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Lengthy chase ends in arrest

BOB REICHMAN
Editor

A suspect led seven law enforcement agencies on a two-day chase before finally being apprehended Sunday by Sumter deputies in a rural portion of southern Sumter County.

Terry Keith Yates, 27, Dade City, ended up with an extensive list of charges and arrest warrants when he was finally taken into custody about 1:30 p.m., ac-

ording to sheriff's Lt. Bobby Caruthers.

Yates was initially placed in the Sumter County Detention Center without bond and then transferred to Pasco County where he faces additional charges, Caruthers said.

The incident started on Tuesday, April 3, when Sumter deputies were asked to assist Polk County because Yates was entering Sumter near County Road 471 in the Richloom

All told, dozens of vehicles and law enforcement officers were involved in the apprehension

forestry area, Caruthers said. Polk officials were seeking Yates in connection with a stolen vehicle and illegally possessing a 50-caliber weapon.

"Polk County sent their helicopter to look for him, we sent ours and so did Lake County," Caruthers said. Officers from the Florida Freshwater Game

and Fish Commission and Pasco County also joined the search for Yates.

"We were cautioned that he had a lengthy criminal record and can be violent," he said. "Unfortunately, no one ever found him.

Caruthers said the area made detection by helicopter difficult because of the thick canopy and the rural

nature of the location in the Green Swamp.

Officials also believe Yates was familiar with the remote area and could have known where to hide without being detected.

The incident then continued on Sunday, April 8, when another pursuit of Yates began when he was spotted driving in Lake County.

With law enforcement officers from Lake and Pasco

See CHASE, Page 3



Terry Keith Yates

EGGS GALORE

BRENDA LOCKLEAR
Sumter County Time

Lana Todd shows off her collection of eggs from the Wildwood Community Center. Hundreds of children gathered up thousands of eggs last Saturday. They got a chance to visit with the Easter bunny, ride a mini train and get their faces painted as part of an event hosted by the City of Wildwood and the surrounding community. For more photos, visit the multimedia section at www.sumtercountytimes.com



Youngsters, some assisted by adults, took to Raider field Saturday as they raced to collect Easter goodies scattered about. The annual Easter event is sponsored by Bushnell Assembly of God.

BOB REICHMAN/Sumter County Times

The races were on

STAFF REPORT

In Bushnell, hundred of youngsters and adults flocked to Raider field at South Sumter High School for the annual Easter celebration presented by Bushnell Assembly of God church.

Bleachers filled as anxious youngsters awaited their chance to pounce on the football field that was covered in plastic Easter eggs and candy.

See RACES, Page 8

Court update

BOB REICHMAN
Editor

A full docket awaits Circuit Court Judge William Hallman on Wednesday, April 18, with arraignments in felony cases scheduled for a Marion County firefighter arrested for DUI manslaughter; almost two dozen suspects arrested in a sheriff's sex sting operation, and a 70-year-old man arrested for sexually abusing an 11-year-old girl.

The court hearings are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. in the Sumter County Judicial Building in Bushnell and continue through the afternoon.

Here's a recap of several of the cases set for arraignment:

23 suspects arrested in sex sting operation

Late in February, the sheriff's office arrested 23 suspects during a week-long operation aimed at targeting individuals using the Internet for the purpose of sexually exploiting children.

Called STARCOP 2, Sumter County sheriff's detectives partnered with sheriff's office detectives from surrounding counties, Central Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, and Florida Department of Law Enforcement during the operation.

Sheriff's detectives posed as adults, guardians of minors and minors on the Internet communicating with individuals who traveled to Bushnell to engage in sexual activities with a minor, according to a sheriff's office report.

When the suspects arrived at a designated location, they were arrested by deputies.

More than 30 law enforcement officers participated in the operation.

Marion firefighter faces DUI manslaughter charges

Stephen Kleiber Jr., 25, Ocala, was arrested March 5 by the Florida Highway Patrol for DUI manslaughter, DUI serious bodily injury and two counts of DUI property damage in connection with a fatal accident last year that claimed the life of a Wesley Chapel woman.

The wreck happened at 4:18 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011, in the southbound lane of I-75, near Wildwood, according to a Florida Highway Patrol report.

Kleiber was traveling south in a 2002 Volkswagen GTI behind a 1999 Chevrolet Blazer driven by Jason De Carmine, 29, of Temple Terrace, when Kleiber failed to compensate for

See COURT, Page 3

Considering the Cow Palace

BOB REICHMAN
Editor

County commissioners will determine the fate of the Cow Palace at the Sumter County Fairgrounds when the building is the focus of an upcoming board meeting.

The County Commission will meet in a workshop session on Tuesday, April 17, to determine if the building should be renovated or if a new structure should be erected to replace the aging fair facility.

County Commissioner



See COW, Page 2

At a workshop meeting next week, the County Commission will discuss the future of the Cow Palace.



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Center Hill woman dies in vehicle wreck

BOB REICHMAN
Editor

A flat tire was responsible for an accident that claimed the life of a 64-year-old Center Hill woman Saturday night.

Mary Hardy Tuller was driving east on County Road 48 W., just east of County Road 321, about 10:40 p.m. April 7, when the rear left tire of the 2008 Ford Taurus she was driving went flat, according to a Florida Highway Patrol report. The flat caused Tuller to lose control of the vehicle.

The car traveled onto the south shoulder of the road

rotating clockwise where the front portion of the vehicle struck an embankment, according to the report. The car then overturned onto its left side and collided with a tree before coming to a final stop on the south shoulder of the roadway.

Tuller received fatal injuries and died at the scene, according to the report.

Her passenger, Nancy Huffman Wilbanks, 65, Wildwood, received serious injuries in the accident and was transported to Bayonet Point Hospital, according to the report.

Neither occupant was wearing a seatbelt.



MAN SAVED FROM LAKE...

A 45-year-old Seffner man was successfully resuscitated Monday afternoon after a near drowning incident at Tracy's Point in Lake Panasoffkee. Dale Crum, 45, went swimming in the lake when a friend noticed that he was having trouble swimming and keeping his head above water, according to sheriff's Lt. Bobby Caruthers. The friend jumped into the water and helped get Crum to shore where others began CPR, he said. Crum began breathing on his own but did not regain consciousness by the time paramedics transported him to Leesburg Regional Medical Center, Caruthers said.

COW

continued from Page 1

Garry Breeden said at a recent board meeting that he wanted to bring the issue back to the board after initially discussing the issue earlier this year.

Breeden said he studied and looked over the building during the annual county fair last month and decided it would be beneficial to hold a

workshop on the subject.

The workshop is at 5 p.m. in Room 102, in The Villages Sumter County Service Center, on Powell Road, Wildwood.

Debbie Moffitt, vice president of the Sumter County Fair Board, said she expects that at least members of the fair board's executive committee will want to attend the meeting.

As far as the Cow Palace is concerned, the 60-year-old building plays an integral part in a variety of activities

at the county fairgrounds including acting as a showplace during the fair for livestock shows and exhibits and also provides an entertainment facility for shows and events.

Earlier this year, the board began considering options for the aging building but decided against taking any action until additional information is gathered.

The board had asked County Commissioner Doug Gilpin to get information from the agricultural com-

munity about the situation.

Gilpin has said he has discussed the topic with representatives of the agricultural community and the Agricultural Alliance and "I think there's no question that the building is inappropriate for marketing Sumter County agriculture."

Gilpin has said he does not favor spending money to renovate the existing building. "I would not be in favor of putting in 700 and some thousand dollars in a 60-year-old building to accomplish hav-

ing a little nicer place to show farm animals."

Gilpin suggested that a committee be formed to discuss the current and future needs in the agricultural community if a new building was approved.

At that time, Breeden suggested that the issue be tabled for about 60 days until more information is collected. The board unanimously supported Breeden's recommendation.

In the meantime, the board had asked the Tourist

Development Council (TDC) for the majority of funding needed to renovate the Cow Palace, estimated to cost \$765,000 total.

The TDC voted 5 to 1 in early January to recommend the grant application in the amount of \$716,581, with the understanding that if the County Commission determines that a new structure would better promote tourism in Sumter County, funding for the new structure would be paid from tourism development tax funds.

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Sumter County Times Opinion

Guest editorial

Sheriff cautions as scams increase

Last week, The Sumter County Sheriff's Office warned citizens of the grandparent or grandchild scam. Since then, we have received calls of two other scams and incidents that the sheriff wants to make sure citizens are aware of.

The first is tax scams. Taxpayers should be extra cautious this time of year to protect themselves from becoming victims. The Sumter County Sheriff's Office has received several identity-theft tax reports.

Identity thieves are finding ways to use a legitimate taxpayer's identity and personal information to file a tax return and claim a fraudulent refund.

One way the thieves are getting personal information is by the use of unsolicited emails, phone calls, or a website that poses as a legitimate site to lure in potential victims and prompt them to provide valuable personal and financial information. Armed with this information, a criminal can commit all types of identity or financial thefts.

If you discover that you have been a victim of a fraudulent tax refund or other tax scam contact the Internal Revenue Service and your local law enforcement agency.

The Sumter County Sheriff's Office has also received several calls from people of solicitors claiming to represent the sheriff or his office for donations or to join a membership.

Sheriff Farmer wants to make it clear that the Sheriff's Office does not participate in any type of phone solicitations. There are many worthwhile causes that the Sheriff's Office contributes to, but if you receive a phone call from a person claiming they are representing the sheriff or is endorsed by the sheriff know that you are receiving false information.

Lieutenant Bobby Caruthers

Extension office

Take charge of your diabetes



Martha Maddox

Extension Office

County Extension Agent III
Family/Consumer Sciences
University of Florida, IFAS
Sumter County Extension

Diabetes is one of American most serious health issue with 25.8 million children and adults in the US having diabetes. That is 8.3 percent of the population. According to the data from the 2011 national Diabetes Fact Sheet 18.8 million people have been diagnosed with diabetes, 7.0 million people are undiagnosed and 79 million people are prediabetes. 1.9 million new cases of diabetes are diagnosed in people aged 20 years and older in 2010. In 2007, diabetes was listed as the underlying cause on 71,382 death certificates and was listed as a contributing factor on an additional 160,022 death certificates. Diabetes can contribute to heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, blindness, kidney disease, nervous system disease and amputation.

The cost of diabetes is expensive. In 2007 the total costs of diagnosed diabetes in the US was \$174 billion, with \$116 billion for direct medical cost and \$58 billion for indirect costs (disability, work loss, premature mortality).

Information from the Diabetes Statistics, American Diabetes Association. If you have diabetes or a family history of diabetes, Take Charge of Your Diabetes know and learn how you can control your diabetes and be in charge!

The University of Florida/Sumter County Extension, Family and Consumer Science Agent Martha Maddox is now offering an educational program to help adults with type 2 diabetes control their blood sugar to feel better and reduce risk of health complications. The program will include nine classes taught by a

team of qualified educators and health professionals, and a personal consultation with a registered dietitian/certified diabetes educator. Class topics will include information on the types of diabetes, standards of care, medications, cardiovascular disease risk, nutritional management, carbohydrate counting, physical activity, cardiovascular care, foot care and eye care. Health assessments (height, weight, and blood pressure measurements) are included.

The eight classes that will start on May 3 after a health screening on April 24. A Health Screening is required before the classes start. The Health Screening will be held on Tuesday, April 24 at the UF/IFAS Sumter County Extension Office Annex in the Sumter County Annex Building on the corner of Highway 466 and Morris Blvd. In The Villages (Martha Maddox will assign individuals an appointment time after they register and have been approved).

All information about class location will be given during the Health Screening on Tuesday, April 24. Class dates are: Health Screening: April 24, Classes will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. the 2 hour class dates are: May 3, May 10, May 17, May 24, May 31, June 7, June 14 and a two reunion date to be announced depending on the group.

There is a \$125.00 program fee which includes the educational classes, nutrition consultation, booklets, program materials and health assessments.

Class size is limited to the first 30 registrants. We are now recruiting participants for this program. If you have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, are at least 21 years old, and are interested in being a part of this program, please Email Martha Maddox at: mmaddox@ufl.edu with name, physical address, Email and phone number to pre register. (on Email MEMO put TCYD, incase email goes to spam) Martha will call you to confirm you qualify and give you information as to where you need to send registration check and materials. She will also send you a packet of information. Pre registration is due by April 18. Participation is by pre-registration and payment for class only.

BEYOND SUMTER



Letters to the editor

Is Affordable Care Act constitutional?

What if the Constitution really did give Congress Unlimited Power?

Almost everyone has an opinion about the Obama administration's Affordable Care Act. With the extensive media coverage of the three days of legal argument before the U.S. Supreme Court, the major focus is now on whether or not it is constitutional. If you believe that Obamacare with its Congressional mandate, that everyone purchase health insurance is constitutional, do you also believe there is no constitutional limit on what Congress can force us to buy? Or, are you so caught up in the Obama administration's rhetoric about the common good that you believe the ends justify the means? If so, you may be traversing a very slippery slope.

Would you have the same answer about the sweeping power of Congress, if they decided to emulate other European social policies? What if Congress decided to follow the Swiss model with something like an "Affordable American Defense Act?" What if Congress decided in order to reduce the deficit and at the same time improve homeland security, that the head of every American household would be required to purchase and maintain, in good working order a firearm and ammunition? In addition to mandating the gun purchase, Congress ever mindful, of our safety could also require the head of household to undergo rigorous firearm competence and safety training at a federally approved facility. Of course, a very limited exemption could be provided for those individuals who claimed to be conscientious objectors to firearm ownership based on religious beliefs.

What do the Obama administration's Affordable Care Act and a concept like an "Affordable American Defense Act" have in common? Both purport to be for the greater good. Both would require the American people to make a purchase of something they may not want or believe they do not need. Unlike automobile insurance, which you must purchase only if you own a car, both of these plans would require you to make a purchase, not based on your activity but solely on your existence.

Think about it. If it is constitutionally permissible for Congress to make you buy health insurance to improve America's healthcare system, surely it's constitutional for Congress to make you buy a firearm to improve America's homeland secu-

rity.

Still think the Affordable Care Act is constitutional?

Richard L. Cole Jr.
The Villages

Tribute to Trayvon Martin

We thank God for allowing Trayvon to be with us on earth for a season.

We thank his parents for sharing their pain with the world too.

Let us feel the sorrow they want no other parents to ever feel.

We thank all those who contributed to Trayvon's contributions of hope and promise.

We thank God for that beautiful smile that has captured the world.

We ask God why do you need so many beautiful flowers and so soon?

We believe that Trayvon is in a better place where he will sing forever, he will have no more pain; his smile will light up eternity, as his smile pierced our hearts.

We have cried for Trayvon until we are so deeply saddened, we cry for all of the Trayvons who we ask why?

Let us pray with/for the parents of Trayvon and all the Trayvons we have lost; we view the loss too soon.

Let us remember that Trayvon left us with love for his neighbor. As he was returning from the store, he had not just something for him, he was bringing something for his neighbor.

We know what two great commandments we will be judged on: Love the Lord thy God will all thy heart, mind and soul (one) and Love thy neighbor as thy self.

Cynthia D. Martin
Coleman Community
Development chair
Coleman City Council vice
president

Enough is enough the time to act is now!

How much longer is it going to take, what more does this president, his administration and the Democrats in Congress have to do before you, the American people say "Enough is enough?" Can we really wait until November 2012? Are we really going to let this agenda get passed by this Democrat controlled Congress? It is obvious to anyone paying attention that these politicians, these so called representatives, are not interested in representing the American people, they are only interested in their agenda!

On Jan. 20, 2009 the former Barack Obama took the 35 word, not including name, presidential oath of office, just as every presi-

dent has done in the past.

"I, Barack Hussein Obama, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The media spent the whole day covering this event and we, the tax payers spent \$170,000,000 for it, I guess, the oath is kind of important!

The members of congress have boiled their oath of office down to these words;

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States."

Wednesday, the 17th, when Al Franken refused to allow Joe Lieberman a couple of extra minutes to finish a ten minute speech, John McCain made the following statement;

I've been around here 20-some years, first time I've ever seen a member denied an extra minute or two to finish his remarks. And I must say that I don't know what's happening here in this body, but I think it's wrong. And so it's fine with me that it be 10 minutes but I'll tell you I've never seen a member denied an extra minute or so as the chair just did."

I don't know what is happening in this country but ...I know it's wrong!

Barack Obama has made the following statements and taken the following positions:

The Supreme Court never ventured into the issues of redistribution of wealth, and of more basic issues such as political and economic justice in society. To that extent, as radical as I think people try to characterize the Warren Court, it wasn't that radical. It didn't break free from the essential constraints that were placed by the founding fathers in the Constitution, at least as it's been interpreted and Warren Court interpreted in the same way, that generally the Constitution is a charter of negative liberties. Says what the states can't do to you. Says what the Federal government can't do to you, but doesn't say what the Federal government or State government must do on your behalf, and that hasn't shifted and one of the, I think, tragedies of the civil rights movement was, um, because the civil rights movement became so court focused I think there was a tendency to lose track of the political and community organizing and activities on the ground that are able to put together the actual coalition of powers through

See LETTERS, Page 7

OPINIONS INVITED

● The opinions expressed in Sumter County Times editorials are the opinions of the editorial board of the newspaper.

● Viewpoints depicted in political cartoons, columns or letters do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board.

● Groups or individuals are invited to express their opinions in a letter to the editor.

● All letters must be signed and include a phone

number and hometown, including letters sent via e-mail. Phone numbers will not be printed or given out.

● We reserve the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste.

● Letters must be no longer than 450 words, and writers will be limited to two letters per month.

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Meth suspects arrested



Eduardo Orozco



Jennifer Auchtung

A Bushnell woman and a Haines City man are facing methamphetamine related drug charges after being arrested by members of the Sumter Sheriff's Special Investigations Squad.

In the early morning hours of April 4, Jennifer Auchtung reportedly agreed to sell and delivered approximately one gram of methamphetamine to an undercover operative in the parking lot of a Tarrytown convenience store, according to a Sumter County Sheriff's Office report. Ms. Auchtung was immediately arrested.

At the time of Auchtung's arrest, Eduardo Orozco was present when she sold and delivered methamphetamine to the undercover operative, the report states. Orozco was found to be in possession of approximately 39 grams of methamphetamines and drug paraphernalia in a pants pocket.

Both Auchtung and Orozco were arrested and delivered to the Sumter County Detention Center.

Auchtung is charged with sale and possession of methamphetamine and the unlawful use of a two-way communication device. Her bond was set at \$45,000. Orozco is charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver, and possession of drug paraphernalia. His bond was set at \$60,500.



Last week, Jennifer Teitelbaum, veterinarian and owner of Mulberry Grove Animal Hospital in The Villages, (center) donated a \$700 bullet-proof vest to the sheriff's office. The vest will be used to protect K-9 Cerry. Also in the photo are Cerry's partner Deputy Jason Adkison (left) and Sheriff Bill Farmer (right).

Investing in a dog

BOB REICHMAN
Editor

Jason Adkison placed the vest on the dog.

Cerry is a safer today because of a local veterinarian.

Last week, Jennifer Teitelbaum, veterinarian and owner of the Mulberry Grove Animal Hospital in The Villages, provided the sheriff's office with a bullet-proof vest for Cerry, one of the departments four German shepherds used as a full-service dog by the department.

Cerry accepted wearing the vest without problem when her handler Deputy

Sheriff Bill Farmer said

The vest, which costs about \$700 is used to protect the dog in potentially dangerous situations, Caruthers said. "It isn't something we use all the time but they are used when the dogs are in dangerous situations like during building and business searches for suspects or other operations."

he was very appreciative of Teitelbaum's donation.

"The vest is a level 2," Caruthers said. "That means it provides the same protection as vests worn by deputies."

The vest will protect the dog from the more popular rounds of ammunition, Caruthers said.

The department has seven dogs that comprise its K-9 squad.

Four of the dogs are German shepherds, and used for full-service operations. The other three dogs are bloodhounds used primarily for tracking.

Unexpected lake cruise ...



Bob Owen, of Pop's Bait & Tackle, came in from fishing Easter Sunday with the biggest catch of his career. We had a plane land in the water here at Lake Panasoffkee. The pilot had run out of gas, and lost his bearings. He asked Pop's (Bob Owen) where he was, and he replied "Werda-Hecamiat." Pop's towed him to shore.

Sumter County Public Library system now has legal forms

The Sumter County Library System now provides its library card holders with access to the Gale Florida LegalForms Library, an electronic resource with state-specific legal forms.

Forms are conveniently accessible and downloadable in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat as well as other formats.

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is available at any of the Sumter County Library locations.

To access the Gale Florida Legal Forms from home, begin on the Sumter County's home page at sumtercountyfl.gov, then click on Departments H-Z > Library Services > Research Tools > Gale Florida LegalForms.

At this point, you will be prompted to enter your library card number, so have your card handy.

Next, simply locate the form that's needed by using any of the links found on the home page, download the specific form and choose the desired format (Word, Text, or Acrobat).

Then, edit the form by entering all relevant information, complete it and print it.

This invaluable online database also includes two additional components; a law digest and a question and answer collection.

If you encounter difficulty accessing Gale Florida Legal Forms, please call your library at 352-689-4588 and a librarian will be able to walk you through the process.

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Parent/Guardian/Responsible Adult MUST stay with child/minor!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, FL ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

Sumter obituaries

Thomas W. Manson, 85

Thomas W. Manson, 85, of Wildwood died on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at Cornerstone Hospice of The Villages. Survivors include his loving wife of 58 years, Betty; son, Dennis (Ann) Manson of Ocean Springs, Miss.; daughters, Peggy Chapman of Lucedale, Miss. and Audrey Murphy of Wildwood. Graveside services were at Pine Level Cemetery, Oxford, Florida Friday, April 6, 2012. On-line condolences and memories may be shared by visiting www.bankspagetheus.com. Arrangements are entrusted to Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

ing and signing for the deaf in church as well as teaching signing. Survivors include her loving husband of 65 years, Johnnie; 4 children, Sandra (Rick) Staton, Johnnie (Debbie) Powell, Lenard Powell and Nanette (Mike) Snider; 3 brothers, Charles, Donald and Haden Butts; a sister, Doris Winstead; 8 grandchildren, Julie Staton, Beckie Weaver, Gregg Powell, Katie Gordon, Kellie Powell, Jami Barnes, Josh Powell and Chris Snider along with 8 great-grandchildren. Mrs. Powell was preceded in death by her sister, Nora Craft and brother, Edward Butts. Funeral services were 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 10, 2012, in the Oxford Assembly of God Church with interment following the service in Pine Level Cemetery. On-line condolences and memories may be shared by visiting www.bankspagetheus.com. Arrangements are entrusted to Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

Lucille Margaret Stewart, 88

Lucille Margaret Stewart of Altha, passed away in Blountstown, Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at the age of 88. She earned a Bachelor's Degree from Florida State University and a Master's Degree from the University of Florida and taught Home Economics and Chemistry in South Sumter High School in Bushnell, for many years. She was a member of Magnolia Baptist Church near Altha. She was preceded in death by her husband, Virgil Stewart; her parents, Thomas and Eula (Johnson) Jordan; and a son, Delwin Stewart. Survivors include son, Kenneth Stewart and his wife, Elaine of Fort Walton Beach; daughter, Cheryl Stephens and her husband, John of Tampa; six grandchildren, Lora Stewart, Jennifer Stewart, Chad Stewart, Ashley Stewart, Amy Elizabeth Stephens, and Sarah Catherine Stephens; two great-grandchildren, Lane Stephens and Colby Rinberger; and a brother, J. D. Jordan and his wife, Pam of Youngstown. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. CDT, Friday, April 6, 2012 in the Chapel of Adams Funeral Home with Reverend John Kuenierz and Reverend Clint Clemons officiating. Adams Funeral Home in Blountstown is in charge of the arrangements. On-line condolences may be made at adamsfh.com.

Mia Catherine Powell, 84

Mia Catherine Powell, 84, of Lake Panasoffkee passed away Friday, April 6, 2012. Mrs. Powell was born Oct. 2, 1927 in Dover and has lived in this area since 1962. She was a member of the Oxford Assembly of God Church. Along with being a pastor's wife she not only raised her children, but worked many different jobs finally retiring as an upholsterer and seamstress. Some of her other talents included baking cakes, puppeteer-

Mary Susan Tuller, 64

Mary Susan "Susie" Tuller, 64, of Bushnell, passed away Saturday, April 7, 2012. She was born July 29, 1947 in Charles Town, W. Va. She moved from Charles Town, W. Va. to Pinellas Park in 1981. She was a Nashville Recording Artist known as "Hillbilly Sue." Widowed from her husband of 29 years, Fred Tuller, Sr., who was a horse trainer and a successful business man. She is survived by her son, Thomas Tuller Sr. of Bushnell; daughter, Tammy Sue (Chris) Wells of Center Hill; grandchildren, Ashton Tuller of Crystal River, Thomas Tuller Jr. of Bushnell, Jesse Wells, II of Center Hill, Tawny Tuller of Bushnell, Chrissy Sue Wells of Center Hill, Leeah Tuller of Bushnell; great-grandchild, Braedyn Jones of Crystal River; and sister Nancy Bittinger, of Charlestown, W. Va. She is also survived by her lifelong companion, Randy Joseph; best friend, Nancy Wilbanks and other lifelong friends and family. She had a strong Pentecostal Faith and was our angel, best friend and mother. We love you forever. Visitation will be at the Purcell Funeral Home Chapel on Thursday, April 12, 2012 from 12 to 2 p.m. Services will follow at 2 p.m., Pastor Clarence Crane will preside. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. Online condolences may be left at www.purcellfuneralhome.com. Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell.

Dianne Lee Causey, 68

Dianne Lee Causey, 68, of Bushnell died Monday, April 9, 2012 at Bushnell. She is survived by her hus-

band, Joe; son, Joe S. Causey of Bushnell. Services will follow visitation at 11 a.m. at Purcell Funeral Home Chapel, Bushnell on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 with Pastor Vern Murray presiding. Interment will follow at the Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell. Online condolences may be left at www.purcellfuneralhome.com. Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell.

Louise Stanley, 84

Louise Stanley, 84, of Webster, went to be with

her family in heaven Tuesday, April 10, 2012. She was born April 29, 1927 in La-Coochee. She was a lifelong resident of Webster. She was a member of Bushnell First Church of God. She spent many years in the produce business at the local flea markets. Her specialty was shelled peas. She will be missed by her family and many friends. Preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Collie Stanley; son, Collie Jr.; sisters, Lillie Hooten and Beulah Nipper. She is survived by her son, John (Betsi) Stanley; sister, Margaret (Walter) Jackson; five

nieces; three nephews; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Visitation will be at the Bushnell First Church of God, 105 E. Central Ave., Bushnell, Friday, April 13, 2012 from 10 to 11 a.m. Services will follow at 11 a.m., Pastor Randall Belcher will preside, followed by burial at Linden Cemetery. Online condolences may be left at www.purcellfuneralhome.com. Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell.

First Baptist Church of Linden

Homecoming

2012

Sunday, April 15th
10:00 A.M.

Come join us as we celebrate our 118th anniversary!

This year's Homecoming will start off with a special concert at 10am. Our former pastor, Reverend Rob Mathis will then bless us with a message during the morning worship service. The celebration will conclude with a covered dish dinner in the Fellowship Hall after the services. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend this very special event.

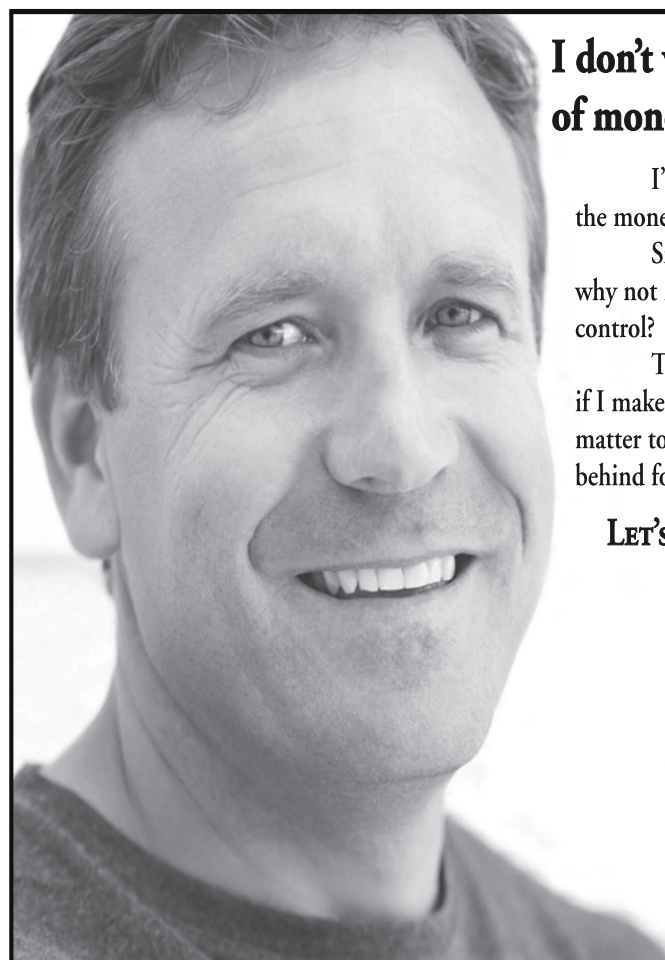
4344 State Road 50, Webster, FL 33597
For more information, please call the church office: (352) 793-2057

Thomas W. Manson, 85

Thomas W. Manson, 85, of Wildwood died Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at Cornerstone Hospice of The Villages. Survivors include his loving wife of 58 years, Betty; son, Dennis (Ann) Manson of Ocean Springs, Miss.; daughters, Peggy Chapman of Lucedale, Miss. and Audrey Murphy of Wildwood. Graveside services were at Pine Level Cemetery, Oxford, at 11 a.m., Friday, April 6, 2012. On-line condolences and memories may be shared by visiting www.bankspagetheus.com. Arrangements are entrusted to Banks/Page-Theus Funerals and Cremations, Wildwood.

Agnes Pearl Wheeler, 74

Agnes Pearl Wheeler, 74, of Webster, died Friday, April 6, 2012 at Sumterville. She was born Sept. 16, 1937 in Dover, FL. She is survived by her son, Matthew Wheeler of Lake-land; daughter, Cynthia L. Hall of Croom-A-Coochee; and grandchildren, Lacey M. Hall of Lake Panasoffkee, and Brandon T. Hall of Croom-A-Coochee. A visitation will be at the Purcell Funeral Home Chapel, Bushnell, on Friday, April 13, 2012 from 10 to 11 a.m. Services will follow at 11 a.m., with Pastor J.D. Wheeler presiding. Interment will follow at the Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Lane Purcell Hospice House, 2452 CR 526E, Sumterville, FL 33585. Online condolences may be left at www.purcellfuneralhome.com. Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell.



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Church Directory

Worship This Week at the Church of Your Choice

BUSHNELL
THE BUSHNELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA
323 N. BROAD (Corner of W. Dade & N. Broad)
Church School: 9:15 A.M.
Public Worship: 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY: Bible Study - 10:00 A.M.
352-793-4202

BUSHNELL
Indian Hill Baptist Church
Pastor: Irwin Mitchell
7819 CR 633, Bushnell, just 476 between 4768 & 575
Sunday School: 9:45 am
Morning Worship: 11:00 am
Evening Worship: 7:00 pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7:00 pm
Youth Group

BUSHNELL
All Are Welcome At
BUSHNELL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Christian Education 9:00 A.M. • Worship 10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - please call for date and time
Wed. Discipleship Night 7:00 P.M.
1451 West C.R. 476, Bushnell 793-2240

LAKE PANASOFFKEE
First Baptist Church of Lake Panasoffkee
Hwy. 470, Lake Panasoffkee 793-5510
Sunday Services: 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
After School Care: 2:30-6:00 p.m.
Pastor Randy Alonso

BUSHNELL
First Baptist Church of Bushnell
125 W. Anderson Ave. 793-4612
"Sharing the Good News of Life Through Faith in Christ"
• Sunday School...8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
• Worship...9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
• Sunday Worship...6:00 P.M.
• Wednesday Bible Study...6:30 P.M.

LAKE PANASOFFKEE
The Church of The Fishermen
A United Methodist Congregation
Pastor Warren Bennett: 352-793-3458
589 CR 470, 1 mile W of I-75
Sunday Worship: 9:30 AM
Bible Classes (all ages) 11 am
Wed. Night Live 6-7:30
A family night event
www.gbgn-umc.org/lakepana-umc

WEBSTER
Webster United Methodist Church
Invites You To Attend
Worship Service - 11:15 a.m.
Church School - 9:45 a.m.
173 S.E. 3rd St., Webster, FL 33597
P.O. Box 87, Webster, FL
(352) 793-3734
Serving our Lord through love, care & prayer for one another & our community

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Pastor PAUL ALONSO
Sunday: 8:00 A.M. Bible Study, 9:30 A.M. Celebration Service, 10:45 A.M. Wednesday Evening: 6:00 P.M.
New Community Cafe, 10:00 P.M.
New Community Worship/Student Activities: 7:00 P.M.
www.wahoochurch.org **352 793-6015**

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Jeffery Thomas, Pastor
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
WORSHIP 11 A.M.
BOY SCOUTS MON. 6:30 P.M. • CUB SCOUTS TUES. 6:30 P.M.
CADET GIRL SCOUTS WED. 6:30 P.M.

WILDWOOD
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202 Pine Street
748-1318
Pastors: Brian & Rhonda Tillman
Services:
Sunday.....10:30 am • Wed.....6:30 pm
Something for all ages!

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Sumterville United Methodist Church
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2565 CR 522 • 1 BLOCK EAST OF HWY 301
Invites you to attend Sunday worship service 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Charles Tomberlin
All children are invited.

WILDWOOD
St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church
MASSES: SATURDAY 3p 4:45p, 6:30p
SUNDAY 6:30a, 8a, 9:45a, 11:30a, 1:15p, 3p, 4:45p
DAILY MASS: 6:30a & 8:30a
MASS TIMES & DIRECTIONS: 330-0028
Office: 330-0220 • **5323 E CR 462**
www.sumtercatholic.org

BUSHNELL
First Church of God
Affiliation: Anderson, IN
793-3455
105 E. Central Ave. • P.O. Box 1128, Bushnell, FL 33513
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Randall Belcher, Pastor 793-3534

BUSHNELL
St. Francis Episcopal Church
313 N. Grace Street (At US 301)
P.O. Box 566, (352) 793-3187
Wednesday Healing Services 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School 10 a.m.
AA meets Thursdays at 8 p.m.

WEBSTER
First Baptist Church of Webster
1/4 mile east of 471 on SE 1st Ave.
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Service 6:00 PM
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:30 PM

WILDWOOD
Abundant Life Church
Sunday Service.....9:00 am
Bible Study Tuesday.....7:30 pm
8777 US Hwy. 301 (Corner of 462 & 301)
352-748-7283
Pastor Lavon Harkins
Overseer J E Harkins

Critter chatter



Linda Graves
Humane Society

Saving Knucklehead

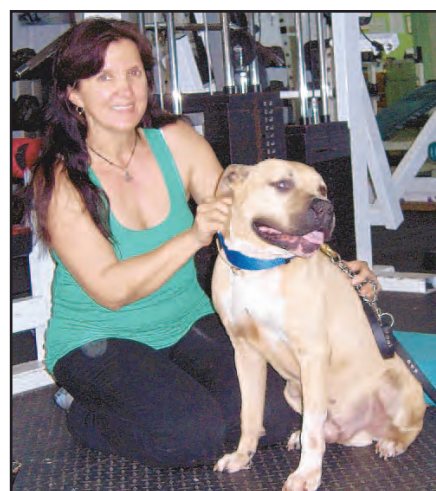
Sumter County resident, Frank Taberner works for the county as an Animal Control Officer Coordinator and animal cruelty investigator. He is also the state representative for Bikers Against Animal Cruelty (BAAC), a non-profit organization that helps with the

medical expenses of animals that are victims of abuse. An investigation late last year led Taberner to a horrific case of cruelty where 12 pit bulls were caged and starved. The county took possession of the dogs, and after 7 months of legalities, Animal Control became their legal guardians. Rescue groups were able to take 11 of the 12 dogs, which left one dog still in need. Bikers Against Animal Cruelty stepped in to help. "At the time of rescue, this

particular pit bull was so malnourished that the skull was sinking in," Taberner reports. "His skin was hanging over a skeletal frame." Seven months at the county's Animal Control facility brought the starving 22 lb. dog up to a healthy weight of 53 lbs. Bikers Against Animal Cruelty assisted with the dog's medical expenses and placement in a foster home. Sumter County resident, Shawn Harris is a member of BAAC and had offered to foster the dog who she endear-

ingly calls Knucklehead. The young dog is so sweet and a bit goofy. He loves people and gets along with both dogs and cats. It is amazing how forgiving Knucklehead is after all he had been through. So what does the future hold for Knucklehead? Well, the Harris family has become very attached to him, and so it looks like Knucklehead has a forever home. Pit Bulls get a bad rap. It is undeserving. Meeting Knucklehead with his big friendly smile and happily wagging tail will change that unwarranted perception. Thank goodness for organizations like Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, and people like Taberner and Harris.

Shawn Harris with Knucklehead at the gym.



Their passion for pit bull breeds, and their experience and understanding of the breed have made the difference between life and death for Knucklehead and so

many others like him. To learn more about Bikers Against Animal Cruelty, visit their website at: www.bikersagainstanimalcruelty.org.

Sumter calendar

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Lunch meeting

The New Dimensions Visually Impaired Person Support Group will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the ihop Restaurant, located at 10332 Hwy. 441, Leesburg (in the vicinity of the Lake Square Mall). Following lunch the guest speaker will be Sarah D. McCall, a senior advisor with The People's Ministry, People Helping People. She will be speaking on several different topics of interest to senior adults.

This event is open to all blind and visually impaired persons, their caregivers, and friends and supporters of New Vision for Independence.

For information call 352 435-5040. Reservations must be made by April 10.

'50s Bunny Hop Ballroom Dance

Bobbie socks and saddle shoes, slicked back hair and jeans are perfect for the '50s Bunny Hop Ballroom Dance sponsored by USA Dance Chapter 6106 Lake-Sumter Counties. This year's dance located in Leesburg will feature music by The Santellas and the lesson provided by professional dance instructor Ray Gardner. Let's have some fun. Come with your '50s groove on.

Food is provided by the members and soft beverages will be provided by the chapter. The free lesson begins at 7 p.m. followed by general dancing till 10 p.m. Admission is \$8 for members and \$10 general admission, which includes the free lesson. Location is Venetian Gardens

Park Community Bldg., 109 E. Dixie Ave. (Rt. 44), Leesburg FL 34748.

Future dances are May 11 Kentucky Derby, June 8 Flag Day Dance, and July 13 Firecracker Dance. Questions contact 352-293-8709. Visit us at our new website www.usadance6106.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

CAR-B-QUE at The Church of the Fishermen

Come on out for the 2nd Annual CAR-B-QUE. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cruise clubs and individuals will be there to show off their classic and unique cars and trucks, with bar-b-que, music, and prizes to boot. There will also be a 50/50 drawing. The show is free to attend and all are invited. If you are interested in learning more, or registering your car or truck for the event, please call 352-452-7627 or 352-569-4723. Registration forms can also be downloaded from the church website at www.churchofthefishermen.org. Pre-registration (before April 7) is \$10 with registration on the day of show at \$15. Breakfast will be provided free for registrants. The Church of the Fishermen is located 1 mile west of 75 at 589 N C.R. 470, Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538.

Yard sale

Rural/Metro Sumter County is participating in Relay For Life on Friday, April 27. We will be hosting a yard sale from 1 to 4 p.m. in Bushnell's Station 1 parking lot, 950 N. Main Street, Bushnell. All proceeds will go toward Relay For Life.

Be sure not to miss the chance drawing opportunity for prizes including a DJ for three hours, a photo session and much more!

If interested in rental space, contact Yaima (Yaima.Acosta@rmetro.com) or Christine (Christine.Hill@rmetro.com). Please also feel free to contact us with any questions.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

NAARFE meet

Chapter 662 of the National Association of Active & Retired Federal Employees Association will meet at 11 a.m., at the Plantation Oaks Restaurant, 25201 U.S. Hwy. 27, Leesburg. There will be a speaker from the Crime Prevention Program. All active and retired federal employees in Lake and Sumter counties are invited to attend.

Low-cost pet vaccination clinic

The Florida International Teaching Zoo Veterinary Staff is sponsoring a Low Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Howie's Restaurant, North Main-Bushnell, next to the post office.

All vaccinations are administered by our licensed veterinarian. Documentation will be provided. The cost of vaccinations are: Dog/Cat Rabies — \$6; Dog/Puppy Parvo-Distemper combos — \$14; Cat/Kitten Distemper 3-Way — \$14; Bordatella/KennelCough \$15.

All proceeds are tax deductible contributions that benefit the Teaching Zoo facility, Project Green Jungle, and elephant survival programs.

Church calendar

SPECIAL EVENTS

Freemans in Concert

The Freemans will be in concert at 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 15 at the Linden Church of God. Everyone's welcome to attend the Southern Gospel concert. A love offering will be taken for the group. For more information, call the church at 352-793-4281.

Festival of the New Month

Tri County (Lake, Marion, and Sumter) Interfaith Alliance will meet on Tuesday, May 1, 7 p.m., at Tem-

ple Shalom, in Oxford, County Road 101, 1.9 miles north of County Road 466. Hosted by Larry and Paula Gold, members of Temple Shalom, the program, "A Celebration of the Festival of the New Month" will be presented by Marlene Hogenstein, also a member.

The Festival of the New Month is a celebration of one of the first commandments given to the Israelites after being delivered from Egypt: to completely break with the

worship of the Sun God RA and establish the lunar cycle of configuring the calendar. May 1 is the perfect day to learn about the Jewish calendar and the "Rosh Hodesh" holiday, the festival of the New Moon celebrating each new month.

A question and answer period will follow. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call Nancy, 674-9288.

Flea market

St. Lawrence Church, 320 E. Dade Ave., Bushnell,

will have a flea market, crafts and bake sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 14, including sloppy joe's, hot dogs and drinks. For reservations call Mrs. Petty at 793-7773.

Free food and clothing giveaway

The First Baptist Church of Rutland will have its third Saturday of the month free food and clothing giveaway on Saturday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to noon. This is an outreach of help. No vendors please. The church is on State

Road 44 east of the Withlacoochee River Bridge and west of Interstate 75. For information call 793-3340.

SonRise Café

SonRise Café is still going strong at First Baptist Church of Webster. Come enjoy a free breakfast and a wonderful time of fellowship every Thursday morning at 9 a.m. now through April 26. We are located at 173rd S.E. 1st Avenue in Webster.

"YOM HASHOA" observed

Tri County (Lake, Marion, and Sumter) Interfaith Alliance will join Temple Shalom on April 19, 7 p.m. at Church on the Square for the Holocaust Remembrance service. The temple is located on County Road 101, 1.9 miles north of County Road 466. This will take the place of a regular Interfaith Alliance program in April. For more information, please call Nancy at 352-674-9288.

LETTERS

continued from Page 4

which you bring about redistributive change. In some ways we still suffer from that. I'm not optimistic about bringing about major redistributive change through the courts. You know, the institution just isn't structured that way.

Statements like this and many others demonstrate his willingness to change the Constitution to obtain his view of social justice and to change the Constitution so he can do what he wants to do, what he thinks is best, not what our founding fathers put into the Constitution that

has performed so well for so many years.

Thus far, at every turn, Mr. Obama has failed in his oath of office and in his ability to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." And the Democrats in congress are just as guilty.

It is not his job as president to "change" the Constitution, it is his job to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution! Is there any question in anyone's mind that it is Obama's goal and objective to change or Constitution? This failure to uphold the presidential oath of office is to me, a high crime and misdemeanor and should be dealt with accordingly.

If you haven't read our Constitution lately, you need to. It is this document and only this document that their oath pertains to! Then, ask yourself are they preserving, protecting and defending our Constitution? If your answer is, in fact, they are not up-

holding their oath of office, what are you going to do about it? Are you just going to let it happen? Are you going to wait until it is too late? Or ...are you going to do something about it? Please I beg you do something about it!

Phil Longo

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givekidstheworld.org/gala

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plus
PG13 10:15
Reese Witherspoon
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ONE FREE ADMISSION when accompanied by one paid admission.
4/12-19 (limit 1 per car)
SWAP SHOP / FLEA MARKET - SAT & SUN

RACES

continued from Page 1

Divided into two age groups, youngsters stampeded onto the field, some with assistance by their parents, collecting Easter goodies in their baskets.

Meanwhile, at the community center in Wildwood, hundreds of children were preparing to scamper for thousands of eggs.

Three of the city's ball fields were filled plastic eggs - 3,000 eggs on each field and each field designated for a certain age group of children.

Along with a collection of candy from the eggs they gathered, some of the children found prize eggs and turned them in for everything from bubble sets to bicycles.

The Easter Bunny cuddled and posed for photos, Tri-County Clowns made animal balloons and painted favored images and the Wildwood Rotary Club hosted the mini train.



Youngsters took to Raider field in Bushnell for Easter treats.

BOB REICHMAN/Sumter County Times



Nathan Snow, 2, busily collected Easter treats from the South Sumter High School field.

BOB REICHMAN/Sumter County Times



Joe Cox (seated in mini train car) shows off his Easter egg hair dye with other members of the Wildwood Rotary Club. They are (clockwise from Cox) Erika Corley, Randall Thornton, Brenda Shrewsbury and James Wright. The club hosts the free train ride for children at the Wildwood Easter egg hunt.



Carolyn Crosby was waiting in the face painting line. She's shown here with Pinkie the clown.

BRENDA LOCKLEAR/Sumter County Times



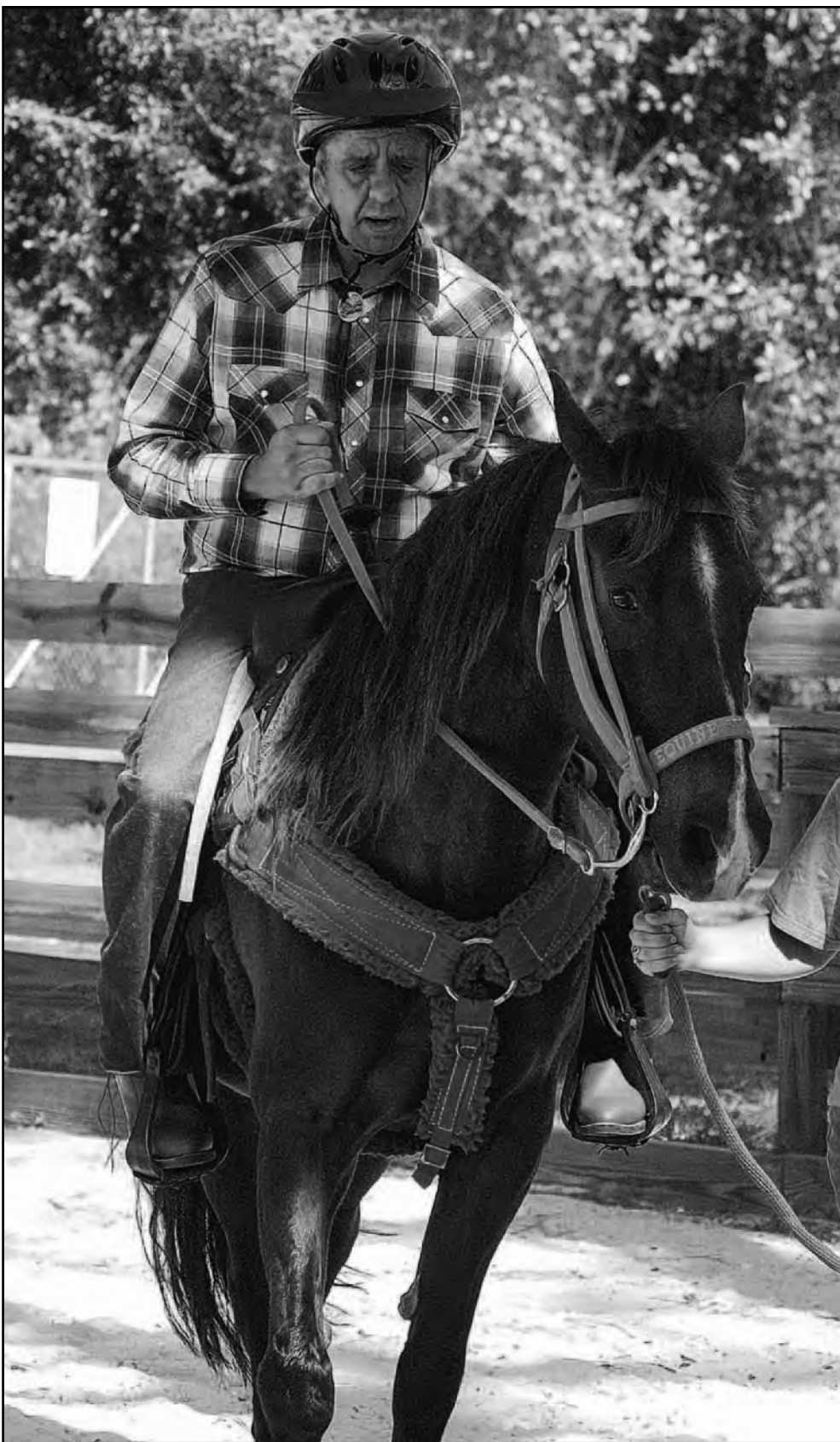
Clowning around was definitely a must for some of the volunteers at the Wildwood festival.

BRENDA LOCKLEAR/Sumter County Times



Bike winners in the Bushnell Assembly of God Easter celebration at South Sumter High School were (left to right) : Cheyenne Taylor, Troy Kelly, Serenity Caldwell, Pierce Story, Meghan Kuschel and Sage Edsall.

BOB REICHMAN/Sumter County Times



Rick Terio rode a Tennessee Walker mare named Fancy. He competed in Stock Seat Equitation and Working Trail Course. He won third place ribbons in both classes.



Simon and Sunny going through the course in the barrel racing competition.



Simon (left) and Terio shake hands and show off their ribbons.

Equestrian team headed for state

Scott Simon and Rick Terio represented Sumter County at the Area Six Special Olympics recently – two of 25 riders. There were a total of seven classes to choose from in the event, which was held in Pinellas County.

Simon earned two first place, blue ribbons – one each in “Barrel Racing” and “Working Trail Course.” The top spot earned him the right to compete in the Special Olympics Florida Equestrian Championships, slated for Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5.

The challenge will be held at the Bob Thomas Equestrian Center at the Florida State Fairgrounds.

Terio qualified as an alternate rider at the event, earning third place in both “Stock Seat Equitation” and “Working Trail Course.”

The state event will include 110

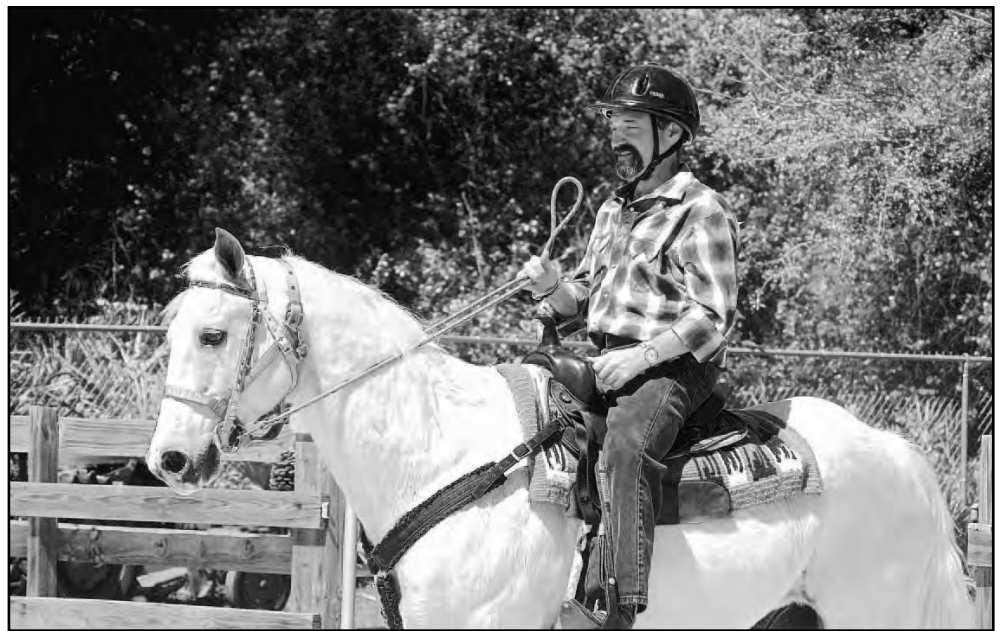
equestrian athletes and their horses. The classes at the event include: Dressage, English Equitation, Stock Seat Equitation, Working Trail, Pole

Bending, Barrel Racing, Showmanship at Halter or Bridle and Unified Sports Drill Team.

Legend Farms Special Olympics horses are trained by Cyndi Turnbull and handled by members of the 4-H Muckateers Club of Bushnell. The Special Olympics Equestrian Team is the Muckateers Community Service Project.

For more information about Sumter County Special Olympics, contact Coordinator Linsey Smith at 352-454-2202.

For information about Legend Farms Therapeutic Riding Center, contact Rose Marie Martin at 727-423-6586.



Scott Simon rode a Palomino gelding named Sunny. His classes were Barrel Racing and Working Trail Course. He won first place blue ribbons in both classes.

COUNTY SHELTER SWEETHEARTS



Hi, my name is Sadie. I am a female owner surrender searching for another forever home. Please come and visit me at Sumter County Animal Services, 352-569-1960.



Hi, my name is Coal. I am a male stray looking for a forever home. Please come and visit me at Sumter County Animal Services, 352-569-1960.



Hi, my name is Buttercup. I am a female stray looking for my forever home. Please come and visit me at Sumter County Animal Services, 352-569-1960.

ASPCA grant provides advanced training for Sumter County animal control officers

Sumter County Animal Services received \$10,000 from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) in September 2011 to train their Animal Control Officers (ACOs) to become nationally certified animal cruelty investigators.

Since September nearly half the grant has been expended for advanced training aimed to improve

the ability of Sumter County Animal Services to respond to animal cruelty, abuse, and neglect situations and to prosecute the perpetrators.

By September this year, four of the six staff working with animals will be nationally certified and the other two will have one to two courses under their belts.

ACO Coordinator Frank

Taberner, already nationally certified, said, “We have been able to focus on advanced training this year due to the funding provided by the ASPCA and the support of the Board of County Commissioners.

“I firmly believe a well-trained officer makes good decisions and helps to make an outstanding agency.”

Sumter Arts Guild to participate in Art in the Park

Dade Battlefield Historic State Park is hosting “Art in the Park” on Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Members of the Sumter County Arts Guild are participating.

Local artists will present original works as well as prints for sale. Not only will you be able to view a wide variety of medium and styles, you’ll be able to watch many of the artists at work – very entertaining.

Carol Applegate, Guild Acting president, will conduct a complementary workshop for young artists (ages 8 years and up) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

They will learn to work with acrylic paints on a composition - Sea Turtle. Materials will be provided.

Carol urges everyone to come enjoy of the unique and distinct works of art, great crafts, and good food.

The Sumter County Arts Guild meets each Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m., at the Sumterville Community Building. Meetings are open to all interested artisans.

SECO ANNUAL MEETING



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CATHY SHELDON/
The grand prize winner was Linda Blanford of Leesburg. She won a fleet maintained, 2005 Dodge Dakota 4x4 extended cab, pickup truck. Shown, left to right, are: SECO CEO Jim Duncan, Blanford and SECO board president Ray Vick.



Cash prizes were given to four lucky SECO winners in the amounts of \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500 (there were two \$500 winners). In addition, over 130 prizes were handed out during the event. The items ranged from small appliances, garden items and electronics to gift cards. Some of the items were even provided by outside vendors. Shown left to right are: SECO CEO Jim Duncan (far left) and board president Ray Vick (far right) with winners Karen Salakas of The Villages, Herbert Hamlin of Tavares, Denise Martin of Groveland and Maynard Brein of The Villages.

Thousands attend SECO meeting in Sumterville

An estimated 4,500 people attended this year's annual meeting for Sumter Electric Cooperative meeting in Sumterville.

The meetings include a keynote speech from SECO CEO Jim Duncan, annual business and a collection of informative exhibits, with vendors on hand and a chance to win prizes. This year's prize list included a 2005 pick-up truck, \$3,500 in cash prizes and over 130 smaller prizes, ranging from appliances to gift cards.

With music by Margo Rochelle and Rodeo Drive and dancing by the crowd, there was plenty for members to do. That included writing thank-you notes on post-cards for U.S. troops.

Bowman said writing the thank-you notes was a hit with the crowd and Duncan also took time out to honor veterans, reservists and active duty, asking them to stand and be recognized.

"It was a big meeting and everybody

had a good time," he said

During his keynote speech, Duncan recognized Tim Woodbury and staff from Seminole Electric for working to keep costs down and the family of Dorsey W. "Bill" Fowler, who served as a SECO board member from 1981 to 1990. Dorsey died on Feb. 3 this year.

Long after he left the board, Fowler and his wife Marjorie attended every annual meeting, Duncan said, expressing gratitude for her support and his past service.

He pointed out that 2011 was a good year financially and operationally, with "outstanding reliability and customer satisfaction numbers."

He shared some of those numbers, including everything from wait time on telephone calls to power outage times for the consumer - all the numbers Duncan shared were improved, even over the year before.

"It takes a very cohesive and very talented team to produce the financial and reliability results that we enjoyed last year. The team starts with your elected Board of Trustees and continues through the management team and most importantly, with all of the employees of the Cooperative who do an outstanding job on your behalf. I certainly appreciate all of their efforts."

Of the ratios and service he listed, he said all are considered "world class" within the industry and all have been improved because of staffing service.

Focus was on the "lack of" a cohesive National Energy Policy.

As he shared specifics on problems in our nation, regarding our energy, he quoted Ken

Spence, a communications consultant for national companies:

"For too many years we (Americans)

have spent money we didn't have on things we didn't need made somewhere else."

And lastly, he quoted Abraham Lincoln: "You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich."

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

You cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down.

You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away people's initiative and independence.

You cannot help people permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves."

Duncan closed by emphasizing how honored he is to serve SECO members.



An estimated 4,000 people attended the annual meeting, including Jettie Pearl Gulley, of Lake Panasoffkee (right) and her youngest daughter, Barbara Lasley.



Nearly 1,700 members registered, bringing along spouses, friends and other family members.



Board members and other executives led the "Pledge of Allegiance" from the main stage area.



Various exhibits were set up with a collection of information for those attending.

LSCC sets 'All That Jazz'

Enjoy an evening of elegance, extraordinary style and excitement at the Lake-Sumter Community College Foundation, Inc. Gala Auction, "All that Jazz" on Saturday, April 14, presented by Ernie Morris Enterprises and HON. This star studded annual event will be held at The Villages beautiful Savannah Center and brings together many business and civic leaders in Lake and Sumter counties to help support the mission of the college. This event is not only a great opportunity to bid on a variety of wonderful auction items, but also a way to help make our students reality of a college education a dream come true.

"We're very excited about this annual event, as we gear up to help the college celebrate their 50th Anniversary. The Gala promises to be an entertaining evening that our

guests have come to anticipate. This year's goal is to raise \$75,000 to benefit scholarships and programs for students attending LSCC. There will be wonderful auction items available for bidding and over 400 guests in attendance, we're hoping to reach our goal," said Executive Director, Rosanne Brandeburg.

Sponsorships and table hosts are available for the Gala Auction and they range from \$500 to \$5,000. "As many of our students struggle to continue their education in these difficult economic times, we invite the community to join us for an evening that supports student scholarships and college initiatives," said Rosanne Brandeburg, Executive Director of the LSCC Foundation, Inc.

Tickets for the event are \$125 a person or \$200 a couple. The evening begins

at 6 p.m. and includes a silent auction, gourmet dinner and live auction. The silent and live auctions will have a wide variety of over 200 items donated by supportive businesses and individuals. You will be able to bid on items such as artwork, vacation packages, once in a lifetime experiences, tickets to sporting events, jewelry, restaurant and service gift certificates, theme park passes and opportunities to play at some of the areas golf courses, as well as many specialty gifts.

For information on tickets, sponsorships, hosting a table, and donating items to the "Best Invitation to Wait For" in Lake County as voted by the readers of Lake Magazine for the fourth year in a row, please contact Rosanne Brandeburg, executive director at (352) 365-3518.

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PET OF WEEK



Bear is a male Persian. His long hair does require daily brushing. He is neutered and current on vaccines. You can visit him and others at the office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We are located at 994 C.R. 529A in Lake Panasoffkee, 352-793-9117. To see more check out our website www.hsspc.org.

NEW BOOKS AT SUMTER CAMPUS LIBRARY

The Sumter Campus Library is located in Sumterville. It is open to all residents of Sumter County. The hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

All I Did Was Shoot My Man, a Leonid McGill Mystery by Walter Mosley

Break Down, a novel by Sara Paretsky

Chasing the Sun, a novel by Tracie Peterson

Chocolate Covered Murder, a mystery by Leslie Meier

Downfall, a novel by Terri Blackstock

Gossip, a novel by Beth Gutcheon

The Lives of Things, a novel by Jose Saramago

Restless in the Grave, a novel by Dana Stabenow

A Wandering Heart, a novel by Thomas Kinkade and Katherine Spencer

The Wolf Gift, a novel by Anne Rice

BRISTO PERFORMS

Bristo performs at Lickity Splits from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month. Come enjoy musicians planning a variety of tunes. Lickity Splits is on State Road 48, west of Bushnell, near Walmart.

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SUMTER COUNTY TIMES

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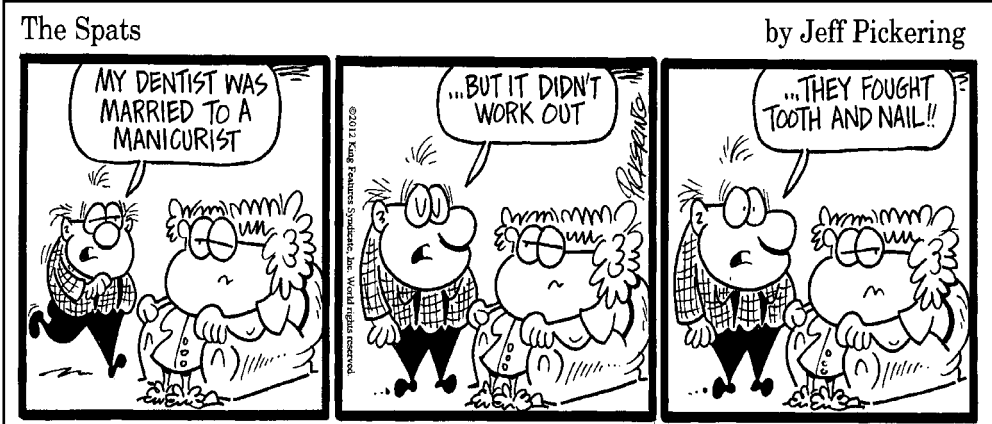
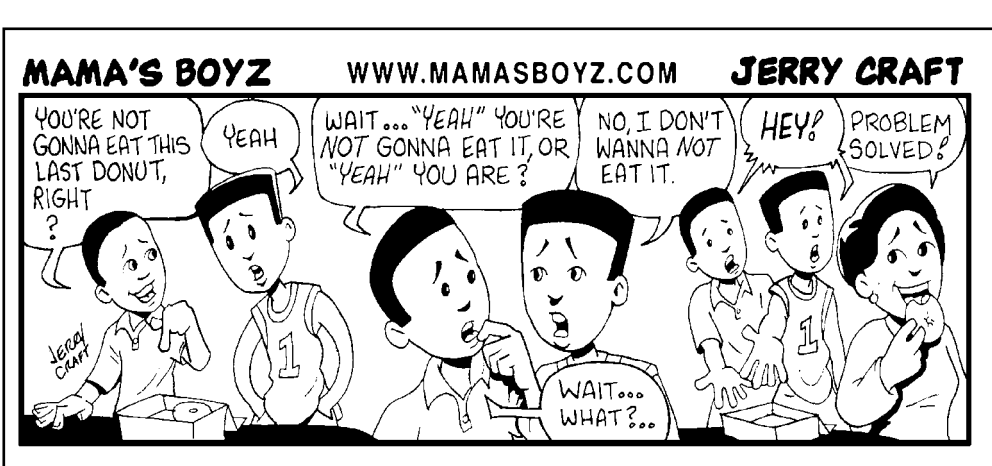
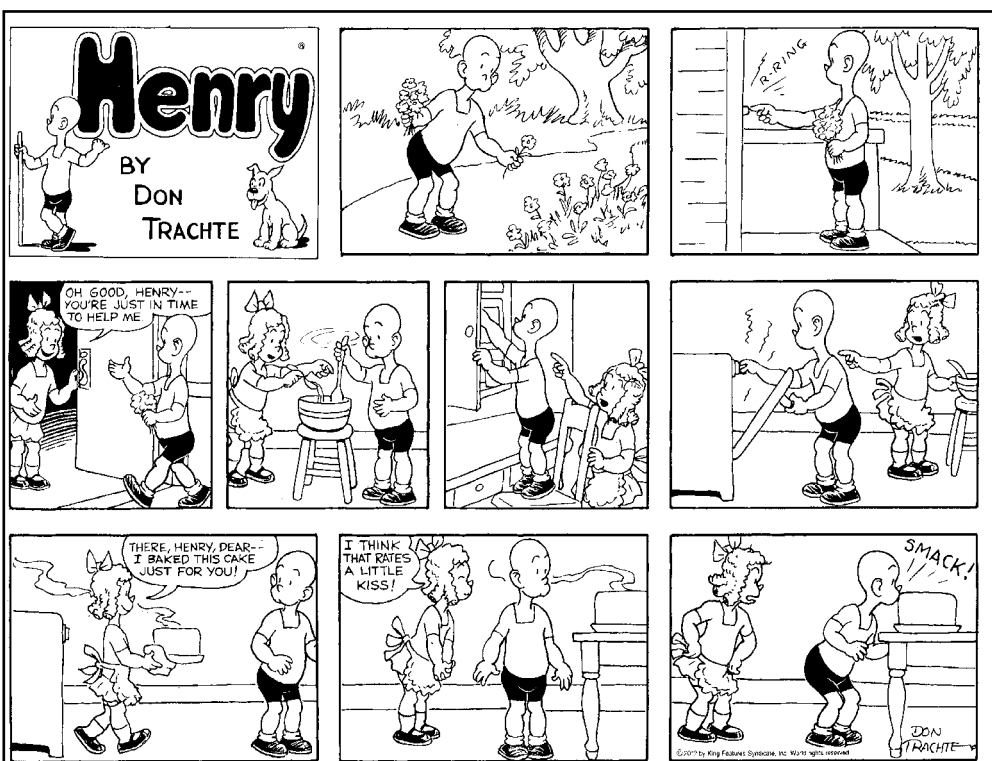
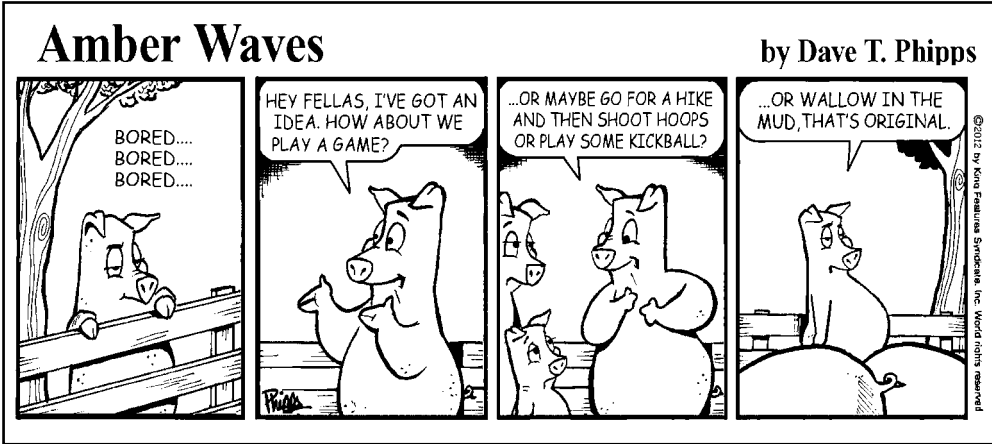
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Fun and GAMES



Super Crossword TEA PARTY

ACROSS

1 Clean the decks
5 "Portnoy's Complaint" author
9 "Woe is me!"
13 Strength
18 — Krishna
19 Neutral tone
20 Manifest
21 Pointless
22 What the Three Stooges drank
24 What Yo-Yo Ma drank
26 — pole
27 "American Pie" singer
29 Overshoe
30 Range rope
32 Synthetic fiber
34 Brahman or lama
38 Broadway backer
41 Vulgar
43 He may
45 Concerning
46 What Sasquatch drank
49 What Queen Victoria drank
52 Oklahoma city
53 Bull in a china shop
54 Exploit
55 Crucifix

56 "Howards" film ('92)
57 Had a hunch
60 Nonclerical
62 Assumed
64 German chemist
66 Hound or hamster
67 Forbid
68 Outtake
72 On the ball
74 What F. Lee Bailey drank
76 Billow
79 Longed for
81 Address abbr.
82 Exist
84 Tragic fate
85 What's between Serena and Martina
86 Bat wood
87 — clover
90 Paddle
93 Siren
95 Steel support
97 Myriads of moons
98 — jima
101 What Isaac Newton drank
103 What Marsha Stewart drank
106 Reside

107 Eyebrow shape
109 The sky, at times?
110 Beginning
111 Bright inventor?
114 Make Fido fetch
116 Starts a lawn
118 Banyan or baobab
120 Refer (to)
122 — point
125 What Lech Walesa drank
129 What Gregor Mendel drank
131 Chris
132 Saying
133 Take the reins
134 Pennsylvanian port
135 Atty.-to-be's ordeal
136 Steven of "Wings"
137 Guam, for one: abbr.
138 Horned vipers
139 Actress
140 Grinds
142 — de-
144 Herd word
147 Interstate exit

non
5 French city
6 "Fall back" mo.
7 Aftershocks
8 Former Cong.
58 Remove a brooch
59 Sault — bran
60 Marie, MI
61 Pangolin's morsel
63 Dutch export
64 Possessed
65 Citrus cooler
67 Deli choice
68 Kind of clasp
69 Makes money
70 — trip
71 Leap stage
73 Roman fountain
75 Helium or hydrogen
76 Plant pest
77 — Claire
80 "L'—, c'est moi!"
83 Wells creatures
86 In pieces
87 Feast's alternative
88 City near Provo
89 Produced a cryptogram
90 amorously
91 Parched

92 Sitarist
93 Shankar
94 "Cry" (55 song)
96 "El Libertador"
99 Elfin
100 — bran
102 Trace
104 Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy
105 Teach
108 Kilauea, for one
112 Court cry
113 Teachers' org.
115 "Doe, —, a female..."
117 Rapiers
119 Formerly, formerly
121 Periman of "Cheers"
123 "Heartache" (78 hit)
124 Shipbuilding wood
125 Shorten a slat
126 Horatian creation
127 Research site
128 Etymology's suffix
130 Tear
131 Demolished dessert

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
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125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139

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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The Lamb loves to be surrounded by flocks of admirers. But be careful that someone doesn't take his or her admiration too far. Use your persuasive skills to let him or her down easily.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This is a good time to begin setting far-reaching goals and connecting with new contacts. Aspects also favor strengthening old relationships — personal and/or professional.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A personal disappointment should be viewed as a valuable learning experience. Go over what went wrong and see where a change in tactics might have led to a more positive outcome.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Don't leave projects unfinished or personal obligations unresolved, or you might find yourself tripping over all those loose ends later on. A relative has important news.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Expect a challenge to the usual way you do things. Although you might prefer the tried-and-true, once you take a good look at this new idea, you might feel more receptive to it.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Much work has yet to be done to polish a still-rough idea into something with significant potential. Expect to encounter some initial rejection, but stay with it nonetheless.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) There still might be some communication problems in the workplace, but they should be resolved soon. Meanwhile, that "tip" from a friend should be checked out.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A new relationship appears to need more from you than you might be willing to give right now. Best advice: Resist making promises you might not be able to keep.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) That restless feeling encourages you to gallop off into a new venture. But remember to keep hold of the reins so you can switch paths when necessary.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A demanding work schedule keeps the high-spirited Goat from kicking up his or her heels. But playtime beckons by the week's end. Have fun. You earned it.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're beginning to come out from under those heavy responsibilities you took on. Use this freed-up time to enjoy some much-deserved fun with people close to you.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Before you get swept away by a tidal wave of conflicting priorities, take time to come up for air, and reassess the situation. You might be surprised by what you'll find.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your leadership qualities are enhanced by a practical sense of purpose that keeps you focused on your goals.

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top 10 movies

1. **The Hunger Games** (PG-13) Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson
2. **21 Jump Street** (R) Chris Parnell, Johnny Pemberton
3. **Dr. Seuss' The Lorax** (PG) animated
4. **John Carter** (PG-13) Taylor Kitsch, Lynn Collins
5. **Act of Valor** (R) Roselyn Sanchez, Jason Cottle
6. **Project X** (R) Oliver Cooper, Jonathan Brown
7. **A Thousand Words** (PG-13) Eddie Murphy, Kerry Washington
8. **October Baby** (PG-13) Rachel Hendrix, Jason Burkey
9. **Safe House** (R) Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds
10. **Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D** (PG) Dwayne Johnson, Michael Caine

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The Garden Bug

A day in the Smokies

On April 7, 2012, Townsend, Tennessee is sponsoring "Herb & Wildflower Day," a day of guided walks in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; talks about wildflowers, herbs, and natural history; a "Cooking with Herbs" class, and a market of local plants, baked goods, and pottery.

www.smokymountains.org/do/events_festivals/herb_and_wildflower_day.aspx

Answers

Sumter sports

Jeronimo, Romero, Neal take second in weightlifting

LARRY BUGG
Times Correspondent

Luis Jeronimo, Luis Romero and Keanu Neal may or may not be heading to the Class 1A Boys Weightlifting State Meet April 20 in Kissimmee. All three took second places in their respective

weight classes. The South Sumter High athletes are temporarily on hold. The top people in each class qualify for state. The others are in a pool of lifters who may or may not move on to Kissimmee. They competed in the Class 1A state qualifier Wednesday, April 4 at

South Sumter High School. Jeronimo was runner-up in the 119-pound class. He had a 205-pound bench press and a 155-pound clean and jerk for a 360-pound total. Romero was second in the 139-pound class. He had a 215-pound bench and a 165-pound clean and

jerk for a 380-pound total. Neal was second in the 219-pound class. He had a bench press of 315 pounds. He combined that with a 240-pound bench press for a 555-pound total. Alan Macias was third in the 119-pound class. He had bench press of 175 and a clean and jerk of 165 for a

340-pound total. B.K. Allen had a bench press of 325 pounds and a clean and jerk of 290 pounds in the unlimited class. "I think Luis Jeronimo, Luis Romero and Keanu Neal have outside chances along with Alan Macias," said coach Ty Lawrence.

"B.K. Allen is going to get in at heavy weight. "We got better from last year. Last year we had one kid make it to state. This year, we did have a chance. Those who qualify will compete in the Class 1A state meet Friday at noon at the Kissimmee Convention Center.

LSCC athlete earns national award

Lake-Sumter Community College sophomore Stephanie Hebert is one of 162 students from 32 states to have received a Newman Civic Fellow Award. Presented annually by Campus Compact, the award recognizes inspiring college student leaders who demonstrate a personal commitment to creating lasting change for the betterment of their communities.

Stephanie Hebert, a defensive specialist for the LSCC Lakers volleyball team, demonstrates the type of civic engagement that sets an example for others. Graduating from North Florida Christian School in Tallahassee, she was awarded an athletic scholarship to play for LSCC.

"It's an experience I will always remember," says Hebert.

Considering her hometown, it is not surprising that Hebert plans to attend Florida State University. She wants to become a cardiac nurse, and hopes to use these skills on missions to other countries, adding that it is one of her life goals to help as many people as possible.

Hebert is president of LSCC's Fellowship of Christian Athletes club and a member of the Student Government Association, serving as a FCA and the volleyball team representative.



Hebert

In 2011, she was awarded LSCC's Most Valuable Player during the Central Florida FCA banquet.

Not only is Hebert a campus leader, but she also is involved in inter-collegiate activities and community organizations. She mentors elementary-school students

and participated in the Celebrate Literacy Week effort where LSCC student-athletes read to young children. She organizes several programs and fundraisers for her church and works in its nursery. She participates in the Angel Tree Gift Program, volunteers at

campus United Way activities and works as an assistant coach with the local youth volleyball program.

Campus Compact is a national coalition of almost 1,200 college and university presidents who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. As the only national higher education association dedicated solely to campus-based civic engagement, Campus Compact promotes public and community service that develops students' citizenship skills, helps campuses forge effective community partnerships, and provides resources and training for faculty seeking to integrate civic and community-based learning into the curriculum.

Sports calendar

SCARC GOLF TOURNEY

The Annual SCARC, Inc. Benefit Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, April 28 at Shady Brook - shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

This year the tournament features a \$5,000 Hole-In-One contest at #17 plus other Hole-In-One prizes on #5, #6, and #12.

More information about the tournament plus forms for golfer registration and tournament sponsors is available on the website - www.scarcinc.com.

Sumter Dixie Youth League Hit - A - Thon

The Sumter Dixie Youth League will host a fund raiser hit-a-thon, starting at noon on Saturday, April 14.

The event is set for the Sam S. Harris Memorial Park in Webster and sponsors may pledge per swing or for a flat donation.

Come hungry, the league is hosting a barbecue dinner and tickets can be purchased for \$6 per dinner from any Sumter Dixie Youth player. Dinners will be available for pick up at 11 a.m.

SCENES FROM CARZONE AND RAPPACK GAME



CRYSTAL NOTZ STEPHENS
Special to the Sumter Times

Savannah Stephens takes a swing.



Jenna Mears is shown resting her ankle with an injury after the game against Rappack.



Theodosia Owens played catcher for the first time during the April 3 Car-Zone game against Rappack.



CRYSTAL NOTZ STEPHENS

Lessel Rodriguez and Rachel Lazenby take time out for a photo before the CarZone and Rappack game on Tuesday, April 3.

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