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FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2013

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50¢ NEWSSTAND

TAVARES

MATHIAS, BOARD GET AN EARFUL

Proposal to arm teachers sparks strong responses

GREG JONES | Staff Writer
gregjones@dailycommercial.com

Before a room packed with reporters, parents and officials, Lake County School Board member Bill Mathias and the rest of the board got some feedback Monday about his proposal to begin arming teachers in the classroom.

Mathias said he began thinking about this after the attack on Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., when he developed his "policy for an armed school approach." Although school resource officers are a first line of defense, Miller wanted to open a dialog about other options in case a gunman "took out" one of these officers.

"That doesn't mean (arming teachers) was the only course of action, and it wasn't meant to cause this much excitement," he said.

No board member openly supported the proposal and several speakers opposed it.

Selean Hobbs, a Clermont resident, said teachers have enough responsibilities and don't need any additional duties.

"I'm in opposition to Mr. Mathias' proposal to have the teachers and principals armed with guns," she said. "The reason being the teachers and principals are trained to educate.

"They have a lot on their shoulders already and they are doing a lot with the children, and they are doing things outside the scope of their employment already. I think adding something like this on their plate would be



HEIDINES PEREZ / DAILY COMMERCIAL

ABOVE: Mathias explains to the press the reasons for his proposal on Monday at the School Board meeting. School Board member Bill Mathias proposed teachers and principals in Lake County be armed with guns to protect students. **BELOW:** Board members listen to public comments on the proposal.



more of a burden to them."

Roy Hunter suggested asking retired law enforcement officers to volunteer their time at school campuses. He said it wouldn't cost the school district any money to get these trained individuals to handle any potential attack on students. Hunter

said many retired law enforcement officers have children and grandchildren in local schools.

"I said, 'volunteer,' no money — volunteer," he said. "Most of them still have their sidearms."

Andy Dubois, who has three grandchildren at Lake

Minneola Elementary School, said he supported Mathias' initiative. Dubois, a Howey-in-the-Hills resident, asked the board to give the proposal some thought.

"In my opinion, the only effective way to protect someone from a bad guy with a gun is with a good guy with a gun," Dubois said. "I believe we very well may have an effective untapped resource in our school system here in Lake County in the form of willing, responsible teachers, administrators and support staff that would be willing to take on this responsibility."

Mathias previously said no school employee would be forced to carry a gun. They would have to volunteer to do so.

The board did not indicate when or if the gun dialog would be continued.

GROVELAND

Dolly Miller resigns from city positions

ROXANNE BROWN | Staff Writer
roxannebrown@dailycommercial.com

Groveland officials may soon be in the market for a new city manager and a finance director, since Dolly Miller, who holds both positions, quit last week.

"Please use this letter as notification that I am resigning my position as city manager/finance director for the city of Groveland," she wrote in her letter of resignation. "I am giving my 30-day notice as stipulated in my contract. This resignation is contingent upon six weeks of severance pay in accordance with Florida State Statutes.



MILLER

"My last day of employment will be Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, unless city council decides to accelerate my resignation either immediately or at any time during the notice period."

City Attorney Anita Geraci said Monday she has instructed Groveland officials and city employees not to talk about Miller's resignation until a formal meeting is held to discuss it.

In her letter, Miller gave no reason for why she was quitting, although she thanked the city for the opportunity to have been appointed as manager in January 2010, following a brief stint as interim manager after the death of then manager Ralph Hester in October 2009.

"I have enjoyed working for Groveland and would like to thank the city for such a wonderful opportunity given to me," Miller wrote. "I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Miller, a native of Florida, has worked for the city since April 2001, when she was hired as a human resources clerk. Nearly one year later, in January 2002, she was promoted to finance director, a position she held throughout her tenure, along with the city manager title bestowed upon her eight years later.

According to former Mayor Mike Radzik who served on the Groveland City Council as mayor from November 2010 to November 2012, Miller's appointment to

SEE MILLER | A2

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SOUTH LAKE PRESS

VOLUME 98, No. 3 | 3 SECTIONS

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Flu wracks the Sunshine State

MILLARD K. IVES | Staff Writer
millardives@dailycommercial.com

Florida's flu season is one of the worst in years with the Centers for Disease Control identifying the state as one of dozens with high influenza illness activity.

Since the last week of 2012, about 5 percent of the emergency room and clinic visits across Florida have been due to patients exhibiting influenza-like symptoms, according to the Florida Department of Health.

Officials at South Lake Hospital in Clermont reported this week that from

20 to 25 percent of emergency-room visits since Dec. 26 have been for people coming in with flu-like symptoms. The Lake County Health Department and Leesburg Regional Medical Center, as well as the Leesburg Regional Urgent Care in Tavares, also have reported a jump in numbers.

"We are seeing an increase in positive influenza A across all age groups in the county and we are also seeing an increase in influenza B," said Sheri Hutchinson, a spokeswoman for Lake



HEIDINES PEREZ / DAILY COMMERCIAL

SEE FLU | A2 Maria Aviles, right, receives a flu vaccine.

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Word on the Street

What South Lake residents are saying about...

RACIAL EQUALITY

Do you think Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's dream of racial equality has been realized?



I think where we are is a good beginning but we have a long way to go on both sides of the chasm.

JUDY CLINDT
CLERMONT

We're not totally there but I think it's a lot better than it used to be. We have come a long way. Especially the older generations of people.

LIZ HELTON
CLERMONT

I don't think so. We've got a ways to go but we're growing and getting better. I don't know what to do to get there, but we're getting there.

BILL SHINDLER
GROVELAND

I think we're getting there, definitely. But we have a ways to go. We just have to put our best foot forward and stay positive.

DAVID HELTON
CLERMONT

No, we have more to do. We have a long way to go, but there has been a little progress...a little, little bit.

NATACHA SEIZEME
TAVARES

South Lake Briefs

CLERMONT

Safety improvements being made to trail

The Lake County Parks and Trails Division has started work on safety improvements to sections of the South Lake Trail.

Location of the improvements are between Lake Drive and Mohawk Road and include striping and cross-walk upgrades, new signage, removal and redesign of concrete islands and installation of truncated domes.

Work is expected to continue through March, and during that time sections of the trail may be closed.

For information about the project, call the Lake County Parks and Trails Division at 352-253-4950.

CLERMONT

Reporter Bob Kealing to be guest speaker

The Cooper Memorial Library will present award winning reporter for WESH 2 News, and author Bob Kealing as he talks about Lake County's connection to a Florida music legend, Gram Parsons from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday in room 108 at the Cooper Memorial Library, 2525 Oakley Seaver Dr., in Clermont.

In *Calling Me Home*, Kealing traces the entire arc of Parsons's career, emphasizing his Southern roots, and drawing on dozens of new interviews as well as rare letters and photographs provided by Parsons's family and legendary photojournalist Ted Polumbaum.

Books will be available for purchase from Raintree Books and may be signed by the author.

The event is free to the public.

For information, call the library at 352-536-2275.

CLERMONT

Skin cancer screening at South Lake Hospital

Skin cancer is the topic of discussion at the January Health and Wellness Series from 6 to 7 p.m. on Monday at the National Training Center, 1935 Don Wickham Dr., in Clermont.

Dermatologist David Allyn, M.D. is the guest for the event.

For information and to register for the free event, call the hospital at 352-394-4071, ext. 4412.

LAKE COUNTY

Libraries to close for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The following Lake County Library System Libraries will close for Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday and will reopen with regularly scheduled hours on Tuesday.

Astor County Library, 54905 Alco Road; Cagan Crossings Community Library, 16729 Cagan Oaks, Clermont; Cooper Memorial Library, 2525 Oakley Seaver Dr., Clermont; East Lake County Library, 31340 County Road 437, Sorrento; Helen Lehmann Memorial Library, 17435 Fifth St., Montverde; Lady Lake Public Library, 225 W Guava St.; Leesburg Public Library, 100 E Main St.; Marianne Beck Memorial Library, 112 W. Central Ave., Howey-in-the-Hills; Marion Baysinger Memorial Library, 756 W. Broad St., Groveland; Minneola Schoolhouse Library, 100 S. Main St.; Paisley County Library, 24954 County Road 42; City of Tavares Public Library, 314 N. New Hampshire Ave.; Umatilla Public Library, 412 Hatfield Dr.; and the W. T. Bland Public Library, 1995 N. Donnelly St., Mount Dora.

The Fruitland Park Library, 205 W Berckman St. will remain open but will close at 5 p.m.

For information, go to www.mylake-library.org.

CLERMONT

Women's Club seeking scholarship applicants

The Clermont Woman's Club is awarding three \$1000 scholarships to a senior girl from each of the following high schools, East Ridge, Lake Minneola and South Lake.

Students interested in applying can download the application from www.clermontwomensclub.org or call Carol Spaldi at 352-243-6182.

Applications are also available at school guidance offices.

FLU

CONTINUED FROM A1

County Health Department.

The CDC reports that in the last week of 2012, its latest flu data available, influenza activity is increasing nationwide and is most elevated in the southern region of the country. Influenza A H3N2 is the most commonly detected influenza subtype.

According to local Health Department officials, the flu began to hit people throughout the nation early this season, starting in November, and has just begun to peak in Florida this month. The Northeast has been hard hit.

"This is the worst flu season we've seen since 2009, and people should take the threat of flu seriously," Boston Mayor Thomas Menino said in declaring a public health emergency in his city because of the flu.

Of the 18 children who have died with flu-like symptoms so far across the nation, Aaron Keller, a spokesman with the Florida Department of Health, said two were from Florida and one lived in neighboring Polk County.



HEIDINES PEREZ / DAILY COMMERCIAL

Sabrina Laclair prepares a flu vaccine for a patient on Friday at Sumter County Health Department clinic in Wildwood.

Walter Thomas, a spokesman for the Sumter County Health Department, said flu season in Florida is expected to peak this year between January and February. He encourages people to get flu shots.

"Getting a flu shot is the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease," Thomas said. He said good

hygiene is also important.

The CDC report states influenza and ILI activity is increasing in all regions of Florida, which is normal for this time of year, but regions in Central and South Florida, as well as the Panhandle, are showing higher than expected ILI activity in emergency room visits for ILI.

Keller said this flu season is the worst since the H1N1 outbreak in 2009 and 2010, a season which caused 230 deaths in Florida.

"Some years are just more active than others," said Keller. "It's just a more active strain."

Keller was quick to add that some other parts of the country are seeing it worse. Just in Massachusetts, there have been 18 deaths related to this year's flu, with four deaths and 700 confirmed cases in Boston alone. In Illinois, 147 people were admitted to intensive care at hospitals, and six deaths have been reported — so severe that Chicago hospitals have been turning away patients who aren't in severe conditions, CBS New Chicago reported.

One hospital in Allentown, Pa., last week set up a tent for a steady stream of patients with flu symptoms.

Other hospitals are taking steps to deal with the influx and protect other patients from getting sick,

including restricting visits from children, requiring family members to wear masks, and banning anyone with flu symptoms from maternity wards.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported 22,048 flu cases from Sept. 30 through the end of 2012. By the same time last year, only 849 flu cases had been reported throughout the nation — a 26-fold increase. CDC added the percentage of people visiting hospitals nationwide has increased two-fold in the past month.

Thomas said he doesn't expect an epidemic this year in Florida, despite the high influenza type illness activity. He stressed people need to make sure they wash their hands and cover their sneezes with their arms or inside of elbows, not their hands, which can frequently come into contact with other people or things.

"Stopping the spread of flu is something people should take seriously," Thomas said. "Cover your cough, wash your hands and please stay home if you are sick."

On average, about 24,000 Americans die each flu season, according to the CDC. Symptoms can include fever, cough, runny nose, head and body aches and fatigue. Some people also suffer vomiting and diarrhea, and some develop pneumonia or other severe complications.

There's a new flu vaccine each year, based on the best guess of what flu viruses will be strongest that year. This year's vaccine is well-matched to what's going around. The government estimates that between a third and a half of Americans have gotten the vaccine.

Health officials are analyzing the vaccine's effectiveness, but early indications are that about 60 percent of all vaccinated people have been protected from the flu.

Thomas, who said it takes about two weeks after vaccination for immunity to develop and provide protection for the flu, said it's a misconception that you can catch the flu from a flu shot because the vaccine contains a dead virus. He urged people to get flu shots before the flu season hits its peak.

"There's still plenty of time," he said.

The Associated Press contributed material to this report.

MILLER

CONTINUED FROM A1

the city manager's post was not seen by some as ideal. Radzik said some of the members of the current council, who also have served on previous councils, had other ideas regarding who should have held the top spot to begin with.

That, Radzik said, has continued to plague Miller since her appointment.

"Mrs. Miller successfully guided the city through a very tough economic climate, while enduring harsh and often unwarranted criticism from several members of the

current Groveland City Council," Radzik said in an email Monday, adding that in his opinion, there was a little more to Miller's resignation than what meets the eye.

Miller, who graduated from Lake-Sumter Community College and the University of Central Florida, worked in retail for 10 years and earned a real estate license before joining the city. She currently makes \$117,220 a year.

As Groveland's finance director, Miller earned the city a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the government Finance Officers Association for three years in a row; the last in June 2012.

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EUSTIS

Local men charged during 4-day prostitution sting

MILLARD K. IVES | Staff Writer
millardives@dailycommercial.com

An alleged offer to a prostitute of a free apartment for a year in exchange for sex apparently was too good to be true — at least for one man reportedly offering the deal.

A 38-year-old Eustis man was jailed Sunday after making the deal to a woman he thought was a prostitute, but who turned out to be an undercover detective in a prostitution sting that netted more than 75 arrests, the Polk County Sheriff's Office said Tuesday.

Fredrick Antonio Williams is accused of

offering the undercover female detective a free apartment for a year in exchange for occasional sex and a cut of her profits, according to sheriff's spokeswoman Donna Wood. Williams was charged with deriving from the proceeds of prostitution, which some call pimping, jailed and released on a \$1,000 bond.

Sheriff's detectives began working the four-day investigation last Thursday which targeted "online e-commerce sites related to men and women who were



WILLIAMS



JORDAN

advertising to commit prostitution and solicit for prostitution." According to the sheriff's office, while the 78 suspects were jailed on an array of charges that included drug possession, traffic offenses and battery on a law enforcement officer, most were arrested on accusations of soliciting prostitutes via online advertisements.

Williams, a forklift driver, was one of four suspects arrested on deriving from the proceeds of prostitution.

Wood said it isn't rare for someone trying to solicit sex from someone to make an offer of employment.

Another Lake County man, Arthur W. Jordan, 41, of Mascotte, also was arrested in the sting on Sunday. He was charged with solicitation of prostitution after being accused of offering a woman \$100 for sex. Jordan was released on a \$250 bond.

In an unrelated operation by Seminole County deputies, Kory Scott Weber, 25, of Mount Dora, was among 50 suspects arrested last week in a child predator sting. "Operation Cardea" targeted adult suspects who went online in an attempt to have sex with a minor.

SUMTERVILLE

SECO enhances school scholarship program for 2013

Staff Report

The SECO Board of Trustees has voted to continue SECO's scholarship program for 2013 and has authorized an increase in the scholarship amount taking it from \$2,500 up to \$3,000 per student in recognition of the ever increasing cost of higher education.

Up to 12 high school seniors from the cooperative's service territory — including Lake and Sumter counties — will receive assistance to go on to a college or technical school following their graduation.

SECO's scholarship program has helped many students attain higher learning when that might have been difficult otherwise.

"The selection of those students who will receive scholarships will be based on each individual's past and present activities in school and the community, financial need and scholastic record," SECO

Director of Corporate Communications Barry Bowman said. "All applicants will be evaluated by an independent panel of educators from around the SECO service territory."

Bowman noted that to qualify, graduates must reside in a home being served by SECO and be enrolled in an accredited college, university or vocational/technical school by the end of 2013.

Applications are now available at area high school guidance offices and at any of SECO's customer service centers in Marion, Lake, Citrus, and Sumter counties. They must be returned to SECO no later than March 29, 2013.

"The SECO scholarship program reaffirms the Co-op's commitment to the future of our young people, and while the program has no impact on the cost of electricity, it is a significant benefit for those awardees struggling to fund their higher education," Bowman said.

MINNEOLA

After-school programs at the library

Staff Report

Two new children's after-school programs are now offered at the Minneola Schoolhouse Library, 100 S. Main Ave. in Minneola.

The Reader's Theater for kids in 1st-3rd takes place at 3 p.m., every Wednesday afternoon and offers an exciting way for kids to have fun with others while gaining confidence in reading allowing stu-

dents to practice until they are fluent readers.

At 3:30 p.m. every Thursday the library will host a Lego Club for children of all ages. Kids can build anything from the simplest to the most complex creation offering a time of independent creativity or with group dynamics encouraging others.

For information, call the library at 352-432-3921.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY

CLERMONT GARDEN CLUB AND THE CITY OF CLERMONT FREE TREE GIVE-AWAY: "Bare root" trees will be given away today in honor of Florida's Arbor Day at the Clermont Citrus Tower Publix store, beginning at 8 a.m. until all the trees are gone.

TUESDAY

PASTFINDERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH LAKE "GENERAL HELP" MEETING: 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., room 108 on the first floor of the Cooper Memorial Library, 2525 Oakley Seaver Dr., Clermont. Call the library at 352-536-2275.

WEDNESDAY

PEOPLE OF FAITH MEETING AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH: 10 a.m., Elaine Barton from Horses with a Mission is the guest. Call 352-394-2968.

THURSDAY

PASTFINDERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH LAKE "GENERAL HELP" MEETING: 9:30 a.m. to noon, room 108 on the first floor of the Cooper Memorial Library, 2525 Oakley Seaver Dr., Clermont. Call the library at 352-536-2275.

JAN. 26

2013 COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR & WELLNESS: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 950 7th St., in Clermont. Proceeds benefit New Beginnings Lake. Over 70 vendors. Call New Beginnings at 352-617-8788 for details.

CAGAN CROSSING ART AND CRAFT FESTIVAL: Jan. 26-27, U.S. Highway 27 and

Cagan Crossing Blvd., in Clermont. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., today and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 352-344-0657 or go to www.tnteventsinc.com.

JAN. 27

PET VACCINATION CLINIC: Noon to 4 p.m., Irish Trails Farm & Pet Supply, 102 S. U.S. Highway 27 in Clermont. Call 352-243-0924.

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OUR VOICE

We must halt the madness

KEEP TALKING:

These reprehensible expressions of violence ought not fade from our memories or lose their influence on our sensibilities. We must continue to be outraged. For if we let these tragedies diminish in our minds, we become the victims.

The massacre of mostly children at a school in Connecticut shocked a nation and provoked a vibrant discussion on the role of guns in American lives, and how the government should regulate gun ownership.

How do we feel about the loss of human life, the shooting rampages, the spilling of blood? What do the stories say about the climate of our culture and the state of our society? How do we prevent violence from reoccurring?

At the very least — and with wretched irony — the tragedies have prompted discussions.

While possible solutions may come from a variety of sources and may be as varied as the American viewpoint, we're talking — and that's good. We are plodding our way through the morass of gun violence.

Some want more restrictions on certain gun types. Some say gun control is not the answer. Some suggest gun rights advocates are misreading the Second Amendment of the Constitution. Others say it's a mental health issue.

There's only one thing for sure: We have to do something, and we have to do something now.

On the local level, leaders are discussing stationing a school resource officer at every elementary school. In some local jurisdictions, the sheriff's office rotates resource officers.

Sheriff's offices are dependent on funding for their agencies from their county commissions. County commissions rely on tax revenue to pay bills. Putting resource officers at every school, as opposed to road and neighborhood patrols, comes with a higher price tag: More taxes, less road patrol or shifting expenses from other services.

While we're not advocating any particular position at this time, we urge our readers and public officials to keep this issue at the forefront.

These reprehensible expressions of violence ought not fade from our memories or lose their influence on our sensibilities.

We must continue to be outraged. For if we let these tragedies diminish in our minds, we become the victims.

At the end of the day, we must continue asking the question: How do we halt the madness?

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

The *SOUTH LAKE PRESS* invites you to write letters to the editor, expressing your original thoughts, on topics of public interest. Letters should be no longer than 350 words. They must be original, signed with the full name of the writer and include the writer's address and telephone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit for length to make room for more letters. Letters also will be edited for grammar, clarity, taste and libel. We accept no more than two letters per month from the same writer. No open letters, form letters or copies of letters to third parties will be published. We do not publish unsigned letters. Submissions are not returned. We retain the right to archive and republish any material submitted for publication.

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EDITORIALS

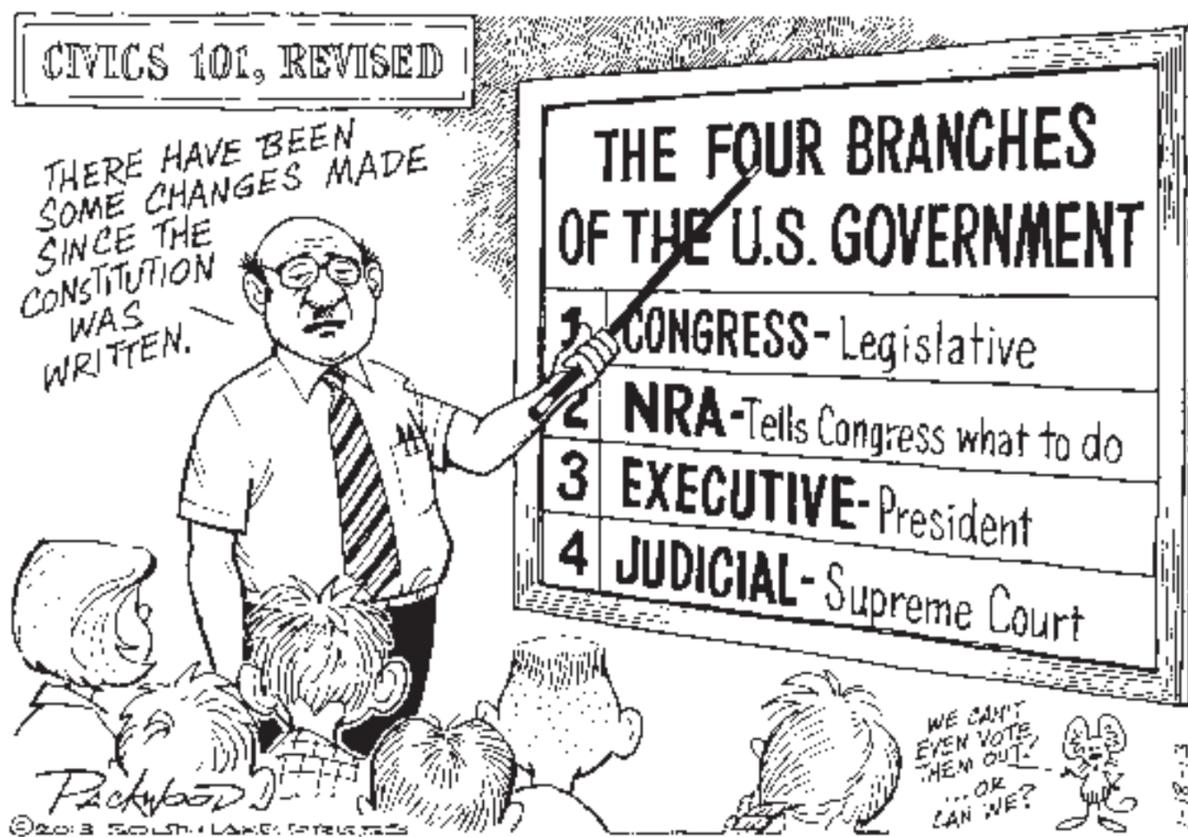
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GUEST COLUMNS

If you would like to submit a guest column on a local, state or national issue, e-mail your submission to southlakepress@dailycommercial.com, or mail it to Letters to the Editor, 732 W. Montrose St., Clermont, FL 34711. Guest columns should be limited to 550 words in length. The writer also must submit a recent photograph to be published with the column, as well as a brief biographical sketch.

OPINION

www.southlakepress.com



YOUROPINIONS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stricter gun control laws aren't the answer

My heart and prayers go out to the parents and families of Newtown, Conn., in your loss. No one should have to endure what you are now experiencing.

I have been thinking on how we might reasonably seek to avoid these tragedies in the future. I do not believe that gun control is the real solution. I would prefer to see:

1) Bans on movies and videogames that promote violence. Are we not teaching children that inner conflict can only be overcome with violence? Violence is even portrayed as fun and painless. It is neither.

2) Moral teachings reintroduced into the schools to clarify right and wrong.

No one has the right to take life except as prescribed by the law for punishment to taking life from others.

3) Psychological evaluation of students at grades 6, 9 and 12 to aid in finding dangerous attitudes that could lead to horrific crimes.

Those found to need professional help in overcoming mental breakdowns should receive help and counseling until they are cured. Those that are sick should not be allowed to have access to any tools of destruction: guns, knives, cars, bomb implements and nonprescribed drugs.

4) Cameras with monitors checked by school staff or police and volunteer patrols about schools could give advance warning of possibly dangerous individual(s) entering school grounds.

I agree with having fenced schools with one main point of entry and exit. Entry doors should not have any glass positioned to allow an intruder to reach the lock if the glass is broken.

5) As a final precaution, primary school staff should never be left defenseless and at the mercy of armed intruders. Paid armed police could be hired, or primary school office staff, properly trained, should be allowed to have guns.

There is no excuse that unarmed school staff should have to charge against an armed intruder.

If that heroic principal had a gun the whole outcome of the situation could have been instantly changed.

LARRY LIPPS | Fruitland Park

Better background checks are needed

Why did Mrs. Lanza have 2mm handguns and a .222-caliber Bushmaster assault rifle for protection at her home? Who was she so scared of? That's some heavy protection, very heavy.

I am a gun owner and I believe everyone that can lawfully own a gun should have one if that is their desire.

Authorities need to tighten down on the seller, and I do not mean the average Joe out there.

For example, years ago my wife, who is now deceased, bought me a pump shotgun at Walmart in Lake County with a three-day waiting period. She bought three guns for me, which I still have. Imagine my surprise on

LETTER of the WEEK



COURTESY MLIVE.COM

Don't take guns from law-abiding folks

I can understand the reasoning behind the consideration of a ban on semiautomatic assault rifles. But a recent editorial spewed out the illogical knee-jerk reaction to these occasional shooting sprees by very unstable individuals, and suggested that all concealed carry permits be stopped.

It is time for wiser heads, rational, mature thinkers to solve some of our society's ills.

These few isolated incidents are not being carried out by sane responsible citizens with concealed carry permits. In fact, if a couple of such people were present in that theater in Aurora, Colo., a few months ago, there would have been fewer casualties occurring that night.

Emotions need time to settle after such tragedies and logical, mature, open-minded thinking needs to look for sensible solutions to reduce the likelihood of such incidences.

Taking guns away from the sane law-abiding citizens of the country does not make sense. They are not the ones carrying out these crimes.

Almost all shootings are carried out by criminals, gang members and the very few mentally unstable individuals among us.

Screen people better with background checks for any evidence for mental instability, yes. But making the rest of us defenseless against the very large criminal/borderline criminal element that exists in this

country would be irresponsible.

Each of the other English-speaking countries around the world that put total gun bands on their citizens (England, Canada and Australia) resulted in higher violent crime and the breaking and entering (home invasion) rate, and we have a higher criminal ratio in this country than those countries. We would be sitting ducks for them all.

You may not have a gun but someone on your street does; the criminal does not know which one. But if a total ban on guns is implemented, who will turn in their guns? The law-abiding citizen will, not the criminal and borderline criminals. And the few who do won't worry about it as they can still get guns on the black market.

Just like drugs, there is a constant influx of guns being smuggled into this country, and government and law enforcement can't stop either one.

Read John Lott's books. He was an antigun Democrat who did extensive research of the effects of guns on America. The information he discovered turned his conclusion around a 180 degrees from where it began.

Far, far more lives are saved due to gun ownership (by responsible people) than are lost in this country due to gun ownership.

Richard Miller resides in Leesburg.

Christmas Eve when I opened the shotgun and I ask my wife, who was sitting on the sofa smiling like a Cheshire cat, who purchased the gun? She said, "I did."

My wife was under the care of a psychiatrist and was considered a suicide case; she had eight surgeries to her brain due to a car accident several years before. She was considered a mental patient.

But yet she was able to buy three handguns and a shotgun legally. What happened?

Here's another case. A relative of mine in Polk County back in the 1990s and her boyfriend had a dispute with a

couple of guys at a service station; he shot and killed both men. He was sent to prison for 12 years, and she walked with a felony.

Not too long after this incident, she moved to Alabama and bought a 10mm handgun and was approved for a concealed weapons permit.

In order to get that permit you are fingerprinted at the sheriff's office and a thorough background check is done. What happened?

By the way, she shot her husband with the gun she was not supposed to have.

Wake up authorities. Do a better background check. Do your job.

RUSSELL TIMMONS | Lady Lake

LEESBURG

Pulitzer Prize nominee to review work of local poets

Staff Report



SHIPLEY

Shipley is a two-time recipient of the Paterson Award for Sustained Literary Achievement, the Library of Congress Connecticut Lifetime Achievement Award for Service to the Literary Community, the Connecticut Book Award for Poetry, the Lucille Medwick Prize from the Poetry Society of America, as well as numerous others.

Winners will be notified by phone or email and all poets are welcome to the Lake County Library System's Authors Reception on March 15 in the W.T. Bland Public Library.

Finalists will be selected by members of the Palm Writers' Group. For submission information and guidelines, go to www.mylakelibrary.org/poetry-contest/default.aspx or call Scott Amey at the East Lake County Library, 352-383-9980. The BookFest runs March 11-16.

As part of Lake County's upcoming BookFest, a special poetry event has been added where local poets may have their work reviewed by Pulitzer Prize nominee Vivian Shipley.

Entries are being accepted now through Feb. 8.

The Viva Libros! Poetry Contest is for ages 18 and up. Qualifying entries may be on any topic and may be any style of writing.

There will be 18 winners selected and these poets will be invited to attend a special private workshop with Shipley on from 10 a.m. until noon on March 14 at the W.T. Bland Public Library in Mount Dora. At 1 p.m. The winners will be invited to read to the public in an event hosted by Shipley, and award winning poets Darlin' Neal and Ryan Van Cleave.

The selected poems will also be published on the Lake County Library System web site Writers' Page.

FIFTH-GRADER SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL STATE ELEMENTARY CHORUS



COURTESY PHOTO

Jahlissia Johnson, a fifth-grade music student of Mrs. Elsie Stockton at Minneola Elementary Charter School, was selected to participate in a 200-voice All State Elementary Chorus. Approximately 750 fourth- and fifth-grade students from all over the state of Florida auditioned but only 200 were selected to perform Jan. 10 at the 2013 Florida Music Educators Association Professional Development Clinic-Conference at the convention center in Tampa. They were conducted by Earlene Rentz, Ph.D., who currently is a full-time choral music publisher, composer and arranger. Johnson is the daughter of Michael and Karen Johnson.

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South Lake Press Classifieds

LEESBURG

State's billion-dollar 'treasure hunt' beckons

GREG JONES and
THERESA CAMPBELL | Staff Writers
news@dailycommercial.com

Website lets people search for forgotten money

Few know about "The Great Florida Treasure Hunt," but a handful of Lake County residents and organizations have been given a map.

The Florida Department of Financial Services, Bureau of Unclaimed Property, holds unclaimed accounts valued at more than \$1 billion, mostly from dormant accounts in financial institutions, insurance and utility companies, securities and trust holdings. Unclaimed Property also includes uncashed checks and tangible property such as jewelry, coins, currency, stamps, historical items and other miscellaneous articles,

from safe deposit boxes.

Florida Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater recently announced 61,271 new unclaimed property accounts, worth more than \$25 million, are being received as part of a settlement with AIG related to unclaimed life insurance benefits. This represents only the first of what is expected to be additional remittances to be made by the insurer.

"These new accounts represent dollars loved ones set aside to secure financial stability for their families. Holding companies accountable means these dollars will now be returned to their rightful owners across the

state," Atwater said.

He urged Floridians to take part in what his office calls "The Great Florida Treasure Hunt." To search for or claim unclaimed property, visit www.FLTreasureHunt.org, or call 1-88-VALUABLE or 850-413-5555.

To check out the system, a Daily Commercial reporter accessed the web site and dropped in random names. While it doesn't say how much in assets are being held, it does list their sources and explains how to claim them.

One such listing was unclaimed money owed to

Leesburg High School by Coca Cola Refreshments USA Inc.

"This is good news," school Principal Bill Miller said when he was told of the find. "You usually don't get calls like this. Give me a couple of days to look into this."

Chris Patton, the information officer for the Lake County School District, said the finance department will work with Miller and help him fill out paperwork to claim the funds. Other Lake County schools also are listed on the web site.

"The finance department checks that periodically, and the department is going to help fill out the paperwork," he said.

"We were thrilled," said Jan Zacharchuk, executive director of the Leesburg Area Chamber of Commerce, when told the chamber had unclaimed vendor checks from Chick-fil-A. "Now we are going to get it and life is good," she said.

The Daily Commercial also found Blue Cross & Blue Shield policy benefits owed to Dana Jones of Clermont; Philip Morris vendor checks being held for the IGA store in Tavares; checks from the Jacobs & Goodman law firm awaiting the Leesburg Chiropractic Clinic; United Healthcare Insurance benefits owed to John Whiteside of Leesburg; and accounts payable checks from the Schenck Company owed to the Umatilla Tavern.

MASCOTTE

Flagship of Lake County sues city, board members

ROXANNE BROWN | Staff Writer
roxannebrown@dailycommercial.com

Last March, the city of Mascotte, four council members and the former mayor were named in a \$20 million lawsuit by Flagship of Lake County, a developer whose request to build a landfill was denied rezoning.

The project was known as the Heron's Glen project. The meeting was in October 2011.

Nearly 300 residents attended the five-hour hearing on the

proposed Class I landfill on a 245-acre site along County Road 33, two miles north of State Road 50 off Smith Road.

Based on public input during the meeting and about 100 statements, residents were opposed to the landfill because of the possibility of harmful chemicals, effects and odors the landfill might emit.

Flagship presented expert witnesses to assuage environmental concerns.

The council voted against the

proposal. Flagship contended the council vote violated the proposal's intent, which was to determine whether it would comply with the city's comprehensive plan.

Flagship claimed bias and confusion dominated the meeting.

The suit against Mascotte was filed on March 29, 2012 in the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in Lake County.

The city, former Mayor Jeff Krull and then council mem-

bers Tony Rosado, Brenda Brasher, Barbara Krull and Stephen Elmore were served on April 3. The Florida League of Cities was charged with litigation, liability and lawyer's fees.

City Manager Jim Gleason said the individual defendants were removed from the suit.

"The portion against the mayor (former) and council members as individuals was removed," Gleason said.

The case has been moved from state court to federal

court and is now being handled by Dean, Ringers, Morgan and Lawton, an Orlando firm.

Attorney John Conner will be meeting with the current council on Tuesday in an executive session for a briefing.

No further information is available and Conner could not be reached for comment.

Tuesday's council meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the Tedder-Thomas Memorial Civic Center, 121 N. Sunset Avenue, Mascotte.



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TAVARES

Final \$3K donated for Freedom Flag project

THERESA CAMPBELL | Staff Writer
theresacampbell@dailyccommercial.com

The final \$3,000 is in for the Freedom Flag to be installed at a Tavares roundabout and city officials credit residents' generosity in supporting the \$28,000 project.

A 60-foot flagpole with a 12-by-18-foot American flag is expected to be installed in February as a tribute to veterans while also serving as a focal point for the governmental and judicial center of Lake County.

The large flag will fly continuously and under a spotlight at night.

"We are very excited," Joyce Ross, public communications director for Tavares said Monday, pleased the fundraising goal has been met. The final donation came from a Sorrento family trust.

"The roundabout turned out really nice and we are happy with the construction went and how it finished up and now we're just thrilled with the addition of the flagpole," she

said. "The public was real generous with their donations so that we could move forward with doing this rather quickly."

Ross said the fundraising happened quickly.

"Different veterans organizations and business groups got together with the Chamber of Commerce," she said. "It really took on a life of its own and everybody wanted to participate."

The first phase of construction began in August 2012. The new roundabout, part of a downtown revitalization initiative, was designed to help alleviate congestion at the intersection, enabling a smoother flow of traffic once completed.

The idea for the large flagpole came from Chris Thompson, Tavares' public works director, who was visiting Coopersville, Mich., when he noticed in the middle of a traffic roundabout a flagpole with a huge American flag that could be seen flowing in the wind for miles around.

After learning that the Coopersville flag project was funded by community donations, Thompson checked with Lake County officials, who were building Tavares' roundabout, and was told they would change their design plan to accommodate a flagpole if the Tavares City Council gave its blessing to the project. That's because the roundabout at Main Street and Sinclair Avenue was set to be turned over to the city after being completed.

Council members approved the idea in October and the Freedom Flag project was born.

"Before we even finished discussing it at the council meeting, people in the audience were showering out voluntary donations," Ross said.

Thompson was the first to donate to the cause, giving \$1,000.

Individuals and organizations that gave at least \$100 will have their names engraved on a permanent monument next to the flag, while those contribut-

ing \$500 or more could have a personal message added.

"We will do an official flag raising," Ross said. "Right now we are waiting for the dust to settle a bit, and we have to go through all the donations to see how many names we have that are going on plaques."

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Applauding the accomplishments of readers

SUBMIT YOUR OWN PHOTOS AND INFORMATION: Do you have photographs from a charity, church or civic event that you want featured in "Good for You"? You can send them to pam-fennimore@dailycommercial.com. Be sure to identify everyone in the photo (full names) and include details on the who, what, when, where and why of the event. And don't forget to include your contact information.

LOST LAKE ELEMENTARY | TERRIFIC KIDS



COURTESY PHOTO

Terrific Kids at Lost Lake Elementary sponsored by the Clermont Kiwanis are kindergarteners Dylan Irby, Charlize Osuna, Gabriella Green, Yesaira Ortiz, Owen Criado, Kushini Balkaran, Victoria Claxton, Veronica Vega-Facundo. First Grade: Kenneil Johnson, Amelia Niranjan, Justus Torres, Adam Binder, Bryan Rodriguez, Ian Kitko, Jordan Ali, Darius Daily, Naimah Leneus; second graders: Joshua Richardson, Jacob Klinger, Abigail Bisnauth, Lucas Gaynes, Evan Gilbert, Yolaris Labrador, Dylan Bleser, Bailey Chen, Kayla Lyons; third graders: Kylee Nickerson, Miranda Czerniakowski, Jocelyn Michel, Aaliyah Gonzalez, Tiffany Broadway, Frankie Wasco, Miriam Murshalin, Riley DiPietro, Jasmine Perez, Alison Rector, Olivia Schwab; fourth grader: Kya Sanders, Arelyana Galvan, Trent Laverghetta, Bryan Thompson, Adesh Ramsamooj, Angelica Patino, Kylie Hernandez, Laura Leneus; fifth grader: Blake Richards, Carlos Molina, Connor Neun, William Aponte, Shamal Khan, Daisy (Isabel) Perez, Danielle Pizzo, Nolan McGinley, Caden D'Aoust.

WINDERMERE | EVENING OF GIVING



COURTESY PHOTO

Stan and Lynne Hildebrand and Tara Popenhagen at the Golden Bear Country Club at Keene's Pointe in Windermere took part in its inaugural "Evening of Giving" benefiting the Second Harvest Food Bank. The event was sponsored by Golden Bear Club members and resulted in \$2,145 in contributions and more than 2,500 pounds of food.

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CLERMONT | CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT



COURTESY PHOTO

Volunteer birders talk with ranger Edward Boyd at Lake Louisa State Park for the Inaugural Clermont Christmas Bird Count on Jan. 4, where 35 devoted birders met at the Florida Scrub-Jay Trailhouse, 11490 Monte Vista Road in Clermont at 5:30 a.m. for breakfast. Maps of assigned territories were handed out and the teams went out and scoured their territories for 12 hours, documenting bird sightings. At the end of the day, the birders met at the trailhouse to report sightings and have dinner donated by Carrabba's Restaurant. The survey resulted in an impressive 123 species counted, totaling 10,800 birds. Call 352-429-5566, email info@scrubjaytrail.org or go to www.scrubjaytrail.org for information.

MASCOTTE ELEMENTARY CHARTER | TERRIFIC



COURTESY PHOTO

December Terrific Kids are Samantha Crawford, Nicole Ventura, Janelly Perez, Jermeshia Fielder, Adrian Vidal, Ceresmy Perez, Tylar Jade Mashall, Jacquelyne Jimenez, William Rodriguez, Peyton Crawford, Melanie Singh, Mariah Bocardo, Jonathan Knight, Alegandro Saldivar, Austin Bowling, Mitrell Walker, Jessica Saldivar, Anthony Chris Ramsawack, Joshua Lozano, Ray Cepeda, Aaron Jimenz, Jennifer Bizarro, Victoria Drawdy, Nick Garcia, Travis Hayes, Obiajulu Udokwu, Maria Vazquez-Lopez, Deonna Goyens, Ricky Crawford, Janet Mata Torres, Eduardo Baez, Rebeca Briceno, Key Krull, Genesis Rodriguez, Charita Budram, Yarian Reyna, Charmaine Sherrington, Fatima Romero, Cinthia Gomez, Angel Lee and Carlos Sanchez-Torres.

IN MEMORY

OBITUARIES

Roscoe L. Coss

Roscoe L. Coss, 75, of Clermont passed away January 9, 2013 at Cornerstone Hospice in Tavares. He was born in Cherokee, OK and moved to the area in 1987 from Utah. He retired from the U.S. Air Force after 23 years as a Master Sergeant having served in Vietnam, Okinawa, Kansas, South Carolina, Aviano, Italy and Utah. He was Baptist by faith and attended Green Pond Baptist Church. He was a former member of Pirates Square Dance Club, Orlando Singles Square Dance, Ogden Singles Square Dance and the American Legion. He enjoyed fishing, wood working, leather work, photography, traveling, country music and square dancing. Roscoe was predeceased by his first wife, Nancy Linda, his second wife, Willie Faye and his grandson, James. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Corino-Coss of Clermont, FL; children: Rick Coss of Groveland, FL; J.C. (Jackie) Coss of Pleasant View, UT; David Coss of Ocoee, FL; Linda Coss Pettit of Magna, UT; step-children: Dorrie



(Dan) Lussier of Cape Coral, FL; James (Beth) Herbert of Eden, NY; Heather (Shane) Malesky of Orlando, FL; Douglas Hammon of Sebring, FL; Lisa (Robbie) McNew of Sebring, FL; Brenda Lowe of Groveland, FL; Shelia (Garth) Houston of Clermont, FL; Beverly (Dan) Morton of Valdese, NC; 6 Grandchildren: Naymond, Brian, Adam, Krystal, Jessica and D.R.; 7 Great Grandchildren; 16 Step Grandchildren and 4 Step Great Grandchildren, his brother: Larry Coss of Ft. Wayne, IN, and several cousins and extended family members. Services were held January 15, 2013. Interment Florida National Cemetery. Brewer and Sons Clermont Chapel (352) 394-8500.

DEATH NOTICES

Marilyn Ann Rose Dooley Aciego

Marilyn Ann Rose Dooley Aciego, 76, of Umatilla, died Tuesday January 15, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home, Umatilla.

Sandra L. Bynes

Sandra L. Bynes 64, Orlando, died Monday, January 7, 2013. Hayes Brothers Funeral Home, Altamont Springs.

Harold Calhoun

Harold Calhoun, 59, of Umatilla, died Monday, January 7, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home, Umatilla.

John William Carson

John William Carson 30, Winter Park, died Monday, January 7, 2013. Hayes Brothers Funeral Home,

SEE OBITS | A11

CLERMONT

Police: Disabled man molested girl, 12

MILLARD K. IVES | Staff Writer
millardives@dailycommercial.com

A 57-year-old disabled Clermont man is in jail on no bail after being accused of sexual battery on a child less than 12 years old.

Pedro L. Rodriguez was charged with sexual battery, lewd and lascivious battery, molestation and exhibition of a child less than 12 years old; child abuse; and battery.

Clermont police said Rodriguez admitted to molesting the child but claims his disability has left him impotent, and he argues that he didn't have intercourse with the girl.

According to police, they received information on Jan. 3 that Rodriguez had molested the child on six different occasions, which started early as January of last year.

According to an arrest affidavit, Rodriguez is accused of telling the girl to take off her clothes and get in bed with her and

inappropriately touching her. He is also accused of molesting her on a table, couch, in the shower and swimming pool and forcing her to perform sexual acts.

Police said he admitted to touching her inappropriately and forcing her to perform sexual acts. But Rodriguez contends a spinal cord injury,



RODRIGUEZ

which left him disabled, does not allow him to perform sexually.

According to the affidavit, Rodriguez said he was "sorry" for what he did and needed help but denied having sex with any other children.

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Thursday, January 31, 2013

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Kathy Sowden 352-343-3632

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Featured Business of the Month: "Artwork by 2 Sisters"

ARTWORK BY 2 SISTERS

What started out as a family affair has turned into Award Winning Artwork by 2 Sister's, Kathy Henderson and Janice Senninger!

When our brother, Jeff Mitchell, realized he was not able to purchase an original Highwaymen oil painting, our sister, Kathy Henderson, decided to try painting one for him. She became hooked and little sister, Janice Senninger, decided to follow in big sister's footsteps and became hooked as well. We enjoy oil painting Landscapes, Still Life, People and Animals. Art has opened many a creative door and an involvement in the community.

Janice Senninger is in her 2nd year as President of the South Lake Art League. She sits on the board of directors for the Clermont Downtown Partnership and the Kiwanis of South Lake. You can find Janice keeping the South Lake Art League's downtown gallery open on Sundays during the Farmer's Market.

Kathy Henderson is a board member for the South Lake Art League and is chairmperson for our annual Photography Show and 2 Members' Art Shows.

For more information about art classes or membership to the South Lake Art League, please visit SouthLakeArtLeague.com

For more information about Artwork by 2 Sisters, please contact Janice @ 407-256-3219



Photo courtesy of South Lake Tablet

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OBITS

CONTINUED FROM A9

Altamonte Springs.

Beatrice B. Dean

Beatrice B. Dean, 88, of Dona Vista, died Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home, Umatilla.

Mary K. Dooley

Mary K. Dooley, 80, of Sorrento, died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013. Harden/Pauli Funeral Home, Eustis.

Lorin Dorsey

Lorin Dorsey, 75, Webster, died Friday, January 11, 2013. Rocker-Cusack Mortuary, Leesburg.

Fannie Ford

Fannie Ford, 56, of Webster, died Thursday, January 10, 2013. Marvin C. Zanders Funeral Home, Inc.

Paul Francis Frasier

Paul Francis Frasier, 52, dies Sunday, January 13, 2013. Harden/Pauli Funeral Home, Eustis.

Florence R. Garrett

Florence R. Garrett, 103, of Eustis, died Monday January 14, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home, Umatilla.

Katherine Ann Harden

Katherine Ann Harden, 62, of The Villages passed away Friday, January 11, 2013. Arrangements are entrusted to Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

John Thomas Hardy

John Thomas Hardy 87, Eustis, died Sunday, January 5, 2013. Hayes Brothers Funeral Home, Eustis.

Vernon Raymond Harris

Vernon Raymond Harris, 53, of Groveland, died Wednesday, December 26, 2012. Floyd's Funeral Home, Clermont, Fl.

Glen J. Lawrence

Glen J. Lawrence, 76, of Wildwood, died Sunday, January 13, 2013. Arrangements are entrusted to Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

Barbara P. Lebo

Barbara P. Lebo, 77, of Leesburg, died Monday, January 14, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Leesburg.

John F. Lynch, Jr.

John F. Lynch, Jr., 78, of Minneola died January 8, 2013 Brewer and Sons Clermont Chapel

Toni Lynn Huff

Toni Lynn Huff 50, Eustis, died Monday, January 7, 2013. Hayes Brothers Funeral Home, Eustis.

Margaret C. Knight

Margaret C. Knight, 80, of Leesburg, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Leesburg.

Richard Gurney "Maggie" Mathis

Richard Gurney "Maggie" Mathis, 81, of Astor, died Jan. 11, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home, Astor.

Sara M. McDonald

Sara M. McDonald, 98, of Eustis, died Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Harden/Pauli Funeral Home, Eustis.

Charles Hayden "Chuck" Messer

Charles Hayden "Chuck" Messer, 86, of Eatonton, GA., died Monday, January

7, 2013. Hamlin & Hilbish Funeral Directors.

Murdis Douglas Newton

Murdis Douglas Newton, 84, Eustis, died Monday, December 31, 2013. Hayes Brothers Funeral Home Eustis.

George Parker

George Parker, 79, of Eustis, died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013. Marvin C. Zanders Funeral Home, Inc., Apopka.

Violet Kain Phillips

Violet Kain Phillips, 89, of Williston passed away Friday, January 11, 2013. Arrangements are entrusted to Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

Lowell Andrew Prater

Lowell Andrew Prater,

90, of Howey-in-the-Hills, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory.

Frances M. Randall

Frances M. Randall, 99, of Umatilla, died Saturday, January 12, 2013. Beyers Funeral Home, Umatilla.

Betty Louise Robinette

Betty Louise Robinette, 80, of Tavares, died Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Harden/Pauli Funeral Home, Eustis.

David S. Rosenberger

David S. Rosenberger, 87, of Altoona, died on Sunday, January 13, 2013. harden/Pauli Funeral Home, Eustis.

Lorene Baker Smith

Lorene Baker Smith, 90, Oxford, died Wednesday,

January 9, 2013. Banks / Page - Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

William Taylor

William Taylor, 84, Wildwood, died Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

Edward F. Williams

Edward F. Williams, 84, Sebring, died Thursday, January 10, 2013. Banks / Page - Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

Ruby Mae Williams

Ruby Mae Williams, 74, of Bushnell, died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013. Marvin C. Zanders Funeral Home, Inc., Apopka.

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CLERMONT

MLK celebration is Monday

ROXANNE BROWN | Staff Writer
 roxannebrown@dailyccommercial.com

Clermont will hold its second annual Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration from 10 a.m. to noon, Monday, at the city's Waterfront Pavilion, 330 3rd St. in downtown Clermont.

The celebration, hosted by Christian Men in Action in partnership with the South Lake Democratic Club, was spearheaded by lifelong resident Tim Murry.

Murry, a member of Christian Men in Action, said he was determined to bring a venue to the South Lake Community where people could gather to celebrate King's birthday.

In its inaugural year in 2012, about 150 people showed up for the day's events.

This year, Murry said he is keeping the same basic layout, which includes various speakers, local singers, dancers (many of them children) and the reading of King's "I Have A Dream" speech.

The theme for last year's celebration — "Keeping the Dream Alive" — will also be the theme this year.

Murry said the morning's opening remarks will be made by longtime Clermont Mayor Hal Turville, followed by the reading of a countywide proclamation regarding the holiday by Lake County Commissioner Sean Parks.

The keynote speaker for the celebration is Val Demings, former Orlando Chief of Police and U.S. Senate candidate.

Demings will be sharing with the audience the opportunities



ROXANNE BROWN / DAILY COMMERCIAL

Many attendees were visibly moved by the singers, dancers and speakers during Clermont's inaugural Martin Luther King Day Celebration in Jan. 2012. This year's celebration is scheduled for Monday.

King's fight for civil rights — along with his struggles and achievements — have afforded her in her own life and that of so many others lives around the world.

In addition, Murry said he was able to secure a film that will be shown to attendees that chronicles some of King's struggles and achievements in his fight for

equality, followed by footage of his "I Have A Dream" speech as he recited it in front of the Washington Monument years ago.

Also on the program are the "Unity Through Praise," singing group, made up of three preteen girls from Leesburg, the New Jacob's Chapel youth choir, a musical/poetic presentation by

the Boys & Girls Club students from the South Lake Unit, a run through of black history contributors by Danielle Green, and performances by singers Lisa Doguid and Lorenzo Rogers.

The event will be emceed by Celebration of Praise's Rodney Jones with the opening prayer to

SEE MLK | B2

Meet Your NEIGHBOR

BRANDON PEREIRA



■ **HOMETOWN:** Philadelphia
 ■ **OCCUPATION:** Boys & Girls Club
 ■ **FAMILY:** Mother, Fay Pereira; father, Scott Pereira; two brothers, Phillip Pereira and Daniel Pereira

What do you enjoy most about South Lake County?

I guess the most enjoyable thing about it is that it's very peaceful and quiet.

If you had to summarize your philosophy of life in one sentence, what would it be?

Life is what you make it.

Name a person or incident you've come across recently that's touched you in some way. Why did this person or incident impress you so much?

My mother. She does a lot for me, and it keeps me going to become successful enough to where she doesn't have to work anymore.

How does what you do contribute to the welfare of the area?

What I do — mentoring students after school at the Boys & Girls Club — helps contribute to the area because my job helps keep kids off

SEE NEIGHBOR | B2

FROM THE FILES | 98 YEARS AGO — 1915

Reliving history through the pages of the South Lake Press



Ann Dupee

REMEMBER WHEN

A weekly column that reprints some of the more interesting news stories that have appeared over the years in the South Lake Press.

JULY 29, 1915: EXTENSION OF MINNEHAHA LAKE SHORE DRIVE

A proposed extension of the Minnehaha Lake Shore Drive, with a bridge across the Palat-lakaha River between the groves of the Home and Land Development Company and the property of Mr. E.T. Smith on the South Clermont side, was viewed July 27 by Henry Wilson and John Straker, accompanied by Henry Lee, Jim Jones, A.L. Cashwell and E.T. Smith.

These gentlemen have taken up the road matter with a vengeance. They have suffered a long time for a good road and a safe bridge that will shorten the distance between their homes and Clermont, the base of their supplies, until patience has ceased to be a virtue.

Much of the time Lake Minnehaha is rough and dangerous. The only other way to town being a long, tiresome trail, not worthy of the name "road." This has made the taxpayers of south Clermont wake up to their rights. Fifty-two taxpayers petitioned for this road.

If the peoples' wishes of the south end of Lake County are to be observed, Clermont and Groveland will be brought much closer to each other than they are at present.

Petitions, presented recently to the county commissioners from residents of Mascotte, Groveland and Clermont, asked for a change in the hard-surfaced road from Groveland to Tavares so as to cause it to pass through Clermont, instead of following the old road.

The rerouting of the road will shorten the distance from Groveland to Clermont from 12 miles to six miles.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE LOG HOUSE (1914)

The Log House, on Crescent Lake south of Clermont, is featuring Christmas dinner for the paltry sum of 75 cents. For this sum you will be served: oyster cocktail, cream of celery soup, roast turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, mashed turnips, pickles, celery coleslaw, fruit salad, lemon sherbet, grapefruit straws, plum pudding, guava jelly, nuts, raisins and coffee.

DENSLOW RESIDENT OF CLERMONT NOW

Ernest Denslow, president and

founder of the Postal Colony Company, having retired from the railway mail service, is now a Clermont resident and is being welcomed by the many friends made here during the past nearly 15 years.

While he was in service Mr. and Mrs. Denslow lived in Miami and while they were frequent callers here, it was impossible for him to devote the active attention to Colony affairs which will be his custom henceforth.

A DEAD ENGINE

Dr. Middleton and his fishing party, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Mehler, Mr. Anthony and the doctor's little boy, London, had a nice time fishing recently between

RELIVING HISTORY | B2

Florida Guardian Ad Litem Program

Speaking up for Florida's Abused and Neglected Children

There are about 1,800 children in the Marion, Hernando, Lake, Sumter and Citrus counties, who have been removed from their homes for alleged abuse, abandonment or neglect, who are now part of a dependency court proceeding. These children need someone who will speak up for them.

A GAL is a volunteer appointed by the court to advocate for a child. The volunteer works as part of a team with a volunteer supervisor and program attorney. He/she becomes familiar with the child and the child's case and makes recommendations to the court to help ensure a safe, caring, stable and permanent environment for that child.

Am I eligible to be a GAL? Persons 21 years of age and older, who successfully complete the pre-service training program, have a clean criminal background check and are able to be objective are eligible.

How much time must I commit as a Volunteer Guardian ad Litem? A GAL must successfully complete 30 hours of pre-service training. On average, volunteers spend 5-10 hours a month on a case. Most cases last 10 months.

How do I get started? Call Lynn Sennett at (352) 274-5231 or e-mail her at Lynn.Sennett@gal.fl.gov. For more information and an application, visit our website at www.guardianadlitem.org. The next Training begins Wednesday, January 30th, 2013 at the University of FL Extension Agricultural Center in Tavares, FL.

Applicants requiring a reasonable accommodation, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, must notify the Guardian ad Litem Program by calling (352) 671-5757. Notification to the Recruiter/Trainer must be made in advance to allow sufficient time to provide the accommodation.

**The Guardian ad Litem Program is approved by the Florida Mentoring Program and thus, state employees are eligible for a maximum of five hours of administrative leave monthly

Getting started with your food stockpile

Did your parents stockpile or clip coupons? Many believe stockpiling is best suited for disaster-type situations — like hurricane preparedness and natural disasters.

It is a good idea to have a supply of nonperishables and drinking water on hand for that type of disaster. But stockpiling isn't just for disasters; it is a great way to save money on your monthly grocery bill. By stockpiling nonperishable food items, you will knock off between 50 percent and 75 percent of your monthly grocery bills.

Mary from Groveland recently asked, "How do I get started stockpiling?"

This is a great question. **Step 1:** Decide where you would like to put your stockpile of food and nonperishable food items. Do you want it in your laundry room, closet or empty bathroom?

Do not store items in places where temperatures fluctuate greatly, like a hot garage. If the garage is your option, store non-perishables on a shelf and other items inside or in plastic storage tubs.

Step 2: Take an inventory of the staple items that you buy on a regular basis. Items that are great to stockpile are: canned foods, dried pastas, cereals, rice, dairy products and meat. (You can freeze meat, milk, cheeses.) In my family, we have kids from ages 5 to 15, so we go through a lot of health and beauty products as well. You can easily build a nice stockpile of health and beauty items.

Step 3: How will you build your stockpile?

Clipping coupons and matching up with a sale is the number one way. Buying in bulk or at closeout sales is another way.

Step 4: How do you plan meals with your stockpile?

Now that you are stockpiling, making a meal plan will help reduce your budget and aid you in cooking home-cooked meals on a dime. Because you are stockpiling staple items, you will be able to double your recipe without spending extra money.

Step 5: Rotate your stockpile. A great way to keep track of your expiration dates is to use a sharpie and write the date on the top or side of your item. If it is a pouch-type item, you can use masking tape or rotate front to back for any item.

Step 6: Keep your stockpile neat and organized.

You may be the most unorganized person but your coupons and stockpile will not. By keeping your stockpile organized, you will be able to glance at it and know exactly what you need, or you can point your husband in the right direction when he's looking for his razors or favorite chips.



Tanya Senseney
DIVINE DEAL DIVA

If you love to label, you could even put labels on the shelves or storage tubs.

Jessy from Michigan wrote it to ask how long it should take to build a stockpile for her family.

That is really up to the individual. It could take anywhere from one month to three months to get a complete stockpile, depending on your budget and the sale cycles. If you are shopping weekly, then by the end of six weeks, you should be saving more than 50 percent when you shop. Clip your coupons weekly and shop the sale items for divine savings!

Have you enjoyed the Stockpiling 101 series? I would love to hear from you with any tips, questions or comments.

Tanya Senseney has more than 16 years experience saving and teaching others how to reduce their monthly grocery budget. For information on her classes, contact her at Tanya@DivineSavings.com, or go to www.DivineSavings.com.

NEIGHBOR CONTINUED FROM B1

the streets and shows them the right path to go. As for any real accomplishments, it's that I will be going to college. I'm going to finish college for sure.

What's something you've always

wanted to do but haven't yet?

Go scuba diving.

What advice would you give to people who want to help out in the community?

My advice would be to help out as much as you can because it makes you feel better doing something positive for your community, and it makes a difference.

MLK CONTINUED FROM B1

be given by Pastor Michael Hopewell from New Waters International Church of Clermont.

"I am looking forward to this year's celebration and excited because we have more kids participating and getting involved this year than ever," Murry said.

Murry said getting kids interested in history and is "what it's all about."

He said also that the celebration is intended to teach the younger generation about some of the struggles black people in this country went through to desegregate

schools and get every race of people, and the entire country, where it is today.

The journey, he said, will continue on with the younger generation of today.

"I feel like it's important to keep the celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday going strong every year in order to educate our youth," Murry said. "It's important to make them aware of some of the struggles that go along with the journey toward major historical achievements, which is sometimes forgotten about in schools."

"By coming together as a community, however, we can help bridge the gap."

HISTORY CONTINUED FROM B1

showers. But their good time did not end with that.

One cylinder of his engine didn't work well when he left town, but the doctor is so used to seeing "one lungers" improve in this climate that he thought nothing of it. But this case worked on contraries. The showers of the late afternoon caught them on the lake about 12 miles from home with a "dead" engine. All the doctor's persuasive powers were expended to no effect and the engine was finally put clear out of commission when the one remaining spark plug was broken while attempting to clean it.

In an endeavor to reach a phone to call for help, their hands were blistered while rowing across the lake. Finally the party landed, built a bonfire and made camp for the night. The rowboat was pulled ashore and turned over so as to make shelter for Mrs. Mehler and little London.

Roasted fish, without salt, was the menu for supper and might have been for breakfast also if it hadn't been for the "folk at home."

A party left town looking for

them, and after a long search the light of their fire was seen and soon the homeward journey commenced, and about two in the morning all were safe in their own homes. When morning came they were ready for another trip.

MARCH 4, 1915: ELECTRIC LIGHTS IN SIGHT

The residents of Clermont have been much elated during the past week by the prospects of electric lights. Mr. Zinsser has been looking into the matter and has been asking for the support of the townspeople in the matter of a franchise whenever the place shall be incorporated.

Everything seemed to be "clear sailing" at first, but some of his friends are counseling him not to make the investment until such time as he can get the proper protection. Mr. Zinsser, however has made no definite statement as yet as to what he will do.

JULY 1, 1915: LET THERE BE LIGHT

According to the recently made promises, the streets and business houses of Clermont were illuminated with current made at the Clermont Electric Company's new plant.

At 7:30 p.m., Mrs. Zinsser turned the switch that carried the first current to all parts of the town.

In honor of the occasion, Mr.

and Mrs. Zinsser entertained a few of their friends at the plant, serving light refreshments.

STARVED OUT OF THE WOODS

About 20 Clermont young people, chaperoned by Mrs. H.B. Searl and Miss Stella Thompson, went by barge to the other side of Lake Louisa where they pitched camp, expecting to remain several days. None had been troubled with loss of appetite before they started and, after the ride over the water, each one declared they had never been hungrier.

At suppertime each one demonstrated the truth of their assertions. The result was that, though those who planned the outing thought they had ordered enough food for the whole time, the party was face to face with starvation. At a nearby commissary two cans of tomatoes and one of peaches were secured. These were only enough to "stay their stomachs a bit" and they were forced to start for home.

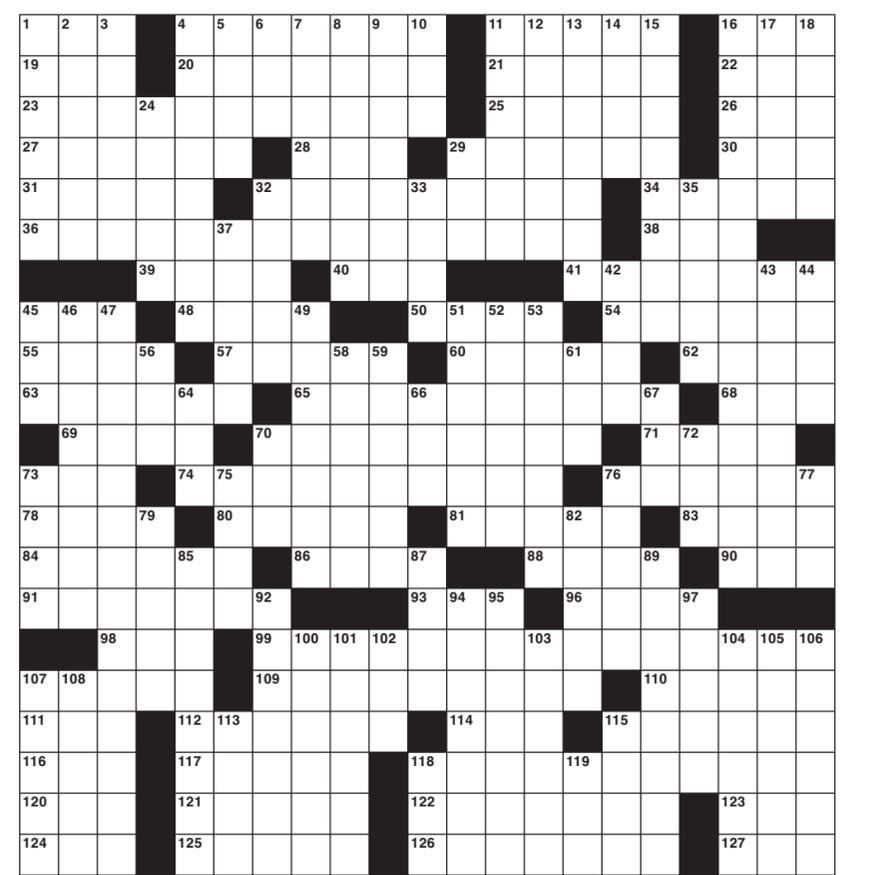
During the night they spent in the woods the girls slept on the barge and the boys sat around a big campfire. On the way in a heavy rain drenched hem. Notwithstanding all these difficulties they are already planning another such trip, when everything will go "lovely."

Thanks for reading the South Lake Press!

No. 0106

PUZZLE ENVY By Dan Feyer and Andrea Carla Michaels / Edited by Will Shortz

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MONTVERDE

Eagles defend MAST title over Brophy Prep

MARK FISHER

Special to the Daily Commercial

Montverde Academy turned back the upset hopes of Phoenix Brophy College Preparatory to capture its second consecutive Montverde Academy Soccer Tournament Championship 3-1 Saturday night.

The championship game was a contest of two titans of the high school/college prep scene. The Eagles came in sporting a 23-0-1 record while the Brophy Broncos boasted a 15-1 record. The Eagles came into the contest ranked No. 1 in the state and the nation while the Broncos were ranked 24th nationally and 3rd in Arizona.

The early action reflected the high talent level with the first 15 minutes marked by precise ball control and tight defense. The result was limited shots on goal by either team as the players probed for weakness without success. Each team would launch an attack only to be repulsed until the Broncos were able to exploit a small opening when Riggs Lennon took a crossing pass from Adam Mosharaffa and struck it past Montverde keeper Federico Barrios to give the Broncos the lead midway through the half.

But the Eagles rebounded late in the period when Quintonio Lema controlled the ball and launched a strike from near the corner of the box to tie the game at the half.

After the break, it was clear that the frenetic, high energy pace of play had taken its toll as both teams were more subdued when play resumed. But slowly, the number of attacks mounted by Montverde grew and with it control of the tempo. With their scoring opportunities taken away, the Broncos were unable to unleash the precision offensive counterpunches that characterized their earlier play.

The deadlock was finally broken when Eagles fielder Diego Campos was able to head in a free kick. The free kick was taken by Thales Novis who presented Campos with a perfect shot near the left front of the goal. Campos was able to beat the keeper to give the Eagles their first lead with 24:20 remaining.

Gerald Arguedas, who had been an object of concern to the Broncos bench all night, capped the scoring late in the contest when he was able to shake free of defenders and unleash a cannon shot down the middle from 25 yards out to secure the final goal.



HEIDINES PEREZ / DAILY COMMERCIAL

Montverde Academy's Diego Campos (99) controls the ball in the first half against away from several Brophy College Preparatory School defenders on Saturday in Montverde's MAST Tournament.

LHS dominates weightlifting sub-sectional

FRANK JOLLEY | Staff Writer
frankjolley@dailycommercial.com

Many members of the Leesburg High School girls weightlifting team have never lost a regular-season meet.

Yellow Jackets coach Josh Boyer said his team has won 40 regular-season meets and has gotten off to a fast start in the postseason with a solid performance at Friday's District 6 sub-sectional at East Ridge.

Leesburg won its third straight sub-sectional title with 69 points and qualified 11 lifters for the District 6 Sectional finals on Jan. 24 in Flagler Palm Coast. The Yellow Jackets easily outdistanced Umatilla (46 points), and East Ridge (31). Eustis (30) and Tavares (18) rounded out the top five.

Lake Minneola and Mount Dora were tied for sixth place with 10 points apiece.

"While we didn't qualify the max of 15 lifters as we did last year, our totals are much more impressive," Boyer said. "I had to part ways with some lifters that would have qualified for the next round, but they hadn't fulfilled their commitment to the program. I also have to say that I have seen major improvements in our district. This is very encouraging because I would love to see our area rival other areas that have dominated girls weightlifting."

"I welcome the advancement of our

area programs and teams."

Leesburg won five of the 10 weight classes, including Sydney McWilliams 129 pounds, who won four fourth sub-sectional championship. In addition, Kendra Young (154 pounds) won a sub-sectional title for the third time.

Other sub-sectional winners for the Yellow Jackets include Marah Rhone (119), Julie Bitsios (169), and Mckenzie Bennett (183). Freshman Morgan Rhone (110) qualified for sectionals, as did Kalyn Trull (129), Kendall Caudill (154), Cheyenne Hunnewell (183), Jessica Jackson (199) and Courtney Rabun (unlimited).

"My most gratifying moment at this point of the season is that all of my seniors—Marah Rhone, McWilliams, Young, Caudill, and Bitsios—that have endured all four years with me, qualified for sectionals," Boyer said. "This is the fifth year of our program and in that time, I have taken lifters to sectionals every year. Each trip, we have learned some valuable lessons. I remember feeling completely outclasses the first couple of years competing at Spruce Creek in sectionals. We have taken huge strides without our own program so that we never feel outclassed again."

"I couldn't be more proud of my girls."

Lifters advancing through sectionals will compete in the Florida High School Athletic Association state championships on Feb. 9 at the Kissimmee Civic Center.



McWilliams qualified for the state finals last year and finished in 13th place. Young has made two state championship appearances, finishing eighth as a sophomore and third in last year's finals.

The top three lifters in each of 10 weight classes advance to sectionals. Other area lifters moving on include: Brianna Berry (Tavares), Jessica Sharkey (East Ridge) and Kayla Degaglia (Umatilla) at 101 pounds; Elizabeth Fording (East Ridge) and Casey Keough (Tavares) at 110 pounds; Tamesha Glover (Eustis) and Selena Heckathorne (Umatilla) at 119 pounds; Allysha Brodil (Umatilla) at 129 pounds; Cory Stanaland (Mount Dora), Angela Tran (Tavares) and Tyra Bowers (Eustis) at 139 pounds; Getara Williams (East Ridge) at 154 pounds; Hetiega Morluck (Eustis) and Courtney Brown (Umatilla) at 169 pounds; Mickaela Counts (Umatilla) at 183 pounds; KeNequea Pegues (East Ridge) and Allison Clark (Eustis) at 199 pounds; and, Brianna Hagg (Umatilla) and Santavia Washington (Lake Minneola) in unlimited.

Quick Hits

GROVELAND

SLHS hosts free kids baseball camp on Jan. 26

Camp sessions hosted by the South Lake High School baseball team will be from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Jan. 26 at South Lake High School, 15600 Silver Eagle Road. A coaches clinic for all youth league baseball coaches will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Jan. 25.

The baseball camp is for all players playing spring baseball in the Little League system for Dixie Youth in Groveland; South Lake baseball in Clermont, and Babe Ruth in Minneola.

Ages for the camp are from 6-14 years.

For information, call 352-551-7908, or email whetrok@lake.k12.fl.us.

CLERMONT

Soccer club to hold tryouts on Jan. 28-31

Clermont FC Soccer Club will hold tryouts at Hancock Field from 6 to 8 p.m. at Hancock Road in Clermont, Jan. 28, 29, 30 and 31.

The tryouts are open to players age 9 to 19.

Go to www.clermontfc.com or call 407-610-1485 for information.

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CLERMONT

WILDWOOD

Memorial bricks available at the historical society

Staff Report

The South Lake County Historical Society has memorial bricks where one can put a message of remembrance for \$50.

Memorial bricks can have names, a message of three lines up to 18 characters on each line engraved on a

brick that will be placed in the circular walkway between the Kern House and the Little Cooper Memorial Library in Clermont's Historic Village.

You can profess your love for all to see, list important dates, the names of family members or whatever is meaningful to you.

For information on the Memorial Bricks, call Dodie King, Historic Village manager, at 352-593-8496 or Dolores Walker at 352-394-1390 or visit the Historic Village from 1 to 3 p.m., on Fridays and Saturdays or Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m., to pick up an order form.

Commissioners approve assisted living facility

Staff Report

Site plans for a three-story, 54,128 square-foot assisted living and memory care facility north of County Road 466 have been approved by Wildwood city commissioners.

Sumter Retirement Residence LLC of Vancouver, Wash., plans to develop the 103-unit building on four acres between County Roads 101 and 103, not far from 24 independent retirement cottages it plans to develop on another three acres.

"The assisted living care is for seniors who do not require the specialized services of a nursing home, yet are in need of some assistance with their daily routine," the company said. "The memory care suites focus exclusively on Alzheimer's, dementia and related memory issues that afflict our aging seniors in a secure and homelike atmosphere."

The monthly rent would pay for three

prepared meals daily, housekeeping, laundry and private bus transportation. Additional services include assistance with medications, bathing, grooming, dressing and other areas of need. These services would be offered 24 hours a day.

Sumter Retirement Residence also plans to develop Oxford Retirement Cottages nearby, consisting of six fourplex units.

"The retirement cottages come in different configurations but each version includes two bedrooms, a full kitchen, ample living and storage space and a single car garage," the company said.

Cottage residents would have the option of including meal service, housekeeping and laundry as a part of their monthly rental package.

"This provides another vital component to meet the growing demand for senior housing in Oxford, the city of Wildwood, and greater Sumter County," the company said.

SOUTH LAKE 3 | LAKE MINNEOLA 2



VICTORIA ALDRICH / DAILY COMMERCIAL

South Lake High School's Kenny Sanchez (9) defends midfielder Joe Fernandez (7) from Lake Minneola's Sam Mortlock (14) in the first half of Tuesday's match at South Lake. South Lake jumped out to a 3-0 halftime lead and held off a late charge by the Hawks to win 3-2. Fernandez and Ricardo Tafolla scored for South Lake and Rian Barnett and Ian Emmermanis scored for Lake Minneola.

TAVARES

Annual 'Give Kids a Smile' event scheduled

Staff Report

For the 7th consecutive year, the Lake County Dental Association, Lake County Health Department and the Florida Department of Health Volunteer Health Care Provider Program are working together to give underprivileged children, ages 6-18 access to free dental services in celebration of the national Give Kids a Smile campaign.

Lake county volunteer dentists and hygienists will provide free exams, cleanings and fluoride treatments, distribute free educational material, toothbrushes, and toothpaste from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 15, Lake County Health Department office, 875

Oakley Seaver Dr., in Clermont.

A scheduled appointment is required and are limited to the first 100 eligible patients, and a parent or legal guardian must be present at the appointment.

To determine eligibility and schedule an appointment, call 352-217-7115 by Feb. 1.

You were spotted at the City of Minneola's first ever "Halloween Safe Night Out," sponsored by Minneola Alliance Church.



Submit your local event photos to art6@dailycommercial.com



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Cancellations for ads running Friday must be made by 4pm Wednesday.

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- The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for errors or for omission of copy. Liability shall not exceed the cost of that portion of space occupied by such error.

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2 Legal Notices

003 Legal Notices

IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION
 Case No.:12CC3768
 SUMMER BAY PARTNERSHIP, a Florida general partnership, Plaintiff, vs. JESSICA O. ACEVEDO MEDRANDA and GABRIEL ACEVEDO et al Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
 Count 10 DENNIS ELWOOD BELUS JR. and KERI W. BELUS
 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property, in Lake County, Florida:

Timeshare Period Week (0)44 in Condominium Unit No. 103-105 of The Villas at Summer Bay, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1897, page 1089, Public Records of Lake County, Florida, as amended.

has been filed against you, and you are notified to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Plaintiff's attorney, Paul M. Caldwell, of the law firm Caldwell & Payne, P.A., whose address is, P.O. Box 120069, Clermont, Florida 34712-0069, on or before thirty (30) days from the first date of publication, and to file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

DATED on the Jan. 4 day of 2013.
 NEIL KELLY,
 As Clerk of the County Clerk By: S/W. TILLMAN
 Deputy Clerk

Ad No. 00376324
 Jan. 12 & 19, 2013

100 Announcement

106 Personals
 WHITE MALE 70, seeking female 65-80 who enjoys nature, animals, outdoors, for relationship. 352-669-6910.

106 Personals
 WIDOW FEMALE SEEKING Male Companionship or Friendship. Call 352-233-1045

134 Cemetery
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200 At Your Service

201 Insurance

281 Roofing

 McHALE ROOFING INC. Re-Roofs and Repairs Tile, Metal, Shingles Flat Roofs & Mobile Homes Excel. Ref's Avail. Licensed & Insured CCC1328197 Call: 352-255-2758

300 Financial

400 Employment

405 Professional
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 Fax resume to: 352-748-4310

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 for 208 units @ Veranda Apts., Mt. Dora. Organized & assertive leader for staff of 4. Must have 2yrs Mgmt exp. 36K (negotiable w/exp) + monthly bonus opportunity. Health benefits, paid vacation & sick, discount on rent available.
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410 Sales
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435 Medical
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APPLY IN PERSON 2500 Griffin Road Leesburg, FL between 9am - 3pm EOE

455 Restaurants/Hotels/Clubs
HOUSEKEEPING F/T Hotel exp. required. Apply in person at: Hampton Inn 19700 US Hwy. 441 Mt. Dora

ORANGE BLOSSOM HILLS COUNTRY CLUB LINE COOK & SERVERS Apply in person Between 2:00 - 4:00 1542 Watertower Cir. Lady Lake. Call 352-753-5100

470 General
ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS - FT Proficient in Word/Excel. Elections exp. a plus. Benefits avail. Salary with commensurate w/exp. Call for appt. 352-360-1001

GENERAL ASST. - P/T Scrapbooking manufacturer seeks reliable, detail oriented, multi-tasker with computer skills. 2/3 days week. Email resume, together with reasons for applying for position, to: petticoatparlor@gmail.com

470 General
NOW HIRING
CARRIERS Need immediately UMATILLA, EUSTIS, TAVARES, ALTOONA & MT. DORA AREAS
APPLY IN PERSON Daily Commercial 212 E. Main St. Leesburg or Email: Carriers@dailyccommercial.com Include name, address and phone numbers. Candidates must have reliable transportation, Drivers License & Ins. EOE

PRODUCTION BAGGER PLANT OPERATOR for local company. A self starter with ability to work in fast paced environment and lift up to 50 lbs on a repetitive basis needed. Ability to operate forklift & mechanically inclined. Good communication skills required. Fax resume to: 352-787-0198 or e-mail to: bgrubb@cmmineralsinc.com DFWP/EOE

470 General
INSERT HELPER
Immediate Opening
 The Daily Commercial is looking for self motivated, hard working individuals for assembly line work in our production department. This position is part time - night work, averaging 28-30 hours per week. Counting accuracy is a must! Standing & some minimal lifting is required. Must be 18 years old to apply.
 Apply in person at The Daily Commercial Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm 212 E. Main Street Leesburg. No phone calls please. EOE

NURSERY/ LANDSCAPE WORKERS Garden Rebel, Sorrento Background check. Call 352-638-2624

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED Training provided. Contact: Lake County Schools, Transportation 352-728-2561 or Apply online: www.lake.k12.fl.us

470 General
SEEKING KENNEL TECHNICIAN with customer service skills for part time employment (30-35 hours per week). Must be able to work weekends and holidays. shifts are from 6am-12:30pm and 2:30pm-9:30pm. Experience is preferred but will train the right person. Looking for a dedicated pet lover who desires a permanent position with our company. Email kenneljob03@yahoo.com or fax resume and job history. Fax 407-654-4946

STANLEY STEEMER Carpet Cleaners - FT Clean FL MVR, 21 yrs. & up, drug free, background check. Benefits: paid training & holidays, 401k. 3599 W. Main St. Leesburg, FL john.west@steemer.com Fax 352-728-8692

Veterinary Hospital seeking EXP'D VETERINARY TECH. Please send resume to gatorpaws@embarqmail.com

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON B2

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2 miles north of West Colonial
407-299-9188

SOUTH ORLANDO
11701 S. Orange Blossom Tr.
1 1/4 miles north of 417
407-438-2330

SOUTH LAKE PRESS

BINGO

HOW TO PLAY

1. Find the hidden Bingo chips within the advertisements in this section that spell "Bingo"
2. Mark an "X" on the matching numbers on your entry form.
3. Fill out your name, address, daytime phone & home phone numbers and mail the entry form and Bingo card to:



South Lake Press
c/o Bingo
732 W. Montrose St
Clermont, FL 34711



CONTEST RULES

1. Any resident of any area within South Lake Press's circulation area may enter. Participants must be 21 years of age or older. Employees of South Lake Press, their immediate families, independent contractors and carriers of South Lake Press are ineligible. Drawing will be held each Thursday. Entry forms must be received by Wednesday at noon following the Friday publication. South Lake Press retains the right to publish the winner's name in the following week's newspaper.
2. Official entry form: Limit one entry per person per week. Entries must be made on the official entry blank published in South Lake Press. All entries become property of South Lake Press.
3. Winners will be notified via the phone the week following the drawing. If unable to reach winner, the prize will be given away the upcoming week.
4. Claiming a prize: Winner must present proof of age with a drivers license or Social Security card. Alteration of these documents will lead to immediate disqualification.

Each Friday the readers of South Lake Press will receive a Bingo. By correctly identifying Bingo chips in several advertiser's ads, you'll qualify for the drawing to be held each week. Entries may be mailed or delivered to South Lake Press. South Lake Press's Bingo are available each week at: 732 W. Montrose St, Clermont, FL 34711. No purchase necessary. Please print legible. we are not held responsible for misspelled names.

Last Weeks Winner:

Erin Myers

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

BINGO

7	25	34	47	67
13	18	31	59	74
9	21	FREE SPACE	53	72
2	16	42	48	63
5	29	39	52	68

NEW GAME EVERY FRIDAY



LAKE RIDGE

WINERY & VINEYARDS

WINTER MUSIC SERIES

LIVE MUSIC, FOOD, WINE & FUN
EVERY SATURDAY (1:00-4:00PM)

FREE ADMISSION

JANUARY 5TH - BLUES TRAIN
JANUARY 12TH - OLD SCHOOL
JANUARY 19TH - BABY BLUES
JANUARY 26TH - TORY WYNTER

ENJOY FREE TOURS & WINE TASTING
MON. - SAT. 10 AM - 5 PM / SUN. 11 AM - 5 PM

19239 U.S. 27 N. CLERMONT
 1-800-768-WINE
 352-394-8627
www.LAKERIDGEWINERY.COM

Directions to a Successful Garage Sale

Click to Sell!

In print and online, place your garage sale ad in our pages for maximum results. We're introducing more ways to increase attendance at your garage sale by increasing exposure to your ad.

2 for 1 Sale!

Do It Right!

Add our special garage sale kit to low Classified rates, and your garage sale is destined for success.

When you place a garage sale ad in the Classifieds, it's as if you get two for the price of one. That's because every ad in our print pages automatically appears in our online Classifieds.

5 LINES/4 DAYS WORLDWIDE EXPOSURE!

\$16³⁹

ADS WITH OUR GARAGE SALE KIT INCLUDE:

- 5 lines, 4 days in print and online
- garage sale tip sheet
- inventory sheet
- large and small sale signs w/stakes
- 216 pricing stickers and more

\$20⁰⁹

3 ways to place an ad:

1. Call our Classified Advertising department at 352-787-0902, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Ads will run the following day, Sun. and Mon. ads must be placed by Friday, 4:30 p.m.
2. Go to our Web site at www.dailycommercial.com and click on "Classifieds." Ads placed before noon will run the following day, Sun. and Mon. ads must be placed by Friday, Noon.
3. Fill out the form in our Classified section and send it with your check or money order to:
The Daily Commercial
P. O. Box 400007
Leesburg, FL 34749-0007

The Daily Commercial

352-787-0902
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Pig on the Pond Mission Statement
Provide scholarships and education support to our local students positioning them to lead successful and impactful lives in their chosen communities



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real life

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6:00p
Sunday
9:30 & 11:15a, 6:00p
getreallife.com
352.394.3553



470 General

VETERINARY TECH. For busy veterinary hospital. CVT or 3 yrs. animal hospital exp. preferred. Email resume to: dvmmanager@yahoo.com

500 Pets/Animals

501 Pets For Sale

BRINDLE HOUNDS (2) brothers, shots/fixated. Free, good home. ADOPTED

CATS RESCUED ALL SPAY & NEUTERED & RABIES SHOTS. FREE. 352-516-9652

CATS RESCUED ALL SPAY & NEUTERED & RABIES SHOTS. FREE. 352-516-9652

CHOW MIX male, 7 yrs. old. neutered, all shots. FREE call 352-259-1119

FRENCH BULL DOG PUPS. \$1200 Call 352-568-0090

JACK RUSSELL/Chihuahua Mix. 1 yr. Female, spayed, shots. Free! 360-9424

KITTEN, Calico. TO GOOD APPROVED HOME. Please call 352-602-7973

KITTENS 6 wks old. FREE TO GOOD HOME. ADOPTED

MINI SCHNERRIER 11 wks old. Tails, dew claws, dewormed, 1st set of shots, 3 males, \$150. 352-409-2424

PIT BULLS 1 male & 2 female. Big bone, huge heads & wide chest. \$250 Call 352-272-4310

ROTTWEILERS (2), 10 yrs. Need fenced yard. Free. Deland. 352-455-9088

YELLOW LAB Adult Female. Loves kids. Healthy. Free to good home. ADOPTED

530 Horses

SADDLE, ENGLISH, 17.5", 2 cinches, new pad, \$75 Call 352-323-1457

560 Pet Supplies

AQUARIUM 4' long x 21" high, good cond. \$60 obo. Please call 352-617-1999

BIRD CAGE, white 16"x14" 17" tall. Excel. cond. \$45. 352-360-1209

LITTER BOX, Booda Dome Clean Step. 2 Filters & liners. \$20. 352-787-5817

PET CARRIERS Pet Mate Ultra Traditional Vary-Kennels. Med. \$35 557-8080

STAND ON ROLLERS for bird cage 29.5" H x 18.75" W x 18.75" D. \$50. 352-978-7461

600 Merchandise Mart

601 Antiques

ANTIQUÉ DOLLS \$25. Call 352-751-6252

BEVERAGE SET Crystal Pitcher & 6 matching glasses. \$25. Call 352-357-1363

CHILD'S ROCKER ANTIQUE, Oak, over 100 yrs old. \$40 obo. 352-357-2771

CLOCK electric Sail Ship good shape. Made by Uniter. \$95. Call 352-793-5741

FANS Table top, Antique. Metal. \$30. 352-874-9043

ROSEVILLE VASE 204-8 on bottom. No chips. Beautiful. \$100 firm. 352-793-1285

SEWING MACHINE CABINET w/Bench, SOLD!!!!

TEA CART wrought iron, scalloped design, 18" wheels. \$75 Call 352-343-6608

WASH STAND Country. Needs some repair. \$45 obo. Call 937-763-3245

602 Arts/Crafts

FAKE FUR Black 8'x10'. \$30 obo Call 352-748-7678

SCRAP BOOK SUPPLIES, card stuff, SOLD!!!!

603 Collectibles

ART FESTIVAL POSTERS, Mt. Dora, framed, black 2 for \$90. 352-742-9187

BEEFEATER Display Bottle, 1 gallon on wood swivel. \$18. Call 352-330-4484

BOBBLE HEAD Evan Longoria. 2008 Rookie of the year. \$30. 343-6124

CABBAGE PATCH DOLL 25 Anniversary. New in Box. \$100. 412-812-5461

CABBAGE PATCH DOLL in org. box w/papers. \$40 Please call 352-787-0410

DISPLAY CASE of 25 Golf Balls. \$45. Call for details. Jackie. 352-259-1574

DOLL CAMELLIA GARDEN collection. \$75 Please call 352-259-2769

HEINEKEN DISPLAY SIGN Light up. \$15. Call 352-330-4484

HESS TRUCKS 5 different ones starting with 1989 \$99 352-508-5315

MINI CARS/BIKES Display Case, org. boxes. \$50 Call 352-259-1574

PRINCESS DIANA DOLL & Prince Charles! SOLD!!!!

ROUTE SHEET, 1915 for Ringling Brothers. Nice logo. Framed. \$75. 352-315-1612

STAR WARS DOLLS 8, 12". New. \$100. Call 352-455-3342

TEAPOT, China, 4 cup. Robert Kinkade. \$30 Please call 352-357-3764

604 Furniture

Appliances With Warranties \$75 & up! Used Beds all sizes! *Buy *Sell *Trade *Fast delivery call Buzzy's 352-315-9886 www.buzzysbeds.com

BAKERS RACK Bk wrought iron, good cond. \$20 SOLD

BAR STOOLS (2) 30" Rattan w/padded seats. New \$75 Call 352-728-0471

BED Sleep by Number queen size, good cond. \$100. Call 352-431-3347

BED Twin, mattress & 2 box springs. Excel cond. \$50 Call 352-874-1862

BED, King complete. Firm, by Bassett, Excel cond. \$250 Call 352-460-0458

BOOK CASE 4 shelf, dark wood. 78x32x12. \$50. 352-435-0055

BOOKCASE black metal, 5 shelves. \$50 obo Please call 352-630-7788

BOOKCASE Cherry. 71"Hx30"Wx12"D. Excel cond. \$100. 407-463-2948

CAPTAIN CHAIR WITH FOOT STOOL new, Naugahyde. Asking \$0. 352-787-9197

CHAIR Ethan Allen Classic wing style, rustic tweed. Like new. \$100. SOLD

CHAIRS (2) for living room. Excel cond. \$40 for both. Call 352-638-7504

CHAIRS (4) Green & White striped cushions. Indoor/outdoor. \$50. 352-753-3974

CHINA CABINET, dark wood, 4 glass doors, 54"W. Good cond. \$95. 815-674-3902

CHINA HUTCH Small, white, modern. Glass doors on top. \$45. Call 814-882-3901

COFFEE TABLE solid wood w/drawer, 44"Lx20"W, \$50 Call 352-343-4445

COMPUTER DESK light Oak w/shelves. Good cond. \$60 Please call 352-742-2531

COUCH 6', beige. Clean! \$75. Call 352-587-7758

COUCH Tan. Good cond. Asking \$100. Call 352-821-2801

CREDENZA 46 x 18 x 26. \$50. Call 352-787-8217

DAY BED WITH TRUNDLE FRAME. Asking \$100. Please call SOLD!

DESK / VANITY w/mirror & chair. French Provincial. \$40 Call 352-357-6403

DINING ROOM TABLE w/leaf & 4 chairs. \$60. Call 352-315-1175

DRESSER & CABINET Ethan Allen yellow, Childrens. \$80. Call 407-432-4193

DRESSER finish wood, formica finish. Grayish in color. \$75 obo Call 352-630-7788

END TABLE Oval. \$60. Good cond. Call 352-771-1046

604 Furniture

END TABLE light wood, 20"x20". Good cond. \$15 Please call 217-899-7099

END TABLE w/glass top, very good cond. \$30 Please call 352-742-2531

END TABLES (2) white washed w/table lamp. Good Cond. \$45. 243-1458

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER Good cond. \$25 Please call 561-398-3811

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER Large w/book shelves, both ends. \$100. 602-1649

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. Medium oak, hold 27" TV. \$50. Call 352-589-9237

ENTERTAINMENT UNIT Beige 6' x 4'. Upper Glass Doors. \$100 obo. 217-4221

FUTON all wood w/mattress. Good cond \$100. 389-4601

GLASS TABLE, 5' outdoor w/4 chairs. Fair cond. \$99 Call 352-315-4950

HALL Tree lg. wooden, w/storage bench. Excel cond. \$70 SOLD

HEADBOARD Queen, excel cond. \$60 Call 724-530-2258

LOVESEAT Blue & White. Good cond. w/2 side pillows. \$40. 607-423-6618

NEST of TABLES (3) White. \$20. Call 352-742-2856

OPEN HUTCH 2 pieces, solid maple 46". Asking \$100. Call 352-874-2629

OTTOMAN Oversized, 30x44x17". Brown, wine color. Like new. \$95. 352-357-0120

PORCH GLIDER Alum. 65x23x32 tall. \$20. 352-435-0055

RECLINER Blue/green cloth. Excel cond. \$89. 352-423-1772 or 407-913-9191

RECLINER Simmons, oversized, tan, Micro fiber. Like new. \$200. 742-1422

RECORD CABINET. Antique. \$40. Call 352-787-8217

ROCKERS Brentwood (2), excel cond. \$50 for both. Please call 352-638-7504

ROCKING CHAIR Gliding. \$50. Call 321-262-5485

ROLL TOP DESK, good cond. \$100 Call 352-308-7896

SLEEP SOFA Queen, light colored, good cond. \$35 Please call 352-343-4276

SLEEPER SOFA & Loveseat. Very good cond. \$165. Call 352-315-1175

SOFA & matching chair, Paisley print, like new. \$150 Call 352-728-2254

SOFA, 7', dark wood frame, new gray/tan & beige fabric. \$75. 352-689-0014

SWIVEL CHAIR Navy Blue. \$100. Spotless Call 352-360-1718

TABLE Small, metal & glass. \$10. Call 352-343-7446

TABLE w/4 chairs, wood, like new. \$100. Please call 352-343-4445

TELEVISION STAND Black. \$30. Call 352-460-4100 or 352-272-7314

TELEVISION STAND Black. \$30. Call 352-460-4100 or 352-272-7314

TELEVISION STAND Black. \$30. Call 352-460-4100 or 352-272-7314

TRUNDLE BED metal frame w/mattresses and sheets. \$250. 352-243-9441

VINTAGE PHONE TABLE 12"x16". Good Cond. 32" Wide. \$60. 352-568-7224

VINTAGE RECORD ALBUM CABINET 4 shelves. Good cond. \$50. 568-7224

WATER BED Somma dbl. w/extra strong frame. Excel. cond. \$75. 352-742-1939

605 Appliances

DISCOUNT APPLIANCE Repair-Sales-Service Most Repairs \$60 Plus Parts

WASHER, DRYER, REFRIGERATOR "Don't Toss It Fix It For Less" Buying Clean Washers & Dryers Days, Evenings & Weekends Call Now 352-874-1238

605 Appliances

DISHWASHER GE Quiet Power 3, off white. Like new. \$200. Delivery & Installation avail. 608-386-9899

DISHWASHER GE, Blisque. \$40. Call 352-751-6572

DISHWASHER Maytag, Almond. Excel cond. Snowbird use. \$100. Call 354-329-3162

DRYER Maytag, natural gas. \$85. Call 352-435-7643

DRYER Roper, less than 1 yr old. \$100 Call 937-654-5505

FREEZER GE, Upright, almost new. \$200. Call 352-568-0558

FREEZER, white 7.5cu.ft. Works good. Asking \$90. SOLD

GEORGE FOREMAN GRILL Good cond. \$25. Call 586-850-6278

MICROWAVE GE 6 mo. old. Black. \$80. 352-751-6572

MICROWAVE Oster, stainless steel, 1000 watts. Like new. \$50 Call 352-323-8168

MICROWAVE Sharp. Countertop. \$40. 586-850-6278

OVEN from 1950's vintage., Hotpoint. Push buttons. Good cond. \$100. 735-1570

REFRIGERATOR portable, Black & Decker, like new. \$50. 352-409-8264

REFRIGERATOR GE Stainless, 21.7 cu.ft. for ice maker, 4 yrs. Excel. \$300. 383-8786

REFRIGERATOR GE, 18.2 cu.ft., single door, top freezer, \$100. SOLD

REFRIGERATOR GE, good, clean cond. \$100 Please call 352-343-6736

REFRIGERATOR side by side GE 3 dispenser on door, 22cu.ft. STOVE GE, glass top self cleaning. WASHER/DRYER Roper All appl. are white. All for \$700 obo. SOLD

REFRIGERATOR Whirlpool. Excel cond. \$100. Call 586-850-6278

STOVE Elec. Whirlpool, older model. \$50. Call 352-330-0843

TOASTER OVEN GE. Good Cond. \$15. Call 586-850-6278c

WASHER GE, white, heavy duty, 9 mo. old, like new. \$200. Call 352-460-0458

606 Electronics

DVD CHANGER JVC 5 disc surround sound needs power woofer. \$30. 324-2559

GARMIN GPS, Nuvii. 255w. In the Box. \$75. Call 352-551-5845

HOME THEATER SYSTEM Regent. Asking \$75. Please call 352-217-6003

HOME THEATER SYSTEM by Life's Good. \$50 Please call 352-989-0222

KARAOKE MACHINE, 2 microphones in box. 5 1/2" screen. \$35 obo. 352-408-4771

TELEVISION 19" color. Good Cond. \$25. Call 502-750-0512

TELEVISION 19" Panasonic, w/VHS player. Good cond. \$20 Call 352-874-1862

TELEVISION 26" Sanyo w/remote. Works excel. \$65. 259-5698 or 607-227-5700

TELEVISION 27" JVC w/remote. Works good. Asking \$20. 352-348-9973

TELEVISION 27" Magnavox. Works good. \$15. Call 352-589-9237

TELEVISION color, shows good picture, w/remote. \$5 Call 352-348-9946

TELEVISION no remote. Works well. \$25 Please call 561-398-3811

608 A/C & Heat

AIR CLEANER UV light for Central A/C. Kills mold & bacteria. \$100. 267-1171

624 Children's items

CRADLE wooden, needs a little work.. No mattress. \$25 FIRM. Call 352-431-9982

CRIB MATTRESS Kohl-Craft. Girls comforter set. \$60. Call 352-483-1498

CRIB Wooden convertible. White. \$60. Call 352-483-1498

GIRLS CLOTHES Size 12mo. - 4mo. Over 100 pieces. \$100. 352-433-3671

HIGH CHAIR Excel. Cond. \$35 obo. Call 352-460-3368

624 Children's items

INFANT CARSEAT Baby Trend, for Boy. Clean, non smoking. \$40. 352-702-7402

MOTORCYCLE elec. Razor. Rechargeable, \$90 obo. Please call 352-455-3342

PORTA CRIB, white wooden, great shape. \$30 Call 352-326-2505

POWER WHEELS Jeep. 2 mo. old. \$100. Call 352-455-7557

SAUCER Ultra, portable by Evenflo. Nearly new, \$55 Call 352-242-1609

STROLLER Brown & pink w/flowers. Good Cond. \$15. Call 352-348-3927

STROLLER w/top storage & tray. Good cond. \$25. Call 352-253-9236

SWING SET metal. FREE FOR THE TAKING. Please call 352-343-3243

625 Building Supplies/Materials

CABINET for Garage. Formica top, 36"Hx50.5"Wx21"D. \$50. 787-6366

CAMPER WINDOWS (4) Late model, crank style. Asking \$100. 407-417-2717

DROP CLOTHES 4, new, 12x15. \$60. Call 352-787-9197

INTERIOR DOORS & KITCHEN DOORS for mobile home. 23 for \$95. 724-530-2258

KITCHEN CABINET "Starter Set" base, tops & wall units. \$99. 352-314-2123

KITCHEN FAUCET, high arm Delta chrome. Asking \$25. Call 352-748-4299

LAMINATE FORMICA 4' x 8', white, thin, 4 sheets. Asking \$60. 352-357-2708

SCAFFOLDING 1 full set & the brace. \$70. Call 352-728-1015

SINK double bowl white with faucet. Asking \$50. Please call 352-365-2301

SINK double bowl white with faucet. Asking \$50. Please call 352-365-2301

SINKS (4) Stainless Steel. \$80. Call 352-978-1664

VANITY LIGHT Kichler, 6 lights, 48" long. Bronze. New \$100 Call 352-735-5592

WINDOW 36"x62" \$75 Excel cond. Call 352-343-2552

635 Garden

BAGGER John Deere 2 bags. 42" & 48" deck. New. \$100. 614-313-8427

CHAISE LOUNGE, PVC, like new. \$99 352-787-1575

GARDEN POND 40 gallon. \$25. Call 352-787-4624

GARDEN POND & Fish Fountain. 40 gallon. \$50. Call 352-787-4624

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Spectacular location, conservation private backyard, well upgraded open concept floor plan, glass leaded front door, large coat closet in foyer, elegant light fixtures. Spaces include kitchen open to the great room, two bedrooms, studio/den/office and a very inviting screened lanai! An oversized double car garage plus separate golf cart garage, Taylor foam insulation, solar board, pavers on driveway, gutters and downspouts, upgraded tile floors, double pane thermo windows, Plantation shutters, office upgraded with French doors, neutral carpets, kitchen has Corian counters, closet pantry, upgraded cabinets, cultured marble vanities in bathrooms. Make it your Florida getaway! Priced in the mid 100's!

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Gated community

"The Preserve of Oak Hill" down a lovely driveway fines a spacious home situated on 14+/- acres. Horse lover's dream come true with 30 miles +/- of riding trails. Upon your arrival you are greeted with beautiful stonework, a large porch and double door entry giving way to elegance as you enter this custom built home with 3,134 Sq. Ft. of living area, 3 Bedrooms and 3 Baths, plus Den/Office, Formal Living and Dining Rooms with engineered hardwood flooring. For the chef in the family the kitchen offers stainless steel Jenn-Aire appliances. Custom cabinets, granite counter tops and an island with

built in wine rack. Kitchen opens to the breakfast area and large great room with gas fireplace, Bonus Room/Rec. Rm. offers a wet bar with sink and mini wine refrigerator. Sliding glass doors opens to the screened enclosed pool area. "DREAM" Master Bedroom and Bath invites you to relax and enjoy after a long day at work. Other amenities: 3 car garage, 4 stall plus tack room, 4 board fencing/crossed fenced and a round pen. An additional 12+/- acre parcel available for \$149,900. For more information call Theresa Morris at 352-360-3736. G4683857 \$699,000.



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Kings Ridge, very nice, turn-key Crown model. This model features 2 bedroom 2 bath plus den with french doors and a very nice Florida Room. Enjoy all this home has to offer with newer interior paint, carpeting, knockdown ceilings, nearly new dishwasher and garbage disposal. Open floor plan, with a large master and good sized guest room, both with walk in closets. Kitchen overlooks the formal dining and offers eat-in breakfast nook. All kitchen appliances convey. Screened front porch was also just added. Kings Ridge has social events such as charity dinner-dances, trips, cruises, clubs, and classes with instructors. Two of the three pools are heated; there are Jacuzzis, fitness

gyms, two golf courses, tennis, billiards, shuffleboard and sporting competitions galore. HOA includes cable, irrigation, lawn care, 24 hour security, painting of exterior of home and amenities. You are within a 30-minute proximity to Orlando and the theme parks, about 45 minutes to International Airport and 90 minute drive to the beaches. This is a turn-key property ready for immediate occupancy. Fast response to all offers and fast closing available. For more information, please call Brandie Mathison-Klein with Keller Williams Classic III Realty at (352) 455-0137. You can also visit <http://www.mkghomes.com> for more details.



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REAL ESTATE NEWS

Park Square Homes appoints Axon consultant

ORLANDO — Park Square Homes has appointed Amy Axon a New Home Consultant for its community of Summerbrooke in Mount Dora.

Anthony Rouhana, marketing coordinator at Park Square Homes, said Axon has more than 14 years of experience in new home sales with Ryland Homes, America's First Home, NTS Development, and The Jones Company.

Axon is a licensed Florida Real Estate Broker and a licensed Florida Mortgage Loan Originator who is studying for her BFA Degree in Interior Design. Call Anthony Rouhana, Internet Home Sales & Marketing Coordinator, Park Square Homes at 407-529-3031 or email to Arouhana@paksquarehomes.com.



AXON

The event is free and open to the public. For information call the Home Builders Association of Lake and Sumter Counties, 352-343-7101 or go to www.lakehba.com.

Oakley Plaza in Clermont has sold for \$4 M

ORLANDO — Brian Carolan of Crossman & Company, one of the largest Southeast providers of commercial real estate services, recently sold Oakley Plaza, 1200 Oakley Seaver Dr. in Clermont. The 39,505-square-foot retail/office center sold for \$4,015,000.

Oakley Plaza is located at a signalized intersection across the street from national tenants such as Home Depot, Sweet Bay and Lowes and is adjacent to 180-acre South Lake Hospital.

The seller was a special servicer that had taken possession of the retail/office center. The buyer was a private investor from Canada.

For information, go to www.crossman-co.com.

NAI negotiates expansion lease in east Orlando

ORLANDO — NAI Realvest recently completed a lease agreement for 4,393 square feet of office space at Citadel III, 5950 Hazeltine National Drive in south-east Orlando.

The NAI Realvest leasing team of Mary Frances West, CCIM; Matt Cichocki and Kevin O'Connor at NAI Realvest, negotiated the transaction representing the landlord, Citadel Partners, LTD based in Groveland.

Local tenant Pentaho Corporation, already leasing 11,034 square feet at The Citadel III, has expanded into two more suites which will increase its occupancy to 15,427 square feet.

NAI Realvest is the leasing and man-

agement representative of Citadel III.

For information call Mary Frances West, at 407-875-9989 or email to mwest@realvest.com; or Kevin O'Connor or Matt Cichocki, koconnor@realvest.com or mcichocki@realvest.com.

Royal Oak will acquire home sites at golf course

ORLANDO — Royal Oak Homes, based in Orlando's Baldwin Park, will be acquiring 116 new home sites at Sorrento Springs, a gated golf course community located off S.R. 46 in Mount Dora.

Matt Orosz, co-president of Royal Oak Homes, said the community includes an 18-hole golf course, tennis courts, fully equipped clubhouse and a resort-style swimming pool.

Orosz said new three, four and five bedroom homes at Sorrento Springs will be priced from the 140's.

Royal Oak Homes will start construction of the first new model home at Sorrento Springs in February.

Currently Royal Oak Homes builds single-family homes in ten Central Florida communities. The third generation family home builder's track record includes more than 14,000 new homes in Central Florida over the past 30 years.

Call Matt Orosz, at 407-206-9305 or email to MOrosz@RoyalOakHomesFL.com.

Series hosted by association is Feb. 6

TAVARES — The Feb. 6 Morning Buzz is a first for the group as Builders and Realtors have joined forces to provide a presentation jointly, 8:30 to 10 a.m., Feb. 6, REALTORS Association of Lake & Sumter Counties, Inc. office, 3001 S.R. 19 in Tavares.



NAGLE



WILLIAMS



RITTER



TIERNEY

The presentation, "Selling New, Selling Green, and Financing Options" is a panel presentation consisting of Joan Nagle, broker, and sales associate for KB Home; Joe Williams, GCP, FGBC, builder/owner of TownSquare Construction; Nate Ritter, LEED AP, BD&C, CGP, GreenBuilt Solutions LLC; and Jeff Tierney, branch manager for DHI Mortgage.

An RSVP is due by noon, Feb. 5 at 352-343-7101 or by email to admin@lakehba.com for attendance.

Morning Buzz is free to Home Builder Association and Realtors Association of Lake and Sumter Counties members.

Home show scheduled for Saturday

TAVARES — Meet the professionals who can build an energy efficient home, remodel an existing home, provide all the services and products needed both inside and outside the home, and get timely information on financing.

The home show will feature financial seminars, a DIY clinic and much more with free admission, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday at Lake Receptions, 4425 Highway 19A in Mount Dora.

Woolf, the therapy dog and the "Companions For Courage" friends will be at the show.

PEOPLE, EVENTS AND PLACES

Integrity Home Loan names director of operations

LAKE MARY — Integrity Home Loan of Central Florida has named James Shamshak director of operations.

Matt Malloy, president of Integrity Home Loan, said Shamshak, a graduate of Hiram College in Ohio, and has more than four years of experience in the mortgage industry.

"Jim Shamshak is one of a new breed of mortgage loan executives who really sees the big picture," Malloy said. "We are a young company that has experienced rapid growth during a slow economy and now that the economy is improving we expect Jim to play a major role in our continued growth," Malloy said.

Integrity Home Loan currently has locations throughout Florida in Coral Springs, West Palm Beach, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, and in the Detroit suburb of Southfield, Mich.

Call Matt Malloy, at Integrity Home Loan of Central Florida, 407-688-8268 or email to matt.malloy@inthomeloan.com.

Stirling Realty appoints Lindsey Wells associate

ORLANDO — Stirling Sotheby's International Realty has appointed Lindsey Wells as International Luxury

Homes Specialist in its Orlando/Dr. Phillips Global Marketing Center.

Roger Soderstrom, founder and owner of Stirling Sotheby's International Realty, said Wells was born in the U.K. and taught English to active adults in Poland, Spain, Turkey and Slovakia.

As a member of the British First Minister's Team at the inception of the Welsh Assembly government, she served as a liaison with the Royal Family, 10 Downing St., Soderstrom said.

She was raised in a hunting, shooting and fishing family and was a frequent fox hunter and avid skier.

As a graduate of the Realtor Institute, Wells earned the coveted GRI professional designation and is also credentialed as a Short Sale and Foreclosure Realtor (SFR). She is a member of the Global Business Committee and Global Networking Forum, Soderstrom added.

She moved to Orlando two years ago and has served as a state investment



WELLS

properties representative and a sales associate at Solivita.

Soderstrom said Wells will specialize in luxury home sales, investment properties, active adult communities and land acquisitions.

Call 407-333-1900 go to www.StirlingSIR.com or

call Larry Vershel Communications at 407-644-4142, Lvershelco@aol.com for information.

NAI negotiates sale for single-family homes

MAITLAND — NAI Realvest recently negotiated the sale of 156 acres located at Pineland Trail and Airport Road in Ormond Beach for \$1,250,000.

Chris Butera, investment associate at NAI Realvest who brokered the transaction said the property known as the Pineland subdivision has been entitled for 192 single-family residential lots.



BUTERA

The buyer is Ormond Pineland LLC of Holly Hill and the seller, represented by Butera, is Fort Lauderdale-based Tiger Investment Group, Inc.

Call Chris Butera, at 386-453-4789 or email to cbutera@real-vest.com or go to www.NAIReal-vest.com.

NAI Realvest negotiates sale of restaurant complex

MAITLAND — NAI Realvest negotiated a \$3.9 million price in the sale of the 127-room former Ramada Inn hotel at 1798 International Speedway Blvd. in Daytona Beach.

Paul P. Partyka, managing partner at NAI Realvest, negotiated the sale representing seller Consolidated Inns of Daytona Beach, Inc.

Development Options Center, LLC of Chattanooga, Tenn., acquired the 4.1-acre property to develop as a three-restaurant complex that will include a Bahama Breeze restaurant and an Olive Garden restaurant, Partyka said.

The site is located directly across International Speedway Blvd. from Daytona International Speedway.

Go to www.nairealvest.com for information.

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ERA TOM GRIZZARD

Former model home

This Blair II 3/3 courtyard home has a beautiful backyard view of open area and no rear neighbors. Enter into the gated area with pavers in the courtyard. Double 8' leaded door leads you into the open floor plan with living room and dining room with large windows and transoms. Custom window treatments. Gorgeous "wood-like" flooring. Large kitchen with granite island/breakfast bar, maple 42" cabinets, lazy susan, flat top stove, large double door pantry, side by side refrigerator. Inside utility room. Split bedroom plan. Master suite has two custom made closets, cathedral ceilings, jacuzzi tub, dual vanities and separate water closet.

Guest suite is great for family, friends or in-laws or could be office/den and has it's own private bath and walk-in closet. 2 sets of 8' french doors lead you to courtyard from kitchen and master suite. 8' sliders open to covered screened porch for gorgeous views. Rounded corners, arched doorways, radio/intercom throughout house and guest suite, 3" plantation shutters, termite bond, oversized garage. Royal Harbor community has loads of amenities and activities. Convenient to Hickory Point to launch your boat. Call Cindy Wheeler 352-255-6032 at ERA Tom Grizzard. \$199,900. G4687802



Royal Harbor community has loads of amenities and activities.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Magnificent pool home!

This stunning home in The Plantation features a painted driveway and faux paver walkways. Enter the dramatic Foyer with etched, leaded glass door and arched transom and find a carpeted formal Dining Room to the left. The Great Room features Dental Crown Molding and sliders to the Lanai and Pool Deck. The Gourmet Kitchen has granite counters, solid oak cabinetry, a large pantry, a cozy breakfast bar, state of the art appliances and adjoining Breakfast Nook with sliders to the Lanai and bird caged Pool Deck. A huge Master offers a "picture window view" of the

patio and back yard. A decadent Master Bath has separate his and her vanities, oak cabinets, a garden tub, walk-in Shower and huge walk-in closet. The cozy Guest Bedroom has a Mirrored Closet and the Guest Bath features dual sinks and a tub/shower combo. The 3rd Bedroom is useable as that or as a Den. A new A/C was installed in 2010 and there is a water softener and Central Vacuum. The 2.5 Car insulated garage has pull down attic access along with golf cart parking and cabinet storage. For more information, call Audrey Mackiewicz at 352-460-0210.



Guest bedroom has mirrored closet and guest bath features dual sinks, tub/shower combo.



Master bedroom has his and her closets.

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Cornell Clarence C and Cornell Mary Ann to Cornell Clarence C Tr, Cornell Mary Ann Tr, Clarence C Cornell And Mary Ann Cornell Living Trust, Lt 12 Cypress Landing, \$10.

Lake County Clerk of the Court, Wachovia Mortgage Corporation, Eagle Donald T, Eagle Donald Trayfo, Eagle Cathy J, Eagle Cathy Janeane, Loch Leven Homeowners Association Inc. and United States Of

America to Wells Fargo Bank Na and Wachovia Bank Na, Lt 124 Loch Leven Ph Five, \$100.

Padden Thomas E Ind And Tr, Padden Nancy J Ind And Tr and Nancy J Padden Trust to Kane Thomas F Jr and Kane Joann, Lt 124 Plantation At Leesburg Nottoway Village, \$190,000.

Gen Star One Inc. to Thr Fl LP, Lt 126 Wedgewood Club First Addition, \$85,000.

Brown Valarie and Brown Michael to Stephens Craig and Stephens Michelle, Lt 127 Tradds Landing, \$200,000.

Estancia Orlando LLC to Wittenberg Christopher J, Lt 128 Greater Lks Ph 1,

\$190,100.

Sedgley Bryan and Sedgley Janice to Correa Iris and Correa Osvaldo, Lt 129 Clear Creek Ph Two, \$161,000.

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Prudential Relocation Inc. to Keller Matthew A, Lt 14 Blk B Sorrento Springs Ph 4, \$167,000.

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US homebuilder confidence steady near 7-year high

ALEX VEIGA
AP Real Estate Writer

LOS ANGELES — Confidence among U.S. homebuilders remained unchanged this month from December at the highest level in nearly seven years, but builders are feeling slightly less optimistic about their prospects for sales over the next six months.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo builder sentiment index held steady at 47, the highest reading since April 2006, just before the hous-

ing bubble burst.

Readings below 50 suggest negative sentiment about the housing market. The last time the index was at that level or higher was in April 2006, at 51. It began trending higher in October 2011, when it stood at 17.

A measure of traffic by prospective customers increased, while a gauge of current sales conditions remained unchanged from December's reading. An outlook of sales in the next six months declined.

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A pilgrimage to Highclere Castle, the real 'Downton Abbey'

PATRICIA SHERIDAN
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

NEWBURY, England

An early-morning mist settles over the winding roads and rolling hills dotted with sheep, just waking to another day beneath steel-gray skies. It's a setting straight out of a Hollywood script. Then the bucolic charm is interrupted by the chatty cab-driver who shares everything he knows about Highclere Castle, the warring neighbors and all the tourists who have been showing up in droves.

"That's where Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber lives," he says as the cab passes a nondescript hedgerow. "His estate is just over there and they don't get along with the

owners of Highclere." That comment sparks some interest. Didn't know he lived near. As it turns out, Sir Andrew made an unsolicited offer to buy Highclere from George "Geordie" Herbert, the eighth Earl of Carnarvon, whose family has been there for more than 300 years.

"Yeah, they don't like each other. This is where Watership Down is as well," he continues. Watership Down is a hill and is also the setting for the 1972 novel and 1978 film of the same name about rabbits.

While all that is fascinating, it's incidental to the reason people are making the hourlong pilgrimage from London to Hampshire County.

They're coming to see Highclere Castle, which has a starring role in the PBS "Masterpiece" hit series "Downton Abbey," created by Julian Fellowes.

You can almost hear the familiar piano and strings of the period melodrama's theme as Highclere comes into view. Nestled in the countryside about five miles from the town of Newbury (pronounced "Newbree"), the house as it is today was begun in 1838 by the third Earl of Carnarvon and completed



SHNS

Highclere Castle is the imposing manor of "Downton Abbey" fame.

in 1878.

"Highclere has been around a long, long time," says Lady Fiona Carnarvon, who is married to the eighth Earl and is mistress of the manor.

Even before that there had been a house on the land for 1,300 years, she says. An Iron Age fort, which also dates back 1,300 years, is visible from the estate, but to visitors it's just another verdant bump in the landscape.

Rather than being greeted by household staff at attention, visitors come upon a gate to present their ticket. The sandstone facade and those familiar turrets framed by old cedars make it hard to stop staring. For fans it's like meeting a cast member. Walk up the path and you're standing in front of

the massive, wooden doors with black metal wolf-head handles that hold a partial deer's leg in each mouth. Nothing says "welcome" like a satiated predator.

As in a museum, visitors can use the headset guide that explains the rooms you are viewing. Velvet ropes and strict house guides/guards keep everyone corralled as you go from room to room.

Tours are timed, and a guide leads each group through the rooms beginning with the Library. Family photos are everywhere, so it's a curious

mix of home and television set. During filming, any obvious modern-day object is put away, although other than the photos there aren't many. Even the furniture is used in the show, including the books, which date back centuries.

The Carnarvons thought carefully before allowing Highclere to be the setting for "Downton Abbey."

"I did indeed have some trepidation," admits Lady Carnarvon. "I think you're mad not to have trepidation. We thought about it

SEE CASTLE | C5



SHNS

The Saloon at Highclere Castle.



SHNS

The Library at Highclere Castle.

Lake County Residential Real Estate Market Report Year over Year Homes SOLD 2011 Compared to 2012

January – December 31, 2011 SOLD Homes by Price Range

Price Range	Quantity	Average DOM
\$49,999 or under	599	117
\$50,000 - \$99,999	1,251	119
\$100,000 - \$149,999	1,286	119
\$150,000 - \$199,999	688	125
\$200,000 - \$249,999	274	126
\$250,000 - \$299,999	125	121
\$300,000 - \$349,999	52	174
\$350,000 - \$399,999	38	165
\$400,000 - \$499,999	25	119
\$500,000 - \$599,999	17	214
\$600,000 - \$699,999	6	122
\$700,000 - \$799,999	10	226
\$800,000 - \$899,999	4	242
\$900,000 - \$999,999	5	265
\$1,000,000 or over	6	288
Total	4,386	122

January – December 31, 2012 SOLD Homes by Price Range

Price Range	Quantity	Average DOM
\$49,999 or under	593	122
\$50,000 - \$99,999	1,304	107
\$100,000 - \$149,999	1,471	100
\$150,000 - \$199,999	818	120
\$200,000 - \$249,999	393	109
\$250,000 - \$299,999	145	110
\$300,000 - \$349,999	74	139
\$350,000 - \$399,999	54	131
\$400,000 - \$499,999	43	180
\$500,000 - \$599,999	17	204
\$600,000 - \$699,999	18	195
\$700,000 - \$799,999	4	215
\$800,000 - \$899,999	2	451
\$900,000 - \$999,999	1	0
\$1,000,000 or over	8	171
Total	4,945	111

Summary of Lake County Residential Sales

January – December 31, 2011

Summary	List Price	Sale Price
High	\$2,750,000	\$1,700,000
Low	\$5,500	\$5,000
Average	\$138,448	\$129,636
Median	\$119,900	\$112,500

January – December 31, 2012

Summary	List Price	Sale Price
High	\$4,900,000	\$2,500,000
Low	\$8,700	\$1,000
Average	\$143,429	\$135,042
Median	\$124,900	\$118,500

Lake County Real Estate News Year over Year Review

2012 Proves to be a Recovery for Lake County!

We've seen approximately an 11% increase in the total number of homes sold in Lake County. The average overall sale price has increased by approximately 5%. The average days (DOM) a home has been on the market before it has closed has decreased by approximately 11%.

When comparing total sales in the Mid Florida Regional Multiple Listing Service, bank owned sales are down 14%. Short Sales, which are properties sold for less than the borrower owes, have seen an increase by approximately 14%. Our homes selling without distress, a normal sale has increased by approximately 22%.



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Yardsmart: The potager garden

MAUREEN GILMER
Scripps Howard News Service

Romans were major gardeners in a time when most cultures were still hunting and gathering. But when the Roman Empire declined, much of Rome's agricultural development vanished. All that remained of it were ruins of villas in formerly conquered lands. The Roman home was a series of rooms that enclosed a central courtyard. Often this was divided into four equal spaces with a well or fountain at the center.

Centuries later, monastic communities of the early church sought the remains of these homes to house their many

members. Self-sufficiency was vital to a monastery's survival, so the central courtyard became the root of the monastic gardens.

The Benedictines' St. Gall plan for monasteries featured three protected types of gardens: one for flowers to decorate the church, one for herbs and healing plants, and one for larger food crops. Smaller monasteries housed in old homes did not have the space for all of them, so a single garden would have to support all three endeavors.

In strongly Catholic France, this blended garden became known as a potager. Strictly translated, the word "potager"



SEE ROMANS | C6 The subtle brick pathways radiate out from the center of this four square potager which features a decorative planted urn. SHNS

CASTLE CONTINUED FROM C4

quite carefully, the pros and cons."

The castle is closed to tours during filming. During that time, the guides watch the film crew in shifts and either Lady Carnarvon or the castle manager is on site. "If they have some questions, you know, can they remove that door or can we stand on our head, we are there to answer, 'Yes, I can stand on my head, but no, you can't remove the door.'"

The international spotlight has been on Highclere before. It was the fifth Earl of Carnarvon, George Herbert, who along with Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamen in 1922. Five months later, he was dead from a fatal mosquito bite. He was in Cairo when he died

and it is said that his dog Susie died at Highclere the exact same time. The fifth Earl is buried on a hill overlooking the estate. Some of the treasures from his excavations were found hidden in a cupboard between two rooms in the house and are now on display in the basement, along with original photographs. An avid Egyptologist, he also enjoyed the occasional seance, and they were held at Highclere.

The fifth Earl's wife, Almina, was the illegitimate daughter of Alfred de Rothschild. She made Highclere Castle famous in her own right, converting it to a hospital for soldiers during World War I ("Downton Abbey" included a conversion of the castle to a convalescent home for injured soldiers during its second season) and a safe haven for chil-

dren evacuated from London during the Blitz. It has hosted prime ministers, aristocrats and royalty. The state dining room features a huge painting of Charles I astride his horse by Flemish realist Van Dyck. Family portraits dating back centuries adorn the walls.

"Downton Abbey" fans will be impressed with how much of the house is exactly as it is on the show. Even the view from the Library to the east lawn is familiar. You can almost picture Lord Grantham and his faithful hound inspecting the grounds. While the Ladies' Parlor, Dining Room and main staircase look just as they do on the show, the second-floor rooms are less elaborate and not as easily identified.

The one true letdown is the downstairs. There is no kitchen with the big wooden table where the servants eat. That

part of the show, as well as the attic bedrooms, are filmed at a set built at Ealing Studios in London, 60 miles away from Highclere Castle. A cafeteria and the Egyptian exhibit are downstairs in the castle.

You can enjoy some local fare with ale or wine for lunch before you go outside to the little gift shop. A word of warning: It can get very crowded when the tour-bus groups are finishing and the lines to check out with your Highclere candle or tea towel or ball cap can be long. One of the must-haves for "Downton" fans and history buffs is "Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey:

The Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle" by the Countess of Carnarvon.

If you have time while waiting for the train back to London, take a look around the quaint

little town of Newbury. There are plenty of pubs to stop in for a nip and bite or you can take a walk along the picturesque canal where locals feed the swans.

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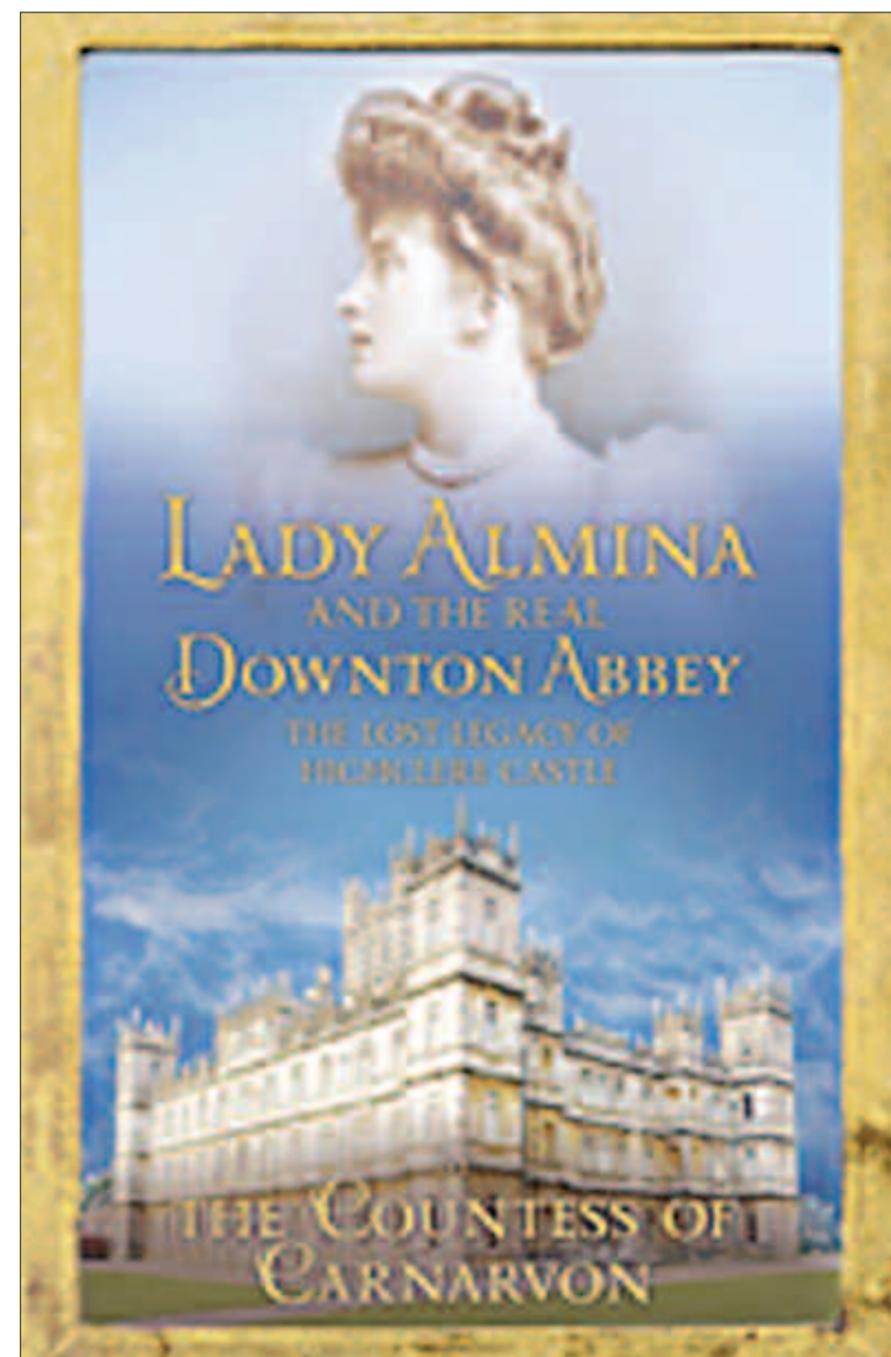


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The cover of the book "Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey," written by the Countess of Carnarvon.

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Six questions to help you declutter your life

SARAH WELCH and ALICIA ROCKMORE
getbuttonedup.com

Getting rid of stuff can just seem so darn overwhelming. So what's a person to do?

If you're feeling intimidated by the thought of a thorough detox, here are six tough questions to ask yourself. We guarantee they will help if you answer them honestly.

1 Is this something I use regularly?

You've probably got things in your attic that you haven't seen, let alone used, in years. When going through boxes and bags of unused things, ask yourself: When was the last time I used it? If you can't come up with a recent example, then toss it or donate it immediately. You clearly don't need it cluttering up your life.

2 Is this something that adds value to my life?

Ask yourself if this is something that you love and that adds value to your life. If it does, and some examples are pieces of art and holiday decorations, then by all means keep it. Simplifying your life means removing the things you don't love or use, so that you can use and appreciate the ones you do.

3 Do I have duplicates?

Do you really need to have one in every color? By getting rid of duplicates, you are creating space for what you currently have to be used effectively. If after you've used something to the point that it wears down or breaks, you can always go out and buy a replacement. In the end, if you buy replacements as needed instead of storing duplicates, not only will you be more organized, but you'll also probably save a lot of money.

4 Would my life be easier if I got rid of this?



SHNS

Confessions of a plantaholic

Wouldn't an organized box of kids' school supplies be a heck of a lot easier than trying to find a glue stick hidden somewhere in a big pile of half-used construction paper, a gazillion crayons and old dried-up markers? When you eliminate extra stuff and organize what you have, you'll find that your life gets easier. You can locate the things you need and find that you don't have to buy things you don't need.

5 Am I keeping this as an obligation to someone else?

Wedding gifts fall into this category. Who wants to give away something associated with one of the best days of your life, even though you have no use for it? Get rid of it, move it out. Don't think of it as betraying a memory. Instead, think of it as sharing your good memories with others.

6 If you are a chronic clutterer, what are you hiding behind all that clutter?

Is there an insecurity in your life, a deep wound that was never healed? Did a parent

leave when you were young? Did your family fall on hard times and you can't give up the fear that it might happen again? Did someone hurt you by calling you stupid?

If so, that could account for a sometimes-irrational need to collect things. You might be saving everything your child ever made in school to prove that you are a good parent. Collecting bread tabs is not such a big deal, because they just might come in handy someday, right? And by collect-

ing books, you might be trying to prove to yourself and others that you are not dumb.

It might require the guidance of a professional therapist or a friend with a very good ear to work through some of these issues. If you've tried and tried to get rid of the clutter and you find that it constantly sneaks up on you, it may be worthwhile to begin digging into your past to see if that clutter is trying to serve the purpose of protecting you from something.



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This is a traditional French four-square potager with fruit trees within a walled compound.



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Small boxwood hedges can be used to outline more ornamental potager gardens.

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ROMANS

CONTINUED FROM C5

means "a thick and substantial soup" because all its ingredients could be grown in this single space. Most homes in the country depended on their potager in these early days of unpredictable food supplies.

As conditions grew safer for agriculture, the four-square garden was expanded with additional geometric zones for planting. These were laid out in creative beds that were worked by hand to hold both annual and perennial plants. Access was essential so that flowers could be cut, herbs plucked and vegetables picked without stepping off the adjacent walkway. The Renaissance brought this geometric approach to much larger sites, where the complexity of the patterns

became a world-famous signature of French garden design.

The potager is making a comeback in America, too. It's one of the best ideas for replacing a greedy lawn with more-generous plants. But what is most appealing is that a potager can be laid out in beautifully symmetrical beds that can produce food while remaining highly ornamental. Flowers are a big part of the potager, and perennial herbs make these beds interesting year-round. For more elaborate landscapes, small hedges or brick edging tidy up the margins of planting areas, where they line pathways of pavers, gravel or decomposed granite.

Nothing is better for replacing a flat lawn than a series of geometric beds that can be devoted to food, flowers or both. Think more creatively about how you shape your beds, whether raised or at grade.

Repairing a leaning toilet can be a simple process

DWIGHT BARNETT
Scripps Howard News Service

Q I live in an older home, 1970s, and I have noticed that the toilet in the master bath is leaning off-center. I tapped on the vinyl flooring next to the toilet and it is kind of soft to the touch. Is this serious, and, if so, can I fix it myself?

A The toilet is secured in place using a metal or plastic flange that is fastened with screws to the wood subfloor. The flange also is attached to the main sewer drainpipe. When a toilet bowl is installed, a wax ring is used to connect the outlet, or neck, of the bowl to the flange, creating a watertight seal.

There are two bolts, one either side of the bowl, that extend up from the flange to receive a washer and cap nut. It's pretty simple, but over-tightening of the nuts can crack the ceramic bowl. Depending on your DIY skills,

it's pretty easy to replace a wax ring. (That said, do proceed with caution: Please have no qualms about contacting a plumber to do the job instead if you have any doubts about being able to do this work yourself.) First, check the toilet bowl by facing the toilet and use your knees to see if the bowl is secure by rocking the bowl from side to side. It should not move at all. If there is movement, the bowl needs to be removed.

A slow leak over many years can cause wet rot and decay damage to the subfloor and the toilet may start to lean to one side.

If you do not have one of the new low-flow toilets, it might be a good idea to replace the older toilet or at least add a 1-gallon milk jug or tank bag to the tank to displace the stored water. You will save 1 gallon of water with each flush, but it should be mon-

itored because the jug or bag could interfere with the flapper valve and allow water to leak to the bowl.

The other problem with the displacement is that the bowl may need the extra water to flush properly. This can be established only by trial and error. A milk bottle or jug needs to be weighted down with gravel or small stones before filling with water. The tank bags are available at most home and hardware stores.

WHAT TO DO:

1 Shut off the water supply to the toilet tank. There should be a shut-off valve under the tank on a wall or through the floor. If there is no valve, shut off the main water supply to the house. After removing the toilet, add a shut-off valve so the water can be turned on during repairs. On copper pipes you can use one of the newer solderless fittings that simply snap in place.

2 Flush the toilet and drain the tank as much as possible. Use a sponge to soak up the remaining water and drain it to a sink. Carefully remove the two, sometimes four, bolts and nuts that secure the tank to the bowl. For this, you will need a large flat-blade screwdriver and a crescent wrench or pliers. Be careful with the rubber washer and rubber spacers between the tank and the bowl and save for reinstallation. Replace the tank's bolts if they are heavily rusted or damaged.

3 Remove and discard the nuts and bolts from either side of the bowl. If the bolts are not in the wax ring kit you purchased, they can be purchased separately.

4 Place towels or rags on the floor next to the toilet to soak up spills. The toilet bowl still contains water in the gooseneck, so be careful when lifting the toilet bowl off the

flange. Tip the bowl upside down in the bathtub, shower or sink to drain, being careful not to damage any of the surfaces.

5 Remove the old wax ring from the bottom neck on the bowl and from the flange at the floor. Check the flooring for rot or decay and check the flange for damage. Replace any damaged wood subfloor and install a replacement flange if needed.

6 Install the two bolts in the flange and place the wax ring on the neck of the tank. Carefully align the bowl with the bolts and press the bowl down to seal the wax ring. Tighten the bolts to secure the bowl. Replace the tank and connect to the water supply.

It would be a good idea to replace the tank's components at this time. The flash valve in the bottom of the tank and the refill valve for the water supply all will fail over time.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS



LOCATION: 1780 12th Street, Clermont **FEATURES:** 3BR/3BA, 1,736 sq. ft. Within blocks of parks, in ground pool, 2 fireplaces. **LISTING PRICE:** \$179,500 **SELLING PRICE:** \$160,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Robert Lyles, Dale Odom & Mike Lovett, Micki Blackburn Realty Inc. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Lori Walker, Century 21 Professional Group.



LOCATION: The Plantation at Leesburg **FEATURES:** 2BR/2BA, den, 2.5 car garage, 1,646 sq. ft. **LISTING PRICE:** \$129,900 **SELLING PRICE:** \$118,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** MJ Grimes, Four Star Realty. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Adriana Skoloda, PAL Realty.



LOCATION: 424 N. Dillard Street, Winter Garden **FEATURES:** Great office space, could be reconfigured for any use, near desirable downtown Winter Garden. **LISTING PRICE:** \$299,000 **SELLING PRICE:** \$250,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Merideth Nagel, Micki Blackburn, Micki Blackburn Realty Inc. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Merideth Nagel, Micki Blackburn.



LOCATION: 11010 Arrowtree Blvd., Clermont **FEATURES:** 4BR/3BA, 3,457sq. ft. Arrowtree Reserve, Pool and Lanai **LISTING PRICE:** \$459,900 **SELLING PRICE:** \$459,900 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Patti Daries, Micki Blackburn Realty Inc. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Patti Daries, Micki Blackburn Realty Inc.



LOCATION: 7505 County Road 561, Clermont **FEATURES:** 3BR/3BA, 3,267 sq. ft., Beautiful country estate home, sits on 5.86 acres. **LISTING PRICE:** \$249,900 **SELLING PRICE:** \$249,900 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Ryan Heitman, Micki Blackburn Realty Inc. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Carey Light, Keller Williams Advantage III.



LOCATION: The Plantation at Leesburg **FEATURES:** Split 2BR/2BA, Den, 1.5 Car Garage. 1,506 sq.ft. **LISTING PRICE:** \$115,000 **SELLING PRICE:** \$110,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Adriana Skoloda, PAL Realty. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Adriana Skoloda, PAL Realty.



LOCATION: 36603 Antone Drive, Grand Island **FEATURES:** Short Sale - Very well-maintained 3BR/2BA home in Wedgewood. **LISTING PRICE:** \$88,100 **SELLING PRICE:** \$83,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Cindi Heiligenthal, ERA Tom Grizzard Inc. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Ray Wade, Foxfire Realty Inc.



LOCATION: The Plantation at Leesburg **FEATURES:** 2BR/2BA, den, 2.5 Car Garage. 1,805 sq. ft. **LISTING PRICE:** \$189,900 **SELLING PRICE:** \$173,500 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Cary Fier, PAL Realty. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Cary Fier, PAL Realty.



LOCATION: Highland Lakes **FEATURES:** Furnished 2BR/2BA, 2 Car Garage. 1,499 sq. ft. **LISTING PRICE:** \$124,900 **SELLING PRICE:** \$119,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Brenda Greenlee, PAL Realty. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Adriana Skoloda, PAL Realty.



LOCATION: 3638 Corsica Lane, Clermont **FEATURES:** Heritage Hills is an active adult new home community built by Lennar in the rolling hills of Clermont. Clubhouse amenities include tennis, bocce, shuffleboard, golf simulator, vineyard and olive grove, heated pool and spa, and 24 hour fitness center. This is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home on an inside street. This home features granite counter tops, raised panel maple cabinetry, decorative tile accents in the master bath and 18" ceramic tile in all wet areas. Clean steel stainless steel appliances in the kitchen and white washer and dryer in the laundry room. This home also comes with an alarm system and garage door opener. The homeowners association maintains all of the landscaping and will repaint the home after 5 years. Heritage Hills is a 24 hour guard gated community convenient to shopping, restaurants and all health care services. **LISTING PRICE:** \$178,272 **SELLING PRICE:** \$178,272 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Laura Jaret, Lennar Homes. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Cheryl S. Glover, Keller Williams Classic III Realty.



LOCATION: 3689 Corsica Lane, Clermont **FEATURES:** Heritage Hills is an active adult new home community built by Lennar in the rolling hills of Clermont. Clubhouse amenities include tennis, bocce, shuffleboard, golf simulator, vineyard and olive grove, heated pool and spa, and 24 hour fitness center. This is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home on an inside street. This home features granite counter tops, raised panel maple cabinetry, decorative tile accents in the master bath and 18" ceramic tile in all wet areas. Clean steel stainless steel appliances in the kitchen and white washer and dryer in the laundry room. This home also comes with an alarm system and garage door opener. The homeowners association maintains all of the landscaping and will repaint the home after 5 years. Heritage Hills is a 24 hour guard gated community convenient to shopping, restaurants and all health care services. **LISTING PRICE:** \$173,000 **SELLING PRICE:** \$173,000 **LISTING AGENT & OFFICE:** Laura Jaret, Lennar Homes. **SELLING AGENT & OFFICE:** Cheryl S. Glover, Keller Williams Classic III Realty and David Velms, Keller Williams Classic III Realty.

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