

Riverland News

Thursday, January 26, 2012

Vol 30 No. 15

75 cents

Officials tweak Greenlight rates

City scraps triple play combo in favor of bundle options

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

With at least 80 percent of its fiber in place and a testing period underway, Greenlight Dunnellon Communications is tweaking its rate structure

after the City Council approved minor modifications as well as established small-business rates Monday night at its regular meeting.

Originally, the Council OK'd the rate structure in November; however, after concerns

from residents and small-business owners, city officials went back to the drawing board to tweak several of the rates Greenlight plans to charge its customers.

Gone is the triple-play combo, which consisted of Ex-

panded Basic, one phone line and 10 Mbs on its data line for \$119.99. The plan did not include DVR services or the phone features such as voice mail, caller ID or call waiting.

Also, nixed was the residential starter package, which comprised one phone line and Internet (5 Mbs). That package had been valued at \$59.99.

Phone features such as voice mail, caller ID or call waiting were not included.

Now, as Algiree, pointed out, the city will offer residents the chance to bundle services as they would like while receiving up to a 20 percent discount.

If potential customers chose

See RATES page 6

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Food4Kids Inc. to host bridge party

Food 4 Kids Inc. will sponsor an afternoon of bridge at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, at Dunnellon Presbyterian Church in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy an afternoon of card playing, refreshments and prizes for a donation of \$10 that will go to feeding hungry children on the weekends. You may register by table, pairs, or individuals. For more information or to reserve your spot, call Linda at 352-566-8289.

Eastern Star to host spaghetti dinner

The Dunnellon Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will host a spaghetti dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Masonic Hall at 20751 Powell Road. Cost is \$8 per person; take out is available. For more information about the event, call Nancy Homadue, Worthy Matron, at 489-2130 or Joan Cothern, secretary, at 465-0782.

Woman's Club slates events

The Woman's Club of Dunnellon will meet at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, for Game Day at the Woman's Club. Bring your favorite game(s) for all to enjoy. If you wish to bring snacks or drinks, please do. For more information, call Joan Cothern at 465-0782 or Gerry Hess at 465-8195.

The annual Soup-A-Thon will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4. Cost is \$7 per person, all you can eat. Take out is available, three containers for \$7. For more information, call Holly Fisk, chairwoman, at 465-8305.

RS Garden Club to meet today

The Rainbow Springs Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, at the American Legion Hall, 10730 U.S. 41, across from Jan's Nursery. Horticulturalist Bruce Ide will be the guest speaker. Bring your extra plants for the Grow and Share table, and be sure to sign in to be included in the door prize drawings. For more information, call Barbara Roberts at 489-9680.

All in the family



JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Jeffery Alley works with his steer, Levi, as well as his sister, Jana's steer. Here, the steer isn't cooperating. Alley said he hadn't been working with it as much as he should because of work and hunting season. Now that hunting season is ending, he will be spending every afternoon until "past dark" working with the steer.

Teens' Youth Fair participation is a decades-old family tradition

LIZZY WRIGHT
For the Riverland News

Editor's Note: The Southeastern Youth Fair will be from Feb. 18 to 26. During the next few weeks, the Riverland News will feature youths participating in the event.

On the family farm in Romeo, Jeffery Alley exits the house heading toward the barn.

and has not spent a lot of time with the steer.

The steer, in turn, proceeds to make it difficult for Alley to work with him, even after Alley dumps 50 pounds of feed into his trough. The steer is a bit too skittish. Alley has his work cut out for him, as he will attempt to get Levi halter broken and trained in time for the fair.

"I guess I'll be out here every day after school until after dark," Alley explained.

Alley is an 18-year-old junior at Dunnellon High School. This is his third year raising a

See FAMILY page 9

Jeffery Alley holds up his "Best in Class" trophy from 2010. Behind him are family portraits. Family members have participated for more than 20 years in SEYF. His grandmother, Janey Markham, said her husband would probably stay involved for the rest of his life even though the grandchildren will be done after next year when they graduate.



JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

In October, the Dunnellon City Council made it known it was not happy with the county's plans for a so-called Drainage Retention Area along County Road 484.

Three-and-a-half months later, Mayor Fred Ward continued to express his displeasure about the project, which is nearing completion, and the county's decision not to seek input from city officials.

"I'm not very happy about it," he explained. "It's atrocious."

Mayor Ward told fellow council members he's spoken with two people who have homes along the area, which sits almost directly across the entrance from Blue Cove. He said both citizens, women who are in their 80s said they're concerned with the lack of privacy and security the trees, that were once there, provided.

"Any fool can walk across there," he said, noting he walked it himself.

Councilman Dennis Evans said any property owner has the right to do what it wants with its property.

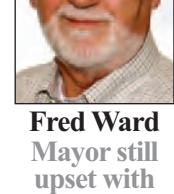
Mayor Ward disagreed.

"That doesn't hold water," he said. "It's not zoned for a DRA; it's zoned for residential or a traditional neighborhood. We had nothing to say about it. We knew nothing

See MAYOR page 6

Mayor lashes county

DRA on 484 still irks Ward



Fred Ward
Mayor still upset with county over DRA along C.R. 484.

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Chamber doles out awards at annual banquet

Businesses, individuals, civic groups recognized

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

The conversation echoed throughout the main room at River River Club and the dinner was succulent Saturday night as the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual awards dinner, the "Valentine Stars of Dunnellon."

As the 2012 Board of Directors were officially sworn in by Mayor Fred Ward, it marked the end of Matthew Baillargeon's tenure as president of the

Chamber as he passed the gavel onto Valerie Levy, who will serve as president of the Board of Directors.

Levy, who moved to the area 11 years ago from New York, admitted to being in "culture shock" when she first arrived in Dunnellon. However, after becoming involved in Jazz Up Dunnellon and serving as a Chamber Ambassador, she said she's eager to see the business community grow.

"I really fell in love with the city," she said. "I'm going to work very hard in the next year to help bring

businesses here, so they can see what we have to offer."

But the real celebration was the recognition of individuals, business owners and organizations that made an impact throughout 2011 in the community. Nominees were submitted by community leaders and businesses, and those winners were announced at the banquet. Winners were:

• Community Service Award — The Kiwanis Club of Dunnellon and

See CHAMBER page 19



Shirley Dixon, right, talks with Lisa Sheffield, a local business owner, during the social hour as guests strike up a conversation about local happenings.



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Workforce Wednesdays coming to Annie Johnson Center

Special to the Riverland News

OCALA - Workforce Connection of Citrus, Levy and Marion counties will bring job-seeker services to the Annie Johnson Senior and Family Service Center in Dunnellon beginning Wednesday, Feb. 1.

Workforce Connection's Mobile Resource Unit will be on hand from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday monthly. The

center is at 1991 W. Test Court, just south of the Withlacoochee River.

On every second and third Wednesday, Workforce will partner with the Florida Department of Children and Families at the center by providing work registration services for those accessing public assistance programs.

Rusty Skinner, Workforce's chief executive officer, said the effort is designed to make it eas-

ier for job seekers to access services without having to travel to a resource center in Ocala, Inverness or Chiefland. All Workforce Connection services, regardless of location, are provided at no charge.

"We recognize that it's not always possible to get to one of our centers, and the Annie Johnson Center is ideally located to serve residents in the northeast corner of Citrus County, southeast area

of Levy and southwest portion of Marion," Skinner said. "The idea is to provide seamless services throughout our region."

Workforce Connection's mobile resource unit is staff-supported and equipped with satellite Internet, four computer workstations and office equipment to assist job seekers register with the Employ Florida Marketplace, conduct job searches, work on their resumes,

fill out online employment applications, research career information and resources, get information about upcoming hiring events and apply for Unemployment Compensation benefits and file claims.

For more information about the Annie Johnson Center, call 489-8021. For information about Workforce Connection services at the Annie Johnson Center, call 800-434-5627.

FDOT to host public meeting Feb. 9

Riverland News

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will have a public information meeting from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church regarding the widening of U.S. 41 from 11th Place Lane to approximately Southwest 61st Street.

The meeting will start with an open house starting at 5, followed by hourlong presentation at 6. The presentation video is available online at www.us41marion.com or [\[cfroads.com\]\(http://cfroads.com\), click on Future Projects, then Marion and finally on 238648-1 SR 45\).](http://www.</p>
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According to FDOT, the agency conducted a Project Development and environment Study (PD&E) in 2007. The purpose of the study was to examine the widening and rehabilitation of U.S. 41 from two lanes to four lanes. Three public meetings were conducted, including a formal public hearing in December 2009.

The project to be discussed Feb. 9 entails the reconstruction of the existing

roadway from two to four lanes and includes grass medians, paved shoulders, sidewalks, driveway reconstruction and full and directional median openings.

According to FDOT, the project is currently scheduled for 2018, but is not currently funded for construction.

For more information, contact Kathleen Enot, FDOT District 5, at 386-943-5149 or email kathleen.enot@dot.state.fl.us or Tanya Kristoff at 904-256-2326 or email tanya.kristoff@rsandh.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Annual bluegrass festival slated Feb. 11

The sixth annual Bluegrass and Strawberry Festival will be at 1 p.m. Feb. 11. The event will be off State Road 200 and Stokes Ferry Road, turn at Reds Restaurant, and follow the signs to the Community Center. Gates open at noon. Bring a chair. For more information, call 637-4335.

CERT training slated to start Feb. 16

A new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will begin Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Marion County Sheriff's

Office, 692 N.W. 30th Ave., Ocala.

This is an eight-session

training, which is available either from 1 to 3:30 p.m. or 6:30 to 9 p.m. The afternoon and evening classes run concurrently and attendance can be mixed, depending upon availability. Only one class can be missed in the eight-session series and the CPR and last class is mandatory.

The CERT program is

made up of volunteers under the direction of the Division of Emergency Management of the sheriff's office. The purpose of CERT is to train and cer-

tify volunteers to be first responders in their communities in the event of a disaster such as a hurricane or tornado.

The CERT training includes basic skills in disaster preparedness, fire safety, assessment and treatment of life-threatening conditions, light search of structural and non-structural damage, psychology of the injured and terrorism.

The training is free. For more information and for an application, contact Bob Conn, trainer, at 352-812-0853.

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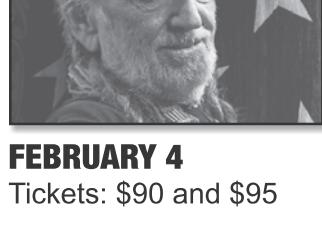
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City Council recognizes Officer of the Year, chaplain



Officer Mike Miley, third from right, and Pastor Ed Anthony of the Cross at the River Cowboy Church were recognized by the Dunnellon City Council at its Jan. 18 Workshop. Miley was honored as the Dunnellon Police Department's Officer of the Year and Anthony was recently sworn in as the agency's chaplain. Council members present, from left, are: Penny Fleeger, Dennis Evans, Mayor Fred Ward and Vice Mayor Fred Stark.

JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

City buys property to connect state trails

Council approves changes for Planning Board requirements

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

The Dunnellon City Council is helping the Florida Department of Greenways and Trails moving one step closer to the reality of connecting its trail system to the city, after the Council approved the purchase of 1.14 acres of land along County Road 484.

The property in question is owned by Dr. Pruitt's family and will cost the city \$9,000. The sliver of property is 20 feet wide and 2,516 feet long. Dr. Pruitt, who died several months ago, had agreed to the deal prior to his death. His family members agreed to keep the deal in place, City Manager Lisa Algiere told the City Council.

"This gives the state the ability to connect the trails," she explained. "It's something they have wanted to do for quite some time."

Marsha Segal-George said in the past the state has had agreements fall through.

"This is a huge priority for them to connect the trail systems," she added.

The plan now, Algiere said, is to lease the property to the state. It also might open the doors for the city to acquire 170 acres of property near Rio Vista, because the Department of Greenways and Trails eventually wants to reacquire the property where the city's Little League fields are now located. Leasing the property near Rio Vista would provide a new spot to relocate a new community park, Algiere said.

However, she explained, it is years from coming to fruition.

Resident Louise Kenney asked if the city has plans to involve the community

in such a large endeavor, therefore, creating public buy-in to such a large project.

"Absolutely," Algiere said. "First we have to get the land; then we'd have to create a master plan for that park. It's a long ways off."

Algiere told Kenney as well as the City Council there has been preliminary discussions about the need for a community sports complex in this portion of the county to not only meet the needs of the children, but adults as well. There's also 70 feet of "rough" waterfront property that Mayor Ward said the city would like to look at creating an additional tuber's exit to lessen the burden on Blue Run Park. As it stands now, tubers entering at either KP Hole or the State Park all exit at Blue Run Park.

"We end up with a headache," Councilwoman Penny Fleeger said.

In other action, the Council:

- Approved Ordinance 2011-13, allowing for non-resident property owners and non-resident business owners to serve on the Planning Commission.

Per the agreement, non-resident property owners must have owned the property for a minimum of three years and non-resident business owners must have been in business for a minimum of three years. A maximum of two non-resident property owners/non-resident business owners will be allowed to serve on the Planning Commission with one alternate in place.

Resident Mary Ann

Hilton voice opposition to accepting the ordinance.

"I would not want non-residents deciding the plans for the future of this city," she said.

The Council, however, said it was important to let business owners have a say in the city's future.

"They are stakeholders in the welfare of the city," Mayor Ward said. "It doesn't show a lot of wisdom to exclude those stakeholders."

Hilton questioned the Council if those who owned property sold it or if a business owner closed their doors.

"They'd no longer qualify," Marsha Segal-George, assistant city attorney, said.

- Approved a consultant agreement with Joe Renda for Grenlight Sales and Marketing. Per the contract agreement, Renda will work strictly on a commission and will not receive benefits. Also, any expenses he occurs, he must pay out of his own pocket.

"You couldn't have picked a better guy that I know about," Councilman Evans said. "I've seen him several times and he's always promoting Greenlight, he's very enthusiastic."

Segal-George said he does not have an exclusive agreement with the city, that if officials so choose, they can hire additional people. She said the city can also terminate the contract within five days if they are not satisfied with his performance.

- Approved an agreement with Kingdom 4H and Boy Scout Troop 452 to install 10 bat houses throughout the community as part of the two group's community service efforts. As part of the deal, the groups will construct 10

bat houses and provided poles. The city will turn place the bat houses at various locations throughout town.

The groups told the Council, the benefit of the bat houses is twofold. One, bats eat a large amount of bugs and mosquitoes. If the 10 bat houses fill up, the amount of bats occupying those houses could up to 12 billion insects and mosquitoes combined. They said in their research, the city spends \$32,000 per year spraying for mosquitoes, but the cost to put up the 10 bat houses is \$55.

Also, as part of the agreement, the two youth groups agreed to keep an eye on the bat houses for signs of wasps building nests.

"It's a heck of a project," Mayor Ward told the groups making the presentation.

- Approved the reappointment of Councilman Dennis Evans to serve another term on the Tourist Development Council.

- Authorized Mayor Ward to sign the Certification of Acceptance of an FDLE JAG Grant for road side Driver's License (DL) Readers.

- Approved an amendment for the agreement with Kimley-Horn & Associates for the Water and Wastewater Utility Master Plan.

Answers to puzzle on page 7

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AROUND THE COUNTY

Small-scale amendment applications accepted

The Marion County Growth Management Department is accepting applications for small-scale land use changes, or amendments, to the county's Comprehensive Plan. Residents who own 10 acres or less of land and are interested in changing its designated use, such as going from rural to commercial use, are eligible for the small-scale amendment application.

Per Florida Statute, the department may only accept up to a total of 120 acres of small-scale

amendment applications in one year. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. Feb. 3 or until the 120-acre maximum is reached, whichever

comes first. Application forms may be picked up at Marion County Growth Management or downloaded from www.marioncountyfl.org/Planning/land_use.aspx.

Growth Management hosts small-scale amendment application cycles periodically as part of its activities to keep the county's Comprehensive Plan up to date. The plan is Marion County's key guide for growth management and provides the framework for how the county will continue to develop.

For more information about

small-scale amend-

ments, contact Michael

Kokosky at 352-438-2600

or visit www.marioncountyfl.org/growthmanagement.htm.

Gardening for Dummies course sought

The earliest recorded baseball games at Orange Lake Community Park took place in 1918. The land encompassed by W.H. Willoughby Park once belonged to a farmer and preacher

from Alabama. County parks are rich in history, and a Marion County department wants to pre-

serve as much of it as

possible.

Marion County Parks and Recreation is inviting residents to assist in its collection of historical park information and photographs by sharing any little known fact or visual about a county park. If you know why a park was given a certain name, treasure an old photograph of a park or have just about any other historical information on a county park, contact Gina Peebles at 671-8560 or e-mail gina.peebles@marioncountyfl.org.

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RIVERLAND GARDENER

A few tips, tricks for rose planting and cuttings

Planting bare-root roses during the dormant season allows the plants to establish quickly because this is when the soil does not dry as quickly when watered.

Bare-root plants are available to buy in winter, and are more economical than planting pot-grown roses if you need lots of them.

Here's a few tips on how to do it:

— Dig out a hole in the soil to the depth of a garden spade and the same width. Put the soil to one side of the hole.

— Fork the base of the hole and add half a handful of granular fer-

tizer, such as pelleted chicken manure. Lightly firm the base of the hole with your foot.

— Set the bare-root rose in position, and use a bamboo cane placed across the top of the hole to judge the final soil level around the plant. Aim to set the base of the stems just slightly below this level.

— Add a shovelful of compost to the soil dug out of the hole, and mix it together. Use this to fill in around the roots of the rose, firming in layers with the heel of your foot.

— When the hole is full, add a mulch of well-rotted compost to the

surface of the soil to help conserve moisture. Water the rose well.

If you are green thumbed then it is possible to take stem cuttings, which can be grown to make new plants.

A plastic bottle method works well. Take a 6-inch stem cutting. The top of the stem cutting should have a slant cut above the top bud. Push the straight cut bottom into the ground, or pot about 2 inches down. Cover with your bottle or jar and water periodically around the jar to prevent the stem drying out.

A baggie can be used if you prefer a different method. Place the cutting into a pot with potting soil. Put the pot, or pots, into a plastic ziploc

bag. Push a couple of sticks into the pot to ensure the bag stays upright.

Although a good method, rot may become an issue if the bag folds over, and the air is prevented from circulating.

One medium that works well for us is a 50/50 potting mix, and perlite.

New, or mature growth, can be used, but make sure the stem is healthy.

This is a good economical way to get new roses for your garden, and keep old roses in your garden particularly if a favorite.

Tracy Jenner, the Riverland Gardener, can be reached at tracyjenner@aol.com.

LETTERS

Residents of Rainbow Springs should stand united

The city of Dunnellon has borrowed about \$12 million-plus to develop Internet services and purchase the Rainbow Springs Utilities Co. Since no referendum was held by the residents of Dunnellon to sell these bonds, resident taxes and fees cannot be used to secure the notes.

Greenlight and Rainbow Springs Utilities must provide the income to pay off the bonds.

Certainly, boycotting the Greenlight project is a significant tool for the residents of Rainbow Springs to speak with our wallets. We have alternatives to Greenlight!

The water system is an entirely different matter in my mind. If we don't do something that threatens their income flow, the city will prey on us forever.

I suggest the following:

— Do what unions do. Join together and act as one – solidarity. If we try doing it individually we will lose. Therefore, we should select a small committee and spokesperson to deal with the city. Maybe the Property Owners Association (POA)?

— We should hold a mass rally in front of City Hall and burn our water bills. You say they'll turn our water off. I say nonsense. Think about the fire hydrants, individually scattered throughout Rainbow Springs, the city cannot shut them off. That means they virtually have to go house to house to shut off the water. That's a big deal!

— We should get the media involved ("60 Minutes," "Wake-Up America," local TV in Gainesville, Orlando and Tampa as well as all the appropriate newspapers. Remember what happened in Waldo when they went nuts with traffic citations. The media loved covering the story nationwide and the city backed off.

I know I'm very hawkish, but if we don't present a united front and develop a course of action that threatens their revenue stream, we'll be the losers.

Remember, it's all about the money — we have it and they need it.

Frank Gebhardt
Rainbow Springs

Contact state lawmakers regarding surcharge

It seems to me that this city buyout of the Rainbow Springs Water Utility, and then adding on a 25 percent surcharge could be in violation of our constitutional rights.

There is no alternative for residents of Rainbow Springs. We can't vote in the city of Dunnellon; therefore, we are being taxed without representation.

We, as residents have no protection from the city doubling our water rates any time they choose to have a council meeting and vote to raise the rates to anything they desire.

Something is wrong here that allows a PSC regulated entity to be sold to a city government without some state intervention to regulate water rates, es-

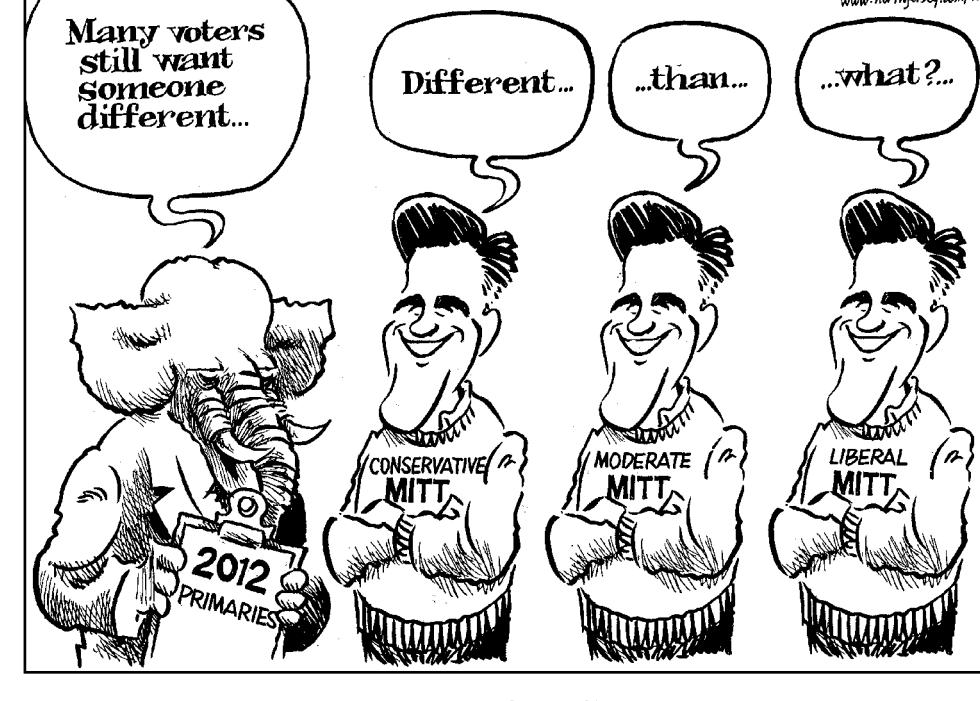
See LETTERS page 5

OPINIONS INVITED

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- 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.



Tracy Jenner



TIME TO SMILE

Counting on karma

So far 2012 has been a bust. I had to have a root canal done and then some other minor dental work.

Not fun!

I had to laugh at the post-op instructions. It stated: "Do not tap or bang on the area."

Gee Doc, you spent the last hour taking a sledge hammer to my face and now I can't tap on it. Darn!

I would rather go to the gynecologist than the dentist. That's how much I hate some one touching my teeth.

Since I shake so much, I tend to grip my toothbrush too tightly.

Therefore, I have brushed off most of the enamel on my teeth, which makes them very sensitive.

My dentist said I needed to try an electronic tooth brush. I purchased the one they conveniently sold at the front desk. Now, when I brush my teeth, it borders on obscene.

I have to use two hands because it vibrates so much. I am really not sure who shakes more – me or the toothbrush. There's a lot of pushing in and out involved. With a little practice, I have been able to cut down on the drooling. It wasn't a pretty site.

My woes are small compared to what my niece went through. Her house was broken into the second week of January. She lives in Ocala. The low-down, dirty rotten scum took everything.

Her fiancé installed security cameras around the house. He is technically savvy and they own – I should say they owned – a lot of electronic gadgets.

Well, the no good waste of a human

being swiped the security cameras. This two-bit bum of a criminal even took food from the pantry.

Jewelry, mementos and make-up were taken. How desperate do you have to be to steal make-up? After cleaning them out of their worldly goods, they trashed the place. Was that necessary?

Luckily, her two cats hid during the destruction. The larger one hid so deep into the sofa cushion, it took several hours to get him out.

Normally, the cats don't like each other. That night they were best friends. I think that is the only good thing to come out of this.

I will never understand how people can be so rotten to one another.

When our house in Connecticut was broken into I felt so violated. Some stranger went through my things. Yuk!

It leaves you with this sense of things being dirty and you want to scrub every inch of your home. Then you live in fear for the next few months. You start to question "what if I was home?" "Will it happen again?" "Did I lock the doors?"

Not that it matters, because they broke a window to get in.

Along with those thoughts, comes the feeling of loss. This eventually leads to anger. You work hard and you reward yourself with nice things. How dare someone waltz into your home and take those things!

To this day, I would like to run over the flea bitten dog of a human being that broke into my home 30 years ago –

See SMILE page 7



THE JERSEY GIRL

Sweet baby James

I never knew what James Taylor's song 'Sweet Baby James' was all about until my grandson, James, was born. If I were to tell you that he's the sweetest boy in the whole world you'd think I was bragging so I'll let you form your own opinion.

Having only daughters, I didn't realize the dynamics between a mother and son. I watch my daughter and him interact and there is nothing like it. He takes her face in both his hands, looks her straight in the eyes and tells her how much he loves her.

How he wishes she wasn't married, so he can marry her. The best one was when he told me "I watched Mommy sleeping last night and she looked like an angel." He's the angel.

Last week, James told my daughter he thinks about her at school and misses her. So Mandy put a sweet little note in his lunchbox. When she picked him up from school, he told her when he read the note it just made him miss her more and he cried a little bit. How can you not love this kid?

James enjoys performing and making everyone laugh. He has two dances, the inchworm and the hula, that are a riot. He loves telling jokes, doing magic tricks and just being funny.

He also comes up with the cutest things to say. He told me that he knows I love him because I'm always hugging and kissing him. He doesn't eat supper, he only eats breakfast, lunch and dinner. The other night I asked him if he needed to use the bathroom and he said, "No, I'm just going to let nature take its course." Then while having a conversation about a naked guy in the ocean he said: "Watch out for snapping turtles."

Where does he come up with these things?

If you tell him he has one more hour on the computer and then it's time for lunch, the first question he always asks is "how long is an hour." You have to tell him in SpongeBob time that an hour is two SpongeBob shows.

Then when that hour is up he will come and say "OK, my hour is up. We better eat lunch now." You will get no argument, no fussing, and no tears. Once you tell him something, that's the way it's going to be. I'm amazed by his goodness.

Alas, there's got to be a downside. He's a perfectionist, which many people would not see as a downside.

But I hate to see him get so sad when he can't be perfect at something. He gets very teary eyed if he doesn't do something the very best. Those are hard times for a grandmother, because to me he's always the best.

Yet, we need to teach him that others will win sometimes and you can't excel at every single thing that you try. They are very hard lessons, for both of us.

Now, if you look way down deep inside of this angel you will find a tiny bit of the devil.

After all he's a boy. He loves four-wheelers, karate, getting dirty and playing hard. He loves to fight, wrestle, run, scream, yell and play. The best of both worlds.

Right now, at the age of 6, James has no mean bones in his body. He is all about sweetness, kindness, caring and being "good" all the time.

I don't think he will grow out of it. I'm pretty sure this is him. The blueprint is done, the road map all set.

This sweet, baby James is going to soar and conquer the world ...or at least everybody's heart.

He had mine the second he arrived.

LETTERS

continued from page 4

pecially the way irrigation rates are calculated.

I have been in contact with the PSC in Tallahassee and they recommended we get in touch with our state representative, which I intend to do. I would recommend to all Rainbow Springs residents to do the same.

Congressman Richard Nugent can be contacted by email through his website.

Arnold G. Rodgers
Rainbow Springs**Vote Henion for another term on SECO board**

Since you elected me, Rob Henion, as trustee for SECO, a lot of wonderful activities have happened.

It is hard to believe that three years has passed. In the first year I became trained as a credential coop director. I followed that up in the second year with training to become a Board Leadership director.

SECO has invested a great deal to insure I can be an advocate for each of my SECO members and to be a board trustee devoted to allowing SECO to continue to provide reliable and affordable power. As a board member, I have served well for that purpose.

No doubt you have also heard of some of the ways I have helped many in my district. They continue to thank me for my actions. Now, I ask for your help to continue in this wonderful role.

On Tuesday, Feb. 7, our district meeting will be at the Rainbow Lakes Community Center. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. and voting is from 4:30 to about 6:30 p.m.

Thereafter, business presentations begin followed by prize drawings for you!

Jim Duncan, our SECO CEO, will also address the members, which is always an exciting part of the meeting. I will need your vote and support to continue as your SECO Trustee for another three-year term.

Also, on Saturday, March 24, our Annual Meeting will be in Sumterville. You don't want to miss that!

I really appreciate your support.

Rob Henion,
Trustee, District 7**A cash cow kicks back**

The logic in the letters from the Chamber Of Commerce and the city manager of Dunnellon is as faulty as the financial mess the city has created for itself.

Does anyone know of an instance when a government-run business does as well as private industry?

The Chase family, which owned and operated Rainbow Springs Ltd. for many years, was satisfied with their profit margin on our utilities system. Except for the recent boom years, I am sure that they made more money selling us water and making us pay for our sewage than they did selling houses.

Now, with no increase in operating expenses, Dunnellon wants to essentially double the base cost of household water and empty the wallets of those

who do not have a well.

Recent actions by the city of Dunnellon make you wonder who is running the asylum. "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" was no weirder.

First, we got red-light cameras with revenue budgeted at \$700,000. In spite of the chief's protestations that safety was the city's only concern, we all started driving smarter and revenues plummeted.

Then Jack the Giant Killer or David with his sling shot decided Dunnellon could outperform AT&T, Comcast, DirecTV and Dish Network combined – and Greenlight limped on the scene, months late and tons of money behind in interest payments.

Rainbow Springs residents have every right to be angry with Dunnellon City Hall and all the other townspeople who put them in office.

We worked hard all our lives and saved our money for retirement. Any peaceful and lawful action which can be taken that will make Dunnellon share our pain should be on the table.

Florida Statute 180.191 does not give any city the right to slap a surcharge on nonresidents served by a separate, freestanding utility, not connected to the city system. It does allow legal recourse against any entity, which tries to do different.

J. Daniel Techentin
Dunnellon**Response to article**

In response to the article by Ms. (Beverly) Leisure, I too am saddened by the current situation.

The residents of Rainbow Springs have supported the local businesses, the local charities and the local activities and functions listed in your article.

One of my neighbors has been a volunteer at the library and the Rainbow Springs Park for the past 18 years. We are a supportive and giving community and we are being treated like a nameless, faceless entity with no say whatsoever in what the city can and will do to us.

While you feel that boycotting the businesses is just simply wrong, we feel that what is being done to us is just simply wrong.

Ms. Algiers feels that we should pay for the city's debt, the water and sewer system for Rio Vista and apparently Greenlight as well.

I would point out that a few years back when our roads needed to be repaired, we did not call the city of Dunnellon and ask them to put a special surcharge on the Dunnellon residents to pay for our repairs, we paid for them ourselves.

But the Dunnellon City Council has put a special surcharge on us to pay for their repairs.

Ms. Algiers's article screams envy, resentment and outright dislike for the residents of Rainbow Springs. So tell me, what would you suggest we do?

As a previous letter writer said, Dunnellon has become a place to drive through on my way somewhere else.

New river front property owners will pay fewer fees

Glenda Hinz
Rainbow Springs**City officials changed landscape of town**

As an unwilling, unrepresented, hijacked new customer of Dunnellon utilities, I offer some input and questions to the city manager's article in the Jan. 19 edition of the Riverland News.

Algire listed as a "benefit" that the customer base doubles, minimizing rate increases. So I can expect no rate increase in Rainbow Springs?

Before the quick city purchase, Rainbow Springs Utility was under the prevue of the Public Service Commission (PSC). The PSC monitored, set and limited the amount of rate increases the private utility company could issue.

I ask the city manager, is the city utility under the monitoring and control of the PSC?

As a customer of Rainbow Springs, am I not going to see a major rate increase every year till 2016 and beyond? Rainbow Springs will be forever surcharged 25 percent more than city residents. If you do not raise our rates, you cannot pay the debt the city incurred.

In public statements, Dunnellon city officials have stated the purchase of the Rainbow Springs Utility was revenue generation. The city is going to make enough money off our rates to pay the debt and subsidize other customers.

Part of the rationale for the \$2.5 million overpayment over appraised value is that the cost could be passed on to Rainbow Springs residents. The money amount I recall being quoted was \$250,000 extra revenue. This revenue will be used to offset other costs and keep taxes down according to Vice Mayor (Fred) Stark.

Explain to me what benefit I, as a Rainbow Springs resident, will gain by "connecting" to a state failed Rio Vista sewer system that the city is now responsible for?

If Rio Vista and the city utility wanted to connect, that is fine. Seems to me that Rio Vista had to fix their system and the city of Dunnellon are the "winners" here and Rainbow Springs residents are the economic losers.

Whose decision was it to buy the failed Rio Vista system and why? Was the city not in enough debt already? Going into massive debt is not economic recovery unless you are in the Obama administration.

Future expansion to connect riverfront properties onto sewer is given as a positive? The residents of all Dunnellon, Rainbow Springs and the small business owners are going to subsidize the developers and people who can afford to live on the river.

I do not begrudge anyone the right to purchase and live wherever they chose if they pay their fair share. People know that riverfront property in today's environment is much more valuable if access to public sewage system is available.

New river front property owners will pay fewer fees

than Rainbow Springs customers. So again, we will be subsidizing affluent river homes and river front developers with our 25 percent surcharge and high rates.

Again, if people want to develop riverfront property, surcharge those who benefit from it, not your captive neighbors to the north.

The developer who bought the old Cubbage property must be happy.

The statement that the 25 percent surcharge will go to retire "the debt" is actually pretty funny in a cruel way.

The "debt" comes from the bad decision to purchase a private utility for \$2.5 million more than appraised value, connect us to a failing system and take us from the protection on the Public Service Commission.

Actually, if I did not live in Rainbow Springs I could appreciate the logic and humor in the "retire the debt" statement.

Also, Rainbow Springs Utility lost \$100,000 value according to its 2009 finance statement.

Based on how well Greenlight has been handled, I am sure that the city can run the utility in a more efficient manner than the private company that's only purpose was to make a profit.

I believe the city "sold" us down the river without a hook up to cover their revenue problems.

As your good neighbors and friends, we thought that our contributions in civic volunteering, at the state park, churches, service clubs and city events were valued. Most of us were proud to shop "locally," keep the money in Dunnellon and boasted of it.

We were not taking value from the city, we added value to it.

We liked Dunnellon area for what it was – a nice place to live. We did not seek an economic power house community, but a nice well managed, affordable area.

I do not think so any more.

Now we find within a two-week period we are just a revenue source.

The city management was/is not concerned about losing our friendship, respect, support, cooperation or good will; they are concerned about losing our money.

The money you extract from the utility surcharge and rates I have no control over. The voluntary, discretionary, money I can choose to spend on Greenlight or even in Dunnellon city limits you have lost.

It will take more than an article to regain our trust and respect. The city management injected Rainbow Springs into the heart of city affairs, without our consent, input or even notice for the city's economic advantage without any consultation.

I do not think this was a wise decision. The residents of Rainbow Springs did not change the Dunnellon city landscape, the city manager, mayor and City

Council did with their decisions.

David Bates
Dunnellon**Businesses affected by purchase can count on me**

In a recent letter to the editor regarding Dunnellon's purchase of Rainbow Springs Utilities LC, I said as a consequence I would avoid all Dunnellon establishments.

I now believe that position is unfair to those Dunnellon business owners who, unfortunately, also happen to live in Rainbow Springs. They would get a double whammy, losing a customer, yet still retaining the "privilege" of paying the shamefully high water rates as a Rainbow Springs resident.

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As your good neighbors and friends, we thought that our contributions in civic volunteering, at the state park, churches, service clubs and city events were valued. Most of us were proud to shop "locally," keep the money in Dunnellon and boasted of it.

Gruffs put out a great spread of delicious and tasty treats for everyone to try. The biggest hit was the Kettle Chips, the Chicken Niblets and Ham & Cheese Wraps are on the top of my list.

I would like to personally thank all the businesses, individuals and organization that adopted a class.

They are: the Chamber of Commerce, Gruff's Tap & Grill, AAA Roofing, Mr. & Mrs. Hausey, Personal Mini Storage, Stitch Niche, Rita Cook, Historic Village Shops or Dunnellon, Volunteer Thrift Store, Carol Scott, Dunnellon Community Thrift Store, Al's TV, Insurance Center of Dunnellon, Doris Magursky, Joyce Bergeron, Sue Carpenter, Creations by Clovis, Grumble's House, Jack's Cool Treats, Bank of America, Caldwell Bankers, Holly Fisk, Curt Bond Signs, SunTrust Bank, Bill Ballard of Humana, Mike of Excel Printing, Regions Bank, Edgewater Realty, Capital City Bank, Bently's Restaurant, Sue Lavac, Home Beautiful, Injun Joes' Cutlery, Run Around Sue, Turner House Florist, The Insurance Den, Mr. & Mrs. Mintrone, and a sweet lady that came in as a guest and left with an adopted class.

We hope to continue the project for the 2012-13 school year. If you feel this is a project worth getting involved, call me at 465-8000 any time. I will be happy to place your name on the list for the next year.

If we received more names then classes at Dun-

nellon Elementary School, we can always branch out to other schools in the area.

Viola Soffe
Dunnellon**Pillaging of R.S.finances under way**

I have just received the new version of the Dunnellon City water/sewer usage rate schedule. Based on calculating the most recent Rainbow Springs water/sewer bill with the new city of Dunnellon rates, the cost difference would be approximately 72 percent greater.

The financial pillage of Rainbow Springs will start in the February billing period.

The biggest rate increase is in the sprinkler usage as this is the primary area exclusive to Rainbow Springs that can be manipulated; stand alone, without affecting the current city of Dunnellon residents.

Rainbow Springs gains absolutely no benefit from the additional usage charges. Billing Rainbow Springs residents to pay off unrealistic debt from the traffic cameras, \$7 million loan for cable, \$6 million loan for Rainbow Springs Utilities, and repair costs for obsolete sewer systems outside of Rainbow Springs, all raises many questions of mismanagement at Dunnellon City Hall.

Now is the time to fight back and force the city of Dunnellon into bankruptcy, get the state of Florida to take over, get this mess cleared up, and get the city of Dunnellon under competent management.

In the meantime, the residents of Rainbow Springs need to force the issue by doing the following. Limit as much as possible, funds flowing into Dunnellon.

— Being on a fixed income, I will have less money to spend at Dunnellon retail stores. Hopefully, the retail stores will get the message, and support voting out the current Dunnellon council members who are up for re-election this year.

— Drive in such a way to avoid traffic cameras. If you get a ticket, protest in court. Remember Polk County ruled the cameras illegal in 2011. If you want people to feel no intimidation while shopping in Dunnellon, get rid of these stupid cameras.

Do not sign up for Greenlight Communications. There are cheaper, better managed alternatives. The cable connection posts on Rainbow Springs property makes the area look like a cheap, third-rate junk yard.

— Make sure you are monitoring the yard sprinklers to use as little water as possible. I shut my system off entirely for the common area. There may be a possibility that if a large number of residents sign up for new wells, discounts may make this option affordable.

Without some type of action to bring back Rainbow Springs basic water/sewer rates, Rainbow Springs will just become another Citrus Springs type neglected property.

Pete Creighton
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Medicaid Qualification for Health Care,
Recent Law Changes, and more.**Kellean Kai Truesdell, J.D., LL.M** Attorney & Counselor at Law

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RATES

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two services of their liking from expanded basic, one phone and a data plan, Greenlight will offer a 10 percent discount. For example, Algire pointed out, if customers subscribe for video at \$69.99 plus Internet (5 Mbps) at \$34.99, the total price would be \$104.98; however, with a 10 percent discount the total bill would be \$94.48.

Residents who bundle three services together such as video, phone and Internet, they would receive a 20 percent discount. Overall, the savings equal just 1 cent from the previous offered triple play combo, Algire pointed out, but now they can choose the type of Internet service they want. Greenlight will offer speeds from 5 Mbps up to 20 Mbps for residential customers.

"These plans offer a lot of flexibility," Algire told the Council.

The city could benefit from the addition of small-business rates for Internet usage. Algire said there are three options to choose from: up to 5 Mbps at \$44.99; up to 10 Mbps at \$59.99; and up to 20 Mbps for \$79.99. The small-business rate does not feature a dedicated line as the regular business rates, which remain the same, does.

As it stands now, most of



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Contractors with Hewitt string fiber throughout the downtown area in December 2011. City Manager Lisa Algire said 80 percent of the fiber for Greenlight Dunnellon Communications is now in place.

the original fees Greenlight established remain the same:

— Limited Basic is \$29.99 and includes 59 channels.

— Expanded Basic, which includes the Limited Basic channel package, is \$69.99. Expanded Basic features 197 channels, 50 of which are music channels.

— The variety package is \$14.99, but subscribers must have the Expanded Basic Package to get this.

The variety package fea-

tures an additional 36 channels.

Premium channels such as HBO, Cinemax, Starr, Showtime, etc., are \$16.99 each.

For HD programming, it's an additional \$3.95 per month. Video On Demand access is also an extra \$1.95 per month; and for customers wanting DVR (digital video recorder) service, that is an extra \$3.95 per month.

Customers will now have to pay for set-top boxes, unless a promotion is offered. Each box in the home will cost \$7.95 per month. If a customer wants three set top boxes in their home, it will cost \$23.85 per month. Initially, the city was going to attempt to

provide a Second Stream TV Kit, but cannot because it's not compatible with the system.

As for phone services, prices as well as additional charges for specific features is unchanged. Those potential customers wanting phone service, the base rate is \$34.99, which includes unlimited long distance. Features such as voice mail (\$3.95), caller ID (\$1.95) and call waiting (\$1.95) can be bundled together for a price of \$5.95. Commercial users will pay \$49.99 for one line; pricing for extra features will be by quote.

A two-by-two business plan features two phone lines and 2 Mbps and will cost \$179.99, while a 5-by-5

business plan features five phone lines and 5 Mbps of data speed for \$499.99.

To get services Greenlight will provide, customers will have to pay a \$200 installation fee as well as a \$40 activation fee.

Algire explained that she is hopeful the City Council will allow officials to waive the installation fee as Greenlight begins accepting customers. How long that fee would be waived is unknown. Currently, customers will not be required to sign a contract, such as ones required by DirectTV and Dish Network. Councilman Dennis Evans said he would like to see it mentioned as a possibility if installation fees are waived.

Rainbow Springs Country Club Bridge Results of play from**Jan. 17:**

Winners: 1. Millie Morales, 7,120; 2. Donna Shankle, 5,200; 3. Luise Pelle, 4,880; 4. Bob Fitterman, 4,720; 5. Barbara Hanington, 4,590; 6. Billie Barnes 4,520.

Slams: Debby Rodriguez and Millie Morales, 6 Hearts.

MAYOR

continued from page 1

about it. I don't have to be happy or happy with the results."

Mayor Ward asked the Council to take a stance together to make sure the county addresses the problem.

"We can make them mitigate the problem or at least find a resolution," he explained. "It's criminal what they did. We don't like it. They ran roughshod over us. They didn't consider the impact of residents."

Vice Mayor Fred Starke chimed in.

"They came in here and played games with us," he said.

Evans suggested it would perhaps be easier to formulate a complaint and try to get it fixed.

Ward, still angered by the county's actions, said the area is a terrible welcome sight to Dunnellon.

"There was no consideration to the people around it," he concluded.

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Mount Gay Rum \$19.99 + tax 1.75 L	Famous Grouse \$26.99 + tax 1.75 L	Passport Scotch \$17.99 + tax 1.75 L	Raynal VSOP Brandy \$18.99 + tax 1.75 L
Courvoisier Cognac \$23.99 + tax 750 ML	Kahlua \$27.99 + tax 1.75 L	Saint Brendan's Irish Cream \$15.99 + tax 1.75 L	Crown Royal \$38.99 + tax 1.75 L
3 DAY SPECIAL Thurs., Jan. 26 Fri., Jan. 27 Sat., Jan. 28 Coupon Required. Limit 2 per household.	3 DAY SPECIAL Thurs., Jan. 26 Fri., Jan. 27 Sat., Jan. 28 Coupon Required. Limit 2 per household.	3 DAY SPECIAL Thurs., Jan. 26 Fri., Jan. 27 Sat., Jan. 28 Coupon Required. Limit 2 per household.	3 DAY SPECIAL Thurs., Jan. 26 Fri., Jan. 27 Sat., Jan. 28 Coupon Required. Limit 2 per household.

Jack Daniels \$29.99 + tax 1.75 L	Dewars Scotch \$26.99 + tax 1.75 L	Absolut 80° \$25.99 + tax 1.75 L	Captain Morgan Original \$18.99 + tax 1.75 L
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Make your Social Security resolutions

Happy 2012 from Social Security! With the New Year, many people put together lists of goals and resolutions. Allow us to share with you some New Year's resolutions that you may find worth keeping.

Think about retirement. Whether you're 26 and beginning a career or 62 and thinking about the best time to stop working, give some thought to what your retirement plan will be. Social Security is the largest source of income for elderly Americans today, but it was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire. You also will need savings, investments, pensions or retirement



Adon Williams

accounts to make sure you have enough money to live comfortably when you retire. The earlier you begin your financial planning, the better off you will be. For tips to help you save, visit www.my-money.gov.

Plan ahead. The best way to begin planning for retirement is by using the free resources provided by Social Security. Start by using our Retirement Estimator, where you can get a personalized, instant estimate of your future retirement benefits using different retirement ages and scenarios. Visit the Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Make sure you have all your numbers. While tax

Think about retirement. Whether you're 26 and beginning a career or 62 and thinking about the best time to stop working.

season may seem far away, now is the time that many taxpayers start gathering records and documentation for filing tax returns. One of the most important things you need is a Social Security number for everyone whom you will claim as a dependent. If you don't have a number for one of your dependents, you need to apply now to have the Social Security number in time to file your tax return. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

Do a little light reading. The best way to learn more about Social Secu-

rity, the benefit pro-

grams, and what they

mean to you and your

family is to browse

through our online li-

brary of publications.

You can find overviews as

well as more detailed

booklets. Our library at

www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs

is always open.

Help a loved one. Sometimes we get the most satisfaction out of helping someone else. If you have a grandparent, parent, relative, or friend who could benefit from Social Security, share our website and online services with them. You can even help a loved one

apply for retirement or Medicare benefits — or for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs — in as little as 10 minutes. Whether you forward a publication or sit down to help someone apply for Social

Security, the place to go is www.socialsecurity.gov. We hope you'll consider some of these resolutions. Happy New Year from Social Security!

Adon Williams is the Social Security District Manager in Ocala.

SMILE

continued from page 4

no offense to dogs.

For good measure, I would back up and run him over again. I'm not one to hold a grudge, but he deserves it!

I can only hope karma bites them in the bottom. I firmly believe in what

comes around, goes around.

If you intentionally inflict pain on someone else, you deserve to get it back. If karma does exist, this no good scallywag will need a mouth full of root canals!

I will personally perform this surgery on him free of charge; shake free hands not an option.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 on page 3

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Meet Ed & Lyn Bugbee of Featherstone Orchids

Orchids, the Ultimate Flower

"Together Ed and Lynn exhibit and sell orchids at more than 20 shows a year. They tour the country giving lectures and have won many World Orchid Society medals and trophies.

The Bugbees grow an extensive variety of orchids through their world-wide connections, while at the same time sharing their experience to help customers grow and enjoy their own orchids.

Ed's dry humor, ease of speaking and overall love of orchids has made him a favorite on lecture tours. He will be answering questions and displaying a diverse collection of plants at during this program.

Wednesday, Feb. 1 - 10:30 AM

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Community briefs

Free AARP tax assistance available

AARP offers free income tax assistance Feb. 1 through April 14 at three locations near Dunnellon. It is not necessary to be a member of AARP or a retiree to use this service. Tax assistance is available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays at the American Legion on U.S. 41; 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Rainbow Lakes Estates Community Center; and 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays at the Dunnellon Public Library, where an appointment can be scheduled at the reference desk by phone, but appointments are not required.

The following items will be needed: Photo ID, Social Security cards, copy of your 2010 tax return, check, not a deposit slip, for direct deposit of your refund or electronic funds transfer of taxes due; statements of any estimated taxes paid in 2011, 1099s from banks, financial institutions and others; statements of sales of stocks or mutual funds; Social Security statements for 2011, W-2s, K-1s, etc.; statement of property taxes, medical expense, charitable contributions and mortgage interest are also needed; and both signatures

are required on joint returns. For more information call Wayne Sloan at 489-5066.

Annie W. Johnson needs items for homeless program

The Annie W. Johnson Senior and Family Center is in need of items for its Project Homeless program, which is designed to help the homeless with food, tents and coolers. All three items are needed at this time. If you are able to assist us in this matter, contact the Annie W. Johnson Center at 489-8021.

American Legion activities slated

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

The Dunnellon Young Marines meet at 6 p.m. Tuesdays.

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 be from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Jan. 21. The public is welcome.

Legion presents Scouts with donation



Special to the Riverland News

American Legion Post 58 Commander John Taylor, center, presents Boy Scout Troop 452 Commander Col. Nicholas Navetta, U.S. Army, retired, with a check for \$500. This was a fundraiser for the Boy Scouts and is part of the Post 58's Service to community efforts. Also pictured are Eugene Thomas, Post 58 chaplain, Stu Weisbaum, Post 58 Service Officer, along with the scouts from Troop 452.

Resolve to successfully achieve your New Year's resolutions

I will lose 15 pounds this year. I will spend more time with my grandkids. I will spend less money and save more. Chances are, you've made these or similar annual resolutions many times before.

But if your resolutions are wishes instead of goals, you're much less likely to achieve them. What's the difference?

"A goal without a plan is just a wish," was Antoine de Saint Exupéry's answer.

Whether this year's resolutions are health- or wealth-related, or something completely different, the means to successfully achieving your goals are the same.

Read below for hints from UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service on how to set yourself up for success to achieve this year's resolutions.

Create a S.M.A.R.T. plan — S.M.A.R.T stands for Specific, Measurable, Adaptable, Realistic and Timed. This type of plan helps you visualize the path to your desired outcome, gives direction, helps measure progress and keeps you on-course.

Specific — What's your

goal statement? What do you want to do, attain or achieve? Take your time; it's important to identify what goals are really important enough to work toward. Be specific. The more precisely you state your goal, the better your chance of achieving it.

Include descriptions, dates, costs and other resources needed to accomplish the goal in this part of your plan.

Measurable — Keeping track of progress boosts confidence and shows you where or when to make adjustments.

Will your progress be measured in pounds, hours or dollars? How and how often will you track your progress? Will you keep a journal or enter updates on the calendar?

Adaptable — Take some time to consider the road blocks you may encounter. Write down what actions you'll need to take if you're temporarily derailed. What alternative courses of action can you take if circumstances change?

Having a "Plan B" can be the difference between making a minor adjustment and declaring defeat.

Realistic — Is your goal

realistic or is it wishful thinking? Will you be able to meet the goal within the set boundaries? Setting unrealistic goals can make you feel less confident about a successful outcome.

Timed — Set a date! Be reasonable. Be realistic. Should you reduce an amount or reset your deadline? Remember, attaining small goals gives us the confidence to tackle the big ones. Take small steps.

Write it down — Your plan is not a plan until you put it on paper. Constructing a safe building requires a blueprint. Navigating to unknown destinations requires a map. A S.M.A.R.T. goal plan is no different. Write it down.

Want an expert to give a class to your group at no cost? Want to learn more through Small Steps to Health and Wealth or other programs? Contact Lynda Spence, an extension agent at UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service, at 671-8400 or lynda.spence@marioncountyfl.org, or visit www.marioncountyfl.org/extensionservice.htm.

Donate Furniture to the Hospice Thrift Stores

Donate your household items for a tax deduction.

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Call 873-7441

Locations:

- K-Mart Ctr, Belleview 10325 Hwy 441
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Planning an estate sale?

Call 854-5218 to learn about tax advantages.

Hospice of Marion County is a non-profit organization.
www.hospiceofmarion.com



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ADN13887



Photos by JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Jeffery Alley shows off the shelves of trophies in his bedroom.

FAMILY

continued from page 1

steer, and his seventh year participating in the SEYF, which will be Feb. 18 to 26 at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion at 2232 N.E. Jacksonville Road, Ocala. The high school rodeo will be Feb. 17 and 18.

Before showing steers, he showed hogs for four years; however, his freshman year he made the decision to start raising steers.

"Steers are more fun and challenging, but they bring on more responsibility," Alley said. "I made the choice when I was ready."

Levi is a Black Angus. Alley has had Levi since the middle of July and paid \$600 for him, purchasing him from the Hiers family. By the end of the project, Alley believes he will have spent between \$500 and \$600 in feed. Levi eats 50 pounds of feed a day, and one bag of feed costs \$15.

Raising a steer is quite

an investment.

"Levi is the second hardest steer I have had," said Alley. "One steer ran me over and almost killed me."

By the time fair comes along, Levi has to be over 900 pounds to be eligible for the fair, but now Alley believes he is around 1,500 pounds. The Youth Fair only pays kids for 1,300 pounds, so Levi's purchaser will get more than they will actually be paying for. Alley isn't worried though; he believes he will still make a good profit.

As an experienced participant, Alley knows what to look for when choosing his steer.

"I look for good body and bone structure, a flat back, and a wide chest and hips."

In addition to getting Levi ready for the ring, Alley will also have to have Levi's hair and hooves trimmed.

In past years, Alley has done well in show, he placed second in showmanship the past two years, placed first in

class, and his first year he won the Weight Gain trophy, which means Alley's steer gained the most weight from the first weigh in till the last weigh than the other steers at the fair.

"I'm most proud of the Weight Gain trophy and my first place in class," Alley said.

You may say that it runs in Alley's veins to participate in the Youth Fair, since his mom, aunt, and uncles have, starting back in the early 80s.

Alley and his sister, Jana, are the second generation of Southeastern Youth Fair showers in the family. Except for

Alley's first year raising a steer, all of his steers have been purchased from and raised in Romeo. Jana, also a junior at DHS, also is raising a steer she got locally from the Fifields.

Alley's grandmother, Janey Markham, said: "It does kids good to get recognized for doing good things with the fair and learning responsibility."

The family tradition will continue on even after Jeffery and Jana graduate. According to Janey Markham, their grandfather, Frank Markham, will "probably be involved with the fair for the rest of his life."



ABOVE: Alley works on selecting a halter rope to work with while training his steer. **BELLOW:** Alley peers around a barn door to check on his steer.



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Re-Elect Rob Henion As SECO Trustee District 7 Rainbow Lakes Estates Community Center February 7, 2012



It has been three years since you elected me to the Board of Directors for SECO. In the first year I became a Credentialed Cooperative Director and in the second year I became a Board Leadership Director. That's a lot of training. I have personally helped many of you, or those you know, with problems or situations regarding your SECO membership or account. My first duty is to be an advocate on your behalf. I am proud of these achievements along with my actions on the board to keep our power affordable and reliable.

The election will be held February 7th at the Community Center in Rainbow Lakes Estates. Registration and voting begins at 4:30 pm. The business meeting follows at 6:30 pm highlighted with a speech from Jim Duncan, SECO's CEO and is always a highlight of the meeting. Prizes are then awarded! You should have received a meeting notice with detailed instructions and what you need to bring. Look for the BP station with the Kangaroo store on Route 41 at the main entrance, follow Rainbow Lakes Boulevard about 4 miles to the Community Center.

I am honored to serve you and please help me to continue to serve you and SECO for another three years.

Rob Henion, SECO Trustee District 7

New Cardiologists in Dunnellon are Accepting New Patients



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To learn more about each of our exceptional physicians, visit our website: www.centralfloridaheart.com

RIVERLAND EDUCATION

10 ~ Riverland News, Thursday, January 26, 2012

Dunnellon Public Library welcomes new youth librarian

KAREN KOCHIEMBA

For the Riverland News

We are pleased to welcome a new staff member, Rebecca Melton, to the Dunnellon Public Library.

Melton oversees the Youth Services Department, which is responsible for library services to babies, toddlers, children and teens. As a former preschool, primary and secondary

level educator, she brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the library. Get to know her a little better through this "Q & A."

• • •

Q: Where are you originally from?

A: I am originally from Maine. I relocated to central Florida more than 10 years ago upon graduating from



Rebecca Melton

from college. Although I occasionally become homesick for Maine, a viewing of the weather channel reminds me why I moved — snow and ice isn't always nice!

Q: What is your educational background?

A: I have a bachelor's degree in exceptional education from the University of

Maine at Farmington. I taught public school for three years — two as a high school exceptional student education (ESE) teacher and one as a primary school ESE teacher. I also worked for an agency that provided mental health and substance abuse services to children and families in crisis as well as for an agency that provided technical assistance and training to local preschool

providers.

Q: Which books did you enjoy reading growing up?

A: I have always loved to read. The Baxter Memorial Library in Maine was like my second home. My favorite book as a child was "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" by Judith Viorst. Who doesn't day dream about

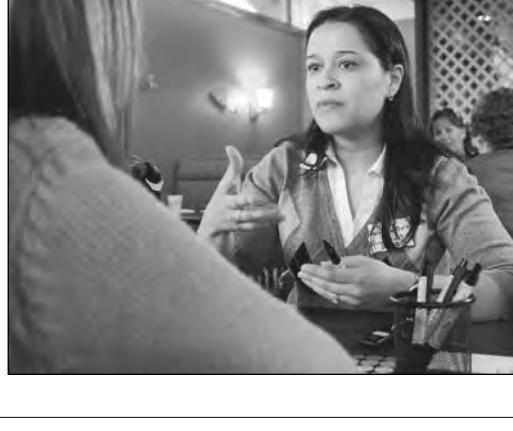
See LIBRARY page 11

Meet the Teacher



Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

ABOVE: Gina Dickey, left, assistant principal at Dunnellon Elementary School, shares a story with teachers, from front to back, Jennifer Stuart, Kendrin Athaide, Anna Hedrick and Susan Shaw, all of whom are kindergarten teachers, prior to the start of the Meet the Teacher on Jan. 12 at Gruff's Tap & Grille. The event was part of "Adopt a Classroom," in which businesses partner with a teacher to help purchase classroom supplies. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Kelly Melendez-Ruiz with SunTrust Bank talks with Athaide, a kindergarten teacher, at the Meet the Teacher event. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Sarah Linn, right, a fourth-grade teacher at Dunnellon Elementary, shakes hands with Linda Bond, center after meeting with her and her husband, Curt, owners of Curt Bond Signs.



Out-of-area school requests being accepted

Special to the Riverland News

Parents wishing to enroll their students in public schools outside their zoned attendance areas must apply for student reassignment for the 2012-13 school year by Friday, April 13.

Late applications are not eligible and will not be accepted.

Applications may be

picked up at any public school guidance office or at the Marion County Public Schools District Office, 512 S.E. Third St., Ocala. Most requests will not be processed until this summer.

Reassignment approval is not guaranteed, and as indicated on the application — some reassignment requests require

appropriate documentation as proof, including those for medical and safety reasons. Transfers may also be made for diversity reasons.

Parents should read the request form completely and provide all required documentation to support their requests. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Because of state-mandated class size limits, reassignments may be turned down for lack of space in the grade requested. In such cases, the district may seek available space at nearby schools if the request is valid.

For more information, contact the Student Reassignment Office at 671-7747.

checks payable to Dunnellon Middle School.

— DMS FFA will begin its annual Flower sale.

Carnations will be \$1 and roses will be sold for \$2. Delivery will be Friday, Feb. 10, just in time for our Valentine's Day dance.

— Our Student Council members will sell Valentine's Day themed stuffed animals through Friday, Feb. 10.

— S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violence Everywhere) will sell candy and "crush" grams during lunch breaks for delivery Friday, Feb. 10.

The basketball teams will continue their practice sessions this week on the following days:

— The boys' basketball team will practice from 3:40 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the Gym.

— Both the boys' and girls' basketball teams will practice from 3:40 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, in the Gym.

We would like to update you on some exciting learning activities our Dunnellon Middle School students enjoyed during January 2012.

Mrs. Marcum's Health Occupation classes put their first-aid lessons into practice Jan. 4 and 5 when the Health Occupation students staged a disaster where they took turns being either a victim or a first responder.

The theme of the disaster this year was an explosion in the Ag Barn, where

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Stormwater education grants available

Public and private educators wishing to teach their students about stormwater quality topics may benefit from a Marion County Office of the County Engineer grant program.

Through March 30, 2012, educators serving students in unincorporated Marion County may apply for a grant under the 2011-12 Stormwater Education Grants Program.

Awardees may receive up to \$750 to use for stormwater/water resource projects and up to \$1,000 to purchase equipment related to these projects. Interested applicants may visit www.marioncountyfl.org/stormwater.htm to download grant application instructions and forms.

The Office of the County Engineer launched the Stormwater Education Grants

Program in 2010 to help students who live in unincorporated Marion County learn about stormwater pollution prevention, karst topography and what water quality means to the Floridian aquifer and other water bodies.

For more information about the grants program, call Gail Mowry at 352-671-8686.

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.

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 Pack 508 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.

U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps seeks members

Manatee Division drills at Coast Guard Station Yankeetown, in Yankeetown, the second weekend 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.

Young Eagles rally slated Feb. 18

The EAA 812 Young Eagles Rally will be at 8:15 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Ocala Airport, 1200 S.W. 60th Ave. Registration is at 8:15, ground school will be at 8:45, a pilot briefing will be at 9:15, followed by flying at 9:30.

The event is open to any youth, ages 8 to 17 with parental permission, who have not previously flown a Young Eagles flight. Preregistration is not required.

For more information, call Dick Dayton, EAA Chapter 812 coordinator, at 352-347-0273.

From staff reports

Report Cards will be issued to Dunnellon Middle School on students Fri-

day, Jan. 27. DMS students will bring home for parents, the February DMS Newsletter (we have a lot to report), February Calendar, Yearbook pre-sale form and the 2011-12 Parent Survey.

On Saturday, Jan. 28, our FBA All-District band musicians,

Cloe Botelho (fourth-chair trumpet)

and Kevin Starr (third-chair Horn),

will conclude the FBA All-District Band rehearsals at Forest High School.

We wish our talented young

musicians the best of luck.

The DMS Percussion

Band will practice from

3:40 to 5 p.m. Monday, Jan.

30, with Mr. Noell.

Band students, who would like

additional practice time,

please see Mr. Noell to

make arrangements.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, the

boys and girls basketball

teams will practice their

skill set with Coach Rum-

sey and Coach Turner from

3:40 to 5 p.m. in the Gym.

February may be a short

month, but Dunnellon

Middle School students

will not be short on activi-

ties. Wednesday, Feb. 1,

marks the beginning of a

busy month.

• DMS Yearbook Com-

mittee will begin the year-

book pre-sale. The pre-sale

cost of the yearbook is \$25,

after that it will be \$35.

Dedication ads are also

available for pre-sale and

are a great way to congratu-

late your student on a job

well done! Please make

checks payable to Dunnellon Middle School.

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The basketball teams will continue their practice sessions this week on the following days:

— The boys' basketball team will practice from 3:40 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the Gym.

— Both the boys' and girls' basketball teams will practice from 3:40 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, in the Gym.

We would like to update

you on some exciting

learning activities our

Dunnellon Middle School

students enjoyed during

January 2012.

Mrs. Marcum's Health

Occupation classes put

their first-aid lessons into

practice Jan. 4 and 5 when

the Health Occupation stu-

dents staged a disaster

where they took turns

being either a victim or a

first responder.

The theme of the disas-

ter this year was an explo-

nation in the Ag Barn, where

See ASHMAN page 11

LIBRARY

continued from page 10

moving to Australia when they have a bad day?

Q: Do you have a favorite book series?

A: I am an animal lover and own three cats, so one of my favorite children book series is about a Siamese cat named Skippyjon Jones. Skippyjon has an overactive imagination and believes himself to be a Chihuahua dog, one who is always looking for adventure.

Q: What would you like readers to know about your work at the Dunnellon Public Library?

A: Working as a children's librarian is my dream job, as it combines the things I am most passionate about — children's education and reading. It is an amazing feeling to help a child choose a book, knowing that you have opened their mind to the power of the printed word!

Stop by the library this month and meet Melton. She will gladly recommend a great book to read and give you an update on all the upcoming children and teen events. The Dunnellon Public Library is at 20351 Robinson Road in Dunnellon. For more information about library's Youth Services Department, call 438-2526.

HONOR ROLL**Dunnellon High School
Second Quarter Honor Roll
Ninth Grade**

All A's: Sean Anderson, Sergio Aponte, Amanda Barney, Staci Bishop, Christine Calvert, Natalie Davis, Kendal Destin, Mark Dewitz, Carrissa Figueiredo, Jacob Hilliard, Amber Joice, Shannon Jones, Taylor Kouba, Robert Kruger, Olana Osborn, Kayla Reed, Thomas Reilly, Daniel Rivera, Quinn Roosen, Velina Santiago, and Joshua Tricomi

A/B: Shelby Barber, Elizanette Bonet Cartagena, Brittany Bryant, Tessa Carnechia, Sydney Cohen, Kaylanee Crespo, Diaraliz Cruz, Lacy Dufour, Erick Duran, Korine Eugene, Kevin Fagan, Brittany Ford, Mitchell Graham, Justin Hamm, Annie Hannah, Amanda Hargabus, Meghan Jennings, Jade-marie Johns, Savannah Joiner, Kaylee Krewson, Dillon Lamb, David Lenowski, Leesha Marlett, Destiny Martinez, Ryan Mills, Jordan Morgan, Tiffany Murry, Marc Navetta, Sierra Oliver, Angel Richardson, Jason Schafer, Kyle Stewart, Elizabeth Trice, Ragan Victor, Carlos Villa-Rodriguez, Martin Walker and Katie Wallace.

10th Grade

All A's: Chloe Cook, Nicole Dunne, Gabrielle Jones, Niki Leclerc, Joonsung Park, Laura Riley and Ashlee Winn.

A/B: Maggie Blauser, Kylie Chapman, Jonathan Coleman, Kristal Eleyet, Matthew Franz, Kerri Frazier, Jason Furino, McKayla Grotte, Kaitlyn Hanley, Courtney Heinritz, Jasleen Herrera Alvarez, Amber Herzog, David Hill, Jaclyn Hooker, Patricia Janicki, Geya Japart, Jessica Jenner, Mary Jokinen, Azalea Kemp, Ashlee Knemeyer, Chloie Kuhlmann, Joshua Lange, Robert Langley, Ke-lynn Lorigan, Jesse McMahan, Kayla McMann, Matthew Melendez, Kelly Meyer, Heather Muller, Rylie Nonnemacher, Randy Oram, Ashley Paden, Rebecca Perpente, Brandon Peterson, Erica Presson, Ruben Rabadan, Sharda Ram, Laurny Red-dick, Kalyn Rodriguez, Richard Sears, Ashley Sines, Serenity Skillman, Bryce Thalacker, Alexandra Trapp, Angela Tuiyot, Paige Volker, Joshyln Waterman, Jody Weber, Nicklas Weissman and Nia Young.

11th Grade

All A's: Michael Chung, Cassidy Duff, Danielle Flores, Alexander Gonzalez, Marcus Jennings, Kaila

McKee, Ryan Molloy, Amanda Oram, Danielle Prinz and Elizabeth Wright.

A/B: Amanda Barber, Meranda Bettis, Christopher Brouillet, Jackson Cannon, Victoria Carter, Jenny Duran, Alexis Ernst, Tatiana Fernandez, Christopher Fortune, Jade Gardner, Eric Goicochea, Jesenia Guillen, Krystal Hernandez, Stanley Hodge, Gavin Honeysette, Jacilyn Indelli-cati, Tanika Jackson, Brittney LeClair, Nicholas Lorigan, Tia Love, Zachary Matthews, Roni McCoy, Nickeisha McDowell, Joseph Mit-tasch, Alex Nonnemacher, Omar Novoa, Zahyrimar Otero Diaz, Marykay Quick, Rajendra Ram, Traci Rice, David Roberto, Karla Rodriguez, Nicholas Rodriguez, Robert Rupprecht, Sara Mia Sanchez Perez, Jose Sanchez, Ashley Segarra, Christopher Smith, Denard Smith, Roland Stamm, Emily Tracy, Emmily Valeo, Connor Wentz, Rebecca Wilkerson, Shayla Wright and Sarah Young.

12th Grade

All A's: Julius Allen, Madrika Allen, Maxwell Atkinson, Brittany Bennett, Zachary Blersch, Haley Fagan, Gage Honeysette, Justine Horn, Essasani Kolack, Brittany Lakhani, Alexandra Love, Tatiana

Bender, Liset Romo, Kasey Bernstein, Cynthia Boley, Elliot Nieves, Tania Ceniceros, Haley Atkins, Kelly Haines, Dane Hobbs, Justin Weir, Jose Magana and Raven Howarth. We hope we didn't miss anyone.

A special thank you to Mrs. Marcum for this memorable and engaging life lesson.

The DMS Tree Council had its first meeting of the New Year on Thursday, Jan. 5. The Tree Council started the New Year with a pizza and soda party, graciously provided by community members Jeff Morgan, Melanie Wonderley and Billie White.

Dustin Morgan, Tree Council president, gave an informative presentation about the English Oak and Swamp Cedar trees he had propagated himself in his small nursery at home.

After a few more growing cycles, the trees will be

ready to plant. He also brought in a beautiful Pon-derosa Lemon tree he cul-tivated, which will be planted in the DMS court-yard in the spring. As a learning activity, each council member selected a tree of interest to them to research and will prepare a presentation about their tree at the next meeting.

During the holidays, the Tree Council received 10 trees from the Arbor Day Foundation. These trees will be planted on the DMS campus and around the community as a beautification project for the Dunnellon community.

If you would like to help support the DMS Tree Council by having a tree planted at your home, busi-ness or community center, contact Mrs. Cooper. The DMS Tree Council mem bers have an open invitation to any student interested in joining the

club. Thank you to Mrs. Cooper for sponsoring the Tree Council Club and Mr. Dustin Morgan for initiating this new club to DMS!

The DMS S.A.V.E. Club hosted an after-school meeting Monday, Jan. 23, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King and his philosophy of nonviolence everywhere, which is the philosophy of all S.A.V.E. Club members.

We would like to share with you the following mes-sage from the members of the DMS S.A.V.E. Club. In

Nales, Jessica Norcross, Amanda Ortman, Brandon Sanchez, Brittany Sereda, Alora Thompson, Irelis Tovar, Johan Waterman and Casey Weber.

A/B: Jordan Anderson, Destini App-pling-Ettrick, Alger Baker, Anthony Basso, Shaquique Bennett, Richard Boivin, Elizabeth Bonet Cartagena, James Brown, Alex Bunce, Anthony Burnham, Christopher Butterweck, Alyssa Claffey, Owen Cooper, Natalie Cote, Maria Cruz Abrams, Jayleen Cruz, Brittany Curtis, Matthew Dem-ing, Chelsea Dominey, Jeremy Dominey, Krystyn Dugan, Heather Durette, Jacob Furr, Austin Gamble, Jane Garrett, Staci Golding, Giselle Guerrero, Abigail Hatfield, Kenton Kruger, Matthew Landsbach, Kirsten Lynn, Madegny Machin, Gabriel Martins, Renee McBride, Jessica McClure, Amberay Molder, Steven Norris-Harden, Lucia Nunez, Mark Opatz, Yeshka Otero Chico, Trevor Phillips, Jordan Polanco, Dandria Ramirez, Brianna Ritli, Devin Rivera, Rafaheal Salgado, Rashida Scantlebury, Lareeta Shorts, Zachary Sowell, Courtney Tigg, Dylan Tootle, Madeline Tourne, Tabata Vazquez, Edward Viruet, Dillon Wiggins and Sherrie Williams.

ASHMAN

continued from page 10

the feed, fuel and farm chemicals are stored.

The "victims" suffered from compound fractures, impaled with flying glass shards and first-, second- and third-degree burns.

Our "first responders" set up a temporary triage area in the Health Occupations classroom where the "victims" were transported. This mock disaster gave our students a hands-on experience from their studies of first aid and CPR.

Thank you to the following students, acting as both "victims" and "first responders," who participated in this important lesson: Kayla Mock, Brett Mays, Gariel McMahan, Alicia Whaley, Tyler Lamon, Megan Barde, Alyssa Hamm, Kayla Fultz, Katelyn Filippi, Destinee Cochran, Ruthie Johnson, Jennifer Macedo, Leslie Sanchez, Edybelly Flores, Nereida Martinez, Breckell Bowman, Ariel Benjamin, Breanna Bergeron, Jenna

recognition of all the activi-ties and celebrations of Dr. Martin Luther King's birth-day, the one we would like remembered the most is the practice of living nonvi-oently, every day, and re-member that words can incite violence or promote peace and we choose peace.

We thank our SAVE Club sponsors, Ms. Wise, Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Boutwell for providing guidance and leadership to our young community members.

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Tickets will also be available at the door. 000916C

For ticket information, please call 352-422-2348

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00044DS

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

www.chronicleonline.org

RIVERLAND SPORTS

12 ~ Riverland News, Thursday, January 26, 2012

Basso shines at War of the Border All-Star game

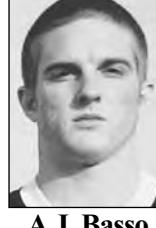
JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

His statistics might not indicate much, but if you ask A.J. Basso how he felt about his performance in the War of the Border All-Star Football game Saturday at Bazemore-Hyder Stadium in Valdosta, Ga., his explanation is modest.

"I felt like I did good," said the 5-foot-9, 190-pound linebacker,

who made four tackles, including a key stop on a fourth-and-2. "I made a mistake or two, but overall, I think I did well."

Basso, a standout linebacker from Dunnellon High School, competed with the best players from the northern and central Florida area as they squared off against the best that southern Georgia had to offer.



A.J. Basso

Overall, the game ended in a 23-all tie, but Basso saw plenty of familiar faces help Team Florida overcome a 23-0 deficit. North Marion's Dyvonne McNair picked off a pass at the Georgia 20, got blocks in front of him and ran the ball into

the end zone for a touchdown. The ensuing 2-point conversion cut Team Georgia's lead to 23-15.

And in the fourth quarter, a 4-yard touchdown run by Santa Fe's Brandon Willis and a two-point conversion allowed Team Florida to even the score at 23-23. Time expired before either team could reach the end zone again.

"It was a good experience, it was fun," he said of the game. "It's something you get to do once in a lifetime. Not a lot of people get that chance. It felt

like I was playing on a whole other level with all of the talent there."

Basso is now hopeful his performance will land him a scholarship to play college football. He plans to pursue a degree in physical therapy wherever he decides to attend college next fall.

"I'm hoping it made an impression," he said of his performance.

SPORTS BRIEFS

RS Billard's Club elects officers

The Rainbow Springs Billard Club had its annual luncheon meeting in December, and elected its new officers for the year. The new officers are:

Jim Dollar, president; Del Bachman, vice president; Bob Sepik, secretary; Harry Stumpf, treasurer; George Munzing, Sergeant at Arms; and Richard C. Davis, editor.

The club billiard championship competition resulted in member Joe Rinaldi emerging as 2012 champion.

The club is available to any member of Rainbow Springs Country Club. For more information, call George Munzing at 489-5864.

Golf tourney to benefit Boys & Club Club

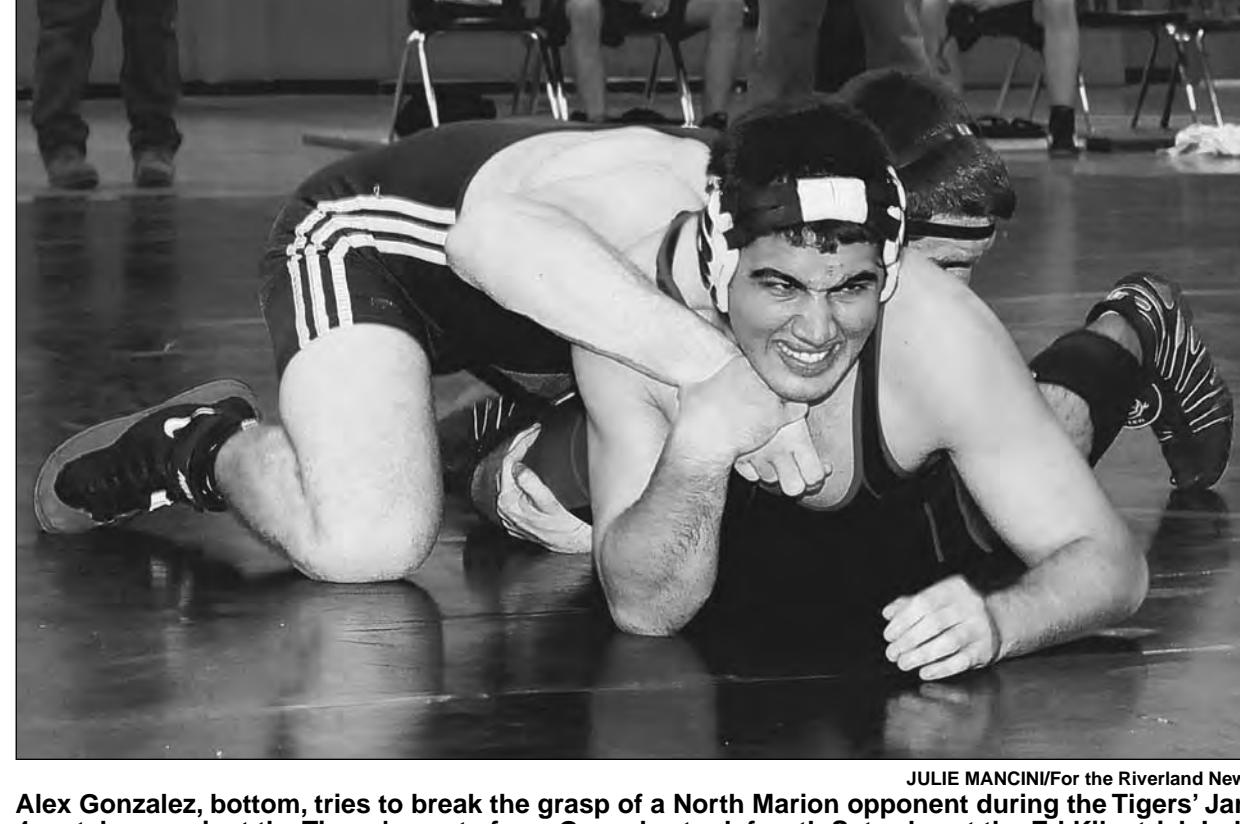
The sixth annual Rotary Club of Ocala Sunset Golf Scramble, benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Marion County, will at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, at the Golden Ocala Golf and Equestrian Club. Entry fee is \$125 per player, which includes a deli buffet lunch and complimentary beverages. Proper golf attire is required. Prizes will be awarded for closest to the hole, longest drive and hole-in-one. Sponsorships are also available. For more information about sponsorships or to register for the tournament, contact Nicholas Blaser at 352-427-9804 or email nicholas.blaser@td.com.

Tournament to benefit Relay for Life

The Relay "Fore" Life Celebrity Golf Tournament, benefiting the Crystal River Relay for Life, will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, at Juliette Falls Golf & Country Club. Entry fee is \$75 per person and includes range balls and lunch. The format is a four-person team scramble. For more information, contact Nick Maltese at 352-464-7511 or email nick.maltese@pgn-mail.com or Michele Snellings at 352-697-2220 or email michele.snellings@pgnmail.com.

— From staff reports

ON THE PROWL



JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Alex Gonzalez, bottom, tries to break the grasp of a North Marion opponent during the Tigers' Jan. 4 matchup against the Tigers' county foes. Gonzalez took fourth Saturday at the Ed Kilpatrick Individual Bracket Tournament at Citrus High School. Prior to that, he finished third in the county wrestling championships.

Three Tigers take fourth place at Citrus High tournament

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

INVERNESS — Three Dunnellon High School wrestlers garnered fourth-place finishes Saturday at the Ed Kilpatrick Individual Bracket Tournament at Citrus High School.

Brent Quimby (106 pounds), Alex Gonzalez (182 pounds) and Josh Packard (220 pounds) all finished fourth for the Tigers, who totaled 53 points and came in 11th out of 16 teams.

Quimby lost to Anthony Ar talona of Tampa Bay Christian Academy in the third-place consolation final. He defeated Dominick Telesco of Land O'Lakes and then lost to Chris Mosher of Citrus, the tournament's eventual runner-up in the quarter-

nals.

Gonzalez lost to Jason Carr of The Villages in the consolation final. He defeated Jacob McLaughlin of Zephyrhills and Joe Marcano from Tampa Bay Christian in the first two rounds. He lost to Citrus' Taylor Jackson, the eventual champion in that division, in the semifinals.

Packard lost to Brent Kebby of Bradford Starke in the consolation final. He had beaten Ryan Carlson of Zephyrhills and Javier Martinez of Heritage in the first two rounds, losing to eventual champion Zach Collins from Citrus in the semifinals.

All three grapplers earned all-county honors Jan. 16 at the Marion County Interscholastic Athletic Conference Championships, finishing third at the

event. Quimby, Gonzalez and Packard posted two wins and one loss at the tournament, featuring all Marion County Public Schools.

Dunnellon concludes its regular season Saturday at The Villages High School Invitational. The Tigers will then compete at the District 1A-8 Wrestling Championships Saturday, Feb. 4, at Fivay High School.

"Overall as a team, I feel we are doing as expected considering we are a young group," Dunnellon coach Jeff Farris said. "We need to continue to work hard in practice and stay focused."

"With the realignment of the districts, we have a lot of teams we haven't faced this year so I'm sure it will be tough."

'Race for the Kids' slated Saturday, Feb. 11

The Covenant Children's Home of Dunnellon will host a 5K Run/1-Mile Walk/Kids Fun Run Saturday, Feb. 11, at Spruce Creek Preserve Community on State Road 200. The race will start at 8 a.m. for runners and 8:30 for walkers.

The event will be held rain or shine.

Covenant Children's Home is located on a 20-acre site in Citrus County, approximately 1-mile south of Dunnellon. Currently, there is one home capable of housing eight resident children and the

house parent family. gift bag. Awards will be presented to the top finishers in each age group.

All participants in the

Kids Fun Run will receive a participation medallion.

Register at

www.cchfl.org or

www.drcsports.com.

DHS girls soccer season ends

LIZZY WRIGHT
For the Riverland News

PALATKA — The Dunnellon High School girls' soccer season is over, as the sixth-seeded Lady Tigers lost to third-seeded North Marion, 6-0, Jan. 17 in the opening round of the district tournament.

Overall, Dunnellon finished the season 1-22 with a district record of 0-11.

The Lady Tigers entered the season with a new coach and seven returning starters. The other 11 players had either played soccer for a few years or never at all.

Prior to this season,

Dunnellon had posted just one victory in the past four years.

Izzy Hatfield scored most of the goals for the Lady Tigers this past season, scoring two goals against Williston in Dunnellon's lone victory this year. Hatfield played midfield and contributed on both offense and defense. Hatfield has a scholarship to a college in North Carolina to play soccer.

Alysha Johnson assisted Hatfield in scoring many of the goals. Johnson also helped on both defense and offense and took most of the throw-ins, goal kicks and corner kicks.

Stephanie Angelo was also an outstanding player coming into the season, playing defense, switching to goalkeeper mid-season, making several dozen saves a game, helping the Lady Tigers.

Four players will not return next year, they include seniors Lucia Nunez, Yashka Otero, Maddie Machin and Hatfield, all seniors.

Alysha Johnson attempts to keep an opposing player from the ball during regular-season action. Johnson was a pivotal player on both ends of the field this past season.

DREW RONDEAU/
For the Riverland News



BOWLING SCORES

Parkview Lanes Weekly News

League scores for the week ending Jan. 15:

Monday Night Special:

Handicap: Sam Bass 286, 748; Wes Foley 277, 751; Pam Levert 277, 746; Judy Timmons 265; Bridget Foley 715. Scratch: Sam Bass 277; Wes Foley 268, 724; Mark Smith 734; Dorine Fugere 244, 565; Judy Timmons 224, 563.

Preserve Pinbusters:

Handicap: Bob Paolillo 251; Lou Metcalfe 235, 645; Jim Abbey 637; Diana Kirk 253, 659; Jan Miller 248; Linda Sprague 661. Scratch: Ken Sprague 212, 573; Lou Metcalfe 200, 540; Jan Miller 196; Wanda Schroeder 179, 506; Linda Sprague 499.

Suncoast Seniors:

Handicap: Ernie Wiedemann 246; Jack Connell 237, 661; Jim Sherpey 636; Sharon Hoagland 227, 629; Terry Stinson 226; Wanda Klik 616. Scratch: Murphy Combs 201, 546; Jerry Ness 191, 538; Marylou Halovich 158, 414; Wanda Klik 156, 436; Terry Stinson 158.

Ladies' Classic:

Handicap: Judy Hindbaugh 239, 677; Peg Hess 239; Pat Ouellette 236; Peggy Nevels 685. Scratch: Lisa Morgan 168, 454; Pat Ouellette 166; Judy Hindbaugh 455.

Late Starters:

Handicap: John Marcucci 240; Rich Vehrs 233, 624; Rich Soletto 627; Debbie Chung 233; Trina Palwoda 230; Millie George 230; Ruth Ann Radford 644; Marie Mooney 640. Scratch: Ted Rafanan 224, 596; John Marcucci 222; Rich Soletto 591; Millie George 192; Bunny Jackson 179; Ruth Anna Radford 482; Mary Skurn 476.

Wednesday Night Men:

Handicap: Lenny Oakeson 280; Jerry Thompson 275; Chuck Eyerly 735; Emile Guay 716. Scratch: Brian Carney 247; Lenny Oakeson 244; Tim Lawrence 647; Scott Brown 643.

Parkview Lanes Women's Trio:

Handicap: Sally O'Hara 254, 673; Missy Knapp 249, 670. Scratch: Missy Knapp 197, 514; Sally O'Hara 189, 478.

Good Time Bowlers:

Handicap: Rocky Sincere 263, 676; John Bahrs 250; Ray Johnson 628; Diane Collier 229, 653; Mary Ellen Craver 228; Janet Murray 472. Scratch: Rocky Sincere 223, 556; John Bahrs 200, 476; Diane Collier 173, 485; Janet Murray 173, 472; Lucille Lalanc 155.

Holder Hotshots:

Handicap: Frank Papa 299, 707; Jim Van Gilder 260; Shorty Williams 699; Pat Combs 264, 716; June Williams 253; Diane Mauck 689. Scratch: Eddie Corbett 236, 617; Frank Papa 231; Jim Van Gilder 539; Kathy Calcagni 188, 476; Pat Combs 170; Betty Rauch 445.

Parkview Owls:

Handicap: Bob Desmeules 305, 836; Marvin Brigner 298, 799; Bridget Foley 292, 815; Debbie Chung 290; June Williams 794. Scratch: Marvin Brigner 254, 667; Ted Rafanan 238, 617; Myla Wexler 214, 564; Debbie Chung 195; Maggie Savarese 491.

Bowlers of the Week:

Pam Levert, 110 pins over her average, and Wes Foley, 94 pins over his average.

DHS cheerleaders miss top 3 finish in county

LAURA RILEY

For the Riverland News

SPARR — It's funny to think that after months of practicing, two and a half minutes can make or break your whole season.

But knowing this, Dunnellon High School's competitive cheerleading squad knew that they would have to give their all during their performance Jan. 21 at the Marion County Cheerleading Competition at North Marion High School.

In the varsity division, Dunnellon competed against teams from Belleview, Forest, Lake Weir, Vanguard and West Port.

The past week for Dunnellon's squad was a rough one, having lost one member from a broken ankle, another from a family crisis, and absentees at practice through out the week.

However, the team man-

aged to come together Saturday to compete for the title of the best in the county.

After drawing to compete fourth out of the six teams, Dunnellon's energy was high.

"I wanted them to entertain the crowd and make it look like they were having the time of their lives," Mary Katherine Boss, cheerleading coach, said. "More than anything, I wanted our girls to have fun."

When it was time to perform Dunnellon was able to hit all its beginning stunts and keep its dances sharp. The cheer team had the support of cheerleaders' friends and family. Besides minor counting errors, the team's only bump in the road came in the ending pyramid, which it didn't hit.

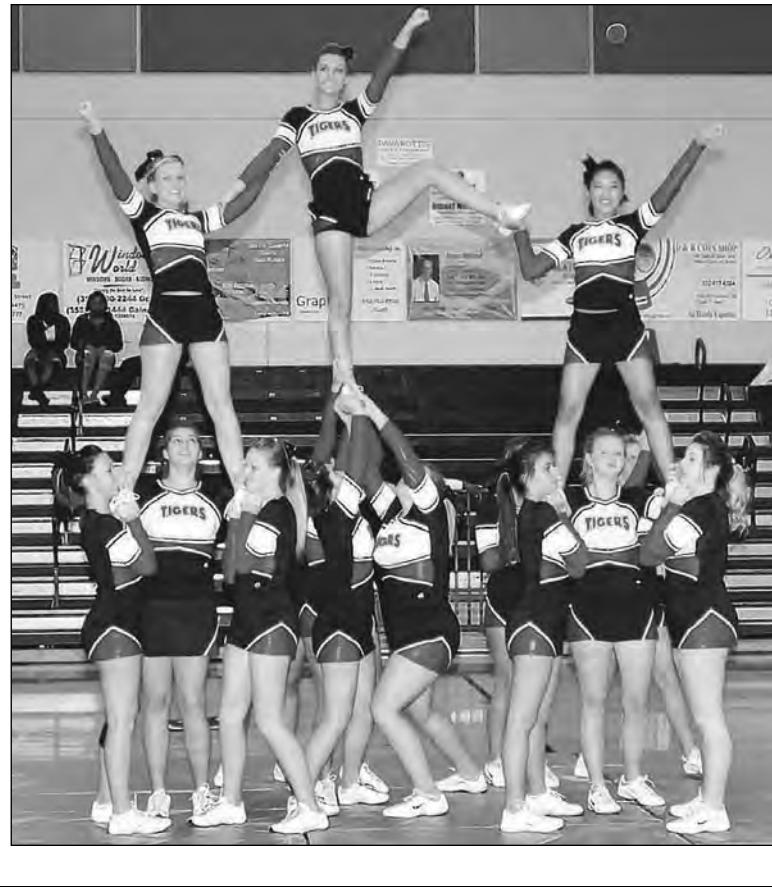
"In my opinion, we gave it our all," said veteran

cheerleader Brittany Sereda. "We weren't there to prove to others that we were good; we were there to prove it to ourselves, and we did."

But once scores were tallied, Dunnellon didn't score high enough to place third or higher. Vanguard was first, Forest second and Bellevue High third. As Dunnellon's team left the field, all heads were held high.

"My philosophy in sports is, it's not all about winning, just be sure you're having fun," said senior Anna Zarkowski.

Dunnellon's final two competitions will be at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, at a head-to-head event at Lake Weir High School. The team will compete at the state championships Thursday, Feb. 2, in Kissimmee. The time for the meet has not been announced.



The Dunnellon High School competitive cheerleading squad performs during a competition last Friday against West Port High School, a warm-up event prior to Saturday's countywide championships at North Marion High School.

DREW RONDEAU
For the Riverland News

Take Stock in Children of Citrus County presents

"Dollars for Scholars" Doo-Wop



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CCSO Emergency Operations Center, Lecanto,

& Havana House Restaurant, Lecanto.

Tickets will also be available at the door.



For ticket information, please call 352-422-2348

Parkview Lanes Weekly News
League scores for the week ending Jan. 22:

Monday Night Special: Handicap: Todd Cridland 278; Larry Fritz 278; K.E. Conrad 262; Dennis Iverson 711; Ray Colon 693; Laurie Chrosniak 284, 720; Lori Ciquera 258; Pam Levert 706.

Scratch: Todd Cridland 277, 652; Larry Fritz 268; Joe Brooks 651;

Lori Ciquera 234, 601; Dorine Fugere 241; Stephanie Flory 581.

Preserve Pinbusters: Handicap: Frank Shea 256, 669; Lou Metcalfe 248, 683; Loraine Guay 251; Bobbie Christensen 247, 649; Elaine Shea 660. Handicap: Ken Sprague 222, 598; Lou Metcalfe 214, 581; Betty Noland 181, 459; Elaine Shea 178, 498; Bobbie Christensen 178.

Suncoast Seniors: Handicap: Bob Becker 255, 691; Bob Mannella 243; Ernie Wiemann 635; Barb Steffen 235, 664; Terry Stinson 231, 634. Scratch: Bob Becker 213, 565; Bob Mannella 209, 529; Barb Steffen 184, 511; Terry Stinson 163; Marylou Halovich 448.

Ladies' Classic: Handicap: Mar Conklin 257, 727; Myla Wexler 255;

Judy Hindbaugh 706. Scratch: Myla Wexler 202, 525; Mar Conklin 182, 502.

Late Starters: Handicap: Rich Soletto 246; John Marcucci 243, 647; Marty Suehowicz 665; Betty Chapman 231; Fran Barlow 179, 509; Linda Vehrs 638. Scratch: Rich Soletto 234; John Marcucci 225, 593; Ted Rafanan 608; Linda Vehrs 185, 521; Fran Barlow 179, 509.

Wednesday Night Men: Handicap: Richie Adams 325, 791; Wes Jones 298, 800. Scratch: Richie Adams 286; Joe Barrera 269; Tim Lawrence 760; Marvin Brigner 680.

Parkview Lanes Women's Trio: Handicap: Maggie Savarese 280, 669; Terri Moorbeck 279, 686.

Scratch: Maggie Savarese 234, 531; Terri Moorbeck 224, 521.

Good Time Bowlers: Handicap: Ray Johnson 244, 605; Fred Yannotti 229; Mike Bonadonna 595;

Dorothy Larson 243; Diane Collier 230, 652; Pat Pulgrano 632.

Scratch: Ray Johnson 187; Fred Yannotti 180; Dave Messenger 453; Mike Bonadonna 448; Diane Collier 176, 490; Dorothy Larson 160; Pat Stoner 423.

Holder Hotshots: Handicap: Murphy Combs 278, 775; Chuck Hindbaugh 272, 774; Betty Wood 273; Pat Combs 271, 744; Carolyn Handley 719. Scratch: Eddie Corbett 225; Chuck Hindbaugh 223, 627; Murphy Combs 604; Betty Wood 188; Kathy Calcagni 186, 493; Judy Hindbaugh 493.

Parkview Owls: Handicap: K.E. Conrad 323; Wes Foley 310, 815; Ted Rafanan 310; Marvin Brigner 803; June Williams 298, 821; Dorine Fugere 283; Myla Wexler 283; Sue Chavez 819. Scratch: Wes Foley 269, 692; K.E. Conrad 267; Ted Rafanan 267; Marvin Brigner 674; Dorine Fugere 217; Myla Wexler 214, 576; Sue Chavez 546.

Bowlers of the Week: June Williams, 101 pins over her average, and Wes Jones, 125 pins over his average.

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Honoring a legend



Photos by Jeff Bryan/Riverland News

Marchers make their way south along U.S. 41 during a citywide tribute honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday, Jan. 16, as residents of the community gathered to honor the slain Civil Rights activist with a daylong celebration that concluded at Ernie Mills Park.

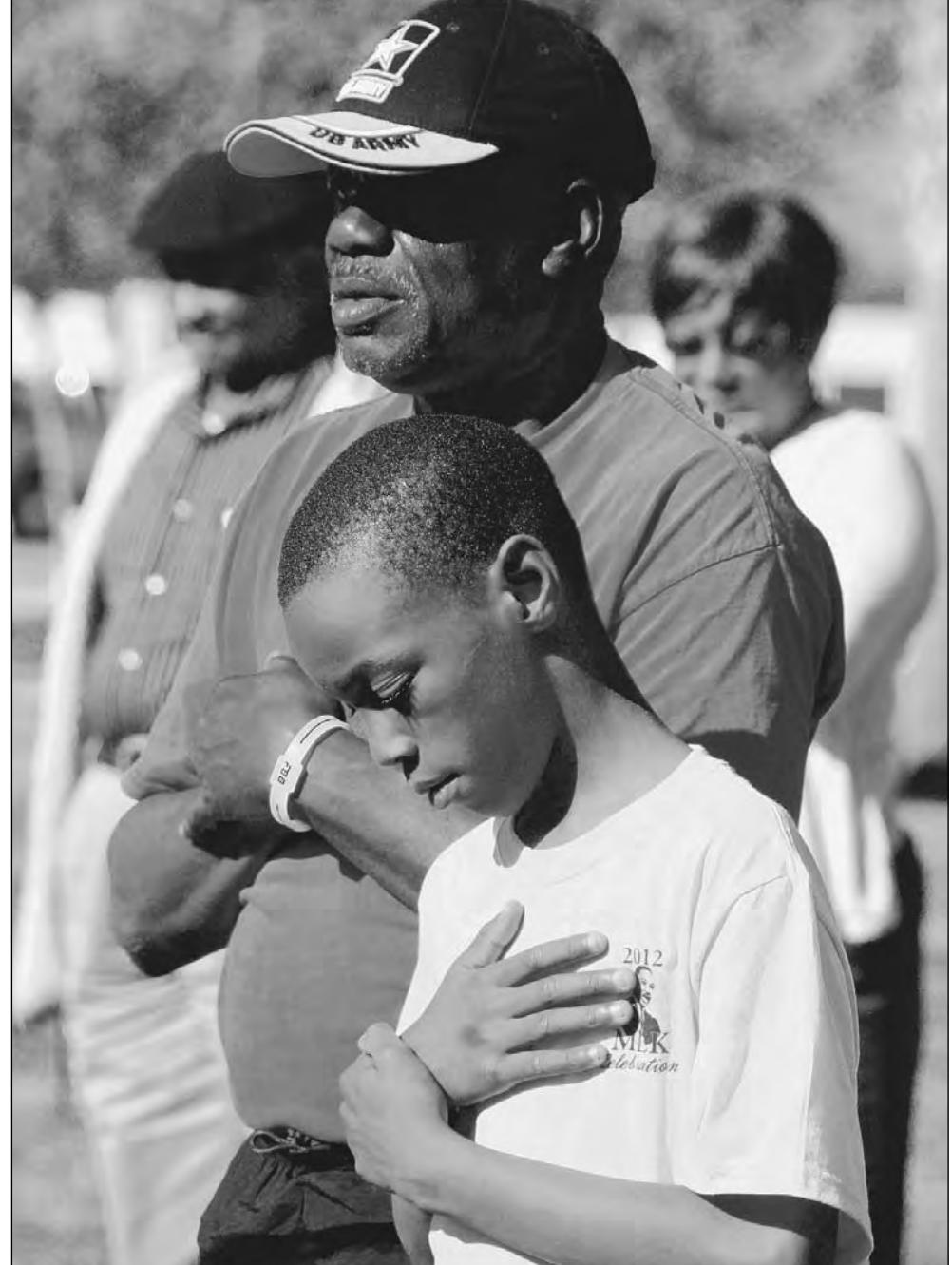


ABOVE: Chris Fortune leads the Dunnellon High School Junior ROTC Color Guard during the presentation of the colors at the event.
BELOW: Yolanda Brewer sings to her son, Jordan Johnson, as the crowd crooned several verses of "We Shall Overcome."



ABOVE: Merial Mills, left, Sherea Mosley and Victoria Wilson sing along with the crowd as the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration was in full swing with prayers and songs.

BELOW: Raymond Dunbar, background, and Kamarcus Brooks place their hands over their hearts during the reciting of the Negro National Anthem.



Game-Winning Dips and Healthy Tips

Enjoy a game-day party and keep your resolutions on track

FAMILY FEATURES

Two of the most popular New Year's resolutions are losing weight and eating healthier. But by the time the big game rolls around, many people are ready for a break — or looking for an excuse to cheat. But kickoff does not have to be a signal to punt your healthy-eating habits.

Registered dietitian Jodie Shield knows it can be a struggle to celebrate and stay healthy. She's put together some win-win tips and recipes — healthy and delicious — that are sure to keep fans cheering for more:

- Know your game plan. If you're the home team (i.e. the party host), you get to call the plays. Serve entrees that are lean and festive, such as Touchdown Turkey Chili. Or prepare a thin whole wheat crust pizza using reduced-fat mozzarella cheese, tomato sauce and lots of sliced veggies.
- Offer a starting line-up of healthier appetizers. Whip some traditional game day favorites into shape. Instead of nachos, serve baked chips with salsa. Pass on the salt and butter and sprinkle a dash of Parmesan cheese over popcorn. Forget the fried chicken wings and serve baked chicken tenders seasoned with Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix.
- Think fresh. Skip the super subs and set up a sandwich bar with lean deli meats such as turkey breast and ham, low-fat cheese slices and prepped veggies — like sliced tomato and shredded lettuce — and low-fat toppings.
- Pass on super big portions. No matter what foods are served, remember you don't have to eat the whole thing. Grab a small plate and load half of it up with fresh veggies and baked chips.
- Get in on the action. During halftime, grab your guests and head outdoors for a quick game of touch football. You can always record the commercials so you don't miss out.

7 Layer Fiesta Ranch Dip

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Makes: 10 (1/4 cup) servings

1 16-ounce can fat-free refried beans
1/2 cup guacamole
1 package Hidden Valley Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix
1 cup fat-free sour cream or plain nonfat yogurt
1 cup shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese
6 green onions, chopped
1 medium tomato, chopped
1/4 cup sliced black olives (optional)

1. Spread each of the ingredients in the order listed over a 9-inch serving platter or pie dish.

2. Chill for an hour and serve.



Play Good Defense and Substitute

The best way to tackle those creamy, high-calorie dips is to make smart substitutions. Here are a few options to help you get started:

Instead of:	Use:
Guacamole	Salsa
Pesto	Chopped tomatoes and basil
Sour cream	Plain fat-free yogurt
Cheese	Reduced-fat cheese
Cream	Fat-free evaporated milk

Touchdown Turkey Chili

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: High heat cooks for 4 hours; Low heat cooks for 8 hours

Makes: 8 (1 cup) servings

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 medium onion, chopped
1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
2 pounds lean ground turkey breast
2 cans (14.5 ounces each) Mexican-style diced tomatoes
1 can (6 ounces) reduced sodium tomato paste
1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
1 cup low sodium tomato juice
1 package Hidden Valley Fiesta Ranch Dips Mix

1. Heat olive oil in a large nonstick pan over medium-high heat.
2. Add onions and bell pepper and sauté until crisp-tender, about 5 minutes.
3. Remove and place in slow cooker.
4. Add ground turkey breast to the same pan and cook until crumbled and browned, about 8 to 10 minutes.
5. Add the turkey to the slow cooker along with all of the remaining ingredients.
6. Cover the slow cooker and cook for 4 hours on high heat or 8 hours on low heat.

Hold That Line Hummus Dip

"No need to pass on fabulous dips to maintain your diet," said Shield. "Thanks to the protein and fiber in chickpeas, hummus is light, yet heart-healthy enough to satisfy hungry sports fans. Try this easy recipe for happy game day guests."

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Makes: 8 (1/4 cup) servings

2 cans (15 1/2 ounces each) chickpeas, rinsed and drained
4 garlic cloves
1/3 cup lemon juice
1 package Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix
4 tablespoons cold water
1/2 cup tahini (sesame seed paste)
Dash of paprika for garnish

1. In a food processor, puree the chickpeas, garlic, lemon juice, salad dressing and seasoning mix and water until very smooth, about 3 minutes.
2. Add tahini paste and process an additional 2 minutes.
3. Spread hummus into a shallow serving bowl.
4. Sprinkle top with paprika.

For more recipes and tips, visit www.hiddenvalley.com.

Cheesy Ranch Popcorn

Prep Time: 5 minutes

Cook Time: 3 1/2 minutes

Makes: 6 (2 cup) servings

1 bag (3 ounces) reduced-fat, low sodium butter-flavored microwave popcorn
1/4 pack (0.25 ounces) Hidden Valley Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix
3 sprays from olive oil mister
3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1. Pop popcorn according to package directions. Immediately open the bag and pour the popcorn into a large serving bowl.
2. Spray the popcorn with three sprays from the olive oil mister, toss with salad dressing and seasoning mix and then toss with the Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

Four Chaplains Day Memorial Ceremony, Feb 5

Riverland News

The American Legion Post 58 will host its annual Four Chaplains Day Memorial Ceremony at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at the American Legion Hall on U.S. 41, north of Walmart.

In addition to the Four Chaplain Memorial Ceremony, the American Legion post will celebrate the 93rd birthday of the American Legion.

The festival, open to the public and free of charge, will offer music, food and refreshments.

According to history excerpts from Matt Grills, on Feb. 3, 1943, the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester – a converted luxury liner – was crossing the North Atlantic, trans-

porting more than 900 troops to an American base in Greenland. Aboard the ship were four chaplains of different faiths: the Rev. George Fox (Methodist), Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, the Rev. Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed) and Father John Washington (Roman Catholic).

Around 12:55 a.m., a German U-boat fired a torpedo that struck Dorchester's starboard side, below the water line and near the engine room. The explosion instantly killed 100 men and knocked out power and radio communication with Dorchester's three escort ships. Within 20 minutes, the transport sank and more than 670 men died.

As soldiers rushed to lifeboats, the four chaplains spread out, comforting the wounded and directing others to safety. One survivor, Private William Bednar, later said, "I could hear men crying, pleading, and praying. I could also hear the chaplains' preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Another survivor, John Ladd, watched the chaplains distribute life jackets, and when they ran out, they removed theirs and gave them to four young men.

"It was the finest thing I have seen, or hope to see, this side of heaven," he recalled.

As Dorchester sank, the chaplains were seen

linked arm in arm, praying. Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington were posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart, and in 1948, Congress declared Feb. 3 to be Four Chaplains Day. The four chaplains were also honored with a U.S. postage stamp that year, according to history excerpts.

Riverland News file photo
Rabbi Ephraim Rubinger sings "God Bless America" while looking at the American flag during American Legion Walls Rives Post 58's Four Chaplains observance ceremony last year. This year's ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Penno VFW Post plans events

Edward W. Penno VFW Post 4864, 10199 Citrus Springs Blvd., Citrus Springs, announce the following events.

Join us for Darts at 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Bingo at 1 p.m. Mondays. \$1 Hot Dogs are available for lunch on those days.

Please plan to join us for dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Fridays. Tickets are \$8 each.

The canteen is open Sunday through Saturday at noon; and closes at 8 p.m. or later Monday through Saturday except for meeting nights, and 6 p.m. Sundays.

For more information,

call (352) 465-4864.

Artist to host art workshops

Artist Sidney Ann Pitchford, with more than 20 years of experience, will host oil painting classes from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays at Dunnellon Chamber of Commerce.

Classes are for beginners to intermediate. For more information, call 465-0702.

Greater Ocala High Twelve Club to meet

The Greater Ocala Masonic High Twelve Club No. 665 will host a luncheon and meeting at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 27, at the Elks Club, 702 N.E. 25th Ave., Ocala.

Dave Schlenker, columnist for the Ocala Star Banner, will be the guest speaker. Following the meeting, there will be a buffet lunch. Cost is \$12 per person.

All Master Masons and guests are invited to attend. Reservations are required. For more information or to RSVP, call Bob Brady at 352-854-9612.

Peripheral Neuropathy group meets

The Ocala Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group will meet at 10

a.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Marion County Sheriff's Brian Litz Building, 9048 S.W. State Road 200. Individuals afflicted with this disease, their family members and friends are encouraged to attend.

Donation is \$6 per person at the door; \$5 per person for presale tickets. For more information, call Jack Koehler at (352) 861-1630.

Boy Scout Troop 462 to host spaghetti dinner

Boy Scout Troop 462 will host its 15th annual spaghetti dinner as well

as a silent and Chinese auction from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9425 N. Citrus Springs Blvd., Citrus Springs.

Donation is \$6 per person at the door; \$5 per person for presale tickets. For more information, call Anita Black at 352-427-4034.

Friends of the Library to meet Feb. 7

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library will host its monthly meeting at 10

a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, in the Library Meeting Room. The Dunnellon Public Library is at 20351 Robinson Road. For more information, call 438-2520.

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Oh, what a chill!



Photos by Jeff Bryan/Riverland News

Adam Robinson charges his way into the wave pool Saturday at Seaworld Aquatica Park in Orlando as other members of the Polar Pigs, Piggy Bankers and the Dunnellon Moose Lodge follow his lead during the third annual Polar Plunge.



ABOVE: Alexis Williams dances with one of the many Special Olympic athletes on hand for the third annual Polar Plunge.
BELOW: Officer Shane Yox exchanges a pair of high fives with an athlete during pre-plunge activities.



Team members from the Dunnellon Moose Lodge who participate in the third annual Polar Plunge included: Robin Mays, Cathy Beardsley, Darlene Morgan, Tom "Tiny" Morgan and Artie Klepp. The Moose members plunged with other Moose from the Central Florida region.



ABOVE: Darlene Parker squeals with excitement after winning the Best Costume contest at the event.
BELOW: Michelle Leonard, center, cringes as she's splashed with a blast of chilly water as she exits the wave pool with Lt. Sue Webb, left, and Officer Carolina Rolfs.



ORLANDO — The weather outside was delightful, but the chill of the water was oh so frightful, as the Polar Pigs and the Piggy Bankers, with the surprising addition of five members of the Dunnellon Moose Lodge, made their way into the crisp 65-degree wave pool Saturday during the third annual Polar Plunge, a Special Olympics fundraiser, at Seaworld Aquatica.

More than 700 people participated in the event, raising more than \$180,000, with fundraising slated to end this Saturday. Last year's event raised slightly more than \$190,000.

The weather for this year's plunge was sunny and in the 80s, nothing compared to the stiff, cold winds and temperatures in the 50s. Saturday's weather was picturesque for a Florida winter.

"It's our biggest crowd yet," Sherry Wheelock, chairwoman of Special Olympics Florida, said. "The weather is beautiful, there's a lot of people here and there's a lot of excitement. We couldn't ask for a better day; it's a very Florida kind of Polar Plunge."

The Polar Pigs from Dunnellon Police Department and the Piggy Bankers from Cadence Bank raised more than \$4,000 this year, placing them in the top 10 in the state. A year ago, they raised less than \$2,000 the first time participating in the event.

In addition to finishing in the top 10, Darlene Parker won the coveted Best Costume Contest. Dressed in a pig suit, she made it through three rounds of judging by the crowd.

— Complied by Jeff Bryan,
Riverland News

Chamber Award Winners



The Kiwanis Club of Dunnellon, represented by Don Fineout, left, and the Moose Lodge of Dunnellon, represented by Chet Garron, right, are presented with the Community Service Award by Matthew Baillargeon, outgoing president of the Chamber of Commerce.



City Manager Lisa Algiere, left, and Mayor Fred Ward, right accept the Business Beautification Award presented to Greenlight Dunnellon Communications by Matthew Baillargeon, outgoing president of the Chamber of Commerce.



Dr. Cheryl Stanley of Dunnellon Chiropractic, left, received the Director of the Year award from Matthew Baillargeon, outgoing president of the Chamber of Commerce.



Valerie Levy, left, current president of the Chamber of Commerce, presents Matthew Baillargeon, outgoing president of the Chamber, with the Past President's Award.



Jeff Bryan, left, editor, Riverland News, is presented with the Chamber Booster Award by Matthew Baillargeon, outgoing president of the Chamber of Commerce.



Dennis Evans, city councilman, left, is congratulated by Matthew Baillargeon, outgoing president of the Chamber of Commerce, for receiving the Making a Difference Award.



Brook Bello, left, serves rice to Don Fineout as guests enjoyed a catered dinner from Gruff's.

CHAMBER

continued from page 1

the Moose Lodge of Dunnellon. "It was tough to choose between the two because of all they do," Baillargeon said, noting both organizations were well deserving of the honor.

• **Community Youth Service Award** — Dunnellon High School Junior ROTC. "They were out in force throughout many of our events, cleaning up trash or doing other stuff we needed them to do. They were out all day long without even being asked," Baillargeon explained.

• **Community Involvement Award** — Dunnellon Police Department. "They are very, very involved in the community," Baillargeon said. "They do a tremendous job. I think their Kiss the Pig booth at Boomtown Days really did it for me."

• **Business Beautification Award** — Greenlight Dunnellon Communications. City Manager Lisa Algiere and Mayor Fred Ward accepted the award. Mayor Ward in turn applauded the efforts of Algiere. "She's done more for economic development in this

town than anyone," he explained.

• **Service Above Self** — Dane Myers. "He does so much," Baillargeon explained. "He does it all."

• **Making a Difference Award** — Dennis Evans, city councilman. "I've been watching him for a long time," Baillargeon said. "I've learned a lot from him. He has a tremendous love for the city."

• **President's Award** — Martha Vaughn, chairwoman of Jazz Up Dunnellon. "She

has done a wonderful job of taking that task on," Baillargeon said.

• **Heritage Award** — Rainbow Springs State Park. "This was a no brainer," Baillargeon said. "Who else does the job they do of promoting the community's history and heritage?"

• **Director of the Year** — Dr. Cheryl Stanley of Dunnellon Chiropractic.

• **Chamber Booster** — Jeff Bryan, editor, Riverland News.

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FEB. 18 LEESBURG - 7:00

Feb. 25 - LAKELAND - 7:00

Mar. 3 INVERNESS - 7:00

Mar. 4 INVERNESS - 3:00

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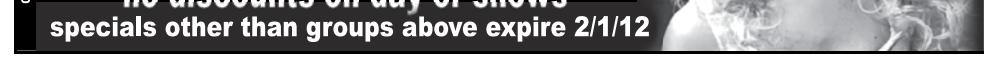
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Out to Pastor

Trying to go somewhere, pastor ended up nowhere

It was one of those weeks where, if I accomplished anything that delicious slice of information has completely eluded the tiny gray cells floating in my cranium. It is not as if those little gray cells had anything else to do.

As I sputtered my weary body into my La-Z-Boy chair, I knew I was tired but I could not figure out what I had done during the week to make me this tired. After all, it did not seem like I had accomplished anything of significance this week. I was trying to do something, of course, but I had absolutely nothing to show for it. What was I trying to do this past week?

A verse of Scripture began haunting me as I thought about this. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). What was I supposed to "doeth" that I did not get around to "doeth"?

Of course, there was that funeral I had this past week. Unfortunately, I opened my book to the wrong page and began the funeral by saying, "Dearly beloved we are gathered together here to unite these two in holy matrimony."

Holy macaroni!

What a difference the wrong page makes. At least I was not officiating at a wedding and said, "Ashes to ashes, and dirt to dirt." Although, to be honest about it, I have had some weddings



Rev. James
Snyder

where I thought that phrase fit.

I was tempted, only for a moment, to query the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage but I feared she would tell me. There is something to say about mystery. Nothing is more mysterious than the feminine side of the marriage equation. Odd isn't it, that the marriage equation is not always even.

As I reflected upon my week past, I duly noted the activities that occupied most of my week. Apart from the funeral, I had several hospital visits to make. As is usually the case, people conspire to go to the hospital at the same time but never at the same hospital. One even went out of town to go to a hospital.

Other visits were made and other activities attended. Certain deadlines were staring me in the face and I stared right back at them defiantly. I am not sure who won.

Services and Bible studies needed to be prepared which can take up a lot of time. Then, don't you know it; my truck is always out of gas when I am in a hurry. I suppose I could fill my tank up when it got down to a certain level, but where would the fun be in that? Nothing compares to the adrenaline of being in a hurry and late for an appointment and then running out of gas.

Do not get me wrong here. It is not that I do not enjoy giving my wife a

call on the cell phone when stranded along the side of the road. It is the highlight of the stranded experience. Usually, her response to my phone call is what stresses me out.

"What," she declares in that sarcastic tone of hers, "have you run out of gas again?"

It is her theatrical use of the word "again" that I believe could easily earn her an Oscar. I once presented her with an Oscar Meyer wiener, but she did not enjoy the joke. Personally, I thought it was a great joke and I really did not appreciate her reaction. Needless to say, I have not repeated that sin, although temptation is what it is.

I suppose I did do things and accomplished something this past week, but it really does not explain why I am as tired as I am tonight. I can remember there was a time that I did not even know

See PASTOR page 22

OBITUARIES

Patricia Ann Miller Ermatinger, 86

Patricia Ann Miller Ermatinger, Jan. 26, 1925-Jan. 18, 2012, lived her "dash" to the fullest. Two weeks ago she told us "I

love God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and I want to be with Henry." Good granted her request peacefully, surrounded by the family she loved so much.

In their own words, "She was packed and ready to go!"; "Mom, you were an amazing person and a great friend. I'll miss your sweet soul"; "To the strongest, classiest woman I've ever known. She's always had a direct line to the Lord. Wink, wink Mom!"; "To the woman who taught me what life is really about"; "You are such a sweet lady, Mamaw, with so much love"; "1,2,3, forever more and then some-see you soon!"; Heaven's newest angel, you'll live forever in our hearts!



Patricia
Ermatinger

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Rainbow River Conservation, Inc., P.O. Box 729, Dunnellon, FL 34430. Celebration of her life to be announced.

Charles Gaffney Jr., 78

Charles "Clayton" Gaffney Jr., 78, Dunnellon, died Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012 at Munroe Regional Medical Center in Ocala.

Survivors include his wife, Lillie; children, Richard (Debbie) Gaffney and Brenda (Jason) Brickett, all of Vero Beach; Teresa (Ronald) Bearden, Preston, Ga.; Deborah (Carl) Counterman of Ft.

Pierce and James Gaffney of Dunnellon. Burial was in Green Pond Cemetery, Clermont.

Becker Funeral Home, 806 W. Minneola Ave., Clermont, provided information.

Donald Edward Daniels, 80

Donald Edward Daniels, 80 of Dunnellon died Friday, Jan. 13, 2012.

Survivors include his wife, Janet; sons, Sean and (Jian) Daniels, Timothy and (Mary) Daniels; daughters, Regan and (Aaron) Shepley, and Patricia and (James) Singleton.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012, 1 p.m. at Dunnellon Presbyterian Church.

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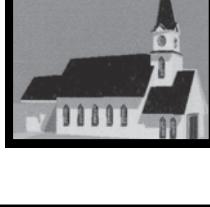


"For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them." –

Matthew 18:20

GATHERINGS

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"For where two or three gather together in My name, there am I with them." –

Matthew 18:20



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Pastor Jamie Parker

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Please Join Us As We Worship In His Name

000A1KX

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

Go To Our Web Page

hope.lutheranelca.com

Catholic Community of St. John the Baptist

Father Emmanuel Akalue, Pastor

MASSES

Saturday Reconciliation. 3:30 PM

Saturday Vigil.....4:30 PM

Sunday.....8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Sunday - Spanish.....Noon

Mon. Thru Fri.....8:00 AM

Holy Days.....8:00 AM and 7:00 PM

7525 S. Highway 41, Dunnellon

352-489-3166

www.stjohncc.com

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7633 N. Florida Ave. (Route 41)
Citrus Springs
465-4225
www.naturecoastuu.org



Romeo Baptist Church

Interim Pastor

Tim Turner

(352) 489-1788

Sunday

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Worship 11:00 AM

Disciple Training 5:00 PM

(Nursery & Children's Church Provided)

Wednesday

AWANA 6:30 PM

Youth Group 6:30 PM

Bible Study 7:00 PM

8½ Miles North of Dunnellon Off of Highway 41, Left at Church Sign on SW 5th Place

Dunnellon Seventh-day Adventist Church

Welcome To Our Services

Hwy. 41 & Hwy. 40

Saturday

Sabbath School....9:30 AM

Sermon.....11:00 AM

Tuesday

Bible Study.....4:00 PM

For more information:

352-489-3455

www.dunnellonsdachurch.com

000A1LC

Holy Faith Episcopal Church

19924 W. Blue Cove Dr.

Dunnellon

THE REV. J. JAMES GERHART

Sunday

Rite I 8:00AM

Coffee Hour 9:00AM

Rite II 10:00AM

489-2685

Hall Available For

Community Functions

000A1LP

DUNNELLON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Church briefs

Church to host 'Meet Your Brain!'

St. John the Baptist Catholic Community Church will host a workshop titled, "Meet Your Brain! A look at adolescent brain development." The workshop will be at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, in Father Stegeman Hall. The church is at 7525 S. U.S. 41, Dunnellon.

The workshop is for adults, teens and tweens and will address the subject of adolescent brain development and give helpful insights into risk behaviors. Marie Gallo-Lethcoe, the guest speaker, is a teacher at Father Lopez High School in Daytona Beach. The public is welcome. For more information, call Claire Hamilton at 489-3166.

Sons of the Father to perform at North Oak

The Sons of the Father will be in concert at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, at North Oak Baptist Church on Sunday. The community is invited. North Oak Baptist Church is at the intersection of North Elkcam Boulevard and North Citrus Springs Boulevard in Citrus Springs. For more information, call 489-1688.

Church to host Chinese auction

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will host a Chinese Auction from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, in Father Stegeman Hall at the corner of U.S. 41 and State Road 40 East. Drawing for the items will begin at 1.

An envelope of 20 tickets is \$5 and can be purchased at the door. Also included is a free ticket for coffee and dessert. For more information call Pat at 489-1984.

Men's Club to host Valentine's Day dance

The Men's Club of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will host a Valentine's Day Dance at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, in the church hall at 7525 S.W. U.S. 41, Dunnellon. Admission price is \$7.50 per person and includes dinner. Tickets are available in the church

PASTOR

continued from page 21

the meaning of tired. I got tired all right; I just did not know the meaning of the word tired.

Then the whole thing dawned on me. It was almost like being hit on the head with an iron skillet by you know whom. The lights flashed. The lightbulb went on. I had an epiphany to end all epiphanies.

At this point, I am surprised my wife did not get the jump on me with this one. The reason I am so tired is because I am old. There, I said it. I have come to that point in life where being young is a fond fading memory.

As this bit of information began marinating in my cranium, it had a very comforting effect. Up to this point, I had been worrying about the fact that I was tired and I could not link that condition with any specific activity. As is usually the

case, there are good sound reasons for everything. I began to look at my tired condition in a completely different light.

I have earned my being tired. It is something I have worked for all my life. Now, here it is. I am now collecting those wonderful dividends from all that activity of the past.

As I thought about this, a marvelous verse of Scripture came to my mind. "The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the gray head" (Proverbs 20:29 KJV).

Being tired is the crown of a lifetime of activity.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jameessnyder2@att.net. The church website is www.whatafellowship.com.

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RED GREEN LIVE Experience this hilarious one-man show. April 5, Tampa Theatre 800-745-3000. April 7, News-Journal Centre, Davidson Theatre, Daytona State College, 800-595-4849. www.redgreen.com

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Manager Needed
Openings in mgt. Exp. Pref'd but not req'd Training & Benefits \$650 - \$850. Call Ms. Watson 352-436-4460

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The City of Dunnellon is accepting applications for a Communications and Program Coordinator. Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university required with major course work in mass communications, journalism, public relations, advertising, marketing, public administration or related field with ten years progressively responsible experience in communications management, journalism, public relations, promotional advertising or marketing. Journalism experience in government reporting preferred. Strong knowledge of all Microsoft computer applications, social networking media and experience using desktop publishing software. Required to work weekend & evening hrs. Must obtain a job description and submit a COD Employment

Application packet to the City Clerk at 20750 River Drive, Dunnellon, FL 34431 (352) 465-8500. Apps can be downloaded at www.dunnellon.org. Electronic applications/resumes not accepted. Salaried position, pay Range \$36,063 - \$54,084. Application deadline 02/03/2012. Position will remain opened until filled. E.O.E., DFWP.

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Prev. 12 Auction 3PM Outside 6PM Inside 2009

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• FRI. Jan. 27

Prev. 4 PM Auction 6PM Camper & Vintage Glass Auction

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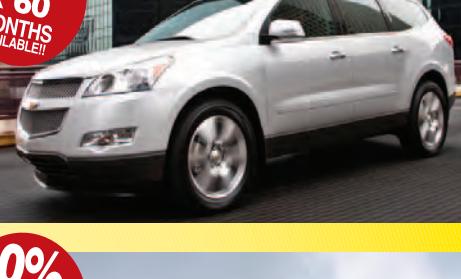


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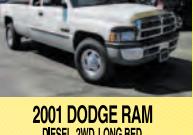
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