

The Clewiston News

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2013

VOL. 87 - NUMBER 4 - 50¢

GO ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE
SEE INSIDE

MISS AND JR. MISS SUGAR PAGEANT CONTESTANTS
PAGES 13 AND 18

Perfect Morning Start for FLW



PHOTO / JENNY WOODS

On Friday morning, fishermen took off against the background of a perfect morning to kick off this year's FLW tournament at Roland Martin's Marina. For full story and results, see Page 2.

Strickland Guilty of Coersion?

FORMER SUPERVISOR
OF ELECTIONS FACED
CHARGES OF EXTORTION
FOR VICTIM'S CLAIM OF
INTIMIDATION

BY SAVANNAH ROUNDS
srounds@newszap.com

Former Hendry County Supervisor of Elections official, Lucretia Strickland, is currently facing charges of extortion for allegedly using her position to influence the results of an election.

It all began in July of 2012, when Kathy Monacalli claims that Strickland made inappropriate comments to her, asking her to change her political affiliation from Republican to Democrat. But it didn't stop there. Monacalli also claimed that Strickland told her to vote for Brenda Hoots as Hendry County Supervisor of Elections and that if Hoots lost by just one vote that she would break Monacalli's legs, according to Monacalli.

Strickland did not deny that she said this when asked by FDLE officials, but rather claimed that it was all in jest and not meant to be taken seriously.

"I just think it's sad that this lady took her so seriously," stated Brenda Hoots, who is now currently the Hendry County Supervisor of Elections. "She was very obviously joking with her."

Kevin Drummond, who was also running for the position with Brenda

Hoots, explains that he was very surprised to hear the news, stating that he has not decided whether or not to ask for another vote to be taken.

"She may have had an influence on a few votes, but I don't think that she could have effected over 2,000 votes," stated Drummond. "If she did, I would say that she needs to be in congress."

Drummond went on to explain that he believes the results speak for themselves and that he doesn't believe that she could have affected the election in such a drastic way.

"I'm a straightforward type of guy," stated Drummond, "so I am not going to sugarcoat this."

Strickland pleaded no contest to the charges, and was forced to pay a fine and cover her court costs. She was not available to be reached for comment.

Jury Says 'Life' for Stevens

BY PATTY BRANT
The Clewiston News

After their January 24 finding of Vernon Stevens guilty of first degree murder in the 2007 killing of Antonio Beltran, the jury made its decision on his fate on February 7. The jury deliberated for only 20 minutes before returning with a recommended sentence of life without the possibility of parole. However, 20th Circuit Court Judge Christine Greider has the final word in the young man's punishment: He could still face the death penalty.

Stevens was also found guilty of arson and battery with a deadly weapon. He had pled not guilty to all counts. Stevens' partner in the crime, Raymond Diaz, pled 'No Contest' to second degree murder, first degree

arson of a dwelling and robbery with a deadly weapon in 2008 - a plea deal with the State Attorney's Office.

Stevens stood as the deputy clerk read the verdict. He had been subdued throughout both the guilt and penalty phases -- only his fingers twitching as he clasped his hand behind his back betrayed any emotion. His girlfriend sat several rows behind him, quietly dabbing her eyes as the verdict became known.

Over the next few weeks pre-sentencing investigations will go on for 45 to 60 days from when the verdict was rendered before the judge makes her final decision.

SEE MURDER • 18

Tigers Open With Two Losses

BY TIMOTHY SAENZ
The Clewiston News

The Lady Tigers cycled through three pitchers on the mound but couldn't quite find the right combination in time to halt the Glades Day Gators.

The Lady Gators swung away in the first, second, and sixth innings enroute to a 9-0 blanking of Clewiston Monday night at Sugarland Park.

The loss followed a 7-4 defeat at the hands of the Immokalee Indians in the home opener Friday night. The Lady Tigers have one more home game Valentine's Day night before they hit the road next week.

The ladies began shakily, with senior pitcher Mandi Perry still searching for her groove. The Lady Gators

whacked the ball with authority, hitting a single and double, and driving a hard liner at Perry that she couldn't control. Perry hit another batter with a pitch and combined with catcher Sydney Duckstein on some wild pitches and balls lost off the catcher's mitt.

The miscues mounted, and the Lady Gators built a 4-0 lead at the end of their half of the first inning.

Perry and Duckstein weren't alone. Teammates dropped fly balls, got caught looking where to throw, and weren't in sync. Rachel Morrell took the mound for the second inning. Though she whipped the ball across the plate, she garnered little

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24-year-old Benton Claims 2013 Walmart FLW Tour Opener on Lake Okeechobee

BY BRETT CARLSON
FLW

The script couldn't have been written any better. While rookie pro Drew Benton had a 1-pound lead heading into the final day of the Walmart FLW Tour season opener, some of bass fishing's biggest names, notably Brent Ehrler and Bryan Thrift, were breathing down his neck. Day four on Lake Okeechobee marked the second consecutive day of cooler, blustery weather and Benton was struggling and just about out of time. Then a 7-pound behemoth bit and the rest is history.

The fairy tale ending sounds even better considering this was the first tour event of Benton's career. And the 7-pounder bit with exactly seven minutes left in the day, on a lure (Hildebrandt spinnerbait) he hadn't previously used all week.

"I had been praying a lot this week and if that isn't meant to be I don't know what is," said Benton.

While Sunday was all about the late-day drama, Benton worked a solid one-two program all week. He located a productive prespawn area down in South Bay and he had some spawning bass identified in Turner's Cove.

He would throw reaction baits (mainly a custom PMG vibrating jig with a Bass Assassin Die Dapper trailer) in South Bay and mix in a variety of lures, most notably a Bass Assassin Vapor Shad, in Turner's Cove. When he sight-fished, he used a Texas-rigged Bass Assassin Pure Craw.

"I started today in South Bay, then went to Turner's. Nothing was happening there, so I went back to South Bay and checked it again. I fished there for three hours and was only able to catch two keepers. So I ran back to Turner's and was able to finish out a small limit of bucks by 1:45 p.m. I told the cameraman that I had to run back down and try and catch a big one. So I made the run to South Bay, and that's when I got the kicker. Up until then, I really felt like I was letting it slip through my fingers."

For the first two days of the tournament, South Bay, with its white-bellied prespawn bass, was the more productive area.

But the north wind trashed South Bay for all of day three and most of day four, meaning Benton had to spend more time than he wanted in



PHOTO / BRETT CARLSON

Pro winner Drew Benton holds up the 7-pound Lake Okeechobee bass he caught with only seven minutes left in the day.

Turner's. On the final day, the lone keeper that came from South Bay was the kicker.

"The South Bay pattern was a timing deal," Benton explained. "They need that sun to pop out for the bass to come in from the outside."

Benton's day-four sack officially weighed 13 pounds, 4 ounces.

With a total of 75 pounds, 7 ounces, his winning margin was nearly 5 pounds. The 24-year-old will take a \$100,000 check with him back to Panama City, Florida.

"This is such a big step for me. Now I can actually relax and fish for the rest of the year and not have to worry about just making a check. I can't even describe this; it's a dream come true. I can't really put it into words."



PHOTO / JENNY WOODS

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COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

Talent Fest

If you have a talent or a band and would like to win money and a chance to perform at Sugar Festival, enter Drug Free Hendry's Talent Fest. You can win up to \$700.

Please pick up an application from your high school or middle school guidance office. Auditions will be Feb. 19 at 3 p.m., Feb. 20 at 3 p.m., and Feb. 28 at 3:30 p.m., in Clewiston. First, second, and third place win cash and are invited to the county wide competition at Sugar Festival in Clewiston. Deadline to enter is Feb. 12.

All talents are welcome: singing, split track, bands, rap, magicians, poets, dance, etc. For more information, please contact Bianca Ross at 863-674-4041 ext. 143.

Property Appraiser's Office Extends Hours

Hendry County Property Appraiser, Phillip Pelletier, is extending office hours for homeowners to file for 2013 exemptions. The offices in LaBelle and Clewiston will be opened from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Feb. 21 and 28.

Applications for all tax exemptions must be filed in our office on the third floor of the Courthouse in LaBelle or at 100 E El Paso in Clewiston by 5 p.m., March 1.

For those who are unable to come to either location, please call and arrangements will be made to assist you in filing your application.

For more information, please call 863-675-

5270 in LaBelle and 863-983-1591 in Clewiston.

Cougar Signups

The Clewiston Cougars will be having signups for football and cheer every Saturday in February from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the cougar's locker room.

Mini Health Fairs

Health fairs are free and open to the public. They will be doing free blood pressure, weight, pulse, and oxygen checks.

•Clewiston Senior Center on Thursday, Feb. 28, at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, please contact Tabitha Yebba at 863-233-1305.

Focus on the Heart

First Baptist Church of Clewiston invites you to join us for a weekend of focused attention on our hearts towards God starting Friday, March 1. Kenny Evans, a Southern Gospel recording artist and Dinner Theater entertainer in Pigeon Forge, TN, will speak and sing at each service.

The schedule of events for the weekend is as follows:

•Golden Oldies Dinner Show on Friday, March 1, at 6:30 p.m.

•Focus on the Heart on Saturday, March 2, at 7 p.m.

•Focus on the Heart on Sunday, March 3, at

10:55 a.m.

Tickets for the Golden Oldies Dinner Show can be purchased through the church office. A love offering will be taken at all events. For more information, please call 863-983-5555.

Chemical Dependence Anonymous Meetings

Chemical Dependence Anonymous (CDA) meetings are being held on Mondays and Thursdays at 7 p.m., at Clewiston Gospel Ministries Church, located at 6800 Flaghole Road.

This is a 12-step program for drugs and alcohol. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Gene at 863-983-4437.

CHS Class Reunion '03

Attention Class of '03, as the 10-year class reunion approaches we are asking all '03 graduates to please contact Dana Jo Alley-Vallejo at 863-599-1718 or by email at chs.classof2003@yahoo.com with your contact information.

The reunion is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, 2013. Please help us contact all of our classmates by passing this information along.

AA Meetings

There will be AA meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m., held at St. Martin's Church at 207 N. W.C. Owen in Clewiston.

Free Hendry/Glades Community Health Fair

Since 2002, Nova Southeastern University of the Health Sciences has been sending their students and faculty to work with our local health care providers to administer free health care to the people of the Glades that are uninsured or under insured.

Each year there has been a health fair held in Belle Glade and the next day in Clewiston. This year, the Hendry Glades Community Health Fair will be held on Sunday, March 3, from 11:30 a.m. to four p.m., at the Hendry Regional Medical Center in Clewiston.

Each year the Hendry Glades Community Health Fair has had over 500 area residents taking advantage of the many services offered. Services such as anemia screening, tobacco cessation, vision testing, mammogram vouchers, blood pressure, bone density, cholesterol screening, diabetes screening, HIV screening and educa-

tion, safety helmets, and much more are made available.

Many agencies will have tables under the tent to do testing, answer questions, and hand out valuable educational materials.

Not only do these students and providers give the much needed medical assistance to our residents, but it also allows the students to see firsthand what it is like to live and work in a rural area.

Glades and Hendry counties are a critical health care shortage area and there is the hope to acquire more health professionals interested in practicing in this area.

Over the years we have experienced life-saving events. Many of the residents do not see a health care provider regularly and have no idea that something might be wrong.

We have had an infant rushed to the ER af-

ter a NSU Pediatrician examined him to find he was extremely ill. At another time, a student noticed an irregular heart beat on a 19-year-old and when the physician examined him, he was choppered out to Fort Myers and received a life-saving operation.

Volunteers have been able to help participants apply for free medications and gives them the tools to keeping themselves and their family healthy. Each year after the fair is over, the students and providers feel elated that they were able to help so many people.

In addition to the services and vendors, members of the Lyons Club will be cooking and free food will be available to residents who take advantage of the services offered.

We will have a Bounce House for the children as well as a snow cone and popcorn machine. Local radio station WAFC will broadcast live from the event. Sponsors of this event are Ace Homecare, Everglades Area Health Education Centers, Florida Community Health Centers, Hendry Regional Medical Center, Hendry Glades Health Department, Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network, and Nova Southeastern University of the Health Sciences.

Organizers and volunteers give their time every year to make each year more successful than the year before. For more information, please contact Toni McDaniel, ARNP at HRMC Corporate Health 863-983-1123, tpavey@hendryregional.org., or Traci Owens at Ace Homecare 863-677-1100, traci.owens@acehomecareflorida.com.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Westside Elementary

The 3rd grade class of Westside Elementary school joined in celebrating Florida's Literacy Week with a visit from local author, David Lopez of Bonita Beach, Fla.

He entertained the students with his funny stories and narration of passages from his book series about Maddie and her Magic Markers.

The students enjoyed the day as they were

able to purchase their own personally autographed books by the author.

Clewiston Christian School

Upcoming Events

•Feb. 18: President's Day - No school

•Feb. 21: First grade "living museum"

•Feb. 26: Open house for new parents from 5 to 7 p.m.

Dental Health Matters for Pets Too

There's a good reason that one of the first things we teach children is proper tooth brushing technique.

Dental health is crucial for overall health. And you may not think about it as often, but pets also require regular dental care.

February, which is Pet Dental Health Month, serves as an excellent reminder for pet owners that good dental health is vital. And experts say that the stakes are a lot higher than maintaining pretty teeth and avoiding dreaded doggy breath.

"Untreated plaque and tartar will eventually lead to gingivitis and periodontal disease in the mouth," warns Dr. Rod Van Horn, a veterinarian and member of the American Veterinary Dental Society. "And those same bacteria could enter the blood stream, leading to heart disease or filter through the kidneys and liver."

With good habits and veterinary-strength pet dental products, pet parents can help avoid these serious health problems. Here are some top dog dental care tips that will keep teeth their sparkly best:

- Veterinarians recommend once-a-day brushing for optimum health. If you're time-strapped or your dog is resistant, remember, the more often you brush, the better.

- Starting early is always best, as puppies can get used to brushing more easily. But even old dogs can learn new dental tricks. Start by letting



COURTESY PHOTO

your pooch taste pet toothpaste from your finger on several occasions. Then put some on their pet toothbrush to get them used to the texture.

A paste with a food flavor should make the process easier. For example, SENTRY Petrodex

Veterinary Strength Poultry Fresh Mint Twin Power Toothpaste has enough poultry flavor to encourage dogs to lick it up and a mint scent to freshen breath.

When your pet is ready, (some dogs take

days, others take weeks) gently rub your fingers on their gums and lips to get them used to the sensation.

- When you're finally ready to start brushing, keep it safe, gentle and effective with a brush especially designed for dogs' needs. One example is the SENTRY Petrodex Dual Ended 360 Brush. It has a soft bristle 360-degree head on one end and a traditional head on the other, as well as a plaque scraper.

- Opt for an ergonomic handle to make it easier to keep a firm grip while brushing. If your dog doesn't take to the regular pet toothbrush, consider a finger toothbrush, which is softer.

- Chewing is great for dogs, helping to improve dental health by scraping away existing plaque and tartar. Give pets a better alternative than your slippers, such as a dental chew that activates the body's natural defense system, killing plaque-forming bacteria.

- For dogs with bad breath, consider a breath spray that fights odors and controls tartar. Opt for something easy-to-use that has a veterinary-strength potency.

Use Pet Dental Health Month to brush up on more tips and tricks at www.SentryPetCare.com.

"Want your dog to live a longer happier life? The answer is simple. Keep pets' teeth and gums in tip top shape," stresses Dr. Van Horn.

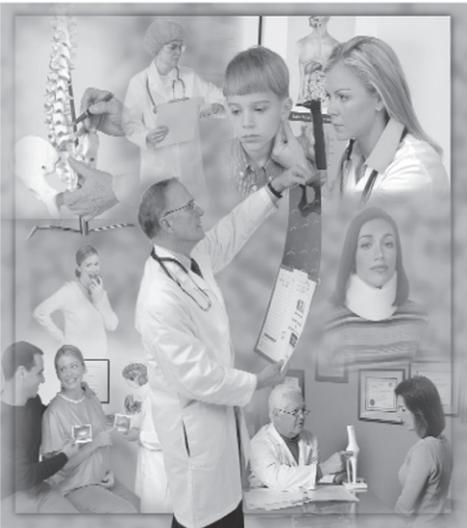


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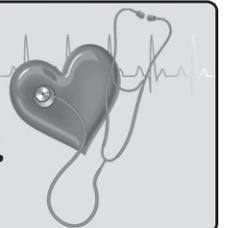


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Three Superfoods That Can Improve Your Health

In a world where fatty, fried and frosted foods are often the cheapest, quickest and most readily available options, it can be easy to forget the true purpose of eating -- to healthfully fuel our bodies.

"The higher-quality fuel you put in your body, the better you will function. The right diet can potentially prevent you from developing certain diseases and conditions," says Gerry Cysewski, Ph.D., co-author of "Spirulina: Nature's Super-Food," and Chief Science Officer of Nutrex Hawaii, a nutritional supplement manufacturer.

And despite what many people think, healthful eating doesn't have to come at the price of taste or time. Foods rich in nutrition can make quick snacks and be incorporated easily into your favorite dishes.

Here are ideas for how to fit three superfoods into your diet:

Blueberries

Skip the sodium overload of chomping on chips and lower your risk for heart disease, diabetes and even the common cold with some blueberries. Blueberries are full of flavor as well as antioxidants, phytoflavonoids, Vitamin C and potassium.

While they make for a great snack on their own, blueberries are also delicious as a yogurt, oatmeal or cereal topper.



Blueberries

Spirulina

For a wealth of protein, vitamins, minerals and antioxidants, take a cue from the ancient Mayans and Aztecs and incorporate spirulina in your daily diet.

Hawaiian spirulina, a microalgae-based superfood, contains more than 100 nutrients, and a three gram serving contains higher levels of key antioxidants, enzymes, vitamins and minerals than five servings of fruits and vegetables.

"A single serving of spirulina is like a rainbow of good nutrition, containing the orange of beta-carotene for immune system support, the yellow of zeaxanthin for eye and brain health, the green of chlorophyll for anti-toxin health benefits, and the blue of phycocyanin for inflammatory balance," says Cysewski.

What's the best way to get your daily dose? Consider taking pill supplements, or if you prefer, mix spirulina powder in dips like guacamole or hummus. Or for a tasty breakfast, lunch or snack, try this smoothie recipe:

Blend these ingredients together and serve immediately:

- 1/2 cup yogurt
- 1 cup of fruit juice (apple, orange or pineapple)
- 1 or more of the following: 1 papaya, 1 peach, 1 mango
- 1/2 cup of boysenberries or raspberries
- 1 teaspoon Hawaiian Spirulina powder

More information on the benefits of spirulina can be found at www.Nutrex-Hawaii.com.

Spinach

Popeye was onto something when he downed those cans of spinach. The dark leafy greens contain minerals, vitamins, pigments and phytonutrients that benefit eyesight, blood pressure, muscles, bones, skin and a healthy nervous system.

For a low-fat, low-calorie source of iron and protein, put the burger down and eat spinach instead. Opt for the fresh variety, swapping out iceberg lettuce in salads, or sauté lightly with olive oil and garlic for a great side. Spinach is also tasty in omelets and makes a healthy alternative to ground meat in lasagna.

With a little creativity, giving your body the right fuel it needs to stay healthy can be convenient and delicious.



Spinach



Blueberries

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George Franklin 'Frank' Primmer, 72

George Franklin "Frank" Primmer, passed away on Jan. 24, 2013, at the West Palm Beach, Florida V.A. Hospital, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Frank was born at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane, Wash., on Oct. 18, 1940. He was raised in Valleyford, Wash., and attended Valleyford Elementary, Lindberg High School and Freeman High School, graduating in 1958.

Frank entered the Army Reserves in 1957 and completed his basic training at Fort Ord, Calif. Frank entered the Army in 1963 and served at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He graduated from Army Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., earning the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in 1965. He served two tours in Vietnam where he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in Pleiku, Vietnam in 1966 and received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Purple Heart, and various other service awards. After his discharge from the military, Frank settled in Belle Glade, Fla., where he was an active and involved member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, as well as in the community.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Marguerite and Kelley Primmer of Valleyford, Wash.

Frank is survived by his wife, Carol; sons, Randy (Tina) Primmer of Longwood, Fla., Mark Primmer of Longwood, and Robert Cohran of Belle Glade, Fla.; daughters, Brenda Allen of Arcadia, Fla., Abby Garcia of Clewiston, Fla., and Libby Moya of Clewiston, Fla.; brothers, Dennis (Virginia) Primmer of Mims, Fla., Fred (Deona) Primmer of Mica, Wash., Dan (Donna) Primmer of Greenacres, Wash.; his sister, Helen (Del) Laird of Greenacres, Wash.; and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews in Washington and Florida.

Frank's interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery at 9 a.m. Monday, March 18, 2013. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations on his behalf to the Disabled American Veterans at www.dav.org Northwood Funeral Home, West Palm Beach, is in charge of arrangements.

Magdiel Davila, 59

CLEWISTON — Magdiel Davila passed away Feb. 9, 2013 in LaBelle.

He was born Apr. 18, 1953 in Mexico, to the late Valentine and Josefa (Cantu) Davila.

He is survived by his wife, Emilia (Martinez) Davila; one son, Lazaro M. Davila; five daughters, Emilia Davila, Gracie Davila, Diana L. Padron, Angelica Gonzales, Gabriela Hayes; mother, Josefa Cantu; three brothers, Jose H. Davila, Florentino Davila, Jose D. Davila; five sisters, Dora Davila, Nora Davila, Maribel Davila, Maria Valentine Davila, Erica Davila; and 17 grandchildren

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 15, 2013 at Akin-Davis Funeral Home, Clewiston with Father Jiobani Batista officiating. Interment will be in Ridgelawn Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday, Feb. 14, 2013 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Akin-Davis Funeral Home.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - Clewiston.

New Season of SFWMD, Audubon Bird-Watching Tours is Aloft



Local photographers snapped shots of dozens of birds at bird-watching and Christmas Bird Count trips to Stormwater Treatment Areas 1 East and 5. From left, peregrine falcon, roseate spoonbill, palm warbler. Credits: Ken Corregan, SFWMD and Richard Hodgkins.

Hundreds of species were documented in Everglades restoration areas in 2012

BY GABE MARGASAK
SFWMD

Hundreds of bird watchers had the opportunity in 2012 to observe endangered Everglades snail kites, roseate spoonbills and a vast array of Florida wading birds in wetlands built by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to improve Everglades water quality.

This year, the District is once again partnering with the Hendry-Glades Audubon Society and the Audubon Society of the Everglades to continue these highly popular tours and bird counts in wetlands, known as Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs), in Palm Beach and Hendry counties.

STA-1 East in Palm Beach County

Since first taking flight in January 2012, 15 guided bird-watching tours at STA-1 East have drawn about 300 people. Hosted by the Audubon Society of the Everglades, in partnership with the District, participants have identified 115 species of birds so far at the site just west of Wellington.

With cameras and long-range viewing scopes, bird watchers typically caravan across 9 miles of the internal levees that separate the water-cleaning cells of the wetland. Frequent stops at choice locations offer excellent views of wildlife in the expanse of water and the STA's specialized plants that take up phosphorus before it enters the Everglades.

For 2013, Audubon of the Everglades plans to host about 20 trips to STA-1 East, including the first Saturday of each month. Tour dates and related outings are posted on the Audubon of the Everglades website.

The STA-1 East tour program was modeled after the popular partnership with the Hendry-Glades Audubon Society, which has served 6,300 bird watchers and photographers from across the globe at STA-5 in Hendry County to date.

STA-5 in Hendry County

Continuing the tradition of world renowned bird watching at STA-5, the Hendry-Glades Audubon Society hosted 25 trips with 863 participants in 2012. The group also documented the 200th confirmed bird species — the American goldfinch — at the site since tours began there in 2005. The northern flicker was the 201st.

During the 113th Christmas Bird Count in

December, Audubon teams in STA-5 and the surrounding area documented a diverse array of 111 species, including American coot, fulvous whistling duck, blue-winged teal, endangered Everglades snail kite, crested caracara and tropical kingbird. A total of around 85,500 individual birds were counted over the course of the day.

The more than 6,000-acre constructed wetland, just south of Clewiston, is one of 489 sites on The Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail. Sponsored by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), the sites are selected for their prolific bird watching or bird education and wildlife-viewing opportunities. Audubon volunteers, in cooperation with the

District, have led 163 individual tours at this site to date.

Throughout South Florida, the District provides recreational access to its public lands while continuing to manage them to support environmental restoration, water supply, water quality and flood control missions. At present, the District owns approximately 621,000 acres of land that are open to the public. Many of these properties are in their natural state or have enhancements such as picnic tables, informational kiosks, primitive campsites and hiking trails.

For more information on recreational opportunities throughout the District's 16-county region, visit www.sfwmd.gov/recreation.

For Pat

He hung the moon,
This laughing brother peering into my crib,
Shaking the butterfly ball...
He was made of steel,
This big strong brother who ran at the speed of light,
Swam across rivers,
All of it with me on his broad back - laughing!
He had no fear,
This brave-hearted brother who fought
and conquered
Protecting me, his wife, his children, his family...
He lived for love,
This brother who married young,
Brought up children with love, laughter, music, dance,
Sun and rain, wind and storm...
The woods ran through his veins,
This brother on horseback, hunting, fishing,
Helping, working, protecting...
Steel doesn't break and steel never bends,
But days with our brothers
All find their ends...
And I will love you forever, Pat Lee,
From your sister and your family.
Kenneth Patrick Lee May 16, 1956 - February 5, 2013
Survivors: Wife Laura, Son Kenny, Daughters Karla, Deannie, Sally Lee
Granddaughter Laura Nadine Lee & Lillianna & Elijah
Brothers: Ricky, Petie, Sister Brenda
Stepmother Ann Tyler, step-brothers: Billy & Troy Tyler
Nephews, nieces, cousins, aunts, "Unca' No-No"
Predeceased: Father Pete, Mother Nadine, Brother Steve
Many Thanks to Glades Funeral Chapel for the beautiful service and arrangements.



Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Mournful tune
- 6 Teacher's favorite
- 9 Part of A.D.
- 13 How fritters are fried
- 14 Bronx third baseman, to fans
- 16 In ___ of: replacing
- 17 Diver's apparatus
- 18 Cruise ship stop
- 19 Fastener in the catalog a bit above a U-bolt?
- 20 Cub Scout group
- 21 They start with "hip hip"
- 24 Russian Peace Nobelist Sakharov
- 26 Dawn to dusk
- 27 Luau bowlful
- 28 Words of understanding
- 29 Closely related duo
- 33 Jock's antithesis
- 34 Granola grain
- 35 In need of a massage, perhaps
- 36 Candor
- 40 Did electrical work
- 43 Disencumber (of)
- 44 Snuffs out, mob-style
- 48 Single file
- 51 Chilly, in Mexico
- 52 Many times o'er
- 53 Sidewalk stand soft drink
- 54 Church gathering
- 56 Weightless state
- 60 Conclusion
- 61 "Dies ___": Latin hymn
- 62 "Wild Blue Yonder" mil. group
- 63 Vivian of "I Love Lucy"
- 65 City west of Tulsa
- 66 Chow ___: noodle dish
- 67 Like senior statesmen
- 68 Reagan and son
- 69 London lav
- 70 Words of agreement

DOWN

- 1 Contempt
- 2 Fragrant ceremonial smoke

- 3 More spherical
- 4 Brit. territory with a famous rock
- 5 Tickle pink
- 6 Duo
- 7 Highland tongue
- 8 City on Lake Erie
- 9 Old, in German
- 10 Bowler's back-row target
- 11 Nervous system units
- 12 Alfresco
- 15 Evening coffee choice for many
- 22 Think of, as a solution
- 23 Big name in hotels
- 25 Obstacle for Moses
- 30 WWII GI Jane
- 31 '90s "SNL" regular Cheri
- 32 It has no sharps or flats, with "the"
- 37 Dog collar attachment
- 38 Backboard attachment
- 39 In other words, in Caesar's words
- 40 More dizzy
- 41 Hot spot for Dante

- 42 Teach new job skills to
- 45 Facebook connections
- 46 Bride-to-be
- 47 Joins metal
- 49 Tight as ___
- 50 Prickly-leaved plant
- 55 Yiddish "Yikes!"
- 57 Ref. works that occupy entire shelves

- 58 Sony laptop brand
- 59 "___ One Will Listen": Kelly Clarkson song
- 64 Pub potable

DIAGONAL

- 69 (to square 45) What happens after the starts of 21-, 29-, 48- and 56-Across

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | R | O | C | O | D | I | L | E | H | U | N | T | E | R | | | | | | | |
| A | E | R | O | B | I | C | E | X | E | R | C | I | S | E | | | | | | | |
| S | T | A | T | E | L | E | G | I | S | L | A | T | O | R | | | | | | | |
| B | I | N | S | L | O | U | T | S | A | U | T | O | | | | | | | | | |
| A | N | G | | V | M | I | | L | E | O | | | | | | | | | | | |
| H | U | E | S | T | E | E | N | S | D | A | R | T | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | E | S | T | H | E | R | G | O | A | W | R | Y | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | A | U | X | | L | I | E | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | T | E | T | R | A | S | H | I | D | E | H | O | | | |
| | | | | | | | T | E | S | S | N | O | M | A | D | B | O | N | D | | |
| | | | | | | | O | R | S | | N | O | S | | | M | A | I | | | |
| | | | | | | | S | H | E | A | E | A | R | T | O | C | E | L | S | | |
| | | | | | | | S | U | N | K | E | N | T | R | E | A | S | U | R | E | S |
| | | | | | | | U | N | C | E | R | T | A | I | N | F | U | T | U | R | E |
| | | | | | | | P | E | E | R | A | S | S | E | S | S | M | E | N | T | S |

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|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| 13 | | | | | | 14 | | 15 | | 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | 18 | | | | 19 | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | 21 | 22 | | | | 23 | | | | |
| 24 | | | 25 | | | | | 26 | | | 27 | | | |
| 28 | | | | | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 32 | | | |
| 33 | | | | | | 34 | | | | 35 | | | | |
| | | | | | 36 | 37 | | | | 38 | 39 | | | |
| 40 | 41 | 42 | | | | | | 43 | | | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| 48 | | | | | | 49 | 50 | | | | 51 | | | |
| 52 | | | | | 53 | | | | | 54 | 55 | | | |
| 56 | | | | | 57 | | | | | 58 | 59 | | | 60 |
| 61 | | | | | | 62 | | | | | 63 | 64 | | |
| 65 | | | | | | 66 | | | | | 67 | | | |
| 68 | | | | | | | | 69 | | | | 70 | | |

TAX SAVINGS NOTICE

Glades County Property Owners

As a Glades County property owner, you may qualify for one or more of the following listed exemptions. The filing deadline is March 1, 2013. You may make application in the office of the Glades County Property Appraiser, located in the Glades County Courthouse, Room 202, in Moore Haven, during the office hours of 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

You may qualify for one or more of the following Exemptions:

1. Homestead Exemption up to \$50,000 of assessed value
The first \$25,000 is received on your assessed value up to \$25,000 (includes all taxing authorities)
The second \$25,000 is received on your assessed value of \$50,000 to \$75,000 (does not include school district)
2. Veteran's and First Responder Exemptions and Discounts
 - A) Disabled veteran discount, age 65 or older, combat related (based on percentage of permanent disability) 2012 Amendment 2 removed the requirement that the veteran must have been a Florida resident when he or she entered military service
 - B) Disabled veteran disabled 10% or more by misfortune or during wartime service up to \$5,000
 - C) Veteran confined to wheelchair, service-connected, totally disabled (on all taxes)
 - D) Service-connected, totally and permanently disabled veteran or surviving spouse (on all taxes)
 - E) Surviving spouse of veteran who died while on active duty (on all taxes)
 - F) Surviving spouse of first responder who died in the line of duty (on all taxes)
3. Widow's or Widower's Exemption \$500
4. Non-Veteran Disability and Blindness Exemption \$500 (or more)
5. Additional Exemption of \$10,000 for residents age 65 or older with an annual household adjusted income limit of \$27,590 (Filing period Jan 1 to March 1)
6. Tangible Personal Property Exemption of \$25,000
7. Agricultural Classification (Filing period Jan 1 to March 1)
8. Save our Homes Portability
9. Deployed Military Exemption

The previous owner's exemptions do not apply to you, if you have recently purchased your property. New applications must be filed for new ownership or deed transfers. This would also include name changes in Agricultural Classifications.

Automatic Homestead Exemption renewal (white card), Agricultural Classifications (green card) and Tangible Personal Property Exemption (blue card) have recently been mailed. Do not return the card to this office if you still qualify. Please keep it as your receipt.

To file for Homestead Exemption, please furnish the following:

1. Florida Driver's License
2. Florida Vehicle
3. Glades County Voter's Registration or recorded Declaration of Domicile
4. Social Security Number (If married both husband and wife required)
5. Permanent Resident Card (If not a U.S. Citizen)
6. Applicant must hold title to the property and reside on property by January 1, 2013
7. Copy of your mobile home title or registration in order to purchase a permanent "RP" sticker

For those disabled persons that are unable to come to the courthouse, please call and arrangements will be made for us to assist in filing your applications.

Lorie Ward

Glades County Property Appraiser, P.O. Box 1106, Moore Haven, FL 33471
(863) 946-6025 Toll Free 877-445-2337

www.GladesFLPA.com



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Religion Column

I Can Resist Anything But Temptation

BY PASTOR JOHN HICKS
First United Methodist Church

Some years ago, 20/20 had an episode in which some young children were left alone in a room with a few M&M's sitting in front of them.

They were told they could have a whole package of M&M's if they would wait five minutes for a bell to ring before eating the M&M's.

The struggle of temptation was recorded through a two way mirror. It was a humorous study of human nature. These poor kids twitched, fidgeted, wiggled, and twisted their faces up in knots trying not to grab those M&M's. About half made it.

We're all familiar with that struggle. Maybe not for M&M's, but we all have our weak spots. Not everyone is tempted by the same thing in the same way, and what may tempt you may not tempt me.

For example, a beer doesn't tempt me because I don't like the taste and don't drink these days. On the other hand, ice cream tempts me.

I can relate to a boy named Bobby who desperately wanted a new bicycle. His plan was to save his money until he had enough to buy a new 10-speed. Each night, he asked God to help him save his money.

Kneeling beside his bed, he prayed, "Dear Lord, please help me save my money for a new bike; and please, Lord, don't let the ice cream man come down the street again tomorrow."

I have a friend who has an incredible weakness for homemade apple pie. Apple pies don't have a long life-span around him.

Regardless of what may tempt you and what may tempt me, temptation is an inescapable fact of life. Now, temptation does have its uses. As we grapple, we grow. The problem comes when we give into them.

All of us know what it is to enter the wilder-



Pastor John Hicks

ness of temptation.

Think of the tests you and I face every day at work, in our family life, among our friends. We are constantly making decisions.

At heart many of these are moral decisions. Should we speak the truth when a falsehood would serve our purposes better? Ought we to cut corners in order to maximize our profits? What is the harm in a seemingly innocent flirtation? Can we stay on our diet? The list goes on and on, but many of these decisions represent one temptation or another. And should we give in to temptation, much can be lost.

Discipleship Journal ranked areas of greatest spiritual challenge to those Christian readers who participated in their survey: 1. Materialism; 2. Pride; 3. Self-centeredness; 4. (Tie) Anger/Bitterness; 4. (Tie) Sexual lust; 5. Laziness; 6. Envy; 7. Gluttony; 8. Lying.

Survey respondents noted temptations were more potent when they had neglected their time with God (81 percent) and when they were physically tired (57 percent).

The good news is that we do not have to give in to temptation. Resisting temptation was accomplished by prayer (84 percent), avoiding compromising situations (76 percent), Bible study (66 percent), and being accountable to someone (52 percent).

My dog Pepper has shown me another way to resist temptation. I place a piece of meat in front of her and give her the command to wait.

Rather than look at the tempting meat and risk giving in to the urge to go for it, she has learned to look at me, her master, and wait until I tell her "okay."

There's a lesson there for us to avoid giving into temptation: Always look to the Master's face when facing it.

Temptation is universal, and some temptations are deadly if they are not reined in. But with God's help, and sometimes with the help of a friend, temptations are resistible.

Reflections

BY BUTCH WILSON
Clewiston Museum

The keen eyes of the archeologist gazed upon the century's old object, which now rested in her hand. Its rounded edges at first gave the illusion that it was a fossil shell from the pre-historic past.

However, a closer examination quickly revealed its true identity; a pottery shard. Images of slender mahogany hands, shaping and molding pottery, mesmerized the archeologist as she reflected back to the forgotten days of the Mayaimis people on Lake Okeechobee.

Join us as Archeologist Katherine Higgins presents a program at the Clewiston Museum on Tuesday, February 19 at 7 p.m.

Miss Higgins currently works with the emi-

nant Palm Beach County Archeologist, Chris Davenport, who has conducted extensive studies on Mayaimis artifacts found in and around Lake Okeechobee.

Her lecture will portray the "Belle Glade Culture," a term archeologist use today when describing a unique Lake Okeechobee society known as the Mayaimis, ancient people that are distinguished for their great ceremonial circles and plain, unmarked pottery. Katherine's fascinating presentation will place emphasis on the pottery used by these early Lake Okeechobee inhabitants.

It's a free hour of entertainment that you can't afford to miss. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Contact the museum at 863-983-2870 or email clewistonmuseum@embarqmail.com for more information.

3rd Annual Clewiston Christian School Skeet Shoot



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Clewiston Christian School held its 3rd Annual Skeet Shoot on Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Hilliard Log Cabin property on Flaghole Road. The fundraiser began with a hearty breakfast of biscuits and gravy provided by Beef O' Brady's as well as a variety of homemade cakes and cookies. There was even a bounce house to entertain the younger family members.

After breakfast, the teams were given a brief rundown of the rules and the eleven teams of shooters then took their places at the Hilliard's eight station skeet range. The weather was beautiful, as family and friends sat under the surrounding trees and cheered them on.

Shooters, families, friends and workers were treated to a "Bang-up" BBQ lunch, provided by

Jeff and Pam Davis, as winners were announced and prizes awarded. The "Top Gun" Award went to Mr. Dirk Kruzan, followed by first place, Mr. Ray Holcomb. Second place, Mr. Tommy Greenwood. Third place, Mr. Dwayne Pollard and fourth place, Mr. Dyll Turner.

The Top Youth Shooters were Jonathon Hattton, first place and Caleb Curry, second place. The Overall Team Winner was Quality Electric.

Clewiston Christian School continues to "Aim for Excellence" and wishes to thank each and every individual who worked so hard to make this event a success!

Thank you also to the Hilliard Family for providing such a beautiful place and to all the sponsors and shooters for your continued support!



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Anglers visit Westside

Anglers from the FLW tournament visited Westside Elementary. The students and staff had a blast listening to stories and learning about competitive fishing.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised the Hendry County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) & Recycle Collection Center, located at **1360 Forestry Division Road in LaBelle**, is now open to the public by appointment only. The Clewiston HHW Center, located at **1381 Evercane Road**, continues to be by appointment only. You may call **863-673-0508** to make an appointment. ***No illegal dumping outside the gate is permitted.***

If you have questions, you may call the above mentioned number or **863-674-4162** or the **Hendry County Special Districts Office at 863-675-5252.**

HELPFUL TIPS: Household Hazardous Waste

Many products we use in and around our home and discard with our trash are similar to regulated hazardous waste produced by business and industry. Products that are corrosive, such as acids and alkalis, are flammable, reactive or toxic and are found in homes, garages, workshops or used in gardens. Some examples are:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| * Pesticides, Herbicides, Fungicides & Insecticides | * Nail Polish & Remover | (Non-household may drop off up to ten (10) for a fee of \$0.50 each.) |
| * Batteries, rechargeable and auto | * Oven & Drain Cleaners | * Thermometers (Containing Mercury) |
| * Mothballs | * Metal Polish & Rust Removers | * Wood Preservatives |
| * Liquid Paint & Thinners | * Mildew Removers | * Small Freon Bottles |
| * Furniture Strippers, Finishers, Polishes & Waxes | * Swimming Pool Chemicals | * Propane Tanks |
| * Motor Oil, Brake & Transmission Fluid, Gasoline & Antifreeze | * Cleansers: Upholstery/All Purpose, etc. | * Electronics (TVs, computers, phones, etc.) |
| * Solvents & De-greasers | * Fluorescent Tubes (Containing Mercury) | |

These items may be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers free of charge to residents.

RECYCLING

Acceptable Items:
Plastics #1 PET
Drink Bottles
Plastics #2 HDPE

Frosted Milk Jugs
Mixed Plastics
#3 PVC, #4 LDPE, #5 PP & #6
Pigmented Jugs (laundry detergent)

Tubs/Containers (jelly & butter)
Bottles (shampoo, dish liquid & ketchup)
Five-Gallon Pales
(Rinse all recyclables, as necessary.)

AVISO PÚBLIC AVISO PUBLICO

Por favor, tenga en cuenta que el Condado Hendry Desechos Caseros Peligrosos (HHW) & Reciclaje Centro, ubicado @ **1360 División de Silvicultura Carretera en Labelle**, se encuentra a disposición del público sólo con cita previa. El HHW Clewiston Centro, ubicado @ **Evercane Carretera en 1381**, sigue siendo únicamente por cita. Usted puede llamar **863-673-0508** para hacer una cita. ***Ningún vertido ilegal fuera de la puerta es permitida.***

Si usted tiene preguntas, usted puede llamar el mencionado número o **863-674-4162** o el condado Hendry distritos especiales Oficina @ teléfono **863-675-5252.**

INFORMACIÓN ÚTIL: Desechos Peligrosos

Muchos de los productos que utilizamos en los alrededores de nuestra casa y de descarte con nuestra basura son similares a los residuos peligrosos producidos regulado por las empresas y la industria. Los productos que son corrosivos, como ácidos y álcalis, son inflamables, reactivos o tóxicos y se encuentran en casas, garajes, talleres o utilizados en los jardines. Algunos ejemplos son:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| * Pesticidas, herbicidas, fungicidas y plaguicidas | * Esmalte de uñas y removedor | (No domésticos pueden dejar hasta diez (10) por un costo de \$ 0.50 cada uno.) |
| * Las baterías recargables y auto | * Horno y drenaje Cleaners | * Los termómetros (que contiene mercurio) |
| * Las bolas de naftalina | * Metal Polish & Removedores Rust | * Los conservantes de madera |
| * Líquido de Pinturas y Disolventes | * El moho Removedores | * Botellas Pequeñas freón |
| * Strippers Muebles, finalistas, Betunes y ceras | * Productos químicos para piscinas | * Tanques de propano |
| * Motor de fluido de aceite, frenos y transmisión, Gasolina y anticongelante | * Limpiadores: Tapicería / All Purpose, etc | * Electrónica (televisores, computadoras, teléfonos, etc) |
| * Disolventes y engrasadores De- | * Tubos fluorescentes (que contienen mercurio) | |

Estos artículos pueden ser llevados a las Peligrosos del Hogar Centros de recogida de residuos de forma gratuita a los residentes.

RECICLAJE

Artículos Aceptables
Plásticos # 1 PET
Beba Botellas
Plásticos # 2 HDPE

Frosted jarras de leche
Plásticos mixtos
3 PVC, # 4 LDPE, PP # 5 y # 6
Jarras pigmentadas (detergente para la ropa)

Tinas / Contenedores (jalea y mantequilla)
Botellas (champú, jabón líquido y salsa de tomate)
Cinco galones Pales
(Enjuague todos los materiales reciclables, según sea necesario.)

Keri Alford 2013 Golden Apple Teacher; Sylvester Humphrey Earns Heritage Award

BY PATTY BRANT
The Clewiston News

If you give less than your best, it's a waste of your ability.

Of all the things 2013 Hendry County Golden Apple Teacher Keri Alford has imparted to her students, that is the one that Brittany Thomas will never forget. Brittany introduced her own personal Golden Apple Teacher at the annual Golden Apple Awards dinner on February 7.

Currently a fifth grade inclusion teacher at Westside Elementary School (WES) in Clewiston, Ms. Alford gives 100 percent of herself to her students. In addition to the usual math, reading, science, and more, she even eats lunch with them, Brittany told the audience.

"She might be a little hard on me sometimes, but that's okay. It's only because she wants me to do my best," the fifth grader commented in her emotional introduction.

In accepting the honor, Ms. Alford acknowledged that she really "wasn't ready for this," as she recalled the backgrounds of all the other Golden Apple candidates. She said that she is passionate about teaching and about her students.

This is her third year at WES after first teaching at Clewiston High School.

After school hours Ms. Alford serves on the Data Analysis Team, does after school tutoring and is the St. Jude's Marathon Coordinator.

One of her cherished accomplishments as a teacher came when she helped a high school student appreciate his own academic abilities.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Keri Alford and her daughter.

That young man graduated with a special diploma, went on to get a GED and is now proudly serving in the US Coast Guard - an example of just how important good teachers are in the lives of their students.

Sylvester Humphrey was also recognized that evening with the Heritage Award. He is only the second recipient of this award. Former Superintendent of Schools Bill Burke was the first last year.

Mr. Humphrey served the Hendry County School District for 37 years, from 1960-97. He served as a teacher, guidance counselor, adult education principal, adult education coordinator and, from 1983 his retirement, as Director of Transportation.

His work ethic remains a model for employees even today.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fire department places smoke detectors

On Jan. 11 a stove fire broke out at Mrs. Verdell McKenzie's residence in Harlem. The fire was luckily contained to the stove and no one was hurt. It was noticed by the responding fire crew that there were no smoke detectors in the home. On Feb 3, Fire Marshal Adam Marquith and Firefighter Mike Pittman from Clewiston Fire Department placed smoke detectors in the home of Mrs. McKenzie. The smoke detectors were provided by HSM Consulting Inc and Florida Paninsula Insurance Company. Mrs. McKenzie would like to thank everyone involved with the donation and placement of the smoke detectors. Clewiston Fire Department would like to remind everyone of having and checking your smoke detectors. This could save your life or the life of a loved one.

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**David C. Brown,
M.D., F.A.C.S.**
Founder & Medical Director

Short BOCC Meeting Focuses on Noise Pollution, Flood Insurance

BY SAVANNAH ROUNDS
srounds@newszap.com

Tuesday night's Board of County Commissioners meeting ran much shorter than usual, as the consent agenda was taken almost completely from the discussion. This was done in order to allow commissioners to attend a reception held at Port LaBelle Inn for the county administrator finalists. One item brought to the board was the case made by Mark and Yvonne Sutterfield, two Montura Ranches residents who have been complaining about a noise disturbance from a local restaurant. This restaurant is located across the street from their home.

The restaurant's current license does not allow them to have live entertainment or have cover charges to certain events, which the Sutterfield's claimed they were doing.

The operator of the restaurant, Reed Bloomingfeld, spoke to the board, claiming that he did not know the "fine tuning" of what was allowed under the current license held by the facility. He did not deny the claims made by the complainant's, but did explain that after being made aware of the legalities, he stopped doing the things which required a different license.

Mark Sutterfield explained that the problems didn't begin until the noise level began to rapidly increase.

"The noise is affecting my livelihood," he explained, saying that his family cannot sleep because of the noise. "My three-year-old son thinks that someone is at his window because of the vibrations the music causes."

Chairman Karson Turner stated that the board heard the complaint "loud and clear," and also stated that he felt local code enforcement

had "dropped the ball" on the situation.

Chairman Turner explained that there have been complaints similar to this throughout the county, where code enforcement has not been completely fulfilling their job duties.

Commissioner Al Perry was concerned as to why the situation was brought to the board so prematurely, feeling that it could have been handled by city staff without having to be brought up to the level that it reached so quickly.

Chairman Turner explained that they would be "proactive rather than reactive" in resolving the situation. Another topic of the night involved the Hendry County FEMA Flood Insurance Study, which Taylor Engineering is currently working to present to Hendry County administrators.

"I've met everybody other than Joe Biden

and President Obama to discuss this thing," began Chairman Turner, "and it aggravates me to no end to know that our constituents are paying money for flood insurance when, if you just go to the Palm Beach County line, you don't have to pay. To me, that's a crime."

Commissioner Perry explained that there is one section of town where only one street has to pay for flood insurance, while the other streets are not required to. Other commissioners also had comments to add regarding the situation, agreeing that something needed to change, with Commissioner Janet B. Taylor explaining that she would be involved in the meeting process. Shortly after, the meeting was wrapped up in an effort to allow commissioners the chance to attend their reception.

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February is
American heart Month

**Think it could be last night's chili?
Think again... it could be a heart attack.**

Symptoms of a heart attack

- Chest pain or pressure
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Inland Birding Fun: Cooper's Hawk (COHA)

BY MARGARET ENGLAND
Hendry-Glades Audubon

For the first time anyone anywhere in the world with Internet access can participate in the 16th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) from Feb. 15-18.



Margaret England

Participants simply watch birds at any location for at least 15 minutes, tally the numbers of each species they see, and report their tallies online at www.BirdCount.org. Hendry-Glades Audubon volunteers will enter data for participants who don't have internet access.

Please contact Margaret England to request a copy of the tally sheet which would need to be returned to Hendry-Glades Audubon before March 1st.

The four-day count typically receives sightings from tens of thousands of people reporting more than 600 bird species in the United States and Canada alone. Last year 280 species were reported in Florida, including the Cooper's Hawk.

The Cooper's Hawk is a crow-sized raptor with a slender body, broad rounded wings, and a very long rounded tail. They have a flap-flap-glide flight pattern. Females are larger and more powerfully built than the males.

Adult plumage is steely blue-gray above with orange and white barred underparts. Juveniles are brown above with a golden buff head and well defined dark brown streaks on their upper breast. The oldest known Cooper's Hawk was 20 years and four months old.

These birds are usually silent. Their most common call is a loud grating "cak-cak-cak" made by either sex while defending their nest site or during courtship.

In the eastern United States they are found hunting for birds in deep forests, leafy subdivisions, and backyards. Cooper's Hawks capture birds with their feet, which are killed by repeated squeezing.

They have also been reported to drown their prey. Males usually take small to medium-sized songbirds while females prey upon larger birds like doves, Pileated Woodpeckers, and crows.

In Florida most Cooper's Hawk nesting occurs from April through July in the northern two-thirds of the state. The male builds a nest 25 to 50 feet above the ground in pines, oaks or other trees growing near a clearing. The nest is completed in about two week with very little help from the female. This stick nest, about 27 inches in diameter, is lined with bark flakes and green twigs.

The female incubates three to five pale blue to greenish eggs for 30 to 36 days. The male provides most of the food for the female and hatchlings until the young are ready to fledge at 30 to 34 days of age.

You and your guests are invited participate

in upcoming birding trips Saturday February 16, Sunday February 17 or Monday February 18th at STA5 (Stormwater Treatment Area 5). A few volunteers will be working on the Great Backyard Bird Count survey.

Birders and/or photographers will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the STA5 Deer Fence Canal Trailhead. To make a reservation or request a GBBC tally sheet, please e-mail Margaret England at sta5birding@embarqmail.com or phone 863-674-0695 or 863-517-0202.

The schedule of STA5 trips through December 2013 and upcoming Hendry-Glades Audubon programs is available on the HGAS website at www.hendrygladesaudubon.org. "Like" Hendry-Glades Audubon on Facebook.

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DEADLINE FOR 2013 EXEMPTIONS

Phillip Pelletier, Hendry County Property Appraiser, invites you to take advantage of your savings between now and March 1, 2013. We are located in LaBelle, in the Courthouse, third floor OR our Clewiston office at 100 E. El Paso Ave. Offices are open 8:00 AM till 5:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. **Special extended hours for LaBelle and Clewiston offices will be Thursday February 21st and Thursday February 28th from 8:00 AM till 6:00 PM.**

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS

1. Homestead Exemption \$25,000 / \$0 / \$25,000
Applies to first \$25,000 of assessed value (all taxing authorities)
Applies to \$50,000 - \$75,000 assessed value (non-school district)
2. Disabled veteran discount based on disabled %, age 65+ combat related
3. Disabled Veteran's Exemption based on % of disability (up to) \$5,000
4. Confined to wheelchair, service connected totally disabled (all taxes)
5. Service connected totally/permanently disabled veteran or surviving spouse (all taxes)
6. Surviving spouse of veteran who died while on active duty (all taxes)
7. Surviving spouse of first responder who died in the line of duty (all taxes)
8. Widow's or Widower's Exemption \$500
9. Non-Veteran Disability and Blindness Exemption \$500(or more)
10. Additional Exemption 65 years of age or older w/an annual income of less than \$27,590 per household (documentation is required) (up to) \$50,000
11. Tangible Personal Property Exemption \$25,000
12. Agriculture Classification (Green Belt)
13. Homestead Portability
14. Deployed Military Exemption

If you have recently purchased your property, the previous owners' exemptions do not apply to you. New applications MUST be filed for new ownership or deed transfers. This would also include (name) changes in Agricultural Classified parcels.

Homestead Exemption renewal (white card) and Agricultural Classifications (green card) have recently been mailed. If you still qualify, keep your receipt; do NOT return it to our office.

YOU NEED THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION TO FILE FOR HOMESTEAD:

- Applicant must hold title to property and reside on the property by January 1, 2013
- If Recreational Vehicle Condominium Park, FL, registration of Motor Coach is required
- Florida Driver's License (if married, both husband & wife)
- Florida Vehicle Registration
- Hendry County Voter Registration OR Recorded Declaration of Domicile
- Social Security Number (if married, both husband & wife required)
- Permanent Resident Card (if not a US citizen)
- Mobile Home Registration or Title in order to purchase the permanent "RP" sticker
- The mailing address of your bank statement and/or a copy of your utility bill at homestead address may be required.

For those who are unable to come to either of our offices, please call and arrangements will be made to assist you in filing your application.

PHILLIP L. PELLETIER

HENDRY COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

PO Box 1840, LaBelle, FL 33975-1840

In LaBelle: 863-675-5270 * In Clewiston: 863-983-1591

www.hendryprop.org



PHOTO / LARRY FROGGE

Cooper's Hawk.



Arelys Valles Becomes Clewiston High School's First FHSAA State Qualifier in 3 Years

The Tiger Wrestling team traveled to Tampa to compete in their Regional tournament on Friday, Feb. 8 and 9.

Any wrestler who places in the top four in their respective weight class will advance to the FSHAA state tournament the following week.

The tigers were once again led by senior captain Arelys Valles, who on Saturday, became the first girl in Clewiston wrestling history to qualify for the state tournament.

Coming off a district title, Valles won three matches, two by way of pin, earning 4th place in the region and punching her ticket to the FHSAA State championships held in Lakeland on February 15th and 16th; improving her season record to 30-9.

"What she did was nothing short of amazing," said her coaches. "Qualifying for the state tournament was the result of all the sacrifice, hard work and dedication that she put in over the past year because nothing was given, everything was earned."

From a setback suffered back in April of last year because of a knee injury, through adversarities during the whole year and a whole lot of tough matches, Arelys never lost sight of her goal.

When most kids were sleeping in on Thanksgiving day, Christmas eve and New year's eve, she was up at 7am leading her team through a workout. Throughout the year, she was the first one in the wrestling room and the last one out,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

always looking for ways to get better.

Which is why it came as no surprise that she became the first state qualifier in wrestling Clewiston has had in three years. In a sport largely dominated by men, Arelys Valles, the only female to qualify for the state tournament this year, is now considered as one of the top 16 wrestlers at her weight in the state of Florida.

"That's something that nobody can overlook, nor take away. She earned her spot and belongs

in the big show. No matter what happens from here one out, everyone is extremely proud of her. What she's done is special, 16 competitors in her weight class in the region and only four advanced and she's one of them," said her coaches.

Azeekwuia Bryant and Curtis Clay Jr. each won a match at the Regional level on Friday. Other tigers competitors were Oscar Matamoros, Matthew Vary, Michael Counts and Jared Escorcia.

"We have a very young team with five freshmen or first year wrestlers in the lineup this year, it's a bitter/sweet feeling because of the growing pains us coaches have to go through when dealing with a young team, but the future looks bright and that's the sweet part of it. Every one of these guys has had a taste of glory this year and they've all seen what it takes to be a champion and it won't be long before that translates on the mat."

Miss Hendry County Pageant Contestants

The Miss Hendry County Pageant will be held on Saturday, Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hendry County Fairgrounds.



Maegan Miller



Corrina Meister



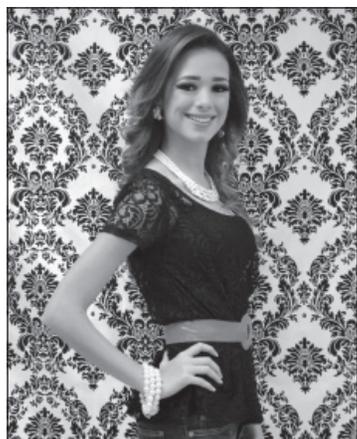
Courtney Brown



Brianna Davis



Destiny Murphy



Jocelyn Martinez



Devyn Crouch



Ashley Adams



Emily Morales



Financial

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

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

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

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Moore Haven, 3br, 2ba home rent, 202 10th St. \$700. mth + sec. 863-983-9480.

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CLEWISTON - In town Duplex (2 sep. 3/2 plus lrg yard). \$37,500 ea. \$75k total. Ideal to share w/relative or home + rental income. Call owner 863-673-5071.

Mobile Homes

Mobile Home Rent

Clewiston - 2 Bedrooms. \$475 Monthly. 3 Bedrooms. \$550 & up. 863-983-8106.

Mobile Home Sale

CLEWISTON - 3 Bed, 2 Bath 2013. Doublewide on NICE lot in City Limits. \$550 Monthly. 863-983-8106.

Hunting Camp - 3 bedroom. As Is, Where Is. \$4000 Obo. 863-983-3554.

M.H. 2bd/2ba on large lot \$30,000. 309 Pinecrest Ave, owner may finance

M.H. on 1+ acre \$35,000. 1408 Saddle Ln, owner may finance

(863)983-9480

Mobile Home Sale

Montura Area -2 Bedroom. \$4595 Obo. 863-983-3554.

Moore Haven - Doublewide 2bd/1ba. w/ porch on 2 acres, sm. pond w/ barn and pasture, \$48,000, 1257 Hipochnee Lane SW, Moore Haven. Call 863-227-1975.

Very large doublewide 4br, 2bath located on 1/2 acre lot in Horse-shoe Acres. Ready to move in. Dealer financing available with \$5,900 down. Your credit has to be at least average. Price \$59,900. Call Kenny 863-673-4325 or 863-675-8888

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Recreation Campers/RVs

Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot. Call 941-347-7171

Public Notices

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2011-000960-CA

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CHASE HOME FINANCE, LLC SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CHASE MANHATTAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff,
vs.
NOEL DE ARMAS A/K/A NOEL D. ARMAS; NOEL VIGIL; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF NOEL DE ARMAS A/K/A NOEL D. ARMAS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF NOEL VIGIL; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II, and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under any of the above-named Defendants,, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: NOEL DE ARMAS A/K/A NOEL D. ARMAS
520 W OBISPO AVENUE
CLEWISTON, FL 33440-3266
OR
4306 EVERHIGH ACRES ROAD,
CLEWISTON FL 33440

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF NOEL DE ARMAS A/K/A NOEL D. ARMAS
520 W OBISPO AVENUE
CLEWISTON, FL 33440-3266
OR
4306 EVERHIGH ACRES ROAD,
CLEWISTON FL 33440

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS STATED,
CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose Mortgage covering the following real and personal property described as follows, to-wit:

LOT 19 AND THE WEST 1/2 OF LOT 20, BLOCK 438, OF THE GENERAL PLAN OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF BLOCK III, IN THE CITY OF CLEWISTON, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 24, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Mark A. Buckles, Butler & Hosch, P.A., 3185 South Conway Road, Suite E, Orlando, Florida 32812 and file the original with the Clerk of the above-cited Court on or before 30 days from the first publication, 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 3rd day of May, 2012.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Deputy Court Administrator whose office is located at Hendry County Courthouse, 125 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle, Florida 33935 and whose phone number is (941) 675-5217 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711 or toll free at 1-800-955-8771.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ J. Bevis
Deputy Clerk

436361 CN 2/14,21/2013

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING EAST HENDRY COUNTY COMMUNITIES RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the East Hendry County Communities Recreation Advisory Board will hold a meeting February 19, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., at the Harlem Community Center, 2000 7th St, Clewiston, Florida.

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

East Hendry County Communities Recreation Advisory Board
436305 CN/CB 2/14/2013

Public Notice

AVISO DE LA REUNION REGULAR DE LA JUNTA DE SUPERVISORES ORES DEL DISTRITO DE CONTROL DE AGUAS DEL CONDADO CENTRAL

A través de la presente se le notifica que la Reunión Regular de la Junta de Supervisores del Distrito de Control de Aguas del Condado Central se llevará a cabo el miércoles, 27 de febrero de 2013 a las 7 pm en Montura Clubhouse, 255 N. Hacienda St. Montura Ranch Estates, Clewiston, Florida. El propósito de esta reunión es para tratar cualquier y todo asunto que pueda plantearse ante la Junta. Si una persona decide apelar la decisión de la Junta de Supervisores con respecto a cualquier asunto considerado en la reunión pública o audiencia en referencia a este aviso él o ella tendrá que asegurarse de que el procedimiento de apelación quede asentado palabra por palabra en el acta, en el acta se incluye su testimonio y pruebas en la cual usted fundamenta la apelación. 436201 CN 2/14,21/2013

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE CENTRAL COUNTY WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

You are hereby notified that the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Central County Water Control District will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 7 pm at the Montura Clubhouse located at 255 N. Hacienda St. Montura Ranch Estates, Clewiston, Florida. The purpose of this meeting is to transact any and all business which may come before the Board. If a person decides to appeal the decision of the Board of Supervisors with respect to any matter considered at the public meeting or hearing herein referred to he or she may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. 436200 CN 2/14,21/2013

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Glades County Sheriff's Office has found and impounded two horses from the Muse area. Please contact Sergeant David Hardin at 863-946-1600 if you have any information or to retrieve the horses. 436184 GCD 2/7,2/14/2013

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING

The Florida Governmental Utility Authority ("FGUA") announces a public meeting and public hearing 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; Polk County, Florida; and Lee County, Florida. The meeting and public hearing will be held at 1 p.m. on March 21, 2013 at the East Pasco County Courthouse, 37918 Meridian Ave, Dade City, FL 33525. The meeting as previously advertised to be held by the use of communications media technology only, will not be held as such. 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 water and wastewater systems of Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc., and Crystal River Utilities, Inc., which are proposed to be acquired by the FGUA. 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. 435373 CN 2/7,14/2013

Public Notice

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Barron-Hilliard-Alico Cooperative Drainage Plan will be held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 27, 2013, at the Barron Water Control District Office, 3293 Dellwood Terrace, Port LaBelle, Florida, to conduct routine business.

This meeting is open to the public.

Lester B. Baird, Sr.
Secretary

436526 CN/CB 2/14/2013

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE FLAGHOLE DRAINAGE DISTRICT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2013 AT 8:45 AM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT HILLIARD BROTHERS OFFICE ON 5500 FLAGHOLE ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

JOE MARLIN HILLIARD
SUPERVISOR
FLAGHOLE DRAINAGE DISTRICT
436663 CN 2/14/2013

Public Notice

NOTICE: AUCTION on Friday, February 15th, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at 1233 N.W. Avenue L, Belle Glade, Florida.

• **Property of: Johnnie Dent,** miscellaneous boxes, refrigerator, mattress and box spring, 2 TVs, bedroom set, portable heater, clothes.
435801 SUN 2/7,14/2013

Public Notice

THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE HENDRY-HILLIARD WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2013, 9:30AM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT HILLIARD BROTHERS OFFICE ON 5500 FLAGHOLE ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

JOE MARLIN HILLIARD
SUPERVISOR
HENDRY-HILLIARD WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
436660 CN 2/14/2013

Public Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR GLADES COUNTY, FLORIDA.
CASE NO.: 2012-187-CA

TRAID FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., a Florida corporation,
Plaintiff

vs.
RAMON D. RODRIGUEZ, etc., et al.,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Ramon D. Rodriguez, a/k/a Ramon David Rodriguez, IF LITIGANT, AND IF DECEASED, HIS UNKNOWN SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, CREDITORS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST HIM
Residence(s): Unknown

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

All of Lot 12, Lot 13 less the West 68 feet of the South 35 feet and Lot 14, Less the West 68 feet, all in Block J, Horse-shoe Acres, according to the map or plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 3, pages 49 and 50, of the public records of Glades County, Florida.

has been filed against you and Adelfa Rodriguez; William A. Marcotte and Betty J. Marcotte, his wife, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on LAWRENCE J. BERNARD, ESQUIRE, Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 480 Busch Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32218, on or before 30 days from the first date of publication of this notice, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on the 1st day of February, 2013.

Clerk of the Court
BY: Julie Braddock
As Deputy Clerk
436622 CN 2/14,21/2013

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE SUGARLAND DRAINAGE DISTRICT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2013, 9:15AM. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT HILLIARD BROTHERS OFFICE ON 5500 FLAGHOLE ROAD, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.

JOE MARLIN HILLIARD SUPERVISOR SUGARLAND DRAINAGE DISTRICT 436658 CN 2/14/2013

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

Shop here first! The classified ads

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
Florida Department of Transportation Project

Bids will be received by the District One Office until 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, February 21, 2013, for the following Proposals:

E1L75 - The improvements under this Contract consist of drainage improvements. Highlands - Budget Estimate: \$112,035.00
E1M33 - The improvements under this Contract consist of Landscaping. Polk - Budget Estimate: \$175,000.00
E1M40 - Performance Highway Lighting Maintenance, Manatee & Sarasota Counties - Budget Estimate: \$53,550.00; Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting on February 7, 2013, 1:00 p.m., 801 N. Broadway Ave., Bartow, Florida 33830.
E1M41-RO - Tree Trimming and Removal and Power Shearing. Manatee & Sarasota - Budget Estimate: \$120,000.00
435417 CN 2/7,14/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1605 | 2009 | 1224432-01000570050 | Julio Diaz, Jr. |

Lot 6, Block 57 of MONTURA RANCH ESTATES, First Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 3, at Pages 37, 38, and 39 of the 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436460 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 972 | 2009 | 1224331-010000H0120 | John M & Tressy L Rogers |

The Northwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of Section 22, Township 43 South, Range 31 East, in Hendry County, Florida. Also known as Lot 12, Block H, 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436449 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1799 | 2009 | 1254432-A0001930100 | Felipe D Ledesma-Garnica |

The East one-half of the East one-half of the South one-half of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of Section 25, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for ingress, egress and utilities over and across the East 30 feet and the South 40 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 554 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436461 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1741 | 2009 | 1254432-A0000450100 | Adriana E. Calles |

The North one-half of the Northeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of Section 25, 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 5077 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436454 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **Euphonium V, 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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 492 | 2008 | 1334528-A0000010000 | Delta Aggregate, LLC |

The North one-half of Section 33, Township 45 South, Range 28 East, Hendry County, Florida. LESS the West 60 feet thereof.

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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436409 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1702 | 2009 | 1244432-A0000830000 | Rosario H. Zamora |

The East one-half of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Northwest 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 North 40 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 5299 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436442 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1247 | 2009 | 1134432-A0000220000 | The Lyndel Group, LLC |

The Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of Section 13, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the North 80 feet thereof. Subject to an easement for an access road of the West 30 feet thereof. Also known as Lot 5687 and Lot 5688 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436458 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1727 | 2009 | 1254432-A0000190100 | Guillermo Herrera |

The North one-half of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of Section 25, 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 5155 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436450 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LANDOWNERS OF FLAGHOLE DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to call of the Board of Supervisors of Flaghole Drainage District, and in accordance with Chapter 298, Florida Statutes 1941, and law amendatory thereto, the Annual Meeting of Landowners of Flaghole Drainage District, for the year 2012, will be held at the office of Hilliard Brothers of Florida, Ltd., 5500 Flaghole Road, Clewiston, Florida on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 8:30 A.M., for the purpose of:

1. Electing one (1) supervisor for a term of three (3) years.
2. Receiving annual reports and taking such action with respect thereto as the landowners may determine.
3. Transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Additionally, this notice advises that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Flaghole Drainage District Board of Supervisors, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, He will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, He 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 Supervisors
Flaghole Drainage District

By: Joe Marlin Hilliard
President
436662 CN 2/14/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1806 | 2009 | 1254432-A0002190100 | Jorge & Amerilis Rodriguez |

The North one-half of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 25, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the West 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 5030 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436443 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

REQUEST FOR BIDS
SKY VALLEY TURN LANE IMPROVEMENTS
CLEWISTON, FL
BID NUMBER: 2013-14
OPENING DATE AND TIME: March 7, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

Sealed Bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Hendry County, Florida, "Sky Valley Turn Lane Improvements, Clewiston, FL". In order to be considered, bids must be received by the Board of County Commissioners at the C.E. Hall Building (Clerk's Office) in the Hendry County Courthouse Complex, 25 E. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida by March 7, 2013 at 2:00 p.m., at which time all responses to this request will be recorded in the presence of one or more witnesses.

A copy of the Instructions and Bid Documents can be obtained from the Hendry County Purchasing Department, located at 640 S. Main Street, LaBelle, Florida 33935 (for pick up). Post Office Box 2340, LaBelle, FL 33975 (mailing address) or by calling (863) 675-5220 or (863) 983-1585.

Bidders are encouraged to attend the **Pre-Bid Conference on February 27, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Engineering Department, 99 E. Cowboy Way, LaBelle, Florida 33935.

This solicitation does not commit Hendry County to award any contracts, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this Bid, or to contract for any services. The County reserves the right to reject any or all submittals received as a result of this solicitation, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this Bid, if it is in the best interest of the County to do so.

Hendry County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Drug/Smoke Free Work Place.

Karson Turner, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
436106 CB/CN 2/7,14,21,28/2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
Chapter 197.512 Florida Statutes

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **RJS Realty, 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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 493 | 2008 | 1334528-A0000020000 | Delta Aggregate, LLC |

The South one-half of Section 33, Township 45 South, Range 28 East, Hendry County, Florida. LESS the West 60 feet thereof.

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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436414 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LANDOWNERS OF SUGARLAND DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to call of the Board of Supervisors of Sugarland Drainage District, and in accordance with Chapter 298, Florida Statutes 1941, and law amendatory thereto, the Annual Meeting of Landowners of Sugarland Drainage District, for the year 2012, will be held at the office of Hilliard Brothers of Florida, Ltd., 5500 Sugarland Road, Clewiston, Florida on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 9:00 A.M., for the purpose of:

1. Electing one (1) supervisor for a term of three (3) years.
2. Receiving annual reports and taking such action with respect thereto as the landowners may determine.
3. Transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Additionally, this notice advises that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Sugarland Drainage District Board of Supervisors, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, He will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, He 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 Supervisors
Sugarland Drainage District

By: Joe Marlin Hilliard
President
436655 CN/GCD 2/14/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1789 | 2009 | 1254432-A0001660000 | Alicia B Pajares and Maria I Cabral |

The South one-half of the East one-half of the South one-half of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of Section 25, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for ingress, egress, and utilities over and across the East 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 533 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436459 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--|
| 1763 | 2009 | 1254432-A0000970000 | Eloy Nunez C/O Manuel A. Blanco ESQ |

The South one-half of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of Section 25, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the East 30 feet thereof. Subject to an easement for a drainage canal of the South 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 1149 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th day of February, 2013**

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

436457 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

Public Notice

Public Notice

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--|
| 1708 | 2009 | 1244432-A0001020100 | Francisco Pereiro Liz & Maria Carmen Gonzalez De Pereiro |

The South one-half of the Northeast one-quarter of the Northwest 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 5231 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th** day of **February, 2013**

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

436447 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--|
| 1801 | 2009 | 1254432-A0002010000 | Manuel & Mercedes Quinteros & Estaquio F. Alemeida |

The North one-half of the West one-half of the South one-half of the Northwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of Section 25, Township 44 South, Range 32 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the West 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 579 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th** day of **February, 2013**

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

436412 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--|
| 1094 | 2009 | 1334331-A0002030000 | Frank Fanelli Sr & Frank Fanelli Jr & Stephen Scarpone |

The Southwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of the Northeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 33, Township 43 South, Range 31 East, Hendry County, Florida. Subject to an easement for an access road of the South 30.00 feet thereof. Also subject to an easement for an access road of the East 30.00 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 93, 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th** day of **February, 2013**

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

436453 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

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

How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

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



Public Notice

Public Notice

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 |
|-----------|------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 786 | 2009 | 1274329-010000E10360 | Altigracia Puente |

From the intersection of the North line of the South one-half of Section 4, Township 44 South, Range 29 East, Hendry County, Florida, with the centerline of State Road 29, runs South 3 degrees 51' East along the centerline of said State Road 29 a distance of 300 feet to the Point of Beginning. Thence North 86 degrees 17' East 450 feet, South 3 degrees 51' East 50 feet; South 86 degrees 17' West 450 feet; North 3 degrees 51' West 50 feet to the Point of Beginning. Being Lots 36 and 37, Unit E-1, Section 4, Township 44 South, Range 29 East, Hendry County, Florida. Excepting and reserving the Westerly 50 feet for the right of way of State Road 29.

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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th** day of **February, 2013**

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

436446 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--|
| 1707 | 2009 | 1244432-A0001020000 | Francisco Pereiro Liz & Maria Carmen Gonzalez De Pereiro |

The North one-half of the Northeast one-quarter of the Northwest 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. Subject to an easement for a drainage canal of the North 30 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 5234 in 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th** day of **February, 2013**

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

436411 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

CITY OF CLEWISTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CDBG HOUSING PROGRAM

The City of Clewiston hereby requests PROPOSALS from qualified bidders for the rehabilitation of up to three (3) single family homes located in the City of Clewiston as a part of the City's Housing Program which consists of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Proposals are due no later than 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, March 7, 2013 and delivered or mailed to: Ms. Marilyn McConvey, City Clerk, City of Clewiston, 115 W. Ventura Avenue, Clewiston, Florida 33440 (the City will not assume any responsibility for proposals received past the bid opening time). Any and all proposals received after this time and date will not be opened or considered.

Proposals should be submitted in a separate sealed envelope marked "CITY OF CLEWISTON HOUSING PROGRAM - RFP #2". All bids must be accompanied by Pur-7068 "Public Entity Crimes Report", proof of insurance, licenses and the "Vendor Drug Free Work Place" form. Forms must be fully executed by the responder and returned with the bid.

For specific project information, contact Ms. Nancy Phillips at 561-432-1524 or by email at nsp920@aol.com. Bids will be opened at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2013 in the City of Clewiston Commission Chambers at the Clewiston City Hall.

A **mandatory** meeting and contractor walk-thru for review of these projects will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Commission Chambers of the Clewiston City Hall, 115 West Ventura Avenue, Clewiston. Any firm not represented at this meeting will be unable to bid. All potential bidders must be in the Commission Chambers no later than 10:05 a.m. in order to participate in this RFP.

The City of Clewiston reserves the right to accept or reject any bids. The City of Clewiston is an Equal Opportunity Employer, actively seeking Minority Contractor Participation and promotes Fair Housing.

Phillip Roland
 Mayor
 436408 CN 2/14/2013

When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

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

How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

Public Notice

Public Notice

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 |
|-----------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1103 | 2009 | 1344331-01000000380 | Stephanie C. Sanchez |

A parcel of land in the surveyed portion of fractional Section 34, Township 43 South, Range 31 East, Hendry County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:

West of canal known as the 42 foot canal and described in Book 56, Pages 541 to 547, inclusive, Public Records of Hendry County, Florida, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 34 run North 01 degrees 40' 12" East, along the West boundary line of said Section 34 a distance of 4430.25 feet to a Point-of-Beginning of this description; thence continuing North 01 degrees 40' 12" East along said West boundary line of Section 34 a distance of 242.96 feet; thence South 89 degrees 06' 34" East a distance of 394.89 feet; thence South 01 degrees 40' 12" West a distance of 242.96 feet; thence North 89 degrees 06' 34" West a distance of 394.89 feet to the said Point-of-Beginning of this description. Subject to an easement for an access road of the East 30.00 feet thereof. Also known as Tract 38, 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 Third Thursday** in the month of **March, 2013**, which is the **21st day of March, 2013**.

Dated this **6th** day of **February, 2013**

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

436456 CN 2/14,21,28 & 3/7/2013

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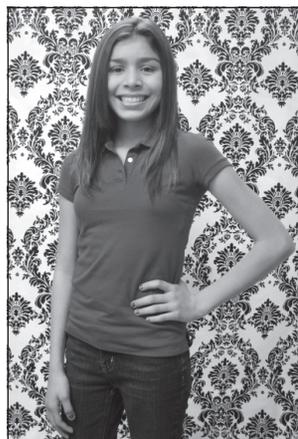
Find us on

Facebook.

Keywords:
The Clewiston News, Glades County Democrat & The Sun

Jr. Miss Hendry County Pageant Contestants

The Jr. Miss Hendry County Pageant will be held on Monday, Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hendry County Fairgrounds.



Alayna Esparza



Alexis Hernandez



Camryn Curry



Carley Lamb



Grayson Brooks



Hanna Hayes



Jaylee Rangle



Jennah Hernandez



Montana Powell



Vicki Wheeler



Vivan Haney

MURDER

Continued • 1

The remaining details of the trial will be tended to by 20th Circuit Court Judge Mason, who is assigned to Hendry County. Judge Greider heard the Stevens case because Judge Mason is not yet certified to hear death penalty trials.

During the penalty phase, the prosecution presented evidence of "aggravating" factors in the case - those that would add to the severity of the crime, while the defense attorneys mounted "mitigating" factors, intended to show that Mr. Stevens deserved leniency.

As prosecutors, Assistant State Attorneys Dan Feinberg and Jennifer Gutmore laid out the state's case against Stevens while defense attorney Terence Lenamon and his team battled to show how a childhood of abuse and a "toxic" home life made the man less culpable.

Mr. Feinberg began his opening statement of the penalty phase by telling the jurors that this would be one of the most serious decisions any of them would ever have to make. The first step would be for them to hear the aggravating factors he and his

team would present; then to hear the mitigation factors from the defense. Then they would have to weigh the two against each other to decide on an appropriate penalty.

He ticked off possible aggravating circumstances including: whether the defendant had ever been convicted of a third degree felony or higher. Did the defendant commit a capitol felony while engaged in a robbery? Did he try to avoid or prevent his lawful arrest? Did he commit the capitol felony for monetary gain? Was it especially heinous, atrocious or cruel?

For the first time in the proceedings, the jury discovered that Stevens had a previous conviction for aggravated assault with a firearm.

Mr. Feinberg promised that the prosecution would prove that the killing of Mr. Beltran was, indeed, "heinous, atrocious and cruel."

For their part, defense attorneys presented witnesses as to their client's diminished ability to fully understand the gravity of his actions and his ability to control himself. Witnesses included Stevens' mother and younger brother, both of whom testified to the extreme abuse Vernon Stevens suffered throughout his childhood; abuse that virtually included the entire family. By the age of ten, Stevens was sleeping on the streets, running away from

home. He spent years in foster placement and even attempted suicide as a child

Both the prosecution and defense relied on expert witnesses. With the jury's guilty verdict, both sides put doctors on the witness stand who testified as to the level of the accused's culpability. The defense argued that brain damage sustained as a young boy from abuse at home precluded Stevens from being totally culpable. Mr. Lenamon admitted that "guilty" was a fair verdict for his client, but kept up a steady argument against the death penalty. Stevens' life was not an excuse for what he did, Mr. Lenamon told the jury, but an explanation as to why Stevens ended up where he is.

Mr. Lenamon wondered why Stevens wasn't taken out of the home and said that a number of "cries for help" went unheard. He also claimed that Stevens suffered from symptoms of PTSD (Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder).

The state never wavered in its support of the death penalty. Experts for the state testified that they found no correlation between any brain damage and Stevens' ability to fully understand and morally appreciate his actions in the murder.

SPORTS

Continued • 1

more success. The Lady Gators added three more runs to lead 7-0 after the first two frames.

Offensively, the Lady Tigers swung listlessly, failing to obtain a hit on the night. Walks and errors allowed them to mount a couple of minor threats but nothing that seriously challenged Glades Day.

The performance left Head Coach Melissa Whitehead flabbergasted.

"Awful," she said disconsolately. "We're in trouble if we can't play better than that."

Clewiston played without starting catcher Kaci Pittman, who's been sidelined with a stress fracture. Starter Brooke Flynn exited after the first inning and got sick repeatedly in the dugout. The girls - and the crowd - sat or stood subdued for much of the game, their emotions chilled in part,

no doubt, by Glades Day's early barrage. Still, an unusual, lethargic quiet hovered about the Tiger dugout and among the fans.

Yet the nucleus of at least a solid team is there. Perry, her sister, Alee, Duckstein, Flynn, Morrell, Kendra Johnson, Jenine Hannam, and Kaven Robinson are all athletic and spirited, many of them multi-sports players. Savannah Ridgdill came on in relief for the middle and late innings and showed promise. She faltered only once, in the sixth, when she helped to allow two more runs to score.

The Lady Tigers appear a bit raw, so they are going to have to raise up their intensity and concentration several notches. To do that, they will need a Top Cat. Someone needs to emerge as the team leader to demand more of herself and more of the others, exuding the right mixture of ability and courage, regardless of what happens.

Time will tell if someone steps forward and who that will be.

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FWC Releases Female Panther Rescued as Kitten in 2011

Biologists with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) released a female Florida panther Thursday night at the Picayune Strand State Forest in Collier County.

The panther and its brother had been raised at the White Oak Conservation Center in Yulee since they were 5 months old. The FWC rescued the two panthers as kittens in September 2011 near the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed in northern Collier County after their mother was found dead.

"This panther is healthy and has grown to a size that should prepare her for life in the wild," said Darrell Land, FWC panther team leader. "The goal in any panther rescue is to be able to release the animal back into the wild to aid in the recovery of this endangered species."

The release was coordinated in consultation with partners from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Five other kittens of similar ages – three females and two males – have been raised at

White Oak and released in south Florida.

"We are grateful for the work the staff at White Oak has done to prepare this panther and others for release," said Land.

Biologists chose the Picayune Strand State Forest for the release of this panther after they evaluated the home ranges of other females in the region and found available space between them.

An estimated 100 to 160 adult and subadult panthers remain in south Florida.

Florida residents can support conservation efforts like the rescue and rehabilitation of this panther through the purchase of a panther license plate. Fees from license plate sales are the primary funding source for the FWC's research and management of Florida panthers.

To report dead or injured panthers, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or #FWC or *FWC on a cell phone.

For more information on Florida panthers, go to www.floridapanther.net.org.

New Treatment for Patients with Coronary Artery Disease

Whether you are at-risk for developing a heart condition or you're one of the 13 million Americans who suffer from coronary artery disease, arming yourself with the facts you need to stay healthy can help.

February is National Heart Health Month and it's a great time to learn about coronary artery disease, its symptoms and about the latest developments in treatment.

Coronary Artery Disease

Coronary artery disease is caused when plaque buildup creates blockages or narrowings in the arteries. The blockages restrict blood flow and reduce the amount of oxygen delivered to the heart, potentially putting a person at risk for a heart attack.

Common symptoms of coronary artery disease include chest pain, shortness of breath, fatigue and overall weakness.

Simple lifestyle changes can help prevent and manage coronary artery disease. These include managing obesity and high blood pressure, living an active lifestyle, making healthy dietary choices and stopping smoking.

Improved Treatments

Staying on top of the latest medical advances helps ensure you and loved ones secure the best treatment available.

One advancement in treatment is supported

by new results from the FAME 2 Study funded by St. Jude Medical and published in the New England Journal of Medicine. The study found that use of a blood-flow measurement technology, called Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR) during treatment of stable coronary artery disease will result in better health outcomes.

FFR technology offers physicians a better assessment of where blood flow blockages occur in the coronary arteries and whether treatment to open an artery narrowing, along with medication, can help lower a patient's risk of chest pain and heart attack.

From less likelihood of a patient being readmitted to the hospital for urgent care, to a reduction in health care costs, FAME 2 research demonstrates that patients who receive FFR-guided treatment experienced better outcomes than those treated with medication alone.

"The FAME 2 Study results offer further evidence that FFR should be considered the standard of care for treating patients with coronary heart disease," said Frank J. Callaghan, president of the Cardiovascular and Ablation Technologies Division at St. Jude Medical.

If you believe you have coronary artery disease, consult your physician for additional information and to determine best treatment options.

More information on FFR is available at: www.sjm.com/ffr-fact-sheet.



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Love The Lake Run & Walk
Saturday, February 16, 2013

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Community Park Rebuild Project

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2012 Chevrolet Cruze



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RN61107 was \$28,875

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Roomy four door crew cab with v8 engine, automatic, pw/pl, bed-liner. nice truck!

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Ride in comfort and style. beautiful leather interior, touch screen radio. save thousands over new!

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Going Out: A Guide to Area Entertainment & Attractions

**Animal attractions:
Exciting and
Educational**

**Brighton Seminole
Field Day and
Festival
Celebrates
75th year**

**'Fiddler on
the Roof' at
Dolly Hand
Performing
Arts Center**

**County fairs
bring lots to
see and do**



Plays, concerts, dancing & more ...

Steel Magnolias

The LaBelle Firehouse Community Theatre will present Steel Magnolias, Feb. 15-17. Productions are Friday and Saturday nights at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. the shows start promptly, so please arrive 30 minutes in advance to be seated before the show starts. For tickets or more information, call 863-675-3066 or email info@firehousecommunitytheatre.com.

Chicago

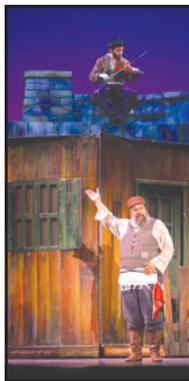
FORT PIERCE—McAlpin Onstage at Indian River State College, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, will present the hit musical "Chicago" Feb. 13-17 with shows Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and three 2 p.m. matinée performances, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Individual tickets are \$15 each, It's the Roaring Twenties in Chicago and a jealous Roxie Hart murders her faithless lover. Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie meets fellow murderess and jailhouse competition Velma Kelly. They ultimately join forces in search of the "American Dream" of fame, fortune and acquittal. Marvel to the music of songs like "all That Jazz," "Razzle Dazzle" and "Mr. Cellophane." Tickets can be purchased online at www.irsc.edu or at the box office located in the McAlpin Fine Arts Center lobby on the IRSC Main Campus at 3209 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce, Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by phone with VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. Call the McAlpin Fine Arts Center Box Office at 1-800-220-9915 to reserve your seats.

Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music

LABELLE—The LaBelle Firehouse Community Theatre will present "Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" on March 15-17 and March 22-14. The play was written by Lee Blessing and will be directed by Dave Johnson. Productions are Friday and Saturday nights at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. the shows start promptly, so please arrive 30 minutes in advance to be seated before the show starts. For tickets or more information, call 863-675-3066 or email info@firehousecommunitytheatre.com.

Fiddler on the Roof

BELLE GLADE—The Dolly Hand Performing Arts Center will present the Off Broadway Booking's production of "Fiddler on the Roof" on Monday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. Winner of nine Tony awards, including Best Musical, this family show is considered one of the great works of the American Musical Theatre. No other musical has so woven music, dance, and story into such an unforgettable experience. It is a universal story of love, hope and tradition set in the little town of Anatevka. The box office is located at the southeastern corner of the building, 1977 S.W. College Drive, Belle Glade which is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to noon. The box office also opens one hour prior to performances. For more information call the box office at 561-993-1160.



SFSC Jazz Series 10th season

AVON PARK—The South Florida State College Jazz Series, now in its 10th season, has a reputation for bringing in the best regional, national, and international acts to the Heartland. This season is no different, featuring several amazing and well-known jazz musicians. Jazz Series performances are held in the intimate SFSC University Center Auditorium and begin at 7:30 p.m. The Florida Jazz All Stars perform Feb. 23. The lineup includes Clyde Conner (drums), Mark Neuenschwander (bass), Allan Vache (clarinet), Charlie Bertini (trumpet), William Allred (trombone), and Jeff Phillips (piano), presenting an evening of swing music at its best. Coming March 2 is the Southern Fried Jazz Band. It offers some of the most refreshing and authentic Dixieland jazz music on the scene today. For ticket information, call the SFSC Box Office 863-784-7178 at the SFSC Theatre for the Performing Arts, 600 W. College Drive.

Billy McGuigan's Rave On: The Buddy Holly Experience

BELLE GLADE—Remember poodle skirts? How about car-hops, the twist, hula hoops and Buddy Holly? Well, the '50s aren't just a thing of the past...this electrifying, high-energy extravaganza pays homage to rock 'n roll's immortal legend – Buddy Holly. Backed by a rockin' band, star Billy McGuigan ignites the stage and breathes new life into such hits as "Peggy Sue," "Raining in My Heart," "It's So Easy," "That'll Be the Day," "True Love Ways," "Oh Boy" and of course, "Rave On." But, that's only part of it! In a unique twist, Billy as Buddy celebrates the birth of an era and pays homage to his fellow rockers Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper. "Rave On: The Buddy Holly Experience" will be presented at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center in Belle Glade on Tuesday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. The box office is located at the southeastern corner of the building, 1977 S.W. College Drive, Belle Glade which is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to noon. The box office also opens one hour prior to performances. For more information, call the box office at 561-993-1160.



The Odd Couple

OKEECHOBEE—Okeechobee Community Theatre will present "The Odd Couple," March 8, 9, 15 and 16 in the Freshman Campus Auditorium, on Southwest Second Street (behind the Golden Corral Restaurant). Curtain goes up at 8 p.m. each performance. Felix Unger is a neat, tidy health nut whose wife has thrown him out. Desperate for a place to live, he moves in with his divorced longtime friend Oscar Madison. Oscar is sloppy and disorganized, and living on a fast-food diet. Inevitably the polar-opposite lifestyles clash, with hilarious results. For ticket information, call 863-763-1307 or email info@okeecommunitytheatre.com.

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Win a 2013 Mercedes-Benz SLK Roadster at Seminole Casino Brighton on Feb. 23

BRIGHTON SEMINOLE CASINO—In February, it's a huggin' the open road thing at Seminole Casino Brighton with your chance to win a Mercedes, plus loads of cash and Free Play prizes! On Saturday, Feb. 23, we're giving away a 2013 Mercedes-Benz SLK Roadster. Earn entries daily for your chance to drive off in this thrill ride of a grand prize.

Players can enjoy bingo matinee sessions on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 11:45 a.m. Packs are \$18 and \$28.

Tuesdays, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, visitors 55 and older will get a free bag lunch, while supplies last. On Wednesdays, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., visitors 55 and older will get a free breakfast, while supplies last. The free bag lunch and breakfast offers are open to new or returning Player's Club members. Not a member? It's free to join, so sign up today.

As always, there is free bus transportation from the Hampton Inn in Okeechobee at 1200 State Road 70. On Tuesdays, the bus picks up at 10:30 a.m. It departs the casino at 5:30 p.m. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, the bus picks up at 2:15 p.m. and departs at 7:30 p.m. On Sun-

days, the bus picks up at 11:15 a.m. and departs at 6 p.m.

See the Player's Club for promotion details.

About Seminole Casino Brighton

Seminole Casino Brighton is a 27,000-square-foot casino with 405-slot and gaming machines, a six-table poker room, live action e-tables blackjack and roulette, high-stakes bingo action and Josiah, a full-service restaurant and lounge. Its warm and friendly staff, ultra-modern air-conditioning system, clean atmosphere and rewarding casino promotions are a welcome alternative to big city gaming. The casino also recently opened a new area with 30 slots for those who prefer to play slot machines in a smoke-free environment. The Seminole Casino Brighton is located on the Brighton Seminole Reservation, 17735 Reservation Rd., in Glades County. For more information, call toll-free 800-360-9875 or 863-467-9998. Or visit www.seminolebrightoncasino.com.

75th annual Brighton Seminole Reservation Field Day and Festival celebrates history and traditions

BRIGHTON SEMINOLE RESERVATION—Brighton Seminole Field Day & Rodeo, set for Feb. 15-17, 2013, originated in 1938 as a day of sporting events and arts and crafts competitions for members of the Seminole Tribe. William P. Boehmer and his wife Edith—teachers at the original Brighton Day School—originated the festival as a way to bring Seminoles from other reservations together for some friendly competition.

Over the years, the event evolved into a festival that is open to the public and showcases Seminole and other Native American arts, crafts, dances and traditions.

On Friday, the festival hosts "Kids Day" which is open to area school children. School buses from all over South Florida transport elementary school children to Brighton Reservation, where they learn how Seminoles once lived in chickees, cooked food over open fires, made their own canoes and weapons and made crafts such as sweetgrass baskets and clothing made from tiny piec-

es of cloth sewn into intricate patterns. The festival also includes wild animal exhibitions, alligator wrestling and native dances. In more recent years, the event expanded to invite Native Americans from all over the country to participate. On Saturday and Sunday, the festival is open to the general public.

The festival weekend also includes a rodeo and XTreme Bull Riding. On Saturday, gates open at 9 a.m., the parade is at 10 a.m. and the rodeo starts at 3 p.m.; on Sunday, gates open at 10 a.m. and XTreme Bullriding starts at 3 p.m.

The festival grounds are next to the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena, off State Road 721 in Glades County. For more information, call 863-467-6039 or go online to www.REZRODEO.com.



Traditional crafts are showcased in the native village.



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Animal attractions: Take a walk on the wild side

Looking for an educational place to take the family where they can see wild animals? South Florida's animal attractions offer a variety of choices. Meet the friendly deer at Arnolds Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. See lions and tigers at Animal Adventures. Hold an alligator egg while it hatches at Gatorama.

There are plenty of animals to see, photograph and even touch, in the Lake Okeechobee area.

Gatorama

Gatorama, one of Florida's original "roadside attractions" is a living piece of Florida history. Since 1957, visitors have come to Palmdale to see alligators and crocodiles sun, swim and interact in their natural habitat—as well as jump out of the water at the feeding stations.

In addition to the gators and crocs, visitors who wander along the wooden walkways can see panthers, bobcats, raccoons, peacocks and tropical birds.

The facility, home to thousands of alligators and hundreds of crocodiles, was built in 1957 by Cecil Clemons. At that time, U.S. 27 was a two-lane road. Cecil decided that tourists visiting Florida wanted to see three things: the beach, orange trees and alligators. Alligators were already living in the area so Cecil bought the land, fenced the gators in and built a walkway so tourists could watch them from a safe vantage point. Alligators can live up to 70 years in captivity, and some of the big gators have been there since the park opened.

The first crocodiles were brought into Gatorama in 1968 before they were an



Courtesy photo

Crocodiles get some sun on their own island at Gatorama. One of Florida's original "roadside attractions," Gatorama has been thrilling visitors since 1957.

endangered species. The natural range of the American Freshwater Crocodile is from Sanibel Island south. Gatorama has the only productive breeding colony of American Crocodiles in the United States and is one of few facilities permitted to accept nuisance crocs from the wild. The park is now home to seven spe-

cies of crocodiles, including the rare Cuban Crocodile.

David Thielen was raised in Lakeport. After a career as an army officer he retired and purchased Gatorama. At about the same time it became legal to farm alligators in the state of Florida. The park has remained in the family since.

The combination of tourism and aquaculture has been a successful one.

Allen and Patty Register moved to the farm in 1989 and began managing it for her parents, Marietta and David Thielen. The Registers purchased the farm in 2006. Both are native Floridians. Patty's family has been in Glades County since 1920. Allen's family settled in North Florida around 1850.

Their children, Benjamin and Erica are also involved in the business. Erica is a schoolteacher and is Gatorama's education/and field trip coordinator and writes the curriculum for school groups. Benjamin is a certified fire fighter, EMT and is the park's head trainer/entertainer.

The Registers' dream was to enhance the entertainment and educational opportunities offered to guests and to begin special events at the park. In 1998 they began offering two shows a day (previously one a week on Sunday had been offered for 42 years) and offered every guest the opportunity to hold a live gator. In 2004 they began offering Gator Night Shinings and in 2006 they held the

first ever Hatching Festival, giving visitors a chance to hold an alligator egg as it hatches.

While the park has been updated with new walkways and enclosures, the Registers have been careful to maintain the original look and character of the attraction.

Photographers find the park offers a unique chance to photograph alligators and crocodiles in their native habitat. Gatorama is often used as a backdrop for commercial films and photography. Gatorama's animals have been seen on National Geographic, The Discovery Channel, The Outdoor Channel, BBC World News, The Today Show, Animal Planet, Food TV and more.

The attraction is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for Easter, when they open from noon to 5 p.m. They are closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Alligator shows are 11:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Sundays.

The park offers discounts to seniors, military service members and teachers. There are also group rates and special education presentations.

For more information online, go to www.gatorama.com. (Cover photo is from Gatorama show.)



Courtesy photo

Visitors to Gatorama can observe wildlife from the safety of covered walkways



ANIMALS

Continued From Page 4

Animal Adventures

Animal Adventures, 5001 S.W. Rucks Dairy Road in rural Glades County (off State Road 70 just west of the Kissimmee River Bridge), is home to tigers, lions, and a Tigon (cross between a tiger and lioness), as well as numerous other wild creatures including snakes, coatamundi and land tortoises.

All of the animals are “rehomes” from other facilities and private owners. In many cases they started out as someone’s pet and the owner could no longer control—or afford to feed—the wild creature.

Sue Pearce, who calls the big cats, “my babies,” runs the facility which is located on her family’s 1,100 acre ranch.

These animals must live in captivity in part because they were born and raised in captivity and don’t know how to fend for themselves in the wild. And for some, there simply is no “wild” left.

“We, as rescuers, did not choose for them to be in captivity, but only to give them a good life and lots of love since they can’t ever be released into the wild,” she explained.

“There has been a lot of controversy over the captive big cats. People are saying they should be left in the wild and be allowed to roam free. I totally agree with this, but if there is no wild, then where

are they supposed to run wild? Man continues to destroy the natural habitat of the wild animals, and continue to poach and leaves no choice but to take care of the ones that are already in captivity. This is the only way to preserve the species.”

Animal Adventures has special rates for groups of 10 or more. They also offer parties at the facility or transport animals to your party. For more information, call 863-447-6050 or go online to animaladventureslive.webs.com.

The Talkin’ Monkeys Project

The Talkin’ Monkeys project in Hendry County provides a life-long home for animals that have been rescued from abusive private homes or released from research laboratories and breeding facilities. The main focus is to provide a home for these forgotten apes and monkeys while striving to connect people to earth-friendly lifestyles.

At the heart of their mission is the desire to educate children and adults in the care required to provide these animals with a quality environment where they can thrive and enjoy the rest of their lives in comfort and security. Talkin’ Monkeys is a 501c3 nonprofit sanctuary. For more information online, go to www.talkinmoneyproject.org or call 863-983-2335.

See WILDLIFE — Page 4



Courtesy photo

The Florida panther is one of the many big cats who have found a home at Animal Adventures in Glades County.

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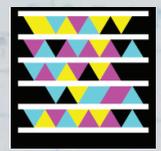
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Wildlife

Continued From Page 5

Arnold's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Arnold's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc., (AWRC) is a non-profit 501(c) educational-based wildlife care facility in Okeechobee County. They are dedicated to bringing people and wildlife together to develop a community awareness of the value of Florida wildlife. The ultimate goal is to rescue, rehabilitate, and return recovered animals to their natural habitat when possible.

The facility is also now home to 13 endangered species. The non-native species find a permanent home at AWRC thanks to donors who have provided special habitat enclosures to meet their needs. The newest residents, Black Ruffed Lemurs, are victims of the economy, said Sue Arnold. They came to AWRC from a Gainesville facility that went out of business.

Also new to AWRC are Fishing Cats from Southeast Asia.

While some exotic animals come from other facilities that can no longer care of them, others are dropped off by their owners or brought to AWRC after being confiscated by the Florida Wildlife Commission. Mrs. Arnold said when animals are confiscated, they try to work with the owners and sometimes the owners can reclaim their exotic pets. However, more often when the owners find out the strict regulations that Florida requires for ownership of exotics, "they decide they'll just visit them." Florida law requires 1,000 hours of training at a licensed facility over at least a one-year period before a person can obtain a license to keep an exotic or wild animal.

Some native Florida animals are also permanent residents. Some had injuries that left them unable to fend for themselves. Others were born in captivity and now lack the skills they would need to survive.

AWRC currently rehabilitates over 1,000 animals each year. Visitors can see more than 50 different species of animals. Special events include star gazing, the annual open house and the annual butterfly count.

Arnold's Wildlife Center, 14895 N.W.



Rare birds also find a home at Arnold's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

30th Terrace in Okeechobee, offers special programs for students and also hosts camps in the spring and summer.

For more information online go to www.arnoldswildlife.org.

Billie Swamp Safari

Glide effortlessly along the Airboat Trail through cypress domes, see alligators, turtles, fish, birds, raccoons and other animals in their natural environment.

Splash through the swamp and view native and exotic wildlife such as bison, water buffalo, wild pigs, and ostriches up close while riding through the wetlands on a Swamp Buggy Eco-Tour, or sit back in the shade at Herpetarium Alligator and Snake Show, or Critter and Bird of Prey Show held daily. Catch an educational alligator feeding at the gator pit with stadium seating.

Billie Swamp Safari is located on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation at 30000 Gator Tail Trail, Clewiston in Hendry County.

The 2,200 acres of untamed Florida Everglades is preserved in its pristine condition by the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

For more information, call 800-GO-SAFARI or 863-983-6101. Online go to safari@semtribe.com.

Lion Country Safari

Lion Country Safari offers a unique and affordable opportunity for visitors to take a wild African safari without having to leave the country. Since 1967, the park has educated and entertained 22 million guests. With more than 900 animals from six continents, Lion Country Safari is home to the largest herd of zebras and rhinos in the country.

"We have animals from six of the seven continents here, and they all do pretty well in the warmer climates," said Jennifer Berthiaume, Director Public Relations & Marketing for Lion Country Safari. "However, when the weather is cooler, the animals are more active—and our guests know this, it seems, because we are busier on cooler days."

Lion Country Safari has more than 900 animals roaming free within inches of your vehicle including giraffe, zebra, rhinos, lions, wildebeests and more. Admission includes entry to Safari World Amusement Park with animal encounters (giraffe feeding, bird feeding and petting zoo) and demonstrations, rides (ferris wheel, kid's train, carousel, paddle boats, water sprayground and more), games, shopping, food and thrills. The park is located on Southern Boulevard (SR80) (15 miles west of I-95/10 miles west of the turnpike in Palm Beach County). The park is open daily. For more info call 561-793-1084.



Courtesy photo

Endangered Black Ruffed Lemurs have found a home at Arnold's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Okeechobee County. A special habitat will be constructed for them thanks to volunteers and donations.



A serval relaxes at Arnold's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

Florida State Parks offer special events and activities

Highlands Hammock State Park

• Music in the Park, Feb. 23: Bring lawn chairs or blankets & flashlight-concerts are outdoors in picnic area. Proceeds benefit park improvements via Friends of Highlands Hammock. Concert admission is \$5.00 per person (accompanied children 12 & under admitted free of charge.) Park entrance fee of \$6 per vehicle (up to 8 people per car) is waived after 6 p.m. on concert nights. Food vendors will be on site with refreshments for sale.

• The Real Florida Run Series, Feb. 24 at 1 p.m.: Age categories for this race are: 0-10, 11-15, 16-20, 21-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80+. or runners who participate in all seven runs of the race series, there will be a Grand Prize awarded to the top three men and women overall. There will also be a trophy for the top three boys and girls, ages 17 and under. For registration information, go to <http://www.3dracinginc.com>.

Highlands Hammock State Park is located off US 27 on SR 634 (also known as Hammock Road), four miles west of Sebring. Call 863-386-6094 for more information.

John D. MacArthur Beach State Park

• Feb. 16, 1 p.m., Introduction to Kayak Fishing: Ranger Bill Wilson instructs kids and adults of all ages on the basics of kayak fishing. Lessons will be on land. Come and learn what equipment, tackle and gear are necessary to catch the big one. For more information and reservations, please call the Nature Center at 561-624-6952. Free with park admission.

• Feb. 17, 1 to 4 p.m. Bluegrass Music: The Untold Riches bring their foot-stompin' and hand-clappin' bluegrass music to the park's amphitheater. Just sit back and enjoy the music in Palm Beach County's most beautiful setting. The concert is free with park admission. For more information, please call



Courtesy photo

Highlands Hammock State Park

the Nature Center at 561-624-6952.

• March 2, 11 a.m., Geology of the South Florida Coastline: Dr. Ed Petuch will give a presentation on the geology of the South Florida coastline. The cost for the program is \$5 per person and reservations are required. Please call Janice Kerber, Education Director, at 561-776-7449, ext. 104 for reservations and more information.

• March 3, 10 a.m., Learn to Kayak: Representatives from Adventure Times Kayaks will teach a land-based course that gives beginners the skills necessary for kayaking. Reservations are recommended. The program is free with park admission. For information and reservations call the Nature Center at 561-624-6952.

• March 9, 10 a.m. to noon, Sand Around the World: Education Director Janice Kerber instructs children and their families on interesting aspects of sand. There will be sands from all over the world to look at plus hands-on activities. Reservations required, please call 561-776-7221, ext. 104. Free with park admission.

John D. MacArthur Beach State Park is located 2.8 miles south of the intersection of U.S.1 and PGA Blvd. on A1A in North Palm Beach.

Fort Pierce Inlet State Park

• Feb. 23, 9 -10 a.m., Preserving the Real Florida Hike: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Fort Pierce Inlet State Park will offer a ranger-guided - "Preserving the Real Florida" - walk to highlight why and how the Florida Park Service manages the park's natural resources on Saturday, Feb. 23. Participants will see exotic plants and learn how invasive species alter the natural landscape. Learn how park rangers use different methods to maintain the native plants and animals. Also tour parts of the park not normally open to the public. Program is free with regular park entry fees of \$4 for individual and \$6.00 for 2 to 8 people in a vehicle. For

additional information or to reserve your place, please contact the park office at 772-468-3985.

Fort Pierce Inlet State Park is located four miles east of Fort Pierce, via North Causeway.



Courtesy Photo

Fort Pierce Inlet State Park



Courtesy photo

Johnathan Dickinson State Park

Johnathan Dickinson State Park

• March 2, 10a.m. to 4 p.m., Florida Scrub Jay Festival: Join the fun on Saturday, March 2 for the 2013 Florida Scrub-Jay Festival. There will be kid's activities, music, hayrides, exhibitors, and scrub-jay walks. Admission is free.

Directions: To Jonathan Dickinson State Park from the south: On I-95 - take Exit 87A - go east on Indiantown Road to US 1. Turn left (north) on US 1. Jonathan Dickinson is 5 miles on your left.

To Jonathan Dickinson State Park from the north: On I-95 - take Exit 96 - go east on Bridge Road to US 1. Turn right (south) on US 1. Jonathan Dickinson is 3 miles on your right.



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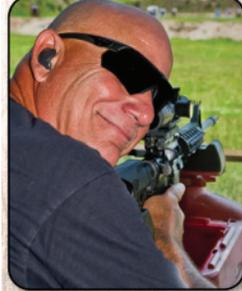
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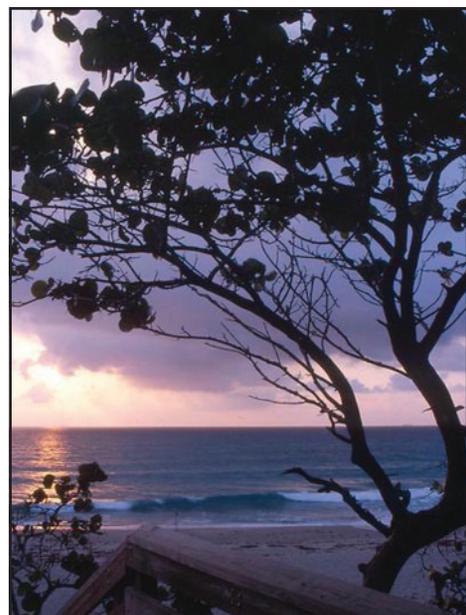
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Courtesy photo

John D. MacArthur State Beach Park



Area festivals and special events ...

Second Annual Love the Lake 5K-10K

CLEWISTON—The Second Annual Love The Lake 5K-10K and half marathon will take place on Saturday, Feb. 16, starting at the Roland Martin Marina Resort in Clewiston. For more information, call 863-983-7979.

Hendry County Fair

CLEWISTON—The Hendry County Fair and Livestock Show celebrates local agriculture. The event features a parade, livestock show and midway entertainment. The activities also include a beauty pageant and exhibits. The fair will be held this year from Feb. 15-23 in Clewiston. For more information, please call 863-983-9282 or go online to www.hendrycountyfair.com.

South Florida Ag Expo and Equipment Show

CLEWISTON—The South Florida Ag Expo and Equipment Show will be held Feb. 15 at the old airstrip at 610 San Luis Ave. in Clewiston. The expo opens at 8 a.m. and will include a speaker forum, vendor demonstrations, a community luncheon, prize drawings and food vendors. Admission is free. For more information online, go to www.sflagexpo.com.

Swamp Cabbage Festival

LABELLE—The 2013 Swamp Cabbage Festival is set for Feb. 23-24. The festival is LaBelle's hometown blast and it's open to everyone! The town goes a little wild with a huge parade beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, followed by two days of great entertainment, booths of unique items for sale and - of course - great food. Look for the boiled swamp cabbage, raw swamp cabbage salad and swamp cabbage fritters. If you have an adventurous palate, you can also find gator meat and other special treats. Saturday begins with a 5K Swamp Stomp run along a lovely route with glimpses of the Caloosahatchee River. The Swamp Cabbage Festival has something for everyone. Saturday: a bike show, car show, kiddie rides. On Sunday morning you can take part in nondenominational worship at Barron Park, with entertainment and festivities picking back up again after noon. There is also a fishing tournament, lawnmower races and a rodeo. Check out more information at swampcabbagefestival.org.

This Blue Planet

FORT PIERCE—The Fielden Institute for Lifelong Learning will present "This Blue Planet" with Alexandra Cousteau on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 4 p.m. in the McAlpin Fine Arts Center at Indian River State College 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. A National Geographic "Emerging Explorer," filmmaker and globally recognized advocate on water issues, Alexandra Cousteau continues the work of her renowned grandfather Jacques-Yves Cousteau and her father Phillippe Cousteau, Sr. She has mastered the remarkable storytelling tradition handed down to her and has the unique ability to inspire audiences on the often weighty issues of policy, politics and action. Alexandra is dedicated to advocating the importance of conservation and sustainable management of water in order to preserve a healthy planet. Her global initiatives seek to inspire and empower individuals to protect not only the ocean and its inhabitants, but also the human communities that rely on freshwater resources. For ticket information, contact the IRSC Box Office at 1-800-220-9915.



Okeechobee County Fair

OKEECHOBEE—The Okeechobee County Fair will be held March 12-17, at the Agri-Civic Center Fairgrounds, with entrance of State Road 710. The fair includes a carnival midway, livestock shows, cooking competitions, fruit and vegetable competitions, sewing and arts and crafts competitions and more. There is even a Lego building competition and a Duct tape creations event.

The Okeechobee 4-H and FFA Livestock Show will be during the fair with the livestock sale on Saturday, March 16.

Fairgrounds opens at 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and at noon on Saturday and Sunday. Entertainment will include the petting zoo, Okeechobee Idol contest, racing pigs, horse shows, a strongman contest and more.

Opening night on Tuesday, March 12, is dollar night, with \$1 entrance, \$1 rides and \$1 items at the food vendors.

Opening night entertainment will include a fireworks show.



Big Cypress Shootout

BIG CYPRESS—The Seminole Tribe of Florida will present a re-enactment of the Second Seminole War at the Big Cypress Shootout at Billie Swamp Safari located between Fort Lauderdale and Naples, on the Big Cypress Reservation just north of I-75 (Alligator Alley) Exit 49. The event is planned for Friday, March 1 through Sunday, March 3. The battle reenactments will take place at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Friday is an educational day (no reenactments). The battle reenactments honor the Seminole's struggle and sacrifice to remain in their homeland and will feature authentic weapons, soldier and warrior attire and tactics typical of the Second Seminole War. In the 1800s, a total of three wars were fought by the U.S. military against the Seminoles. These campaigns were the longest, costliest, and bloodiest of all the Indian wars. Although many Seminoles were killed or removed to present-day Oklahoma, they were never defeated, and to this day, more than 3,000 Seminoles are known as "The Unconquered" Seminole Tribe of Florida.

The three-day event will also include music, Seminole food, Seminole and pioneer artisans, tomahawk throws, primitive archery competition, authentic Seminole and soldier camps, venomous snake shows and alligator wrestling. "Period settlers" from around the country will hew wood, iron and silver crafts and depict trading techniques from the Seminole war era. For more information, go to bcshoot.com or call 800-949-6101 ext. 12125.

Chalo Nitka

MOORE HAVEN—2013 will mark the 65th annual Moore Haven's Chalo Nitka Festival. Chalo Nitka is one of the state's oldest continuing festivals. The festival grounds are located at Chalo Nitka Park (across from the Glades County School Board Office). The festival includes midway games, rides, and vendor booths selling food, crafts and jewelry. Events also include a rodeo and the Glades County livestock show. This year the festival is planned for March 1 and 2. The Chalo Nitka parade will be Saturday morning, March 2. For more information online go to www.chalonitka.com.

Speckled Perch Festival

OKEECHOBEE—The Speckled Perch Festival, sponsored by Okeechobee Main Street, will be held in Flagler Park in downtown Okeechobee on the weekend of March 9 and 10. The festival starts around 9 a.m. The Speckled Perch Festival Parade will be on Saturday at 10 a.m. The festival began as a fish fry fundraiser for the Okeechobee Chamber of Commerce. When the original chamber folded, Okeechobee Main Street took over the traditional event. Over the years, the festival has grown and changed, adding arts and crafts vendors, games for children and entertainment. Due to state health laws, speckled perch—which is a game fish and not commercially harvested—cannot be served at public events. So the fish dinner served at the Speckle Perch Festival is catfish.

Big O Birding Festival

LABELLE—The Big O Birding Festival, the largest bird-themed event in South Central Florida will be held March 12-16. The four-day event will have a registration "roost" at the Port LaBelle Inn off State Road 80 in LaBelle. From there, visitors will explore Hendry and Glades Counties, which are home to more than 400 species of birds, including Wood Storks, Everglades Snail Kites, Limpkins, Painted Buntings, and others who are resident in the area from October through April as well as species that live in Florida year round. Visitors can choose a single bird tour or opt for all-inclusive four-day passes. The festival offers exclusive bird tours led by prestigious experts, workshops with a prestigious bird photographer, birding activities, meals and transportation to and from birding sites. For more information online, go to www.BigOBirdingFestival.com or call 863-675-0125.

Megacon

ORLANDO—MegaCon, the largest comic book, anime, science fiction, fantasy, gaming and multimedia event in the southeastern United States, will take place March 15-17, at the Orange County Convention Center, 9800 International Dr. in Orlando. The annual event attracts around 50,000 visitors—many of them come dressed as a favorite character from a comic book, movie or video game. Visitors can meet stars from movies and television, writers and artists. At the 2013 Megacon, the original cast of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" will provide a special event on Saturday, March 16, in Hall F, at the Orange County Convention Center. For more information online, go to www.megaconvention.com.

