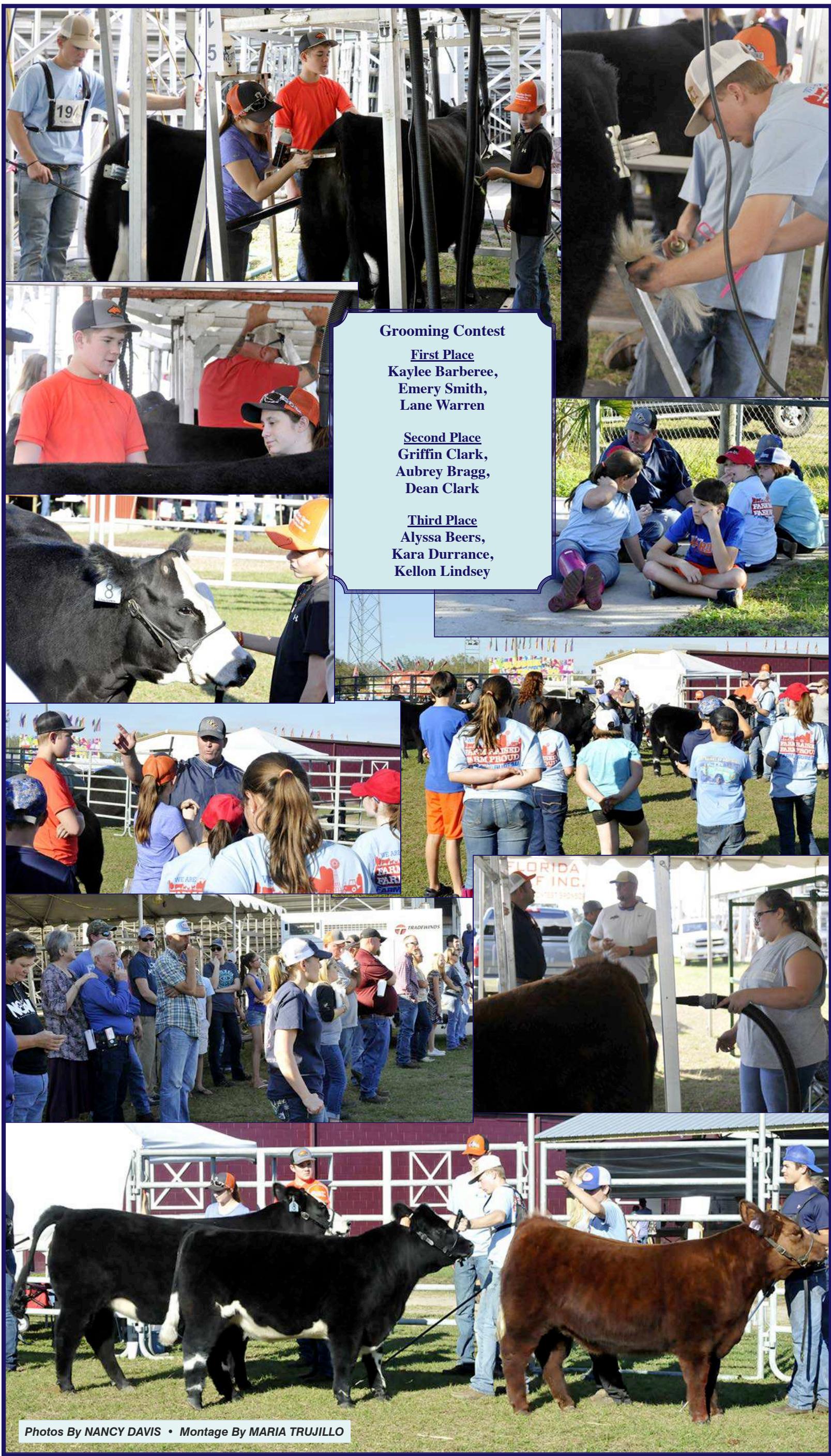


Not Pictured
Steer Showmanship

Senior
 3rd - Griffin Clark

Intermediate
 3rd - Drew Beattie

Junior
 2nd - Josslyn Richardson



Culinary program works to help fund itself

by KERRA STOCK

Every day here at Hardee Senior High School, many people, both students and faculty, stop by the culinary classroom to purchase drinks and healthy snacks; however, what they don't realize is that with each purchase, they are helping to fund the program. These individuals are also unaware that the culinary program is not fully funded by the school like standard academic classes; in fact, it is up to Mr. Aubry, the culinary instructor, to organize ways for it to be bankrolled.

However, it was an obstacle that the culinary instructor was prepared to tackle.

"I haven't seen very many programs that are funded through the school system," Mr. Aubry said. "Almost every teacher I know that's in my position has to raise money."

Due to the fact that the program does not receive full school funding, it creates an added pressure and stress on class activities.

"It is challenging; it is stressful," Mr. Aubry said. "I knew coming in that was the beast of the job."

As a result, not only does Mr. Aubry have to teach the curriculum, but he also has to come up with ways to fund class activities + projects. In the 2016-2017 school year, it cost between \$11,000 and \$13,000 to run the program.

This allocates for all expenses including: food, cutlery, cups, etc., along with equipment and bus ga-

rage payments for various field trips. However, the school does provide the payment for the gas that is needed to run the industrial stoves in the class.

At the beginning of the class, each student is required to pay a lab fee: Food Prep students have a \$10 fee, while Culinary I-IV students have to pay \$15. Despite that, these fees only make up \$2,850, which is about 22% of the total cost.

So where does the other 88% come from?

Culinary sells bottled water, coffee, and tea along with healthy snacks such as nutrigrain bars, granola bars and fruit snacks, which have proven to be very beneficial to the program.

In the past, culinary has sold other things like chips. However, because of laws that prohibit sale of food that competes with cafeteria lunches, the program is "limited to what they can sell."

Aside from the regular sales culinary offers, the program also sells special baked goods like the famous, pumpkin rolls and pumpkin muffins throughout the year. Not to mention, the program does several "teacher lunches" where lunch is made and sold to the staff. The culinary program is also famous for its pizza, which is available for both culinary students and teachers to purchase.

A big portion of the programs finances also comes from catering. Every year, the culinary program ca-

ters to school events, such as meals for the football players or various banquets.

Since these sales and catering only make so much money, Mr. Aubry has to find additional resources to fund the program. For example, he has been able to receive grants regularly, which help pay for some of the programs equipment. One such grant is the \$2,000 Perkins grant which Mr. Aubry uses to cover some expenses and training.

Aside from that, he also reaches out to some corporations for assistance.

"I try to pursue Mosaic every year," Mr. Aubry said. "They mainly fund bigger equipment we need, or some special things like catering shirts, hats and even cutting boards. They also funded our chicken project where we fabricated chickens. We had about 60, which was roughly \$350."

In addition to these, Wal-Mart, and even some local restaurants have even given the program gift cards to help with shopping expenses that help Mr. Aubry teach his curriculum.

"If all I had to worry about was the curriculum, I would teach differently. If I didn't have to raise the money, I would teach a little more systematically," he said.



Students purchases healthy snacks from culinary between classes.

Despite the added stress, Mr. Aubry enjoys what he does and is glad that the catering events that the culinary program participates in to raise money gives his students more opportunities to cook.

"I really like what I do and really enjoy cooking," Mr. Aubry said. "I enjoy seeing people's eyes light up when there's that moment they've done something well and they're really proud of it."

As the sole instructor in HHS's culinary department, Mr. Aubry hopes all of his students walk away from his course knowing that there are "a lot of things that are worth all the effort," and the art of cooking is definitely one of them.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Frequent moving creates both obstacles and advantages for senior

by KASSIDY WALLACE

In fact, studies have even shown that moving multiple times throughout an individual's schooling might actually hinder one's social and academic development. In the same accord, many would also imagine that transferring schools during one's senior year of high school would be difficult. They recognized how leaving behind a familiar place of comfort would be a challenge.

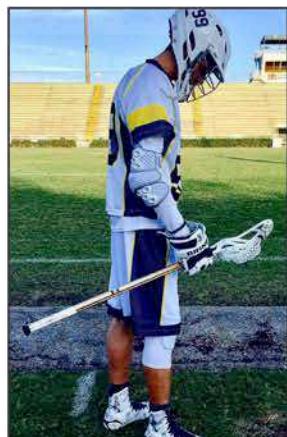
This year, senior Jay McClintock had to experience this; however, it is something in which he has become accustomed.

"My parents own their own business," he said. "As a result, it has caused us to move quite frequently, but recently they decided to return home to Hardee because they grew up around here."

Even though Jay hasn't had to adjust to dramatic changes in his surroundings, due to the fact that his movement has been limited to the state of Florida, he has had to cope with expectations from three different high schools.

"I grew up in Pasco County," he said. "I went to school there until my freshman year, then for two years I lived in Winter Haven, and finally my senior year now in Hardee."

Even though there have been challenges, he believes he always found a way to overcome them.



Jay enjoyed playing lacrosse at his old school.

"It has been difficult in some ways," Jay said. "I constantly had to leave my friends and the things I enjoyed."

As a result, he also had to leave behind a very important part of his life: lacrosse.

"Lacrosse was MY sport," Jay said. "I miss it so much. Since Hardee does not have it, I obviously don't get to play. It has really bummed me out because I am a senior, and it is my last year in high school."

Even so, he says he likes to focus on all of the advantages that come with moving multiple times with his family.

"Moving has definitely taught me how to adapt to new places quickly," he said. "I have really great communication skills because I have had to make so many new friends. I also get to try new activities because every place is different than the last, and that could definitely benefit my future."

Even so, coming to HHS has caused Jay to alter his future plans.

"Since I can't play lacrosse, it eliminates my chances of playing in college," he said. "So now there is a wider variety of colleges to choose from that do not offer that."

For now, Jay plans on earning a degree in Marine Biology from UCF after high school. While he looks to continue his traveling as he sees the world in the near future, he also hopes to eventually settle down and stay in one place.

Student athlete tackles four sports

by LANE PARKS

I ever get one."

In Dylan's life, he has "four things to balance:" academics, athletics, sleep, and a social life. Although he often struggles to balance all four, he believes he has been able to adapt to his circumstances.

"At times, I've had to sacrifice some social time with my friends," he said. "Luckily, all of my friends and I are still close because we all play baseball or football together, and we all take school very seriously."

One of the many things that Dylan has had to adjust is his sleep schedule. While many studies say that athletes are recommended 10 hours of sleep because of the demand of recovery time on their body, Dylan does not come close to that.

"On a good day, I get about 7 hours of sleep, but on a bad day I get 5 or 4 hours of sleep," Dylan said. "This all depends on the amount of homework that my teachers give me."

One of his biggest challenges this year, however, has yet to begin. He will have to balance both baseball and track this upcoming spring.

"The plan is to practice baseball every day I can," Dylan said. "Then on the weekends, I am at the stadium running track with Coach Graham."

Even though his demanding schedule may seem to leave little time for fun, Dylan remains committed to meet his goals. He also understands how excelling at all his responsibilities now will pay off in the future.



Dylan takes on all his sports while still excelling in school.

STEER



Exhibitor: **Dean Clark** Sale Price: \$3.50
Buyer: **Florida Fertilizer**



Exhibitor: **Jansen Walker** Sale Price: \$3.50
Buyer: **Everglades Equipment**



Exhibitor: **Kipp Cooper** Sale Price: \$3.50
Buyer: **Arcadia Stock Yard**



Exhibitor: **Hunter Sellers** Sale Price: \$3.00
Buyer: **Vandolah Power**



Exhibitor: **Cason Gough** Sale Price: \$3.00
Buyer: **Jay Belflower**



Exhibitor: **Seth Durrance** Sale Price: \$3.00
Buyer: **Durrance & Son, LLC**



Exhibitor: **Ellie Palmer** Sale Price: \$3.00
Buyer: **Lefty Durando**



Exhibitor: **4H Foundation (Alyssa Beers)** Sale Price: \$5.50
Buyer: **Mosaic**



Exhibitor: **Emery Smith** Sale Price: \$6.00
Buyer: **Bar Crescent S Ranch/Susan Smith**



Exhibitor: **Drew Beattie** Sale Price: \$4.00
Buyer: **Vandolah Power**



Exhibitor: **FFA Sr. (Kaylen Barringer)** Sale Price: \$4.75
Buyer: **Chapman Fruit**



Exhibitor: **Kellon Lindsey** Sale Price: \$4.00
Buyer: **Veg King**



Exhibitor: **FFA Jr. (Faith Davis)** Sale Price: \$5.50
Buyer: **Miles Judah**



Exhibitor: **Alexis Crews** Sale Price: \$4.00
Buyer: **FI Fence Post**



Exhibitor: **Quintin Lindsey** Sale Price: \$4.00
Buyer: **Veg King**



Exhibitor: **Sydnie Steiner** Sale Price: \$4.25
Buyer: **Wauchula State Bank**



Exhibitor: **Avery Bunch** Sale Price: \$3.50
Buyer: **Dr. Barbara Carlton**



Exhibitor: **Jake Henderson** Sale Price: \$5.75
Buyer: **Bar Crescent S Ranch**

STEER



Exhibitor: Aubrey Bragg
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Jess Scarbrough
Buyer: Hardee Ranch Supply



Exhibitor: Lane Parks
Buyer: Farr Groves & Cattle



Exhibitor: Brody Prescott
Buyer: Dr. Barbara Carlton



Exhibitor: Sam Palmer
Buyer: Doyle & Debbie Carlton



Exhibitor: Clay Hancock
Buyer: Ground Level



Exhibitor: Josslyn Richardson
Buyer: Arcadia Stock Yard



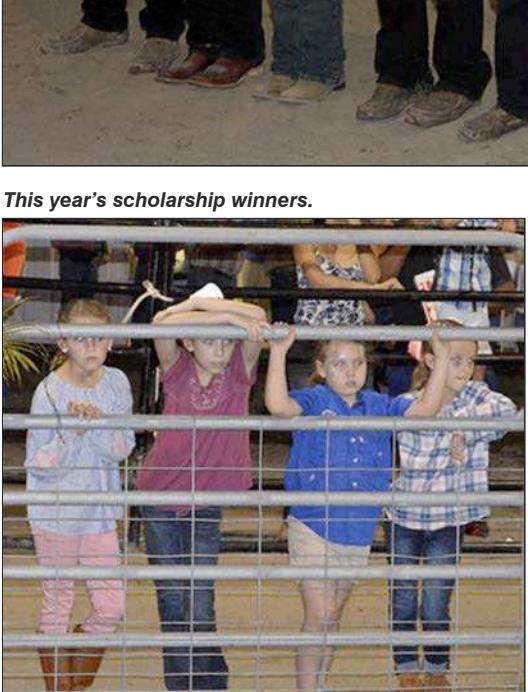
This year's scholarship winners.



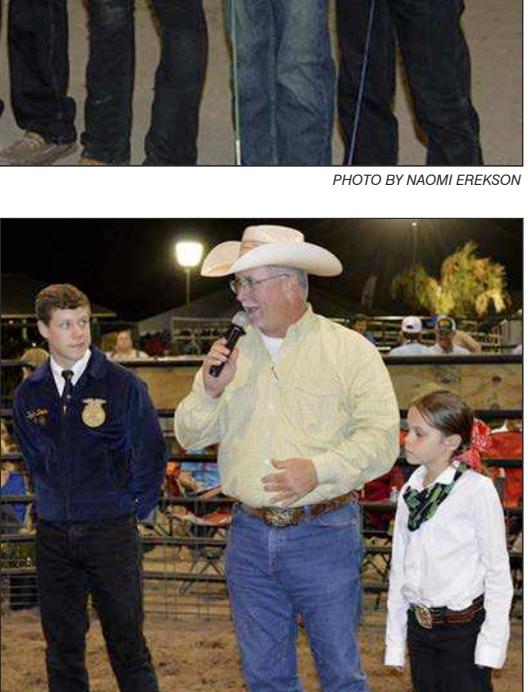
PHOTO BY NAOMI EREKSON



The long waiting periods during the auction were sometimes hard to fill for 2017 Little Miss Carli Mushrush (left) and 2017 Second Grade Princess Khale Dickey.



The adults weren't the only ones keeping an eye on the exhibitors and their animals.



The auctioneer stopped a moment to praise the exhibitors for how well they dress up for the occasion.



This young man proudly shows off his steer at the auction in hopes of a high bid.



This little girl was all smiles when showing off her steer.

PHOTO BY MARIA TRUJILLO

Meet Our Teachers

Hardee County School District



Born in Everglades City
Hardee Junior High - Sixth grade math • 11 years teaching experience

High School Diploma — Everglades City High School
B.A. Elementary Education — Florida Gulf Coast University
Master's, Teaching and Learning (Elementary Mathematics) — NOVA University

I am married to April Wood and have three children, Dustin, 28, Joseph, 15, and Jakey, 13.

Hobbies/Interests: Hunting, fishing, building play toys leg. airboats.

I have been a boat captain, commercial fisherman, alligator skinner, welder/mechanic, then I married a teacher.

After helping her in her classroom, I realized my calling, helping kids. Teaching is truly a calling.

Most rewarding moment(s) as a teacher: The first students I taught in Hardee are in 11th grade now. Going to Burger King, Walmart, and Winn Dixie I see the kids I taught in fifth grade working now. I am so proud of them.

Something most people don't know about me:

I have traveled the Yucatan of Mexico, seen the Pacific Ocean from the shores in Costa Rica, and been to Havana Cuba.



James 'Red' Wood



Kim Trott

Born in Bradenton
Hardee Senior High - Environmental Science • 14 years (8 of which have been in Hardee County)

High School Diploma — Palmetto High School, Palmetto
AA in Music — Manatee Community College • BA in Sociology — University of Florida

I am married to Ian Trott and have three children, Weston, 11, Cohen, 8, and Jamison, 3.

Hobbies/Interests: My favorite thing to do is sing. I grew up singing in the children's choir at my church and have never stopped. I also enjoy sewing and crafting.



I became a teacher because when I was in middle school, I had a teacher that inspired me to be more than I thought I could be. She was brash, loud, and I loved her. I always knew that I wanted to do something to impact young people in a positive way.

There is nothing I would rather do than spend my days investing in the youth of Hardee County.

The most rewarding moments for me as a teacher have been seeing those students that we didn't know if they'd make it or not, walk across that stage to receive their diploma. When they come back and tell you, "Mrs. Trott, you were hard on me, but I appreciate it because it made me work harder," it's all worth it.

Something that not many people may know is that I started smocking and heirloom sewing in college. Unfortunately, with three boys, I don't really get to do much of that anymore...not just because of time, but my boys don't exactly want smocked collars on their church shirts!



Born in Bartow
Bowling Green Elementary - Fourth grade ELA • 6 years teaching experience

High School Diploma — Hardee Senior High
A.A. — South Florida State College • B.S. — University of South Florida

I am married to Cameron Durham.

Hobbies/Interests: I enjoy reading, crafting, and cooking. Shopping at Hobby Lobby is always a bonus!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I became a teacher because I knew from an early age that I wanted to work with children. I've always loved babysitting and because of that I knew I needed to work with kids. I realized that looking back. I had many influential teachers growing up. I, like many others thought it would be an easy choice, because teaching "is so easy!" I quickly learned that was not true. I learned that those teachers I had were trying their best to make learning fun and engaging. I hope I can make a difference in a child's life like they did mine.

My most rewarding moment as a teacher was when my student, who was the lowest in my class and probably the whole grade level, had this "Aha!" moment. He was able to tell me the answer to a question I had. He then said, "Oh, I get it!" He did!

It made me feel like I was actually making a difference. Knowing he had understood something that is a struggle for him, and for him to surpass that frustration level was a wonderful feeling for me and also him.

Something that most people don't know about me is that I was born with a cleft foot and I also have a horseshoe kidney.



Courtney Durham



Amy Abbott Franks

Born in Lakeland
Hilltop Elementary - Second grade • 12 years teaching experience

I have taught Kindergarten, first, second and third grades over the years.

High School Diploma — Hardee Senior High School, June 1, 1990

A.S. Degree in Business Management, May 2000 — South Florida State College

B.A. Degree in Elementary Education, May 2006 — Warner University

M.A. Curriculum and Instruction with an Emphasis in Elementary Reading, July 2012 — Grand Canyon University

I have three children, Jacob (Jake) Willis, 25, William (Willie) Godwin, 22, and David Godwin, 21.



Hobbies/Interests: I love to read, go fishing, work in my yard and visit state parks.

I became a teacher because I taught in a Christian preschool for years when my boys were little. I loved watching the children learn and grow each year. My college advisor encouraged me to become a teacher when I finished getting my associates degree.

She said, "We need people like you to teach our children." Once my youngest started school,

I decided to go back for my bachelor's degree in education. I have loved every minute of it!

Most rewarding moment(s) as a teacher: I love watching the students grow academically throughout the school year.

They come in August not knowing so many things and leave you with a wealth of knowledge for the next year.

It is especially rewarding when you help a child overcome a difficulty in their learning. Those that struggle to read, write or do math and finally have success are the ones that tug at your heart strings.

Something most people don't know about me: I just received my first passport. I will be going on a mission trip with my church in March to the Dominican Republic. It will be my first time out of the country and only second time flying in a plane. So I am excited and nervous!



Kim Davis

Born in Winter Haven
North Wauchula Elementary - Second grade • 17 years teaching experience

High School Diploma — Hardee Senior High

AA Degree — South Florida Community College

Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education — USF (Lakeland Campus)

Hobbies/Interests: I love to travel and go shopping. I am a MAJOR Dale Earnhardt, Jr. fan and love watching NASCAR races. I also love to read Christian romance books (Love Inspired Series) and do word search puzzles. But, the most important thing I love to do is spend time with my family, especially my 3 nieces and 1 nephew, who are the lights of my life.

I became a teacher because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of children. I had several teachers growing up who really impacted my life. I want to show my students that they can be and do anything they want with a lot of hard work and devotion. Through teaching, I want to watch them to grow and develop into wonderful, amazing, and responsible members of the community.

Over the past 17 years, I have had many rewarding moments as a teacher. But, the one that sticks out the most in my mind is when I was teaching third grade. I had several students who were struggling a great deal at the beginning of the year. So, throughout the year, both of the students worked really hard, and as the year progressed, I could see the "light bulbs" going off in their heads. That brought so much joy to my heart, and when their scores (FCAT at the time) came back, they had both passed with flying colors! I was so proud of them and the accomplishments they had made. It is one of the highlights of my teaching career!

Most people probably don't know that I have a major fear of all creepy, crawly animals! I can't stand them!!!



Amanda Crawford



Born in Lakeland
Wauchula Elementary - Second grade • 15 years teaching experience

High School Diploma — Hardee Senior High

Troy University, Alabama

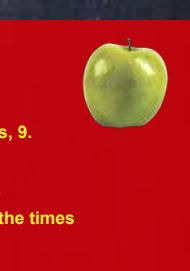
I am married to Robert Davis and have three children, Dylan Davis, 15, Faith Davis, 13, and Tyson Davis, 9.

Hobbies/Interests: Spending time with my kids, shopping and listening to music.

I became a teacher because I love working with students and giving them a desire to want to learn.

My most rewarding moments are not the ones that happen right away. The moments I cherish the most are the times when a student comes back years later to tell you what kind of an impact you had on them.

Something most people don't know about me: When I was in twelfth grade I was voted Most Fun. For those that didn't know me then find this shocking since I am currently defined as just the opposite.



Born in Avon Park
Zolfo Springs Elementary - Kindergarten • 2 years teaching experience

High School Diploma — Hardee Senior High. Go Cats!

BS in Business Administration — Warner University.

I am married to Glenn Thornton and have two children, Gatlin, 12 and Gairyn, 9.

Hobbies/Interests: Spending time with my family and friends, fishing with my husband, teaching, reading, crafting, traveling to the mountains.

I became a teacher because every child deserves a champion! I love seeing children learn and grow!

I strive to instill a love for learning in children and encourage them to be the best that they can be!

Most rewarding moment(s) as a teacher: 1. The big, excited smiles in the mornings, waves in the hallways and the running hugs that almost knock you down from both current and former students are truly so rewarding to me! 2. We learn at the beginning of the year that we "celebrate" the big and small accomplishments in our class! Many times I will hear one of my students say "It's time to celebrate"... It's rewarding knowing that they know the importance of celebrating their successes!

Something most people don't know about me: I do not watch TV, I'd rather surf the internet and read blogs! I love to fish, but I do not eat fish or any kind of seafood! I am afraid of frogs!



Blaire Thornton



Sponsored by: Sevigny Associates Eye Care

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STEER & SWINE SHOW



Dean Clark took third place overall in the Market Steer show and second place in the intermediate showmanship division.



Fourth overall with her steer is Jansen Walker.



Kipp Cooper received the fifth overall title for his market steer and placed second in the senior showmanship division.



Brody Prescott won first place in the market steer junior showmanship division.



Cason Gough took first place in the showmanship's intermediate division.



Winning the first place senior showmanship ribbon is Hunter Sellers.



Russell Bryant received fifth place overall for his market swine.



Macy Tyson took third place overall in the market swine show.



Taking fourth overall for his market swine is Raymond Lazorko.



Christian Avalos (center) earned first place in the intermediate showmanship division. Macy Tyson (left) and Lane Warren (right) took second and third place respectively.



Earning the top three titles in the junior division are (left to right) Kayleigh Harris with second place, Carter Gordon taking first and Ava Roberts earning third place.



In the senior showmanship division, Shelby Gibson (middle) won first place, Raymond Lazorko (left) took second and Jamie Walker (right) left with third place.



SWINE



Exhibitor: Jr High FFA (Macy Tyson)
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Raymond Lazorko
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Jacki Johnson, Tax Collector



Exhibitor: Russell Bryant
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Kelly Durrance
Livestock Hauling



Exhibitor: Hugh Pate
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Joe L. Davis Groves



Exhibitor: Adam Guerrero
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Vision Ace Hardware



Exhibitor: Destiny Walker
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: George Wadsworth Insurance



Exhibitor: Kayleigh Harris
Price: \$5.50
Buyer: Alair Homes



Exhibitor: Logan Cartwright
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Conley Grove Service



Exhibitor: Micah Lambert
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Bunch Ag Co



Exhibitor: Austin Barker
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Roberson Farms



Exhibitor: Madisyn Hines
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Cody Knight
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Robert and Miranda Sunday



Exhibitor: Kylie Burnett
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Burnett Farms



Exhibitor: Marti Edenfield
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: David Singletary



Exhibitor: Shelby Gibson
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Crop Production Services



Exhibitor: Taylor Hays
Price: \$5.50
Buyer: Dr. Barbara Carlton



Exhibitor: Coy Knight
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Joe L. Davis Groves



Exhibitor: Morgan Parks
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Everglades Equipment



Exhibitor: Ben Rewis
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Coldwell Bankers



Exhibitor: BJ Johnson
Price: \$5.75
Buyer: Florida Fuel



Exhibitor: Ashlynn Parrish
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: D3 Cattle



Exhibitor: Ryder Thomas
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Lacey McClintock/State Farm



Exhibitor: Zander Durastanti
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: First National Bank



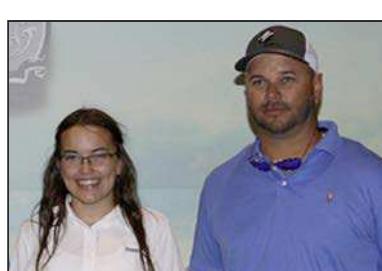
Exhibitor: Gracie Albritton
Price: \$5.50
Buyer: Jim See Realty



Exhibitor: Justin Shenefield
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Johns On Wheels



Exhibitor: Blake Tinsley
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Singletary Family Prop LLC



Exhibitor: Courtney Vickers
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Burnett Farms



Exhibitor: Teagan VanSickle
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: All Creatures Animal Hospital



Exhibitor: Cohen Trott
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Hood Citrus



Exhibitor: Desiree Spiker
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Everglades Equipment



Exhibitor: Gracyn Thomas
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Binky & Ralene Graham



Exhibitor: Seela Albritton
Price: \$5.25
Buyer: Jim See Realty

SWINE



Exhibitor: Preston Barringer
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Linda & Dan Smith



Exhibitor: Carter Gordon
Price: \$10.50
Buyer: Syfrett Feed Company



Exhibitor: Christian Avalos
Price: \$6.00
Buyer: Smith Automotive/David Singletary



Exhibitor: Kale Henderson
Price: \$6.75
Buyer: Veg King



Exhibitor: Chase Bryant
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Gopher Hill Hunt Club



Exhibitor: Katie Henderson
Price: \$6.75
Buyer: Florida Fuel



Exhibitor: Ryland Beumel
Price: \$5.50
Buyer: Ground Level



Exhibitor: Trista Miller
Price: \$5.25
Buyer: PRECO



Exhibitor: Aiden Thomas
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Vandolah Power



Exhibitor: Clayton Harris
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Joe L. Davis Groves



Exhibitor: Parker Sasser
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: 5G Farms



Exhibitor: Kamren Deluca
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Claire Carlton
Price: \$10.00
Buyer: Gourley Plastering



Exhibitor: Lizzie McCoy
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: David Singletary State Farm



Exhibitor: Alyssa Beers
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: B-2 Farms



Exhibitor: Warren Bryant
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Bailey Tinsley
Price: \$6.00
Buyer: Only Moso USA



Exhibitor: Cody Rieder
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Joe L. Davis, Inc.



Exhibitor: Kyle Waters
Price: \$5.25
Buyer: Jay Bryan Farm Bureau



Exhibitor: Tyler Harris
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Conley Grove Service



Exhibitor: Jacob Brandeberry
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Nickerson Bar 3



Exhibitor: Savannah Sperry
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Durrance Groves



Exhibitor: Payton Lambert
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Florida Fertilizer



Exhibitor: Dylan Davis
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Clark, Palmer & Pohl



Exhibitor: Gairyn Thornton
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Binky & Ralene Graham



Exhibitor: Eli Hayes
Price: \$8.00
Buyer: Jay Belflower



Exhibitor: Gage Gough
Price: \$6.00
Buyer: Eli Western Wear



Exhibitor: Ashton White
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Florida Fuel



Exhibitor: Haylie Norman
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Cason Bryan
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Burnett Farms



Exhibitor: Jasmine Lanier
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Eli Western Wear



Exhibitor: Emma Hays
Price: \$5.75
Buyer: David Singletary State Farm



SWINE



Exhibitor: Oren Crawford
Price: \$6.00
Buyer: Jet Harvest Solution/Kalan Royal



Exhibitor: Gavin Prescott
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Circle C



Exhibitor: Emma Tyson
Price: \$8.25
Buyer: Wayne Faulkner Tree Service



Exhibitor: Gavin Tubbs
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Main Gate Enterprise



Exhibitor: Nathan Hughes
Price: \$6.50
Buyer: David Singletary State Farm



Exhibitor: Ava Roberts
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Calvin Roberts



Exhibitor: Abigail Eures
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: All Creatures Animal Hospital



Exhibitor: Hailey Bryant
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Buckhorn Nursery



Exhibitor: FFA Sr (Destiny Keen)
Price: \$5.75
Buyer: PRECO



Exhibitor: JC Thomas
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Coker Fuel



Exhibitor: Lane Warren
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Durrance & Son, LLC



Exhibitor: Carlie Knight
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Double H Equipment



Exhibitor: William Cornell
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: George Wadsworth Insurance



Exhibitor: Hunter Parker
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Vision Ace Hardware



Exhibitor: Damon Caraway
Price: \$5.50
Buyer: David Durando



Exhibitor: Joelynn Carver
Price: \$5.50
Buyer: PRECO



Exhibitor: Hagen Bryan
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Only Moso USA



Exhibitor: Maddisson Cowart
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Walter & Carol Farr



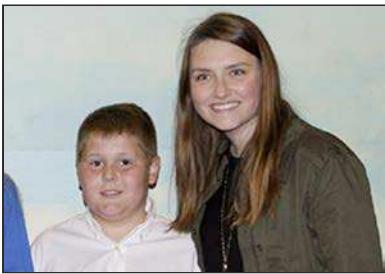
Exhibitor: Daniel Sockalosky
Price: \$8.75
Buyer: Barry Fogle



Exhibitor: Jordan Sperry
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Other Side Sod LLC



Exhibitor: Jay Southwell
Price: \$8.00
Buyer: Papa's Pride Guavas



Exhibitor: Caleb Hughes
Price: \$6.00
Buyer: Crop Production Services



Exhibitor: Maddox Blas
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Johnson Harvesting



Exhibitor: Gatlin Thornton
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Coastal Fertilizer



Exhibitor: Colton Knight
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Friendship Foliage



Exhibitor: Gaige Cartwright
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: George Wadsworth Insurance



Exhibitor: Joseph Wood
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Farr Groves & Cattle



Exhibitor: Jonathon Pippin
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Brian McQuaig
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Cat's On Main



Exhibitor: Brody Waters
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Elijah Duncan
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Crop Production Services



Exhibitor: Rysen Whiteside
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Norman Sutton

SWINE



Exhibitor: Gavyn VanSickle
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Linda & Dan Smith



Exhibitor: Timothy Cowart
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Chapman Fruit



Exhibitor: Colton Norman
Price: \$3.00
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Conner Patterson
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Madison McCoy
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: D&S Cattle



Exhibitor: Kaylie Carver
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Farr Groves & Cattle



Exhibitor: Lyric Rickett
Price: \$5.00
Buyer: Veg King



Exhibitor: Emma Johnson
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Rachel Garland
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Steven Southwell



Exhibitor: Kassidy Deluca
Price: \$3.00
Buyer: Kelly Durrance Livestock Hauling



Exhibitor: Abby Burnett
Price: \$8.25
Buyer: Chapman Fruit



Exhibitor: Cooper Graham
Price: \$5.25
Buyer: Graham Farms



Exhibitor: Rafael Zamora
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Johnson Harvesting



Exhibitor: Cayden Albritton
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Burnett Farms



Exhibitor: Judson Hays
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Lacey McClintonck/State Farm



Exhibitor: Warren Cornell
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Mosaic



Exhibitor: Rieken Rickett
Price: \$5.25
Buyer: Veg King



Exhibitor: Jordan Miller
Price: \$6.00
Buyer: David Singletary State Farm



Exhibitor: Daniel Clarke
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Cooper's Flowers



Exhibitor: Kylie Shenefield
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Alissa Gicker
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Crop Production Services



Exhibitor: Mackenzie Burch
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: ATP Logistics



Exhibitor: Jack Clarke
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: Lambert Realty



Exhibitor: George Harvey
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Kelly Durrance Livestock Hauling



Exhibitor: Jacob Wood
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Double H Equipment



Exhibitor: Zackary Durastanti
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Summer Cartwright
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Binky & Ralene Graham



Exhibitor: Jayden Hays
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Farr Groves & Cattle



Exhibitor: Alize Sullivan
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Smith Automotive



Exhibitor: Michaella Walker
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Crop Production Services



Exhibitor: Rylan Thomas
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: Lacey McClintonck/State Farm & 5G Farms



Exhibitor: 4H Foundation (Elizabeth Weeks)
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: All Creatures Animal Hospital



SWINE



Exhibitor: Kein Knight
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Double H Equipment



Exhibitor: Jersey Hays
Price: \$3.00
Buyer: Joseph & Tara Vickers



Exhibitor: Aryanna Burch
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Jed Weeks



Exhibitor: Greyson Weeks
Price: \$3.25
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Hedi Smith
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Bunch Ag Co



Exhibitor: Lyndsey Welch
Price: \$3.00
Buyer: Henderson Farms



Exhibitor: Jack Driskell
Price: \$3.00
Buyer: Heartland Growers



Exhibitor: Heath Hendry
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: Linda Clark



Exhibitor: Emma Eures
Price: \$3.00
Buyer: Albritton Mowing



Exhibitor: Haleigh Johns
Price: \$4.75
Buyer: ATP Logistics



Exhibitor: Madilyn Baker
Price: \$3.75
Buyer: CRS Cattle



Exhibitor: Kaison Rickett
Price: \$3.50
Buyer: Smith Automotive



Exhibitor: Madi McGee
Price: \$4.00
Buyer: Other Side Sod LLC



Exhibitor: Quentin VanSickle
Price: \$5.25
Buyer: Jed Weeks/CPS



Exhibitor: Bryce Rucker
Price: \$4.25
Buyer: Other Side Sod LLC



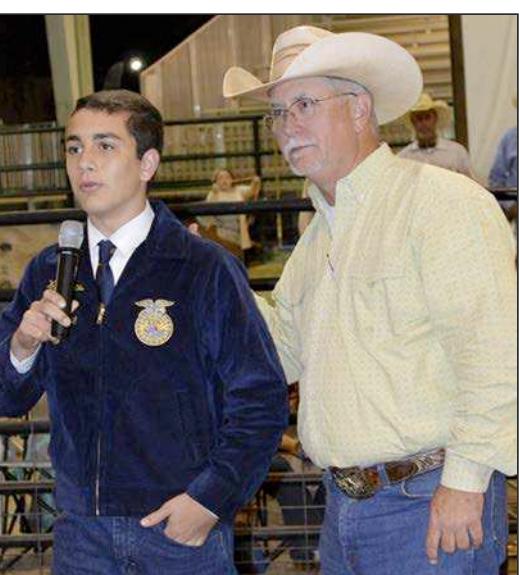
Exhibitor: Taylor Mosley
Price: \$4.50
Buyer: RLG Fabrication



PHOTO BY MARIA TRUJILLO
The annual auction attracts old and young, such as this little cowboy who was helping corral the swine throughout the night.



PHOTOS BY NAOMI EREKSON
From young elementary aged kids ...



... to teenagers, all were thankful to the buyers who showed up to purchase their animals and show their support for the local youth.

Grateful and Thankful

The Hardee County Youth Livestock Committee and the Hardee County Fair Inc. would like to thank the buyers and those that did Add-ons toward the youth exhibitors. Your investment in these students is very much appreciated and these students are our future.

We would also like to thank the buyers that donated many animals to charities. What a blessing it is for their ministries and will help many lives.

The passion and love for our young people is amazing and very much appreciated. We are so thankful that we live in Hardee County.



**YOU truly make a difference
in our community.**

