

Riverland News

Thursday, September 15, 2011

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75 cents

Conservation group to have say in city deal, judge says

King orders city to let RRC offer input on settlement with Dodd

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Rainbow River Conservation Inc. and the Florida Department of Community Affairs will get to have say in the city of

Dunnellon's agreement with Jerry Dodd, a property owner who wants to develop more than 250 acres on the east side of the Rainbow River, a judge ruled Thursday at the Marion County Courthouse.

Still, Marion County Circuit Judge Francis S. King would not rule on the summary judgment sought by the city of Dunnellon and Dodd's attorney. "We're very happy with today's ruling," said attorney,

Ralf Brooks, who represents RRC. "We're going to try to continue to come to an agreement with Mr. Dodd. We just want what's best for everyone involved. We really wish we could get the state to purchase it, but there's not enough money in the Florida Forever Funds. But we think that would be a great

addition to the state park and really stretch that area out to preserve the environment. The more people you could get to come in there and see how beautiful it is, the more impact it would make."

The hearing, intended to

See **JUDGE** page 3

Mangold accepts plea deal

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

A 34-year-old business owner reached a plea deal with the State Attorney's Office Wednesday, Sept. 7, in relation to



Jesse Mangold

charges from a May 9 incident at Circle K in Dunnellon. Jesse Mangold, of Citrus Springs, who was charged with driving under the influence and two counts of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, accepted a deal requiring him to serve 30 days in jail and pay a \$2,901 fine.

In addition to the sentence and fine, Mangold's driver's license is suspended for a year. He must serve one year of probation, will have to use an ignition interlock device and as a part of the stipulated agreement, he cannot possess drugs or alcohol.

The court ordered Mangold to forfeit all firearms seized during the May 9 traffic stop.

According to report, the vehicle was not registered to Mangold and the owner of the vehicle provided consent to search the truck. The report stated both Mangold and the vehicle's registered owner told authorities the rifle and other items did not belong to them. During a search of the vehicle Mangold was driving, law enforcement officials found an AR-15 assault rifle, two 30-shot clips (one magazine had 17 bullets and the second clip had 23 bullets) and camouflage body armor.

Additionally, a check of the weapon revealed the rifle's safety selector switch had been removed, the report stated. However, authorities could not determine if the trigger mechanism had been altered, modifying its use to a fully automatic. According to the arrest report, when Mangold had been asked if the weapon was his, he stated no, adding "the rifle isn't fully automatic. I know that's what you're looking for."

Police Chief Joanne Black said the weapon is now property of the police department; however, if someone wants to claim it, they have to bring in some type of documentation to prove ownership of the gun.

Caitlyn copes



JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Caitlyn Dunning, 14, was diagnosed a year ago with Ulcerative Colitis.

DHS freshman afflicted with Ulcerative Colitis

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

It was almost a year ago when then 13-year-old Caitlyn Dunning felt the pains coursing through her stomach.

Her mother, Christi, wasn't buying it.

"She'll tell you I was a horrible mom," Christi recalls. "She'd get up in the

morning and complain or come home from school, eat a snack and complain about her stomach hurting. I just told her to get over it,

it's a tummy ache." The pain continued and other symptoms arose:

See **CAITLYN** page 17

SO YOU KNOW

Caitlyn Dunning will participate in the Take Steps for Crohn's & Colitis in October in Tallahassee. She is attempting to raise \$250. For more information or make a donation, visit Dunning's Facebook page, Cure for Colitis & Crohns.

Officials not likely to cut millage rate

Council addresses concern of reallocation of funds

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Residents and business owners hoping for a lower tax bill this year will have to wait another year as the Dunnellon City Council approved the tentative millage rate Monday night at its first public hearing, opting to stick with what officials call a "roll back" rate of 7.1408 mills.

But a "roll back" rate won't mean lower taxes; instead allowing city officials to collect the same amount they did a year ago. Unless the City Council makes any changes between now and Sept. 26, when officials will host the final public hearing, the 2012 Fiscal Year budget for the city will be \$3,886,115 million, 25 percent less than a year ago because of falling revenues from gas and sales tax and less shared revenue from the state.

City Manager Lisa Algieri indicated the city is likely to receive less funding from the state because of an 8.7 percent dip in population within the city compared to a year ago.

And gauging from the City Council's stance on the millage rate, the highest among municipalities in Marion County, it won't budget on reducing it as the clock ticks on an Oct. 1 deadline to have it finalized.

"It's the same amount of tax money from last year without any drastic cuts in services," said Mayor Fred Ward, adding he was prepared to support the rate as is. "We're doing the best we can; we're not giving any raises and we haven't had to cut services. We do have tough choices to make."

Councilwoman Lynne McAndrew agreed.

"What else could we cut out? Any suggestions?" she asked those in attendance with a brief reaction before folks could have a say.

Vice-Mayor F.C. Stark agreed the diminished revenues make it tough for the city to cut taxes without cutting services.

"We're in bad times here," he said, addressing Louise Kenney, who implored the Council to cut the millage rate. "We

See **MILLAGE** page 3

9/11: 'WE WILL NEVER FORGET'

Post 58 honors those who made sacrifices, lost lives

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

As the sun faded along the horizon Saturday night, the memories of Sept. 11, 2001, rose in the hearts and minds of those attending the 9/11 Celebration of Life and Remembrance Ceremony at

American Legion Post 58.

There, post officials honored those who lost their lives that fateful September morning as well as those in the U.S. Armed Forces, who have given their lives in pursuit of the terrorists who struck the United States.

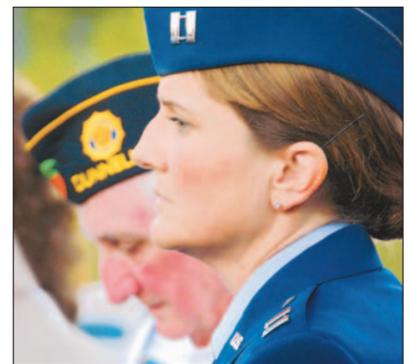
Members of the Dunnellon

Police and Fire departments as well as those who currently serve in the U.S. military were recognized for their ded-

See **FORGET** page 2

Capt. Emily Peters listens to a speaker during Post 58's Celebration of Life ceremony.

JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News



Riverland News

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Dunnellon Fire Rescue competing for grant

Dunnellon Fire Rescue will compete for a \$10,000 grant to be awarded by Liberty Mutual through its fire safety program, Be Fire Smart Pledge. Community members can take an online fire safety quiz now through Oct. 31 to help Dunnellon Fire Rescue win a \$10,000 grant. Every time someone takes the quiz, a credit will be given to the fire department. To learn more about the Be Fire Smart Pledge, visit www.befiresmart.com/natalienotarpole.

Fundraiser scheduled for Cage family

A Memorial Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to benefit the family of Linda Cage will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday Sept. 24, at the Moose Lodge in Dunnellon. Cage was found shot to death outside her home Aug. 3 in Lake Tropicana. Tickets are \$7 per person and may be purchased in advance by calling Kellie Martel at 352-650-2520. For those unable to attend, donations may be made at Superior Bank in Dunnellon.

Dunnellon Garden Club to meet today

The Dunnellon Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. today at the Dunnellon Women's Club at 11756 Cedar St. Bobbi Shaw, the program chairwoman, has scheduled speakers for the coming year. Anyone is welcome to join the club. The Dunnellon Garden club meets the third Thursday monthly, September through May. For more information about the club, call Penny Calloway at 489-1662.

'Dunnellon Has Talent!' event scheduled

"Dunnellon Has Talent!," a benefit event for the Tri-County Pregnancy Center, will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at First United Methodist Church, 21501 State Road 40. Enjoy the talent and cheer for your favorite performance. For more information, call 489-4026.

Man faces charges of drug possession

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

A 27-year-old Dunnellon man faces two counts of possession of drugs after authorities conducted a traffic stop Saturday night on his vehicle.

According to reports, Dustin T. Delill was charged with possession of crack cocaine and possession of marijuana, less than 20 grams. At approximately, 10:20 p.m. Saturday, Sgt. Jacob Gonzalez was patrolling various areas throughout the Historic District of Dunnellon when he observed a white in color Ford truck stopped

in the eastbound lane of West McKinney Avenue at Illinois Street. As Sgt. Gonzalez began to get closer to the vehicle, it turned south onto Illinois Street and he observed a black male subject in a wheel chair roll away from the driver side of the vehicle, the report stated.

According to the report, Sgt. Gonzalez paced the vehicle at 25 mph in a 15-mph zone when he initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. After making contact with the driver, Sgt. Gonzalez, observed in plain view, a small, white rock like substance in between his legs on the driver's

seat, the report stated. Through training, Sgt. Gonzalez knew the substance to be crack cocaine. He removed it from the vehicle and asked Delill "what is this?" According to the report, Delill stated "it's a piece of rock." Sgt. Gonzalez instructed Delill to exit the vehicle, at which time he was informed he was under arrest, placed into handcuffs and put into the backseat of the patrol vehicle.

Upon returning to the suspect's truck, Sgt. Gonzalez observed another piece of crack cocaine in plain view on the driver side floorboard, the report stated.

After collecting the aforementioned crack cocaine, Sgt. Gonzalez conducted an inventory of the vehicle and located a plastic bag containing a green leaf-like substance underneath the cup holder in the center console. Through training, Sgt. Gonzalez knew it to be marijuana, the report stated.

Sgt. Gonzalez then made contact with Delill, at which time he was read his Miranda Warning, the report stated. Delill agreed to speak with Sgt. Gonzalez, stating he had just purchased the crack cocaine from the black male in the wheelchair named Corn-

bread; however, Delill stated, the crack cocaine wasn't for him. Delill also stated the marijuana was his; however, he forgot it was in the vehicle.

According to the report, Sgt. Gonzalez performed presumptive field tests on the white, rock like substance and the green leaf like substance. The tests showed the white rock like substance had the presence of cocaine and the green leaf like substance had the presence of marijuana.

Delill was transported to the Marion County Jail. His bond was set at \$6,500. He posted bond and was released Sunday afternoon.

FORGET

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ication to protecting citizens throughout the nation.

"There are people that go into harm's way on a daily basis, so you can go about your daily lives," John Taylor, Post commander, said. "May God bless our firefighters, our EMTs, our police and our troops."

Sgt. Major Mark Davis of the U.S. Marine Corps considers the events of Sept. 11, 2001, today's generation "the Kennedy moment."

"I remember my parents and my grandparents discussing the Kennedy assassination or the bombing of Pearl Harbor," he said. "For a common frame of reference, that was my 'Kennedy moment.'"

The career Marine, who has served "26 years and some change," said he can still recall where he was the moment the planes struck the World Trade Center in New York City.

"I was listening to the radio and I leaned over to turn it up when the news came out," he explained, noting he was stationed in Texas during the attacks. "I quickly went up to my office and everyone was huddled around a television."

"They said it was a small plane, but it was obvious it was something larger. The nation was about to change or had changed at that point."

Certainly it did as President Bush called for a worldwide search of the terrorists who committed such a heinous act.

"Young Americans responded," Sgt. Major Davis said. "We were considered lazy and listless, but when we needed them, Generation X and the Millennial's stepped up just like the generations before us. When our nation has the need or put out the call to serve, every generation has answered it."

Sgt. Major Davis shared the story of a young sergeant and lance corporal serving in Iraq. The sergeant, a female, was studying to become a mortician. One night, he explained, she volunteered for duty in the communications tent, an area where Marines could call or e-mail families stateside. There she had interacted with several fellow Marines. After her duty was up, she returned to her post.

A few days later, intense fighting ensued and casual-

ties were high. The mortuary unit had more bodies than it could handle, but because of her schooling she volunteered to assist with the preparation of the bodies to be sent home to their families.

"In came the body of that young lance corporal," Sgt. Major Davis explained. "He was killed in IED attack. She recognized him and she made sure he was well taken care of for his flight home to his family."

"Just like in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, the younger generation has stepped up just like Americans have in times of crisis."

Despite the high death tolls throughout the War on Terror, Sgt. Major Davis noted the terrorists did not win.

"The terrorists failed," he said. "They sought to destroy and divide us a nation. They have not. Every time I walk through an airport, someone shakes my hand and thanks for me what I've done for our country."

"I don't believe anyone is divided about what we're doing. As the younger generation would say, 'don't believe all the hype.' Those that we've lost ... they served with honor and dignity, and deserve respect."

Most importantly, Sgt. Major Davis said, Sept. 11, 2001 has taught us that the United States will not cower in fear.

"We continued to stand unafraid," he said.

Capt. Emily Peters of the U.S. Air Force echoed those sentiments.

"We chose not to cower, not to run, not to hide, but fight," said Capt. Peters, who has served for 22 years. "We choose to fight; that is the American spirit."

Capt. Peters applauded the citizens and businesses for their patriotic spirit during the early years of the War on Terrorism.

"You showed us your undying support," Capt. Peters, whose parents, Frank and Sue Strobl live in Dunnellon, said. "I remember you tied yellow ribbons around trees and light posts. I came home to retrieve my ribbon, but I know there was one who didn't."

"You did not run, you did not cower; that is the American spirit. We knew it was our duty to move forward, to heal, to fly Old Glory, to stand proud, to over come. That is the American spirit."

Powder scare



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Personnel with the Marion County Hazard Materials Unit survey a spot where a "suspicious" package of powder was found Thursday afternoon outside the west entrance to First Presbyterian Church on Walnut Street. According to Marion County Fire and Rescue, the team was called to the scene after Dunnellon Fire Rescue and the Dunnellon Police Department arrived at the church and found the package discovered by an employee of the church. The powder was tested and found to a "sugary substance," a spokesperson with MCFR said.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Farm Swap Meet slated for Sept. 24

Tractor Supply Company will host a Farm Swap Meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday Sept. 24, at 11252 N. Williams St.

Golden Retriever Rescue reunion

Joshua's House for Golden Retriever Rescue will have its annual Golden Retriever Rescue Reunion from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at Rainbow Springs State Park.

The reunion is open to all goldens and their families. There will be refreshments, speakers on canine health, therapy dogs, canine good cit-

izens and paw grooming. A "Golden Walk in the Park" is planned in the afternoon.

Rainbow Springs State Park admission is \$2 per person. All dogs must be on a leash; they are not allowed in the water and poop scooping is required.

Joshua's House is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization. All donations made to Joshua's House are used for medical care, feeding and housing of rescue dogs. Money for the event is privately donated by the board and good friends of Joshua's House.

For more information, call (352) 527-0669.

Walk for Life slated Oct. 15

The 12th annual Walk For Life, sponsored by the Tri-County Pregnancy Center, will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15. Events will be in Dunnellon at the Tri-County Pregnancy Life Center on Chestnut Street, Romeo Baptist Church, Williston and Bronson. Registration is at 8:30 and the walk will commence at 9. For more information about the event, call 352-528-0200.

Annie Johnson in need of volunteers

The Annie Johnson Thrift Store is in need of volunteers Monday

through Saturday. For more information, call Candy Craig at 465-7957.

Police collecting used cell phones

The Dunnellon Police Department is collecting cellular phones with chargers for Domestic Violence victims. The collected phones are turned over to domestic violent shelters and provided to victims to use to call 911 for any emergency. Please drop off all unused cellular phones along with the chargers to the police department, 12014 S. Williams St. Dunnellon or at Repeat Boutique, 20491 The Granada, Dunnellon.

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WHEN IS A PUBLIC NOTICE NOT PUBLIC?

Don't let Florida officials remove your right to know from the newspaper.

Proposed legislation SPB 7204 and HB 89 would remove your right to read public notices in newspapers - restricting them to government web sites only. The public's right to know cannot be abandoned in favor of presumed cost savings, which are elusive.

- Public Notices must be publicly accessible**
- 53.6% of Floridians over 65 do not have access to the internet*
 - 28.1% of African-Americans in Florida do not have access to the internet*
 - 34.6% of Hispanics in Florida do not have access to the internet*
- In addition to printed newspapers, Florida's newspapers provide a supplemental public notice web site, www.floridapublicnotices.com, allowing free and unlimited searchable access to public notices aggregated from Florida newspapers.

Government posting of government notices on government websites takes away third-party neutrality

Making government officials responsible for notifying the public on their own websites carries with it a potential for abuse. For example, it may create the temptation to change or manipulate the timing of public notices. If a scheduled public notice is not published or contains false information, the newspaper is more likely to catch the mistake.

Public Notices must be archived in a secure and accessible format

The internet does not provide as reliable an archival history of public notices as newspapers due to its vulnerability in the form of hackers, viruses, and downed servers.

Governmental websites do not provide legal affidavits and written proof of publication and a secure and verifiable paper trail

State and local governments, attorneys and private citizens rely on this documentation to ensure that these notices were published timely and lawfully, as newspapers are required by law to do.

*Scarborough Research Multi-Market study 2010 Release 2



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City presents Greenlight Communications budget

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

The Dunnellon City Council finally got a glimpse of the proposed budget for Greenlight Dunnellon Communications, the much anticipated enterprise operation the city has been steadily preparing to launch sometime this year, Monday during a budget workshop.

Officials are proposing a budget of \$2,749,218 for initiative, and part of the tentative funds will be used to pay back \$747,123

of bond obligations.

Delayed in launching the program twice this year, because of the inability to secure the much-needed fiber for the system, officials noted portions of the fiber are already being installed and the remainder of the shipment will likely be in the coming weeks.

City Manager Lisa Algiere explained the system should be fully operational and available to the public by November, perhaps mid-December at the latest to "hook up the full package." Once it is up, Al-

giere said, Greenlight should be making slightly more than \$2 million. She said the number is based on 1,250 customers with an eventual ramping up of subscribers to the services the city plans on offering, which includes television, high-speed Internet and phone.

"We started small," she explained. "And we added up toward the end of the year."

Vice-Mayor F.C. Starke was more concerned with getting the system implemented as soon as possible.

"If we don't get this in the ground soon, we're going to have big problems, big problems," Vice Mayor F.C. Starke said.

Officials have budgeted \$343,000 in employee salaries. Currently, Greenlight has seven employees with plans to add four more once the system is fully operational. With the resignation of General Manager Jessie Mason early this year, Algiere said she, Eddie Esch, the assistant city public works director, and Jan Smith, the city's finance director, have shared the

role of general manager, splitting the salary. Next year's budget calls for a total of \$55,572 in executive salaries.

Other necessary items budgeted include \$955,533 for contractual obligations, which includes programming, rentals and pole attachments. Operating and office supplies, budgeted at \$302,618, includes set top boxes consumers will need.

The City Council will give final approval for the budget at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26.

JUDGE

continued from page 1

focus on the one issue, lasted more than 60 minutes. Judge King pointed out to both sides as the hearing drug on.

"We're way, way off where we're supposed to be," she told the attorney's for both parties. "I think you all have lost sight of that. Now, I want you to focus."

Judge King urged both parties to come together and attempt to reach a deal best for all of those involved. However, she noted, both sides should factor in those who would actually be impacted by a deal between the city and developer.

"If they aren't going to be impacted, then that's something that should be considered," she explained of potential lawsuits citizens would be burdened by. "I think some of the issues here could be easily resolved. You can resolve this, if it's a matter of a simple issue of feet in measurement, you can do this."

At the close of the hearing, Judge King pointed out all of the documentation provided by the attorney's for both groups.

"See all of the trees you killed to do this," she said.

The lawsuit by RRC and the DCA stems from an agreement the city reached with Dodd in March 2010, and signed in July 2010, for his company to drop a lawsuit for \$7.7 million in which Conservation Land Group, LLC and Rainbow River Ranch, LLC were submitting claims against the city under the Bert Harris, Jr. Private Property Rights Protection Act. The City Council unanimously approved the deal.

The act is a state law that gives landowners who believe their property rights are restricted by local government actions, the opportunity to file for compensation. The act is named after its author, who was a democratic state representative from Lake Placid.

The owner claimed actions by the city had caused a loss in the fair market value of the properties. Specifically, it was the city approving changes to its comprehensive plan in development density and adopting ordinances on river protection, water and sewer, and trees and vegetation.

The plaintiffs are seeking a judgment declaring that the March 19 settlement agreement by city over the Rainbow River property is inconsistent with Dunnellon's comprehensive plan. The individual plaintiffs are identified as owning or residing on property that is adjacent, nearby or very close to the subject development. The document includes aerial maps showing the plaintiffs' property locations. It also lists their distance from and proximity to the proposed development.

Answers to Sudoku on page 7

2	8	6	9	7	1	5	4	3
7	5	1	3	4	8	2	9	6
3	9	4	5	6	2	7	8	1
4	6	8	1	5	9	3	2	7
1	3	9	2	8	7	4	6	5
5	2	7	4	3	6	8	1	9
9	4	5	8	1	3	6	7	2
6	1	3	7	2	4	9	5	8
8	7	2	6	9	5	1	3	4

Blue Run Vet ribbon-cutting



Special to the Riverland News
Blue Run Veterinary Practice at 20669 W. Pennsylvania Ave. in the Historic Distric District recently had its ribbon-cutting ceremony as a new member of the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce and grand opening.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Chamber seeks volunteers, sponsors for Jazz Up

The Dunnellon Chamber of Commerce is in need of volunteers and sponsors for the annual Jazz Up Dunnellon, which will be Saturday, Oct. 15.

If you would like to be a part of event, attend the Jazz Up Committee Meetings at from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays at the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce, 20500 E. Pennsylvania Ave. For more information, call Beverly Leisure, executive director, at 489-2320.

Friend of the Library to host book sale

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library will host a half-priced sale

Sept. 10 through Sept. 24 at its Book Store inside of the Dunnellon Public Library at 20351 Robinson Road. The store is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds benefit the Dunnellon Public Library

New Crime Stoppers discount cards available

The new 2011-12 Crime Stoppers of Marion County Discount Card is available and free for the asking. The card, featuring the local Crime Stoppers tipline phone number (368-STOP), offers yearlong discounts at a dozen Ocala businesses. It's available at Soapy's Car Washes in Ocala and at State Road 200 and Southwest 93rd Court or call 843-1499 or e-mail rhauck@embarqmail.com.

MILLAGE

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do sympathize with what you're saying; we pay taxes too."

However, Stark also pointed out to his fellow council members as well as city staff the key word regarding the budget.

"The operative word here is tentative," he said.

Stark also let it be known he was concerned with the reallocations of money throughout the Sewer, Water and Communications as well as Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), or Taxing Increment Financing District (TIFD).

"We have to and must go into proper accounts to get the funds we need," he explained. "If we don't, we're going to get into trouble."

He stressed his point again with Algiere and Jan Smith, city finance director, during the Budget Workshop.

"I'm telling you, I'm giving you notice," Stark said. "You have to be careful where you are doing your allocation. If it's only to be used that for which is prescribed in the state statutes, you have to be extremely careful or you can run afoul of the law. It's happened here before."

Algiere nodded in agreement.

"We take it serious," she said. "We looked very hard at what we're doing. We feel we allocated the funds very fairly."

Councilman Dennis Evans said he was confused by the whole budget process. He said he couldn't understand how in the General Fund budget, Algiere and others were taking less than a year before.

"I've never dealt with a budget before in my job, I don't deal with a budget at home," he explained. "If I

don't have the money, I can't afford it and I don't spend it.

"I'm having trouble understanding this; I just need help in understanding it. It doesn't make a lot of sense."

Algiere explained her salary is made up of the five budgets across the board, because she works for each department, as does Smith. Both of their salaries consist of money from the Sewer, Water, Communications, General Fund and CRA budgets.

Eddie Esch, the assistant public works director, is paid from Sewer, Water, Communication and the General Fund, because of his job responsibilities for varying departments, including Greenlight Dunnellon Communications.

While the City Council understood the method used to balance salaries across the board through the various departments, they wanted a break down of what each department contributes to each employee's salary.

"I'd like to be able to comprehend the budget," Evans said. "How many employees do we have, the total number and their salary range. I'd like to know how the allocation of salaries works. It bothers me."

Algiere noted she would have the figures for the City Council at its next meeting.

In other budget action, the council:

- Approved the tentative CRA or TIFD budget of \$628,757, with more than \$400,000 to be transferred from reserves.
- Approved the tentative water budget of \$752,593.
- Approved the tentative sewer budget of \$2,030,870.

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GUEST COLUMN

The state of music education in public schools

THE MARION COUNTY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Riverland News

We, speaking with one united voice on behalf of the Marion County Music Association, feel compelled and obligated to share our concern about the state of music education in Marion County Public Schools for the 2011-12 school year.

Firstly, we understand and empathize with the demands of major budget cuts to the Florida educational system and to the Marion County School Board. In 2011, Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature passed a budget in which the Florida educational system suffered radical cuts in funding. In turn, each Florida school district has been forced to create innovative approaches in which to educate our students.

We agree with Superintendent Jim Yancey that no one and no curriculum area in Marion County Public Schools

is exempt from the effects of such drastic budget cuts. We know that we all must accept change and be ready to do so. We can only imagine that the duty which faces each Marion County School Board member is lofty in request and accountability. We commend both Superintendent Yancey and the Marion County School Board for exhibiting resourcefulness, as well as working toward minimal staff dismissals, while still attempting to impose a minimal negative impact on our students' educational process.

Having stated the above; however, we are unable to lend our professional support to the most recent changes that have been implemented in our student's music education for the coming 2011-12 school year. Within the past three weeks Marion County Public Schools has filled five vacant elementary music teacher positions with currently-employed elementary music teachers of other schools. This model of

instructional delivery translates into five elementary music teachers in Marion County Public Schools having the responsibility of overseeing and teaching in 10 elementary schools' music programs.

Each student of the 10 schools being shared will receive half of the music instructional time that they received last year and that their other students in the county will receive. On a typical schedule, if an elementary student attends music class once weekly for 30 to 40 minutes for an entire school year, his/her instructional time is valued at 18 to 24 hours for the entire year. This does not include class cancellations, non-teaching situations, emergencies and any other factors.

In effect, the quality and quantity of music instructional time at these paired schools has been cut in half. If we look at the typical schedule and cut that in half, a student would be fortunate to receive as little as nine to 12

hours of "quality" instruction in music for the entire year. While it has been said that the priority during these budget cuts is to have minimal negative impact on our students, these new assignments achieve exactly the opposite.

Also, within the past two weeks, Marion County Public Schools has eliminated the \$147,000 previously budgeted toward high school and middle school band programs, as well as the \$750,000 in discretionary funding for middle and high schools, which was intended to help support these band programs. Most middle and high school band programs do not have the Booster Club support to help keep these programs running without county funding. Again, these cuts directly and negatively impact our students' musical education.

These actions seem unfortunate to music educators and music education supporters, considering Dr. Eric J.

See GUEST page 11

LETTERS

Those who talk need to walk the walk

When you read letters to the opinion page of the newspaper or listen to talking heads on television, everyone seems to have the answer to our unemployment and economic problems.

The solutions are based on their particular ideology. Let's examine some facts. I believe both liberals and conservatives would agree that unemployment is the biggest problem facing our country at this time.

Both liberals and conservatives, if they look at facts, would agree that small business has created at least 65 percent to 70 percent of the jobs in our country. If both sides in the political arena agree that creating more jobs is crucial to getting out of the recession, what is the problem? The problem is the articles you read and the people you hear on television talk the talk, but have never walked the walk. Why not look for answers with the people who do the hiring?

This letter is not intended to tell you how to think, it's a plea to ask you to think. If you are going to vote, be informed. Check the Internet and listen to small business owners.

They will explain why they can't grow their business and are reluctant to add new employees. Don't listen to politicians or newspaper editorials, which push their own agenda. To be quite blunt, how the hell do they know? They don't run a small business and refuse to listen to those who do.

One place to hear from small business owners, in their own words, is www.nfib.com. The National Federation of Independent Business was founded in 1943 and represents members from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. There are other sites that can also be helpful. Please take the time to understand the problem before you vote. Don't re-elect the people who created the problem.

Lynn Black
Dunnellon

Town's glass is half full, not half empty

I'm writing in response to September's letter, "Writer missed point of what derelict is."

Though the writer had most of the definition of derelict right, it also means a destitute or rejected person. Now who has come into a Dunnellon shop and been rejected?

But that's not the point in this letter. The Aug. 18 guest column, in my opinion, was fantastic. He was looking to the things that we do have here, the great business owners and great businesses.

The relatively short time that I have been here, I haven't seen derelict here!

Yes, we have homes and business buildings that no longer have occupants, but does that really make it derelict? I don't think so.

See LETTERS page 7

OPINIONS INVITED

- The opinions expressed in *Riverland News* 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 to the editor must be no longer than 550 words, and writers will be limited to two letters per month.



OUT TO PASTOR

I'm not broke, I'm just financially challenged

As I was listening to the president give his speech on the country's economy last week I was simultaneously trying to balance my checkbook. Math was never my strong suit. In fact, when it comes to math, I do not wear a suit at all. I would wear my birthday suit but it is too wrinkled and believe me, spandex is stretching it too much.



Rev. James
Snyder

Oddly enough, my checkbook balance is never the same as the balance on the statement from the bank. My bank's haughty assumption is that they are right and I am wrong.

The thing that gripes me is, as much money as I am paying my bank through all of the miscellaneous fees, I should not have to balance my checkbook. That should be a service gladly rendered by my financial institution.

The last time I was in my bank, I coyly suggested this to the teller and she looked at me, laughed as though I was telling her a joke and then handed me a lollipop. Believe me; balancing my checkbook is no joking matter.

As I was working over my checkbook, I was groaning, moaning and sighing

rather deeply. Enough so, that it disturbed my residential companion. Finally, she said to me in that sarcastic tone of voice reserved just for me, "What's got you so disturbed tonight?"

At first, I did not want to tell her. After all, it is my responsibility to balance the checkbook. We have a wonderful give-and-take relationship. My responsibility is to deposit money into the checkbook while her responsibility is to make sure the checks fly out of our checkbook as quickly and smoothly as possible. Then, somebody at our financial institution came up with the brilliant idea of the check card. Now the money flies out faster than it ever did before.

Our money flies faster than the speed of sound, but occasionally my groans do catch-up, and tonight was one such night.

I looked at my wife, swallowed several times, and then blurted out, "I think we're broke."

After I said that, I did feel a little bit relieved. However, it did not last long. "What do you mean 'we're broke'?"

The way she emphasized the word "we're" caused me a little bit of uneasiness.

"I mean," I tried to explain, "we have run out of money."

See PASTOR page 7

TIME TO SMILE

Hands down

Warning: This is an adults only column! I have one word for you, plastics!

Unlike the movie "The Graduate," I am not talking stocks.

I need to invest in some plastic glassware. Is that an oxymoron? I have broken three drinking glasses in the past month. If this keeps up, I may have to skip the glass and start drinking from the carton or the faucet.

As I have aged, my essential tremor has gotten worse. Remember, essential tremor is basically an inability to stop shaking. It usually shows in your hands, head or lip movement. If you are lucky like me, you win the Triple Crown and shake all three.

Doing the simple things in life becomes harder than you would imagine. I now have added a tic to my list of bodily afflictions. My right arm automatically jerks when it accidentally touches something. Hence, the three broken glasses this month. I feel like my body is the star of a Mel Brooks movie.

If I start hearing horses neighing when someone calls my name I am going to look for the camera.

When I lived in Connecticut, I worked with a woman named Pauline. They don't make them like Pauline anymore. She passed away in 1999. Pauline was from the era where men were men and women were broads. She was a great old broad! Pauline told it how she saw it. I miss her straight forwardness and her sense of humor.

One day, I was trying to refill my stapler and I was getting frustrated because I kept dropping the staples. I made a heavy sigh and let an expletive fly. Pauline said ...well, this is a family paper so how can I put this delicately?

It's not a bad word, it's just parents may have to do some explaining that they really don't want to do. She told me "don't worry. You can't help it if your (toy that a woman might use to make a certain part of her body happy), is stuck on high!" If only my shaking gave me the same pleasure, I would be a very happy woman.

Well, my shaking is now stuck on over drive. I wish I had an off switch. The funny part is I got to experience what it is like for you to view my shaking. There is a guy in Ocala that works at one of the big box stores. He has essential tremor also. I recognized it right away.

It is different from a Parkinson's shake, which is more of a whole body jilting. Anyway, the whole time I am talking to him I want to yell "Stop shaking!" I couldn't concentrate, because I was fascinated by his shaking. It was an out of body experience. I stood in your shoes watching me. It was an uncomfortable feeling watching myself in someone else's body.

I haven't given up on glassware. I don't like drinking out of plastic cups. It is a texture thing. Come to think of it I probably spill more with plastic cups than I do with glasses.

The only good thing about plastic is it doesn't break when I drop it. Heavier glass is easier for me to hold than plastic. Mugs aren't much of a help either. My hand tends to rock back and forth when I hold one. Most of what I am carrying ends up on the floor.

If there are any inventors out there, could you please invent a non-spill glass for adults? I could keep you busy for years. My list of things that need to be shake's see is endless.

Let's per ...there's cell phones (forget texting - it takes an hour to type one sentence), iPods, soup bowls, etc.

In the meantime, I may be forced to use a sippy cup if I run out of drinking glasses.



Kathleen
Wallace



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Church schedules Old-Fashioned Country Fair dates

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will host the second annual Old-Fashioned Country Fair with Crafters' Pavilion on Friday, Sept. 30, and Saturday, Oct. 1, at its church at 7525 S. U.S. 41 in Dunnellon. The hours will be from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, and from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1. Admission and parking will be free.



Claire Hamilton

On Saturday, a car show will be featured in conjunction with the fair. Participants can check in between 8 and

10 a.m. Trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.stjohncc.com. The Country Fair will feature a variety of live entertainment including Captain Jon, the Singing Riverboat Captain; the Summer Springs Sweet Adeline Chorus, Father Eric & the True Blues Band; The Spirit of Ocala Irish Dancers, Holiday Travel Resort Line Dancers, the Ocala Highland Games Demonstration and others.

Fairgoers also will find a variety of games, and activities such as a

Cake Walk, a Dunk Tank, Climbing Wall, 17-foot slide and a Bounce House. On Saturday, they can take a ride through the "enchanted forest" in a carriage pulled by the horses that appeared "Pirates of the Caribbean."

An important part of every fair is the food and St. John's has that well covered. Three will be a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday and a chicken barbeque from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday.

Donations for either meal will be \$ 7 per adult and \$3.50 per child. An Ala Carte menu of hamburgers, hot dogs, peppers and home-

made sausage, desserts, and drinks will be available at anytime on both days. Fairgoers also can snack on funnel cakes and snow cones and relive old memories as they visit the Old-Fashioned Soda Shop.

For those who enjoy games of chance, the fair offers a raffle. Among the many prizes that can be won will be a \$500 cash prize, a Wild Hawg Hunt for three and a Night at the Ocala Symphony with accompanying dinner for two at Mesa de Notte Italian Restaurant in Ocala.

For more information, call the church office at

489-3166) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Claire Hamilton, event chairwoman, at 465-4477.

Get trimmed up at the fair



Jenifer Boscarino

Hairstylist Jenifer Boscarino will give haircuts at the "Old-Fashioned Country Fair" from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1. A donation of \$10 per hair cut is suggested and all proceeds will go to Helping Hands Food Pantry that distributes food to those in need. Jenifer is the owner of Jenifer's Hair Studio.

Church events

Methodist church to host flea market

First United Methodist Church will have a flea market, bake sale and café, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 23 and 24. First United Methodist Church is along West State Road 40. For more information, call 489-4026.

Hope Evangelical Sunday School classes

Sunday school classes at Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church in Citrus Springs will begin at 8:30 a.m. Sunday. Confirmation classes begin at 8.

Parents and grandparents should pre-register children now. Children who are at least 3 years old by Sept. 1 may register for pre-kindergarten. Registration forms are available at the church office. Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church is at 9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd.

Sunday school at Peace

Peace Lutheran Church will host Sunday morning Bible Classes for children and youth at 9 a.m. beginning Sept. 4.

Adult Bible Study groups also meet at 9 Sundays as well as 10 and 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Sunday morning worship service is at 10 a.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, "The Church On The Hill," is 5 miles north of Dunnellon at the junction of U.S. 41 and State Road 40.

For more information, call the church office at 489-5881 or visit www.PeaceLutheranOnline.org.

Quantum-Touch workshop slated

A workshop on Quantum-Touch will be offered from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, and Saturday, Sept. 17, at Unitarian Universalist of Citrus County, 7633 N. Florida Ave. (U.S. 41).

The workshop will be taught by Patricia Wagner, certified Quantum-Touch practitioner and instructor and intrinsic coach.

Cost without course or CEU credit (for the layperson) is \$59. Call Patricia at (352) 369-3029 or (813) 785-7757, or email her at patricia@graceunlimited.com for workshop registration details.

Church preps for annual Trash to Treasure Sale

The Church of the Advent will present its annual Trash

to Treasure Sale Saturday, Sept. 24. (Rain Date will be Oct 1.)

Crafters, Flea Market and Food Vendors are invited to participate.

The church is at 11251 County Road 484, in front of the new fire station.

For registration and information, call Al Sickle at 352-208-5664 or Maryanne Brennan at 352-347-2428.

North Oak hosting Saturday night service

North Oak Baptist Church is now hosting a Saturday night praise, prayer and power service 6 p.m. at its church at the corner of North Elkcam Boulevard and North Citrus Springs Boulevard in Citrus Springs. Child care through 36 months will be available by background screened children's workers. For more information, call 489-1688 or 746-1500.

Rainbow Springs church to host LIFT ministry

Join the ladies at the Rainbow Springs Village Church for Ladies in Fellowship Together (LIFT) fellowship. The goal is to LIFT one another in encouragement, LIFT our missionaries in prayer and LIFT the name of Jesus Christ.

If childcare is desired, call the church office for arrangements. LIFT meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday monthly.

For more information about this ministry, e-mail Cindy Greaves at women@caringpeople.org.

Rainbow Springs Village Church is at 20222 S.W. 102nd St. Road, Dunnellon, south of Winn Dixie and west of U.S. 41). For more information, contact the church at 489-0249 or at www.caringpeople.org.

'Forget-Me-Not' program open to public

The First United Methodist Church is opening its "Forget-Me-Not" Program to the community. This is a program provided by the church to offer four hours of respite care for caregivers of early dementia and Alzheimer's patients. The program is also including seniors who just need to get out of the house for a few hours and socialize with other seniors. This program is free and meets from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the church Friendship Hall. Trained volunteers provide activities and refreshments.

For more information, call Grace Burks at 489-2580 or Joey Weisbaum at 489-6963.

Church hosting Reformers Unanimous meetings

Reformers Unanimous is an addictions program developed from more than a decade of experience, and is the fastest growing faith-based addictions program in America. Meetings are directed not toward a specific addiction, but toward overcoming any addiction through the Higher Power that is Jesus Christ. For more information, as well as success testimonies, visit the national website at www.reformu.com. Local meetings are at 7 p.m. Fridays at Riverland Baptist Church, one mile north of State Road 40 on U.S. 41.

Lutheran Church part of Angel Food Ministries

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd. Citrus Springs is part of Angel Food Ministries. To sign up or learn more about Angel Food, current menu, order food or learn of pick up dates and time, call the church office at 489-5511 or Victor Kahler at 465-4182. All orders are prepaid by check, cash or money order. To learn how to order using the internet and a credit or debit cad, call Victor Kahler.

Obituaries

Mary F. Tolcser, 64

Mary F. Tolcser, 64 of Ocala, died Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011 at West Marion Community Hospital. Survivors include a son, Thomas; four daughters, Angela, Debra, Robyn and Kathryn. A rosary will be Friday, Sept. 16, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at St. John The Baptist Catholic Church in Dunnellon where a memorial mass will be conducted on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. Condolences may be sent to

robertsofdunnellon.com. Roberts Funeral Home, Dunnellon provided information.

Gerald Wilson Fuller, 81

Gerald Wilson Fuller, 81, of Dunnellon, died Friday, Sept. 9, 2011 at Seven Rivers Regional Medical Center.

Survivors include his wife, Ellen; 3 step-children, 3 brothers and 1 sister.

Information provided by the National Cremation Society, Fruitland Park.

"For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them." - Matthew 18:20

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Sunday
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 Worship 11:00 AM
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 Traditional Worship 11:00 AM
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 Sunday School 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

"Sharing God's Light"
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www.SharingGodsLight.org

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor Lynn Fonfara
 9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd.
 Citrus Springs

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
 Communion Every Sunday

Information: 489-5511
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hopelutheranelca.com

Dunnellon Seventh-day Adventist Church

Welcome To Our Services
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 7 pm.....Bible Study & Prayer

LETTERS

continued from page 4

The writer had a point in saying that many things have left or been replaced with other things, but so what? Times change and so people must. What's wrong with the Walmart? The Walmart has helped many people including my family and, I know hundreds of others in my case, more so than say Food Lion or Kash and Karry, which is now Sweetbay.

I have no qualms about any store, business or shop we have here, or that has been here, they all serve a purpose.

Yes, we need other things here, but our economy needs to get better as a whole before people can open more businesses and buy houses. There are businesses here that have been open many years, because of the customers they do get and when the population grows because we have our northern visitors come here for our mild winters.

There is a fine line between critique and criticizing, and when you do the latter it offends many people and many business owners and belittles what they do. There are so many great people here!

Have you been into some of these places such as Flavors, the "fancy ice cream" shop? It's good ice cream and a good place to be. Or Grumbles, which has great plants and gardening things? Always Something has wonderful antiques and some really neat things, and the numerous restaurants we have here like Penn Station, Blue Gator, Go for Doughnuts, and all the rest of the great places.

Look around at the people and the great places we have here. This town's glass is not half empty.

**Carla Babbs
Dunnellon**

**He don't know
Dunnellon do he**

In reference to the Letter to the Editor in the Sept. 8 edition titled "Dunnellon, no longer small, friendly town," I wish to say the writer of the letter last week doesn't know Dunnellon too well.

I know Walmart came in. I know they sell a lot of stuff made in China, I know it can make it difficult for small businesses in the area.

I am one of them, I own a yarn shop, the Stitch Niche, right here in downtown Dunnellon. I have owned the shop here for over five years. They are my competition, just like Ace Hardware and Nichols Lumber have some competition between each other as well as with Walmart.

I don't hear them complaining that Ace hurts Nichols or vise versa. Business owners grow and evolve to keep their businesses alive. Yes, we are in a slump. Walmart, too. They have downsized their inventory just like the rest of us.

Sorry, I got off the track of what I wanted to say. Dunnellon is still a small, friendly town. Three weekend's ago proved it.

I sponsored an event at Ernie Mills Park call Kids Day Out/Back to School Festival. There was no way on earth I could have done it all by myself. I started asking business, in Dunnellon, as well as its citizens. I had over 75 citizens and over 20 businesses who said: "Yes, I'll help."

Not one that I asked said no. I guess I live in a cave because to me that says a lot about Dunnellon and its people. I have lived in several towns and cities in my life and not one can hold a candle to Dunnellon for being warm, friendly, helpful and supportive.

I know no one likes the red-light cameras, their not my favorite thing about Dunnellon, but I hear on the news that Orlando is installing 82 more. We have four. If everyone that comes to Dunnellon from outside the city stops at the lights when they turn red, we would not have these cam-

eras. I know that would have been easier, but it didn't happen that way. So now here we are: dealing with a recessed economy, red-light cameras and Walmart, but life goes on, deal with it.

Again I wish to say thank you to all those who helped with Kids Day Out. Let's do it again next year, but even better.

**Viola Soffe
Dunnellon**

**Post 58 says thank for
9/11 Celebration of Life**

The American Legion Post 58 of Dunnellon, would like to give thanks to all that attended and helped present the Post's Celebration of Life, commemorating the attacks against the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

Special thanks go to Commander John Taylor, our guest speakers, Stu Weisbaum, Post Service Officer and former NYPD officer; Capt. Kimberly Peters, U.S. Air Force; Sgt. Major Mark T. Davis, U.S. Marine Corps; Post Chaplain Eugene Thomas; Dunnellon High School Jr. ROTC Color Guard and Maj. Gillam; Jillian Capps, soloist; Bernard Gray, taps; Bea Fischer and the Ladies Auxiliary; deejay Terry Gorman; Carl Boos, ticket sales; Joey Weisbaum, bartender; Ralph Guckenberger, kitchen; Sam Scott, sound technician; Bill Robinson, T-shirt sales; Charles Shaw, videographer and photographer, and Jeff Bryan, Riverland News, for his coverage..

The attendance of Police Chief Joann Black and her officers, Lt. Troy Slattery and the firefighters and EMTs from Dunnellon Fire Rescue, showed that the efforts of law enforcement and Firefighters/EMTs nationwide, will always be appreciated by the public.

The invigorating and motivational speeches by all of our speakers made it a truly memorable evening. If you attended, you know for a fact that the spirit of this great nation is alive and well right here in Dunnellon.

To the young and old, and those in between, and all those that participated to make this a truly special community event, thank you!

**Frank Strobl
Membership Chairman
American Legion
Post 58**

**Thank you Dunnellon
for a great night**

Relay for Life Piggy-bankers/City of Dunnellon team would like to express our appreciation to Greenlight Communications for the opportunity to participate in the free "Movie in the Park" event Saturday, Sept. 10.

As host of this event, Greenlight Communications so graciously allowed us to provide concession items to raise money for our Relay for Life Team.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the concession stand including: Pizza Hut, Little Caesars Pizza, Walmart, Sue Lavac, Francine Daniel, Chief Joanne Black, Mandy Roberts, Andy Nester, Charlene Williams

and Shawn Houle.

Thank you Superior Bank for providing free popcorn to everyone.

Our team would also like to thank Jeff Bryan, Riverland News, and the community for coming out and enjoying this evening with us. Without your attendance, this event would not have been possible or a success.

Last, but not least, to all the PiggyBankers/City of Dunnellon team members that attended and helped sell these items. We couldn't have done it without you all.

Relay for Life will be Friday, April 6, 2012, at Dunnellon High School. We would like to invite everyone to come out and enjoy this experience with us. Relay for Life kick off will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at Dunnellon Christian Academy.

The kick-off event is for all Relay teams or potential teams to sign up and participate in Relay for Life 2012 in support of American Cancer Society.

Again, we say "thank you" to Green Light Communications for an outstanding free community event that allowed our "hometown" to enjoy a great Movie in the Park together, at no cost.

We look forward to participating in many more of these events in the future.

With thanks and appreciation,
**PiggyBankers/City of
Dunnellon
2012 Relay for Life
Team.**

**Police offers thanks to
Boy Scouts, Post 58**

The Dunnellon Police Department would like to thank Boy Scout Troop 452 and the Dunnellon City Council for the wonderful 9/11 ceremony, which was Wednesday, Sept. 7.

After the Proclamation was read by the Vice Mayor F.C. Starke, Boy Scout Troop 452 presented the Dunnellon Police and Fire departments with a "Flag of Heroes" flag. This flag has the names of all those whom perished during the 9/11 attack listed on the flag. We are so honored to receive this flag and have displayed it in the police department lobby.

Also, we would like to give a special thank you to the American Legion Post 58 for hosting the 9/11 Celebration of Life ceremony Saturday, Sept. 10, to honor all first responders and to make sure we "Never Forget" what occurred on 9/11 as well as those who lost their lives during this horrific event.

So many people lost their lives, our citizens united and we became a stronger nation after this event. The keynote speakers shared their personal experiences while working at Ground Zero or while serving in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan, which had an impact on the entire event. Thank you for opening your doors and sharing this event with the great citizens of Dunnellon.

**Chief Joanne Black
Staff and Officers
Dunnellon Police
Department**



PASTOR

continued from page 4

"Why should that get you all riled up," she said with a little bit of chipper in her voice. Just a little more than I was comfortable with under our present circumstances. "The president's on television right now telling us that the country's broke. So I guess that means were all in the same boat."

Both of us were quiet as we listened to the president continue his speech on the economy. Actually, I was a wee bit more concerned about the economical condition of my checkbook than the country's economy.

I'm broke simply because I have more bills than I have money.

The country is broke because it spends money on things other than bills. And, when the government runs out of money all it has to do is to print more money. The thing that really aggravates me is that if I would treat my checkbook like the government treats its checkbook the government would have me arrested and thrown in jail for the rest of my life. Which, upon further thought, maybe a plan out of my desperate economic disposition. For in jail, the government would pay all my bills.

In jail, I would not have a grocery bill. All of my medical needs would be taken care of by good ole Uncle Sam. I certainly would not have to save money for a rainy day.

Further consideration brought me to the conclusion that I may not like some of the people in prison. After all, there may be former politicians who are locked up for some scandalous activity they were caught at. Who wants to spend their time with that crowd?

Just as I was sinking deeper into the slough of despondency, my wife, as usual, came to my rescue. If I gave her a nickel for

every bright idea she has come up with in our married life I would be broke. Which, by the way, maybe why I am broke now.

Her amazing solution was simply this, "We're not broke, we're just financially challenged."

Why do I never come up with all of these brilliant ideas? Being broke is one thing but being financially challenged is something altogether different. I do not want to be broke. Now, thanks to my wife, I am no longer broke I am simply financially challenged.

That sounds so much better I worried my heart sick thinking I was broke when in reality I was merely financially challenged. I wonder if I could somehow get this message to our dear president. If I can get him a

message I would simply say this, "Mr. President, our country is not broke as you are insinuating. We are simply financially challenged."

Everybody has his or her own solution to problems. Especially if it is a political problem. I like how the Bible puts it. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12 KJV).

Someone said it like this, "a rose by any other name is still a rose."

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, P.O. Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church website is www.whatafellowskip.com.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	8			7		5	4	
		1	3			2		
3				6	2			1
	6		1		9			7
1				8			6	
		7	4			8		9
9			8				7	
		3		2		9		
	7	2			5			4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Answers to puzzle on page 3

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ALWAYS REMEMBER ...



Boy Scout Troop 452 presents a flag of honor to the Dunnellon Police Department and Dunnellon Fire Rescue during the Dunnellon City Council 9/11 ceremony, which was Wednesday, Sept. 7, at City Hall.

Photos by Jeff Bryan/Riverland News



Vice Mayor F.C. Stark reads the city's proclamation during the City Council's memorial in remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001.



Members of Boy Scout Troop 452 salute as the American flag at City Hall is replaced with a flag presented to the city that was flown in Afghanistan.



Officer Mike Miley of the Dunnellon Police Department and Lt. Troy Slattery of Dunnellon Fire Rescue, top, in uniform presented the city of Dunnellon with a flag from Staff Sgt. Ivonne Alcedo, who served in Afghanistan with the National Guard. She brought the flag home from there after her tour of duty.



Officer Miley slowly lowers the American flag to be replaced with a flag that been flown in Afghanistan since the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

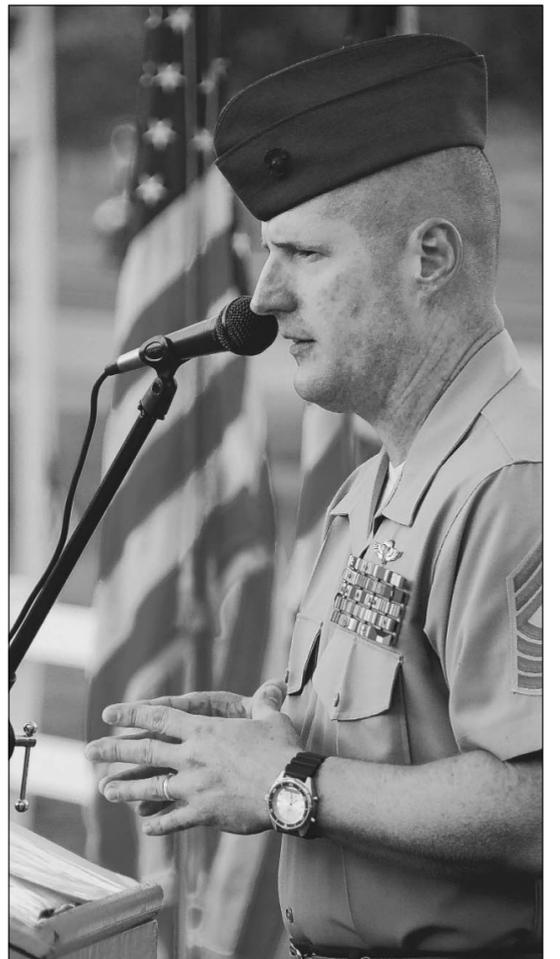
... NEVER FORGET



Photos by Jeff Bryan/Riverland News
Bailey Decker, left, and Barrett Willingham of the Dunnellon High School Junior ROTC prepare to present the colors Saturday during the American Legion Post 58's Celebration of Life ceremony.



Post 58 Chaplain Eugene Thomas and Post Service Officer Stewart Weisbaum salute during the presentation of the colors.



Sgt. Major Mark Davis of the U.S. Marine Corps addresses those in attendance at the American Legion Post 58 Ceremony of Life celebration.



A flag of heroes sits in the background of items adorning a table with mementos from the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C.



Bernard Gray from the Leesburg Post plays taps at the end of the Celebration of Life service to honor those killed in the terrorist attacks as well as those troops who've sacrificed their lives in the War on Terror.



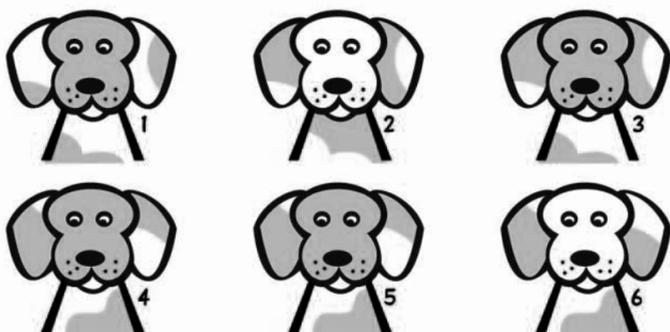
Jillian Capps sings the national anthem during the opening of the ceremony. She also performed "God Bless America" later in the event.

Just Kidding



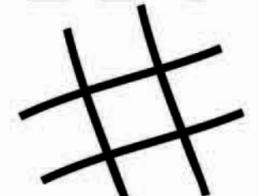
FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?

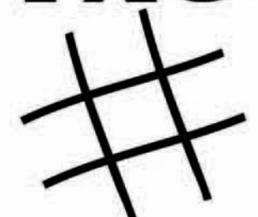


ANSWER: FOUR AND FIVE

TIC



TAC



TOE

Poisonous Frogs

They may only be 1/2 to 2 inches long, but poison dart frogs produce one of the most harmful animal poisons known to man.

These frogs are brightly colored, which is a warning to other animals to stay away. There are black and green, black and yellow, green banded, blue and strawberry poison dart frogs. But the most toxic, or harmful, are the bright yellow frogs. Found in Colombia, South America, these frogs can hurt—and even kill—humans if their poison gets into a person's cut or mouth, or soaks through his/her skin.

Living in tropical rain forests, poison dart frogs eat ants, termites and tiny beetles. They use their sticky tongues to capture their food.

The frogs get their name because South American native tribe members use them to make their hunting darts poisonous. Actually, only three species of the frogs have poison that's bad enough to make these darts. But in those species, one frog can produce enough to make 50 darts poisonous. The natives hunt with those darts because the poison is strong enough to kill small animals, like monkeys and birds.

Making Your Money Count



Has that money you got for your birthday or earned doing chores outgrown your piggy bank? Maybe it's time to think about opening your own bank account.

To save money safely, open a savings account at a local bank or savings and loan. The bank keeps your money and gives you an account number and book, called a passbook, to keep track of what you have saved. You can add money, or deposit it, any time the bank is open.

When you decide to deposit money, take the money to the bank with your passbook and give it to a bank teller who stands behind a long desk. Once your money is added, your passbook will show the total, or balance, of your account.

In addition to the money you have put in your account, the bank will give you some money, too. This money is called interest, and the bank gives it to you as payment for using your money while it is there.

If you decide to use some of the money, you may withdraw it. However, you cannot take out more money than you have put in your account.

For more information on banking, visit the following Web sites:
<http://www.kidsbank.com>
<http://www.theyoungamericans.org>
<http://www.fdic.gov/about/learn/learning/what/index.html>

Please note: This list only applies to the sites listed, not to any sites that may be linked. Web sites change constantly. At the time this article was written, these Web addresses worked. Some of the sites may call for software you do not have. You can still look at much of the information on the site, but you may need the software for movies. If you do need software, be sure to have your parent(s) read any software agreements before you download it.

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- AMIABLE
- CHARMING
- CORDIAL
- DELIGHTFUL
- GENEROUS
- GENIAL
- GOOD
- GRACIOUS
- KIND
- LIKABLE
- NICE
- PLEASANT

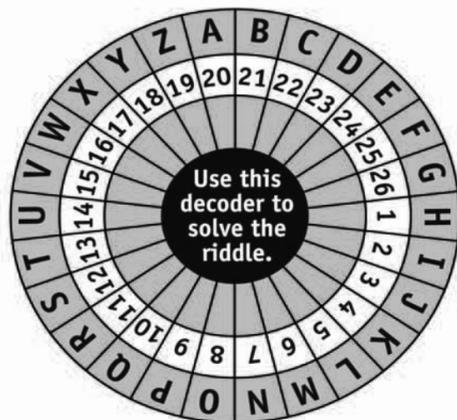
THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

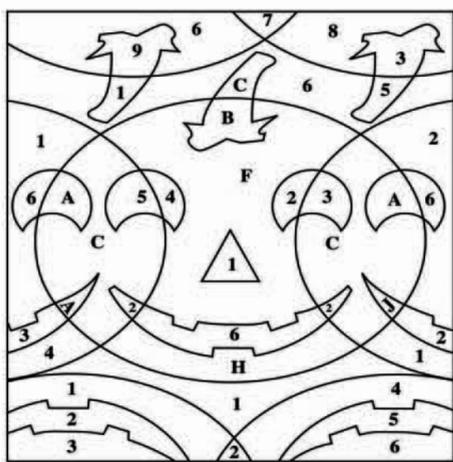
SECRET CODE

Why did the dinosaur cross the road?

13	1	24	22	1	2	22	4	24	7	1	20	23
7	8	13	18	24	13	24	15	8	5	15	24	23



HIDDEN PICTURE



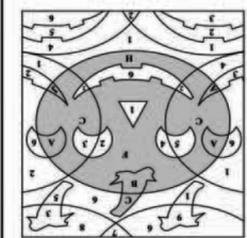
Color in each space that contains a letter.

Connect the dots



Start Here

Answers



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Boys and Girls Clubs seek donations

Many Boys and Girls Clubs are benefitting from car donations. The cars are sold at auction and the funds generated help support their many programs. Now is the time to donate for the upcoming tax season. People wishing to donate their cars or for more information call (800) 246-0493.

Cub Scouts meet at church

Cub Scout Pack 508 meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Episcopal Church of the Advent, 11251 S.W. Highway 484, Ocala. For more information, call 465-7272.

DCF seeks volunteers for program

The Department of Children and Families in your community has been awarded a Food Stamp Participation Grant. DCF is looking for committed volunteers with computer experience to help our food stamp customers

navigate the online application process. For more information, call (352) 330-5518.

U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps seeks members

Manatee Division drills at Coast Guard Station Yankeetown, in Yankeetown, the second week-end monthly.

The Sea Cadets are for youths, ages 13 through 17 years old. There is also a Navy League Cadet unit for youths, ages 11 through 13 years old.

For more information, visit www.manateediv.org or call Commanding Officer LTJG Todd Dunn at (352) 212-5473 or tdunn@manateediv.org.

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APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED • COMPLETE DETAILS ARE IMPORTANT

GUEST COLUMN

continued from page 4

Smith, the previous Florida Commissioner of Education, wrote in a 2009 memorandum to all district superintendents in the state that "research shows a correlation between student participation in school arts education programs with student achievement."

Furthermore, Dr. Smith elaborates: "A new study of the Florida 2007-08 12th-grade cohort, consisting of 188,859 students, illustrates a powerful correlation be-

tween participation in fine arts courses, higher academic success in the classroom, and higher scores on the FCAT."

You can find this research documentation and additional information about the importance of music education in our schools at the Florida Music Educators Association website, www.flmusiced.org, under Advocacy.

We concur with Arne Duncan, the current U.S. Secretary of Education, who wrote to school and education community members in 2009, stating the following: "At this time when you are mak-

ing critical and far-reaching budget and program decisions for the upcoming school year, I write to bring your attention to the importance of the arts as a core academic subject and part of a complete education for all students."

In view of the above, we firmly, yet humbly, implore the superintendent and the Marion County School Board to seek other recourses to combat these financial obligations. We must not allow the music education of Marion County's students to be negatively affected in the current ways that have been

above outlined. We must not allow the music education of Marion County's students to suffer.

We would like to request a temporary solution where current vacant music teacher positions have certified full-time substitute teacher replacements. This is consistent with the way that other teaching positions of core subject areas are currently handled (as music is outlined as a core subject area per the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001). This temporary solution will maintain the amount of musical instruction that students receive without

reducing or disrupting the music education at another school.

We thank the Marion County Public Schools, the Marion County School Board members, and the Superintendent for their compassion and understanding towards our students' needs. We understand the challenge that is presented. We implore everyone to take another look at the state of music education in Marion County Public Schools, to ask questions, and to make positive changes in our budget to minimize the negative impact on our students' musical education.

Brief

Blood drive slated Sept. 15

Florida's Blood Centers will host a blood drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Rainbow Springs Clubhouse. General requirements change each year, so ask the staff to see if you are eligible to donate or visit www.floridasbloodcenters.org to view the health requirements.

Everyone must have a picture ID. Each donor will receive a specialty T-Shirt, a round of golf for one with cart at Rainbow Springs Golf Course and other local coupons.

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Coupons for Education kicks off Monday

RITA HUTON

For the Riverland News

Dunnellon Elementary School starts Coupons for Education sales Monday, Sept. 19. Coupons will be on sale through Friday, Oct. 14. Take a look and see if there is anything you can use. Purchasing them will help our school get needed supplies. Thank you so much.

Ms. Lisa Bubba's yoga class has started here at DES. This is a great way to relax and rejuvenate.

Classes are at 4 p.m. Thursdays in the music room (No. 509). The cost is \$44 for eight classes. Bring a mat, light hand weights and wear comfortable clothing. For more information, call Ms. Bubba at 489-8051.

Student volunteers from Dunnellon High School recently visited our school to sign up for a mentoring program titled, "Tiger to Cub." This program is the platform Danielle Prinz used when she won the Queen of the Rainbow title.

The high school students will buddy up with a fourth-grader. They choose the times and days that best suits their schedules. Then they will be available for their fourth-grader to help with school work as well as being an all-around friend.

We at DES are excited about this program and look forward to it being implemented in other grades as well. Thank you to volunteers and to Prinz for starting this wonderful opportunity for both schools. We will be giving

you more information as the program gets rolling.

Our book fair only has one more day. This time is always met with a lot of excitement by students and staff. One parent came in before school and commented: "No wonder the students get so excited about the fair!"

Thanks to Ms. Amy Roland for making this a fun and worthwhile event each year. And thanks to all the parents who have supported it by allowing their students to purchase books!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 19 — Book fair ends; Coupons for Education sales start.
- Sept. 19 — 6 p.m. SAC meeting in media center.
- Sept. 20 — School pictures.
- Sept. 20 — 2:30 p.m. PTO meeting.
- Sept. 21 — Early release for students, 12:05 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — Altrusa Read-In.

Movies at the Park



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

ABOVE: Holden Worth, left, Kirsten Greene and Allison Roberts, enjoy the flick, "Mars Needs Moms," part of Movies in the Park, sponsored by Greenlight Dunnellon Communications Saturday night at Ernie Mills Park. According to City Manager Lisa Algieri, the event was a "huge success." "We were hoping for between 60 to 80 people," she told the City Council on Monday night at the close of its meeting. "And they reported there was more than 120." Greenlight plans to host another Movie in the Park on Oct. 1 with a raindate scheduled for Oct. 8. Officials are also planning an event for Oct. 29, Halloween weekend. Greenlight said it is taking input from residents about what movie should air at its next event. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Deborah Ulry watches the film while her son, William, enjoys a bag of fresh popcorn. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Adrianna Reyes, right, and her sister, Destiny, snack on a bag of popcorn while enjoying the inaugural event.



Principal's office

Back-to-School Dance slated for DMS students; SAC to host first meeting

Dunnellon Middle School will enjoy a Back-to-School Dance from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, in the Café. The cost of the dance is \$5 plus a canned food item. The canned food items collected are for our annual holiday food baskets, going to those families less fortunate than ourselves.



Jane Ashman
DMS
Principal

Dunnellon Middle School's Coupons for Education fundraiser will be available for purchase starting Monday, Sept. 19. There are many new money saving offers and a new look. Mr. Jones in our Media Center is once again heading-up this program for DMS. We invite our community to take advantage of all the money saving offers while supporting education.

The DMS School Advisory Council will hold its first meeting of the 2011-12 school year at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, in the Media Center. Parents are invited to attend and discuss the current School Improvement Process at DMS.

Interims will be coming home Friday, Sept. 23. Parents please check out these mid-term indicators of how your student is performing in school. If you would like to speak with your child's teachers, call 465-6720 and ask for our Guidance Office to set up a Parent/Teacher conference. Our Guidance Office can also assist parents in signing up for the Parent Portal and completing the e-mail permission form for parent/teacher communications via e-mail.

Coach Turner will lead our cross country team again this year. Practice for the team will be from

3:40 to 4:45 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students staying for practice must have transportation arranged prior to staying for practice. Our cross country team will build their physical endurance, learning sportsmanship and working within a team. We know our students participating will enjoy this experience.

Dunnellon Middle School is honored to have two representatives serving our district on Florida's Reading and Mathematics FCAT 2.0/EOC Standard Setting Committee from Sept. 19 through Sept. 23 in Orlando. Mrs. Carmella Samler and Mrs. Cheryl Clayton-Alexander will represent us in this very important process. We are very proud that Dunnellon Middle School will be represented by such fine educators.

We would also like to share that the Marion County School District received national recognition for its energy-savings program. Since the program started five years ago, the district has avoided and saved \$ 11,583,825 in utility costs. Some of the energy saving steps includes shutting off lights, unplugging electronic equipment during extended breaks, daily automated computer shutdowns, regulated heating and air conditioning and careful computer analysis of energy uses for electricity, water, sewer, natural gas, and fuel oil. The energy dollars saved help maintain and improve schools and facilities around the district.

Max out your library card this year

Special to the Riverland News

Pencils? Check. Backpacks? Check. The smartest card? Must have.

September is Library Card Sign-up Month and the Marion County Public Library System wants to make sure every student in Marion County has the most important school supply of all — a library card.

A library card is a student's key to access more than half a million materials available online and in print through the Public Library System. This free, no-interest card lets users check out books, CDs and DVDs and even access a wide range of online databases on everything from school

research to test preparation and job-seeking. "Owning a library card provides students with the resources they need to compete academically and succeed," said Library Director Julie Sieg. "And, with our electronic resources available 24/7, our public libraries are always open with your library card."

Getting a library card is easy; just stop by any of the eight Marion County Public Library locations, fill out a simple form and let the exploring begin. For more information about how to sign up for a library card, stop by your local library, visit the library website at library.marioncountyfl.org or call 671-8551.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Harmony Preschool registration open

Harmony Preschool is accepting student students for its 2- to 3-year-old Class and its morning and afternoon VPK Classes for 4-year olds. The preschool is also accepting students enrolled in the School Readiness (Vouchers) program. The school is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and wrap around care is offered for VPK students for an additional fee. Harmony Preschool is at 21501 W. State Road 40 in Dunnellon in the First United Methodist Church of Dunnellon. For more information, call 489-9552.

Church collecting box tops for education

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is continuing to support Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup UPC labels for one local school. Containers for these labels can be found at Winn Dixie (ask for box at cigarette counter), Ace Hardware, To Your Health Spa and in the Narthex of St.

John's Catholic Church. For more information about this program, call 489-5954.

Military memorials open to public

The Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall will be in Crystal River from Sunday, Oct. 2, to Sunday, Oct. 9, at the Holcim Property on U.S. 19, a mile north of County Road 488. Other military tributes will also be open free to the public 24 hours a day. All veterans, families and school groups can also visit the Florida Military of the Order Purple Heart Mural Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, and the Moving Tribute to those dead in the Global War on Terror and 9/11.

Teachers and parents of home-schooled children can arrange for group tours of the memorials at the Nature Coast All Veterans Reunion by members of American Legion Post 225 and MOPH Chapter 776.

For more information, call Richard Hunt at 407-579-6190, Tom Gallagher at 352-860-1629, Lee Hessel at 352-238-5692 or visit www.NatureCoastVeteransReunion.com.

Coupons for Troops



Special to the Riverland News

Brittany Lakhani, Miss Gainesville Teen, mails her first batch of coupons for members of the U.S. military to her adopted base in Ikiyo, Japan. Lakhani, who is collecting expired coupons for soldiers abroad, sent more than \$1,000 worth of deals and discounts to them. "I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this cause," she said. "We truly are making a difference in the lives of many service men and women." Lakhani is still collecting coupons to send to her other adopted base in Germany. For more information, she can be reached at brittanylakhani@aol.com.

Romeo Elementary preps for read-in

Romeo Elementary is buzzing with activities. The first SAC meeting was Tuesday, Sept. 13, and Open House followed that same evening. Teachers presented 15-minute presentations about their classroom expectations and procedures, while after-school tutoring vendors spoke in the courtyard about the services that they could provide.



Kathy Hultman
Romeo
Principal

Since this is the first year that Romeo has qualified for this program, there has been a great deal of parent interest. Sept. 27 is the date for the countywide Altrusa Read-In. The 100 grandparents group from On Top of the World will make their first visit on this day to read to our students.

The grandparents are assigned a classroom to adopt for the entire

school year and grandparent visits then become a once a month activity for the year. This year, several Florida legislators will visit on that Altrusa day as well. Sen. Alan Hays, Rep. Keith Perry and Rep. Dennis Baxley will all visit Romeo beginning at 10 a.m. We are excited to have these individuals on hand to see our school in action.

The PTO is busy planning Romeo Round-Up for Oct. 27. This is a huge undertaking to get activities planned and ready. Students purchase necklaces that entitle them to trick or treat at 20 classroom doors. There are games in the courtyard and food to purchase in the cafeteria. If you are interested in helping with any aspect of this activity, contact Victoria Thomas at Romeo Elementary at 465-6700.

Nurturing nature

Who runs that awesome park?

In 1958, a new television show made its debut. A likeable character, Yogi Bear, entertained the children of the 1950s and 60s with his picnic nabbing talents as his rival, Park Ranger Smith, spent the majority of his day at the park trying to outwit the clever bear.

"Mr. Ranger, Sir," as Yogi called him, had his work cut out for him. Not only did he have to maintain the grand park of Jellystone, the fictitious park based on Yellowstone, but he had to keep the picnic baskets safe for the park visitors. Life at Jellystone, sometimes hectic and fast paced, still looked rather peaceful and easy in the television version, didn't it?

Ranger Smith of Jellystone was the perfect character needed to run the park. He was a serious and somewhat stern authority figure at the park, but cared as much for the pesky bear as he did visitors and the park whose care he was charged with. Twenty-four years later in 1982, Ranger Joe Smyth, a real-life character, entered the real-life park service system known as the Florida Park Service (FPS). Today, with more than 29 years of park service experience, Joseph E. Smyth, the ranger who began his career in 1982 is now park manager of Rainbow Springs State Park.

Smyth came to Rainbow Springs in August 2006. His 29-year career with FPS has moved him to numerous parks within the state including Fort Clinch, Ichetucknee Springs, Manatee Springs, Myakka River, Oscar Scherer, John D. McArthur Beach and Big Lagoon, which included Big Lagoon, Perdido Key and Tarkiln Bayou Preserve state parks.

Prior to Rainbow Springs, Smyth was hired to head up a program called the Operational Compliance Program in Tallahassee. There, he took a team of other park managers into the parks to review procedures and offer insights and suggestions about how to improve operations.

Of the 160 state parks in Florida, it is safe to say Smyth has been in most – all but four – of them. He has fascinating stories to tell of his life experiences from the various parks and in listening to these stories you cannot help but hear the pride and joy as he reflects on his career. Not just about work, Smyth's stories include his own adventures as a camper at other state parks.

After finishing four years in the U.S. Navy in Jacksonville, attending Florida Junior College and the University of North Florida, where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Smyth spent the next few years doing several jobs in the Jacksonville area and fell in love with O'Leno State Park.

Spending time at O'Leno is what triggered his pursuit of a career in the Florida Park Service. Days in O'Leno caused him to realize that he wanted to become part of helping to preserve the Real Florida, to be outdoors and to become a park ranger.

Smyth has a love of Rainbow Springs and Dunnellon. The area, he says, triggers fond memories. "In my youth, I was a certified cave diver, and as such have a real love and appreciation for the aquifer and our springs," he said. "Though there is no accessible cave system here, the principle of the aquatic system is the

same. I really love the fact that our state parks preserve the Real Florida and being the manager gives me an opportunity to help in that regard."

Smyth and his wife, CeCe, live on the grounds of Rainbow Springs State Park. Nearly all park managers live at the park they manage, with a few exceptions. What a wonderful way to personally know the surroundings of the park you manage.

Speaking of his life at the park, Smyth said: "It is hard for me to think of myself not living in a park. It is enjoyable to see the deer browse through the yard, hear the Barred Owls call at night and enjoy the beauty of the night sky of the park."

As for special places of beauty, Smyth finds the end of the Blue Trail an especially nice place to view the river. Zone Two is also a favorite, as he said: "We have done some good burns there and the wildflower response is spectacular in the spring."

Thousands of visitors enjoy Florida State Parks throughout the year. It probably doesn't occur to most visitors what a monumental task it is to keep the hundreds of acres of property under control and beautiful for their enjoyment. Our local state park, Rainbow Springs, is a property consisting of more than 1,400 acres containing everything from flowering gardens, swimming areas, miles of hiking trails, concessions, campgrounds, pine forests and all types of flora and fauna. Rainbow Springs is also one of only a handful of state parks that was formerly a private tourist attraction. As such, it is essential to maintain the historic areas and attributes of this wonderful park. Organization of tasks is essential.

While Ranger Smith of Jellystone had only the challenge of keeping a mischievous Yogi away from the visitor food source, Park Manager Smyth faces far larger challenges.

"As in any park, the ultimate challenge here is to balance recreation with preservation," he said. "However, specific to Rainbow Springs, that



Special to the Riverland News
Joe Smyth, park manager at Rainbow Springs State Park, have worked for the Florida Park Service (FPS) for more than 29 years. He recently celebrated his fifth-year mark at Rainbow Springs.

State Park to host volunteer fair

Rainbow Springs State Park, along with the Friends of Rainbow Springs (FORS), will host a volunteer fair from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12. Attendees will receive an original poster of the park from the days of the Rainbow Springs local roadside attraction. Refreshments and live music will be provided. Tour the park, campground and tubing facilities of Rainbow Springs State Park with FORS members, Volunteers and Park Rangers. For more information or to RSVP, call 465-8555 by Friday, Oct. 7.

challenge is amplified by the increasing demand for use and access to the river."

Smyth presently works with a staff of 19, which includes three life-guardians and two additional OPS Rangers during the summer months, and their work is supplemented by volunteers.

"We are most fortunate that we have some outstanding volunteers that supplement our professional staff," he explained. "Without them, we would be hard pressed to open the gates every morning with just our full time staff."

In the state parks, as well as many other agencies throughout the state and country, volunteers make it possible to provide the visitors with a memorable outdoor experience.

Park Manager Smyth has a vast knowledge of the parks where he has worked, as well as the entire Florida state park system. His wealth of knowledge is willingly shared with staff and visitors. From sea turtles to archaeological digs, he can answer your questions thoroughly. In fact, Smyth has his own bear

stories – while not the comical Yogi Bear variety Ranger Smith at Jellystone portrays – his stories contain humor as well as useful information.

With over a quarter century of park involvement, perhaps a book titled "Living in the Park" is in his future. That life-story would be a great seller in any camp store! Perhaps a cover photo of the young Ranger Smyth and what...a bear? I know I'd read it.

Smyth welcomes your visits to this beautiful park. The door is always open at the Administration Office of Rainbow Springs State Park. If you would like to voice your compliments, concerns or complaints, Park Manager Smyth will gladly give you the time to do so.

So plan a trip and visit your local state park. Bring your pic-a-nic basket. Yogi and Ranger Smith aren't here – but Park Manager Smyth and his team of rangers and volunteers are and they are all dedicated to seeing that you have a wonderful day! For more information on Rainbow Springs State Park call 465-8555 or visit www.floridastateparks.org/rainbowsprings.

Best if used by ...

Is food product dating what you think it is?

Sell by, best if used by and use by. These generic phrases are included on most food packages, along with varying forms of numerical date stamps. But what do they actually mean? How good is best and how bad is it after it's not best anymore? If food product dating lingo like this has made you nearly lose your appetite, read on for an explanation that will hopefully clear this culinary conundrum.

Although a dating system exists, it's neither standardized, nor required by federal regulations. Only infant formula and baby food are federally required to include a use-by date based on nutrient and texture quality and should not be bought or used past that date. States regulate food product dating for all other foods, using either code dating or calendar dating.

Code dating is usually found on shelf-stable products such as cans, jars and boxes. These codes represent date and time of manufacture and are used to direct product rotation as well as to facilitate location and collection in a food recall. These dates do not imply the safety of the food.

Calendar dating is found mainly on perishable food such as meat, poultry, fish, eggs and dairy products. Calendar dates (sell-by, best if used by/before and use-by dates) identify the time range of peak quality, but not safety.

You may be surprised to learn that though these dates give an idea for general shelf-life and

optimum quality, they don't indicate concrete time periods for safety. Much of food safety involves the proper handling and storage of food. With the exception of baby formula and food, food that is "expired" or past the dates printed on the packages may still be safe to consume for a time. More importantly, food that hasn't "expired" may be unsafe if it hasn't been stored properly. Remember the importance of time and temperature; perishable food requires temperature control

within certain time guidelines to inhibit the growth of microorganisms that can cause food-borne illness.

Consider food product dates as useful guidelines for perishable food. But don't forget to take these easy – but crucial – steps to ensure your food remains safe to eat.

- Buy food before the expiration date.

- Promptly refrigerate perishable foods at 40 degrees or below.

- Ensure food does not stay at room temperature for more than two hours.

- Freeze perishable foods that will not be used before the expiration date.

- Frozen foods with expired dates are safe indefinitely as long as the product remains continuously frozen.

- Adhere to manufacturer's instructions on products.

Questions? Contact Nancy Gal, Extension Agent IV with UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service, at nancy.gal@marioncountyfl.org or 352-671-8400. Visit www.marioncountyfl.org/extensionservice.htm or subscribe to County Connection at www.marioncountyfl.org/countyconnection.htm for information, resources and upcoming events.



Nancy Gal
extension agent

R.S. Garden Club to meet Sept. 22

The Rainbow Springs Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at the American Legion Hall, 10730 U.S. 41, across from Jan's Nursery.

Guda Taylor of Taylor Gardens will be the guest speaker. She will have information for successful gardening in our area, using plants as examples of her presentation.

Annual dues are \$10, visitor's fee is \$5 for two visits, after which you become a

member. Sign in to be included in the door prize drawings for the Plants of the Month at the end of the meeting. Refreshments will be available during the break (small donations appreciated) as well as Grow and Share plants and 50/50 Drawing. Tickets for the annual Fall Garden Tour & Picnic, scheduled for Nov. 3, will be available.

For more information, call President Barbara Roberts at 489-9680.

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Dunnellon golf team posts pair of victories to start year

Riverland News

The Dunnellon High School golf team is off to a 2-4 start after placing second at a pair of tri-matches and losing a pair of dual competitions.

On Sept. 8, the Tigers knocked off Lake Weir at Silver Springs Shores Golf & Country Club. Ryan Molloy paced Dunnellon with a 47, as the team shot a 202 to best the Hurricanes. Other scores for the

Tigers included: Bryce Thalacker, 48; Michael Beach, 48; Kyle Smith, 59; Madeline Tourne, 74.

The Tigers hosted their first home match Sept. 6 at Juliette Falls, losing to Ocala Vanguard. Dunnellon was led by Thalacker's 5-over 41 as the team shot a 187. Other scores for the Tigers included: Smith, 44; Molloy, 49; Beach, 53; Richie Litterine, 56; and Chelsea Dominey, 59.

In the team's first tri-match of the season Sept. 1, Dunnellon placed third out of the teams, shooting a total of 198, at Plantation Inn Golf & Country Club against Crystal River and Spring Hill.

Thalacker once again paced the Tigers, shooting a 46. Other scores for Dunnellon included: Ryan Molloy, 48; Smith, 48; Litterine, 56; and Chelsea Dominey, 58. Tourne withdrew from the match with an injury.

In the Tigers' season-opener Aug. 30, against Belleview and Lake Weir, Dunnellon finished second with a 188 at Eagle Ridge Golf & Country Club as the Rattlers came out on top. Molloy paced the Tigers with a 3-over 39. Other scores included: Thalacker, 43; Smith, 51; Litterine, 55; Tourne, 56; and Beach, 65.

"The team is struggling to find consistency in scoring," Dunnellon coach Roger Sibbald said,

noting Thalacker, a sophomore, has been the most consistent scorer averaging 8 over par 44 per nine holes, adding he has a young team consisting of one freshman, two sophomores, three juniors and two seniors, Tourne and Dominey.

Dunnellon played Tuesday against West Port at Candler Hills. Results were not available at press time. The Tigers play at 4 p.m. today against St. John and Ocala Forest at Juliette Falls.

Tigers goin' fishing



JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Dunnellon quarterback Jordon Boley avoids pressure from a Forest defender to fire off a pass to running back Wesley Beasley during first-quarter action Friday night Ned Love Field. The Tigers lost to the Wildcats, 10-3, their lone score a 26-yard field goal by Beasley in the second quarter.

Dunnellon looks to reel in Nature Coast Sharks; avoid two-game slide

JEFF BRYAN

Riverland News

Two games into the season, Dunnellon coach Frank Beasley knew there would be a few "growing pains" for his young team.

However, with three games, including the preseason, under their belts, Beasley explained that's no longer a valid excuse.

"You chalk that up first to being young," Beasley said. "But here we are now, the third game into the season, so now it should be, 'OK, now it's time to go.'"

The problem for the Tigers (1-1) this season has been letting it go, as in turnovers. Through two regular season games, Dunnellon has turned the ball over eight times, matching all of last season's total for 11 games.

"We're there already," Beasley lamented. "We're going to find some players that will hold onto the ball."

Case in point last Friday against Forest High School, the Tigers coughed the ball up twice in the fourth quarter with an opportunity to even the score.

"When you don't have stupid penalties and don't turn the ball over, we'd be all right" Beasley said. "We punted one time, once. We cannot continue to function

DUNNELLON AT NATURE COAST TECH

- **WHEN/WHERE:** 7:30 p.m. today at Nature Coast Technical School, 4057 California St., Brooksville.
- **RECORDS:** Dunnellon 1-1 overall; Nature Coast 1-1.
- **LAST WEEK:** Dunnellon lost to Ocala Forest, a Class 7A school, 10-3; Nature Coast Technical lost 29-7 to Fleming Island, a Class 7A school.
- **LAST YEAR:** The Tigers knocked off the Sharks, 28-21, at home last season when the two schools were in the same district. This year, Nature Coast Technical is now considered a Class 6A school by the Florida High School Activities Association, while Dunnellon is a Class 5A school.
- **WHO TO WATCH:** RB/K Wesley Beasley booted a 25-yard field goal for the Tigers' lone score. Offensively, he had 38 yards rushing on six carries and two catches for 14 yards. QB Jordon Boley was 6-of-11 for 44 yards and one interception. RB L.J. Brown carried the ball six times for 26 yards and had three receptions for 17 yards. ...Nature Coast RB Breida has rushed for 240-plus yards and five touchdowns this season. However, most of his damage came in the Sharks' opening week victory against Gulf, where he rushed for 231 yards and four scores on eight carries.

like that."

The seventh-year head coach credited his defense for keeping the contest close by holding the Wildcats' offense in check and forcing a turnover in the second quarter with Forest driving.

"We're playing well, we got out of ourselves a bit," Beasley said of his defensive unit. "They panicked a little bit; it was good for us to get hit like that. They drove the ball a little bit. They've got to stay within themselves and

understand what we're trying to accomplish.

"Our kids are running around pretty good right now; that might be our saving grace is because we are creating turnovers."

Much like the offense, the defense for the Tigers is young too. Thus far, Beasley explained, is those players are getting better and understanding what the team needs to do to be successful.

"They're starting to grow up, they really are," Beasley

said. "They've got to continue to get better, continue to grow. You should, as a football player, make a leap from game 1 to game 2 to game 3."

The return of Connor Wentz, out during the first few week of practice and the pre-season contest, has been a big addition.

"He's only going to get better," Beasley said. "He's a heck of a football player."

While the offensive struggles are fresh in the mind of Beasley, containing the Sharks' offense and finding gaps in the defense has also been the focal point for the Tigers during their preparation this week. Nature Coast Technical is under a new head coach for the third time in three years.

"They've got a new system, a good tailback, so we have to keep them under control," Beasley explained, noting this year's team will be different than last year's squad his Tigers played. "They're running the ball really well; they're not going to oversize us."

"They really do a nice job of getting after the football, which creates a problem for us, when they get three or four guys on the ball we've been apt to turn he ball over. We've got to do a good job of coaching the kids."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Charity golf tournament to benefit United Way

The College of Central Florida will host a four-person Best Ball Scramble format golf tournament Saturday, Sept. 24. All proceeds from the event will be donated to United Way of Marion County.

The tournament will tee off at 8:30 a.m. at Pine Oaks of Ocala at 2201 N.W. 21st St. in Ocala. The cost is \$50 per person. Entry fee includes golf, cart, lunch and prizes. Hole sponsorships are available for \$75 per hole. Sign up forms are available at www.uwmc.org.

For more information about sponsorship or registration, call Tim Thayer at 854-2322, ext. 1229.

Stirrups 'N Strides golf event slated

The Stirrup 'N Strides Therapeutic Riding Center will have its second annual golf event at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at Rainbow's End Golf Club. The 18-hole event, with continental breakfast and a cookout lunch, is \$60 per player.

There will be hole-in-one contest with a chance to win a 2012 ClubCar golf cart. A live auction and raffle will be at the end of the tournament. Entry deadline is Sept. 30 and is limited to 14 foursomes.

It is a best ball scramble format with gross and net winners. Special features include closest to the pin contest, Las Vegas hole long drive contest and straightest drive contest.

For more information or to sign up, call Rainbow's End Golf Club at 489-4566.

Fitzgerald Memorial bike ride slated Nov. 6

The 2011 Dwight Fitzgerald Memorial Ride will be at 8 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at Rainbow Springs State Park. The event, benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Dunnellon, costs \$30 per rider and includes a T-shirt.

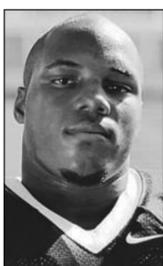
Registration forms can be found online at www.bgcofmarion.org. Entry forms must be postmarked by Oct. 31. Three rides are available to those participating, they include: a 33-, 65- or 100-mile ride. Those who do not wish to participate in the ride, can purchase a T-shirt for \$10.

Tickets are also being sold for a chance to win a brand new bicycle courtesy of Blue Run Bicycles. For more information about the ride, visit www.bgcofmarion.org. For more information about the chance drawing, call Grant Chance at 465-7538.

DUNNELLON HIGH ATHLETES OF THE WEEK • PRESENTED BY ELECTRIC BEACH SALON

Malcom Ross, football

Malcom Ross, a junior, plays both linebacker and running back for the Tigers' varsity team. During the team's game against Forest High School, he had 10 tackles; however, in addition to his steady play on the football team he also helped the junior varsity cheerleaders with the loading of their mats after the Forest junior varsity football game Thursday night.



Malcom Ross

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Janissa Merritt, cheerleader



Janissa Merritt

She is a 12th-grade varsity cheerleader, who we refer to as our "utility" cheerleader. Merritt is always willing to fill in any vacant position and does so with pride. She always has a positive attitude, encourages her teammates and is a "bright spot" on the team. She did not miss a single summer practice session and is often seen running the track after a 2-hour cheer practice to improve her running abilities for when she participates on the track team.

Volleyball team posts win

Lady Tigers fall in two other matches

LIZZY WRIGHT

For the Riverland News

For a team that held its first tryouts at the end of the first week of school, the Dunnellon High School volleyball team may have spent fewer hours practicing so far than the Lady Tigers have spent competing.

Dunnellon debuted on the road in Eustis Tuesday, Sept. 6, following that with a victory at home against North Marion, and then a loss at home against Nature Coast.

While summer workouts and conditioning took place over the summer, the tryouts continued until Monday, Aug. 29, before team practices began Aug. 30.

It looks like there will be little time for practice this week either. On Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 12 and 13, the team had home games. The Lady Tigers travel to Tavares today.

Going up against some hard competition in Eustis, Dunnellon learned what it had to work on to improve and grow as a team. They had some great plays. On one outstanding play, a Panther spiked the ball and Alyssa Claffey passed it to setter Casey Weber, who set it up perfectly for hitter Abigail Hatfield.

The Lady Tigers also had some great blocks and some great digs that showed all the hard work the team put in. The team believes Eustis, de-

spite losing 25-10, 25-11, 25-20, was a good team to start out the season against, preparing them for other strong hitting teams such as Nature Coast.

The following day, Wednesday, Sept. 7, the Lady Tigers had no time to practice but still earned their first victory of the season against North Marion, 25-13, 25-11, 25-18, making the fans proud.

The team had some long rallies and benefitted from strong digging. Jody Weber ended the game with a kill.

"We came together as a team," Casey Weber, team captain, said.

Finally, Dunnellon hosted Nature Coast on Thursday, Sept. 8. Putting up a good fight, the Tigers were defeated, 25-12, 25-14, 25-11.

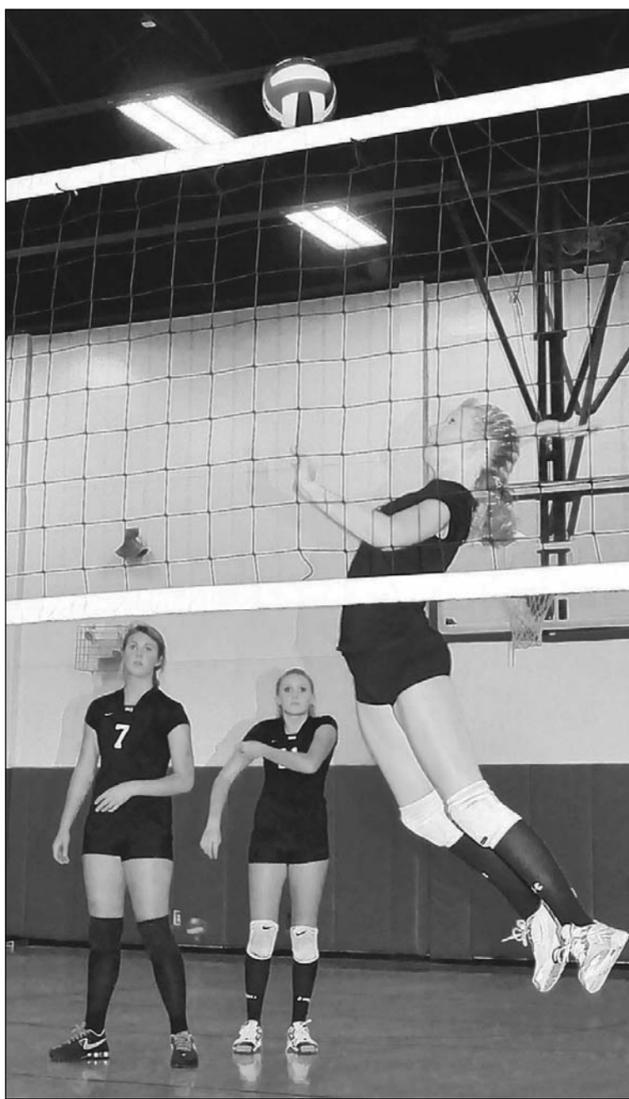
"I definitely think our team will get better as the season continues," Weber said. "We're three games in and we've already improved a lot. We're all pretty good friends, so as long as we keep the criticism constructive and encourage each other I think we'll continue to get better and have a great season."

Alyssa Claffey, co-captain, added: "The scores did not reflect how good we played. We played our hearts out. I'm excited to see what the rest of the season has in store."

Claffey also expressed how happy she was to see the fans supporting them.

The Lady Tigers return home Sept. 22 to play Eustis.

In junior varsity action, the Lady Tigers' JV squad fell to Eustis, 25-11, 25-4; North Marion, 25-20, 25-14; and Nature Coast, 25-11, 25-5.



BRANDON SANCHEZ/For the Riverland News
Dunnellon volleyball player Abigail Hatfield looks to spike the ball during warm-ups prior to the Lady Tigers' match against Nature Coast.

Forest football takes down DHS varsity, JV

JV squad falls, 33-8

AMANDA BARNEY

For the Riverland News

OCALA — Anticipation built up Thursday, Sept. 8, for the Dunnellon High School junior varsity football team, as its bus arrived at Forest High School. With their heads cleared from last week's game, they entered the field looking for a fresh start.

"We came in knowing this game was going to be another dog fight," Dunnellon coach Archie Smith said. "We're going against a big school that has about twice as many players than our team."

Despite staking themselves to an early 8-0 lead on Tyler Powell's touchdown pass to Bo DeWitz, followed by Powell's two-point conversion throw to Daniel Rivera, the Wildcats proved too much for Dunnellon in a 33-8 victory.

On the Tigers' opening possession, Forest forced Dunnellon into a three-and-out as the Tigers chose to punt. However, on the Wildcats first offensive series, Dunnellon's Josh Tricomi intercepted Kameron Proctor's pass.

The Tigers capitalized, scoring on Powell's touchdown pass DeWitz with 6:50 remaining in the opening quarter. Powell followed his scoring play by throwing to Rivera for the two-point conversion.

Then Forest took over, as the Wildcats forced a turnover on Dunnellon's next possession, as Forest's offensive converted both for touchdowns.



CHRIS SMITH/For the Riverland News
Dunnellon's Daniel Rivera runs around the corner as a Forest defender attempts to close in during junior varsity action last Thursday at Forest. The Tigers fell to the Wildcats, 33-8.

After a Kane Parks' fumble, the Wildcats' offense marched down the field scoring on Proctor's touchdown pass to Javon McNeil. The extra point failed as the Wildcats trailed, 8-6, with 8:30 left in the first half.

After trading possessions, Forest struck before the end of the half as Jon Coleman scored with 1:23 remaining in the second quarter. Gordon converted the two-point conversion for the Wildcats, giving them a 14-8 lead.

Both teams traded turnovers, as the Tigers recovered a Gordon fumble as the buzzer sounded, ending the first half.

"I am very pleased about the half-time

score," Smith said. "We are holding our own for the first half and doing what we need to do. My main goal here is to get the players ready for varsity. I try to get young ninth- and 10th-graders to get ready physically and mentally for that level and right now they are showing much potential."

Forest's Gordon, Taylor and Gerald Campbell scored their team's final three touchdowns to blow open a close game in the second half.

"We have to use our senses and play smart football," Smith said. "We have six games to go. I was proud of the score at half-time, but we let them slip away. We are better than that. As a team we have to work as a team, step up

our hearts and effort.

"The other team had too many fresh bodies to put in the game. They are a bigger team and it ends up being a numbers game. Some of my team gave 100 percent and that's all I can ask for. Tyler Powell played very well. D'Andre Munford put pressure on the quarterback. Bo DeWitz made a good touchdown reception and William Burgess also did well. I am always looking for somebody to give me 100 percent and who gets the job done. If I can get my whole team to do that, which we are very close, we will be a very hard team to beat."

Dunnellon will play at 7 p.m. today against Lake City Columbia High School at Ned Love Field.

Turnovers foil varsity vs. Wildcats

JEFF BRYAN

Riverland News

Dunnellon coach Frank Beasley knew prior to the Tigers' match up against Forest High School, his team would need to avoid turning the ball over; control the ball and tackle well.

Throughout much of the first half, Dunnellon did just that for the most part.

The Tigers, despite turning the ball over twice in the first half, kept the potent Wildcats' offense in check and took a 3-0 lead into half time thanks in large part to a 23-play drive capped by Wesley Beasley's 25-yard field goal. Dunnellon's drive chewed up 12 minutes, 23 seconds of time and covered XX yards.

"We should have punched it in on that drive in the first half," Beasley explained. "We just couldn't get it down; we've got to put some points on the board."

However, in the second half, the Wildcats (2-0) regrouped and the Tigers (1-1) could not answer.

Forest, riding the legs of Mark Herndon, scored on its opening drive of the third quarter, taking a 7-3 lead and never looked back. Herndon, a senior running back, rushed for 83 of his game-high 92 yards, including a 7-yard rushing touchdown in the second half of the Wildcats' 10-3 victory Friday night at Ned Love Field.

"The kids a great

See VARSITY page 16

Annual Florida Equine Institute trade show scheduled for today

The Marion County Extension Service, in cooperation with the Central Florida Livestock Agents' Group, will host the 11th annual Florida Equine Institute and Allied Trade Show from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion at 2232 N.E. Jacksonville Road, Ocala.

The all-day event will feature seminars from specialists about farm and horse topics including nutrition, pest management, tack maintenance, training and other best practices. The trade show, featuring both farm products and services will be available all day.

For more information or to register, call 352-671-8400. For a complete event schedule, visit www.marioncountyfl.org/CountyExtension/livestock.aspx.

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SAVANNAH SYNDER/For the Riverland News
Don DeLaney checks the sideline before spotting the ball during the Dunnellon vs. West Port contest Sept. 2 at West Port High School. DeLaney, the owner of Rainbow's End Golf Course, also works as a high school football official.

Local golf course owner works as high school football official

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Throughout the week, Don DeLaney is your mild-mannered golf course owner.

But when Friday nights arrive and the lights are turned on, he's a disciplinarian, blowing his whistle and throwing the occasional flag, separating young men and offering sage advice.

Meet Don DeLaney, high school football official.

"I just love the game of football and my son played it," said DeLaney, who is entering his fourth of officiating. "I just really missed (the games). I saw an ad about new sign ups, decided to try out and just got in it. I had been a soccer referee for six or seven years when my son was younger."

A regular at high school football games, he admitted he was one of "those people" critical of officials.

"The amazing thing is I used to be so intense, I'd wear officials out," DeLaney said. "Now that I've gotten on this side of it and see how fast everything happens. It's impossible to see everything; you have to make these split second decisions. I've got so much more respect for the whole thing."

As a "zebra," he's caught more than his fair share of wrath from those in the stands as well as coaches.

"You've just got to be firm and confident, if you don't know the rules correctly or kind of seem indecisive, they'll just wear you out," he said of coaches. "If you get stern with them, they usually back off, because if they get flagged for a couple of personnel fouls, they're suspended for a few games. You've got to be confident and not take their junk and they pretty much won't challenge you much. However, if you look like you have little indecision; then, oh man, they'll work you pretty good."

And there's more to it than tossing on the stripped shirt, grabbing their flag and hat and arriving at the school in time for the opening kick off. Even officials must go to school and take a test to remain a valid official. Prior to the start of the season, he had to attend a two-hour meeting one night a week for six straight weeks.

"I thought I knew the rules," he said. "But it's pretty in-depth, it's been

a great experience for me. It's kind of neat."

He does not only officiates at junior varsity and freshmen level games as well. Oftentimes, DeLaney works in the Gainesville area, but has traveled to Lafayette, Mayo, Branford, and Hamilton counties.

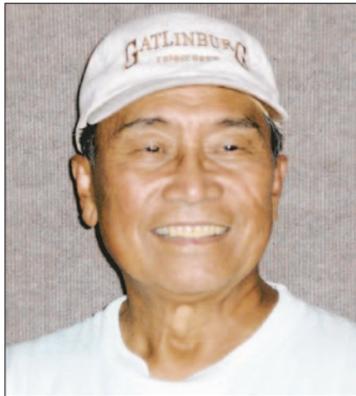
But his regular-season opener Sept. 2 kept him closer to home, as he was part of the officiating crew for the Dunnellon-West Port match up. DeLaney said the game "ranked right up" there with some of the better contests he's worked throughout the years.

"You like to do a game where coaches have control of their teams," he explained. "And both those coaches definitely did. That was certainly a great game to officiate."

DeLaney explained an official must be in shape because of the pace of the contests, but admitted he doesn't have a workout regimen of his own. But he certainly came up with one idea.

"I can run up and down the seventh fairway," he said with a hearty outburst of laughter.

BOWLING SCORES



Ted Rafanan rolled a perfect game in the first session of the Late Starters league Sept. 7. His first game was an uncharacteristic 156, but he followed with the 300, and then finished with a 180 for a 636 series. His last 300 was at Parkview Lanes in July 2003.

Carney 719.

Good Time Bowlers: Handicap: Rocky Sincore 245; Bob Krueger 226; Dave Messenger 618; Ken McNally 614; Alice Bahrs 227, 610; Laura Bonadonna 226; Grace Navarratte 617. Scratch: Rocky Sincore 222, 523; John Bahrs 174; Dave Messenger 483; Janet Murray 170, 437; Laura Bonadonna 167; Barb McNally 459.

Holder Hotshots NoTap: Handicap: Robert Stein 235, 635; Shorty Williams

228, 630; Betty Rauch 258, 726; Betty Wood 242; Betty Joyce 682. Scratch: Shorty Williams 177, 477; Robert Stein 139, 347; Betty Rauch 195, 537; Betty Wood 191; June Williams 480.

Parkview Owls: Handicap: Stoney Sinckler 306, 784; Bob Desmeules 306; Kenneth Folk 286; David Rogers 787; Toni Mills-Smith 311, 810; Maggie Savarese 290; June Williams 803. Scratch: Wes Foley 239; Ives Chavez 236, 621; Chris Carr 236, 594.

Bowlers of the Week: Liz Rollason, 111 pins over her average, and Merrill Barlow, 182 pins over his average.

League and Tournament scores for the week ending Sept. 4:

Monday Night Special: Handicap: Sy Leiner 280; Eric Glowacki 265; Matt O'Brien 765; Todd Cridland 733; Jacque Iverson 308; Dorine Fugere 277, 778; K.C. Cridland 649. Scratch: Joe Brooks 249; Eric Glowacki 247; Matt O'Brien 714; Todd Cridland 694; Dorine Fugere 255, 712; Jacque Iverson 238; K.C. Cridland 649.

Ladies Classic: Handicap: Liz Rollason 308; Pat Ouellette 703; Rose Damico 266, 737. Scratch: Liz Rollason 193; Myla Wexler 193, 507; Pat Ouellette 191, 496.

Wednesday Night Men: Handicap: Bill Thomas 303, 800; Wes Foley 278; Bryan Craig 787. Scratch: Bill Thomas 256; Wes Foley 246; David Black 697; Sam Bass 685.

Holder Hotshots NoTap: Handicap: Robert Stein 235, 635; Shorty Williams 228, 630; Betty Rauch 258, 726; Betty Wood 242; Betty Joyce 682.



OMAR DESARDEN/For the Riverland News
Dunnellon linebacker A.J. Basso (13) and teammates Chris Rossi (13) and Jeremy Dominey (11) look to coral Forest running back Mark Herndon during varsity football action Friday night at Ned Love Field.

VARSITY

continued from page 15

player," Beasley said of Herndon. "They have an outstanding offensive line unit. They really played physical in the second half."

The Tigers' first-half turnovers weren't as costly as the pair in the second half.

After a 37-yard field goal by the Wildcats' Danny Krysalga gave his team a 10-3 lead, Dunnellon had two opportunities to even the game, but both drives ended with critical

turnovers.

"That's not what we're about," Beasley said of the turnovers, making assurances the problem would be corrected. "We'll find some guys that can hang onto the ball."

Asked if the wet conditions throughout the contest, which included a steady drizzle throughout the first half, contributed to his team's inability to hang

onto the ball, Beasley didn't miss a beat with his response.

"I don't know, I wasn't out there toting the ball," he quipped.

While his team wasn't able to capitalize on its opportunity's, he gave credit where it was due. "They came out with a purpose in the second half," Beasley said of the Wildcats' play on both sides of the ball.

During his post-game talk, Beasley urged his players not to hang their heads in shame.

"I'll guarantee you by the 10th week, you won't remember this," Beasley said of his team's loss to the Wildcats, a Class 7A program, two classes above his program. "We're going to get better from this. These past two games are going to make us better."

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Special to the Riverland News

During her stay at Shands Hospital, Caitlyn Dunning met Albert and Alberta, mascots for the University of Florida.

CAITLYN

continued from page 1

blood in her stool samples, constant diarrhea and occasional vomiting.

It was when the bubbly, blonde cheerleader couldn't tolerate the pain anymore and told her mom she didn't want to go to cheerleading practice for an upcoming team competition that Christi realized this wasn't a teenager "faking it."

"I knew how important this competition was to her," Christi said, explaining how they were on their way to practice when Caitlyn asked her to turn the car around and go back home. "For her to not want to participate, I knew it was something horrible."

The following day, Christi took Caitlyn to her pediatrician for an explanation of the stomach pains. After explaining the systems she'd been enduring for the past few months, the doctor gave her diagnosis: Irritable Bowel Disease (IBD), or in Caitlyn's case, Ulcerative Colitis. The doctor told the Dunning's to immediately go to Shands Hospital for further testing.

Once they arrived, medical staff there admitted Caitlyn. That was Nov. 24, the day be-

fore Thanksgiving. She'd spend all but two days in the hospital for the next four weeks, as her mom watched her daughter's weight drop from 110 pounds to a low of 72 pounds. Christi explained how doctors did what they could to make sure Caitlyn kept the weight on, but "what went in one end, came out the other."

"That was her lowest," Christi said. "She was just skin and bones. I remember her being in the hospital bed and leaning over and I could see every vertebra in her spine."

During her four-week stay in Shands, Caitlyn underwent two colonoscopies as well as an Upper Gastrointestinal. She had a third colonoscopy in February and has elected to undergo surgery in November, where doctors will remove her entire large intestine.

"I didn't think it was real at first," Caitlyn recalled of her four-week stay in the hospital toward the end of 2010. "I was kind of in this phase where it was all going to go away, none of it was real."

But it was. Her energy sapped, a large weight gain — she went from 72 pounds to 135 — because of her being placed on prednisone, a synthetic corticosteroid drug that is particularly effective

as an immunosuppressant drug. According to Wikipedia.com, it is used to treat certain inflammatory diseases and (at higher doses) some types of cancer, but has significant adverse effects. Because it suppresses the immune system, it leaves patients more susceptible to infections.

Caitlyn attempted to return to Dunnellon Middle School for the second half of her eighth-grade year, but after her second day, she and her mom both knew it was too much, too soon. She did at-home schooling to complete her eighth-grade courses.

Fast forward through the summer months, Caitlyn has shed most of the weight she gained; she's now 115 pounds through a lot of exercise and training with Mary Katherine Boss, the Dunnellon High School cheerleading coach.

"I had to work hard with Mrs. Boss," Caitlyn explained. "It was not easy."

And with a lot of prodding from her mother, is back to doing what she loves — cheering.

"My mom forced me into it," she jokes. "But I'm really glad, because I feel more like myself."

That's not to say she doesn't have her bad days.

"It flares up every now and then," Caitlyn explained, noting every five weeks she is required to receive an infusion of Remicad, a mouse protein. Each session takes about four hours to administer and leaves her with a weakened immune system.

While her overall diet hasn't required a major overhaul, the now 14-year-old freshman at Dunnellon High has had to give up two of her favorite items — chocolate milk and sweet tea. Dairy products and caffeine are two items that can cause major problems for her.

"I wasn't a big cheese eater, but I love milk like chocolate milk," Caitlyn said.

While the choice to have surgery was entirely hers, she believes the end result will be better. However, the tough part through the whole ordeal has been educating herself and those around her about her disease.

"I have a disease," she explained. "It's not contagious; you're not going to catch it by being around me. I can tell you that I lose a lot of blood, but nobody really wants to hear about what goes on in the bathroom."

She is certain of one thing. "God gave me a disease, but He also gave me a blessing," she said with a smile.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

RLE Garden Club to meet Sept. 15

The Rainbow Lakes Garden Club will meet at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Community Center in Rainbow Lakes Estates. You do not have to live in Rainbow Lakes Estates to be a member of the club. There will be potluck luncheons on special occasions, new speakers and more.

Civic Association to host meeting

The Lake Tropicana Civic Association will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, at its clubhouse at 3380 S.W. 181st Court. The Association will discuss the neighborhood watch program with Lt. DeLaRua of the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

The meeting will be preceded by a potluck dinner and social at 6. At the meeting, it will also be the last opportunity to purchase tickets for the Sept. 24 spaghetti dinner. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

The Association will host a flea market from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 21 and 22. Table rentals available for \$5 for inside spot and \$4 for an outside space.

For more information, contact Linda at hall3118@bellsouth.net or call 465-5039.

Tickets on sale for Murder-Mystery

The Greater Dunnellon Historical Society is selling tickets available for its next murder-mystery event Friday and Saturday, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. "The Cat Screamed at Midnight" is set in 1930s England.

The event begins each night at 7 p.m. at Dunnellon's historic depot, 12061 S. Williams St. Doors open 20 minutes before each performance. Tickets are \$20 and include a full meal.

Tickets are available at the depot from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays until sold out. To make other arrangements for purchasing tickets, call the Depot at 465-5005 and leave a message.

Seats are limited and tickets will be sold first come, first served. Please purchase tickets together if you would like to be

seated together. A full table of eight is \$160.

American Legion activities slated

American Legion Wall-Rives Post 58 will host its regular meeting of the Post and Auxiliary at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7. Dinner will be served at 5:30 for members, spouses and prospective members.

The Dunnellon Young Marines will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 20 and 27.

Bingo will be at 6 p.m. Thursdays. Doors open at 4. Smoking is not allowed. Refreshments are available.

The Third Saturday Outdoor Flea Market and Pancake Breakfast will resume Sept. 17. The public is welcome.

United Way of Marion to host garage sale

OCALA — United Way of Marion County will have a communitywide garage sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 17, in the parking lot of the Cascades Professional Offices at 1515 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala.

Marion County residents can reserve booth space along with getting your name listed in the event directory, free Star-Banner classified coupons and cash-in-hand shoppers for \$49. United Way will also accept 'yard sale' items that residents can donate for United Way to sell and keep the proceeds. Yard sale applications can be downloaded at www.uwmc.org.

For more information about booth rental space or to have United Way sell your items, call Lindsey Turner at United Way at 732-9696, ext 226, or e-mail lturner@uwmc.org.

Rainbow River Koi Club to host event

The Rainbow River Koi Club will host its second annual Koi Show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at Circle Square Commons Cultural Center at On Top of the World Community at 8395 S.W. 80th St., Ocala. Admission is free.

For more information, call 489-9049 or e-mail koikola@aol.com.

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Include, but not limited to, providing a protective setting that is as noninstitutional as possible. Therapeutic programs of social and health activities and services. Leisure activities, self-care training, rest, nutritional services, and respite care.
Denise Arfsten, Owner/Administrator
352-465-1832 Lic.#9153
19240 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Dunnellon, FL 34432
myplaceadultdaycare@hotmail.com / Extended Hours Available

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE

MONDAY, 2:00 P.M.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD, CALL Toll Free 1-877-676-1403

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

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All ads require prepayment. We accept



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Be sure to check your advertisement the first day it appears. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Adjustments are made only for the portion of the ad that is in error.

CANCELLATIONS

Advertisements may be cancelled as soon as results are obtained. You will be billed only for the dates the ad actually appears in the paper. Deadlines for cancellations are the same as the deadlines for placing ads, except for specials.

Beware: Publication of any classified advertisement does not constitute endorsement by the Riverland News. We make every effort to screen out advertising that may not be legitimate. However, since we can not guarantee the legitimacy of our advertisers, you are advised to be careful of misleading ads and take caution when giving out personal information.

Free Services

BUYING JUNK CARS
• Running or Not •
CASH PAID - \$200 & UP
(352) 771-6191

Found

FOUND DOG
Red, male pitbull/
bulldog. In Lake
Tropicana/Dunnellon
area. 352-817-7786

Announcements

**DIRECTV
Summer Special!**
1 Year FREE
Showtime! 3 mos FREE
HBO/Starz/Cinemax!
NFL SUNDAY TICKET
Free - Choice
Ultimate/Premier -
Pkgs from \$29.99 mo.
Call by 9/30!
1-866-419-5666

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TEACHER
FT or Pt. Exp. Req.
CDA Preferred
**TADPOLES EARLY
LEARNING**
Equal Opp. Employer
(352) 560-4222

**Clerical/
Secretarial**

**Allstate Office
Dunnellon**
Looking for Mature,
440 or 220 Person
Part time/ Full time
Call (352) 489-3313
or email
rcaraway@
allstate.com

Sales Help

CHRONICLE

**Advertising Sales
Representative**
The Citrus County
Chronicle is now
accepting
applications for an
**Advertising Sales
Representative.**
Must have
minimum of 2 years
sales experience with
proven sales results.
Must be able to main-
tain current account
base as well as pro-
specting for new cli-
ents. Fast paced envi-
ronment that requires
ability to multi task with
ease. Computer
proficiency a must.
Excellent organi-
zational and customer
service skills.

Fax cover letter and
resume to HR at:
352-564-2935
or email:
marnold@chronicle
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Final applicant must
undergo a drug
screening. EOE

**MARKETING
POSITIONS**

Entry level. Positive
attitude and high
energy. Must be able
to work with clients on
daily basis. Exp. pref.
but not req'd. Training
provided. 401(k) and
health benefits.
Call Brenda at
352.484.1560

**Trades/
Skills**

**A Few Drivers Needed
Top Pay**
& 401K 2 mos. CDL
Class A Driving Exp
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GREAT MILES! GREAT
PAY!**

\$1000 Sign on for
Experienced CO's &
\$1500 Incentives for
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Course available.
recruiting.net
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**Trades/
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Up to \$2500 Sign on
Bonus.**
Start a new career!
100% Paid CDL
Training!
No Experienced Req
CRST EXPEDITED
800-326-2778
www.JoinCRST.com

**General
Help**

**\$5,000 SIGN ON
BONUS!**
Frac Sand Haulers
with complete bulk
pneumatic rigs only.
Relocate to Texas for
tons of work.
Fuel/Quick Pay
available.
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**Attend College
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*Medical, *Business,
*Paralegal,
*Accounting,
*Criminal Justice. Job
placement Assis-
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Aid if qualified. Call
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Career training.
Attend college 100%
online. Job place-
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fied. SCHEV certified.
Call (800) 481-9409
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Ready to work? 3 week
accelerated program.
Hands on environment.
Nationwide certifica-
tions and Local Job
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Heat & Air JOBS -

Ready to work? 3 week
accelerated program.
Hands on environment.
Nationwide certifica-
tions and Local Job
Placement Assistance!
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**Employment
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AIRLINES ARE HIRING -
Train for high paying
Aviation Maintenance
Career. FAA approved
program. Financial aid
if qualified - Housing
Available CALL Avia-
tion Institute Of Main-
tenance. (866)314-3769

AIRLINES ARE HIRING -

Train for high paying
Aviation Career. FAA
approved program. Fi-
nancial aid if qualified -
Job Placement Assis-
tance. CALL Aviation
Institute Of Mainte-
nance. (877)741-9260

**Schools/
Instruction**

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online. Job place-
ment assistance.
Computer available.
Financial Aid if quali-
fied. SCHEV certified.
Call (800)481-9409
www.Centura
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**Miscellaneous
Financial**

\$\$\$ ACCESS LAWSUIT
CASH NOW!! \$\$\$
As seen on TV. Injury
Lawsuit Dragging?
Need \$500-\$500,000+
within 48 hours? Low
rates APPLY NOW BY
PHONE! Call Today!
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\$\$\$ ACCESS LAWSUIT
CASH NOW!! \$\$\$

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sion. In stock ready to
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w/ glass door s, shelves
and lights on inside
\$300
**Large light green Lazy
Boy Couch** w/ recliners
on each end
\$300. or \$500 for both
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Yard Sales**

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Sat. 8-3. Furniture,
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upright exercise bike
exc. cond 3 y.o.
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HOWARDS FLEA MKT.
G.WING, 1 BUY GOLD,
SILVER, COINS, Toys
\$28 Gram. G.Wing
7 Days - Phone Joe
for Prices 697-1457

**WANTED HOUSE or
MOBILE Any Area.**
Condition or Situation.
Call (352) 726-9369

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BREASTED Hatched
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\$1,100 - Ph
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INVERNESS
55+ waterfront park,
1BR, \$325/up; 2BR,
1-1/2BA, \$450 includes lot
rent; 1BR, 1BA Park
model, \$450.
We accept Section 8
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2 BR, 1-1/2BA in 55+
Park, \$2,000. Water/
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Section 8 352-476-4964

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INVERNESS
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1BR, \$325/up; 2BR,
1-1/2BA, \$450 includes lot
rent; We accept Sec-
tion 8 352-476-4964

**Rent: Houses
Unfurnished**

DUNNELLON
3/2, remodeled, lg yard
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**Rent: Houses
Unfurnished**

DUNNELLON
Rainbow
Lakes Estates,
2/1/1, Completely
renovated.
The neatest little
house you'll ever see.
\$400 monthly.
(352) 489-8000

DUNNELLON
Rainbow Lakes Estates,
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beautiful & cozy
\$650 monthly
(352) 489-8000

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For Sale**

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All real estate adver-
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subject to Fair Housing
Act which makes it ille-
gal to advertise "any
preference, limitation or
discrimination based on
race, color, religion,
sex, handicap, familial
status or national origin,
or an intention, to make
such preference, limita-
tion or discrimination."
Familial status includes
children under the age
of 18 living with par-
ents or legal custodi-
ans, pregnant women
and people securing
custody of children
under 18. This news-
paper will not knowingly
accept any advertising
for real estate which is
in violation of the law.
Our readers are hereby
informed that all
dwellings advertised in
this newspaper are
available on an equal
opportunity basis. To
complain of discrimina-
tion call HUD toll-free at
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toll-free telephone
number for the
hearing impaired is
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Riverland
News
Classifieds
Get Results!

CALL
TOLL FREE
1-877-676-1403

**Notices to Creditors/
Administration**

288-0922 RIV
Bell, Bobby J. 42-2011-CP-890 (F) Notice to Creditors
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 42-2011-CP-890 Division F

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Bobby J. Bell, deceased, whose date of death was May 14, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Marion County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 110 NW 1st Avenue, Ocala, FL 34475. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
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ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is September 15, 2011.
Personal Representatives: /s/ Randy L. Bell 629 SW 15th Court, Bell, Florida 32619

Attorney for Personal Representatives: /s/ Norm D. Fugate Florida Bar Number 0044568 Attorney for Randy L. Bell Post Office Box 98, Williston, Florida 32696 Telephone: (352) 528-0019 Fax: (352) 528-4919 E-Mail: norm@normdfugatepa.com September 15 & 22, 2011.

291-0922 RIV
Ammann, Maryann 2011-CP-738(F) Notice to Creditors
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARYANN AMMANN Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of MARYANN AMMANN, deceased, whose date of death was May 8, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Marion County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 110 NW 1st Avenue, Ocala, FL 34475. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
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**Crystal River
Homes**

✓ THIS OUT!

14386 W Ebbtide Ct,
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bath, PERFECT GETA-
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the huge 31X10
screened lanai while you
look out over the beautiful
water. This cozy bungal-
ow has a dock & pier that
you can fish from & boat
ramp for when you're
ready to head for the
Gulf. Plenty of fenced in
yard to enjoy & when
you're ready to cool down
you'll love the
above-ground pool. This
well maintained home is
located on 2 lots (almost
1/2 acre) & includes all
major appliances. Bruce
Brundk, Keller Williams,
352-637-2777

Dunnellon

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Lease, Sale or Rent
with option to buy**
Remodeled
1st, last, \$100 sec.
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**BANK FORECLOSED
LAND LIQUIDATION**
From \$9,900, Blue
Ridge mountains,
paved roads, utilities,
country water, pano-
ramic views, excel-
lent financing. Sale
September 24th, Call
Now!
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17 Tracts to choose
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1 BED, 1 BATH
Fully Furnished,
stone fireplace,
balcony and full
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Lowest fees in area,
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possible owner
financing \$39,000
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**Notices to Creditors/
Administration**

288-0922 RIV
Bell, Bobby J. 42-2011-CP-890 (F) Notice to Creditors
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 42-2011-CP-890 Division F

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Attorney for Personal Representatives: /s/ Norm D. Fugate Florida Bar Number 0044568 Attorney for Randy L. Bell Post Office Box 98, Williston, Florida 32696 Telephone: (352) 528-0019 Fax: (352) 528-4919 E-Mail: norm@normdfugatepa.com September 15 & 22, 2011.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
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**Campers/
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**I BUY RV'S,
Travel Trailers,
5th Wheels,
Motor Homes**
call me 352-201-6945

**Vehicles
Wanted**

BUYING JUNK CARS
• Running or Not •
CASH PAID - \$200 & UP
(352) 771-6191

**We Buy Any Vehicle
Perfect Condition
or not so perfect, Titled,
no title, no problem.**
I will pay up to
\$15,000 for Vehicles.
Any make, Any model.
Call A.J. (813) 335-3794

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**Dunnellon
Computer Repair**

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Suite 6
NEXT TO DUNNELLON
CHIROPRACTIC
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**Notices to Creditors/
Administration**

288-0922 RIV
Bell, Bobby J. 42-2011-CP-890 (F) Notice to Creditors
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
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**Notices to Creditors/
Administration**

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ALL CLAIMS NOT



Wushu Chicken Tacos

creative KIDS in the KITCHEN

Young chefs give PB&J a makeover

FAMILY FEATURES

Everyone loves a classic PB&J sandwich. Now, with a little culinary creativity, your family can liven up lunch and win money for college.

Over the past 10 years, Jif® Peanut Butter has inspired thousands of kid chefs to reinvent the peanut butter sandwich for the chance of earning a fund for college. This year, in the 10th Annual Jif Most Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich Contest™, families can foster creativity in the kitchen for a chance to win a \$25,000 college fund, plus \$10,000 to purchase educational products.

- Sandwiches will be judged on creativity, taste, nutritional balance, appearance and ease of preparation.
- 10 semi-finalists will be selected to compete in a national online vote in January.
- Five finalists will be selected to compete at a live judging event in New York City in March.
- Four runners up will each receive \$2,500 college funds.

Visit www.jif.com and www.jifenespanol.com between July 28 and October 12 for Official Rules and the entry form. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States and D.C., between 6 and 12 years of age by October 12, 2011. Contests void where prohibited. See Official Rules for complete details.

The 2011 winner was 8-year-old Margalit M. of Raleigh, N.C. for her Wushu Chicken Tacos, pairing Jif Creamy Peanut Butter with chicken, asparagus and squash, all wrapped in a tortilla. Check out these other winning recipes for inspiration.

Wushu Chicken Tacos — 2011 Winner

Margalit M., Raleigh, N.C.

Serves: 1

- 1/2 cup diced rotisserie chicken
- 1/4 cup asparagus pieces, about 1 inch long
- 1/4 cup yellow squash pieces
- 2 fajita-size flour tortillas (6-inch)
- 2 lime wedges, optional

Sauce:

- Fresh ginger slice, 1/8 inch thick, peeled and cut in half
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled
- 2 tablespoons Jif Creamy Peanut Butter
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 3/8 teaspoon chili paste with garlic
- 2 1/2 teaspoons sugar
- 2 1/2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 1/4 teaspoons sesame oil
- 3 1/2 teaspoons water

Chop ginger and garlic in food processor as finely as possible. Add next seven ingredients and process until sauce is completely smooth. If sauce is too thick, add more water. If sauce is too thin, add more peanut butter.

Toss about half the sauce with chicken and put aside in a covered bowl. Boil about 1 inch of water in a large skillet and add asparagus. Cover skillet and turn off heat. In 1 to 3 minutes, lift off cover and remove asparagus using tongs.

Cut off ends of squash and cut into half-moon pieces. Put 1/4 cup squash pieces into microwave-safe bowl and add a little water. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave about 2 to 3 minutes. Let cool slightly and carefully drain off water.

Place tortillas in microwave and cook about 15 seconds, or until warm and bend easily.

Put chicken in tortillas, top with asparagus and squash and drizzle with additional peanut butter sauce. Serve with optional lime wedges.



PB & Fruity Says "Let Us Rap"

PB & Fruity Says "Let Us Rap" — 2010 Winner

Rachel G., Clovis, Calif.

Serves: 1

- 1/2 cup chopped cooked chicken breast
- 3 tablespoons chopped Fuji apple
- 2 tablespoons chopped black or red grapes
- 2 tablespoons Jif Extra Crunchy Peanut Butter
- 1 tablespoon lite mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons honey
- Iceberg lettuce

Chop chicken meat and fruit, mix in bowl. Mix in peanut butter, mayonnaise and honey.

Spoon into open lettuce leaf, roll and serve.

Po' Boy Peanut Butter Chicken Cheesesteak — 2009 Winner

Jordyn B., Lebanon, Pa.

Serves: 1

Sandwich

- 1/2 red pepper
- 1/2 yellow pepper
- 1 small onion
- 1/2 apple (any variety)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 chicken breast slices or any deli lunch meat chicken
- Hoagie/sub roll
- 1/4 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded

Sauce

- 3 tablespoons Jif Creamy Peanut Butter
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon honey mustard
- 2 teaspoons honey
- 1/2 cup water

Cut peppers into strips; cut onions into rings and slice apples into strips. Put into sauce pan with olive oil and cook on medium heat until soft.

Cook chicken breast slices and add to the pepper/onion/apple mix. (If you are using deli chicken, cut into strips and add it to the pepper/onion/apple mix. The deli chicken is already cooked and just needs to be warmed.)

For the sauce, heat a sauce pan on medium heat and add peanut butter, Worcestershire sauce, honey mustard, honey and water. Cook until creamy and soft.

Add three tablespoons sauce to chicken/pepper/onion/apple mix. Stir together.

Put chicken mixture on hoagie/sub roll and sprinkle with mozzarella cheese.

Cut remaining half of apple and place it on a plate with left over peanut butter sauce for dipping.



Tropical Fantasy



Po' Boy Peanut Butter Chicken Cheesesteak



Peanut Butter Rolls Sushi Style

Peanut Butter Rolls Sushi Style — 2007 Winner

Alexandra Y., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Serves: 1

- 1 8-inch crepe
- 5 tablespoons strawberry cream cheese
- 5 tablespoons Jif Creamy Peanut Butter
- 4 1/4-inch-thick slices fresh strawberries
- 6 1/2-inch-thick slices banana
- 1 tablespoon granola
- 2 long pretzel rods (to use as chopsticks)
- 1 small container chocolate yogurt (for dipping sauce)

Spread cream cheese over crepe. Top with peanut butter and smooth over cream cheese. Sprinkle strawberries and bananas over peanut butter. Top with granola. Roll up sushi-style and chill in refrigerator for 5 to 10 minutes. Cut rolls. Use pretzel rods as chopsticks and dip in yogurt.

Tropical Fantasy — 2003 Winner

Stephanie W., Burnsville, Minn.

Serves: 1

- 2 slices cinnamon bread
- 2 tablespoons Jif Creamy Peanut Butter
- 1 banana, sliced
- Canned pineapple chunks (drained)
- Canned mandarin oranges
- Grated ginger (optional)
- Pomegranate seeds (optional garnish)

Toast two slices of cinnamon toast.

Spread peanut butter on one slice of bread. Place banana slices, pineapple and mandarin oranges on the other slices. Add grated ginger if desired.

Put two sides of sandwich together and serve on a bed of lettuce.

Decorate top of sandwich with pomegranate seeds and use additional oranges to decorate plate.