

# The Clewiston News

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2011

VOL. 85 - NUMBER 112 - 50¢

RESIDENT HONORED BY PEOPLE WHO CARE, INC.

PAGE 12.

MOTHER AND SON CHARGED WITH ASSAULT

PAGE 19.

## Chamber Citizen of Year and Business of the Year



PHOTO / AMY MCKOWN

At the annual Clewiston Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night, Karl Larson (left) and brothers Haitham and Ayman Kaki from K & M Drugs were given special recognition. Larson was awarded the City of Clewiston Outstanding Community Service Award. The Kakis were presented with the Chamber's Business of the Year. Also awarded was the Chamber's Lifetime Membership Award to Mali Gardner.

## Man Sentenced in Four-Year Old Murder Case

Pled no contest, family feels no justice done

BY JUAN LOPEZ  
jlopez@newszap.com

Shortly after the fourth anniversary of the incident, a sentence was finally given in the murder of Jorge Rico.

Four years ago, on Sept. 5, a fight had broken reportedly broken out between two families at Everglades

Mobile Home Park. This argument led to shots being fired and two brothers being sent to the hospital. Soon one brother, Jorge Rico, would be pronounced dead from a gunshot wound to the chest. The other, Juan Carlos Rico, would survive and be flown to Lee Memorial Hospital for a gunshot to the abdomen.

Clewiston Police Department did contact the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, which sent three special agents to investigate the case. Soon after their arrival, the murder weapon was found and a suspect named -- 51-year-old Guadalupe Gonzales. An officer who knew Gonzales at the time of the incident told the special agents that Gonzales had confessed to the crime and led him to the murder weapon.

As more witness statements were taken, the incident became clear that a fight had broken out between two men, a crowd gathered leading to other fights starting and Gonzales pulling out a gun and shooting the Rico brothers. One witness even stated that he saw Gonzalez holding and shooting the gun. The report states that Gonzales agreed to give his statement without a lawyer being present. He told investigators that after he left work, he went to the mobile home park to visit family. During the visit, a fight began between his nephew and another man. He confessed that he did arm himself with a gun before the fight occurred. He further confessed that he took the gun from his pants' pocket

SEE CASE • 19

## Tigers Secure First Season Win

BY JUSTIN DIAZ  
The Clewiston Connect

Before last Friday, we all hoped that Kelvin Taylor wouldn't be a problem and that Clewiston High would walk away with its first W and a fresh start to the season. Well, Christmas may have come early this year.

There's not much of an argument that you could present to disqualify last week's game as a "must-win." With back-to-back season opening losses, some fairweather fans had already begun throwing up their hurricane shutters and stuffing their closets with canned chili in preparation for what they expected to be a long season.

However, on the other end of the spectrum, team morale never seemed affected by the slow start.

"The one thing about this football team, is the morale in the locker room hasn't really changed. I think these kids understand where we're coming from and what we're trying to teach; so they believed all along. Even [after] the first two games, they believed that we can go out there and win a foot-

ball game," said Coach Joe Roth.

"But you know, early on in the first two games, we tried to mix things up and we tried to give some kids an opportunity to, in the long run, make us a better football team. We made the changes that we thought were necessary to get back to doing the things that we were able to do Friday night."

Without a doubt, one of those changes focused on the play of the offensive line. After averaging just over 2 yards per carry in their first two games, the Tigers' offense made the jump to nearly 6 yards per carry in week 3.

"That's the one part that has been a little disappointing the first three games, including the preseason game, but there was not much to be disappointed about Friday night. They got off the ball, they got the job done, and they set the tone for our football team."

On the other hand, the offensive improvements didn't stop there. The Tigers finished last week with a 50-percent pass completion percentage with 12.7 yards per reception.



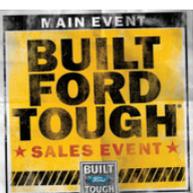
PHOTO / JOSE ZARAGOZA

Coach Barnes and one of the players during the Tigers' game against the Gators in Belle Glade last Friday.

SEE WIN • 10



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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

### Gospel Conference

Apostle Christine Sherman will visit from Wednesday, Sept. 28 to Thursday, Sept. 30 during the Illuminating Truth Conference 2011.

The conference will take place at Gospel Light House Church on 916 Georgia Ave in Harlem. Services begin at 7:30 p.m.

### Sheriff's Citizens Academy to Be Held In Harlem

The Hendry County Sheriff's Office will be offering a Sheriff's Citizens Academy in Harlem beginning Sept. 29, through Dec. 15, at 10 a.m. at the Harlem Civic Center.

The Sheriff's Citizens Academy is for anyone over the age of 18 and it's free. All participants must have a background free of felony and violent misdemeanor convictions.

Classes are scheduled on Thursday mornings for 10 weeks. You may pick up at application at either the Harlem Recreation Office or the Hendry County Sheriff's Office in Clewiston.

If you have questions or want to learn more about the Citizens Academy, please contact Lt. Susan Harrelle at 863-674-5604 or e-mail at sharrelle@hendrysheriff.org.

### Hendry and Glades Democrats

Glades County Democratic Chair Ellen Hawk Geake and Hendry County Democratic Chair Joe Thomas announce their county Democratic Executive Committees will hold a two-county meeting on Thursday, Sept. 29, at 6:30 p.m., to plan how Democrats from the Upper Caloosahatchee Valley can better coordinate joint efforts for the 2012 Elections.

Dave Dew, Chairman of the Small County Coalition of the Florida Democratic Party, and Dee Smith, wife of Florida Democratic Party Chairman Rod Smith and a tireless FDP leader in her own right, are expected to attend.

The meeting will be held in Glades County between Clewiston and LaBelle on the last Thursday in September and is open to interested voters. For directions, contact Joe Thomas in LaBelle at 863-612-0413, or Carol Griggs in Clewiston at 863-228-4210.

### Clewiston Community Christmas Choir

Singers, choir members, and instrumentalists are wanted for a community Christmas cantata scheduled for Dec. 10 and 11 (location still

to be determined).

The Clewiston Ministerial Association is working with the Clewiston Chamber of Commerce to form a community Christmas choir for performances of a Christmas cantata as part of a kick-off of a week of special Christmas activities in Clewiston.

First Baptist Church of Clewiston has agreed to be the host site for rehearsals, which will begin Wednesdays from 8 to 8:30 p.m. starting Sept. 21, or every other Saturday from 9 to 10 a.m. starting Oct. 1.

Participants can choose either or both. Music will be available at rehearsal, or individuals can purchase their own. Rehearsal CD's will also be available.

All church choir members and other singers in the community are invited to join the choir. For information, call 863-983-5555.

### Junior Golf Clinic

A Clewiston Junior Golf Clinic will be held this Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. You do not need to be a member or even have clubs. The clinic is for youth ages 6 to 18.

For more information, contact the golf course at 863-983-1448.

### Lupus Awareness

There will be a Lupus Walk on Sept. 24 in Miami at the Jungle Island.

If you're interested in volunteering to raise money and awareness for Lupus, please contact Kenia Villatoro via e-mail at kenia.villatoro@yahoo.com.

### Volunteers Needed to Repair the Gabion Basket Wall

Nicholas Ponce spoke to local club about helping with the Eagle Project to repair the Gabion Basket Wall. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, Sept. 24, and/or Saturday, Oct. 1, please e-mail him at rponce4@embarqmail.com or call 863-983-2240.

The event will be held on both Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the park on Hoover Dike Road up by the Marina.

Please bring a hat, sunglasses, long work pants, sturdy shoes and a water bottle. If you have work gloves and pliers please bring them for your personal use.

Water will be provided, a light breakfast and lunch will also be served.

Donations of water or food from the community are also welcome.

## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Clewiston Middle School

Clewiston Middle School extends an invitation to all parents to come out and get connected. We welcome you and encourage you to get involved with us in your child's education.

In order to accommodate all families and touch bases with newcomers, we have scheduled each grade level on a different evening. Please join us in the media center at 5:30 p.m.

-7th Grade Night - Thursday, Sept. 22, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

-8th Grade Night - Tuesday, Sept. 27, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

It is hoped that all parents and grandparents of middle school students will join CMS in making our new organization a success for your children.

They will work the concession stand at our first home game against Glades Day on Thursday, Sept. 29, at 4 p.m. With your help, this can be the best school year ever!

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Perez at 863-983-1530.

### Step Up For Students Scholarship

Step Up For Students (K-12th grade) Scholarship has re-opened their applications process. This is a wonderful opportunity for many families in this community to receive a scholarship to pay or help pay for private school.

It is an initiative of the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program. The innovative program provides K-12 education scholarships for qualifying low-income students who are entering kindergarten or first grade or who attended public school the previous year.

The scholarships give low-income parents the opportunity to choose the K-12 school that best meets their children's needs. The scholarships cover up to a projected \$4,011 for private school tuition and books or up to \$500 in transportation costs to an out-of-district public school, the supply is limited and will be awarded in the order by which we receive completed applications.

For more information, please, visit and apply at [www.stepupforstudents.org](http://www.stepupforstudents.org) or call Tracy Co, M.Ed, principal of International Christian Academy of LaBelle at 863-675-ICA-7 ext. 4227.

### Central Elementary

Make sure to mark your calendars for the annual Chili Bingo Family Fun Night on Thursday, Oct. 13, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. There will be lots of chili, hot dogs, cookies, and prizes for the bingo games.

Parents, look for a form that is coming home. You can volunteer to help that night or donate prizes/money also.

This annual event is always a fun time for the whole family.

Central Elementary will be holding an Ice Cream Social on Sept. 22 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

## Summary of the First FFA Meeting

On Tuesday September 13 the Clewiston High School FFA Chapter held its first chapter meeting. This meeting was held in the Ag room at CHS and had an astounding attendance of 70 members and 3 guests. Being the first meeting everyone tried doing their best in order to capture the attention of all the new members. This meeting was held to show all the members what to expect during the school year. This was the first of many meetings which will be held the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

As one of our guest, we were blessed to have a State Officer our Area 6 Vice President, Mr. James Sharpe from Okeechobee. Mr. Sharpe was there throughout the day talking to all the classes about agriculture in Florida and career opportunities. In this meeting we covered topics such as our cane report and cattle report. We also presented the idea of our Hurricane Kit to the members. The Chairman of this event is

Secretary Taylor Corbin. This drive was created to help families in a time of need, it consist of bringing in items such as Vienna sausages, hand sanitizers, and first aid kits, duct tape, mini flash lights, batteries to match flashlights, and Ritz crackers. The items will be placed in a kit and given to churches to distribute. If anyone would like to donate items or know more information about this please contact the Clewiston FFA Chapter at 863-983-7571.

The National FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The Clewiston FFA chapter is proud to celebrate one of our largest membership years in history, with over 90 members. We are excited to be the largest youth organization on CHS campus.

Published by

# Clewiston News

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The Clewiston News welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, stories, ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863)983-9148 to reach our newsroom. Items may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed. The deadline for all news items is 12 p.m. Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.  
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Editorial:  
Editor: Jose Zaragoza  
Copy Editor: Juan Antonio Lopez  
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#### Advertising:

email: [southlakeads@newszap.com](mailto:southlakeads@newszap.com)  
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# SFWMD Adopts 2012 Budget That Reflects Core Mission Focus

70 percent of \$576.1 million budget invested in Everglades restoration and flood control

BY RANDY SMITH  
SFWMD

At a public hearing tonight, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board adopted a \$576.1 million budget for Fiscal Year 2012 (Oct. 1, 2011 – Sept. 30, 2012). The annual budget funds the agency's core flood control and water supply missions as well as its continued progress to restore the South Florida ecosystem, which includes America's Everglades.

"The District successfully built a fiscally sound budget focused on core responsibilities to protect the quality of life for 7.7 million South Floridians and benefit a unique environment," said SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Joe Collins. "This austere budget lowers taxes for South Florida property owners while allowing the District to move forward with important projects that will restore and improve the South Florida ecosystem, including Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades."

The approved \$576.1 million budget contains a significant investment in the environment, including \$26 million appropriated by the Florida Legislature to help keep Everglades restoration progress on track. A full 70 percent of the FY2012 budget is dedicated to benefit restoration, protect South Florida's resources and enhance flood control operations.

#### Key highlights of the budget include:

- \$50 million for refurbishment of the regional flood control network of 2,600 miles of canals and levees.

- \$10.3 million to complete construction of stormwater treatment areas to further improve the quality of water flowing into the Everglades.

Since 2006, the District has invested more than \$270 million to expand the state's 45,000-acre network of treatment wetlands south of Lake Okeechobee by an additional 13,500 acres.

- \$38 million to initiate pump construction that will deliver water to help restore the Loxahatchee River and enhance water supplies.

- \$14.3 million to provide water storage in the northern Everglades through public-private partnerships.

- \$3.7 million to complete construction of the \$35.8 million Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area that will clean water flowing into Lake Okeechobee.

- \$930,000 to substantially complete construction of the C-111 Spreader Canal and the first phase of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands project. The District has invested close to \$36.5 million to construct these restoration projects that will benefit Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and the Everglades.

- \$2 million to begin water quality treatment and storage projects in the Caloosahatchee watershed.

The District's annual budget is funded by a combination of ad valorem (property) taxes, and other sources such as federal, state and local revenue; licenses; permit fees; grants; agricultural taxes; investment income and bond proceeds. About 47 percent of the total FY2012 budget comes from property taxes.

The approved tax rates represent 43.6 cents per thousand dollars of value in 15 of the District's 16 counties (the Okeechobee Basin). For example, a home with a taxable value of \$100,000 (as-

essed value of \$150,000, less the \$50,000 homestead exemption) would see a total District tax bill of \$43.63.

For Collier County and mainland Monroe County (the Big Cypress Basin), the tax rates represent 34.2 cents per thousand dollars. A similar home in this region would see a tax bill of

\$34.18.

For the 19th consecutive year, the District has been recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) with its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award — the highest form of professional recognition in governmental budgeting.

## Walk around Lake Okeechobee (the 2011 Big "O" Hike)

BY PAUL CUMMINGS

It's never too early to plan for this event.

During Thanksgiving week of November 2011, the Florida Trail Association will celebrate its 20th annual Big "O" Hike, a 9-day, 110-mile walk around Lake Okeechobee.

This is South Florida's biggest (non-fundraising) walking event and participants come from many areas of the United States and Canada.

On opening day this year, Nov. 19, walkers will begin at the Pahokee Marina and head north on the Herbert Hoover Dike.

There will be some variations this year due to Corps of Engineer construction projects.

Nine days later the walkers will somehow return to the starting point.

#### The purpose of the walk is threefold:

- To draw attention to Lake Okeechobee and the communities around the lake

- To highlight the Lake Okeechobee section of the Florida National Scenic Trail

- To introduce people to walking as an enjoyable and healthful pastime.

The walkers support the local economies by spending thousands of dollars each year in campgrounds, restaurants, gas stations, and retail outlets.

This year the event is being sponsored by the members of the Loxahatchee Chapter of the Florida Trail Association.

Please spread the word about this upcoming event.

## Florida Gas Price Update

Average retail gasoline prices in Florida have fallen 5.4 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.52/g on Sunday. This compares with the national average that has fallen 4.2 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.61/g.

Including the change in gas prices in Florida during the past week, prices yesterday were 84.5 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 3.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has increased 2.4 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 88.0 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

"It took the end of summer for a drop in retail gasoline prices, but I'm sure motorists won't complain that we're finally seeing some drops in prices," said Patrick DeHaan, GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst. "We've seen wholesale prices continue to be somewhat volatile, but I believe as we enter October we'll see markets slowly quiet down with retail gasoline prices falling to \$3.35-\$3.55 on average by Thanksgiving, with the exception being typical hotspots on the West Coast," DeHaan adds.

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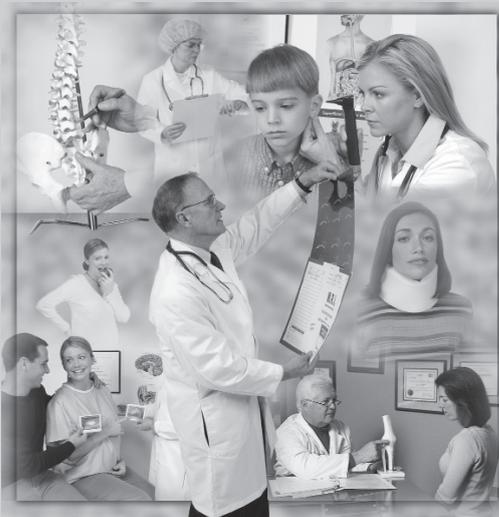
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# WEATHER

Weather forecast for Hendry, Glades, and Western Palm Beach counties collected from the National Weather Service.

## LAKE LEVEL

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above sea level



**Thursday:**  
Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 8am. Partly sunny, with a high near 89. East wind around 8 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.



**Friday Night:**  
A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 77. South wind between 6 and 8 mph.



**Sunday:**  
A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 89.



**Thursday Night:**  
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 78. Southeast wind between 7 and 9 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.



**Saturday:**  
A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 89. Calm wind becoming southeast between 4 and 7 mph.



**Sunday Night:**  
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 78. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.



**Friday:**  
A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 89. South wind between 7 and 10 mph.



**Saturday Night:**  
A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 77.



**Monday:**  
A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 90.



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# Tracking Your Spending

The third in a five-part series

BY DOTTIE COOK  
Empowerment Alliance of SW Florida

**Editor's Note - The Empowerment Alliance of SW Florida is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation and primarily covers Eastern Collier, Hendry, and Glades Counties with a main mission of building affordable housing for low income families. The organization also is a HUD-approved agency for counselling on credit, first time home buyers and foreclosure matters.**

In the previous article we went through the steps of building a budget. Next is the important step of tracking your spending during the month to see exactly where your income goes.

This can be done on paper, computer, or even some phone applications that help you track expenses. No matter what method you use, be sure to write down or record the date, amount you spent, and what you bought. This is made easier if you have columns on your paper or spreadsheet that you can enter the expenses under.

That way at the end of the month you can add up the numbers in each column and compare the amount you spent against your items in your budget to know how you are doing.

The purpose of tracking spending is to see where our money really goes. At the end of the month, see if you have any surprises in terms of what you spent.

For example, many of us don't realize how much we spend on eating out with friends or picking up fast food for our family. But even at \$6/day for lunch each work day, you would end up spending about \$120/month or \$1,440/year.

However, the purpose of a budget is not to cut out all non-essential items that you enjoy. If you do that, staying on your budget will be too hard and you'll stop trying.

Rather, leave money for some things you enjoy in your budget but do them in moderation based on what you can afford, or save them as special treats to reward yourself when you reach certain goals. In the example above, maybe you want to bring your lunch some days and save eating out with your friends for special days of the week.

The first month of using a budget you may find your spending is very different than what you budgeted. Use your spending record to review your budget and make adjustments to categories that were too high or low. But remember to look for other expenses to cut if you have to raise the budgeted amount for some.

This is also the time to think about your needs versus your wants. A need is something you must have like food, a safe place to live, and similar things.

On the other hand, wants are things that are nice to have but aren't absolutely necessary. These may include a newer car when your old one is still running fine. But if your budget is already tight, you will need to wait to buy these wants until you save enough money or until your income has increased.

As you consider new purchases, take time to stop and think about them. If they are items you want rather than need, think about whether you have the money to pay for them and what you will have to give up to purchase these items now.

The goal is to stop and think about your purchases rather than buying something impulsively or without considering all the costs.

As you go through the next month, track your spending again using your adjusted budget. Remember to stay focused on your goals. When it gets hard to stay on budget and not spend that extra money for something you really want but don't necessarily need, think back to your goals.

Think about why you're trying to save money and what that will allow you to do when you reach that goal. Maybe it's buying a new car or paying off a credit card. Think about how you'll feel when you accomplish that goal and let that help motivate you to stay on your budget.

Next week we'll continue our series and cover ways to save money.

The Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Immokalee but serving all of Southwest Florida.

The Empowerment Alliance is a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency. We provide free one-on-one budget, credit, homebuyer, and foreclosure prevention counseling that is funded through grants by Collier County, HUD, and private sources.

For more information, call us at 239-658-3315 or e-mail us at [easf@earthlink.net](mailto:easf@earthlink.net).

## OBITUARIES

### Charlotte Riser Pflum, 82

MELBOURNE — Charlotte Riser Pflum, age 82, of Melbourne, died Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011, at the home of her youngest daughter, Andrea Pflum, in Clewiston.

Charlotte was born Aug. 4, 1929, in Dixon, Ill. She married William F. Pflum on April 10, 1948, in Shelbyville, Ind. He preceded her in death in 1982.

She moved to Clewiston in February of 1974. Charlotte worked as a dispatcher for the Clewiston Police Department for many years and then at City Hall in the Utilities Department until her retirement in 1992. After her retirement, she was active as a Pink Lady Volunteer at Hendry General Hospital.

She moved to Melbourne in 1999 and attended CrossRoads Community Church, where she was active in Women of CrossRoads and Crafters. She also enjoyed her membership in the Red Hat Society.

She is survived by three daughters, Paula Balestra (Ray) of Indian Harbour Beach, Anita Bischel (Harold-deceased) of LaBelle, and Andrea D. Pflum of Clewiston; two sons, William Keith Pflum (Cynthia) and Eric S. Pflum (Mary), both of Clewiston; three grandsons, William J. Bischel (Nancy), Jason S. Bischel, and Christopher N. Balestra; and one great-grandson, Jacob W. Bischel; four sisters, Ruth Newcomb, Jean Swails, Jacqueline Bruner, Carol Osborne; and two brothers, Vern Riser and Donald Riser.

Her memorial service was held on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, at the Clewiston Church of God, with Pastor Kurt Owen and Rev. Cliff Gobble officiating.

*Obituaries should be submitted by sending e-mail to [obits@newszap.com](mailto:obits@newszap.com). Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com).*

### David Beck Thomas, 44

CLEWISTON — On Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011, David Beck Thomas, also known as "Doc", left this world to continue on in a better place at the age of 44. His life was full of adventure and excitement and he always put his family first.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Teddy and Wanda Faye Beck; and a sister, Julie.

Survivors include brothers, Charlie and Joey; sisters, Donna, Vicki, Carol and Jenny; children, Derek and Linda; and grandchildren, Serenity, Charisma, and Cherrish.

Visitation and services were held at Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home on Friday, Sept. 16, 2011. Interment followed at Ortona Cemetery.

Friends may send online condolences at [www.buxtonseawinds.com](http://www.buxtonseawinds.com).

Arrangements were under the care and direction of Matthew and Paul Buxton of Buxton-Seawinds Funeral Home, 3833 SE 18th Terrace, Okeechobee, Florida.



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[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)

**REAL LIFE CHURCH**

Clewiston, Florida

Sun 10:30am / Wed 7pm

[www.RealLifeClewiston.com](http://www.RealLifeClewiston.com)

Clewiston  
Christian School  
Lopez  
Sugarland Hwy  
McDonald's  
Caribbean Ave

# Inland Birdwatching Fun: Bald Eagle

BY MARGARET ENGLAND  
Hendry Glades Audubon

The plumage of immature Bald Eagles, three years old or younger is mostly brown speckled with white. Bald Eagles' main diet is fish, but they will eat carrion, birds and small animals.

Watch the sky for these powerful flyers soaring and gliding overhead. Eagles are being reported returning to their nests in inland Florida.

If you would like to participate in the Oct. 15 birding trip to STA5, e-mail Margaret England [sta5birding@embarqmail.com](mailto:sta5birding@embarqmail.com).

Include your name and contact information including an emergency cell number, the date you want to participate, and the number of people in your party.

You may also leave this information at 863-674-0695 or 863-517-0202. For a schedule of

STA5 trips through December 2012 and upcoming Hendry-Glades Audubon programs. Visit the HGAS website at: [www.hendrygladesaudubon.org](http://www.hendrygladesaudubon.org)

Please submit high resolution photos of common fall birds that can be featured in future articles.

Photographers will be given credit for their submission. Duck, wintering birds, Turkey, Vultures and Owls will be showcased in upcoming months.

**You are invited to share your birdwatching experiences and post suggestions for featured birdwatching sites on the Hendry-Glades Audubon or Clewiston News Facebook pages.**



Margaret England

The United States' national emblem, the Bald Eagle, was once threatened with extinction. Through re-introduction efforts, habitat management and protection under the Endangered Species Act they have made a remarkable recovery.

Some Eagles are year-round Florida residents, however many head north in the spring and return in the fall to nest.

Florida has the third largest breeding population of Bald Eagles following Alaska and Minnesota. It is estimated that there are more than 1,100 breeding pairs of Bald Eagles in Florida.

The adult Bald Eagle is a large raptor with brown plumage and an all white head. They have a long white slightly wedge-shaped tail. This magnificent bird is not actually bald.

"Bald" is derived from an older meaning of the word "piebald" which means "white-headed." Its large hooked beak and feet are bright yellow. The legs are featherless and toes are short with large powerful talons. Their average lifespan in the wild is about 20 years. Vocalization is a high-pitched whistling or piping sound.

Huge nests of branches and twigs are usually built in a tall pine tree near water, but oaks are sometime used.

Their nests are often lined with fresh moss, grasses and leaves. Eggs are incubated for 32 to 34 days with young fledging at 10 to 12 weeks.



PHOTO / KEN CORREGAN

Adult Bald Eagle.

### BUDGET SUMMARY

City of Clewiston - Fiscal Year 2011-2012

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON ARE **6.9% LESS** THAN LAST YEARS TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES

#### Millage per \$1,000

General Fund 6.221

	General Fund	CRA Fund	Grant Fund	Electric Fund	Water/Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Fund	Total Budget
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES:</b>							
Taxes:	Millage per \$1,000						
Ad Valorem Taxes	6.221						1,182,416
Sales and Use Taxes							1,394,613
Licenses and Permits					88,704		373,455
Intergovernmental Revenue		0	107,972		20,000		2,679,112
Charges for Services				12,231,748	3,595,745	1,040,675	18,047,472
Fines & Forfeitures				35,000			268,900
Miscellaneous Revenues			600	20,000	23,000	1,600	149,776
Non-Revenues				44,401			244,401
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>7,130,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>108,572</b>	<b>12,331,149</b>	<b>3,727,449</b>	<b>1,042,275</b>	<b>24,340,145</b>
Reserves	682,595	70,500	77,000	150,000	375,000	110,000	1,465,095
<b>TOTAL REVENUES and RESERVES</b>	<b>7,813,295</b>	<b>70,500</b>	<b>185,572</b>	<b>12,481,149</b>	<b>4,102,449</b>	<b>1,152,275</b>	<b>25,805,240</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>							
General Government	1,400,075	500					1,400,575
Public Safety	2,719,427						2,719,427
Physical Environment	1,672,165	70,000		12,481,149	4,102,449	1,152,275	19,478,038
Culture and Recreation	2,021,628		185,572				2,207,200
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>7,813,295</b>	<b>70,500</b>	<b>185,572</b>	<b>12,481,149</b>	<b>4,102,449</b>	<b>1,152,275</b>	<b>25,805,240</b>

The tentative, adopted, and / or final budgets are on file in the office of the above mentioned taxing authority as a public record.

## NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The City of Clewiston has tentatively adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

A public hearing to make a Final Decision on the budget AND TAXES will be held on:

September 26, 2011

at 5:30 pm

at

Commission Chambers

Clewiston City Hall

115 West Ventura Avenue

Clewiston, Florida 33440

# RELIGION COLUMNS

## Something Worth Pondering

BY PASTOR JOHN HICKS  
First United Methodist Church

Life is full of questions and oddities which most people don't take time to contemplate. But I'm not most people. There are some things that just start my inquiring mind wondering.



Pastor John Hicks

For instance, if you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done? When dog food tastes new and improved, who tested it? What if there were no hypothetical questions? Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?

And there's more. Why do they

put Braille on the drive through bank machines? If man evolved from apes why do we still have apes? What hair color do they put on the driver's license of a bald man? And inquiring minds want to know: Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways? If a man stands in the middle of the forest speaking and there is no woman around to hear him, is he still wrong? What was the best thing before sliced bread? But it's not just about questions. Throughout our lives we encounter statements which also invite further contemplation. For example: Silence is often misinterpreted but never misquoted. Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape. Growing old is inevitable. Growing up is optional. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.

From a faith perspective: You are the light of the world. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts. Atheism is a non-prophet organization. He who dies with the most toys is still dead. If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?

We all need to step back and regain perspective once in a while. Consider this statement from A.W. Tozer: "A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be filled; admits he is wrong so he cannot be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest; richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible; hears the inau-

divible; and knows that which passes knowledge." That's definitely something worth pondering!

## Silver and Gold

BY REV. SAM S. THOMAS, PH. D.+  
Saint Martin's Church

Being in hard times, people have their share of difficulties making ends meet. Churches are often called upon to help people who suddenly find themselves in dire straits.

Often they're sent from other agencies or service centers and advised to seek help through religious bodies in communities. I do what I can, and I am know that others do likewise.

Often I am at a loss where to send people to get help; my resources are too limited to meet many of the needs that are brought to our doorstep. Many times, when I've suggested something, it is evident that the person has already tried there without success.

There are no shortages of legitimate needs for housing, utilities, food, rent, payments among persons who suddenly find themselves out of work or burdened with unplanned-for expenses. The Biblical account found in Acts (chapter 3, verses 1ff) struck a chord as I re-read it one day. A beggar confronted Peter and John, crippled from birth and seeking money.

His handicap must have kept him from thinking about what he might do in spite of it, so he goes to where people congregate seeking some extra change. Peter told him, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, walk (verse 6)"; then he took the man by the hand and helped him up. There could be many interpretations of this moment; maybe it's possible that Peter and John helped the man to try something he had not tried before. The miracle might have been in causing the beggar to have faith in his own abilities; the power was within himself but he didn't know it. Many times that has been the message from those who try to spread the meager resources entrusted to them; money is very, very short but help may be in finding another way than the usual ones already tried.

What hasn't been tried before? Who else might be able to help? Where haven't you sought?



Rev. Sam S. Thomas

Can I ask on your behalf hoping that I might get through to someone who has said "no" in the past? Whatever the difficulty, the gift of showing life can be complete in spite of it is what can finally make all of the difference. Those who do well are not those with no problems; they've learned that God gives us the power within to go forward in spite of them.

I've found in the Biblical healing accounts that there is always something aside from saying "Here, you're fixed" and that may be more important than just the physical change.

Often there is a revelation about finding faith in the person healed, the recognition of more than what is first seen, that the person is made whole and not simply "healed." May we all work together, and especially in these times of great need, to bring wholeness even when our resources are very limited. I hope I do my part.

## Parents and Children

BY JACKIE MILLER, EVANGELIST  
First Christian Church

Parents are responsible to train their children. This is done in two ways: By teaching them right from wrong and by setting a proper example by always doing the right thing.

The latter is the most important because: "What you are speaks so loud that I can't hear a word you say." Parents need to teach their children "responsibility." Here's a list of things a parent should instruct their children as to what they can and cannot do.

1. I can share your life, but I cannot live it for you.

2. I can teach you things, but I cannot make

you learn.

3. I can give you directions, but I cannot always lead you.

4. I can allow you freedom, but I cannot account for it.

5. I can take you to church, but I cannot make you believe.

6. I can teach your right from wrong, but I cannot decide for you.

7. I can give you love, but I cannot force it upon you.

8. I can teach you to be a friend, but I cannot make you one.

9. I can teach you to share, but I cannot make you unselfish.

10. I can teach you respect, but I cannot force you to show honor.

11. I can tell you the facts of life, but I cannot build your reputation.

12. I can tell you about lofty goals, but I cannot achieve them for you.

13. I can teach you to obey, but I cannot answer for your actions.

14. I can warn you about sins, but I cannot make your morals.

15. I can love you as my child, but I cannot place you in God's family.

16. I can pray for you, but I cannot make you walk with God.

17. I can teach you about Jesus, but I cannot make him your Savior.

18. I can teach you about prayer, but I cannot make you pray.

19. I can tell you how to live, but I cannot give you Eternal Life.

I would advise every parent to sit down with their children and go over these 19 things.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

The Board of County Commissioners of Hendry County, Florida has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

### Last year's property tax levy:

A. Initially proposed tax levy . . . . . \$11,679,674

B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes . . . . . \$ 43,826

C. Actual property tax levy . . . . . \$11,635,848

This year's proposed tax levy . . . . . \$12,464,719

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on:

SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

5:30 P.M.

at

HENDRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
25 EAST HICKPOCHEE AVENUE  
LABELLE, FLORIDA

A FINAL DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.

## LOW COST VACCINATION CLINICS

**SHEWMAKER ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
1095 N. State Rd. 29 • LaBelle • 863-675-2441  
**WED & SAT FROM 8AM TO 10AM**

**IMMOKALEE ANIMAL CLINIC**  
1400 Roberts Ave, Immokalee • 239-657-2266  
**WED & SAT FROM 10:30AM TO NOON**

**CLEWISTON MOBILE UNIT CLINIC**  
at the Tractor Supply Store • Clewiston • 863-675-2441  
**WED 2PM TO 4PM**

**3 Year Rabies \$10 • Parvo/Distemper \$12**  
Free Spay and Neuter with full puppy and kitten shots

Disclaimer: The Patient and any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free discounted fee or reduced fee service, examination or treatment.

**September Special**

**\$23.50** For A Round of Golf

Includes lunch Call For Tee Times  
(\$28.30 weekends)

**SUGARCANE GOLF CLUB**  
Belle Glade

**561-996-6605**  
**2619 W. Canal St. North**  
**Good Thru September 30, 2011**



Submitted Photo

## Pep Rally

Clewiston High School had the first Pep-Rally of the year Friday, Sept. 16. Long time Tiger fan, Coach and voice of the Clewiston Tigers, Joe Whitehead gave an inspirational speech and got everyone fired up with his words of encouragement. A great time was had by the entire student body, faculty and staff when the Tiger Mascots and Cheerleaders, played games, danced and cheered the Varsity team on to their victory over the Glades Day Gators. Go Tigers!



Submitted Photo

## Working hard

Mrs. Crawford's class from Central Elementary is busy at work in the NCS lab

### Budget Summary

County of Hendry - Fiscal Year 2011/2012

General Fund 7.2894

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	DEBT SERVICE FUNDS	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS	ENTERPRISE FUND	PERMANENT FUND	INTERNAL SERVICE	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>								
Taxes: Millage Per \$1,000								
Ad Valorem Taxes 7.2894	12,464,719							\$12,464,719
Sales and Use Taxes	410,405	8,385,645		1,939,565				\$10,735,615
Charges for Services	774,100	2,160,350		70,000	1,315,000			\$4,319,450
Intergovernmental Revenue	5,533,882	8,133,089		25,000				\$13,691,971
Fines & Forfeitures								\$0
Miscellaneous Revenue	456,450	98,147		0	16,000			\$570,597
Licenses and Permits	271,000							\$271,000
Internal Service Charges								\$0
<b>TOTAL SOURCES</b>	<b>19,910,556</b>	<b>18,777,231</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,034,565</b>	<b>1,331,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$42,053,352</b>
Transfers In	3,386,419	0		0				\$3,386,419
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets	1,030,000	19,270,909		1,938,680	180,650			\$22,420,239
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS &amp; BALANCES</b>	<b>\$24,326,975</b>	<b>\$38,048,140</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,973,245</b>	<b>\$1,511,650</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$67,860,010</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
General Government	7,137,933	0						\$7,137,933
Public Safety	13,789,767	1,444,924						\$15,234,691
Physical Environment	2,034,027	6,380,930		517,878	988,370			\$9,921,205
Transportation		16,688,533						\$16,688,533
Human Services	575,161	647,592						\$1,222,753
Recreation Department		735,845						\$735,845
Debt Services	40,000				479,430			\$519,430
Court Related Expenditures		429,356						\$429,356
Internal Services								\$0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$23,576,888</b>	<b>\$26,327,180</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$517,878</b>	<b>\$1,467,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$51,889,746</b>
Transfers Out		1,231,648		2,154,771				\$3,386,419
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets	750,087	10,489,312		1,300,596	43,850			\$12,583,845
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES</b>								
<b>TRANSFERS, RESERVES &amp; BALANCES</b>	<b>\$24,326,975</b>	<b>\$38,048,140</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,973,245</b>	<b>\$1,511,650</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$67,860,010</b>

The tentative, adopted and/or final budgets are on file in the office of the above-referenced taxing authority as a public record.

# WIN

Continued • 1

Despite needing better play from the offense, the real scare before week three's kickoff fell on the shoulders - or better yet, the feet - of Glades Day running Kelvin Taylor; who, if you asked the opinion of a regular Glades Day attendee, is responsible for more than 85-percent of the Gators' offense. To everyone's surprise, Taylor watched the game pad-less from the sidelines with reports of sitting due to blood pressure issues.

"He's the majority of their offense. If they run 60 plays he probably touches the ball 35 times; but what people don't understand is we were in the same situation. Te'Angelo Ulett, whose our best defensive ball player, did not play; and we lost two guys early in the first quarter. Jean Sanchez, a tight-end/defensive-end got hurt in the second play of the game. Our starting middle linebacker Derry West sprained an ankle early in the game. So we were without three guys too.

"At one point, in the first half, we had four freshman playing defense. So, there's an affect on the football game [injuries]. What that effect is, we'll never know. Injuries are a part of the game. We don't game plan to stop him per say, we game

plan to stop plays, and whoever runs the football runs the football.

"I just hope for his sake as a young man, he gets healthy and he can go back there and do what he does 'cause he's fun to watch, but he's not fun to play against."

One of the difference makers for last week's game also may have been the play of the junior varsity athletes.

Winning their first two games convincingly by the end of the first half, junior varsity has been arguably the most impressive it has ever been in the last decade. Due to back-to-back bye weeks caused by cancellations from other teams, 7 players were brought up to varsity for last week's matchup.

"We brought up 7 guys. We've already had two freshmen, Joe Hernandez and Kyree Marshall that have been playing since the very first week. Jarvirus Bradford, who is a running back and a linebacker, he played defensive end and he ended up playing 20 or 25 snaps; and he did a good job, we needed him to do a good job because at one point we had both starting defensive ends out of the game and we're not very deep in that position. Especially with losing Darius Redd from the get-go."

The Tigers play Gateway Charter this week (September 23rd) at home; kicking off their 6 back-to-back district game schedule.

"When we exchanged video, they've got a new coach there, he said, 'Coach, don't worry



PHOTO / JOSE ZARAGOZA

Tiger fans cheering on the football players.

about what you see on offense because we're not running that anymore.' They had an open week last week and they completely changed their offense. They went from a spread attack to a wing-T attack so, we haven't seen anything on video.

"It's gonna be a tough football game mentally. The kids are on a high, but you know, we've got to put that win [behind us]. That's just another win, that's just another football game. We've got to start focusing on Gateway Charter. We'll prob-

ably have 3 or 4 guys that are out this week, that are not playing. We got pretty banged up last week. Again, we have an open JV week so we're gonna try to bring up even more kids, give them an opportunity and go from there."

**Editor's Note:** Justin Diaz is a Clewiston native who recently launched a sports web site: [theclewistonconnect.com](http://theclewistonconnect.com). You can find more sports coverage on that site.

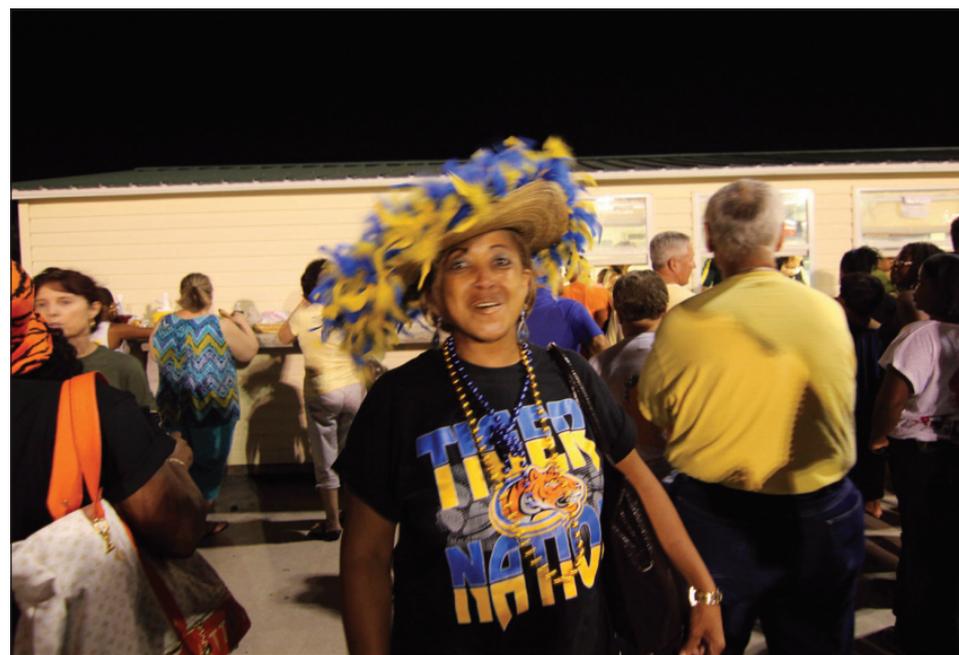


PHOTO / JOSE ZARAGOZA

Mrs. Lee showing off her Tiger pride.



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with the purchase of any Little Caesars Pizza  
One Crazy Bread per coupon-not valid with other discounts  
valid at our Clewiston location

880 West Sugarland Highway, CLEWISTON

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FREE VPK PROGRAM

4 YEAR OLDS 8AM - 11:30AM  
515 VALENCIA (ACROSS FROM THE CANE FIELD)

- \*BREAKFAST & LUNCH
- \*ABEKA CURRICULUM
- \*EXPERIENCED TEACHERS
- \*WE TEACH BEGINNING SPANISH & SIGN LANGUAGE



## ENROLL NOW!

CONTACT KARTRICE "MONIQUE" GREAVES  
863-599-0266 OR 863-983-7700

# GREENS THERAPY

## AT CLEWISTON GOLF COURSE

"AMERICA'S SWEETEST GOLF COURSE"

### Summer Special

## \$15 (all inclusive) for UNLIMITED play after 3 pm

### Open till 7 pm Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun

Golf after hours at our Lit Driving Range. Tokens available at Pro shop and City Hall.



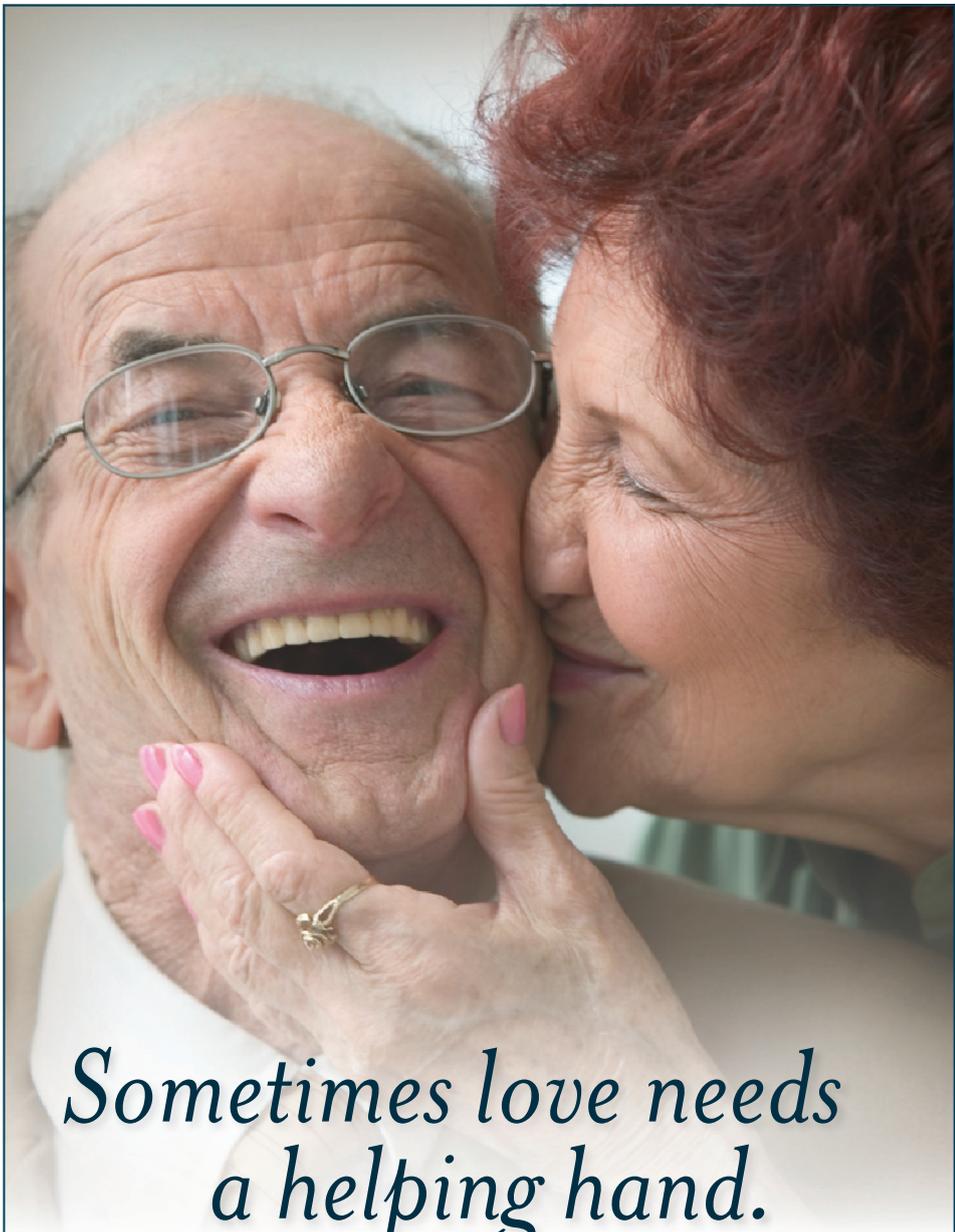
1201 SAN LUIZ AVE., CLEWISTON 863-983-1448



Submitted Photos

### Central Elementary fun

Above: Students take a break in the shade from the Florida heat during recess. Below: Mrs. Self, Central's office secretary, is always ready to help with a big smile.



*Sometimes love needs a helping hand.*

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# Longtime Harlem Resident to be Honored by People Who Care, Inc.

BY NAJI TOBIAS  
The Clewiston News

of good in my heart to be there for her and the community.”

Dr. Boyd said she could recall a time years ago when she was struggling to make ends meet. In the various moments of need, Dr. Boyd remembered when Mitchell would freely make himself available to tend to her family.

“As a single parent, I was going through some very difficult times in my life,” Dr. Boyd said. “I remember when I couldn’t afford to keep up with my house and car payments. I needed to keep my home so I could take care of myself and my children. There were many times that Mr. Mitchell would encourage me throughout the process.”

Mitchell, according to Dr. Boyd, would not only encourage her through words; he would also consistently keep up with her yard at no charge – an act of kindness that resonates with her to this day.

“Mr. Mitchell would always come to my home and just mow my lawn,” Dr. Boyd said. “He didn’t just do that for me; he did it for many other people around the community. He never charged money for it. That meant a lot to me at the time.”

Dr. Boyd later recalled a recent moment when she was mulling a move from Harlem to North Carolina. While she was sitting in her car one day after heading home from the local radio station, Dr. Boyd said she was wondering about whether or not she had made a positive impact on the Harlem and Clewiston communities.

“I was asking God, ‘Have I done anything to make a difference in the community?’” Dr. Boyd remembered. “Is my season up? What should I do next?”

Almost immediately after the moment of questioning herself via a higher authority, Mitchell came around to give Dr. Boyd a word of confir-

mation.

“Out of nowhere, Mr. Mitchell drove up and answered my question,” Dr. Boyd said. “He reminded me of all the things I have done in the community to touch peoples’ lives. Sometimes, you don’t know who’s watching you, so it was really encouraging for me to hear that from him. It was Mr. Mitchell who encouraged me to keep going when it looked like I couldn’t see myself getting through my tough moments.”

A Harlem resident since 1949, Mitchell said it does something to him internally – in a good way – when somebody can overcome an adverse moment in his/her life through his assistance in the process.

“I have been really blessed by God throughout my life; that’s no joke,” Mitchell said. “For some reason, everything that I did for her was from the will of God. There was never a misunderstanding between us.”

Mitchell, who has known Dr. Boyd since she grew up in Lake Harbor during the 1960s, said he got to see Dr. Boyd’s growth as a person over the years. A 1973 graduate from Glades Central High School and 1976 graduate of Florida Memorial College in Miami, Dr. Boyd founded People Who Care, Inc. in 1981.

Throughout the organization’s 30 years of existence, Dr. Boyd has carried People Who Care’s vision to the community-at-large through the availability of a variety of initiatives, such as the People Who Care House-to-House Prayer, Christian Achievement Motivation Program, First Class Males, the Women Informed for Everything School and a radio ministry via WSWN-Sugar 900 AM, to name just a few.

In addition to serving as the People Who Care organization’s founder/chairperson, Dr. Boyd,

who earned her Doctorate of Divinity degree in 1999, went on to become the senior pastor of Miracle Deliverance Center in Moore Haven for a total of 17 years – from 1988 until 2006.

Dr. Boyd, who moved to North Carolina last spring, has moved on to the national stage as she places much of her focus on Genevia Boyd Ministries. The fledgling church organization allows her to travel extensively in her efforts to spread the word of love to a wider base of individuals and groups nationwide.

“It has always been something special about Pastor Boyd and her ministry,” Mitchell said. “It did me all the good to see her go forward in the Lord. From the time she moved to Clewiston until now, everything has been beautiful. I love the way she carries herself and how she carries the word of God.”

Mitchell said he is looking forward to what he sees as a potentially wonderful experience at this weekend’s Sharathon in Orlando. According to [www.pwcclewiston.org](http://www.pwcclewiston.org) - the People Who Care, Inc. website – the Sharathon provides forgiveness and deliverance for people who are faced with abandonment, disappointment, fears, failures, insecurity, neglect, private pain and suffering.

Dr. Boyd said she sees Mitchell as an integral part of the movement ever since its inception. With that vision in mind, she said the coronation of Mitchell’s honorary inclusion signifies what People Who Care and the Sharathon is all about.

“To me, helping people is Mr. Mitchell’s ministry,” Dr. Boyd said. “He would never try to get the glory out of a situation in which he would help someone else. It comes natural for him and we appreciate him for that.”

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

The Hendry County Hospital Authority has tentatively adopted a measure to increase its property tax levy.

### Last year’s property tax levy:

- A. Initially proposed tax levy.....\$5,256,447  
 B. Less tax reductions due to Value Adjustment Board and other assessment changes.....\$ 18,637  
 C. Actual property tax levy.....\$5,237,810

**This year’s proposed tax levy.....\$6,729,412**

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase to be held on.

**September 26th  
 5:30 pm  
 at  
 Hendry Regional Medical Center  
 Conference Room  
 524 W. Sagamore Ave  
 Clewiston FL 33440**

A FINAL DECISION on the proposed tax increase and the budget will be made at this hearing.

### HENDRY COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BUDGET SUMMARY FISCAL YEAR 9/30/2012

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF HENDRY COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY ARE 7.6% MORE THAN LAST YEAR’S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES

**GENERAL FUND 3.261 mills  
 DEBT FUND 0.64 mills**

#### FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 BUDGETED INCOME STATEMENT

	GENERAL FUND 3.261	DEBT FUND 0.64	TOTAL ALL FUNDS 3.901 mills
Net Receipts from AD Valorem Taxes Millage per \$1,000	\$5,324,935	\$1,045,065	\$6,370,000
Total Hospital Gross Revenue	64,379,674		64,379,674
Medicare and Medicaid	17,894,564		17,894,564
Charity Care	3,564,350		3,564,350
All other deductions	12,208,249		12,208,249
Provision for Bad Debts	9,441,163		9,441,163
Less Total Deductions From revenue	43,108,327		43,108,327
Net Revenue From Patients	21,271,347		21,271,347
Other Operating Income	587,250		587,250
Net Income	27,183,532	1,045,065	28,228,597
EXPENSES			
Wages and Benefits	14,687,761		14,687,761
Supplies and rental exp	2,488,825		2,488,825
Professional Fees	1,721,600		1,721,600
Utilities	592,500		592,500
Repairs and Other Expenses	5,788,440		5,788,440
Depreciation	2,250,000		2,250,000
Debt Services	151,356	1,044,789	1,196,145
Operating Expenses	27,680,482	1,044,789	28,725,271
Gain of (Loss) from Operations	(496,950)	276	(496,674)
Non operating Income - Restricted	0		0
Reserve for future growth and new services	(\$496,950)	\$276	(\$496,674)

THE TENTATIVE ADOPTED, AND/OR, FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD

# Tips to Save Water and Energy at Home

BY STATEPOINT

More Americans than ever before are striving to be environmentally-friendly these days. Not only does conserving water and energy help reduce our imprint on the planet, it can also ease the burden on our wallets.

"Many Americans now are finding new and innovative ways to save on water and energy costs in their homes without sacrificing the type of lifestyle they're used to," says Tom Moskitis, Executive Director of the Council for Responsible Energy. "Little changes can go a long way."

## Wash Full Loads

When it comes to dishes and laundry, wait until you have a full load before running the appliance. And use cold water for laundry and air dry dishes when you can.

## Heat With Natural Gas

A gas water heater can heat water up to twice as fast as an electric one. And a natural gas water heater emits up to half the carbon emissions of an electric water heater.

## Go Tankless

For even more efficiency, install a tankless water heater, which heats water on demand. A natural gas tankless water heater, near the point of use,

eliminates energy loss caused by tank heaters that have unused water cooling in the tank. This can save hundreds of gallons of water over the course of a year. Plus, such tankless heaters last almost twice as long as tank water heaters.

## Take Low-Volume Showers

Replace your high-volume shower head with an aerated shower head, which uses a mix of water and air to produce a flow that feels strong but can save up to 60 percent of water compared to an average shower -- reducing both your water and energy use.

## Avoid the "Phantom Load"

Appliances such as your TV, DVD player, cell phone charger, computer and other gadgets consume energy just by being plugged in. Unplug them when not in use. If that's too cumbersome, plug them into a powerstrip that you can turn on and off with just one flick of a switch.

## Fix Leaks

From dripping faucets to drafty doors and windows, leaks can be a major source of energy and water waste.

Being a responsible homeowner or tenant and attending to those annoying home improvements can significantly reduce your monthly water and energy bills.



Johnathan M. Royal, DMD, T.A. Aliapoulis, DDS; Wade B. Harrouff, DDS; Salvatore V. Melita, DDS; Edward Spector, DDS.

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For more listings, go to  
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## Lost

Lost 5 mo. old Catahoula near Clewiston post office Sept. 18 approx. 4 p.m. Has black collar and leash on. Reward. (863)234-7639.

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909 Popash 3/2 \$300K				
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Central County Water Control is accepting applications for the following position:

**CLUBHOUSE SUPERVISOR**

This position is subject to the District's Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace program, and among other qualifications, must have high school diploma or equivalent, bi-lingual a plus, knowledge of sports, self motivated, some clerical skills and computer knowledge needed, ability to plan, organize and implement recreation programs, be able to pass CPR, First aid, and Lifeguard testing, able to become a certified pool operator, knowledge and skills needed to maintain interior and exterior of clubhouse, able to operate a variety of machinery, able to supervise and assist staff in day to day duties. Apply in person at 475 S. Cabbage Palm Street, Montura Ranch Estates, Clewiston, between the hours of 7am to 5pm Monday - Thursday.

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**NOTICE**

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

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

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**Fast!** - Dell Desktop, 3.2 ghz, 2 gb, 240 gb, DVD burner, XP/Vista/Win 7, 17" Flat screen, keyboard, mouse, speakers. Was \$299, now only \$150. Guaranteed! (863)517-2782

**Furniture**

**Tropical carved** End tables. Tropical print couch, loveseat, stuffed chair, 8 person wood table & new single bed w/frame. Make offer. (970) 708-9993.

**Rentals**

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Apartments**

**2 BR 1 BA** with central air, good location in Moore Haven. Ready to move in. \$575/mo + \$575 dep. Call Joe (305) 720-3322.

**Apartments**

**Apartment for rent**  
Belle Glade and South Bay. 2 BR 1 BA. \$450/mo. \$600 dep. (561)996-5420

**BELLE GLADE** - 1BR, 1BA on Cal-du-sac. Quiet neighborhood. Lots of yard. Very private. \$450 mo. (561)985-7570

**CLEWISTON** - Move in Special. 2 br/1 ba, \$650 mo + \$400 sec dep. Available Now!! Call (863)677-0977 or (863) 228-6664

**Condos/Townhouses Rent**

**TAYLOR CREEK** Condos: Avail. Immed. Fully furnished, Pool, Tennis & Boat Dock 1br/1ba + Utilities. \$625. Annual Lease. 215-359-7779

**Houses - Rent**

**Clewiston** - River home, 2BR 3BA, 2 car garage, Florida room, large corner lot. Walking distance to the golf course. \$900/mo. (970)708-9993.

**DUPLEX**  
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath. \$750.00 per month. Call: 863-599-0640.

**Port LaBelle:** 2 BR, 2.5 BA, 1 Car Garage in Country Village. \$650 mo. 404-697-4435

**Real Estate**

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Land - Sale**

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
**153 acre Valencia Citrus Grove.**

In Hendry County, Fla. This is an older producing grove in need of TLC. Some equipment goes with sale. Micro Jet system in good shape. (1) 12" deep well, (1) large Discharge pump, (1) pump for freeze protection. The grove is for sale in whole or half interest to the right party. Call or email owner at: [glades@vistanet.net](mailto:glades@vistanet.net) or 863-699-0659. Serious inquiries only.

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

**SHORT SALE!** 1.93 Acres for sale - 250 Taft Bld., Flaghole Rd. Just outside of Clewiston. 509 Ft. Frontage with all improvements. \$30,000 or reasonable offer. Call 561-985-7570

**Mobile Homes**

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Mobile Home Rent**

**Mobile Homes for Rent**  
Starting at \$450 monthly  
Clewiston and Montura  
863-983-3016

**MOORE HAVEN**  
**Furn/Unfurn** 3BR, 1.5 BA, fenced yard, screened porch, shed, \$575/mo

**3BR, 2BA** - fenced yard, screened porch, on acre, \$700/mo

**2BR, 2BA** - \$525/mo.  
**Lg 1BR APT** - \$500/mo.  
**Lg Eff. APT** - w/ util furn - \$165/week.  
(863)509-0096

Rent to Own  
**Mobile Home**  
East Alverdez \$550  
Monthly 863-983-8107

**Mobile Home Sale**

**14x65 Redman** 2BR, 2BA, 2 carports, Florida RM, laundry room w/ac, 10x16 shed w/ac. Includes washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator, complete kitchen. In Tropical Mobile Home Park. \$22,000 (863)902-1265.

**BANK REPO'S**  
**Starting at \$15,000**  
**Mobile Home Angels**  
561-721-2230

**Doublewide, 3br,**  
2bath located on Sealy Road in Moore Haven. Only \$49,900 Ready to move in with your good credit 863-673-4325

**Large 28x80,** 4br, 3 bath doublewide located in Horseshoe Acres \$49,900. Ready to move in. Home being remodeled right now. Must be credit worthy 863-673-4325

**Repo 3 Br 2 Ba**  
\$13,000 Delivered & Set up Zone 2  
800-330-8106

**Singlewide zone II** 3br, 2 bath mobile home. Must go to Glades County only \$7500. 863-673-4325

**Used 3 Br 2 Ba**  
\$11,000 As Is, Where Is  
863-983-3554

**Automotive**

For more listings, go to [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

**Autos Wanted**

**Wanted: Ford F150** or F250, 207, auto trans, twin cab, diesel preferred. Will pay cash 863-612-5455



**Public Notices**

For more listings,  
go to  
[www.newszip.com](http://www.newszip.com)

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
Case No.: 11-CA-190

RUSSELL BLEDSOE, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
LINDA JUNE FRITZ, and all known or unknown persons claiming under or through them, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, under or against any known or unknown person who is known to be dead or is not known to be dead or alive, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION PROPERTY**

TO: LINDA JUNE FRITZ

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that an action to quiet title on the following property in Glades County, Florida:

**Lot 5, Block 154, CITY OR TOWNSHIP OF MOORE HAVEN, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 67, Public Records of Glades County, Florida; together with a 1999 MERI mobile home, ID#FLYML2B140421012, Title #76415406, which is permanently affixed to the property.**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to Travis W. Trueblood, L.L.M. of Trueblood Law Group, P.A., P.O. Box 1270, 805 U.S. Hwy 27 North, Suite 1, Moore Haven, Florida 33471, the Plaintiff's attorney, and file the original with the Clerk of the Court of the above styled court on or before this 27th day of October, 2011, otherwise a judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court on the 9th day of August 2011.

JOE FLINT  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: Julie Braddock  
Deputy Clerk  
397749 CN 9/22,29/2011

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Flaghole Drainage District has been scheduled for September 29, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be held at Hilliard Brothers of Florida office located at 5500 Flaghole Road, Clewiston, FL.

Joe Marlin Hilliard  
Supervisor  
Flaghole Drainage District  
398089 CN 9/22/2011

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Clarinet I LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	WHICH ASSESSED	NAME IN
824	2008	1274329-01000010050	Hermanos Luna Inc.	

Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 33, Township 43 South, Range 29 East, run N 86 degrees 22'00" E, along the South line of said Section 33, a distance of 626.00 feet to the centerline of State Road 29; thence N 03 degrees 51' 00" W, along the centerline of State Road 29, a distance of 2486.80 feet; thence 86 degrees 30'00" E, 450.00 feet to a concrete monument and the Point-of-Beginning; thence N 86 degrees 30'00" E, 389.60 feet; thence S 00 degrees 47'30" feet; thence S 86 degrees 26'00" W, 323.80 feet to a concrete monument; thence N 03 degrees 51'00" W, 1242.90 feet to the Point-of-Beginning being in Section 33, Township 43 South, Range 29 East, Hendry County, Florida. Less Tract A, Turkey Run as recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 150, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida and Less the East and South 30 feet for road right-of-way.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this 14th day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

397837 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO. 26-2009-CA-000707

ONEWEST BANK, FSB, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO INDYMAC FEDERAL BANK, FSB, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO INDYMAC BANK, F.S.B. Plaintiff,  
vs.

BOBBI L. SEAY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF BOBBI L. SEAY; COUNTRY VILLAGE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; Defendants.

**RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated August 30, 2011, and entered in Case No. 26-2009-CA-000707, of the Circuit Court of the 20th Judicial Circuit in and for Hendry County, Florida, ONEWEST BANK, FSB, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO INDYMAC FEDERAL BANK, FSB, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO INDYMAC BANK, F.S.B. is Plaintiff and BOBBI L. SEAY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF BOBBI L. SEAY; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; COUNTRY VILLAGE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.; are defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash 2ND FLOOR HALLWAY, IN FRONT OF OFFICE OF CLERK OF COURTS, ADMINISTRATION BLDG, HENDRY CO. COURT-HOUSE, at 25 EAST HICKPOCHIEE, LABELLE IN HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, at 11:00 a.m., on the 5th day of October, 2011, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

**LOT 6, BLOCK 6, OF PORT LABELLE HOLIDAY PARK, UNIT 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 3, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

A person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim with 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 7th day of September, 2011.

BARBARA S. BUTLER  
As Clerk of said Court  
By: J. Bevis  
As Deputy Clerk

This notice is provided pursuant to Administrative Order No.2.065. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 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 provisions of certain assistance. Please contact the Court Administrator at 25 East Hickpochee, LaBelle, FL 33935, Phone No. (941)335-2299 within 2 working days of your receipt of this notice or pleading; if you are hearing impaired, call 1-800-9558771 (TDD); if you are voice impaired, call 1-800-995-8770 (V) (Via Florida Relay Services).  
397240 CN 9/15,22/2011

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CIVIL ACTION  
CASE NO. 10-CA-885

SANIBEL CAPTIVA COMMUNITY BANK, Plaintiff,  
vs.

NORTH RIVER VILLAGE OF LABELLE, LLC and THOMAS M. DYSON, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 2, 2011, entered in Civil Case Number 10-CA-885, in the Circuit Court of the 20th Judicial Circuit in and for Hendry County, Florida, wherein SANIBEL CAPTIVA COMMUNITY BANK, is the Plaintiff, and NORTH RIVER VILLAGE OF LABELLE, LLC, and THOMAS M.DYSON, are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at public sale on October 12, 2011, beginning at 11:00 a.m., at 25 E. Hickpochee Avenue, Second Floor Administrative Side, LaBelle, Florida 33935, in accordance with chapter 45, Florida Statutes, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to wit:

**Exhibit "A"**  
A Parcel of land in Government Lot 1, Section 6, Township 43 South, Range 29 East, Hendry County, Florida, more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of Government Lot 1 in Section 6, Township 43 South, Range 29 East, and run N 89° 36' 10" W along the North line of Government Lot 1, a: distance of 914.12 feet; thence run S 00° 25'19" W, 35 feet to the South right-of-way, line of State Road No. S-78 and point-of-beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence S 00°25'19" W, 866.72 feet to the North right-of-way line of the Calosahatchee River Canal; thence Southwest, along the arc of the curved canal right-of-way line (said right-of-way line being curved concave to the Southeast with a radius of 3600 feet, a central angle of 04°15'51" and a chord bearing of S 64°03'20" W), 267.93 feet; thence N 00°25'19" E, 985.38 feet to the South right-of-way line of State Road No. S-78; thence S 89°36'10" E, along said right-of-way line, 240 feet to the point-of-beginning.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.  
DATED: September 14, 2011.

BARBARA S. BUTLER  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: /s/ J. Bevis  
397923 CN 9/22,29/2011

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on October 6, 2011 at 2:00 PM at AAA Self Storage, 657 Hwy 27, Moore Haven, FL, the undersigned, AAA Self Storage, will sell at Public Sale by competitive bidding, the personal property heretofore stored with the undersigned by:

**Monica Pardo #93  
Kandice Snow #13**  
397118 GCD 9/22,29/2011

**NOTICE OF JOINT WORKSHOP BETWEEN THE HENDRY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners and the City Commission of the City of Clewiston will hold a joint public workshop to discuss recreation and related issues for the East side of Hendry County at 6:30 p.m. on September 26, 2011, at the John Boy Auditorium, 1200 South W.C. Owen, Clewiston, Florida.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Hendry County Commission or Clewiston City Commission with respect to any matter discussed at such workshop, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Board of County Commissioners of Hendry County, Florida  
Darrell R. Harris, Chairman

City Commission of the City of Clewiston  
Rick Miller, Mayor

397997 CN/CB 9/22/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Tarpon IV LLC**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	WHICH ASSESSED	NAME IN
2004	2007	1074433-03000170090	G A M E Investments, Inc	

Lot 9, Block 17, Woodland Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 1 thru 2, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **6th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this 24th day of **August, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

396344 CN 9/18,15,22/2011

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
File No. 2011-079CP

IN RE: ESTATE OF  
**THOMAS ANDERSON SMITH,**  
Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of THOMAS ANDERSON SMITH, deceased, whose date of death was August 31, 2010; File Number 2011-079CP is pending in the Circuit Court for Hendry County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is PO BOX 1760, LaBelle, FL 33975. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is: September 22, 2011.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Robert D. Hines, Esq.  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
Email: rhines@hnh-law.com  
Florida Bar No. 0413550  
Hines Norman Hines, P.L.  
1312 W. Fletcher Ave. Ste. B  
Tampa, FL 33612  
Telephone: 813-265-0100

DONNA SMITH  
Personal Representative  
1550 Old U.S. Highway 27, Lot 260  
Clewiston, FL 33440  
397903 CN 9/22,29/2011

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

The Florida Governmental Utility Authority ("FGUA") announces a public meeting to which all interested persons are invited. The FGUA is a legal entity and public body created pursuant to the provisions of Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, and an Interlocal Agreement among Citrus County, Florida, DeSoto County, Florida, Hendry County, Florida, Pasco County, Florida, and Polk County, Florida, and Lee County, Florida. The meeting and public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on **October 20, 2011 in the West Pasco Government Center, Commission Chambers, 7530 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL 34654.** The FGUA Board will address general operating issues of the FGUA. The meeting will also include a public hearing to consider adoption of the annual budgets and capital improvement programs for the FGUA Pasco Utility Systems (Seven Springs and Aloha Gardens), North Fort Myers Utility System, Consolidated Utility System, Lindrick Utility System and MacDill AFB Utility System. All customers of the FGUA, affected property owners, tenants or occupants, and all other interested persons, shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed annual budget and capital improvement programs and to file written comments with the FGUA. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the FGUA with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodations or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk to the FGUA Board at (877) 552-3482, at least three business days prior to the date of the hearing. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk to the FGUA Board at (877) 552-FGUA. 397598 CN 9/15,22/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Tarpon IV LLC**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	WHICH ASSESSED	NAME IN
2004	2007	1074433-03000170090	G A M E Investments, Inc	

Lot 9, Block 17, Woodland Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 1 thru 2, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **6th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this 24th day of **August, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

396243 CN 9/18,15,22/2011

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
CASE NO. 262010CA001279

EVERGLADES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff  
vs.  
MARCOS ARTOLA AND GERALDINA BARBOSA, Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Clerk of Circuit Court, Hendry County, Florida, will on October 5, 2011, at 11:00 AM, on the second floor lobby of the Hendry County Courthouse, 25 W. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry, one by one, to the highest bidder for cash, the property located in Hendry County, Florida, as follows:

**The North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 35, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. (also known as Lot #3787 in Montura Ranch Estates, an Unrecorded Subdivision.)**

**Together with a 2006 Homes of Merit Double-Wide (Model No. 3252) Having Identification. Nos. FLHML2F1775-30683A & FLHML2F1775-3068 3B, which is permanently affixed to Real Property.**

pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on September 7, 2011 in the above-styled cause, pending in said Court.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Barbara S. Butler, Clerk  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
By: /s/ J. Bevis  
Deputy Clerk

397409 CN 9/22,29/2011

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Hendry Hilliard Water Control District has been scheduled for September 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at Hilliard Brothers of Florida office located at 5500 Flaghole Road, Clewiston, FL.

Joe Marlin Hilliard  
Supervisor  
Sugarcane Drainage District  
398090 CN 9/22/2011

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

The Florida Governmental Utility Authority ("FGUA") announces a public meeting to which all interested persons are invited. The FGUA is a legal entity and public body created pursuant to the provisions of Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, and an Interlocal Agreement among Citrus County, Florida, DeSoto County, Florida, Hendry County, Florida, Pasco County, Florida, and Polk County, Florida, and Lee County, Florida. The meeting and public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on **October 20, 2011 in the West Pasco Government Center, Commission Chambers, 7530 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL 34654.** The FGUA Board will address general operating issues of the FGUA. The meeting will also include a public hearing to consider adoption of the annual budgets and capital improvement programs for the FGUA Pasco Utility Systems (Seven Springs and Aloha Gardens), North Fort Myers Utility System, Consolidated Utility System, Lindrick Utility System and MacDill AFB Utility System. All customers of the FGUA, affected property owners, tenants or occupants, and all other interested persons, shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed annual budget and capital improvement programs and to file written comments with the FGUA. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the FGUA with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodations or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk to the FGUA Board at (877) 552-3482, at least three business days prior to the date of the hearing. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk to the FGUA Board at (877) 552-FGUA. 397598 CN 9/15,22/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Tarpon IV LLC**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	WHICH ASSESSED	NAME IN
2004	2007	1074433-03000170090	G A M E Investments, Inc	

Lot 9, Block 17, Woodland Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 1 thru 2, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **6th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this 24th day of **August, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Hendry County, Florida

396243 CN 9/18,15,22/2011

**Public Notice**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
Case No.: 11DR 140

Marisol L. Perez, Petitioner  
Juan Felipe Landa, Respondent

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**

TO: Juan Felipe Landa

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Marisol L. Perez, whose address is 770 NW Ave B, Moore Haven, FL 33471 on or before October 13, 2011, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at Glades Co. Clerk, P.O. Box 10, Moore Haven, FL 33471, 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 the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current 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 29, 2011.

Joe Flint  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
By: Julie Braddock  
Deputy Clerk

396836 CN 9/8,15,22/2011

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Hendry Hilliard Water Control District has been scheduled for September 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at Hilliard Brothers of Florida office located at 5500 Flaghole Road, Clewiston, FL.

Joe Marlin Hilliard  
Supervisor  
Sugarcane Drainage District  
398091 CN 09/22/2011

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**Attention Comcast customers in Belle Glade / Pahokee, Okeechobee, and each of their surrounding areas:**

Effective September 11, 2011, the following change occurred to



Public Notice

Public Notice

Public Notice

Public Notice

Public Notice

Public Notice

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Jolene Funding LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
3393			
2008	4104329-01020310100	I.B. Victory Investments Inc.	

Lot 10, Block 2031, Port LaBelle Unit 1, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 50, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397835 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Jolene Funding LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
3509	2008	4104329-02020720100	Jorge Luis Artica

Lot 10, Block 2072, Port LaBelle Unit 2, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 60, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397831 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Jolene Funding LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2537	2005	4104329-02020750230	John Bankston

Lot 23, Block 2075, Port LaBelle Unit 2, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 60, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397833 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Jolene Funding LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
3578	2008	4104329-030000L00030	Odlance Sillen

Lot L3, Block 2102, Port LaBelle Unit 3, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 73, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397836 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1468	2008	1144432-A0001060000	The Lyndel Group, LLC

The South one-half of the Northwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of Section 14, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Also known as Tract 3386, Montura Ranch Estates, an unrecorded subdivision.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the Fourth Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **27th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this **7th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397345 CN 9/15,22,29;10/6/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Chester J Rust Revocable Tr**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1244	2008	1354331-0100000160	Adriana Gonzalez

The Southeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 35, Township 43 South, Range 31 East, Hendry County, Florida. Also known as Tract 16, Block 1, Pioneer Plantation, an unrecorded subdivision.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the Fourth Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **27th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this **7th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397353 CN 9/15,22,29;10/6/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Tarpon IV LLC**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
164	2007	1064428-A0001480000	Michael D. Kelly & Sylvia C. Kelly

The West one-half of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of Section 6, Township 44 South, Range 28 East, Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **6th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this **24th** day of **August, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

396242 CN 9/1,8,15,22/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Jolene Funding LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2301	2006	4104329-02020650160	Herman L. Zahn, Jr. And Donald W. Zahn

Lot 16, Block 2065, Port LaBelle Unit 2, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 60, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397834 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Jolene Funding LLC**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
2529	2005	4104329-02020690070	Jean Tomlinson

& Maureen Tomlinson

Lot 7, Block 2069, Port La Belle Unit 2, a subdivision according to the plat thereof Recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 60, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397828 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1876	2008	1244432-A0001060000	Antonio R. Martinez

The North one-half of the Northeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 24, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the East 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 5202, Montura Ranch Estates, an unrecorded subdivision.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **6th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this **24th** day of **August, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

396251 CN 9/1,8,15,22/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Alexandra Montiel**, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1078	2006	1224432-01000340060	Szulim & Kuba Gruszka % Milton Gruszka

Lot 6, Block 34, Montura Ranch Estates, First Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 37, 38 and 39, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the First Thursday** in the month of **November, 2011**, which is the **3rd day of November, 2011**.

Dated this **14th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397840 CN 9/22,29 & 10/6,13/2011

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
**Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **County of Hendry, Florida**, the holders of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of property and the name in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERT. NO.	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED
1850	2008	1244432-A0000290000	Lucky Path LLC

The North one-half of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of Section 24, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the East 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 5378, Montura Ranch Estates, an unrecorded subdivision.

Less and except Gas, Oil and Mineral rights not owned by prior owner. Subject to existing easements and right of ways of record.

All of said property being in the County of Hendry, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the **Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Wing, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M., on the Fourth Thursday** in the month of **October, 2011**, which is the **27th day of October, 2011**.

Dated this **7th** day of **September, 2011**.

Barbara S. Butler  
 Clerk of Circuit Court  
 Hendry County, Florida

397339 CN 9/15,22,29;10/6/2011

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# CASE

Continued • 1

and shot the Rico brothers.

Because of his statement, he was charged with first degree felony murder and first degree attempted murder. From that moment, he was placed in jail until his trial began. He would spend four years and be handled by seven different judges before he would issue the plea of no contest for one count of manslaughter with a firearm and one count of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. He has been sentenced to 15 years in prison and 10 years of probation for both charges that will run concurrent. Since he spent four years already in the system, those years will be credited so that he will only be serving 8 to 9 years.

However, for his family, this is an insult.

The Gonzales family broke their silence for the first time about the man they say has "always been a good man and a hard worker for his family." They state that if the Clewiston Police Department and the investigators had done a more serious investigation, then all that has happened since that day would never have occurred.

Their complaint begins with the fact that Gonzalez was drunk the night of the incident but was still trusted to give a coherent statement to investigators. He was never issued a breathalyzer test nor a sobriety exam to make sure that he was fully aware of what he was saying. The family continued to say that when, at that time, Ofc. Taylor of Clewiston Police came to the scene, Gonzalez gave him the gun that he had on him and told Taylor that he fired some shots. However, in the official report, it states that Taylor was led to the weapon that was allegedly used.

The forensic expert gave his testimony that the bullet that killed Jorge Rico was a different caliber round than that of Gonzalez's gun. Yet, he did state that it was possible that it could have been fired from Gonzalez's gun. However, the man who sold him the gun, a worker at Clewiston Pawn Shop, testified that it was not possible to fire the caliber of round that killed Jorge Rico from the gun he sold to Gonzalez.

Compounding the problem was the fact that investigators misplaced the gun for a nearly a year while the court proceedings were ongoing. Also lost was video that someone was taking as

the entire incident unfolded. That video also was misplaced and not recovered.

In his four years in jail awaiting trial, Gonzalez has had three public defenders. Not one provided an adequate defense. No talk of a plea deal was made until Thursday last week. It is also interesting that his entire criminal record contains only two misdemeanor offenses; one a DUI from 2002 and the other for having an open alcoholic container within city limits in 2006.

Not only has Gonzalez suffered but so has his entire family.

The irony of the situation is that the Rico and the Gonzalez families are related by marriage and Jorge, the Gonzalez family says, was a good man, a great father and they are sorry for what happened to him. According to them, his death and poorly-done investigation has brought the family very near to falling apart, the Gonzalez family maintains. They have reported numerous instances of retaliations in the form of burned and flooded homes, slashed tires, death threats, bullets flying into homes during the night, etc. They have had enough of all the harassment.

"We are sorry that this happened. Jorge left behind two kids that need both families to come together for them," one family member said. "We loved Jorge and the sad thing is that many people know who the real shooter is."

They pray that the person who was truly responsible for Jorge's death has a conscience and come forwards before any more damage is done to both families.

"It is time for the family to heal," another family member said. "We want to move on and be left alone."

Clewiston Police Chief Don Gutshall had just been appointed police chief and this case was one of the first major cases that he dealt with. He understands how the family feels and has been reading the comments that had been made on *The Clewiston News* Facebook page regarding the sentencing of Gonzalez.

"To my knowledge, the investigation was done properly with what we had to work with," he said. "Now, I will gladly re-open the case if anyone is willing to come forward and offer evidence or statement for us to work with."

For the time being, the members of the Gonzales family are left with the dim hope that someone will be brave enough to step forward.

Signs of moving on may already be on the horizon as one Facebook comment made concerning the sentencing of Gonzalez said, "I know that he didn't do it, but I forgive him."

# Mother, Son Charged With Assault

## Tag-team duo were chased off

BY JUAN LOPEZ  
jlopez@newszap.com

A woman was pulled out of her house and beaten by a mother and son early last Wednesday.

Clewiston Police Ofc. Bozzi received the call that a victim, 39-year-old Lisa Ingram, had been dragged out from her door and beaten. When she arrived on scene, Ingram told her that she heard someone knocking at her door but could not see anyone there from her kitchen window.

The knocking continued and she answered the door to see 21-year-old Joshua Sloan. She noticed that he was failing to hide a metal pipe. When she tried to close the door, Sloan grabbed her by the neck and his mother, 43-year-old Michelle Lowman, held the door open so that Sloan could pull her out of her home.

Sloan began to punch her repeatedly and threw her to the ground, where Lowman joined in kicking her. Ingram was able to get to her feet and grab the pipe that Sloan dropped and chased both her attackers off her property.

A witness did confirm Ingram's statement of events.

Ofc. Bozzi was told by Ingram that Lowman and her boyfriend had been in an altercation the night before at her home but no report was made. She also gave the location where she could find Lowman and Sloan. Bozzi located



Joshua Sloan

Michelle Lowman

Lowman and when asked about what happened that morning and the night before, Lowman gave her several different explanations. Lowman did state that she and her son did go to Ingram's house together.

Bozzi was told that Sloan would come to the station to give his statement but he never came.

Meanwhile, another witness did come forward to confirm what had happened to Ingram. Ingram did go to the hospital for a check-up.

A few days later, Bozzi returned to Lowman's residence and spoke to both Lowman and Sloan. Sloan stated that he stepped in only to keep both woman from hitting each other.

As Lowman and Sloan were in the process of being arrested, Lowman stated over the phone to her bail/bondsman that her son was being arrested for "fighting with that girl." Both are facing one felony count of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill.

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## Bass Anglers

The Bass Anglers had their monthly tournament on Lake Okeechobee on Sept. 11. First Place was won by Hunter Aboud, second place by Mel Brant, and third place went to Walt Reynolds. John Valquez had Big Bass Award. If you are interested in joining the club, their monthly meetings are held at the club house at Roland Martin Marina and Resort the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. This was the first tournament of the 2011-12 season.

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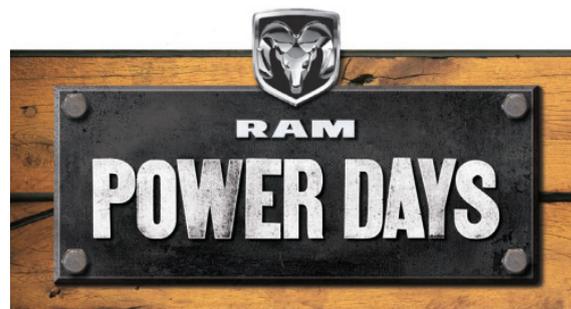
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