



THE Herald-Advocate

HARDEE COUNTY'S HOMETOWN COVERAGE

118th Year • No. 31 • 2 Sections

www.TheHeraldAdvocate.com

Thursday, June 28, 2018

70¢
Plus 5¢ Sales Tax

CareSync Collapses

125 Jobs Along With IDA's \$7.25 Million Investment Are Lost

By MICHAEL KELLY
Of The Herald-Advocate

The technology company that received \$7.25 million in grants from the Hardee County Industrial Development Authority abruptly shut its doors last week and informed 125 employees here they no longer have a job.

CareSync told employees Thursday morning both the Wauchula location and the Tampa headquarters would be permanently closed and business operations ceased.

Employees would be paid regular hourly rates or salary for all hours worked through the termination date of June 21 and any unused paid time off by June 27, they were told.

Health insurance coverage for all employees will expire on June 30. A letter from Joy Powell, chief operating officer of CareSync, stated employees are not eligible to extend health benefits under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act.

According to employees who spoke to The Herald-Advocate, founder and CEO Travis Bond unexpectedly departed the company a

few weeks ago and several people in upper management positions were let go.

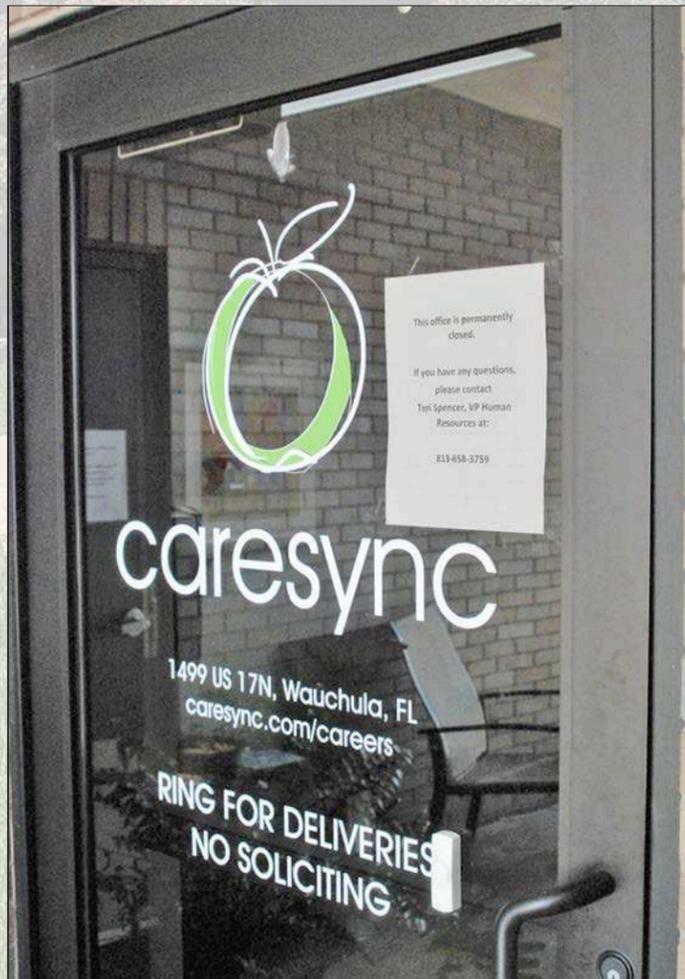
On Monday of last week, interim CEO Bob Crutchfield told employees via a video meeting that the company was on "incredibly good financial footing," and said "we have stability now that allows us to grow into the future" because the founder of the grocery-delivery company Shipt was going to buy CareSync.

Shipt founder Bill Smith, also in that Monday video meeting, told employees he and his family were buying the company.

"My perspective on this is that we are going to build this company for the long term," he said. "I didn't come into this thing to flip this company in a couple years."

Employees showed up to work last Thursday like any other normal day, and were told they would meet Smith and Crutchfield in person at 10 a.m.

Instead, Russell Dumas, vice president of clinical services and head of the Wauchula location, gathered employees and read a statement stating **See CARESYNC A4**



IDA Officials React

By MICHAEL KELLY
Of The Herald-Advocate

The executive director of the Hardee County Industrial Development Authority said on Tuesday he obviously was disappointed with the abrupt closing of CareSync after making such a large investment to get the company started.

Bill Lambert said he is currently working to secure the building, and will look to seize whatever company assets it contains in an effort to recoup some of the IDA's investment.

Lambert said CareSync had paid

its rent through the end of June. He said he sent a demand letter for next month's rent, which will get the process started for the board to re-take possession of the building.

The company has paid approximately \$250,000 in rent to the IDA to date for use of the building and has done some substantial capital improvements to the property, he added.

Lambert also noted CareSync paid about \$15 million in local payroll dollars since 2011. **See IDA A5**

WEATHER

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
06/19	92	71	0.01
06/20	93	72	0.11
06/21	92	73	0.05
06/22	92	73	0.06
06/23	93	74	0.00
06/24	94	73	1.93
06/25	93	71	1.93

Rainfall to 06/25/2018 - 23.99
Same period last year - 18.06
Ten Year Average - 49.17
Source: Univ. of Fla. Ona Research Center

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Suspects Sold Pills On Dark Web

By CYNTHIA KRAHL
Of The Herald-Advocate

A woman who allegedly made a living buying pain pills overseas and then repackaging them to sell here now faces multiple narcotics charges after spending roughly two years on the lam.

Carrie Helen Fine, 49, formerly of 1011 Steve Roberts Special, Zolfo Springs, was arraigned in Hardee Circuit Court on Tuesday on charges of trafficking in hydromorphone, trafficking in oxycodone, trafficking in morphine, possession of codeine, and possession of prescription drugs without a prescription and with intent to sell.

She and the man she resides with, Mehdi Najji, 46, who faces identical counts, turned themselves in at the Hardee County Sheriff's Office earlier this month after running afoul of authorities in Arizona, where

the couple had moved.

They were booked into the Hardee County Jail, where both currently remain in lieu of bond.

Fine pleaded not guilty to her arraignment.

Najji has waived arraignment and entered a written plea of not guilty.

According to Capt. Eddie Davis, a spokesman for the local Sheriff's Office, Fine was allegedly conducting business

on what is known as "the dark web," accepting bitcoin as payment.

Fine, he alleged, purchased narcotics in bulk from foreign countries, repackaged the drugs into smaller amounts, sold them on the dark web and then mailed them out to buyers in this country.

The illicit operation came to light in 2016, Davis said, when the U.S. Department of **See PILLS A3**



Fine



Najji

Primary Election Ballot Now Set

By CYNTHIA KRAHL
Of The Herald-Advocate

The official qualifying period for Hardee County and Wauchula city elections ended on Friday with no new candidates tossing any hats into the ring.

Because of this, Elections Supervisor Diane Smith explained, only two races will reach voters, that for County Commission District 2 and for county judge.

Incumbent Commissioner Sue Birge (R) will be opposed by political newcomer Noey Flores (R) in the Aug. 28 Primary Election.

Whoever comes out the winner will face Democrat Ralph Arce in the General Election on Nov. 6.

Incumbent Commissioner Russell Melendy of District 4 will automatically gain four more years in office. **See ELECTION A2**

THE Herald-Advocate

HARDEE COUNTY'S HOMETOWN COVERAGE

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Published weekly on Thursday at Wauchula, Florida, by the Herald-Advocate Publishing Co. Inc. Periodical Postage paid at U.S. Post Office, Wauchula, FL 33873 and additional entry office (USPS 578-780). "Postmaster," send address changes to: The Herald-Advocate, P.O. Box 338, Wauchula, FL 33873.

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

Steve Johnson of Hardee County is featured in the June Florida Agriculture magazine. The fourth-generation entrepreneur and his wife Andrea have three children. They own Johnson Harvesting and Treear Cattle Company and have over 600 acres of citrus and 800 head of beef cattle.

In 2016 he was awarded a "This Farm CARES" designation by the Florida Farm Bureau Federation for his long-term commitment to protecting natural resources, wrote Cacee Hilliard, CARES coordinator.

Florida Farm Bureau communications coordinator Amanda Overstreet writes about the Royal Palm Railway that operates rides that include destination cities Eustis, Tavares and Mount Dora. Rides are as low as \$15 a day and \$10 for children, with 2 and under free. In 2017 they carried 55,000 passengers.

The trains leave from the depot in Tavares. You can stop in Mount Dora or Eustis and then board the next train upon its arrival. A round trip lasts two hours.

The trains serve snacks and beverages, and you can stop and eat in the destination cities. For more information visit thefloridatrain.com. This train operates the Golden Triangle Route on the Orlando & Northwestern Railroad. Farm Bureau calls this scenic trip in Lake County "A Train Ride Back In Time."

Decades ago there was railroad passenger and freight service through Hardee County.

Farm Bureau reports Florida farmers grow watermelons on 20,000 acres, according to the Florida Agricultural Statistics Service.

President Donald Trump recently said during his presidency the economy has created nearly 3 million jobs, the unemployment rate is at a 17-year low, and the stock market continues to rise.

"Republicans passed massive tax cuts for hardworking Americans and reformed the tax code for the first time in 30 years, making it simpler and fairer. We also repealed ObamaCare's individual mandate tax that hit low-and-middle-income Americans the hardest.

"We cut onerous, job-killing, Obama-era regulations to help American businesses grow and create jobs, eliminating 22 regulations for every new regulation.

"A record 12 circuit court of appeals judges were confirmed in my first year of my presidency, and I've kept my promise to appoint judges who will interpret the law as written, including Associate Justice Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court."

Some interesting facts about tomatoes:

There are over 7,500 tomato varieties in the world. Tomatoes originated in South America and were first used for food in Mexico.

Botanically the tomato is a fruit because it has seeds and grows from a flowering plant. It is also considered a vegetable by use, served with dinner instead of as a dessert.

The U.S. Supreme Court in the case of Nix vs. Hedden ruled tomatoes were considered a vegetable by use but did not reclassify them as such, thus they remain a fruit. This had to do with a U.S. tariff law in 1887 that imposed a tax on vegetables but not on fruits.

Tomatoes are the state vegetable in New Jersey and the official state fruit and beverage in Ohio. Arkansas, which gave us President Bill Clinton, has ruled the South Arkansas Vine Ripe Pink Tomato is the official state fruit and state vegetable, due to its culinary and botanical classifications.

In 2009 China was the world's largest tomato producer, followed by the U.S. and India.

Beefsteak tomatoes are often used for sandwiches. Plum tomatoes are used in tomato sauce and paste. Tomatoes are rich in Lycopene (good for the heart and effective against certain cancers), vitamins A and C, calcium and potassium. Cooked tomatoes are better for you than raw ones.

Bunol in Spain has an annual festival in which 40,000 people throw 150,000 tomatoes at each other, the world's largest tomato fight.

A world record was set 12 years ago when a single tomato plant at Epcot at Disney World in Orlando within 12 months produced 32,194 tomatoes weighing 1,151 pounds. In 1986 G. Graham in Oklahoma grew a tomato that weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

Two guys in their 70s were talking recently in a local restaurant. One said, "When we were young we used to talk about fast cars and fast women. Now we talk about Metamucil and doctor visits."

The Herald-Advocate

Hardee County's Hometown Coverage

will be closed on
Wednesday, July 4
in celebration of Independence Day

Because of this, ALL deadlines will be earlier:

Political Ads – Friday, June 29, 2 p.m.

Classified Ads – Monday, July 2, noon

Display Ads – Monday, July 2, noon

Hardee Living – Wednesday, June 27, 5 p.m.

Schools – Wednesday, June 27, 5 p.m.

Sports – Wednesday, June 27, 5 p.m.

General News – Friday, June 29, 5 p.m.

The newspaper will be printed and available for sale the afternoon of
Tuesday, July 3

6:14-28dh

El Niño Could Bring Hurricane Protection

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

Hardee County could be a little more damp this winter.

The National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center this week issued an "El Niño Watch" for fall.

El Niño – a pattern of weather that occurs when temperatures in the Pacific Ocean rise by more than a degree above average – typically brings cooler temperatures and more rain in the fall and winter months.

"El Niño is currently neutral but is forecast to increase later in the year, with the main impacts being a cool and wet winter," said Jill Newman, director of emergency management for Hardee County.

What impact El Niño will have on the Atlantic hurricane season remains unclear.

Forecasters say there's a 50 percent chance El Niño will develop during the late summer or early autumn.

If the weather phenomenon forms by then, it could lessen the number and intensity of hurricanes in the Atlantic.

The most likely impacts remain higher water levels in the region's typically dry months

in the late fall and winter.

"I do encourage everyone to prepare for a wet winter," Newman said.

Routine preparation for hurricane season will likely help locals stay prepared.

"Things you may do is inspect your home for leaks, roof repair, clean out downspouts and gutters, and invest in a generator for power outages," Newman said.

Tire inspections are also suggested.

"To maintain contact with the road in wet weather, tires should have at least 50 percent tread life left, along with good windshield wipers," Newman said. "A rainstorm is not the time to realize they cannot effectively clear your windshield."

Newman also suggests property owners begin plans now to mitigate for possible flooding. "Check your drainage around your property. Go ahead and create the proper drainage mitigation and stock up on sandbags that are available at most home repair stores," she said.

For information on mitigation techniques, contact the Emergency Operations Center at 773-6373.

ELECTION

Continued From A1

For county judge, the three-way battle among Ken Evers, David Horton and James Pyle will be decided in August, so long as one receives a majority of the votes cast. This race is non-partisan.

School Board incumbents Paul Samuels of District 1 and Garry McWhorter of District 4 drew no opponents, so will keep their seats for another four years.

Newcomer Mark Gilliard, who also elicited no challengers, will take the District 5 spot being vacated by Thomas Trevino.

And in the city of Wauchula, the incumbents were the only candidates to surface during the week-long qualifying period.

City commissioners Ken Lambert and Russell Graylin Smith will retain their seats.

Smith represents District 2 and Lambert District 4. They, too, will have four more years on the dais.

ABOUT...

Letters To The Editor

The Herald-Advocate welcomes letters to the editor on matters of public interest. Letters should be brief, and must be written in good taste and include the writer's full name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday to be considered for that week's edition. Submissions should be typed or legibly written. Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, The Herald-Advocate, P.O. Box 338, Wauchula, FL 33873. Fax to (863) 773-0657.

If You See Something Say Something Report Suspicious Activity 1 (855) Fla Safe 1(855)3527233

Corrections

At The Herald-Advocate, we want accuracy to be a given, not just our goal. If you believe we have printed an error in fact, please call to report it. We will review the information, and if we find it needs correction or clarification, we will do so here. To make a report, call Managing Editor Cynthia Krahl at 773-3255.

THINK SOMEONE NEEDS HELP? NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE Text "Help" or "Info" to 233733

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

CASE NO. 25-2016-CA-000306

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

Plaintiff,

vs.

JESUS L BRITO; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JESUS L. BRITO; UNKNOWN TENANT 1; UNKNOWN TENANT 2;

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on May 7, 2018, and the Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale, in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Hardee County, Florida, the clerk shall sell the property situated in Hardee County, Florida, described as:

N 1/3 OF THE N 1/2 OF THE NE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 33 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 1533 N HOLLAND-TOWN ROAD, WAUCHULA, FL 33873-4413

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, in the second floor hallway outside Room 202 of the Hardee County Courthouse, 417 W. Main Street, Wauchula, FL 33873, on July 11, 2018, beginning at 11:00 AM.

If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2018.

VICTORIA L. ROGERS, Clerk of the Circuit Court Hardee County, Florida

By: Connie Coker Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Office of the Court Administrator, 255 N. Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830, (863) 534-4686, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

6:28,7:5c

Frankie's HAIR SALON
773-5665
116 Carlton St. • Wauchula
Hours:
Tuesday - Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-3

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE

- 28 – Storytime, HC Public Library/315 N. Sixth Ave., Wauchula/10 am
- 28 – Movie Time "Ferdinand"/HC Public Library/1 pm
- 28 – Sen. Denise Grimsley, Mobile Office Hours/Historic Train Depot/135 E. Main St., Wauchula/ 1:15 pm
- 29 – Cooking with Danni, "Mini Campfire S'mores"/HC Public Library/2 pm

JULY

- 3 – K-5 Summer Programs/HC Public Library/10 am
- 3 – Movie Time, "Despicable Me 3"/HC Public Library/1 pm
- 5 – Storytime, HC Public Library/10 am
- 5 – Movie Time, "Secret Life of Pets"/HC Public Library/1 pm
- 6 – Cooking with Danni, "Mini Pizza"/HC Public Library/2 pm
- 10 – K-5 Summer Programs/HC Public Library/10 am
- 10 – Movie Time/ "Captain Underpants"/HC Public Library/1 pm
- 11 – Stories @ the Depot/ Bowling Green Train Depot/10 am
- 12 – Storytime/HC Public Library/10 am
- 12 – Movie Time/ "Smurfs the Lost Village"/ HC Public Library/ 1 pm
- 13 – Rock painting/HC Public Library/1 pm
- 13 – Send Me Missions "Nicaragua Fundraiser"/Main Street Wauchula/ 6 pm
- 13 – Scout Club/Main Street Wauchula/ 6 pm
- 15 – Vacation Bible School/Oak Grove Baptist Church/ 5:30 pm
- 17 – K-5 Summer Programs/HC Public Library/10 am
- 17 – Devotion & Lunch/ Hardee Help Center/Noon
- 18 – Stories @ The Depot/ Bowling Green Train Depot/10 am
- 19 – Storytime/HC Public Library/10 am
- 20 – Class for Seniors/ "Senior Services"/ Hardee Help Center/10 am
- 20 – Cooking with Danni, "Fish in a River"/ HC Public Library/ 2 pm
- 23 – Class, "Improving Access to Justice for Immigrant Survivors"/ Extension Office/ 9 am
- 23 – Craft Day, "Yarn Monsters"/HC Public Library/2 pm
- 25 – Stories @ The Depot/ Bowling Green Train Depot/10 am
- 26 – Storytime/HC Public Library/10 am

AUGUST

10 – Wildcat Tailgate Party/Main Street Wauchula Inc./6 pm
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.

As one holiday follows another, each one is celebrated in ways that are unique to that particular holiday.



Peavy's Ponderings

By Jonell Peavy

Sugar Possum of the late Truman Thomas

July Fourth, also known as Independence Day, is usually spent doing things you enjoy, such as having cookouts or going to the lake or beach with friends and family.

The event that led up to the formation of the United States was July 4, 1776, when the 13 colonies claimed their independence from England. Richard Henry Lee presented the resolution to absolve all allegiance to the British crown and dissolve all political connections between the colonies and Great Britain.

Lee's resolution made

way for the drafting of a formal Declaration of Independence. A committee of five was appointed to present a statement to the world, independence for the colonies. John Adams, Roger Sherman, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston and Thomas Jefferson were the committee members, but Jefferson was the one who drafted the actual document. John Hancock, who at the time was a president of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence.

July 4 has been declared a national holiday when the

United States laid its claim to be a free nation of its own choosing.

The grandchildren love to go see the fireworks at Donaldson Park in Avon Park. Many bring chairs to sit in and others just park where they can sit in the car and watch. I can see some of the fireworks just standing on my front porch.

There's usually a cookout and swimming at my daughter's as she lives right on the lake. Friends and family are always dropping in just to go swimming and cool off from all the summer heat we have been having.

Jonell Peavy lives in Avon Park and can be reached at 863-453-3589.

PILLS

Continued From A1

Homeland Security turned over a package to the Hardee County Drug Task Force.

That package, he said, had been intercepted by U.S. Customs upon entering the United States from the Netherlands, and allegedly contained 80 OxyContin pills. It was addressed to Fine on Steve Roberts Special.

A detective with the Drug Task Force posed as a mail deliveryman and took the box to Fine, who signed for it. Another officer then approached her, identified himself as law enforcement, and listened as she denied any knowledge of the package or its contents, Davis relayed.

Two searches of her residence, one limited in scope with Fine's consent and one the result of a court-issued search warrant, allegedly revealed 1,850 Tramadol pills, 284 Dilaudid, 398 Suboxone, 51 Sublinox, 6 oxycodone, 72 morphine, 201 OxyContin, 188 codeine, 1,901 grams of liquid codeine, and 103 unidentified pills, the DTF alleged.

Also found were hundreds of empty blister packs, and an un-stated quantity of safety seals used to seal small-mouth bottles. There were U.S. Postal Service envelopes, shipping tape and shipping labels, Davis added.

Labels on site held addresses

from "all across the United States," the DTF said.

Fine reportedly told the DTF detectives that the labels, which itemized the prescription narcotic as well as its milligrams, were her way of "keeping track of the shipping for 'Dr. Pill,' which is an overseas doctor she stated she does accounting for."

Davis said the pills were sent to a lab for testing, and meanwhile "they absconded." Fine and Naji, he said, moved first to Georgia and then to Arizona. Hardee County issued a nationwide pickup order for the pair.

Those capiases, the captain explained, were ultimately found by Arizona authorities.

County Forced To Fix Failing City Sewer Line

Will Bill City For Cost Of Repairs

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

West Main Street is no longer sinking.

The Hardee County Road & Bridge Department began repairs last Friday on a depression on West Main Street near Seventh Avenue.

The depression — on one of the busiest streets in downtown Wauchula — had been steadily growing for several weeks.

The sinking roadway — deep in the heart of the municipal limits of Wauchula — created a minor turf war between city and county leaders that seemed to come to a head last week after The Herald-Advocate published a photograph of a city police car driving over the depression.

City leaders did not respond to requests for information, or direct questions to the county, concerning the status of the road prior to the photo being published.

"The road is most definitely in the city but it is county maintained," said Terry Atchley, in a visit to The Herald-Advocate office after last week's edition hit newsstands.

Atchley said he believed it unlikely the depression was caused by failures in city-maintained utility pipes running beneath the road.

Another depression on the road formed last summer within yards of the current incident. That depression, and the damaged piping beneath, were fixed by the city.

"We filled that with grout," Atchley said. "There is no way it could be that again."

Atchley said the fix was confirmed with subterranean scanning devices.

The city manager conceded the city would pay for any repairs if county crews found a utility issue. "If it turns out it our issue we will, of course, pay for it," Atchley said.

Olivia Minschew, assistant city manager, responded to the paper's initial request for information less than an hour after Atchley's visit.

"We are aware of the depression," Minschew said. "However, W. Main Street is a county owned right of way so we have been in communication with the county on necessary repairs."

City work crews stood on the corner of Seventh Avenue and Main Street on Friday morning as county crews began cutting away the pavement around the sinking section of the two-lane road.

Wauchula Public Works Director Andy Maddox was non-committal when asked Friday

if a cause had been determined.

"They (the county) have their ideas and we (the city) have our idea," Maddox said.

County work crews with heavy equipment were again at the site Monday morning.

Ken Wheeler, public works director for the county, said the depression was caused by failures in an aging clay sewer pipe owned and maintained by the city.

"There is an old sewer line that is failing," Wheeler said.

Flanges on the top of the clay pipe are breaking away and allowed sand to infiltrate the sewer system, Wheeler said.

"They instructed the county to fix it, and I advised the city they were responsible for their utility lines and maintaining any damage caused by them," Wheeler said.

After six weeks passed without the city beginning repairs, Wheeler mobilized county crews to fix the growing safety threat.

"I had to make a safety decision, and made the decision for the county to move forward with the repairs," Wheeler said.

The costs for repairs will be billed to the city, Wheeler added.



PHOTO BY TOM STAIK

A depression that had been expanding for several weeks along West Main Street near Seventh Avenue received some attention last week from the Hardee County Road & Bridge Department.

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 '50s

June 27, 1958

No Doctor! With an epidemic of polio and two cases of spinal meningitis sweeping

through the community, Hardee County has yet to find a new public health doctor. It has been three months since Dr. B.R. Provost resigned to take a similar position in Manatee County, and Dr. Joseph Bennett, who had been approved by county commissioners in both Hardee and DeSoto counties, turned down the offer. When a new doctor will arrive is unknown.

Fun In The Sun: J.W. Earnest & Co. Department Store wishes everyone a happy summer vacation and Fourth



of July with women's swim suits by Jantzen. For \$9.95, these gingham cotton suits are "controlled to dry quickly and practically wrinkle-free." The fashionable and functional suit is "straight out of 'Life Magazine' and comes in rich red-yellow miniature Clooney tartan." Customers can also purchase the matching waterproof strapless cap for \$3.98.

Public Praise: A press release has put Hardee County on the map, giving it national news coverage. An Editor's Note added to the story by this newspaper says it was released to 515 travel writers and editors throughout the United States and Canada by the Florida Department of Commerce. The story talks about U.S. 17 and the Peace River, as well as remaining historic forts. It tells readers about the area's richness of history, cattle, citrus and fishing.

Do It Yourself: Nicholson Supply Co. tells farmers and ranchers about a popular new project, a build-your-own box



silos. The horizontal silo not only lets your cattle feed themselves, but it also saves you time and money as it can be built in just a few days with the help of a few neighbors. You don't have to worry about starvation during dry spells, either, and you can use Nicholson's pressure-creosoted poles and lumber to construct it. Free instructions included.

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

REMEMBER THAT SPECIAL MOMENT!

Photos of **graduating seniors** on stage receiving their diplomas are now available for purchase.



Get a CD with the graduation diploma photo of your senior.

\$10 plus tax

(Cash or check — No credit cards please)

Use the CD to make as many copies of the photo you may need. (Mom, dad, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.)

Come by The Herald-Advocate office and place your order today!

115 S. 7th Ave. • Wauchula • 773-3255

5:24-6:28nc

the potential sale had fallen through and employees were being immediately terminated.

Gilly Knight, a quality assurance specialist nurse working for CareSync, said Dumas then propped open all the doors and told employees to gather their belongings and exit the building.

Smith was contacted by the Tampa Bay Times on Friday and declined to comment or say why he pulled out of the deal just days after his announcement to CareSync employees.

The Beginning

CareSync originated under the name BlueWater, and was founded by State Rep. Jamie Grant, State Rep. Jason Brodeur and Bond.

Grant learned of the economic development incentives being offered to new or existing companies looking to establish operations in Hardee County through State Rep. Ben Albritton, who put him in contact with Bill Lambert, executive director of the Hardee County IDA.

Albritton, along with brother Joe Albritton and Derren Bryan, also had an opportunity to own six percent of the company if they sold shares to local investors and used their connections in the insurance industry to boost the growth of BlueWater.

The agreement was never executed.

In 2011, BlueWater received its initial \$2.6 million grant from the IDA after making a presentation that included optimistic revenue and employment projections.

Grant told the board by 2014 he expected the company to turn a profit of more than \$15 million.

Bond stated during public IDA meetings CareSync would employ 1,000 in Hardee County.

BlueWater was touted as a revolutionary internet-based solution for consolidating sensitive data in an online vault accessible only by the individual, family members, authorized medical personnel and first responders.

In 2012, the IDA purchased the former Peace River Electric Cooperative headquarters at the intersection of U.S. 17 and REA Road for \$996,000. The IDA then renovated the building



This October 2016 photo shows CareSync employees and county officials standing in front of the new sign renaming the Wauchula facility "CareSync" from "Tech River University." No classes or technology training ever took place at the "university." The building, located in the former Peace River Electric Cooperative headquarters at the intersection of REA Road and U.S. 17 in Wauchula, was purchased by the Hardee County Industrial Development Authority for \$996,000 to house the company and now sits empty.

FILE PHOTO

board agreed to allow the first monthly draw of \$355,642 before finalizing the formal agreement at its November 2012 meeting.

Bond said at the time it was vital to continue the funding so the company could quickly begin hiring people before the holiday season and not fall behind in developing the health-care application.

"Every day we wait I have to adapt to changes in the market," he said. "I want to proceed as quickly as we can."

In July of 2013, just nine months after receiving the second grant of \$3 million, Bond was back before the IDA seeking additional funding.

By an 8-2 vote, the board agreed to give the company an additional \$600,000, bringing the IDA's investment at that time up to \$6.25 million.

During that meeting Lambert told the board it was vital to diversify the local economy, and Continuum Labs and CareSync would create an entirely new sector for the county.

He acknowledged Bond had a large task in front of him to make the project a success.

During his monthly verbal update to the

board expressing concern over the project and the amount the board had invested.

He said he wanted the company to succeed, but felt it had run its course. He voted against the funding request, along with then-board member Horst Witschsonke.

Board member Dottie Conerly said during the meeting the IDA should do the audit and continue funding the project. "They are so close to being able to really sell their product," she said.

Lambert said the board made a commitment to the company because it recognized a need to change the status quo of the community, and then endorsed the request for the additional funds.

Witschsonke was later removed from the IDA board by county commissioners, and Samuels was the only IDA member ever to not have his three-year term renewed by the commissioners when it expired, though he had sought to be reappointed.

Grant's original projections were for the company to be up to 31 employees by the end of 2013. Bond told the board at the time it had 15 employees and \$500,000 in revenue to date. Bond continued to tell the board the company was making significant progress and the opportunity for significant growth existed.

The next year, 2014, he said the company would grow to 200 employees and reach \$9 million in revenue. He also said he had begun approaching venture-capital firms about securing additional funding to grow the company.

In March of 2014, Bond was back before the IDA board with a pitch for another \$2 million.

The additional funding was to be contingent upon him raising \$3 million in private capital and having a minimum of 36 jobs by October 2014, all to get \$1 million, half of what he asked for.

In order to get the second \$1 million he wanted, he would have to raise another \$2 million in private capital and be up to 40 jobs in Hardee County.

The board also discussed including provisions that would require some or all of the money to be repaid if the company was sold or moved to another location within a few to several years after getting the additional funding.

After a lengthy discussion, board members seemed to be on board with the plan and directed Lambert and IDA attorney Ken Evers to work on a contract to bring back for their approval, and the meeting was continued to April.

Investigation Announced

During the April meeting, the additional funding request was not brought up.

At the May board meeting Lambert announced the project was basically on hold because of "various audits and investigations with the project."

He did not elaborate any further and not one of the 10 IDA members present at the meeting asked for additional information.

There were also several new faces in the audience attending the meeting.

Several representatives from the State Attorney's Office, including then-State Attorney Jerry Hill himself, attending the session.

After it ended, then-Assistant State Attorney Brian Haas acknowledged his office had opened an investigation as "a few questions have been raised."

He said it was a "very focused investigation," and said he hoped to have it resolved soon.

When contacted by The Herald-Advocate at that time, Bond did not respond for comments regarding the status of the company or the active investigation.

Hill has since retired and Haas was elected state attorney. Later a Hardee County Grand Jury would be convened to review the CareSync grant and the economic development activities taken by the IDA.

Grand Jury Presentation

While no criminal indict-

ments were issued, the Hardee County Grand Jury released a scathing assessment of Lambert, the IDA board and the BlueWater/CareSync project in March of 2015.

The 23-page document was critical of the IDA's leadership and the lack of procedures in place to protect the public's investment in the company.

The findings questioned Lambert's qualifications to remain in his job. They also questioned the board's willingness to question and inspect rather than act as a "rubber stamp."

Lambert and then-IDA Chairwoman Vanessa Hernandez went on the offensive in response to the presentation and drafted a response challenging the accuracy and completeness of the "facts" given to grand jurors by State Attorney Hill.

They said several statements in the presentation were erroneous and that relevant information was omitted from the proceedings.

The Grand Jury had met on the matter over an eight-week period and listened to 25 witnesses.

With no criminal indictments resulting from its findings, the Grand Jury's presentation revealed perceived deficiencies in the IDA's process and offered corrective recommendations.

It recommended future IDA vacancies be filled based on "fitness to serve, rather than being the type of person that will go along with the rest of the IDA board."

It also stated the process for applications, approval and monitoring of IDA grants needed to be completely revamped, and that Lambert should not be involved in the process.

Reports regarding expenditures were packaged to the IDA board in a fashion that said "approve them," and the board did not know how or did not have the desire to ask meaningful and relevant questions, the presentation read.

"With rare exceptions, the board happily accepted and approved whatever was presented to them," it said.

The Grand Jury said state grant funds should only be provided in installments and only after proof has been provided showing the public monies are being properly spent and the project "is still on track."

The Grand Jury "strongly" recommended the board hire its own attorney and cease using the services of the County Commission's attorney.

It also recommended Lambert be replaced as executive director.

"There should be a penalty attached to the failure to safeguard the public monies," the Grand Jury said.

It concluded by stating it recognized "there will always be a degree of risk when investing in new industry or new businesses."

"The risk does not authorize those whom the public trusts with its money to be careless and speculative," it concluded.

It was also highly critical of Grant, who it said "brought no equity, no startup capital, no business track record and no credibility to the table," when he applied for the initial funding.

It also urged future grand juries, if convened, to "be mindful of our recommendations and take appropriate action if these recommendations are not followed."

Grand Jury Aftermath

At the County Commission meeting following the Grand Jury Presentation, commissioners voted to give the IDA board members and Lambert a "vote of confidence" and largely ignored the recommended changes that were offered.

See CARESYNC A5



FILE PHOTO

State Rep. James Grant, the founder and CEO of BlueWater, and girlfriend and Chief Operating Officer Jennifer Lux are shown in this 2012 photo with Kiwanis member Terry Atchley after the two addressed the club. Less than one month later, Grant sold the company to Continuum Labs in exchange for stock in the new company. Grant was awarded the initial \$2.6 million from the IDA despite bringing "no equity, no startup capital, no business track record and no credibility to the table," according to a Hardee County Grand Jury Presentment. The couple both personally received more than \$150,000 from the grant funds while working with the company.

to house the company.

In addition to housing BlueWater, the building was to be named the TechRiver University technology park and serve as an incubator hub for other technology companies and startup ventures.

Bond told the IDA board in a September 2012 meeting the goal of TechRiver was to build a technology-focused community that provides education and creates extraordinary careers for residents, attracts new talent to the area, and fosters an environment of growth, progress and ongoing sustainability.

None of that ever happened. The potential plan quietly faded away with no explanation ever given as to why the plans changed.

Later, a Hardee County Grand Jury Presentment labeled the entire "university" concept as a "feel-good charade" and a "publicity stunt." Eventually the sign in front of the building was changed from "TechRiver" to read "CareSync," which was the lone occupant of the building.

In August of 2012, Grant as CEO and his girlfriend and COO Jennifer Lux spoke to the Hardee County Kiwanis Club and gave a rosy assessment of the company's progress to date and its future potential.

Less than a month later, on Sept. 12, 2012, Grant and Brodeur sold BlueWater and its parent company LifeSync to Continuum Labs, owned by Travis Bond, and the company was renamed CareSync.

The deal provided the original owners of BlueWater with 1.25 million shares in the new company.

Grant and Brodeur were retained by Continuum Labs to sell CareSync to insurance providers and collected a salary of nearly \$6,000 per month.

In October of 2012, the IDA voted to give CareSync an additional \$3 million to continue developing its product and establish a technology industry in Hardee County.

Bond also told the board then that if CareSync was ever sold or moved out of Hardee County, the money received from the IDA would be repaid.

Contract details were not finalized but the

board, Bond stated his company would not fail. "If it fails it will be because you as a board gave up," he proclaimed.

He said the company was making significant progress and now had a total of 13 employees after the IDA had infused \$6.25 million into the business.

"We believe in this. We will stimulate a new sector in the town," Bond said.

He said at that time revenues were \$30,000 per month while expenses were approximately \$300,000 per month.

County Commissioner Mike Thompson, who serves as a liaison to the IDA, acknowledged he was somewhat nervous about the project but ultimately recommended the board continue funding the operation.

Four months after the July meeting, in October of 2013, Bond was back again asking for more money.

Just like the three previous requests, the board approved, giving the company an additional \$990,000 and bringing the total investment to \$7.25 million since the end of 2011.

Very little discussion occurred at that public meeting because Bond and Grant chose to meet privately with each individual board member at the Economic Development Office the day before the additional funding request was made in order to answer any of their questions or address concerns over the company's apparent lack of progress.

Bond did, however, publically share with the board during the public meeting that CareSync was recently named the Emerging Technology Company of the Year by the Tampa Bay Technology Forum.

As part of the agreement for continued funding, the board said it would conduct an audit of the company's expenses to date.

Lambert said he wanted an audit done "to prove or disprove any allegations that have been made about the project."

Controversial in the community from the start, the grant was becoming more unpopular after the amount of money given to the startup continued to swell and job numbers steadily lagged well behind the original projections.

Former IDA member Donald Samuels was



FILE PHOTO

Travis Bond, the founder and CEO of CareSync, addresses the IDA board in 2015. He was at the meeting to announce the company had raised \$18 million in venture-capital funds to continue growing the company, which was then up to 75 employees. All 125 employees at the Hardee County campus lost their jobs last week. They received no severance pay and were told health insurance benefits would be canceled on June 30. Between 2011 and 2013, Bond and his wife, Lisa, personally received more than \$1.44 million of the grant funds through salaries, consulting fees and application program interface fees, according to the Hardee County Grand Jury Presentment.

Gas Prices Still Drive Downward

Gas prices in Florida declined for the 30th consecutive day on Sunday.

Higher oil prices, however, may soon put the brakes on that downward drive at the pumps.

The state average of \$2.70 is six cents less than a week ago and 21 cents less than last month. Still, motorists are paying nearly 50 cents more per gallon compared to last year.

Oil prices shot up \$3 on Friday, which usually increases the cost of producing gasoline.

The increase in crude came after OPEC and Russia announced an agreement to raise oil production. While a production increase would normally put downward pressure on oil prices, it's still unclear exactly how much more oil will be reintroduced into the market and which countries it will come from.

The uncertainty is causing what's considered to be a short-term increase in oil prices. Ultimately, oil prices are forecast to decline after the details are hammered out.

On Friday, the price of oil settled at \$68.58 per barrel, \$3.50 more than the week before. Gasoline futures jumped five cents on the NYMEX.

"This news could bring some volatility back to the pumps this week," said Mark Jenkins of AAA/The Auto Club. "Gas prices could rise a couple pennies or simply level out. Anything more than that would require crude to make additional gains this week."

"Regardless," he continued, "it's encouraging that OPEC decided to raise production in hopes of avoiding a global supply deficit. That's good news for motorists, because this should eventually lead to lower prices at the pump."

Recipes From Good Housekeeping

GRILLED STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE SKEWERS

This fun, fresh and festive recipe for Grilled Strawberry Shortcake Skewers with Blueberry Glaze — made with heart-healthy Mazola Corn Oil — is the ultimate Fourth of July summer dessert that everyone will love!

For the skewers:

- 1 pound cake, thawed if frozen
- 32 strawberries (2 pounds), hulled
- 2 tablespoons Mazola Corn Oil
- 2 tablespoons honey

For the cream:

- 1 cup whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- Zest of 1/2 lemon

For the glaze:

- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon whipping cream
- 1/2 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup blueberries, thawed if frozen

For the skewers:

- 1. Prepare grill for direct cooking over medium-low heat.

2. Slice pound cake into slices, then cut each slice into cubes. In a small bowl combine the corn oil and honey until well-combined.

3. Thread cake cubes and strawberries through skewers until they're all gone. If using wooden skewers, be sure to soak them in water for at least 1 hour before using. Lightly brush oil and honey mixture all over the skewers.

4. Grill skewers for about 2 minutes per side, or until the cake is toasted and golden, and the strawberries are slightly softened.

For the cream:

Beat the cream, sugar and zest in a bowl with an electric mixer until soft peaks form. Cover and chill until ready to use.

For the glaze:

In the pitcher of a blender, combine all of the glaze ingredients. Blend on high until everything is well-combined and smooth. Drizzle over the skewers before serving alongside the cream. Makes 8 servings.

Recipe courtesy of Handle the Heat.

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Florida Offers Good Job Markets

The Sunshine State's economy has seen its fair share of storm clouds in recent years, with the Great Recession taking a significant toll on both the housing market and tourism industry.

And it took another huge hit in 2017, as Hurricane Irma lost the state 1.8 million out-of-state visitors. But things are looking brighter of late, despite the natural disaster's impact.

Florida's economy is expected to reach \$1 trillion this year, a number greater than that of all but 15 countries. And the unemployment rate is at just 3.8 percent, below the national average of 4.1.

But not everywhere in Florida provides the same employment opportunities. In order to help Floridians make all the right moves, WalletHub compared 135 Florida cities based on 16 metrics that collectively speak to the employment environment that can be found in each.

Considered factors range from the number of job openings per unemployed resident and the average starting salary to the share of employers providing benefits and the length of the average work day.

Lakeland, for instance, ranked 72. Here're the top and bottom 10:

Best Cities	Worst Cities
1.) Sarasota	126.) Deltona
2.) Orlando	127.) Hallandale Beach
3.) Land O' Lakes	128.) Lake Worth
4.) Wesley Chapel	129.) Sebastian
5.) Horizon West	130.) Lauderhill
6.) Boca Raton	131.) Miami Gardens
7.) Palm Harbor	132.) Lauderdale Lakes
8.) Valrico	133.) North Fort Myers
9.) Miami Lakes	134.) Dania Beach
10.) Sweetwater	135.) Fort Pierce

Comparing Best & Worst

- Holiday has the highest monthly average starting salary adjusted by cost of living, \$3,138, which is two times higher than in Naples, the city with the lowest at \$1,560.
- Pace has the lowest unemployment rate for high-school graduates, 1.7 percent, which is 10.9 times lower than in Aventura, the city with the highest at 18.6 percent.
- Ruskin and West Pensacola share the lowest unemployment rate for residents with a Bachelor's Degree or higher, 1.0 percent, which is 13.5 times lower than in North Fort Myers, the city with the highest at 13.5 percent.
- Cutler Bay has the lowest number of part-time employees for every 100 full-time employees, 33.8, which is 6.7 times lower than in The Villages, the city with the highest at 226.38.

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- Tau Day
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CARESYNC

Continued From A4

At the April IDA meeting following the release of the presentment, economic development coordinator Sara Pelham told the board she would be resigning after deciding to start her own management and consulting company.

She did not give a firm date of when she would leave the organization, and agreed to stay until a replacement could be found.

A month later she rescinded her resignation and remains an employee of the Economic Development Office.

In March of 2016, after he had served as executive director for eight years without a raise, the IDA board voted to increase Lambert's salary from \$83,076 to \$97,709 per year, which represented two-percent annual raises over the eight years.

Three months later, the board voted to increase Pelham's pay from \$47,893 to \$57,074.

Kristi Schierling, the Economic Development Office manager, was also given a modest raise, to \$33,956 from the previous \$32,500.

Where The Money Went

The Grand Jury Presentment stated "clearly some individuals employed through the Blue Water and CareSync project were living large off the Hardee County money."

It revealed that between 2011 and 2013, Travis Bond and his wife, Lisa, personally received more than \$1.44 million of the grant funds through salaries, consulting fees and application program interface fees.

Between 2011 and 2014, Grant received \$159,671 while Lux was paid \$163,833 with the grant funds. Brodeur was paid \$60,062 during that time.

Grant's brother, John Grant III, was paid \$20,000 for legal consulting services out of the grant funds.

Ken Lambert, brother of Bill Lambert, received \$67,940 for marketing and communications work for CareSync.

Training and mentoring new hires also ate away at the grant funds. The mentors, already employed by Bond through his various companies, charged the IDA to train the new hires.

In October 2012, the IDA paid Continuum Labs \$183,190 in reimbursements for training and mentoring new hires, but the Grand Jury report revealed there weren't any employees to train or mentor, because none had been hired at that time.

In total, over 14 months, Bond billed the IDA \$858,838 in training and mentoring expenses for new hires.

The Grand Jury Presentment stated that appeared to be chargeable theft, but since the IDA approved the expenditures, nothing could be done.

"What might appear to be a chargeable theft, sadly but clearly is not when the conduct in question was approved and ratified by those charged with the responsibility of representing the county's taxpayers," it concluded.

Financial Examination/Audit

The IDA board ordered an audit of the \$7.25 million in grant funds received by the company, which was later changed to a less-rigorous "examination."

It reviewed 25 percent of the monthly draw

requests submitted by the company, which accounted for 43 percent of the money it received since 2011.

Accounting firm CliftonLarsonAllen conducted the review, and billed the IDA \$55,000 for nearly 700 hours of work on the project.

Mike Carter, a principal in the firm, said the review found a total of \$322,000 in "questioned costs," which he said did not necessarily mean the money was not properly spent, but it could not be verified.

Carter was able to verify an additional \$1.2 million from outside investors was spent on the project between 2011 through June 2014.

The board voted to forgive the "questioned cost" since it was able to prove CareSync spent more than the IDA's \$7.25 million investment in the project.

The exam also revealed several of the initial hires were flagged as related-party transactions, for being related to various people governing the IDA.

They included Robert Birge, son of County Commissioner Sue Birge; Bo See, son of then-IDA board member Jim See; and Bryan Pelham, husband of IDA employee Sara Pelham.

20 new positions, and would help the continued growth of operations and commercialization of the company.

By October of 2014, 75 people were working at the Hardee County location.

One year later, in October 2015, the company announced it had secured \$18 million in private equity funding and was anticipating rapid growth to its workforce and customer base.

Investors in the second round of funding included established names in the health-care industry, including Merck Global Health Innovation Fund.

October of 2016 brought another promising announcement from Bond.

He told the IDA board the company was up to 140 employees in Hardee County with a \$5 million annual payroll and more than 100,000 customers using its medical software services.

Bond projected to be up to 300 employees in the near future.

In January 2017, CareSync said it was doing so well it was nearing capacity in its 18,000-square-foot facility, with 175 employees working around the clock in three eight-hour shifts.

CareSync had also secured additional funding and had then raised more than \$28 million from private equity funds to date.

In September of last year, the IDA spent \$1.55 million purchasing the former Winn-Dixie supermarket building, which is situated across U.S. 17 from CareSync, while anticipating the company would need a

larger space.

Coming Unraveled

Details of what led to the apparent ousting of Bond and subsequent events are unknown at this time.

A manager of CareSync who spoke to the Tampa Bay Business Journal on condition of anonymity provided some insight into the company's recent downfall.

He told the magazine there had been several rounds of layoffs in recent weeks, but that a plan to sell the company gave remaining employees hope their jobs would remain intact.

The employee said the deal fell through and the company had been "bleeding money" the past several weeks.

The shuttering of all operations came as a complete surprise to the employees of the Hardee campus and those in Tampa.

Knight said she and her coworkers stood around in complete shock when given the news. She also said many employees, including herself, had personally invested in stock of the company and what, if any, money they would receive for their shares was not addressed.

"I just hope our last paycheck goes through," she said.

Many of the 125 local employees have already filed for Unemployment Compensation, and have begun looking for other jobs.

JoJo Hernandez, a single mother who worked for CareSync in Tampa, told the Tampa Bay Times she was worried about being able to pay her rent.

"Travis Bond's favorite words were, 'We are one family,'" she told the newspaper. "Where are they now?"

IDA

Continued From A1

In the future, he would shy away from making such a large investment in a single company, he said.

The executive director also said the IDA board had shifted away from the grant process for businesses and has focused on buying or building properties and leasing them to various businesses, with economic incentives offered through rent abatement or discount purchase prices tied to job creation.

That strategy, he hopes, will lessen the IDA's risk in the future if a business ultimately is not successful.

"I can't fix this situation with CareSync," Lambert said. "I can replace the jobs, and I have every intention of making that happen."

Lambert said he was in pretty advanced talks with two medical-related companies that could employ up to 200 people between them.

He hopes many of the former CareSync employees, most of whom have a nursing field certification or degree, would be able to land jobs in the coming months with the businesses he is recruiting.

Lambert also said he has a plan for the building CareSync was using, and expects to announce that plan soon.

He acknowledges the failure of the company will stir many different opinions regarding his economic development efforts, but he hopes the community can move forward from the loss "without divisiveness."

"At the end of the day, the IDA has done a lot more good for the community than it has lost with the collapse of CareSync," Lambert concluded.

Vanessa Hernandez, former chairwoman of the IDA, called the failure of CareSync a "tremendous disappointment."

"To see any company that has had such a substantial payroll in Hardee County close its doors is devastating to our community," she said. "It touches a significant number of families."

She said the board has an uphill battle to create jobs and opportunities in Hardee County.

"We are going to experience setbacks from time to time, but this loss of jobs in particular is a hard hit," Hernandez concluded.

ABOUT... Letters To The Editor

The Herald-Advocate welcomes letters to the editor on matters of public interest. Letters should be brief, and must be written in good taste and include the writer's full name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday to be considered for that week's edition. Submissions should be typed or legibly written. Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, The Herald-Advocate, P.O. Box 338, Wauchula, FL 33873. Fax to (863) 773-0657.



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County, Mosaic Discuss Ona Economic Mitigation

By MICHAEL KELLY
Of The Herald-Advocate

The Hardee County Commission and Mosaic officials began discussions Thursday regarding the economic mitigation agreement for the proposed 26,853-acre Ona Mine.

The agreement is part of the Mining Major Special Exception permit that will be heard by commissioners and the Planning & Zoning Board during a joint meeting July 9.

Russell Schweiss, director of public affairs, land and resource strategies for Mosaic, and Bill Lambert, executive director of economic development for the county, presented the board with a tentative agreement that would provide a guaranteed payment of \$35 million over 25 years and potentially more, depending on

the profitability of phosphate fertilizer over the life of the deal.

The money is payable in 25 annual installments of \$1.4 million.

As part of the county's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Mosaic is required to "address the elements of economic development demonstrating how each mining operation and reclamation plan maximize and achieve economic development and diversity."

Schweiss said the mitigation amount being offered was based off of the 13,630 acres that would have constrained development potential after mining, which includes 7,466 acres of clay settling areas and 6,164 acres of conservation easements, and not the entire

26,853-acre mine being considered.

In addition to the guaranteed payments, Mosaic submitted a table tied to "stripping margins," which is an industry-wide metric that measures the profitability of the phosphate industry at any snapshot in time.

Lambert said he had been working on the agreement with Mosaic for several months and he felt the deal was fair for the next 25 years of mining in Hardee County.

Schweiss said the agreement presented to the board was based on the stripping margins over the past 10 years, and used those figures projecting out for the next 25 years, which would result in an additional \$35,768,483 paid to the Hardee County Industrial Development Authority using that escalator clause.

The money would be split among three funds: a general economic development fund, an infrastructure fund available to local governments for projects, and a workforce development endowment that would be managed by the Hardee Education Foundation.

The foundation would manage

the endowment, with a proposed minimum balance of \$8 million, as a forgivable loan program to encourage local residents to obtain four-year degrees in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics or to acquire a skilled trade and return to Hardee County to work.

The agreement also grants Hardee County a purchase option for 90 acres surrounding the landfill for future expansion and a lease agreement with the IDA (for the price of the annual property taxes) on land across from Mosaic's North Pasture office to potentially locate a solar farm.

Commissioner Mike Thompson told Schweiss he would like to see a higher guaranteed amount of money in the agreement. "I would like the base to be \$2 million per year (versus the \$1.4 million presented)," he said.

"I can't agree to that tonight," Schweiss said. "That would require changing the entire equation."

Thompson said he was fine leaving the stripping margin equation in place if the base guarantee was higher.

"I don't want to cause you

any heartburn but we are talking about an additional \$15 million" in guaranteed payments, he added.

Schweiss countered by stating that was a substantial amount of money.

"To me it is," Thompson concluded.

Commissioner Sue Birge said the value of reclaimed lands is not the same compared to the way the land exists now. "We have to give that a different value compared to today's values," she said.

Chairman Russell Melendy noted the board was not approving the agreement during the meeting and, after gathering the consensus among commissioners was to seek additional guaranteed money, directed Schweiss to "take a look and see if you can get to \$2 million per year."

He thanked both Lambert and Schweiss for their hard work on developing the agreement to that point before turning to public comment, where eight citizens addressed the board.

Don Chancey said he would like the funds to be run through the Clerk of Courts Office instead of being sent directly to the IDA. He also wanted the board to exert more control over the IDA.

Dennis Mader said the entire agreement needed more scrutiny, and wanted a qualified economist to look at it before approval. He said the stripping margin escalator is a complete unknown and a gamble over the next 25 years.

"The Ona Mine is more

than twice the acres and should be at least twice the amount of the South Fort Meade Agreement," he said.

The South Fort Meade Hardee County Extension totaled just less than 11,000 acres and provided the IDA with \$42 million payable over a 10-year period.

Brooks Armstrong shared concern over the county's ability to grow in the future on reclaimed land.

He also said since mining has begun, his taxes have continued to go up but the services provided by the county have decreased.

Nancy Armstrong urged commissioners to preserve some of the rural lifestyle that is appealing to many residents.

Hugh Richardson said a better statistical analysis needed to be done on the stripping margin multiplier effect that excluded the outlier years.

He said if phosphate companies in other countries chose to go with high-volume, lower price dumping, it would drive prices down nationally and the county would not receive anywhere near the projected amount.

Ralph Brooks pointed out no factor for inflation was built into the 25-year agreement, and the money would be worth significantly less toward the end of the deal.

The board will take the issue back up during the July 9 meeting, which begins at 3 p.m. in Courthouse Annex 1, 412 W. Orange St. in Wauchula.

Letter To The Editor

Ona Resident Concerned Over New Proposed Mine

Dear Editor:

The proposed 28,000-acre Ona mine is up for rezoning at the July 9 meeting with the Hardee County Commission and the Planning and Zoning Board that would allow a continuation of the sprawling land destruction that phosphate mining brings.

Mosaic sells itself with smiling employees and sugar coats itself as a big profit industry with an altruistic mission to feed the world.

There are alternatives for agriculture. Also don't forget the industry's numerous community donations to gain the public's favor.

Phosphate mining is a dirty business.

It permanently alters our central Florida ecosystems and disrupts our surficial aquifer system.

It will take decades for these lands to become functional again. The land can never be restored to its original state.

This industry has had its foot in the door of Hardee County for a long time and in the forefront is how much money Mosaic will pay to compensate for this destruction of our county. The price should be very high. The county should not lose control.

This is mass permitting and the county should not let its hands be tied for the next 30 years.

The commissioners have a very important decision to make which will impact all Hardee County residents for years to come, especially in

the Ona area.

I am urging all concerned citizens to attend the meeting July 9th at 3pm in the County Commission Chambers, located in Room 102 of the courthouse annex at 412 West Orange Street in Wauchula.

This is your future and your county's future.

For more information on mining please go to www.flmines.com and www.protectpeacereiver.org.

Thank you.

Nancy Armstrong
Ona

Are You Concerned Your Child Is Going Down The Wrong Path?

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NOTICE OF INTENT

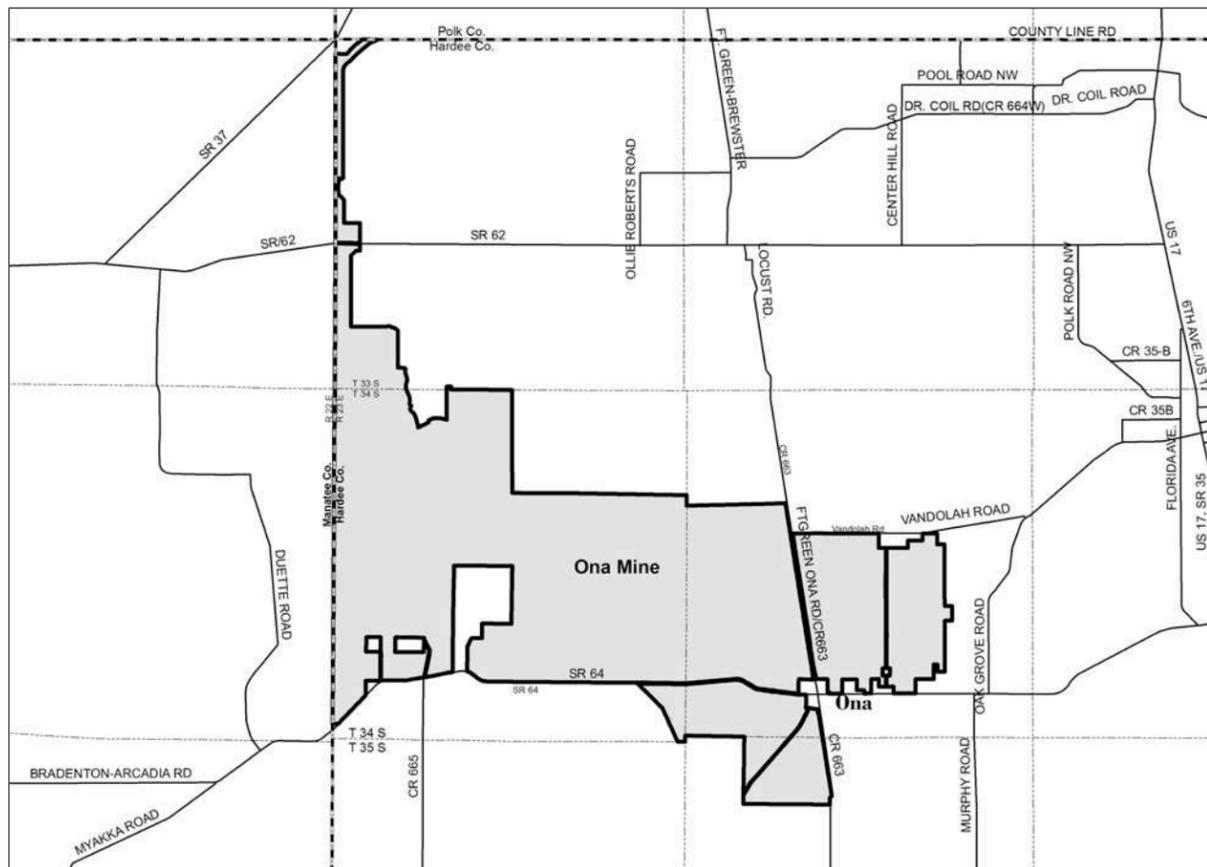
for the
HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
and the
HARDEE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

to consider the 2018 Local Government Development Agreement between Hardee County and Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC relating to mining activities within an area identified as the Ona Mine – Hardee County and the economic mitigation element of the Hardee County Comprehensive Plan on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. Before the Planning and Zoning Board and Board of County Commissioners

Or as soon thereafter as it may be heard in the Hardee County Board of County Commission Chambers, Room 102, Courthouse Annex, 412 West Orange Street, Wauchula, Florida

The proposed Ona Mine – Hardee County that is the subject of the Local Development Agreement for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners and the Planning and Zoning Board is depicted on the map shown below and is located within Hardee County in the following Sections, Townships, and Ranges:

Sections 6-7, 18-19, 30-32 in Township 33 South, Range 23 East
Sections 4-20, 22-31, 36 in Township 34 South, Range 23 East
Sections 14-23, 26-34 in Township 34 South, Range 24 East
Sections 4-5 in Township 35 South, Range 24 East



Obituaries

In Memory



SHERRY VANDYCK MAY

Sherry VanDyck May, 69, of Wauchula, passed away June 23, 2018, in Sebring.

She was born on Aug. 24, 1948, in Orlando. Sherry was a life-long resident of Hardee County, where she worked for the Ford dealership for many years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur and Nancy VanDyck; two husbands, Nelson Smith and Warren E. May Jr.; and one sister, Wanda Jo VanDyck.

Sherry is survived by daughters, Tina Smith Gainous and her husband Richard, of Bowling Green,

and Vanette See and her husband Jack, of Wauchula; son, Warren E. May III and his wife Becky, of Zolfo Springs; sister, Linda Roberson, of Wauchula; grandchildren, Matt Abbott, Blaine Abbott, Tyler Hewett, Kyle Hewett, Stefanie McAbee, Jhett See, Payton May, and Grayson May; nephew, Trampus Fillingim; niece, Temple Johnston; and great-grandchild, Charleigh Abbott.

Visitation was Wednesday, June 27, 2018, from 10-11 a.m., with services at 11 a.m., in the Chapel of Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home Wauchula, with Gene Davis officiating. Burial followed at Wauchula City Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at pongerkaysgrady.com

Ponger-Kays-Grady

Funeral Home & Cremation Services Wauchula



In Memory



GERTRUDE ALTMAN SHUMARD

Gertrude Altman Shumard, 99, of Wauchula, passed away June 20, 2018, at Reshaven in Wauchula.

She was born on June 3, 1919, in Desoto County, to the late-Josh and Edna Altman. Gertrude worked as a cafeteria worker at the old Wauchula Elementary and Besson's drug store. She was a lifelong member of Northside Baptist Church, and enjoyed cooking and quilting.

She was preceded on death by her husband, Clarence Orville Shumard; parents, Josh and Edna Alt-

man; bothers, Robert Park Baucom and Melton Altman; and sister, Mary Berg.

Gertrude is survived by her daughters, Jean Smith, of Lakeland, and Glenda Harwood and her husband Arlie, of Spring Hill; son, Lester C. Shumard and his wife Betty, of Wauchula; and sisters, Bessie Wright, of Dade City, and Lessie Sager, of Lyons, Ga.; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held on June 22, 2018, from 1-2 p.m., with service starting at 2 p.m. at Ponger-Kays-Grady Funeral Home Wauchula Chapel. Pastor Mitch Landress officiated.

Online condolences may be made at pongerkaysgrady.com

Ponger-Kays-Grady

Funeral Home & Cremation Services Wauchula



In Memory



LOIS EDNA TOMLINSON

Lois Edna Tomlinson, 97, passed away June 19, 2018, in Sebring.

She was born Jan. 21, 1921, in Polk County. Lois loved spending her time tending to her grove and spending lots of time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Oscar Tomlinson; her parents, Robert and Mattie Currie; and brother, Chester Currie.

Lois is survived by her daughters, Patsy Bostick and her husband Tommy, of Wauchula, and Peggy

Brown and her husband Curtis, of Sebring; grandchildren, Mark Bostick, and Laura Bostick Wells and her husband Tim; and great-grandchildren Garratt Bostick, Dana Bostick, Mattie Wells, and Bailey Wells.

Visitation was June 22, 2018, from 10-11 a.m., with service starting at 11 a.m. at New Zion Baptist Church, with Robert Roberts, Mike Roberts, and Joe Bulter officiating. Interment followed at New Zion Baptist Church Cemetery. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers donations be made to New Zion Baptist Church Cemetery Maintenance Fund.

Online condolences may be made at pongerkaysgrady.com

Ponger-Kays-Grady

Funeral Home & Cremation Services Wauchula



Comfort Foods Made Fast And Healthy

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VELKOMMEN PIE

Looking for the perfect dessert for your Fourth of July picnic? Well, look no further! This pie is only sinful in taste, as it will let even the diabetics at your picnic enjoy dessert.

- 1 (6-ounce) Keebler chocolate pie crust
- 2 cups (2 medium) bananas, sliced
- 1 (4-serving) package Jell-O instant sugar-free vanilla pudding mix
- 2/3 cup Carnation instant nonfat dry milk
- 1 1/4 cups water
- 1/4 cup Peter Pan or Skippy reduced-fat chunky peanut butter
- 3/4 cup Cool Whip Lite
- 1/4 cup (1 ounce) chopped dry-roasted peanuts
- 1 tablespoon mini chocolate

chips

1. Place diced bananas in pie crust.
 2. In a medium bowl, combine dry pudding mix and dry milk powder. Add water and peanut butter. Mix well using a wire whisk. Blend in 1/4 cup Cool Whip Lite.
 3. Pour mixture evenly over bananas. Refrigerate for about 10 minutes.
 4. Evenly spread remaining 1/2 cup Cool Whip Lite over pudding mixture. Sprinkle peanuts and chocolate chips evenly over top.
 5. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours or until ready to serve. Cut into 8 servings.
- TIP:** To prevent bananas from turning brown, mix with 1 tablespoon lemon juice or sprinkle with Fruit Fresh.

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Bible Trivia

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Jonah in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. In Esther 6, what was done to King Ahasuerus when he could not sleep? Sang to, Feet rubbed, Fanned by servants, Read to
 3. Which commandment is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me"? 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th
 4. In Joppa, who was raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter? Lazarus, Nahum, Tabitha, Hosea
 5. Who was the baby born of Zacharias and Elizabeth? Daniel, John the Baptist, Noah, David
 6. What was Pontius Pilate's culture group? Roman, Greek, Syrian, Babylonian
- ANSWERS:** 1) Old; 2) Read to; 3) 1st; 4) Tabitha; 5) John the Baptist; 6) Roman
- Comments? [More Trivia? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com](http://www.TriviaGuy.com)

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How Low Will Some People Go?

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Flash Back

By Chris Richcreek

1. Which band released "Kicks"?
2. Who released "Why Do Lovers Break Each Other's Heart," and when?
3. Which group recorded "Will You Be Staying After Sunday"?
4. Who released "I'd Do Anything for Love"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Another sleepless night I can't explain, Somebody said they heard me call your name, The radio won't let you leave my mind, I know it's over but I don't know why."

ANSWERS

1. Paul Revere & the Raiders, in 1966. "Kicks" was one of the first anti-drug songs. It was written for The Animals, but Eric Burdon didn't want to record it.
2. Bob B. Soxx and the Blue Jeans, in 1963. It was one of many hits written by Ellie Greenwich, including "Be My Baby" and "Then He Kissed Me."
3. The Peppermint Rainbow, in 1969. During one televised clip it was obvious that the group was syncing ... the instruments weren't even plugged in.
4. Meat Loaf, in 1993. It was his first No. 1 single and netted a Grammy for Best Rock Vocal Performance.
5. "Should've Known Better," by Richard Marx, in 1987. Singer-songwriter Marx released the song on his debut album; it peaked at No. 3 on the Billboard 100.

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In Memory



BETTY LOUISE CONLEY BLACKBURN

Betty Louise Conley Blackburn, of Port Charlotte, gained her heavenly wings June 21, 2018, at Bayfront Health Center.

Born on March 18, 1956, in Wauchula, she lived most of her adult life in Charlotte County.

She was preceded in death by her father, Clyde E. Conley; her mother, Claudie M. Conley; and her sister, Jo Ann Conley Cobb.

Betty is survived by, and was blessed with, three chil-

dren, daughters, Tiffany Blackburn (Rusty), and Tracy Blackburn, both of Port Charlotte, and son, William Kelly Blackburn, of Washington. She is also survived by grandsons, Jake Blackburn and Tyler Ward, of Port Charlotte; brother, Russell Conley (Sharon), of Port Charlotte; sisters, Kathleen Carlton, Frankie N. Kelley (Wayne), Jeannie F. Patrick (Steven), of Lakeland, and Mary E. Abalos (Serafin), of Wauchula; and extended family, friends, and loved ones including Bingham and Jackie Blackburn.

Memorial services and celebration of life will be held Saturday, June 30, 2018, at 11 a.m., at New Hope Baptist Church, 1999 S.R. 64, Wauchula. Visitation will start at 10:30 a.m. Rev. Steven Patrick will lead the services.

Arrangements by Taylor Funeral Home of Punta Gorda.

In lieu of flowers, a GoFundMe has been set up to help the family with expenses (Betty Blackburn-Butterfly Support).

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION FOR A WATER USE PERMIT BY THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) has received an application for a new water use permit for water withdrawal on the Peace Creek from Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC), 330 W. Church Street, Drawer AT01, Bartow, FL.

Application number: 20762
Application received: June 15, 2018
Predominant use type(s): Public Supply

The proposed Peace Creek Integrated Water Supply Project includes the diversion of an annual average of 12 MGD (50 MGD maximum day) of excess surface water from the Peace Creek system during periods of high flow to provide an alternative water supply to PRWC members. The Project is located in Section 31, Township 29 South, Range 26 East in Polk County.

The application is available for public inspection Monday through Friday at the District's Tampa Service Office located at 7601 Highway 301 North, Tampa, FL 33637 or through the "Application & Permit Search Tools" function on the District's website at www.watermatters.org/permits/. Interested persons may inspect a copy of the application and submit written comments concerning the application. Comments must include the permit application number and be received within 14 days from the date of this notice. If you wish to be notified of agency action or an opportunity to request an administrative hearing regarding the application, you must send a written request referencing the permit application number to the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Regulation Performance Management Department, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604-6899 or submit your request through the District's website at www.watermatters.org. The District does not discriminate based on disability. Anyone requiring accommodation under the ADA should contact the Regulation Bureau at (813)985-7481 or 1(800)836-0797; TDD only 1(800)231-6103.

6:28c

Notice is hereby given that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has received an Environmental Resource permit application number 761092 from Circle K Stores, Inc. Application received: 2/26/2018. Proposed activity: commercial development. Project name: Circle K - Zolfo Springs. Project size: 2.12 acres

Location:
Section(s) 27 Township 34 East, Range 25 South, in Hardee County. Outstanding Florida Water: No. Aquatic preserve: No.

The application is available for public inspection Monday through Friday at 7601 U.S. Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida 33637 or through the "Application & Permit Search Tools" function on the District's website at www.watermatters.org/permits/. Interested persons may inspect a copy of the application and submit written comments concerning the application. Comments must include the permit application number and be received within 14 days from the date of this notice. If you wish to be notified of intended agency action or an opportunity to request an administrative hearing regarding the application, you must send a written request referencing the permit application number to the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Regulation Bureau, 7601 U.S. Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida 33637 or submit your request through the District's website at www.watermatters.org. The District does not discriminate based on disability. Anyone requiring accommodation under the ADA should contact the Regulation Bureau at (813)985-7481 or 1(800)836-0797, TDD only 1(800)231-6103.

6:28c

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Paid obituaries may include additional information and remembrances.

All obituaries, however, must be submitted by a funeral home. No personal submissions will be accepted. Funeral homes can submit obituaries to obits@theheraldadvocate.com.

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6:28c

Youth Art Camp Coming In July

By JENNIFER McCONKEY
Herald-Advocate Intern

Creative youngsters can look forward to next month, when they'll be able to go to 4-H Art Camp.

The camp is open to all youngsters ages 8-18 regardless of 4-H membership status, as long as they register in advance.

Art Camp will include such activities as tie-dyeing T-shirts, making mosaic flower pots, creating unique figurines from Sculpey clay, and much more. One of the crafts, a scrap-metal wind chime/mobile, will be an eco-friendly project.

Senior youth 14-18 years old will also be making small mosaic stained-glass windows.

Because the camp schedule is subject to change, youth

should come every day of camp to make sure they don't miss their favorite project.

The camp will take place in the Extension Office Conference Room at the Hardee County Agri-Civic Center.

Juniors aged 8-10 and intermediate youth 11-13 can attend the camp July 9-12. Senior youth can attend on July 12 and 13.

The camp, which will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., will cost \$30. The fee covers all supplies and lunches.

To register for camp, call 773-2164 or email mda@ufl.edu before the first day of camp. The University of Florida Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences Extension Office is located at 507 Civic Center Dr. in Wauchula.

Scalloping Season Opens On Sunday

Scalloping season starts Sunday!

State waters off the following areas will open to bay scallop harvest: Franklin through northwest Taylor County, including Carrabelle, Lanark and St. Marks; and Levy, Citrus and Hernando counties, including Cedar Key, Crystal River and Homosassa.

These areas will remain open to harvest through Sept. 24.

Gov. Rick Scott said, "Scalloping is a great way to enjoy Florida's incredible waters and pristine beaches. I encourage all Floridians to get outside and enjoy our world-class scallop season with family and friends."

"Scalloping with your friends and family is classic Florida fun in the sun," said Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Chairman Bo Rivard. "The season brings people and an economic boost to these coastal areas, all the while encouraging conservation and connecting residents and visitors to the wonders of Florida's outdoors."

Bag and vessel limits in open bay scallop harvest zones are two gallons whole bay scallops in shell or one pint of bay scallop meat per person, with a maximum of 10 gallons of whole bay scallops in shell or 1/2 gallon of bay scallop meat per vessel.

Scallops may be collected by hand or with a landing or dip net.

Scallops must be landed

within areas that are open to harvest and may not be possessed on waters outside of areas that are open to harvest or during the closed season.

There is no commercial harvest allowed for bay scallops in Florida.

Be safe when diving for scallops. Stay within 300 feet of a properly displayed divers-down flag or device when scalloping in open water, and within 100 feet of a properly displayed divers-down flag or device if on a river, inlet or navigation channel.

Boat operators traveling within 300 feet of a divers-down flag or device in open water or within 100 feet of one on a river, inlet or navigational channel must slow to idle speed.

In the excitement of the harvest, always still remember to:

- Snorkel with a buddy.
- Always have an observer on board the boat while others are scalloping.

• Do not discard scallop shells in inshore waters commonly used for recreational activities such as the Homosassa River or Crystal River. Piles of discarded scallop shells can create hazards for swimmers and damage seagrass habitat. Scallop shells can be discarded in a trash receptacle or in larger bodies of water where they are more likely to disperse.

- Be aware of changing tides.
- Stash your trash.
- Wear your personal flotation device when the boat is underway.



Local Musician Releases Album

By JENNIFER McCONKEY
Herald-Advocate Intern

Jason K. Thompson, local musician and senior-high music teacher, released his first album digitally this week.

The Christian-themed album, "Consumed," is made up entirely of original songs, mainly Southern and blues rock style.

Thompson, who lives in Wauchula with wife Melody and two sons, says he wants to reach out to people who wouldn't normally listen to contemporary Christian music, like what's played on The Joy FM.

He had written some songs years ago, but never recorded them. Then, when family was out of town, he used his "alone time" to record. Afterward, Thompson decided to put together a CD. And now he's done just that.

"Consumed" was released Tuesday, and will be available on CD in mid- or late July. You can download it from his website, JKTmusic.com, or from most streaming and downloading platforms.

Thompson wrote all of the songs himself before sharing them with some professionals he knows for advice and feedback.

He recalls that some of the songs were easy to write, only taking about an hour to finish, while others took long, painstaking brainstorming sessions to complete.

There isn't one method that he uses to write songs, he says. But there is one step in the writing process that's very important to him.

"One of the things I do is pray," he says. "God, what do You want me to say or what do You want people to hear?"

Thompson also played all of the instruments for the album. To create electronic sounds or parts for instruments he doesn't play, he used the Apple app GarageBand to convert his keyboard to play the sounds he needed.

That's not to say that he doesn't play many instruments, though.

While he only used his voice, keyboard/piano and guitar for "Consumed," Thompson's main instrument is trombone. He can also play harmonica and most band instruments at least a little bit.

And he doesn't stop at playing instruments. Thompson teaches two band classes, one jazz band class and three guitar classes at Hardee Senior High School, and directs the marching band.

His advice to aspiring musicians is "there's no substitute to practice." If you're having trouble learning something, don't give up - just keep going.

And if you want to write your own music, Thompson encourages you to revise as many times as you need to. "For songwriting, the best advice that I ever got was that ...



PHOTO BY JENNIFER McCONKEY

Jason K. Thompson strums his guitar at Main Street Heritage Park in Wauchula. You can hear him on his outreach album, "Consumed," which he hopes will "encourage people to find the joy that Jesus brings in a depressing world."

the best songs are not written, they're rewritten," he says.

When reflecting on his work on "Consumed," Thompson says, "My strength and what I'm really proud of in this project is the songs." He's happy with the way they flow and how that helps get across his message.

Thompson was able to fund

the album partly through a Kickstarter campaign. Kickstarter is an online fundraiser. Although the campaign is over, Thompson says the best way to support the next album is by buying this one.

Although he doesn't have any specific plans right now, he hopes to make another album in the future.

Manatee Community Action Agency Is Now

Step Up Suncoast!

A New Name, The Same Steadfast Commitment To Our Community.

Manatee Community Action Agency, Inc. is proud to announce a corporate name change to Step Up Suncoast, Inc.

The change reflects and celebrates the organization's 50-year legacy of stepping up to move local families from poverty to independence by providing services that promote long-term economic self-sufficiency.

For more information, visit StepUpSuncoast.org.



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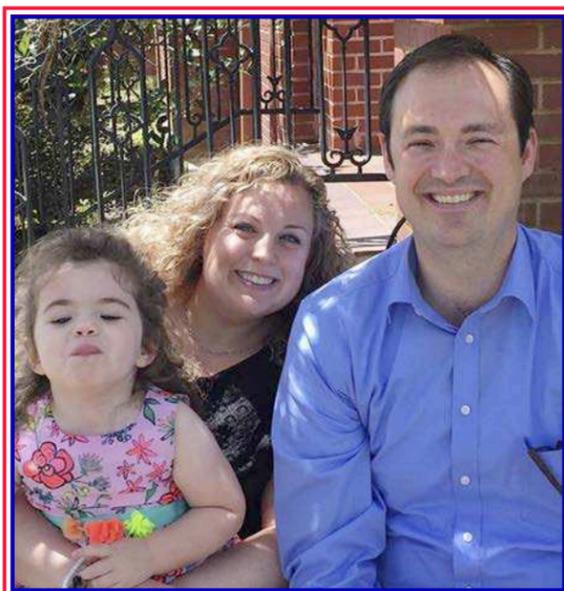
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Compromises Proposed, But No Deal Yet On SRO Funding

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

School and county officials have offered several suggested compromises but no firm deal on who will fund school resources officers in the coming school year.

The Hardee County School Board and the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners met in a rare joint workshop at the Hardee County Courthouse last Thursday to review a request by school officials for the county to continue to pick up part of the tab for SROs in the upcoming budget cycle.

"When school starts we have to have boots on the ground and be there running for our kids and our teachers and our parents and everyone that visits the school property," said Sheriff Arnold Lanier.

The funding crisis stems from a state mandate through the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act — passed in the wake of the Feb. 14 massacre of 17 students and staff at a high school in Parkland — which requires school districts to place an armed security force at every school.

Prior to the new law, Hardee County schools were protected by four deputized SROs from the Sheriff's Office and one officer from the Wauchula Police Department.

Immediately following the enactment of the law, Lanier received \$300,000 in additional funds from the County Commission to place three more deputies on campuses for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year.

The move brought the total number of on-campus lawmen to eight.

School officials and the Sheriff's Office had hoped to extend a pre-existing agreement between them that calls for the Sheriff's Office to fund 60 percent and the School Board to fund 40 percent of the costs of staffing schools with

SROs.

During the workshop, county commissioners largely balked at expanding the agreement to include the new officers.

"I think when you boil it all down, the safety and protection of our citizens is number one," said Russell Melendy, chair of the commission. "It becomes pretty easy for me, when you get down to it, which is number one. We all know that services cost money and that is why we are here tonight. As to our own budget, I wish we had all the money to do what we wanted to do, but that is not the case."

Commissioner Sue Birge added: "It all comes out of the same pockets whether it is our millage or your millage."

One point of contention — for both the county and the school district — is that the legislation requiring the additional security does not explicitly regulate whose responsibility it is to pay for the added costs.

"In statutes, whose responsibility is it?" queried Commissioner Rick Knight.

"Legally we are not responsible but morally we are responsible and will do what we can," responded Bob Shyman, superintendent of schools.

Lanier estimates the annual cost, including equipment, to be an additional \$300,000.

Estimates released by Tallahassee project the district to receive \$479,185 in Safe in Schools funding for the 2018-19 academic year as part of the appropriations package tied to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Act. The projected allocation is sharply higher than the \$131,725 in security funding received for the current 2017-18 school year.

Outside of the city of Wauchula, which funds Wauchula Elementary School's SRO, municipal contributions to support staffing will likely remain minimal.

The town of Zolfo Springs contracts with the sheriff for law enforcement protection and the city of Bowling Green and its Police Department are facing a lean financial outlook.

Commissioners floated several thoughts on reducing costs to outfit officers at schools.

Eliminating patrol vehicles for SROs was one option suggested to cut costs.

"I don't think a vehicle is 100 percent necessary," said Commissioner Colin Lambert.

Lambert suggested that the officers instead could be outfitted with golf carts or Segways.

Sheriff Lanier defended outfitting lawmen — who also work patrols as road deputies — with patrol cars.

"I feel you need the vehicle because there are situations going on at times, and they are rare, but you need help quickly," the sheriff said.

The presence of marked cars, Lanier added, also acts as a deterrent to some activity.

Wauchula City Manager Terry Atchley defended the marked patrol unit policy.

"I cannot hire a police officer if I cannot assign a vehicle to them," Atchley said. "It will not work."

At least two commissioners — Mike Thompson and Birge — endorsed investigating the possibility of assisting the School Board with money for campus hardening costs out of IDA/EDC funds.

"Some elements of economic development are good schools and low taxes," Thompson said. "I do not and will not agree to fund government operations money out of our economic development money, but I think we might be able to come up with some money for some of your infrastructure improvements."

Added Birge: "I did ask Bill (Lambert) if there was any monies available along those same lines and if we could get some money from another place and switch monies and I don't know that there is."

Bill Lambert, economic development director, said money from the Economic Development Agency (EDA) could possibly be used.

"You certainly have EDA money that may be more applicable," the director said. "We would be happy to do anything we can to work this out. We will certainly do anything we can to help alleviate the problem you have."

The school district has tentatively allocated more than \$50,000 of its Safe Schools money for campus improvements such as cameras and fencing.

The hardening costs are expected to rise after the district

completes a state-mandated security review due in Tallahassee by Aug. 1, according to School Board Chairman Paul Samuels.

Another suggestion, advocated by Knight, was for the school district to reconsider an armed guardian force.

"We are a poor county. We don't have a lot of money. The school district needs to find a cheaper way," Knight said.

"We have discussed the guardian program with the sheriff," answered Samuels.

"The superintendent is still looking at the guardian program. It is a volunteer program, and you can ask but you can't make them do it. The intent of the law is not for the guardian program to replace a SRO. The intent is for it to work with an SRO program to provide additional security for our students and our campuses."

Making Fourth Of July Plans?

With the Fourth of July holiday just days away, the personal finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2018's Best & Worst Places for Fourth of July celebrations.

Included in the report are some interesting stats about the patriotic holiday.

To determine the best places to celebrate this most star-spangled occasion, WalletHub compared the 100 largest U.S. cities based on how well they balance holiday cost and fun. The data set of 19 key metrics ranges from average beer and wine prices to duration of their fireworks shows to each city's Fourth of July weather forecast.

Best Fourth Of July Cities

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1.) New York, N.Y. | 11.) Dallas, Texas |
| 2.) Los Angeles, Calif. | 12.) New Orleans, La. |
| 3.) Chicago, Ill. | 13.) Minneapolis, Minn. |
| 4.) Denver, Colo. | 14.) Las Vegas, Nev. |
| 5.) Seattle, Wash. | 15.) Sacramento, Calif. |
| 6.) Atlanta, Ga. | 16.) St. Louis, Mo. |
| 7.) Milwaukee, Wisc. | 17.) Madison, Wisc. |
| 8.) San Diego, Calif. | 18.) San Francisco, Calif. |
| 9.) Washington, D.C. | 19.) Portland, Ore. |
| 10.) Buffalo, N.Y. | 20.) Boise, Idaho |

4th Of July Facts & Figures

- \$6.9 Billion: Amount Americans plan to spend on Fourth of July food.
- 150 Million: Number of hot dogs eaten.
- \$1.6+ Billion: Amount that will be spent on beer and wine.
- \$825+ Million: Amount expected to be spent on fireworks.
- \$5.4 Million: Value of American flags imported annually, mostly from China.
- 46.9 Million: Number of people who travel 50+ miles from home for the holiday.

30 temporary workers needed to harvest peppers, cucumbers and sugar canes near Palm Beach County, Florida, for JFT Harvesting, Inc., Farm Labor Contractor, with work beginning on or about 08/10/2018 and ending on or about 06/01/2019. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 3 months verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.25 per hour and piece rates may be offered depending on crop activity. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to Florida Dept. of Economic Opportunity, 107 East Madison Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399, (850) 245-7437, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #FL10720429. EOE. H-300-18170-625512. c16:28;7:5c

Daniel Harvesting, Inc. is hiring 80 farmworkers to cultivate and harvest watermelon crops in Sampson County in North Carolina for a temporary period starting on 07/02/2018 and ending on 08/01/2018. The wages offered are the highest of \$11.46/hr. or applicable piece rates. This job requires prolonged standing, bending, stooping, and reaching. Job is outdoors and continues in all types of weather. Workers may be requested to submit to random drug or alcohol tests at no cost to the worker. Workers must be able to lift 70lbs. to shoulder height repetitively throughout the workday and able to lift and carry 70lbs. in field. This job requires one month experience harvesting crops. Employer guarantees work will be available for at least 3/4 of the period stated. Required tools, supplies, and equipment will be provided at no cost to worker. Housing will be available for workers who cannot reasonably return home after each working day. Transportation and subsistence expenses will be provided, or reimbursed after 50% of the work contract is completed, if appropriate. Applicants should apply for the position at their local State Workforce Agency office. Job Order Number: NC10863656. c16:28p

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6:28c

Local Teens Competing In National Finals

By **KATHY ANN GREGG**
For The Herald-Advocate

Kelly Godwin's family attends First Baptist Church of Wauchula, but not these two weeks!

That's because her 13-year-old son, Wes, and rodeo colleagues Cody Vina, 14, and Cayden Newsome, 13, are attending Cowboy Church at the South Dakota Fairgrounds in Huron, S.D., as part of the Cinch Junior High Finals Rodeo.

These National Finals run June 24-30.

All three boys qualified for various events in the Finals after spending the past school year competing in 14 rodeos over seven different weekends, ranging from Perry, Ga., at the north end to Davie at the south, including the State Finals that were held at the Davie Arena in May. Only the top four in each event are extended an invitation to compete at the Finals.

Cody, Cayden and Wes are part of the 21-member contingency from Florida, and they call themselves Team Florida. They will be competing against other sixth, seventh and eighth graders from 43 states, five Canadian provinces, Australia and the recently added Mexico.

The Opening Ceremonies were this past Sunday, and the rodeo competitions run twice per day through tomorrow (Friday).

Each contestant competes three times in each event, with activity taking place in several arenas simultaneously. Then, the top 15 in each event compete one last time on Saturday in what is known as "the short round" or "the short go."

The winner is determined by taking the average of the

four competitions.

Cody is the only one of the three to have attended prior National Finals, having been held the past two years in Lebanon, Tenn. Last year ended in a gullywasher as Hurricane Maria headed in a straight line for that state, causing many contestants to leave early. Before that the competition was held in Des Moines, Iowa. When Zolfo Springs resident Dawson Cantu became a national champion in the tie-down roping event, it was held out in Gallup, N.M.

At the State Finals, Cody placed first in boys goat-tying; second in team roping as the heeler of the team, with header Bryce Crawford of Labelle; and third in ribbon-roping, with partner Courtney Stalvey of Valdosta, Ga.

These are the events in which he qualified for the Finals, although he had also competed in tie-down roping and chute doggin' throughout the season.

Cody is the son of April Diruzzo, and Javier and Heather Vina. Cody is being accompanied by the Vinas and sister Shawnee. They are trailering his two rodeo horses, Short-Stop and Ketchup.

Javi Vina has held the position of president of the Florida Junior High School Rodeo Association for this past year, and Heather Vina is the state secretary.

Cayden is the son of Clay and Christy Newsome, who are with him in South Dakota. They, too, brought two horses with them, Sage and Ellie. He qualified for the team roping also as the heeler of the team, and Wes is the header.

Cayden will also be competing in the tie-down roping

and ribbon roping, with partner Courtney Carbajal of New Smyrna Beach.

All three boys have competed in youth rodeos since the age of 4.

They have participated in the Reality Ranch Youth Rodeo, Hardee County Youth Rodeo, Arcadia Youth Rodeo Association and the Top Hand Challenge. Cayden and Wes have additionally competed in the Cracker Trail Youth Rodeo, hosted by Mike and Betsy Damboise, and in the All-Florida Junior Rodeo Association.

Wes has also regularly competed in Denton, Texas, at the Roy Cooper's Junior Super-Looper event, held annually over the Fourth of July, and will do so again this year on the way back from South Dakota.

Wes is a shining example of the phrase "Cowboy Tough." Last October, he lost the tip of the index finger on his right hand at the first knuckle, which caused him to struggle in the roping events. Problems arose, and a second surgery was required earlier this year to remove remnants of the nailbed. Then he had another accident while hog-hunting. It's been a tough year, and qualifying for the National Finals as a roper in light of these challenges shows what Wes is made of!

Other locals involved with these boys are Hardee Ranch Supply, which was a sponsor of the Junior High Rodeo all year long; and Cody's personal sponsors, Oakwood Construction LLC, James M. Pyle III, DDS, First National Bank of Wauchula, Florida Fence Post, Albritton Insurance Co., Andrew Smith, and Arcadia Stockyard.



PHOTO BY KATHY ANN GREGG

Cody Vina has roped the calf and is on the ground preparing to remove the rope once ribbon-roping partner Courtney Stalvey, from Valdosta, Ga., has taken the ribbon from its tail.

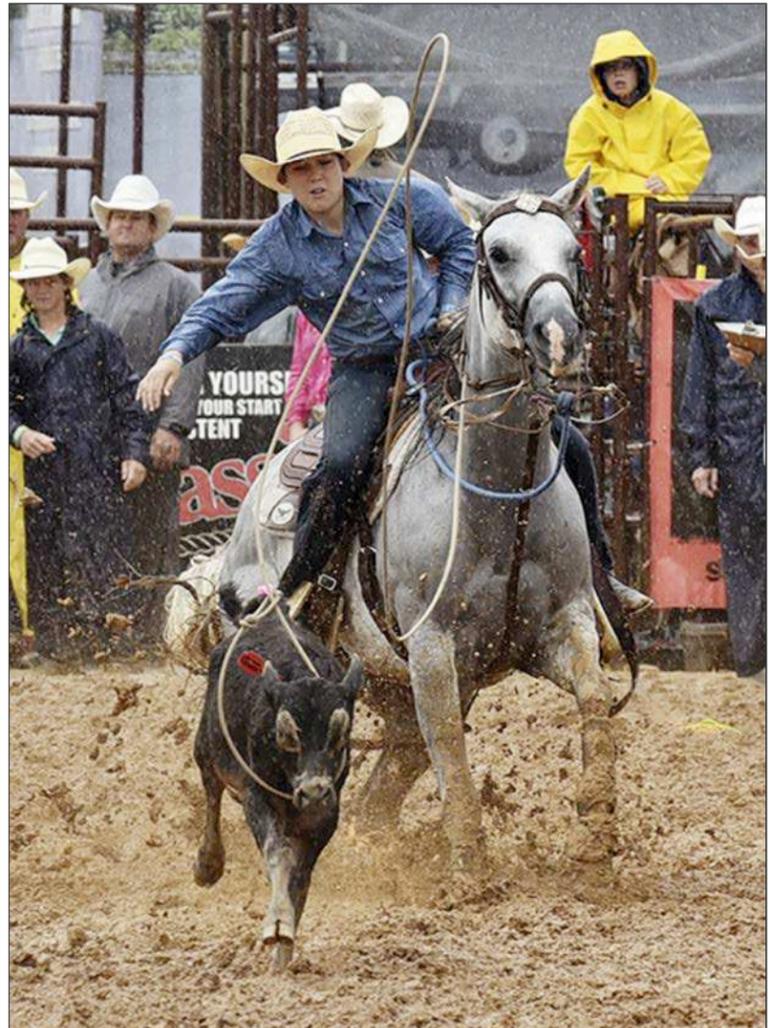


PHOTO BY KATHY ANN GREGG

Cayden Newsome shows off his roping skills in the tie-down roping from last year's National Finals in Lebanon, Tennessee. Note all of the water in the arena, and most of the arena crew dressed in yellow slickers!



PHOTO BY KATHY ANN GREGG

Cody Vina poses with his parents, Heather and Javier Vina, with the trophy saddle he won at the State Finals for placing first in the boys goat-tying event. The elder Vinas have served as officers of the Florida Junior High School Rodeo Association.



PHOTO BY MIKE RASTELLI

Wes Godwin heading and Cayden Newsome heeling. Both are 13-year-old competitors this week at the national Cinch Junior High Finals Rodeo in South Dakota.



PHOTO BY KATHY ANN GREGG

Cody Vina displays picture-perfect form in the boys goat-tying event.

Time For The Rubber To Hit The Track?

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

Rubber didn't hit the pavement (or in this case asphalt) when school officials redesigned the track surrounding Wildcat Stadium during renovations in 2016.

Money — more accurately a lack of cash — was cited as the key reason behind a string of decisions by The School Board of Hardee County to drop plans to rubberize the Hardee Senior High School track.

"The Board elected to just replace the track, and the associated piping under the track," said Rob Krahl, director of facilities.

The effort to modernize the track was part of a larger multi-year project backed through grant funding from Mosaic.

The first phase included a \$100,355.15 renovation of the bleachers on the visitor side of the complex.

Remodeling of the press box and painting the complex were included in the \$119,451.80 second phase.

Estimated costs ballooned, however, as officials neared the third and final phase that addressed the track.

School officials solicited a bid in April of 2015 that included five projects for the track:

- New drainage piping under the field;
- Reshaping of the field and new turf;
- A new entrance south of the field house to eliminate vehicle traffic on the track;
- Additional new paving on the north and south ends of the grandstands; and
- Installing a rubberized track surface.

School officials received sticker shock in April of 2015 when the scope of work received

an estimate of \$758,961.36.

"It was rejected by the board and I was asked to negotiate with the contractor," Krahl said.

The revised negotiated price, Krahl said, was also rejected by the school board in May of 2015 and a decision was reached to resolicit bids in 2016.

The project that was finally approved was a shell of the original plan.

A rubberized surface was tossed. New entrances were eliminated. Also eliminated were paving projects.

The scope of work that remained was the bare minimum necessary to bring the track into compliance with regulations by the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) to enable the Hardee High to begin hosting non-championship track meets at Wildcat Stadium.

"The board elected to just replace the track and the associated piping under the track," Krahl said.

The track was leveled and reshaped from 440 meters to the 440 meters required by FHSAA.

"A new base, subbase, curbing, and asphalt was installed," Krahl added. "The track was stripped to meet the FHSAA regulations."

The final cost of phase three was \$341,646.13.

The Mosaic grant, spread across all three phases, was \$400,000.

Work was completed in time for the 2017 track season where, for the first time in years, the Wildcats were able to host a track meet at home where Hardee High exhibited a resurgence in track and field.

In the past two seasons, Wildcats have earned more than a dozen individual district titles, a

handful of regional nods, and even a state title in shot put.

The combined track and field team is the largest of any sport at the high school.

Success, though, carried a price of its own this season.

Earnest Graham, a youth track coach and school volunteer, appeared before the School Board earlier this month to call for improvements to the track's surface.

"I want to bring to the board a question on the decision on the track to not rubberize it when we had it done," Graham said. "Last year we had 104 athletes on the track and 72 percent of them were ailing with injury before the team ever started."

The problem, at least according to Graham, is the lack of a rubberized surface — the same surface cut from the original renovation plans.

The track's asphalt surface, Graham said, provides little give or support to runners.

The injuries involved "mostly sprains" caused by repetitive impact on the unforgiving surface, he added.

"This year we had less time on the track because of the injuries," Graham said, father of 2018 FHSAA Class 2A shot put state champion Alexis Benjamin-Graham.

Hardee High is not alone in its struggles.

Across the Sunshine State, high schools are struggling to find the balance the financial costs of track improvement with the responsibility of schools to protect student-athletes from needless injuries.

Fort Myers High School in Lee County opted not to practice on its school track during the spring season. Instead, track coach Sheryl Jones opted to practice her team in the grass instead of on the asphalt. Practicing on the asphalt track at Edison Stadium was not worth the "lingering injuries" to her student-athletes, she said.

Tracks at 10 high schools in Lee County were empty last season as the Lee County School District worked to repair and retrofit all of its high school track facilities.

Lee County's approach is two-fold.

One goal is to decrease injuries such as hip and joint problems and shin splints.

The second goal is to allow more schools to host meets and decrease travel costs.

The FHSAA requires polyurethane track surfaces — rubberized tracks — in order for schools to host district and regional events.

Renovations have been completed at three Lee schools.

The estimated cost to rubberize a track in Lee County is \$150,000 as part of a piggy-backed bid from 2017 with Palm Beach County Schools.

Hardee High's facility is not just lagging coastal schools.

Sebring High School, Frostproof Middle/Senior High School, and DeSoto County High School have all installed some form of rubberized surface.

A rubberized track surface typically takes one of two forms.

The most costly is a full rubber running surface that replaces any asphalt.

The more cost-effective alternative — and the one utilized at DeSoto (and by Lee County) — is purchasing a rubberized overlay that tops an asphalt base.

"We did look at the cost of what we have now and the full blown rubber," said Paul Samuels, chairman. "I don't know if we looked at the overlay."

Added facilities director Rob Krahl: "The rubberized portion did not fit in the budget."

However, a specialized foundation needed to support rubberizing the track was laid during the project, Krahl added.

Examining the possibility of rubberizing the track at Wildcat Stadium has received some support from the School Board with both Samuels and vice-chair Garry McWhorter voicing support.

While school officials research financial feasibility, the threat of injuries to local student-athletes remains very real.

"We literally have to ice bath legs every other day after workout on asphalt," said Rod Smith, head coach of the Lady Wildcat track team.

SERTOMA JUNIOR GOLF

Tour Swings Into The Bluffs

By TOM STAIK

Of The Herald-Advocate

The Sertoma Junior Golf Tour swung through Hardee County last week for the fourth event of the summer season at The Bluffs in Zolfo Springs last Thursday (June 21).

Zack Deuberry took first place in the boy's 16-18 division with a score of 83. Dylan Crawford was second with a score of 86, William Celentano was third with a score of 93, Nick Piccione was fourth with a score of 99, an Zac Taylor was fifth with a score of 110.

In the girl's 14-16 division, Hannah Revell took first place with a score of 74. Ashley Engle was second with a score of 83, Alyssa Jordan was third with a score of 95, and Samantha Payne was fourth with a score of 114.

Zach Doorlag was first in the boy's 14-15 division with a score of 85. Lane Revell and Beckham Donovan tied for second with scores of 86, Ranen Carmichael was fourth with a score of 89, Avery Hurst was fifth with a score of 92, and Matthias Labritz was sixth with a score of 97. Kaleb Revells was seventh with a score of 98, Ethan Kinney was eighth with a score of 101, Ashton Griffin was ninth with a score of 104, and Jace Bryan was 10th with a score of 106.

Melanie Suarez was first in the girl's 11-13 division with a score of 49, and Madelyn Depner was second with a score of 55.

Ben Trevino was first in the

boy's 11-13 division with a score of 45. Trent Bray was second with a score of 47, Ian Frasier was third with a score of 48, Samuel Braxton was fourth with a score of 49, Kale Henderson was fifth with a score of 51, Matthew Suarez was sixth with a score of 52, and J.R. Redding was seventh with a score of 61.

Connor Darrow was first in the mixed 9-10 division with a score of 80.

Jordan Castillo was first in the mixed 6-8 division with a score of 29. Liam McCann was second with a score of 33, Hannah Castillo was third with a score of 37, Jenesi Trevino was fourth with a score of 44, Gabriel Perez was fifth with a score of 48, and Ashlyn Wortinger was sixth with a score of 54.

The tour will next play Friday (June 28) at Pincrest Golf Club in Sebring.

EMCI Championship Held At Sebring

The annual EMCI Wireless Championship was held June 14-15 at the Sebring Municipal Golf Club.

Gabriel Perez was first in the 6-8 mixed division with a score of 48. Jenesi Trevino was second with a score of 54, Hannah Castillo was third with a score of 60, Jordan Castillo was fourth with a score of 66, and Liam McGann was fifth with a score of 75.

Connor Darrow was first in the boy's 9-10 division with a score of 54. Parker Rapp was

second with a score of 60, Devin Wortinger was third with a score of 66, and Dillon Parnell was fourth with a score of 75.

Kale Henderson was first in the boy's 11-13 division with a score of 33. Samuel Braxton was second with a score of 36, J.R. Redding was third with a score of 39, Brody Hall was fourth with a score of 42, and Ian Frasier was fifth with a score of 45. Matthew Suarez was sixth with a score of 48, Trent Bray was seventh with a score of 54, Marquez Angeles was eighth with a score of 60, Jay Walkup was ninth with a score of 66, and Ben Trevino was 10th with a score of 75.

Kaleb Revells was first in the boy's 14-15 division with a score of 39. Ethan Kinney was second with a score of 42, Ashton Griffin was third with a score of 45, and Owen Moses was fourth with a score of 48. Zach Doorlag was fifth with a score of 54, Ranen Carmichael was sixth with a score of 60, Cade Scarborough was seventh with a score of 66, and Beckham Donovan was eighth with a score of 75.

Zac Taylor was first in the boy's 16-18 division with a score of 42. Nick Piccione and Clayton Osha tied for second with scores of 46, William Celentano was third with a score of 54, Zach Deuberry was fourth with a score of 60, Will Redding was fifth with a score of 66, and Dylan Crawford was sixth with a score of 75.

Madelyn Depner was first in the girl's 11-13 division with a score of 66, and Melanie Suarez was second with a score of 75.

Samantha Payne was first in the girl's 14-18 division with a score of 75.

I'm getting too old for this. All my friends die off, and I have to make new ones.

These new ones went to college and listened to liberal professors. It takes me one presidential election and an off year to clean up their minds. Then it is training a new batch of friends every three years. I am almost 82. Not a whole lot of time left. One friend died recently at age 46.

I am having to work in overdrive to train some new mediocre friends. Pickings are scarce. There's not a lot of us left to fight God's battles. I suppose that is why I am still here.

God can move mountains, but He gave me a shovel.

I was stopped one time by the ATF agents. It looked like an ATF training school there were so many.

First, a state trooper pulled me over. I suppose it was a pre-arranged spot, just before sundown.

I had a pickup and an open trailer full of clear jugs with my initials "P" on each. They were convinced I was a moonshiner, but they got a



As Seen From This Side

By Jerry "Gray Wolf" Phillips
Wauchula

state trooper to check for traffic violations, then they swarmed like a hive of migrating bees.

Every jug was opened and sniffed like a dog's rear-end. Nothing. I was going fishing for two days and three nights, and they were making daylight fly away. I still had to tie hooks and half mile of line to these jugs.

Just as I arrived at the spot I had told them I was going, a wildlife officer had to check my license.

I liked that because he left so I could fire off one good M-80 for a good night of fish frying, had some left over. I like cold fish for breakfast (not so much on cold hush puppies).

By midnight I had two half-mile strings out, and I guessed I overfished that section of river. For months people said every catfish caught was a throw-back. Fishing trips are fun and most of the time relaxing, but catching is a lot better than just fishing.

I was watching TV once, and they ran a story I was familiar with. This small town police force

was in need of more officers, but the council said they could not afford to hire the three men they needed.

The chief settled for just the one. He then went to the big city a few miles away and visited a couple of large men's clothing stores. He explained his situation and told of the solution he had.

They each gave him two of their old mannequins. The chief took them back home and placed them in old excess police cars not yet disposed of. He then dressed the mannequins in police uniforms and placed them in high-crime areas at night.

With the help of a friend he rigged the blue lights to flash occasionally when vehicles were approaching at excess speeds. The dummies worked so well he charged them off to his petty cash fund.

Some of the council took notice of the good results and authorized the hiring of two more officers with stipulations the dummies remain as an active part of the force.

Other departments adopted this method using dummies and milk jugs as the heads. I talked to a friend of mine where they still use Officer Jughead on occasions where they are needed.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Office of Hardee County Emergency Management has scheduled a Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) meeting on July 11, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., located at Emergency Operations Center, 404 West Orange Street, Wauchula, FL 33873.

The purpose of a local mitigation strategy is to reduce the human, environmental, and economic costs of disasters. Mitigation is any action taken to permanently reduce or eliminate long-term risks to people and their property from the effects of disasters.

The goal of the LMS meeting will be to identify specific steps to be taken to reduce the impacts of various natural hazards, the timing of those steps, potential funding sources, their priority within the community, and the entities responsible for implementing each of them.

Please come participate in this informative and important public meeting.

For more information, please call the Emergency Management Office at 863-773-6373.

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Kitchen Diva

By Angela Shelf Medearis



Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue

One of the most recognized symbols of the Fourth of July celebration is the American flag. It began with 13 stars, and today 50 stars are displayed to represent the number of states now in the union. This number has grown along with the United States. Alternating in red and white, the 13 stripes also represent the 13 original colonies that joined together to declare their independence from Britain.

Originally, the colors red, white and blue had neither specific meaning nor representation when the flag was adopted in 1777. However, the colors in the Great Seal of the United States did have specific meanings. Charles Thompson, secretary of the Continental Congress, reporting to Congress on the seal, stated:

"The colors of the pales (the vertical stripes) are those used in the flag of the United States of America. White signifies purity and innocence; Red, hardness and valor; and Blue, the color of the Chief (the broad band above the stripes) signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice."

July 4th, also known as Independence Day, has a fascinating history as well.

"No taxation without representation!" That was the battle cry of the 13 colonies in America that were forced to pay taxes to England's King George III with no voice in Parliament. As dissatisfaction grew, British troops were dispatched to quell any signs of rebellion, and repeated attempts by the colonists to resolve the crisis without war proved fruitless.

On June 11, 1776, the colonies' Second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia formed a committee to

draft a document that would formally sever ties with Great Britain. The committee included Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, who was considered the strongest and most eloquent writer, crafted the document. (Nevertheless, a total of 86 changes were made to his draft.) The Continental Congress officially adopted the final version on July 4.

The following day, copies of the Declaration of Independence were distributed, and on July 6, The Pennsylvania Evening Post became the first newspaper to print the extraordinary document. The Declaration of Independence has since become our nation's most cherished symbol of liberty. On July 8, 1776, the first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia's Independence Square to the ringing of bells and band music. One year later, on July 4, 1777, Philadelphia marked Independence Day by adjourning Congress and celebrating with bonfires, bells and fireworks. The custom eventually spread to other towns, both large and small, where the day was marked with processions, oratory, picnics, contests, games, military displays and fireworks. Observations throughout the nation became even more common at the end of the War of 1812 with Great Britain.

Congress established Independence Day as a holiday in 1870, and in 1938 Congress reaffirmed it as a holiday, but with full pay for federal employees.

Today, communities across the nation mark this major summer holiday with parades, firework displays, picnics, and the playing of the "The Star-

Spangled Banner" and marches by John Philip Sousa while waving the American flag.

This delicious Flag Day Watermelon Feta Salad will be an edible reminder of the flag we all hold dear, and a beautiful centerpiece for your Independence Day holiday celebration!

FLAG DAY WATERMELON FETA SALAD

Vinaigrette:
 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
 1 teaspoon sugar, agave syrup or stevia
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon pepper
 1/3 cup olive oil
 1/4 cup finely chopped red onion

Salad:
 6 cups fresh arugula (about 5 ounces)
 1 1/2 cups fresh blueberries
 5 cups cubed seedless watermelon
 1 package (8 ounces) feta cheese, cut into 1/2-inch cubes

1. For vinaigrette, in a small bowl, whisk the first six ingredients; gradually whisk in oil until blended. Stir in onion and set aside.

2. In a large bowl, lightly toss arugula with 1/4 cup vinaigrette. Arrange evenly in a 13-by-9-inch shallow pan or a large platter with rimmed sides.

3. Arrange the ingredients to create an edible flag as follows: For stars, place blueberries over arugula at the top left corner. For stripes, arrange watermelon and cheese in alternating rows.

4. Drizzle with remaining vinaigrette. Serve immediately. Serves 10 to 12.

Angela Shelf Medearis is an award-winning children's author, culinary historian and the author of seven cookbooks. Her new cookbook is "The Kitchen Diva's Diabetic Cookbook." Her website is www.divapro.com. To see how-to videos, recipes and much, much more, like Angela Shelf Medearis, The Kitchen Diva! on Facebook. Recipes may not be reprinted without permission from Angela Shelf Medearis.

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CUB SCOUTS HONORED



PHOTO BY JIM KELLY

Cub Scout Pack 875 of Bowling Green was honored on Friday, May 25, at Bowling Green Elementary School. The troop met at the school after the local Methodist Church closed months ago. From left are Cub Master Rebeca Ibarra, Boy Scout Antonio Miguel Ibarra, and Cub Scouts Abraham Garcia and Hilario Ramirez Garcia. Scouting is for boys and girls in grades K-12. For more information call 863-608-3855 or go to rebeca.ibarra34@gmail.com.

FWC: Alligator Activity Accelerates In Summer

Alligators become more active during warmer months, and it's not uncommon to see them regularly throughout the state during the summertime.

Most interactions consist of seeing alligators at a distance.

However, if you have a concern about a specific alligator, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission urges you to call its toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at (866) FWC-Gator, which is 392-4286.

"The FWC places the highest priority on public safety," said Eric Sutton, FWC's executive director.

"When someone calls our Nuisance Alligator Hotline to report an alligator they believe poses a threat, we dispatch one of our contracted nuisance alligator trappers to resolve the situation."

Although alligator bite incidents resulting in serious injury are rare in Florida, the FWC recommends taking precautions when having fun in and around the water.

Alligators inhabit all 67 counties in Florida and can be found anywhere there is standing water. Reduce the chances of conflicts with alligators by

swimming only in designated areas during daylight hours.

Also, keep pets on a leash and away from the water.

Because alligators control their body temperature by basking in the sun, they may be easily spotted, but the FWC urges people to keep their distance if they see one.

And, the FWC warns, never feed alligators because it is dangerous and illegal.

You can learn more about alligators and how to safely live around them by visiting the FWC's website at MyFWC.com/Alligator.



FWC PHOTO

Alligators are a common sight in Hardee County. They are more active now; use caution around them, and never feed them.

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BRAG TAGS



COURTESY PHOTO

Skye Richardson, 8, is the first to complete the Summer Reading Challenge at the Hardee County Public Library. The Reading Challenge is a list of books, by category, that must be read to earn "Brag Tags." In Skye's case, she read 20 books to complete her challenge. Skye is the daughter of Laura and Marty Richardson. She attends Hilltop Elementary School.

— THE CLASSIFIEDS —

ABOUT ... Classifieds

DEADLINETuesday noon
RATESMinimum of \$5.00 for up to 10 words. Each additional word is 25¢. Ads in all capitals are 35¢ per word. Headlines are \$2 a line. Blind ad box numbers are \$5 extra.

BILLINGAds must be pre-paid.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Agriculture | Mobile Homes |
| Appliances | Notices |
| Automobile | Personal |
| Boats | Pets |
| Furniture | Plants/Produce |
| Guns | Real Estate |
| Help Wanted | Recreational |
| Houses | Rentals |
| Livestock | Rentals, Commercial |
| Lost & Found | Services |
| Miscellaneous | Wanted |
| Motorcycles | Yard Sales |

Agriculture

DIESEL INJECTION REPAIR - Pumps, turbos and injectors. Removal and installation available. 863-381-0538. 2:8-1:17p

Help Wanted

SOUTH FLORIDA STATE College STAFF ASSISTANT II, HARDEE CAMPUS (PT) Typical work schedule: Monday - Thursday, 4-9:30 p.m. Application deadline: 7/22/18. For requirements and to apply visit <http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com>. 863-784-7132. EA/EO/VETERAN'S PREF. 6:21-7:19c

MECHANICAL ASSEMBLY Mon-Fri 8:30am to 5:00pm. Must have experience and use hand tools and small power tools. Workmanship and quality work very important. Must have high school diploma or equivalent and have a valid driver's license. Speak, read and write in English. Some phone technical support. Call Diane 863-767-0155 for appointment 6:21-7:19p

FRONT END RECEPTIONIST part to full time front desk, answer phone, file, busy office, lots of paper work. Fax Resume to 863-773-6193. Bilingual preferred 6:21,28c

GENERAL OFFICE & CLERICAL worker, 40 hrs week, \$8.50 hr., customer service is a priority, and this position is the first point of contact for visitors. Call Pioneer Creek RV Resort to set up an interview, 863-375-4343. 6:14-7:19c

Help Wanted

LOOKING FOR CERTIFIED CNA & CPR instructors. Need by August 1st. 863-529-9783. 6:14-7:12p

HIRING TRUCK DRIVERS, CDL Class A, laborers 18 or older. M-F, 8-5, mill production manager, mechanic skills required. 863-735-1361, Florida Fence Post Company, 5251 SR64, Opa. 6:7tfc

LEARN TO DRIVE A TRUCK! Get your Commercial Driver's License today at South Florida State College. Scholarships available to eligible participants. 863-784-7033. 3:1-9:20p

Lost/Found

HAVE YOU LOST A PET? Contact animal control in Bowling Green at 863-375-2255 to see if we have your cat or dog. We also have pets for adoption. 4:16dh/tfc

Pets

ADOPT A PET! If you have lost a pet or are looking for a new one, the City of Wauchula invites you to come and see if you can find the pet you're looking for. The Wauchula Animal Control is located at 685 Airport Road. Please call 863-773-3265 for more information. tfc-dh

Pets

ATTENTION! State Statutes 828.29 requires that all cats and dogs sold in Florida be at least 8 weeks old, have an official health certificate, have necessary shots and be free of parasites. tfc-dh

Real Estate

FOR SALE: 2310 sq. ft., 111-113 building on North 7th Ave., Wauchula. Can be used as one office/store or three, 863-773-5717 or 863-781-1105. 6:14-7:5c

Rentals

ATTENTION! The Federal Fair Housing Act prohibits advertising any preference or limitation based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or the intention to make such a preference or limitation. Familial status includes children under 18 living with parents or guardians and pregnant women. tfc-dh

Rentals

COMMERCIAL, BEER STORE, dance hall, offices, restaurants, store front, houses, junk yard, 863-773-6616, 863-445-0915. 6:7-7:5p

Services

COMPLETE LAWN & TREE Service. James Moore, 786-662-9104. 6:14-7:5nc

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Wauchula. Can be used as one office/store or three, 863-773-5717 or 863-781-1105. 6:14-7:5c tfc-dh

NEED A WELL OR HAVE PUMP TROUBLE? CALL ULLRICH'S PITCHER PUMP For complete well, sales, service and installation, call 863-773-6448. 7:18tfc

VITAS INNOVATIVE HOSPICE Care offers a bereavement walk-in support group for those that have experienced the loss of a love one. Beginning 9/2/16 every Friday at 1 p.m. in the VITAS office, 113 W. Main Street, Wauchula, 863-583-7100. 8:18tfc-dh

SOUTH FLORIDA State College 600 West College Drive Avon Park, FL 33825 (863) 784-7132

PROGRAM SPECIALIST, PANTHER YOUTH PARTNERS (HARDEE CAMPUS)

A full-time, year-round, grant-funded position responsible for serving as Program Specialist of the In-School/Out-of-School Panther Youth Partners Program conducted by SFSC for Career Source Heartland. Associate degree required. (Extensive related experience may substitute for degree requirement). Minimum of two years' experience in a similar program required. Must maintain credentialing guidelines established by Workforce Florida, Inc. and Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity for front-line Career Source Heartland staff providers. Travel within district required. starting salary: \$32,000 plus a comprehensive benefits package, including retirement, health/life insurance, and vacation/sick leave. Application deadline: July 8, 2018. Please visit <http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com> for job posting and application.

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 Residential lot on Lake Byrd in Avon Park...\$50,000
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 .5 ac lot in Briarwood Sub in Wauchula...\$29,000

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\$28,128.45 (\$13.52/hr.) - \$38,775.38 (\$18.64/hr.)

Wanted for the Hardee County Facilities Department. Responsible for general and specialized tasks in the construction, renovation, modification, installation and repair of buildings, equipment, apparatus and facilities. This is skilled maintenance and construction work in various trades.

- Two (2) years' experience in building/repair in one or more trades.
- Must have a High School Diploma or GED.
- May be required to possess a valid Florida Class "B" Commercial Driver's license.

Complete job description and Application forms posted on County website @ www.hardeecounty.net. Applications accepted in the Human Resources Department @ 205 Hanchey Road, Wauchula, FL 33873, Phone: (863) 773-2161. **Position is open until filled.**
Excellent Benefits including State Retirement.
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— THE CLASSIFIEDS —

Services

THE WAUCHULA LIONS CLUB collects NOT broken prescription eyeglasses, cases and sunglasses. Please drop off at 735 N. 6th Ave. tfc-dh

DO YOU HAVE a problem with drugs? Narcotics Anonymous meets Monday, Thursday and Friday night 7:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, at the corner of Palmetto and 7th Ave., Wauchula. tfc-dh

IS ALCOHOL CAUSING a problem? Call Alcoholics Anonymous in Hardee county at 863-781-6414. Several weekly meetings. tfc-dh

ATTENTION! State Statutes 489-119 Section 5 Paragraph B and Hardee County Ordinance 87-09 Section 10 Paragraph D require all ads for any construction-related service to carry the contractor's licence number. tfc-dh

Wanted

I WOULD LIKE TO live on agriculture land, security employment for housing furnished, Orin (863) 424-5831 6:28,7:5p

Want to sell, rent or hire?

CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE IS TUESDAY AT NOON

Yard Sales

SATURDAY (WEATHER permitting), 8am-?, 3469 VA Lane, off N. Hollandtown Rd., Wauchula. Teaching resources for primary, DVDs, clothes, toys, games, golf clubs and more! 6:28p

LATEST DELIVERY OF Furniture is great. Check it out, especially mirrors, pictures, dining tables, etc. Hannah's Hope Chest. Open M, T, Th, F, 9-4, 226 West Main St. 6:7-28c

74 temporary farmworkers needed for common field labor in flue-cured tobacco and sweet potatoes in Wilson County, North Carolina, for Oasis Harvesting, Inc. with work beginning on or about 08/11/2018 and ending on or about 11/23/2018. The job offered is for an experienced farmworker and requires minimum 1 month verifiable work experience in the crop activities listed. The minimum offered wage rate that workers will be paid is \$11.46 per hour, and piece rate may be offered. Workers must commit to work the entire contract period. Workers are guaranteed work for 3/4 of the contract period, beginning with the first day the worker arrives at the place of employment. All work tools, supplies and equipment are provided at no cost to the worker. Housing will be provided to those workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence will be provided by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract, or earlier, to workers who are recruited outside the area of intended employment. Applicants must provide documentation that they are eligible legally to work in the United States. Applicants should report or send resumes to NCWorks Career Center - Wilson County, 302 Tarboro St. Wilson, NC 27893 (252) 234-1129, or the nearest local office of their State Workforce Agency, and reference job order #NC10885729. EOE. H-300-18164-769708. cl6:28c

G III Harvesting is hiring 44 farmworkers to cultivate and harvest vegetable crops in Jackson County, AL for a temporary period starting on 07/25/2018 and ending on 10/31/2018. The wages offered are the highest of \$10.95/hr. or applicable piece rates. Three (3) months verifiable experience harvesting vegetables is required. This job requires prolonged standing, bending, stooping, and reaching. Job is outdoors and continues in all types of weather. Workers may be requested to submit to random drug or alcohol tests at no cost to the worker. Drug testing and background checks may occur during the interview process and will be conducted at the sole expense and discretion of the employer. Workers must be able to lift and carry 70lbs. repetitively throughout the workday. Employer guarantees work will be available for at least three-quarters of the period stated. Required tools supplies, and equipment will be provided at no cost to worker. Housing will be available for workers who cannot reasonably return home after each working day. Transportation and meal expenses will be provided, or reimbursed after 50% of the work contract is completed, if appropriate. Applicants should apply for the position at their local State Workforce Agency office. Job Order Number: AL2436135. cl6:28p

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1.19 ac metal warehouse with an office. 9,600 total square feet. Zoned A-1. Shallow well. \$130,000

5.43 ac vacant land in town on Florida Avenue South. Zoned C-1. \$320,000

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cl6:28c

HARDEE LIVING

TRAM TOURS



COURTESY PHOTO

Highlands Hammock State Park's narrated tram tour of the park and restricted areas where visitors may observe alligators, water birds, butterflies and other wildlife will run at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The tour takes about one hour and 15 minutes. The tram departs from the picnic area, runs through the hammock, pauses on a bridge in a cypress swamp, and continues through pine flatwoods before running down the South Canal wetland. Tickets are sold only at the Hammock Inn Concession, open Thursdays-Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Sebring-area park at (863) 402-0061.

Church News

Maranatha Baptist Church will host the monthly meeting of the Heartland Youth Fellowship tomorrow (Friday) from 7 to 9 p.m. All area youth entering grades 7 through 12 are invited to attend.

There will be lots of fun, food and fellowship followed by a challenging Bible message delivered by a young Bible-college student evangelist. The event is free.

Heartland Youth Fellowship is a group of independent Baptist churches located in Hardee, DeSoto, Highlands and Okeechobee counties. Maranatha Baptist Church is at 2465 Oxendine Road, off Steve Roberts Special east of Zolfo Springs.

Oak Grove Baptist Church will host its Vacation Bible School from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. July 15-20.

Children 4 years old through fifth grade are invited to attend this free event, which includes a full meal each night. Theme is "Shipwrecked: Rescued By Jesus."

The church is located at 4350 W. Main St. in Wauchula.

The deadline for Church News submissions is Thursday at 5 for the next edition.

Trivia Test

By Fifi Rodriguez

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** How many missions did the space shuttles fly during the history of the space program?
- SCIENCE:** What is an example of sublimation?
- GEOGRAPHY:** What is the capital of Belgium?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What does the word "hipopotamus" mean?
- MUSIC:** How many valves does a trumpet have?
- MYTHOLOGY:** What is the name of the Greek goddess of agriculture?
- FIRSTS:** Who was the first African-American woman to travel in space?
- MOVIES:** In which "Star Wars" film did the Ewoks first appear?

ANSWERS

- 135
- Dry ice (sublimation is the transition of a solid to a gas without going through the liquid stage)
- Brussels
- River horse
- Three
- Demeter
- Mae Jemison
- "Return of the Jedi"

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Pinning Ceremony Honors Nursing Grads

In keeping with time-honored tradition, 35 graduates of South Florida State College's Associate Degree in Nursing program received Registered Nurse pins from parents, siblings, spouses, children and friends in a ceremony on June 18.

Nine members of the graduating class are from Hardee County.

Pinning ceremonies recognize nursing graduates for their accomplishments, reiterate their responsibilities as health-care providers and officially welcome them into the nursing profession.

The Hardee graduates are Jovana Calderon, Stephanie Esquivel, Dalton Hammon, Yesenia Lozano, Dennis

Mejia, Crystal Morales, Karissa Rivers, Maria Suarez and Savannah Taylor.

Keynote speaker Tracy Lethbridge, the lab and clinical coordinator of SFSC's nursing education program, talked about the importance of family to the success of a nursing career. As a young nursing student, Lethbridge had the unique experience of completing SFSC's program with her competitive mother, who motivated her to challenge herself and succeed.

Once she began working as a nurse and an educator, Lethbridge came to rely on her extended "family of choice" as she experienced the joys and heartbreaks of a profession "that wants more of us than we

sometimes have to give."

"We're nurses," Lethbridge said. "We'll work through lunches, bathroom breaks, weekends, holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, and our own mental and physical exhaustion. Sometimes we do have more to give, and we can do this because we are not alone. We are surrounded by a family who empowers us, who shares their energy with us, who love us."

Class President Patrick Carey III used his parting remarks to remind his peers of the value they bring to nursing. "We're all entering this profession for different reasons," he said. "As much as we want to be nurses, nursing needs us in return. Nursing needs caring souls, different perspectives, and critically thinking minds. I know each and every one of you has these qualities to offer and will use them to accept head-on the awesome respon-

sibility of which we will now be entrusted."

Graduates committed themselves to upholding the ethics of nursing by reciting the Nightingale Pledge, a modified version of the Hippocratic Oath, in which they vowed to "maintain and elevate the standards of my profession," "aid the physician in his work" and "devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care."

Created in 1893, the pledge bears the name of Florence Nightingale, an English war nurse and social reformer whose advocacy for nursing education, ethics and hygiene caused her to become "the founder of modern nursing."

Having earned Associate degrees, these graduates are qualified to take the National Council for Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses and apply for RN licenses from the Florida Board of Nursing.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Jesse Reyes presented a Registered Nurse pin to his wife, Jovana Calderon, who recently earned her Associate Degree in Nursing from South Florida State College.



Kimberly Gray presented an RN pin to her sister, Karissa Rivers, during a traditional pinning ceremony held on South Florida State College's campus in Avon Park.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE
1 (800) 500-1119

Roundup

ESE Department Hosts Meeting

The Exceptional Student Education Department of the Hardee County School District will hold a planning meeting today (Thursday) at 3 p.m. to discuss 2018-19 applications for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The meeting will be held at the ESE office at 200 S. Florida Ave. in Wauchula. Interested agencies and parents are welcome to attend.

Yoli & Company
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107 S. 9th Ave. • Wauchula
9am to 5:30pm
863-832-3300
soc6:21,28p

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City of Bowling Green

Wednesday July 11, 2018

Residential Only
No Paint, Chemicals or Other Hazardous Materials
2 Tire Limit Per Address
soc6:21-7:5c

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"Star-Spangled" Sunday

"I Love America"

Celebrating our Heritage, Heroes and Hope!

★ July 1, 2018 ★
★ 10:45am ★

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Recognition of our Armed Forces and Veterans

Church-wide Covered Dish Dinner following the service in the Fellowship Hall

— Childcare provided—ages 3 and under—

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4350 West Main Street, Wauchula, FL 33873
Rev. Jim Davis, Pastor
For more information call...863-735-0321
soc6:28c

HARDEE LIVING

Fort Green News

By Rilla Cooper
773-6710

Greetings from Fort Green! I always type the news on the Sunday before the paper comes out on Thursday, so today is June 24 and this was my late husband Kay's birthday. If he had not taken his final journey he would have turned 88 today! The 25th is his brother Todd's birthday. So, birthday wishes are sent to Todd.

There have been too many final journeys in the past week. My sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Lois Tomlinson. She was 97 and lived a good long life, but you are never ready for their departure. She was Patsy Bostick's mother.

Also, sympathy is extended to the family of Gertrude Shumard, who turned 99 on June 3. She had lived in Resthaven for some time but used to work at Hardee Memorial when I did back in the '70s. She could make the best bread pudding with a delicious topping that I have ever eaten.

I knew her personally but did not know Mrs. Tomlinson. Both of these families got to enjoy their mothers for a long time. Mine had a stroke when she was 78, and was paralyzed, tube-fed, and could not talk. That is a bad existence.

Sympathy also is extended to the family of Sherry May. She was not very old and made her final journey last Saturday. One time Wauchula State Bank had a contest among all the car salesmen to see who could put the most deals at the bank during a certain time. The first- and second-place winners got a trip to New Orleans, flying out and motel and other benefits.

Well, Kay and Warren won, so I got to know Sherry better but knew her way back when she was married to Nelson Smith. She will be missed as she was about a fixture at the automobile dealership working in the accounting for as long as I can remember.

The last one that I knew was Kenneth Wingate and we just went to church together long ago at First Christian when it was across the street from the Chevrolet place. I actually

knew his parents, Jewel and Rae, better. Kenneth was just a boy but always polite to us older folks.

Helen Albritton is finally coming home Sunday afternoon. She said she is still having difficulty but can get around with her walker. I understand that Mary Samuels is through with her radiation. Jack Eason is back in the Orlando hospital. Edith Bassett is back in the hospital in Tennessee. Sherry Smith hurt her foot and is in a heavy boot. Kelli Weems Youmans is suffering from the same problem that her dad, Keith, had. Please pray for these.

Joe Gicker was in South Carolina due to the death of his brother. We are sorry for his loss.

On a happy note, Sam and Arden Rawls celebrated 59 years of wedded bliss Monday, June 25. Congratulations to them.

Paige Danner, a member of our church but moved up North a few years ago, was back last Sunday visiting the Wesley and Sherry Smith family. She is one cute young girl, and has grown taller than me.

I am on the Cloverleaf Foundation but missed some meetings and was not aware Elizabeth Weeks and, I believe, Jolley Pledger won 4-H scholarships. This is a great honor and I am happy for both of them.

Kaylee Hogenauer and her mother, Avie Eures, were visitors to Washington State last week to visit family. Kaylee had planned on going by herself and had gotten her ticket and all nine yards but at the last minute Avie decided to go. She said her ticket cost more to get to sit by her daughter but it was worth it.

I personally was glad she decided to go as I thought Kaylee was too young to fly by herself, but I told myself I rode the bus by myself when her age. Still, it seems like flying is more dangerous! They had a super time, riding on a ferry, going up in the Space Needle and many other fun things for them. Now I would not have thought the Space Needle anything but torture!

Most people do not read the Public Notice information in the paper. In case you did not, there is a meeting at the County Commission office at 9 a.m. on July 5 to discuss imposing a 6-cent additional tax charge to the fuel anyone purchases in Hardee County. You need to come and at least let them know your opinion, whether or not you want to pay more for gas or keep it the same.

Chrysta Chancey had a lot of company this past weekend, as they flew in from far and near to attend the 100th birthday party for B.J. Norris. Mike Rouse said Mr. B.J. told him he wanted a ride on his motorcycle for his birthday. Mike was driving on some of the back streets and Mr. B.J. told him he wanted to go down Main Street, so Mike obliged him. He had a good time but said he was not planning his 200th party!

We sincerely thank John Burdshaw for moving around the sign at the Methodist Cemetery. He keeps that area looking great. Sherman usually mows the outside of the fence but he mowed the inside last week or so. His mower for the outside was under the weather, in other words, broke! It is fixed now so as soon as he catches up here, he will mow again. Just bear with it now!

Drew and Ashley Keene had a real nice housewarming party last Sunday afternoon.

Remember to pray for each other and our nation.

NEED FEDERAL HELP?



PHOTO BY JIM KELLY

Jonathan Torres, regional director for U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, spoke to the Hardee Rotary Club on Wednesday, May 23, at the Java Cafe. He represents nine counties including Hardee, and his office is in Tampa. He said if you need help regarding Social Security, the Veterans Administration or other federal matters, call 813-853-1099. From left are Sue Birge, Jonathan Torres, and club president Olivia Minshew.

HHS JR. ROTC REPORT



PHOTO BY JIM KELLY

Lt. Col. Stephen McDaniel, who heads up the Hardee High School Junior ROTC program, spoke to the Hardee Rotary Club on Wednesday, June 13, at the Java Cafe. The program is affiliated with the U.S. Air Force. There are about 150 members in grades 9 to 12. There are three aspects: academic, which this coming year will feature the science of flight and communications; community service, with about 2,300 hours of service performed by the cadets; and education which teaches about books, life skills, leadership, and discipline. From left are Rotary President Olivia Minshew, Stephen McDaniel, and Sue Birge.

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

Letter To The Editor

What Happened After I Burned Mama's Biscuits

Dear Editor:
Roxie Bentley regrets leaving out this story as she related her life with her family when they lived on Frampton Hill in Pocatigo, S.C. She had an Uncle Neil Jeffrey who worked for Holsum Bakery in south Miami, Fla.

Uncle Neil had an older brother Carl who had never visited their sister Olive Jeffrey Bentley who resided in Pocatigo, S.C., and wanted to visit her and her family. So Uncle Neil told him since he was working, for Uncle Carl to take Uncle Neil's wife up to visit our family.

When Uncle Carl and his sister-in-law Aunt Thelma arrived, Mama cooked a delicious farm supper for everyone. She prepared a huge amount of buttermilk biscuits and left them in the oven for me

to "keep my eyes on" until she and Aunt Thelma went from our home to get something else for supper.

I got busy doing something else. All of a sudden "yours truly" smelled something burning..."Uh-o! What am I going to do?" I am going to have to make some more biscuits. I've never made biscuits, haven't learned how yet. I thought, "Boy, I'm really going to get a 'real tanning' where I don't want it."

I got out Mama's little Red Humphrey's Cookbook and found the recipe for making biscuits.

I went exactly by the directions, mixed everything just right, dusted my hands with flour the way I had seen Mama do, picked up a wad of dough, rolled it up in a ball just like I had seen Mama do.

It always came out perfectly the way she did it, but mine just rolled out in a "sticky mess." I tried and kept on trying. It just got (as children would say) "stickier."

Well, I knew I had to do something or I would not be able to sit for some time. So I just made my dough a little more "soupy" and poured it in the biscuit pan and baked it. It turned out beautifully.

From then on instead of having biscuits Mama did it "my way." We would just "break off" however much we wanted.

The biscuits may not have been the way they should have been, but my "fanny" was saved. Thanks to the Lord!

Roxie Bentley
Wauchula

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SHIPWRECKED
RESCUED BY JESUS

HARDEE LIVING

HARDEE EMPLOYMENT FILE



PHOTO BY JIM KELLY

Hardee County ranks next to last among Florida's 67 counties in adults ages 25 to 64 who have a high quality education degree or job credential, Pauline Brown told the Hardee Rotary Club on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the Java Cafe. In 2015 only 12.8 percent of Hardee residents had an associate's degree or higher. In 2011 the percentage was 13.1. Brown is program coordinator for Drug Free Hardee. She said the Hardee High School graduation rate is 72.8 percent, compared with a statewide average of 82 percent. In 2015 the percentage of Florida residents who had a high quality education degree was 39.9, compared with 37.9 in 2011, said Brown. The Local College Access Networks reports the average wages for workers by education/training level are \$21,277, less than high school; \$25,284 for high school diploma; \$31,751 for vocational certificate; \$53,347 for associate's degree; \$48,402 for bachelor's degree; and \$83,801 for master's degree or higher. Brown added that 46.9 percent of Florida adults have either a two-year degree or higher or a workforce-relevant certificate. From left are Katrina Blandin, Brown, club president Olivia Minshew, and new Rotary member Nickie Eason.

Solunar Forecast

<p>6/28/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:34 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 52 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 8:55 PM Set: 6:55 AM Overhead: 1:32 AM Underfoot: 1:56 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 100% FULL MOON</p> <p>Major Times 1:32 AM - 3:32 AM 1:56 PM - 3:56 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 6:55 AM - 7:55 AM 8:55 PM - 9:55 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Best</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>	<p>6/30/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:34 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 52 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 10:23 PM Set: 8:35 AM Overhead: 3:08 AM Underfoot: 3:31 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 95% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 3:08 AM - 5:08 AM 3:31 PM - 5:31 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 8:35 AM - 9:35 AM 10:23 PM - 11:23 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Better</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>	<p>7/2/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:35 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 51 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 11:40 PM Set: 10:19 AM Overhead: 4:40 AM Underfoot: 5:03 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 83% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 4:40 AM - 6:40 AM 5:03 PM - 7:03 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 10:19 AM - 11:19 AM 11:40 PM - 12:40 AM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>	<p>7/4/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:36 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 50 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 12:15 AM Set: 12:05 PM Overhead: 6:09 AM Underfoot: 6:31 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 67% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 6:09 AM - 8:09 AM 6:31 PM - 8:31 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 12:15 AM - 1:15 AM 12:05 PM - 1:05 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>
<p>6/29/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:34 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 52 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 9:41 PM Set: 7:44 AM Overhead: 2:20 AM Underfoot: 2:44 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 98% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 2:20 AM - 4:20 AM 2:44 PM - 4:44 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 7:44 AM - 8:44 AM 9:41 PM - 10:41 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Better</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>	<p>7/1/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:35 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 51 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 11:03 PM Set: 9:27 AM Overhead: 3:55 AM Underfoot: 4:18 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 90% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 3:55 AM - 5:55 AM 4:18 PM - 6:18 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 9:27 AM - 10:27 AM 11:03 PM - 12:03 AM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>	<p>7/3/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:36 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 50 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 11:12 AM Set: 11:12 AM Overhead: 5:25 AM Underfoot: 5:47 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 75% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 5:25 AM - 7:25 AM 5:47 PM - 7:47 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 11:12 AM - 12:12 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>	<p>7/5/2018 Sun Data Rise: 6:36 AM Set: 8:26 PM</p> <p>Day Length 13 hrs. 50 mins.</p> <p>Moon Data Rise: 12:50 AM Set: 12:59 PM Overhead: 6:53 AM Underfoot: 7:15 PM</p> <p>Moon Phase 57% Waning Gibbous</p> <p>Major Times 6:53 AM - 8:53 AM 7:15 PM - 9:15 PM</p> <p>Minor Times 12:50 AM - 1:50 AM 12:59 PM - 1:59 PM</p> <p>Prediction Hunting or Fishing Average</p> <p>Time Zone UTC: -4</p>

Provided courtesy of solunarforecast.com

2 NEW ROTARY MEMBERS



PHOTO BY JIM KELLY

On Wednesday, May 9, at the Java Cafe the Hardee Rotary Club welcomed new members Yolanda Esquivel and Kramer Royal. She is an independent insurance agent, selling for Lincoln Heritage and Columbian Life Insurance Company. Kramer recently graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in risk management and insurance. He is employed with Albritton Insurance Company and lives in Tallahassee. From left are Sue Birge, Yolanda Esquivel, Kramer Royal, Tanya Royal, and club president Olivia Minshew.

On This Day:

- In 1762 1st reported counterfeiting attempt (Boston)
- In 1770 Quakers open a school for blacks in Philadelphia
- In 1776 Final draft of Declaration of Independence submitted to Continental Congress
- In 1820 Tomato is proven to be non-poisonous by Colonel Robert Gibbon eating a tomato on steps of courthouse in Salem, New Jersey

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<p>NEW 2017 CHEVROLET SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H1293</p> <p>\$26,995</p>	<p>NEW 2018 CHEVROLET COLORADO EXT. CAB</p> <p>Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J1239</p> <p>\$24,995</p>	<p>NEW 2018 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL</p> <p>Stk.#J120</p> <p>\$21,995</p>
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<p>2013 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J1525A</p> <p>\$15,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 CREW CAB LT 4X4</p> <p>V8, Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J109A</p> <p>\$30,995</p>	<p>2016 ACURA MDX</p> <p>Leather, Loaded</p> <p>Stk.#J1429A</p> <p>\$29,995</p>
<p>2012 JEEP PATRIOT</p> <p>Auto, Air, PW/PL</p> <p>Stk.#J1047B</p> <p>\$12,995</p>	<p>2016 CHEVROLET SPARK</p> <p>Auto, Air</p> <p>Stk.#H195A</p> <p>\$10,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 DBL CAB 4X4</p> <p>V8, Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J1484A</p> <p>\$28,995</p>
<p>2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT CREW CAB</p> <p>V8, Auto, Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#J1281A</p> <p>\$28,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN LT</p> <p>Leather, 3rd Row Seat, Dual Air, PW/PL, Tilt/Cruise</p> <p>Stk.#H1044B</p> <p>\$38,995</p>	<p>2016 CHEVROLET SILVERADO LTZ 3500 CREW CAB</p> <p>DUALY Duramax Diesel, Allison Auto, Leather, Sunroof</p> <p>Stk.#J1538A</p> <p>\$48,995</p>

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Monday & Tuesday 6 am - 2 pm
Wednesday — Saturday 6 am - 8 pm
Sunday 7 am - 2 pm

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CHURCH SCHEDULE

Printed as a Public Service by
The Herald-Advocate
Deadline for changes or additions:
Thursday 5 p.m.

BOWLING GREEN

APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
310 Orange Street • 773-1017
Sunday Service10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Service7:00 p.m.

CHESTER GROVE MB CHURCH
708 W. Grape Street
Sunday Morn. Worship8:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study Night
Children & Youth4:30 p.m.
Adult Class6:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
3950 Aurora Avenue • 375-2864
Morning Worship10:30 a.m.
Youth Group - Sunday6:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF GOD
121 West Broward St. • 375-2231
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:30 p.m.
Wednesday7:30 p.m.

NEW LIFE POWER OUTREACH CHURCH
725 Palmetto Street
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night Empowerment
Class7:30 p.m.
Evening Worship
1st Sunday5:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Bowling Green
4531 Hwy. 17 N • 375-2253
SUNDAY:
Bible Study9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship10:45 a.m.
Children's Church10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Youth (7th-12th grade)6:00 p.m.
Adult Discipleship Train.6:30 p.m.
TeamKID (ages 4-3rd grade) 6:30 a.m.
BOLD (4th-6th grade)6:30 p.m.

FORT GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH
2875 Baptist Church Road
773-9013
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Supper6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study7:00 p.m.

FOX MEMORIAL HOLINESS CHURCH
140 E. Main Street • 836-273-7576
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Night Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service7:30 p.m.

GATEWAY CHURCH
(formerly Faith Assembly of God)
4937 Hwy. 17 N. • 375-4000
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Service7:00 p.m.

GREATER MACEDONIA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
607 Palmetto Street • 375-3226
Church School9:30 a.m.
Morning Service11:00 a.m.
Evening Service7:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study/Prayer7:00 p.m.
Communion-2nd Sun. Eve. 6:00 p.m.

HOLY CHILD SPANISH CATHOLIC MISSION
4315 Chester Avenue • 773-4089
Misa (Español) Sunday7:00 p.m.

HOUSE OF PRAISE JOHN 3:16
3920 Murray Road • 863-582-6716
Sunday10:30 a.m.
.....6:30 p.m.
Wednesday7:00 p.m.

IGLESIA DEL DIOS VIVO
105 Dixiana Street • 375-4191
Domingo De Predicacion .11:00 p.m.
Martes Estudio Biblico7:00 p.m.
Miercoles Estudior Juvenil.7:00 p.m.
Jueves De Predicacion7:00 p.m.

IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
210 E. Broward Street • 445-0290
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer6:00 p.m.

MT. PISGAH BAPTIST CHURCH
6210 Mt. Pisgah Rd. - 375-4409
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Disciples Training5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Time7:00 p.m.

NEW BEGINNINGS
4810 Sally Blvd. • 781-5887
Sense Sunday11:00 a.m.
"Making Sense of the Non-Sense"
Sunday Bread of Life3:15 p.m.
2nd Sunday Communion ..11:00 a.m.

BOWLING GREEN

NEW BEGINNINGS WORSHIP CENTER
230 E. Lemon St. • 375-3208
Sunday10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday7 p.m.
Friday7 p.m.
(Service with Fellowship to follow)

PRIMERA MISION BAUTISTA
3920 Murray Road • 375-2295
Domingos Escuela Dom.9:45 a.m.
Servicio de Adoracion11:00 a.m.
Servicio de Predicacion5:00 p.m.
Miercoles Servicio6:30 p.m.

REAL LIFE CHURCH
3365 US Hwy 17 • 375-4032
Morning Service10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Study/Learning 6:30 p.m.

ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH
513 W. Orange Street
Sunday Church School9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study6:30 p.m.

VICTORY PRAISE CENTER
128 E. Main Street
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Thursday Night Services,
Evening Worship7:00 p.m.
Kidz Club7:00 p.m.

ONA

IGLESIA PENTECOSTES VISION POR LAS ALMAS
149 Badger Loop • 448-2831
Martes: Oracion7:00 p.m.
Jueves: Enseñaza Biblica ..7:00 p.m.
Domingo: Servicio10:30 a.m.

LIMESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
4868 Keystone Ave. • Limestone
863-242-2855
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer6:00 p.m.

NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
202 Sidney Roberts Road
735-0123
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

ONA BAPTIST CHURCH
131 Bear Lane • 863-245-2371
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Thursday Prayer7:00 p.m.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
5076 Lily Church Rd. • 494-5622
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday
SHINE for Kids6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Time7:00 p.m.

WAUCHULA

APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY
640 Apostolic Road • 773-3052
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
English Service11:30 a.m.
General Worship Service1:30 p.m.
Tuesday Prayer7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service7:00 p.m.

BAYSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
HARDEE COUNTY CAMPUS
615 Rainey Blvd. • 941-755-8600
Mybayside.church
Sunday Services8:15 a.m.
.....10:00 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
Fusion (6th - 8th grade)
.....Doing all Sunday Services
Wednesday Epic (9th - 12th grade) ...
.....6:30 p.m.

CELEBRATION FELLOWSHIP
773-0427
Celebration Service10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Cell Groups
Adult Cell Group7:00 p.m.
Youth Cell Group7:00 p.m.
Children's Cell Group7:00 p.m.
Call for locations

CHARLIE CREEK FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
6885 State Rd. 64 East • 773-3447
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children's Ministry
.....5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Worship6:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
240 Will Duke Road
773-2249
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night Bible Class7:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
630 Hanchey Rd. • 773-3532
Sacrament Meeting9:00 a.m.
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Priesthood11:00 a.m.

ELEVATE COMMUNITY CHURCH
529 West Main Street
(Roberts Funeral Home Chapel)
Sunday Service11:00 a.m.
Weekly Life Groups

WAUCHULA

ENDTIME CROSSROAD MINISTRY
908 Martin Luther King Ave
773-0160
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Service11:30 a.m.
Evening Service7:30 p.m.
Wed. Bible St. & Yth. Gath 7:30 p.m.
Friday (Holy Ghost Night) 7:30 p.m.

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
114 N. 7th Avenue • 773-2105
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Supper6:15 p.m.
Wed. Youth Fellowship7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study7:00 p.m.

FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD
701 N. 7th Avenue • 773-3800
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship10:30 a.m.
Children's Church10:40 a.m.
Evening Service6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1570 W. Main Street • 773-4182
SUNDAY:
Bible Study for all ages9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Children's Chiors
(PK-Grade 4)5:30 p.m.
Mid-Week Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.
NEST Backyard
(PK-Grade 4)6:30 p.m.
Club 566:00 p.m.
Youth Group (Grades 7-12) 6:00 p.m.
Church Orchestra5:15 p.m.
Adult Choir6:30 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1121 W. Louisiana St. • 773-9243
SUNDAY:
Generations Café Open
.....9:00-10:20 a.m.
Kids World Check-In for
Nursery-5th Grade10:15 a.m.
Pre-K Blast10:30 a.m.
Kids World B.L.A.S.T.
(K-5th)10:30 a.m.
Worship Service10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Generations Café Opens
.....5:15-6:15 p.m.
Check-In begins for
Nursery-5th grade5:45 p.m.
Classes for children ages
PreK-12th grade6:30-7:30 p.m.
Adult Bible Studies6:00-7:30 p.m.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
511 W. Palmetto Street
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Service11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer7:00 p.m.

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1347 Martin Luther King Avenue
773-6556
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Morning Service11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship4:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer/Bible Study7:00 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
207 N. Seventh Avenue • 773-4267
Coffe and Fellowship9:15 a.m.
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Blended Sunday Worship.10:55 a.m.
Wednesday Night Dinner6:00 p.m.
Youth (0-18) & Adult Programming .
.....7:00 p.m.

FLORIDA'S FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
1397 South Florida Avenue
773-9386
www.flfirstag.org
Sun. Community Groups9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship10:30 a.m.
Family Night Wednesday7:00 p.m.
Ministry for all ages!

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE CHURCH
IGLESIA FUENTE DE VIDA
Bilingual Services / Servicios Bilingües
311 Goolsby St. • 832-9914
Sunday/Domingo10:30 a.m.
Wednesday/Miércoles7:30 p.m.

THE GOSPEL TABERNACLE
810 Tennessee St. • 781-2708
Sunday Morning Service ..10:00 a.m.
Sunday Night Service6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service7:00 p.m.

HIGHER GROUND INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY
1258 West Main Street
Sunday School Adult & Youth
.....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.11:00 a.m.
Wed. "Night in the Word" .7:00 p.m.
Wed. Extreme Kids7:00 p.m.
Thursday Prayer6:00 p.m.

IGLESIA ADVENTISTA DEL SEPTIMO DIA
1819 Dishong Road • 767-1010

IGLESIA CRISTIANA EL REMANENETE
318 W. Main Street
Martes - Oracion7:00 p.m.
Jueves - Clase Biblica7:00 p.m.
Viernes - Servicio7:30 p.m.
Domingo - Servicio11:00 a.m.

IGLESIA de DIOS ALFA Y OMEGA
1909 Stanfield Road
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Evening Service6:00 p.m.
Tuesday (Bible Study & Prayer
Night)7:30 p.m.
Friday Worship Service7:30 p.m.

WAUCHULA

IGLESIA HISPANA PRESENCIA DE DIOS
511 West Palmetto Street
Domingos6:00 p.m.
Miercoles7:00 p.m.

IGLESIA MINISTERIOS CRISTIANO DIOS ES AMOR
807 S. 8th Ave. • 773-4576
Domingos Escuela
Dominica10:00 a.m.
Servicio11:00 a.m.
Lunes Oracion6:00 p.m.
Miercoles Servicio7:00 p.m.

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
155 Altman Road • 767-1131
- ENGLISH
Sunday Service2:00 p.m.
- SPANISH
Sunday Service10:00 a.m.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD MINISTRIES
Womans Center • 131 N 7th Ave.
Friday Evening6:00 p.m.

LAKE DALE BAPTIST CHURCH
3102 Heard Bridge Rd. • 773-6622
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Service11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer7:00 p.m.

MINISTERIO INTERNACIONAL Cambriadores de Mundo
704 W. Main Street
Wednesday Service7:30 p.m.

MY NEW LIFE IN CHRIST CHURCH
117 West Palmetto St. • 773-2929
Sunday Service10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service7:00 p.m.
Children Ministries for all services

NEW BEGINNINGS
1002 S. Florida Avenue • 781-5887
Sense Saturday3:00 p.m.
"Making Sense of the Non-Sense"
The Bread of Life3:15 p.m.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
1999 State Rd. 64 East • 773-2101
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service.11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship Service ..6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Supper ..6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Activities
(All Ages)7:00 p.m.

NEW INSPIRATION CHURCH OF GOD BY FAITH
917 S. 6th Avenue • 863-657-2253
Sunday School9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship10:00 a.m.
Thursday Praise7:00 p.m.

NEW MT. ZION A.M.E. CHURCH
1615 Martin Luther King Jr Ave.
767-0023
Morn. Worship
(1st & 3r Sun.)8:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
2nd Sunday Youth Service 4:00 p.m.
Allen Christian Endeavor ..4:00 p.m.
Wed. & Fri. Bible Study7:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA WORSHIP CENTER
1652 Old Bradenton Road
Sunday10:30 a.m.
Wednesday6:30 p.m.

NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
912 N. 8th Avenue • 773-6947
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer7:00 p.m.

OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
4350 W. Main Street • 735-0321
www.ogbwauchula.org
Sunday Schedule:
Bible Study for All Ages9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Schedule:
M&M Kid's Klub6:00 p.m.
Youth Group6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
.....6:30 p.m.

PEACE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1643 Stenstrom Road - 773-2858
1st & 3rd Sun.
Worship/Communion9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sun.
Divine Worship9:00 a.m.
** Fellowship each Sunday after service

PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
149 Manley Road • 452-1281
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Worship Service11:00 a.m.
Wed. Evening Prayer7:00 p.m.

RIVERVIEW HEIGHTS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1321 SR 636 East - 773-3344
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer7:00 p.m.

WAUCHULA

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
408 Heard Bridge Road • 773-4089
Saturday Mass (English)5:00 p.m.
(Spanish)7:00 p.m.
Sunday (English)8:30 a.m.
(Spanish)11:30 a.m.
(Creole)1:30 p.m.
Catecismo9:45 a.m.
Daily Mass in English8:30 a.m.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
440 Carlton Street • 773-9068
Sabbath School9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting6:30 p.m.

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
505 South 10th Avenue • 773-4368
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer7:00 p.m.

TABERNACLE OF PRAISE & JOY
1507 MLK Avenue
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:30 a.m.
Evening Worship7:00 p.m.
Tues. Bible Stdy.
& Child Train7:00 p.m.
Friday Prayer Service7:00 p.m.

WAUCHULA CHURCH OF GOD
1543 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
773-0199
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:15 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Fam. Training ..7:30 p.m.
Thurs. Youth Bible Study7:00 p.m.
Friday Night Worship7:30 p.m.

WAUCHULA HILLS SPANISH CHURCH OF GOD
1000 Stansfield Rd.
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship7:30 p.m.
Tuesday Prayer7:30 p.m.
Thursday Worship7:30 p.m.
Saturday Worship7:30 p.m.

ZOLFO SPRINGS

CREWSVILLE BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
8251 Crewsville Road
Church 735-0871 • Pastor 385-7867
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer6:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ZOLFO
320 E. 4th Street • 735-1200
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Training Union5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer7:00 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Corner of 6th & Suwanee • 735-1544
Gospel Music10:30 a.m.
Worship Service11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study7:00 p.m.

GARDNER BAPTIST CHURCH
8660 US Highway 17 S
Zolfo Springs, FL 33890
Sunday Worship11:00 AM

LIFE CHANGING WORSHIP CENTER
3426 Oak Street • 863-832-9808
Sunday Worship2:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study6:30 p.m.

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH
2465 Oxendine Road • 832-7829
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Worship11:00 a.m.
Evening1:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible & Prayer Meet.7:00 p.m.

NEW BEGINNINGS
3704 U.S. Hwy. 17 S. • 781-5887
M-F Family Services8:00 a.m.
Sense Friday3:00 p.m.
"Making Sense of the Non-Sense"
Friday Bread of Life3:15 p.m.

NEW VISION WORSHIP CENTER
64 E. & School House Road
Church 735-8585 Childcare 735-8586
Morning Worship10:00 a.m.
Children's Church10:00 a.m.
Wed. Youth & F.T.H.7:00 p.m.

ZOLFO SPRINGS

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD FAITH TEMPLE
Oak Street
Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship7:00 p.m.
Tuesday Worship7:30 p.m.
Thursday Worship7:30 p.m.
Saturday Worship7:30 p.m.

PRIMERA MISION BAUTISTA HISPANA
518 8th Avenue East
Escuela Dominical10:00 a.m.
Servicio del Domingo11:00 a.m.
Servicio del Miércoles7:00 p.m.
Servicio del Miércoles7:30 p.m.

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Pioneer Park
2nd Sunday10:30 a.m.
Evening Service6:30 p.m.
5th Sunday6:00 p.m.

REALITY RANCH COWBOY FELLOWSHIP
2-1/2 Miles east on Hwy. 66
863-781-1578
Sunday Service11:00 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
3676 U.S. Hwy. 17 S. • 735-0636
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship11 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Service7:00 p.m.

SAN ALFONSO MISSION
3027 Schoolhouse Lane • 773-4089
Domingo, Misa en Espano 10:00 a.m.

SPANISH MISSION
735-8025
Escuela Dominica10:00 a.m.
Servicio11:00 a.m.
Pioneer Club6:30 p.m.
Servicio de la Noche7:00 p.m.
Miercoles Merienda6:00 p.m.
Servicio8:00 p.m.
Sabado Liga de Jovenes5:00 p.m.

Seeds of Hope
Guido Evangelistic Association
Metter, Ga.

Robert G. Ingersoll is recognized as one of the most influential agnostics who ever lived. One night in New York he was dramatically and forcefully giving a lecture that explained his doubts about judgment and hell. When the gifted lecturer finished his address, a man who was very drunk stumbled his way to the front of the auditorium and said in slobbering terms, "I sure hope you are right, Brother Bob. I sure hope you are right because I'm counting on that!"

Few today want to think of God as a Judge. It is much more pleasant to think of Him as a loving, caring, compassionate and gracious Father - which He certainly is - than as a stern judge who will "judge the world in righteousness." Many would apologize for considering their God in such terms, but this way of thinking is inconsistent with what God's Word teaches.

And there are many who want to fashion Him after their own likes and dislikes and endow Him the nature and character they would like Him to possess. They want to make Him consistent with their own wishful thinking so that they will be comfortable in their sins. Their god has the attributes of our God in that he is compassionate and loving but they refuse to accept the fact that His attributes also contain wrath and justice. This would mean that there would be no judgment and no punishment for sins. However, our God is a Holy God. But our God, Who "is love," will one day judge "the world with righteousness and the people with truth."

Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org

ANOTHER CHANCE



In America, you always have another chance. The Colonists who founded our nation shook free from the oppression of the Old World and created a new future. They made courageous changes and shattered old traditions. With ingenuity and invention, our nation grew. Today, social and economic problems can benefit from that same confidence in new possibilities. God can open our eyes to a new future, a future of hope. Celebrate Independence Day! Have confidence in the future and new possibilities. Attend your house of worship and renew your spirit.

Daily Devotional Reading

Zechariah 1:1-17	Zechariah 1:18-2:13	Zechariah 3:1-10	Zechariah 8:1-23	Zechariah 9:1-17	Zechariah 10:1-12	Zechariah 12:1-14
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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Peace River Growers
Wholesale Nursery

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

(863) 735-

Best Management Practices Show That Farmers Care

All farmers have a significant role in protecting our natural resources.

Science-based approaches are being taken around the state to ensure that there is adequate use of water and the impact of our agricultural practices is minimal, thus ensuring a cleaner environment for future generations.

Due to the size and location of farmland, operators are usually involved in natural resources



Grow With Us

By Jona Bosques
Hardee County Extension Director

- Properly calibrate fertilizer application spreaders.
- Apply fertilizer directly over root zone: for row crops, place fertilizer on top of beds; for pasture or field crops, fertilize the entire planted area.
- Avoid applying fertilizer near roadways or water bodies.
- Minimize overlapping fertilizer during application.

Pasture BMPs

- Do not overstock your land with more animals than it can handle; follow the recommendations and guidelines of the University of Florida's Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences
- Use high-intensity, short-

- duration grazing to rejuvenate poor pasture.
- Allow grass to reach six inches before grazing; remove animals when three inches remain.
- Mow regularly to encourage grass and discourage weeds.
- If available, fertilize pastures according to site-specific soil test recommendations or the IFAS guidelines.

Fencing BMPs

- Fence off or limit animal access to natural water bodies.
- If needed, pipe water from streams or lakes to a trough located away from the water body.
- Fence off animal access to areas that have periodic standing water.
- Use fences to divide pastures into temporary plots for rotational grazing.

Enroll In BMP Program

Your local BMP coordinator, Matt Warren of the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, can provide you with a free manual and other related information to guide you through the process and design a plan appropriate to your agricultural operation.

His office is at the Agri-Civic Center in Wauchula.

A periodic verification of your management decisions as well as the overall farm operation is critical in a responsible watershed stewardship approach. Remember, two sets of eyes are usually better than one.

For more information on this or any other agriculture topic, call UF/IFAS Extension Hardee County at 773-2164.

conservation efforts, but the average Floridian would not know, unless he had a close relationship with a farmer.

How Can I Help?

The first step is to implement sound science-based production practices. These are called "best management practices," which are tested methods designed to prevent or reduce harm to the environment. The recommended BMPs are cost-effective ways to minimize pollutants entering water bodies while also improving your land.

These practices can have many benefits, such as:

- Improving crop/animal health.
- Improving pasture health.
- Protecting land from soil erosion.
- Reducing irrigation frequency, fertilizer needs and herbicide costs.

Here are some common BMPs that many farmers and ranchers follow as part of their everyday science-based decision-making process:

Irrigation BMPs

- Wells used for irrigation should be constructed by a licensed driller.
- Schedule irrigation according to soil moisture and crop water needs.
- Adjust irrigation amounts to meet varying crop demands at different growth stages.
- Apply irrigation uniformly and accurately; do not overspray onto impermeable surfaces.

Fertilizer BMPs

- Test soil to determine exact fertilizer needs.

All Wagged Out

Moo, my son's dog, has become our dog by default. Recently we decided he needed to socialize with other dogs. Okay, actually we decided we needed a break one day a week.

We signed him up with one of those places that will take care of your dog for the day. Some people call it "Doggie Daycare." I prefer to call "sanity preservation."

Moo has had a ball with the other dogs. He plays hard all day and then collapses at home. Moo worn out means a more restful evening for us.

Last Friday Moo went off to play as usual. He came home "plumb tuckered out," as my Aunt Neta used to say. We noticed his tail was down, and he wasn't wagging it back and forth as usual. By bedtime we knew something more serious was up. He wouldn't lay down, wouldn't sit, wouldn't sleep. He kept wandering through the house.

I thought eventually he would settle down and sleep. My wife, with more empathy than me, stayed up to try to help him get comfortable. I

drifted off to sleep and woke up at 3:00 a.m., realizing Moo and Gina were still awake. He was hurting so bad he couldn't sleep. We gave him some aspirin and he finally settled down.

The next day, his tail still drooping, we took him to the

vet. I was tempted to grump and grouse about a dog who didn't know his limits. On the other hand, I thought about living a life where you are so happy you hurt yourself.

Then I wondered, "Have I ever been so happy with Jesus I had to go to the doctor? Has being happy with Jesus ever cost me \$70?"

Maybe Moo could teach me something.



Directions

By Clay Smith
Hardee County Native

vet, worried about what it could be. The vet did a careful examination, turned to us with a smile, and said, "I think he has strained his muscles in his tail and his back legs. Was he playing with other dogs yesterday?"

We said he was, and the vet replied, "We see this sometimes. A dog will be so excited to be with other dogs, he will wag his tail so much he strains

I was tempted to grump and grouse about a dog who didn't know his limits. On the other hand, I thought about living a life where you are so happy you hurt yourself.

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Maybe Moo could teach me something.

- The world's deepest underwater mailbox lies 10 meters deep below the surface of Susami Bay, Japan.

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www.TheHeraldAdvocate.com

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steve PINCKET for Judge
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Vote STEVE PINCKET on August 28
Paid political advertisement by the Committee to Elect Steve Pincket for Tenth Circuit Judge, Group 11. Approved by Steve Pincket.

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Free RCMA Gratis
Give Your Child A "HEAD START" by Applying Now!
Dele a su Niño(a) un buen comienzo
RCMA IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDCARE THIS SEASON 2018-2019 Early Head Start/Head Start Programs
RCMA ESTA ACEPTANDO APLICACIONES PARA CUIDO DE NIÑOS PARA LA TEMPORADA 2018-2019 en los programs Early Head Start/ Head Start

RCMA Bowling Green CDC
License #C10HA0513
404 Bertha Fulse St, Bowling Green
Tel: (863) 375-4881
Ask for - Pregunten por Gloria Hernandez/Beatrice Zamorano
Monday-Friday
Lunes-Viernes
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

RCMA Fred Dennis CDC
License #C10HA0012
320 N 9th Ave., Wauchula
Tel: (863) 767-0222
Ask for-Pregunten por Lucy Garcia/Angelica Chavez/ Michelle Maldonado
Monday-Friday
Lunes-Viernes
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

*Is your child age 6 weeks -5years old?
¿Tiene un niño de 6 semanas a 5 años?

*Does your child have a disability or special needs?
¿Tiene un niño(a) con un impedimento o necesidades especiales?

*Are you a High Risk Pregnant Mom?
¿Es usted una madre con un embarazo de alto riesgo?

Come sign your child up for Early Head Start/Head Start!
Vengan a inscribir su niño(a) para Early Head Start/Head Start!

Courthouse Report

COUNTY COURT

The following marriage licenses were issued recently in the Clerk of Courts Office:

LaToya Devon Young, 34, Bradenton, Michael T. Collins, 38, Bowling Green.

Carson Diane Griffin, 24, Wauchula, Dawson McCall Crawford, 24, Wauchula.

Daniel Paul Larson, 68, Winter Haven, and Sylvia Lee Parker, 69, Wauchula.

Caleb Andrew Chavis, 26, Wauchula, and Kerry Stevonna Mushrush, 26, Wauchula.

Tianna Josephine Love McLendon, 18, Fort Meade, and Taylor Nathaniel Thomas, 20, Wauchula.

The following civil actions and small claims were disposed of recently by the county judge:

LVNV Funding vs. James Bellew, voluntary dismissal.

DNF Associates vs. Jose DeLorea, voluntary dismissal.

Midland Funding vs. Adam Torres, default judgment for \$1,489.18.

Melissa Smith vs. Charlotte Dean, eviction.

Bill Staton vs. Troy Weiss, voluntary dismissal.

Portfolio Recovery Associates vs. Eloisa Trevino, voluntary dismissal.

Sherril Barnwell vs. Kristen Garza, voluntary dismissal.

Credit Acceptance Corp. vs. Stephanie Barnett, voluntary dismissal.

Midland Funding vs. Juan Gamez, garnishment for \$1,939.81.

Inorable Agenor vs. Jean Pierre, voluntary dismissal.

CIRCUIT COURT

The following civil actions were filed recently in the office of the Circuit Court:

David A. Sanders Sr. and Tracy Ann Sanders, divorce.

Saul Castillo Ochoa and Deborah Castillo, divorce.

Tammy Jackson vs. Wayne Lee King, child support administrative order.

Edith Leon-Perez, petition for name change.

Brandy Lynn Parker and Steven Parker, divorce.

Suntrust Bank vs. Ana Paredes and Alberto Perez, foreclosure.

Audelia Hernandez and Marcos Hernandez, divorce.

Benita Casimira Serrano

vs. David Cruz Jr., petition for enforcement of administrative support order.

Tracie A. King vs. Jayson Preston Hollis, petition for child support.

Rosalina Jaimes-Hernandez vs. Lauro Jose Ysasi, administrative support order.

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

Erica Cisneros vs. Shawn Murphy, injunction for protection.

Edith Garcia to Edith Ugalde DeGarcia, name change.

Heidi Lyn Daughtry Wilson and Michael P. Daughtry, divorce.

Claude Poirier vs. Frank Calderone, Alexander Calderone and Anthony C. Calderone, voluntary dismissal.

Stephanie Stanford and David Stanford Jr., divorce.

The following real estate transactions of \$10,000 or more were filed recently in the Clerk of Courts Office:

Melissa Woodhouse to Lucio Velasco Paz and Cynthia Hernandez, \$23,000.

Adventist Health System Sunbelt Inc. to Hardee County Industrial Development Authority, \$1.3 million.

Jimmy and Jackie Lee Dean to David C. and Daniell S. Newcomb, \$95,000.

Philamena Sease to Dewitt F. Vanarsdale, \$58,000.

Gaudencio Rodriguez Jr. to Luis Alfonso Hilario and Marisol Arzate Valencia, \$90,000.

Charles H. Cook to Charles H. Cook and Virginia K. Kersey, \$27,100.

Frank Edwin Stroud to Barry L. Fogle, \$42,000.

Terry Hayden and Harriet Nicely to Robert and Marilyn Meeker, \$75,500.

William B. and Elisabeth F. Wilkett to Christopher S. Solano, \$89,000.

Michael W. and Ellen W. Roberts to Mosaic Fertilizer, \$1,452,000.

Summer Calderone, Anthony C. Calderone and Claude Poirier to Cindy L. and Robert F. Dutton, \$100,000.

Reed's Auto Salvage to Gate Pros Inc., \$350,000.

Janie Evans to Martin and Paula Figueroa, \$60,000.

Crime Blotter

Sheriff's deputies and city police officers investigated the following incidents and made the following arrests during the past week. All suspects are presumed innocent of the charges against them.

COUNTY

June 24, Ann Louise Bull, 72, of 222 Riverside Dr., Wauchula, was arrested by Cpl. Jeremy Brandeberry on charges of drug delivery and smuggling contraband into a correctional facility.

June 24, a vehicle on the 2500 block of Hampton Road was burglarized.

June 24, a fight was reported in the 200 block of Maxwell Drive.

June 23, Lisa Nuccio, 28, of 499 Maxwell Dr., Wauchula, was arrested by Cpl. Chris Anderson and charged with battery.

June 23, criminal mischief was reported on the 2900 block of Schoolhouse Road and in the 1000 block of South Fifth Avenue.

June 23, a residence in the 200 block of State Road 64 East was burglarized.

June 23, animal cruelty was reported in the Lily County Line and Pine Level area.

June 22, a theft was reported in the 1300 block of Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue.

June 21, Crystal Vaughn Chambers, 40, of 1832 Petteway Dr., Wauchula, was taken into custody by Dep. Steve Ahrens on an out-of-county warrant.

June 21, a vehicle was reported stolen off the 100 block of Erler Road.

June 20, Meko Mewezette Wakely, 41, of 801 Pleasant Way, Bowling Green, was arrested on a public-aid fraud charge by Dep. Mitchell Johnson.

June 20, Daniela Martinez, 26, of 298 Griffin Road, Wauchula, was taken into custody by Dep. Brian LaFlam and charged with violation of an injunction for protection.

June 20, a break-in was reported at a residence on the 200 block of Griffin Road.

June 19, Angelica Valdez, 41, of 502 North Road,

Wauchula, was arrested by Sgt. Todd Souther on a non-support of children charge.

June 19, criminal mischief was reported on the 300 block of State Road 62.

June 18, Tabatha Prestridge, 24, of 315 Bell St., Wauchula, was arrested on a probation violation charge by Dep. Steve Ahrens.

June 18, Moises Duran, 22, of 826 Pleasant Way, Bowling Green, was arrested by Dep. Gary Albritton and charged with violation of probation.

June 18, criminal mischief was reported on the 300 block of Doc Coil Road.

WAUCHULA

June 24, dangerous shooting was reported in the 100 block of Illinois Avenue.

June 24, criminal mischief occurred in the 100 block of West Main Street.

June 23, Kayla Marie Ortega, 19, of 233 N.E. 23rd Pl., Cape Coral; Samantha Jo Flynn, 18, of 4111 S.E. 10th Ave., Cape Coral; and Camron Davonte Blissett, 19, of 11887 Corinne Lee Ct., Fort Myers, were arrested by Ofc. Kaleigh Anderson and each charged with possession of less than 20 grams of marijuana and possession of narcotics equipment. Blissett additionally was charged with possession of liquor by a person under 21.

June 22, a theft was reported on the 900 block of South Sixth Avenue.

June 22, animal cruelty was reported on the 200 block of North Eighth Avenue.

June 21, Jennifer Darena Maldonado, 37, of 139 Earlier St., Wauchula, was booked on charges of two counts uttering forged instruments and two counts grand theft by Det. Chris LeConte.

June 21, a theft was reported in the 200 block of North 10th Avenue.

June 20, a theft in the 400 block of Goolsby Street was reported.

June 19, a theft was reported in the 700 block of East Main Street.

June 19, a home on the 700 block of East Townsend Street was burglarized.

June 18, a break-in was reported at a residence on the 400 block of South First Avenue.

BOWLING GREEN

June 23, a home burglary was reported in the 500 block of Bertha Fulse Street.

June 22, a fight was reported on the 800 block of Pleasant Way.

June 21, a theft was reported in the 100 block of West Main Street.

June 20, a theft on the 800 block of Pleasant Way was reported.

June 19, a break-in was reported in the 4800 block of Epps Avenue.

Fair Housing Workshop

Hardee County is a fair housing advocate. A workshop to explain the Fair Housing Ordinance for all of the protected classes (familial status, national origin, race or color, disability, religion and gender) has been scheduled Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 10:00 am in the Hardee County Courthouse Annex, 412 W. Orange St, Rm. 202, Wauchula, FL. The public is invited to attend. Anyone with a disability, visually or hearing impaired or non-English speaking person needing special assistance at the meeting, should contact Lorie Ayers at 863-773-5014 at least five (5) days prior to the meeting and assistance will be provided.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
The Board of County Commissioners, Hardee County, hereinafter referred to as "County", is soliciting a request for proposals for the provision of actuarial valuation services at:

Purchasing Office
205 Hanchey Road
Wauchula, Florida 33873

until **Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 3:00pm local time**, at which time they will be opened by the County Purchasing Director or designee and read aloud. Any Proposals received after the time specified will not be accepted.

Important instructions and specifications regarding responses to this Request for Proposal (the "RFP") are available at 205 Hanchey Road, Wauchula, FL 33873 or by faxing request to (863)773-0322. The failure of a responding proposer (a "Proposer") to follow these instructions could result in Proposer disqualification from consideration for a contract to be awarded pursuant to this RFP.

PROPOSALS must be sealed and the outside of the envelope **MUST** be marked: **"RFQ - 2018 ACTUARIAL SERVICES."** Any envelope received after the time specified will be refused and will be returned unopened to the originator.

All prospective Proposers are cautioned not to contact any member of the Board of County Commissioners or County employees except for the Purchasing Director. All questions should be directed to Lorie Ayers, Purchasing Director, 205 Hanchey Road, Wauchula, FL 33873, Phone #863-773-5014, EMAIL lorie.ayers@hardeecounty.net.

Hardee County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bid(s) or any parts thereof, waive informalities and/or irregularities, and may postpone the award of the bid for a period of time which shall not extend beyond thirty (30) calendar days.

Russell A. Melendy, Chairman

6:28c

Notices

2018
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR HARDEE COUNTY COMMISSION AND APPOINTED BOARDS
Meetings to be held in County Commission Chambers, Room 102 Courthouse Annex, 412 W. Orange Street, Wauchula, Florida, unless otherwise noted

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular meetings first Thursday at 8:30 a.m. & third Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
MONTH OF July-05th at 8:30 a.m. and 19th at 6:00 p.m.
Planning Session - No Planning Session
Independence Day - 04th - County Offices Closed - Fireworks at Pioneer Park
09th & 10th (if needed) - Joint Meeting Planning & Zoning - 3:00 p.m.
16th -18th - Budget Workshops at 8:30 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY "INDEPENDENT BOARD"
MONTH OF July- No meeting scheduled.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL/INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTH.
Meets on second Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.
MONTH OF July-10th

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD - meets first Thursday night of each month at 6:00 p.m.
MONTH OF July- 12th

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD
Meets on the second Monday night of each month at 6:00 p.m. in Building Department Conference Room, 401 West Main Street
MONTH OF July-09th

COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Meets first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
MONTH OF July- 02nd

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
Friends of Library meets on first Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at Library in Annex II
MONTH OF July- 03rd

HOUSING AUTHORITY
Meets quarterly on the third Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at 701 LaPlava Drive, Wauchula
MONTH OF July - No meeting scheduled

HARDEE COUNTY INDIGENT HEALTH CARE BOARD
Usually meets third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.
MONTH OF July - 13th

This is a Disabled-Accessible facility. Any disabled person needing to make special arrangements should contact the County Commissioner's office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the public meeting.

This notice is published in compliance with Florida Statutes 286.0105. Interested parties may appear at the public meeting and be heard. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the members, with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

cl6:28nc

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

CASE NO. 252018DR000225

Flora Gaspar Alonso, Petitioner,

and

Arnoldo Ruiz Martinez, Respondent,

NOTICE OF ACTION

Petition to determine paternity

To: Arnoldo Ruiz Martinez, 224 Morales Rd., Wauchula FL 33873.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for paternity has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses if any to it on Flora Gaspar Alonso, whose address is 1594 Old Bradenton Rd., Wauchula, FL 33873 on or before July 31, 2018, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at Hardee Co. Clerk of Court P.O. Drawer 1749 Wauchula, FL 33873 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail 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 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 to the address 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.

Dated: June 8, 2018

Victoria L. Rogers, Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: J. Wingo Deputy Clerk 6:14-7:5p

Notice is hereby given that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has received Individual Surface Water Management Permit Application Number 766198 from Orange Street Remodel at 104 E Orange Street, Wauchula, FL 33873.

Application received: May 30, 2018

Proposed commercial activity: To demolish 614 sf of the existing building on site and construct 2,360 sf of a new addition to that same building. We are also proposing a new parking lot to service the added patrons. There is a proposed dry retention pond for the site, to treat all additional runoff created by this construction.

Project Name: Orange Street Remodel
Project Size: 0.38 Acres

Location:

BEG AT NE COR OF LOT 1 & RUN RUN W 100 FT TO BEG THEN S 123 FT W 47 FT N 123 FT E 47 FT TO BEG BLK 35 WAUCHULA ORS LOCATED IN SEC 4 34 25 266P27-29 201025007543-PET /7544-WILL/7545-DC(HLC) /7546-ORDER/7547-ORDER 201325004322-PET/4411/4412-AFF 201625007263/7264-AFF/7269-AFF

BEG AT NE COR OF LOT 1 & RUN RUN W 10 FT TO BEG THEN S 123 FT W 90 FT N 123 FT E 90 FT TO BEG BLK 35 WAUCHULA ORS LOCATED IN SEC 4 34 25 BP4P49 189P133 201025007543- PET/7544-WILL/7545-DC(HLC) /7546-ORDER/7547-ORDER PMR/12-2010/HLC/10000087CP 201325004322-PET/4411/4412-AFF 201625007263/7264-AFF/7269-AFF

The application is available for public inspection Monday through Friday at the Tampa Service Office, 7601 US Highway 301, Tampa, FL 33637-6759. Interested persons may inspect a copy of the application and submit written comments concerning the application. Comments must include the permit application number and be received within 14 days from the date of this notice. If you wish to be notified of intended agency action or an opportunity to request an administrative hearing regarding the application, you must send a written request referencing the permit application number to the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Regulation Performance Management Department, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604-6899 or submit your request through the District's website at www.watermatters.org. The District does not discriminate based on disability. Anyone requiring accommodation under the ADA should contact the Regulation Performance Management Department at (352) 796-7211 or 1 (800)423-1476. TDD only 1 (800)231-6103.

6:28c

Celebrity Extra

By Cindy Elavsky

Q: I'm still obsessed with "The Vampire Diaries" and watch it whenever I just want to chill at home. The actress who plays the mayor looks so familiar. Can you tell me where else I might have seen her?

—Hillary W., Fort Myers, Florida

A: Susan Walters portrayed Mayor Carol Lockwood on the cult-hit vampire drama. She came into the public eye in a big way when she starred as Priscilla Presley in the TV miniseries "Elvis and Me" back in 1988, and her acting resume has since filled with dozens of stints on major TV shows and in movies.

I spoke with her recently about her new Lifetime movie "Murdered at 17" (which premieres July 8 at 8/7c), and we had a lively conversation about many of the highs of her career so far. For instance, did you know she played Jerry Seinfeld's girlfriend in that infamous episode where he couldn't remember her name and knew only that it rhymed with a female body part (her name was Dolores, by the

way)?

With "The Vampire Diaries," Susan and her daughter would watch and text each other about it. "I totally loved watching the longing and the romance. I mean, I loved it. Even though I was there, I bought it all hook, line and sinker! So, obviously I was a little bummed when my character was killed off."



While working on "Murdered at 17," one of the things Susan most enjoyed was the comradery with the rest of the cast and crew. She also loves

that she gets to expand on the kinds of roles she plays as she gets older. "I will always love being an actor. But I think when I was younger, I was more worried about how I looked and a thousand other things. There is one good thing about getting older: You don't have the pressure of being that pretty girl anymore. Now I get to be the young, pretty girl's mom. And that's so much fun."

Q: I've been reading your coverage of the cancellation of "Lucifer." Please tell me you have good news for us Lucifer fans!

—Kellie D., via Twitter

A: I do, Kellie. Netflix has resurrected Fox's "Lucifer" from the bowels of cancellation hell! Season four will contain 10 brand-new episodes, and I couldn't be happier. After the

season three finale (spoiler alert) where Lucifer finally showed his true self to Chloe, I can't wait to see how she reacts. I'm thinking this might put a crimp in their burgeoning romance. As details emerge, I'll be sure to let y'all know.

READERS: For all you "Walking Dead" fans who are upset about Andrew Lincoln's reported departure after six episodes of the upcoming season nine, there is some good news. Jon Bernthal is set to return as Shane for one episode, and many are speculating it's related to Andrew's exit as Rick.

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

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Couch Theater DVD Previews

By Sam Struckhoff

DVDs reviewed here are available in stores the week of June 25.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

"Gemini" (R) — A lush and moody neo-noir crime thriller, "Gemini" stars Lola Kirke as Jill, the personal assistant to impetuous Hollywood starlet Heather (Zoe Kravitz). Troubled relationships and poor decision-making put Heather in the crosshairs of lovers, business partners and admirers alike — and it's Jill's job to sort it all out. But then Heather is found dead by Jill's borrowed gun, and a detective in charge of the case (John Cho) is following as she crisscrosses Los Angeles to solve the mystery and save her own neck, along the way exploring the blurred lines of employment and friendship, and the nature of masked ambitions.

moralistic tones and too-clever "chapter" plot devices.

"The Endless" (NR) — Two brothers who escaped the clutches of a cult wilderness society end up back at the compound 10 years later after receiving a cryptic video message from one of its members. Their investigation, driven by a need for closure and some account of the supernatural events surrounding the group's mission, uncovers strange and unexplainable phenomenon: middle-aged residents with no evidence of aging, multiple visible celestial bodies and an apparent portal in the sky, for starters. It's written, directed, styled and starring cult filmmakers Justin Benson and Aaron Moorhead, of the sci-horror "Spring," and the hype is absolutely warranted, with stirring visuals and impeccable pacing.

"Tyler Perry's Acrimony" (R)

— Can a woman who is misused at every turn find solace in a bitter and venomous revenge? Taraji P. Henson plays Melinda, one such woman. We watch as she details to a court-mandated therapist her relationship, then marriage and ultimately divorce from former husband Robert (Lyrq Bent), a gold-digging, two-timing inventor. After Robert is done spending Melinda's inheritance, the relationship falls apart, and she is left in the dust for the other woman (Crystle Stewart). Adding insult to injury, he suddenly becomes successful, and flush with cash and condescension. It's enough to drive a woman crazy. Henson is brilliantly sympathetic as a raving lunatic. She manages to keep the film above water for the most part, despite the overly

"In Darkness" (NR) — Natalie Dormer plays blind pianist Sofia, resident of an apartment building with beautiful and mysterious upstairs neighbor Veronique (Emily Ratajkowski). Veronique takes a tumble off her balcony, and a tight-lipped Sofia is questioned: Does the lack of sight heighten her other senses, and could she have been an aural witness to murder? Jan Bijvoet supports as Veronique's father, Milos Radic, a Serbian businessman and war criminal whose fate is entwined with Sofia's. Does the "darkness" of the title refer to Sofia's lack of sight, or the murkiness of her situation?

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Inside Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

Jared Leto won an Oscar for playing a transsexual in "The Dallas Buyer's Club" (2013) and scored big with "Suicide Squad," playing the Joker. The film raked in \$747 million at the box office. He next took on "Blade Runner 2049," which barely recouped its cost with a \$259 million gross. His most recent film was "The Outsider," which he also produced for Netflix, with Emile Hirsch. Warners currently is expanding his "Joker" character from "Suicide Squad" into a major film. You may remember that Heath Ledger won an Oscar, posthumously, for playing the Joker in "The Dark Knight" (2008).

Saoirse Ronan, who received Oscar nominations for "Atonement" (2007) at age 13, "Brooklyn" (2015) at 21 and last year, at 23, for "Lady Bird," next will take on the title role in "Mary Queen of Scots," with Margot Robbie (her last year's Oscar competition) and former "Doctor Who" David Tennant. It will open Dec. 7.

"Call Me by Your Name" Oscar nominee Timothee Chalamet is awaiting the release of Woody Allen's "A Rainy Day in New York," with Selena Gomez and Jude Law, and cur-

rently is filming the American/Australian co-production of "The King," with Lily-Rose Depp (daughter of Johnny Depp) and Robert Pattison. The film is an adaptation of the Shakespearean plays "Henry IV" and "Henry V." It will be interesting to see if that will translate for modern filmgoers. Brad Pitt is one of the producers.

Oscar winner Reese Witherspoon will revisit being "Legally Blonde" for the third time. The original 2001 film earned \$141 million, while the sequel netted \$124 million. In addition, a musical based on the film is still touring the U.S., proving its popularity. No cast or release date has been announced for "Legally Blonde 3."



J u l i a Roberts presented two-time Oscar winner George Clooney with the American

Film Award in a June 7 ceremony, which aired June 8 on TNT. If you missed it, it will re-air in September on TCM.

"The Addams Family" will never die. First it was a TV series with John Aston and Carolyn Jones (1962-1964), then several films with Raul Julia and Angelica Huston, as Gomez and Morticia, in 1991 (cost \$30 million/gross \$191 million) and 1993 (\$47 million cost, \$49 million U.S. gross). This time out it will be an animated film with the voices of Oscar Isaac (as Gomez), Charlize Theron (as Morticia), Bette Midler (as Grandmama), Chloe Grace Moretz (as Wednesday), Nick Kroll (as Uncle Fester) and Oscar winner Allison Janney as their arch-enemy Margaux Needler. It's set for an October 2019 premiere. No mention of Thing or Cousin Itt. It just wouldn't be the same without Itt or ... uhh, them!

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Top 10 Movies

1. Incredibles 2 (PG) animated
2. Ocean's 8 (PG-13) Sandra Bullock, Cate Blanchett
3. Tag (R) Jeremy Renner, Ed Helms
4. Solo: A Star Wars Story (PG-13) Alden Ehrenreich, Woody Harrelson
5. Deadpool 2 (R) Josh Brolin, Ryan Reynolds
6. Superfly (R) Trevor Jackson, Jason Mitchell
7. Hereditary (R) Toni Collette, Milly Shapiro
8. Avengers: Infinity War (PG-13) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Hemsworth
9. Adrift (PG-13) Shailene Woodley, Sam Claflin
10. Book Club (PG-13) Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda

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Crop Update

June 25 2018

Citrus: The citrus region continued to receive spotty, mostly convective thunderstorm activity. In the northern area, Orlando West (Orange County) had the most rainfall for the week at 5.09 inches. In the southern area, the most rainfall recorded was in Muse (Glades County) at 2.12 inches for the week. Most stations in the Indian River district and the central and western citrus growing areas received less than an inch of rainfall for the week. Warm weather over the complete citrus region produced highs on most days in the low to mid 90s. The warmest maximum temperatures were in Avon Park (Polk County) and Clermont (Lake County) at 97°F. According to the June 21, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus region was drought free.

Irrigation continued to run daily across the citrus region. Owners continued with robust grove maintenance schedules. Most were busy spraying, fertilizing, herbiciding and mowing. Field workers were reporting good fruit sets and good sizes. Owners have a positive outlook for the new season's crop.

Salute To Summer

July 9 - 13

25% Off NEW Subscriptions to the The Herald-Advocate

6:21-7:58dh

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6:28c



Political Deadline for July 5 Issue

Friday • June 29 • 2 pm



6:14-28nc