

Riverland News

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Vol 31 No. 25

75 cents

Council initiates repeal of ordinance



Mayor Nathan Whitt, left, and Vice Mayor Dennis Evans clashed over the issue.

Officials will have hearings before decision is final

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

After two weeks of debate, the Dunnellon City Council voted 3-2 to move forward with repealing the River Protection Ordinance.

However, before the seven-year-old ordinance can be completely rescinded, the city's attorney will have to make sure there is no conflict with the city's comprehensive plan.

If the river corridor ordinance and comprehensive plan have no

connection, Marsha Segal-George, the city's assistant attorney, said, then moving forward with plans to scrap the ordinance won't be an issue.

Then, a new ordinance calling for a repeal of the current river protection ordinance will be

drafted and go through two public hearings before it can be officially nullified.

Mayor Nathan Whitt spoke out against repealing the ordinance as a whole. He pointed out the council had spent more than six hours and two workshops discussing the issue, with most

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Americana Music Fest set for April 20

The Boys & Girls Club Dunnellon branch, along with Swampy's, will host the inaugural Americana Music Festival from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at Swampy's at 20049 E. Pennsylvania Ave.

The event will feature performances from Backwater, a Marion County bluegrass band, Scott and Michelle Dalziel and Nathan Whitt, a local singer/songwriter, as well as mayor of Dunnellon. A percentage of food and beverage purchased at Swampy's will go toward construction of the new Boys & Girls Club Dunnellon branch on U.S. 41.

For information about the event, call Carswell Ponder at 352-690-7519, or email cponder@bgc.marion.com.

Library to host special program

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library will host a special program, "Presidents and Their First Ladies," featuring William and Sue Willis, at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 27, in the Library Meeting Room. The event is free. The Willises are now in their 16th year of bringing to life the stories of presidential couples. For information, call 438-2520.

Donations sought for 'Sneaker Project'

Holy Faith Episcopal Church is seeking donations for its "Sneaker Project," which provides shoes to school-age children at Dunnellon and Romeo elementary schools. Donations are needed by May 1. To make a donation, mail it to "Sneaker Project" at Holy Faith Episcopal Church, 19924 W. Blue Cove Road, Dunnellon, FL 34432, or stop by the church office Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursday mornings.

For information, call 489-2685.

Turtle power



Dr. Peter Meylan, a professor of natural sciences at Eckerd College, talks with two of his students during the Rainbow Run, a study he's led since its inception in 1990. "Not only did we catch a lot of turtles we can examine, we caught a lot of different species we can teach the students about."

Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Students capture turtles, collect data for long-time study

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

The mission: capture as many species of turtles as possible.

The challenge: finding them and chasing them down.

Taking on the objectives were almost three dozen students from the University of Florida and Eckerd College, based in Clearwater.

This isn't the first time students from both Florida-based colleges have taken to the waters of the pristine Rainbow River, having made this an annual trek for more than two decades as part of a hands-on opportunity outside of the typical classroom environment.

"It's a great learning experience," said Jessica Mullens, a junior biology major from Eckerd College, who made the trek for the second time. "I don't focus on a lot of the research, but this is a great time. This is

a unique opportunity, a unique learning experience. You have to take advantage of the opportunities you get to learn outside of the classroom."

Of course, catching a few turtles never hurts either.

"It's amazing how many we can collect in one day," she said.

It's all part of a long-time project about turtles in the Rainbow River, as students, with majors ranging from biology to wildlife ecology and conservation, are helping to gather the data. Once the students are done capturing turtles, professors assist them in measuring the species caught, weighing them and, of course, implanting a microchip of sorts to be able to track them in later years.

"It was really fun, I'd never done anything like this before," said Lauren

See TURTLE page 10

Course owner to build houses

Plan calls for homes on golf course

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Mark Kaprelian's plan to sell Rainbow Springs Golf and Country Club fell through in September 2011 when he sought to strike a deal with the Rainbow Springs Property Owners Association.

Residents overwhelmingly voted against the proposal, 1,583 to 213, choosing not to purchase the club from Kaprelian, who sought at least \$3 million for the course and clubhouse. He bought both for \$2.4 million in October 2010.

Kaprelian's latest proposal is ruffling the feathers of residents.

Kaprelian, backed by his company Kasmark Inc., wants to develop multiple residential lots along the golf course. Doing so, residents said, would block the view of their homes, which they purchased years ago.

"(The proposed homes) are not on the holes," Kaprelian said, noting the 34 homes being proposed would be spread out through four areas including hole Nos. 17 and 18. "There are lots just waiting to have homes on them."

Before the first model home, or the proposed 34-house development in four different areas, can be constructed, Kaprelian must clear necessary engineering hurdles. The lots in

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ABOVE: Kelly Jones, a sophomore at the University of Florida, shows off a Suwannee cooter turtle she captured. BELOW: Another student shows off a pint-sized loggerhead turtle caught during the Rainbow Run.



Guardian Ad Litem gives children 'voice'

Group in need of volunteers to help kids

AUGIE SALZER
For the Riverland News

April is National Child Abuse Prevention and Volunteer Appreciation month.

One organization that falls into both categories is the Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) program in the 5th Judicial Circuit which covers Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Lake and Hernando counties.

The program has more than 1,700 children under court supervision in five counties, ex-

plained Marcia Hilty, director for the GAL program in the 5th District.

"We are always looking for volunteers," she said. "We have 600 volunteers now, but we also are looking for more men to volunteer. About half of our children are boys and most of their fathers are either incarcerated or absent and they need a father figure."

The program trains and does a background check on all volunteers before the court appoints them to advocate

for the child. A newly trained volunteer can have a mentor to help them until they build their confidence to work alone. They also have a case manager and the program attorney they can go to for advice and guidance.

Once a GAL is assigned to a child, they get to know them and learn their history by reading the court documents. Then they can make informed decisions and recommendations to the court

See GUARDIAN page 3



AUGIE SALZER/For the Riverland News

Guardian Ad Litem volunteer Sharri Harris works with a young girl during a recent visit with the youth. Harris has been a GAL for the past several years.



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Man, 44, charged with sex crimes

AMANDA MIMS
For the Riverland News

A Dunnellon man was arrested Wednesday on a slew of sex charges after two women accused him of sexually abusing them when they were adolescents.

David Lavoie, 44, of Southwest 183rd Terrace, faces charges including two counts of sexual battery, three counts of lewd and lascivious molestation, two counts of providing obscene material to a child, use of a child in a sexual performance and two counts of contributing to the delinquency of a child, according to his arrest affidavit.

He is accused of sexually abusing the girls, who were between the ages 12 and 15, between September 2006 and February 2007 in Dunnellon in a number of ways, including inappropriate touching of the girls and encouraging one of them to touch him sexually. He also allegedly had sexual intercourse with one of the girls several times when she was 12 and 13 years old.

One victim told an investigator Lavoie provided both girls with alcoholic beverages, crack cocaine and marijuana on multiple occasions. After the girls used the substances, Lavoie played a pornographic DVD and had the girls perform sexual acts. The alleged abuse occurred at B18 Tattoo Shop, which Lavoie owned and operated.

Lavoie was taken to the Marion County Jail, where his bond was initially set at \$37,000. However, after his first hearing, a judge raised the bond to \$125,000.



David Lavoie

Skies come alive



DARLENE MANN/Riverland News

Mark Lackey talks with Dale Curran on Saturday as he prepares to fly, loop and roll his Curtiss Seahawk at the Dunnellon Big Bird Fly-In. The plane was a trainer for World War II and has a 72-inch wing span.

Big Bird Fly-In attracts hundreds

ERYN WORTHINGTON
For the Riverland News

For Gale Moore of Williston, flying radio-controlled airplanes is not only his pastime but his passion.

"I have been flying for 35 years now," Moore said. "It is something that I enjoy doing. I enjoy building as well as flying."

Moore joined 25 registered pilots and 200 spectators at the 13th annual Big Bird Fly-In at Rainbow R/C Park in Dunnellon.

Aircraft at the event are required to have a minimum wingspan of 80 inches, making them a big plane, also known as "big bird."

The majority of the planes are scale models and replicas of planes flown during World War I or World War II.

"These are all scale and semi-scale airplanes," said event coordinator George Derewenko. "They are copied after real airplanes."

Moore brought his 1942 Super Stearman that weighs in at 35 pounds, has a 96-inch wingspan, and is powered by a DA1 engine. Moore said he was



Walt Moucha received a helping hand Saturday with takeoff of his World War I Nieuport 17 at the Dunnellon Big Bird Fly-In.

unsure of what to expect at Saturday's flight, as he recently moved to Florida from Kentucky.

"I am pleased with the nice, open field that they have here," Moore said. "I flew once today, but we have an elevator problem. So we are going to be down the rest of the day. I'm just enjoying the rest of the day watching the show."

Pilots from all over the state traveled to Dunnellon to fly their airplanes together to rekindle their childhood obsession.

"We have people from Ocala, Hernando County, Fort Pierce and all over," Derewenko said. "Once a year they come here. I'm 75

years old and I have been doing it since I was 12 years old. I just enjoy doing it."

"Anyone is welcome to come out here and be a spectator," Derewenko continued. "We fly 365 days a year with weather permitting. We usually start flying at 8:30 in the morning. If anyone is interested in flying, we have an introductory program where we can teach them how to fly for free."

For information, call Derewenko at 352-270-3307.

Eryn Worthington is a reporter with the Citrus County Chronicle. She can be reached at 563-5660, ext. 1334, or eworthington@chronicleonline.com.

COURSE

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question are zoned R-1 for residential density, Kaprelian said.

"Right now, we're just testing the waters to see if we can get some new construction built, but the opportunity to sell as well," Kaprelian said. "We're getting a lot of calls about new home construction in the area and the answer has been no. We'd love to have some new construction here. There's a market for this."

RSRO President Vivian Dayton as well as Frankenfield urged residents to write letters to County Commission Chairwoman Kathy Bryant in protest of the Board of County Commissioners approving such a project. Bryant is the representative for Rainbow Springs residents. "She knows us very well," Frankenfield said.

Kaprelian said he's not aware the County Commission has to sign off on the proposal for the new homes, because the property is already zoned residential and they are not seeking a zoning change.

"I have heard from the engineer that is not the case, that the commissioners would have to sign off on any zoning changes, we're not asking for any zoning changes," he explained. "We have to do the proper engineering and meet code. That's what we're in the process of doing. We don't envision any problems. We'll have to make some adjustments for storm water run off, but I don't see any other problems with it at this time."

However, the Rainbow Springs Property Owners Association (POA) and the Rainbow Springs Residents' Organization (RSRO) have concerns about adding homes that would not likely be subject to the current covenants and deed restrictions already in place. Kaprelian said he met Tuesday with the

POA and cleared the air regarding deed restrictions and covenants.

"I have to petition them to take these lots and apply the same covenants, which I want to do and they want me to do," he said. "I want to do it. They asked if I would petition, I said I would. It's up to them to accept it. I want to protect the homes. I want to protect the golf course. I don't want residents being able to do whatever they want to the homes."

Homeowners who paid premium prices for houses with a "golf course view" are concerned with losing their view of the course. Residents questioned the legality of Kaprelian's decision and the impact it would have on current homeowners. One homeowner asked about their rights being violated.

One resident pointed out that if such a development were to be approved, property values of current homes would likely drop. "They'll feel it in the pocketbook," the resident said.

Right now, Frankenfield said, everyone needs to look at what's right for the community.

"We are in a technical-finding basis," POA President

Robert Frankenfield told a group of concerned residents Monday at an RSRO meeting. "We are looking at everything. But we have to take emotions out of this and look at the technical issues. Legally, that's important."

WE WANT YOUR NEWS

The Riverland News seeks community news announcements such as first birthdays, births, engagements, weddings and anniversaries. To submit news, email Editor Jeff Bryan at editor@riverlandnews.com. Photos must be high-resolution images. Print photos can be scanned at our office at 20441 E. Pennsylvania Ave.

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GUARDIAN

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concerning the health and welfare of the child.

The purpose of a GAL is to ensure the child's needs are met and eventually find them a permanent home that is safe and secure. The ultimate goal is to return the child to his parents, if at all possible. The GAL can recommend to the court suggestions on how they can become better parents. One example would be for them to attend parenting classes.

"The GAL is the voice for the children in courts and we can give insight to help resolve the case," said Shaaron Zeltakalns, a three-year GAL who visits children in Dunnellon. "I find it rewarding. It's not always fun, but life isn't either."

Local resident Sharri Harris currently has two cases in the area and still finds time to do a lot of other things in her retirement. She is also the president of the Rainbow Springs Lady Golf Association, but only plays golf once or twice a week since she had her hip replaced just before Christmas.

As a retired elementary school principal, Harris misses her involvement and interaction with children.

"I feel my education background helps me work with the children's teachers and guidance counselors," she said. "The Marion County schools are very cooperative and knowledgeable about how the Guardian Ad Litem program works. My role is difficult because I can't be open with the teachers because of all the confidentiality involved."

Harris has been involved with the Head Start Program as a college student working on her degree; as director of the YWCA she had a nursery school in the building and as the principal she had a Head Start Program in the building.

"I've finally found my niche," she said about becoming a GAL. "I'm busy and this gives me the flexibility. I'm still in control."

For information about the Guardian Ad Litem program or to volunteer, call 352-274-5231.

Augie Salzer is a correspondent for the Riverland News. Email her at Augie@ThingsinTown.com.

Civic association donates to fire department



Special to the Riverland News
The Lake Tropicana Civic Association presented the Lake Tropicana/Marion County Fire House No. 25 with a donation of \$250 on Sunday at its annual Fire Department Open House. Pictured, from left, are: Bob Stewart, treasurer Lake Tropicana Civic Association; Linda Hall, president Lake Tropicana Civic Association; and Fire Chief Andy Perrone.

COUNCIL

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everyone agreeing the ordinance wasn't perfect but needed to be tweaked.

"I don't have time for this," Whitt said as Vice Mayor Dennis Evans called for a vote. "I really don't. We have budget shortfalls, we have the shared gas taxes to worry about and we have a \$4 million shortfall. I don't want to bog down this council, or the staff with this."

However, all of those area residents who spoke out against a complete repeal of the measure, adopted by the city in October 2008, happened to be members of Rainbow River Conservation Inc.

Several members of the nonprofit, environmental group helped provide input when the ordinance was initially written by Gail Easley.

Dunnellon resident Margaret Longhill was one of many to speak out against the council's stance about repealing the ordinance. She told the council she called multiple state officials, who told her the city council could not legally repeal the ordinance.

"You're breaking the law," Mayor Whitt, a board member of RRC, told his colleagues prior to the vote. "If you repeal this, you leave the river with no protection. To repeal it is breaking the state law."

But Segal-George assured Mayor Whitt and the council that wasn't the case. She said she would need to see if there are any correlations between the city's comp plan, which was adopted in 2007, and the river corridor ordinance, which was implemented in 2008, and if they would be in conflict with each other.

"It's not unlawful," Segal-George said. "It does not require simultaneous acts. If there is nothing in the comp plan that specifically addresses the river corridor ordinance, then we're not in conflict then."

Longhill attempted to debate the point with the

council and Segal-George after a vote had been called for, but was not allowed.

"I'm being told for you to sit down and shut up," Mayor Whitt said, noting it was his fellow councilmembers who had made the order.

Councilwoman Penny Fleeger, who also voted against the measure, chided the first-term mayor for his behavior.

"I'm tired of you running over us," she said. "You are one vote, and you've wasted a lot of our time, too."

When the dust had settled, Councilmembers Lynne McAndrew and Erik Collop joined with Evans to vote in favor of beginning the process of repealing the river corridor ordinance.

Evans defended his decision, citing the TDML report recently released by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), which stated the biggest threat to Rainbow Springs and Rainbow River, is cattle and horse ranches in the region. He also pointed out that the Dunnellon area, specifically the residential impact, is minimal according to the DEP report.

However, Rainbow Springs resident Kathryn Taubert, also a member of RRC, spoke about the horror that would ensue from the council's decision to remove an ordinance that provides invaluable protection to the springs as well as the river.

"I'm frankly concerned, not only for the river, but for all of our property values if things don't get better soon," she said.

Resident Keith Baxter, who owns both residential and commercial property on the Rainbow River, in turn chided those who spoke out against repealing the river corridor ordinance.

"There's been a misper-

ception, all of us want to protect the river," said Baxter, who was in favor of repealing the ordinance. "We desperately want to protect the river, reduce the nitrates and keep any more pumping from the aquifer. People keep saying the river will be left unprotected, but there's all these ordinances in place to protect the river. To act like the river is going to be destroyed or the rest of us that want to repeal this ordinance don't care about the river, that is a 1,000 percent misrepresentation. We have to reduce the nitrates and pumping from the aquifer."

In other action, the Council:

- Approved a contract for \$7,950 with Sunstate Meter & Supply for Neptune MRX920 Version II Mobile Data Collector, a mobile unit and software to record radio read meters.

- Approved a contract for \$20,175 with Sunstate Meter & Supply for meters and antenna kits to replace meters in inventory.

- Approved a contract for \$20,000 with C & B Cable — Joseph W. Corbett for customer drops and installs to continue service and avoid uninterrupted delay in customer hook-ups.

- Approved a contract amendment agreement with Powell & Jones, which has been the city's auditors since 2009. According to city staff, Powell & Jones is

"professional, pleasant to work with and minimally impact staff outside of the Finance Department." The audit fee will remain stable at \$34,500 for the next two fiscal years.

- Approved a tree removal permit for Robert Jewett, who sought permission to remove two dangerous trees from his property where the Blue Gator is located. According to documents provided by city staff, the trees are dropping large limbs and creating a danger to his staff and patrons. The Tree Board approved the request March 28 with the condition that Jewett plant additional trees on the outside of his hand rail. Jewett agreed to this condition. Additionally the Tree Board recommended he plant River Birch trees as they would provide shade, a canopy, are native and thrive along rivers. The trees he sought to have removed are Water Oaks.

- Approved a proclamation naming April as

Solution to puzzle on Page 7

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

River cleanup slated May 18

The Rainbow River cleanup will at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 18, starting at the Rio Vista Beach Park, north of Dunnellon. Volunteers are needed to help with this cleanup and will work different sections of the river in boats, kayaks and canoes.

All the debris collected will be taken back to the Rio Vista Park at noon for record keeping and disposal. All participants will be provided free lunch.

Prizes will be awarded for the largest amount of trash collected by an individual, the largest individual

item of trash recovered from the river and the most unusual item recovered.

For information or to register for the cleanup, call Jerry Rogers at 489-4648.

Norm's Clean Cuts accepting toys, food

Norm's Clean Cuts Barber Shop at 11941 Bostick St, Dunnellon is a drop-off point for the U.S. Marine Corps annual Toys for Tots drive as well as a drop-off location for food donations for Food 4 Kids Inc., which provides backpacks full of food on the weekends for needy children in the area.

For information, call 465-3666.

Water Conservation Month.

- Approved a proclamation recognizing Dunnellon Boomtown Days, which is scheduled for April 20 and 21 in the Downtown Historic Dunnellon District.

- Approved a proclamation recognizing Military Family and Community Covenant Day.

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GUEST COLUMN

City did not discriminate against employee

A recent news article in the Riverland News reports of a lawsuit filed in June 2012 against the city of Dunnellon from Kelly Owens, a part-time employee of Dunnellon Fire Rescue. The article cites allegations in the lawsuit, but fails to make clear the fact that those allegations are disputed and that the city specifically denies that it discriminated against Ms. Owens in any way.



Lisa Algieri

Normally, the city does not comment on active lawsuits during litigation. However, in this case the public deserves to be accurately informed of the actions the city took with respect to Ms. Owens to ensure the public's safety and the safety of our employees. The employee is claiming discrimination because the city required her to obtain medical clearance to return to

work after collapsing while working for another employer. The incident required medical treatment at a local hospital. She also was pregnant at the time. The requested medical clearance was for her accident not her pregnancy. At no time did the city prevent her from working due to her pregnancy. The employee was a firefighter and a first responder. This is a public safety position and it is critically important that these employees are healthy and

able to physically perform their job. If the employee had returned to work, but was unable to perform her job at the scene of a fire or accident she would have put her fellow employees, herself and the public at risk. It is the city's responsibility to protect the safety and welfare of the public. Therefore, when we learn of an injury to a first responder, it is our policy to require a medical clearance before returning to work. During her deposition in this case, Ms.

Owens acknowledged that these concerns are legitimate governmental concerns and that the city's policies designed to fulfill these responsibilities are reasonable. As the city defends this lawsuit, we will continue to show that our policies are intended to protect our employees and the public and do not constitute unlawful discrimination. Lisa Algieri is the city manager of Dunnellon. She can be reached via email at lalgieri@dunnellon.org.

LETTERS

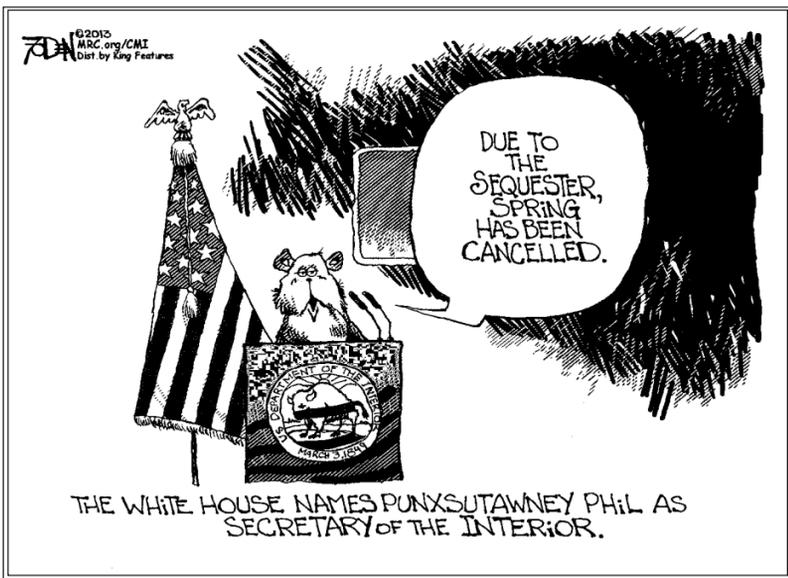
City could create job(s) by localizing billing

Recently, I mailed a check to the city of Dunnellon Utility Billing at a post office box in Atlanta, Ga. I believe there are at least four banks located within the city limits, any one of which should be able to process receivables for the city's utility department. Further, processing these receivables locally should be able to generate at least one job, and possibly the rental of a local apartment or the purchase of a local house. Additionally, there would be the purchase of clothing, food and gasoline from local merchants, rather than by a person employed in the Atlanta area, who is likely to purchase these items and services from there.

I also understand the city of Dunnellon does not have a policy that requires its employees to live within its boundary limits as do most places where I have resided including Chicago, Pittsburgh and at the Miami International Airport, which is operated by Miami-Dade County.

I have been a resident of Rainbow Springs for more than 10 years and have observed the actions of mayors and the City Council of Dunnellon as reported in the Riverland News during that period. In my opinion, the administration of the city has not pursued simple common sense policies as mentioned above that should generate local economic growth, but rather has focused its efforts at attempting to implement marginal financial one-offs, proposed by external (non-local) consultants who expect to receive generous fees, but have no financial obligation should their schemes fail, or to take advantage of "political loopholes in legislation," which needlessly irritates the customer base of local Dunnellon merchants. For example, ticketing right turns into Walmart's parking lot, which, for the record, is not a cross street. Greenlight, which is in direct competition with existing tax-paying private businesses, such as Al's, DirectTV and AT&T and sharply raising rates for existing water and sewer services in areas outside of the city. It should be a very simple matter for Dunnellon's Utility Department to require its bank to process receivables locally.

See **LETTERS** page 5



THINGS IN TOWN

Volunteers give children a much-needed powerful voice

There are a lot of "garbage bag" children in Florida and, unfortunately, there are some in Dunnellon, too.

Children who are alleged to have been abandoned, neglected or abused are taken away from their home with little time to gather some of their possessions and are now part of a dependency court proceeding.

The children, newborn to younger than 18 years of age, don't have luggage for their clothes and toys, so the items are usually thrown into a garbage bag, hence the coined phrase.

A volunteer trained to be a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) is appointed by the courts to speak for the child and be his or her advocate. Once a GAL is assigned to a case, they get to know the child and learn all about his history. Then the GAL is prepared to make informed decisions and recommendations to the court concerning the health and welfare of the child.

All the other parties involved in these court proceedings obtain their own attorneys or have lawyers appointed to them. The child does not get legal counsel and only has a GAL to speak out for them and their needs.

The purpose of a GAL is to ensure that the child's needs are met and eventually find them a permanent home that is safe and secure. The ultimate goal is to reunite the child with his parents, if that is at all possible.

I know a good deal about the Marion County GAL program, because I have been a volunteer with them for more than 10 years and half of that

time has been spent with the children in Dunnellon.

For more than a year, I have been the GAL for two little boys in Dunnellon and look forward to my monthly visits with them. They had their problems and because of circumstances they would not be going back home to their parents, but there is hope for an adoption.



Augie Salzer

After many visits, I earned their trust and we became friends. We bonded. As a GAL, I always considered the children I was appointed to as "my kids."

A few weeks ago, the possibility of adoption was gone and the boys were sent away from their foster home to another location in another county.

I was, and still am devastated and I'm sure "my kids" are, too. I didn't have the opportunity to say goodbye to them and I'm sure they feel I've abandoned them.

It seems the boys didn't have to use a garbage bag for their possessions. They were lucky enough to have a duffel bag and some cardboard boxes to quickly throw in their things.

During the past 10 years I have been a GAL to many, many children - too many to count. Fortunately, there are more happy endings than devastating ones or I wouldn't have been able to do this for so long.

I have discovered as a GAL I have a powerful voice to use for the children of Marion County and especially for the Dunnellon children.

Augie Salzer is a correspondent for the Riverland News. Email her at Augie@ThingsinTown.com.

JERSEY GIRL

You are getting warmer

Is that warm weather I feel? It sure didn't want to warm up this year, did it? I kept promising my mom this was the last cold day, but they wouldn't go away. The azaleas in my yard are so confused. They have tried to blossom three times, but then froze again. Now, they can come full bloom. Spring doesn't just mean warmer weather. It also represents baseball season, green grass, longer days, open windows, birds chirping and the smell of barbecue grills igniting. It's time for outdoor activities again, and one more month before we have to turn the air conditioner on.



Audrey Beem

Oh, how I love April. That and October are Florida's best months if you ask me.

It was always around this time of the year that Russell and I would take off for the day just him and me. That was before we had grandkids, of course. The top would be down on our Mustang convertible and we would just drive without a care in the world. We never really knew where we were going, that was the beauty of it. We would put Blues Travelers or Jimmy Buffett in the tape deck and enjoy the sun and wind on our faces.

When we got hungry we would stop to eat, usually somewhere on the water. Sometimes we would head in the direction of Cedar Key and other times we would head south toward New Port Richey. If we were really feeling energetic, it might be a trip to the other coast. But the destination never really mattered.

We discovered some really good restaurants, too.

Then the first grandchild arrived. We had to trade the Mustang, because there was no room in the back for a car seat and, of course, every trip we took after that involved a little one tagging along.

But those were some good memories.

We were really into the festivals back then, too. We never met a festival we didn't like. The seafood fests were our favorites, but we also enjoyed arts and crafts and anything that involved food. Russell had it figured out that if we hit the festival on Sunday afternoons right before they were getting ready to pack up for the day, he could get some really good bargains. We still have many of the fish sculptures he acquired through the years.

We also explored many boat and RV shows at that time. I remember the fun we used to have pretending we had even a tenth of the money it would take to purchase one. We really

See **JERSEY** page 5

OPINIONS INVITED

- The opinions expressed in Riverland News editorials are the opinions of the editorial board of the newspaper.
- Viewpoints depicted in political cartoons, columns or letters do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board.
- Groups or individuals are invited to express their opinions in a letter to the editor.
- All letters must be signed and include a phone number and hometown, including letters sent via e-mail. Phone numbers will not be printed or given out. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste.
- Letters to the editor must be no longer than 550 words, and writers will be limited to two letters per month.



LETTERS

continued from page 4

Likewise, requiring any new hires to reside in the city is easy, but existing employees could be given a six-month grace period to comply. And when I read that the city of Dunnellon implements either of these suggestions, I will begin to believe Dunnellon is a place that both "national and international businesses" will find attractive. Until then, I expect "mostly for show" politics of "Olde Dunnellon" will continue, and I await the results of the business audit referenced in Dan Lumsden's letter in the March 28 edition.

Also, since Marion County is reducing the city's share of the gasoline tax, the city should consider allowing the county's fire department, which has 24/7 manned fire stations along County Road 484 and just north of the city on U.S. 41, to provide fire services and close their fire station on West Pennsylvania Avenue.

David Harris,
Rainbow Springs

Resident urges Council not to repeal ordinance

Some rather spirited discussion in Dunnellon City Council workshops surfaced issues regarding conflict of interest. I've been correctly cited as raising those issues relative to Councilman Evan's proposal to repeal the River Protection Ordinance previously established by former city council members, consultants, and a host of experts in conservation and planning.

As a former town commissioner from another state, I've been exquisitely sensitized to the need for appointed and elected officials to avoid both the fact of conflict of interest as well as the appearance of it.

When discovering that four of five members of current Dunnellon City Council live on the Rainbow River and were discussing repeal-

ing an ordinance conferring the only existing protections for specific activities that directly affect river health and long term value to ecotourism, I spoke up. While prior council members involved in approving the original ordinance may also have lived on the River, there is a clear difference in decisions made relative to river protections then versus now.

Establishing an ordinance for the protection of the river is not likely to be perceived as a direct benefit to resident council members if that ordinance actually restricts rights. If anything, one might say they demonstrated a willingness to do what's best for the river and Dunnellon's ecotourism at some loss of individual rights.

However, having a majority of councilmembers living on the river vote to remove such an ordinance can be perceived as conflict of interest if they are potentially gaining individual rights at the potential expense of river and Dunnellon, even if they do not exercise those rights.

Everyone on both sides of the issue agrees the present ordinance needs repair. What mystifies this writer is why council would throw out the entire ordinance, leaving the Rainbow River vulnerable, instead of merely fixing the existing one. That's tantamount, in this writer's opinion, to discarding all traffic laws and then asking the Dunnellon PD to enforce rules of the road without them.

There is a fine line between conflict of interest and the appearance of it. Appointed and elected officials must scrupulously avoid both to insure constituents they are serving the needs of the greater good and not merely a small portion of the electorate of which they are part.

There is a simple solution to this matter. Both sides agree the ordinance needs repair. Council should refer it

to the appropriate town commission for changes while leaving the existing ordinance intact. Revisions should then be sent back to Council for action. It's far easier, cheaper and more efficient to edit than to create.

This mitigates the issue of conflict of interest in all its forms, preserves existing protections, protects council's integrity and reserves limited council time for discussion of Dunnellon's more immediate fiscal crises.

Editor Jeff Bryan correctly asserts in "The Other Guy" on Thursday, March 28, that it's time the current council correct mistakes of past councils and move forward. This writer asserts that one way to do this is to work together with all parties agreeing the River Protection Ordinance needs fixing and do so in a manner that insures the present council's actions will not be construed as self-serving, short-sighted, and tantamount to throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

Kathryn Taubert,
Rainbow Springs

Thank you from Chi Zeta

We want to thank our loyal supporters for another successful Card Party hosted by Chi Zeta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi under the great leadership of Jo Bollen.

Bentley's Restaurant, our most loyal supporter, contributed a certificate for Dinner. Don has supported us since our very first Card Party. John Semmes donated two of his famous River Boat Tours while Electric Beach Salon, You Toepia Salon, Vernon Martin Salon and a massage from Thor and Fran Seigfried each contributed certificates from their salons.

Thank you all for your generous and continued contributions. Because of the public's support, children of Dunnellon benefit from our entire profits.

Chi Zeta Chapter
of Beta Sigma Phi



JERSEY

continued from page 4

had the salesman going a few times thinking he was this close to closing the deal. If he only knew we barely had the money to get back home. But pretending to have money is almost as much fun as having it.

If we were really lucky, the sun would be setting just as we were heading home. No matter how many times you watch the sun rise or set it never gets old, does it?

I bet a lot of couples fall in love during the spring. It brings out the romance in people. After all flowers, sunsets and butterflies are all symbols of love.

April is the month my daughter, Mandy, and son-in-law, Luke tied the knot. They'll celebrate their ninth anniversary this month.

They had a beautiful outdoor wedding beside a lake. Her colors were purple and yellow and the sunflowers and daises were everywhere. It was a bit breezy, but everything

else was perfect. There wasn't a cloud in the sky.

I hope they grow old together. The only thing a mother wants for her daughters is for them to be happy and find true love. Mandy and Luke were made for each other.

I know it will be hard to remember all this awesome weather in an-

other month or so when it's so hot that you don't want to venture outdoors. But for right now it's absolutely perfect.

All this talk has me longing for those leisurely days. Maybe we should grab a blanket, a picnic basket, rent a convertible and sneak out this weekend before the grandkids even wake up.

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Industrial Electrician
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CHURCH EVENTS

Church to host rummage sale

The ladies of Peace Lutheran Church will host their annual rummage sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Peace Lutheran Church, 7201 S. U.S. 41, 5 miles north of downtown Dunnellon.

The Peace Lutheran Men's Club will assist the women by selling hot dogs chips and drinks throughout the day.

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

Master Choir concert series slated

The Central Florida Master Choir will present its Spring Concert, To the Moon and Bach, on the following dates:

- 3 p.m. April 14 at Countryside Presbyterian Church, 7768 S.W. State Road 200, Ocala.
- 4 p.m. April 21 at New Life Presbyterian Church, 201 E. LaVista St., Fruitland Park.

- 3 p.m. April 28 at First United Methodist Church, 1126 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala.

Church plans annual yard sale

First Congregational United Church of Christ will host its annual yard sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at its church at 7171 S.W. State Road 200 in the Enrichment Center.

Community Chorale in need of members

The Dunnellon Community Chorale is looking for singers for all vocal parts for the upcoming Spring Concert. The Dunnellon Community Chorale will perform contemporary music as well as secular songs from composers such as Rodgers and Hammerstein, Cole Porter and Jerome Kern.

All rehearsals will be at 3 p.m. Mondays at Dunnellon Presbyterian Church. The Spring Concert will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at First United Methodist Church at 21501 W. State Road 40. For information, call 489-2682.

Church schedules women's retreat

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will host a Women's Emmaus Retreat on May 24 to 26. All women seeking spiritual renewal are invited to attend. For information, call the church office at 489-3166 or email mail@stjohncc.com.

Women's Bible study slated

Women's Cross Denominational Bible study called One Woman's Prayer meets at 7 p.m. the third Monday monthly at the Dunnellon Women's Club Clubhouse at 11756 Cedar St. Doors open at 6:30. For more information check us out in Facebook at One Woman's Prayer.

Church hosts bingo weekly

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church hosts Bingo at 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Prizes up to \$250. Doors open at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and 4 p.m. Wednesdays. The church is at the corner of U.S. 41 and State Road 40.

Church schedules monthly fish fry

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, on the corner of U.S. 41 and State Road 40 East, will host its monthly fish fry from 4 to 6 p.m. the first Friday monthly through May. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. For information, call 489-5954.

Thrift Shop gives donation to Standridge family



Photo by Joann McCullough

After reading the heart-rending story of 13-year-old Angus Standridge and his family in the Riverland News, the Dunnellon Community Thrift Shop ladies voted at their monthly meeting to donate \$1,000 toward what is expected to be ongoing medical expenses. His grandmother, Susie Blauser, left, accepted the donation from Anita Peloquin, Thrift Shop secretary, on March 27 at the Thrift Shop and gave the vol-

unteers an update about Angus' condition. He is in and, will remain, in ICU to avoid infection, but is allowed to walk up and down the unit with the assistance of four medical personnel up to three times a day. Family and friends are trying to keep this former football player and active eighth-grade teenager in good spirits while he awaits a heart transplant in Shands Hospital in Gainesville.

OBITUARY

Elizabeth Ela Cote, 76

Elizabeth, 76 passed away peacefully April 3, 2013, at The Health Center at Brentwood in Lecanto. Elizabeth was born in Manchester, N.H., Aug. 10, 1936, to the late George and Ina Elizabeth and her late husband of 45 years, Leonard J. Cote Jr., moved to Seminole, Fla., in 1974 from Lacomia, N.H., they came to the Dunnellon/Ocala area in 1979.

Elizabeth and Leonard owned and operated The Wagon Blueberry U-Pick Farm in S.W. Marion County for 25 years. In addition to farming, Elizabeth was a homemaker, real estate agent and tax preparer. She volunteered with the IRS VITA program for many years. She enjoyed going to church, singing hymns and patriotic songs, watching baseball (Red Sox's) and football (Gators, Tampa Bay Bucs, and New England Patriots). One of her greatest joys was doing craft work, espe-

cially making personalized tissue boxes for her friends and family. Elizabeth was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Mizaph Rebekah Lodge No. 15 in Derry, N.H. She served as Noble Grand for several terms.

Elizabeth is survived by three daughters and one son, Janet Bayles and her husband John, Dunnellon, Joann Chambers, Baton Rouge, La., Julie Viola

and her husband John, Dunnellon, Michael Chambers, Ocala; nine grandchildren, Kevin and Sara Bayles, David McDonald, John, Justin and James Viola, Michael, Aaron and Daniel Chambers; and three great-grandchildren.

Arrangements by Roberts Funeral Home Dunnellon. Friends and family celebrated Elizabeth in a private memorial April 6, 2013.



Elizabeth Ela Cote

OUT TO PASTOR
We never needed arm guards, we had Mrs. Ammon

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I were watching television listening to a news report and I simply broke out into laughter.

"What are you laughing at?" my wife asked.

"I'm just thinking of Mrs. Ammon. When I went to school we didn't need any armed guards, we had Mrs. Ammon and nobody crossed her."

The news report went on to say how they were trying to put armed guards at every school in our country. I suppose that is a good idea, I do not know all the ins and outs of the politicalness of that report. Everything these days seems to have some kind of a political angle to it. Now that political angle is intruding itself into the public school system.

This is all an attempt to protect our schoolchildren. I am all for that.

I was thinking, how-

ever, that when I was a youngster we did not need that sort of thing. We had Mrs. Ammon



Rev. James Snyder

and her infamous hickory stick. Very few people remember a time when a teacher had, as one of her tools for education, a hickory stick and knew how to wield it, and wield it they did.

Somebody may ask how I know about that. Very simply. I am the product of a teacher wielding the hickory stick. It is hard now to remember the occasion that called for the application of that hickory stick. Actually, there was more than one occasion calling for such teacher and student interaction.

The old saying was that our teacher would apply the "Board of Education" to the "Seat of Learning." Believe me when I say, I earned a degree in that.

Somebody will say, See PASTOR page 7

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Sunday - Spanish.....Noon

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

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Sermon.....11:00 AM

Tuesday Bible Study.....4:30 PM

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Calvary Baptist Temple

21841 S.W. Marine Blvd.
Rainbow Lakes Estates

Sunday
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....5:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.

Every 4th Sunday.....5:00 p.m.
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Wednesday

AWANA 6:30 PM
Youth Group 6:30 PM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

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Fax: 352-465-7729
E-mail: fbcdunnellon@bellsouth.net

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Traditional Worship 11:00 AM
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

River Watch Program seeks volunteers

The Rainbow River Watch Program will start another season this spring and its duties are expanding, requiring additional personnel. The Marion County Sheriff's Office is seeking more volunteers to participate in this program, which the sheriff's office sponsors.

The purpose of this program is to protect the Rainbow River and allow it to be used in a safe and prudent manner by all. As volunteers, you will go out on patrol, in a sheriff's boat, and assist tubers, bathers and other boaters with any problems they may encounter. All volunteers will receive the necessary training to be qualified in all aspects pertaining to water patrols.

For information, call the Dunnellon District Sheriff's Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, at 402-6050.

Kiwanis changes meeting place

The Kiwanis Club of Dunnellon will begin meeting at Carmela's Restaurant at 8 a.m. Wednesdays for its weekly meetings and breakfast. However, on the third Wednesday monthly, the club will continue meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the Rainbow Springs Golf & Country Club.

Call Ellie Pollock at 465-6803 for information or to RSVP by the previous Tuesday weekly.

Post Polio support group to meet

The North Central Post-Polio Support Group will present the program, "Antibiotic or No Antibiotic, That is the Question," at 2 p.m. April 14 at the Collins Center 9401 S.W. State Road 200, Building 300, Suite 303, Ocala, FL. Michael Bumbach, ARNP, will be the guest speaker. For information, President Carolyn Raville at 489-1731.

CEE schedules meeting April 18

The Citizens for an Engaged Electorate will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18, at the Williston Community Center.

New members and visitors are welcome. For information, call 465-4862 or email citizensengaged2012@gmail.com.

Agency to participate in 'Take-Back Day'

The Dunnellon Police Department, in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), will participate in the "National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day," scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at the Dunnellon Police Department. This is a great opportunity for those who missed the previous events, or who have subsequently accumulated unwanted,

unused prescription drugs, to safely dispose of those medications. Flushing or throwing your prescription drugs in the trash will only clog the landfills and damage our aquifer, please dispose of these drugs properly.

For information, call 465-8510.

AARP Driver Safety Class slated

An AARP Driver Safety Class for those 50 and older which, with certain exceptions, qualifies graduates for a discount on their automobile insurance, will be given over two days, three hours each day. Cost is \$14 per person for all materials, except pen or pencil. However, if you are an AARP member, the cost is \$12. Bring your AARP card with you.

The course will be May 9 and 10 at the Marion County Sheriff's Office Substation on U.S. 41. Class size is limited and reservations are required.

For information or for reservations, call 465-6359.

American Legion activities slated

American Legion Wall-Rives Post 58 and the Women's Auxiliary will meet at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday monthly. Dinner will be served at 5:30.

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 outdoor flea market and pancake breakfast is the third Saturday monthly. Cost for the breakfast is \$5 per person.

Cub Scouts meet Tuesday 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 information, call 465-7272.

PASTOR

continued from page 6

"Things have changed."

I will agree that things have changed, but most things have not changed for the better. Back in "the day" when I was a member of the public education system, the teachers were in charge. A basic rule in our house prevailed, "If you get a paddling in school, you get a paddling at home." It was assumed the teacher was right.

I distinctly remember my first interaction with my teacher in this regard. How can you forget such a thing?

At that time, teachers were too busy to put up with any kind of fooling around in a classroom. Do not get me wrong, my teacher made it fun most of the time. For the ones who, like me, took it too far, she knew how to stop it dead in its tracks.

"Mr. Snyder," the teacher would say in a very stern tone of voice. "Is that you making all that noise?" I knew what was to follow.

"Mr. Snyder, please go to the principal's office and I will join you shortly."

Oh boy. Those familiar words bring back haunting memories of my visit to the principal's office. You can be sure; Mrs. Ammon would not come into the principal's office, spank you and then go back to her class. On some occasions, I would have preferred her to spank me and get it over with.

The first thing she had to do was explain to me why what I did was wrong and disruptive to the class. Then, she had to explain to me how this paddling I was about to get was going to hurt her more than it did me.

For the life of me, I could never figure out where it hurt her more than it did me. I knew exactly where it hurt me and for the rest of the day it would be quite difficult for me to

sit down in my chair. Not only did my posterior glow in pain, but the snickers of my fellow students were even worse.

At the time of the application of the hickory stick, I really did not like Mrs. Ammon. Looking back, I have a different perspective. I now know that she really had an interest in me as a person. She was trying to discipline me in ways in which I needed discipline from someone like her.

Years later, I went back and visited my old teacher, Mrs. Ammon. I took to her some books I had written and published. She said she remembered me, I really do not know if she did or not. I had to do one thing and that was to thank her.

"I want to thank you, Mrs. Ammon, for teaching me to read and to write." Then I handed her my books. She seemed to be so very happy, but not as happy as I was. This teacher made a difference in my life that I did not realize until I was older.

One thing Mrs. Ammon taught me was that I should not get away with anything. There is a moment of accountability everybody must face. Mrs. Ammon was making sure that I was facing up to the realities of life before I did too much damage to my life.

It is sad that the politics have taken over our education system today. It is sad that we do not have any Mrs. Ammons with their hickory sticks.

When I think of Mrs. Ammon I think of what

Solomon writes, "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes" (Proverbs 13:24 KJV).

It is my opinion that we need more Mrs. Ammons in our school classrooms and less, a

lot less, politics.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship in Ocala. Call him at 866-552-2543 or email jamesnsnyder2@att.net. His website is www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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!

Puzzle answers on Page 3

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BOWLING SCORES

Parkview Lanes Weekly News
League scores for the week ending April 7:

Congratulations: Phil Ciquera rolled an 823 series April 3 during the Wednesday Night Men's league. His game scores were 299, 238 and 296. Phil's previous honor score was a 300 game in 1999.

Citrus County Saturday Night Sweeper: The GCUSBC sponsored Doubles Tourney will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 20. The cost is \$40 per team, cash only.

Holder Hotshots 12-week League: The four-person mixed league will start today and currently has space available for additional bowlers. For information, call Peggy Nevels at 465-0757.

Monday Night Special: Handicap: Jim Wright 301; Bill Levert 298, 765; Sy Leiner 742; Candy Brooks 261, 725; Susann Brosius 257; Wendy Smith 721. Scratch: Jim Wright 280, 674; Bill Levert 267; Todd Cridland 702; Lisa Morgan 213, 580; Wendy Smith 200, 586.

Preserve Pinbusters: Handicap: Jeff Koch 258, 703; Frank Turner 244, 680; Pat Metcalfe 258; Jo Enders 252; Joyce Swarm 699; Joan Moriarty 684. Scratch: Jeff Koch 258, 703; Larry Kirk 221; Emile Guay 596; Sharon Mason 188; Joyce Swarm 182, 516; Paula Weaver 504.

Suncoast Seniors: Handicap: Jerry Ness 236, 667; Ray Cusimano 236; Don Goncz 232, 661; Barb Steffen 238, 684; Helen Simonson 231, 662. Scratch: Jerry Ness 233, 658; Don Goncz 207, 586.

Late Starters: Handicap: Ted Rafanan 244, 703; Ernie Gonsalves 242; Tony Lamacchia 678; Kathy Hession 238; Helen Herr 229, 654; Mona Rosado 674. Scratch: Ted Rafanan 244, 703; Ives Chavez 224; Mark Ash 654; Kathy Hession 190; Sandy LePree 175, 478; Linda Vehrs 474.

Wednesday Night Men: Handicap: Jay Willet 325; Phil Ciquera 323, 895; Tim Lawrence 725. Scratch: Phil Ciquera 299, 823; Jay Willet 276; Tim Lawrence 725.

Women's Trio: Handicap: Maggie Savarese 267, 682; Betty Chapman 252, 693. Scratch: Maggie Savarese 225, 556; Mary Briscoe 188, 499.

Good Time Bowlers: Handicap: Carl Peterson 272, 647; Mike Hughes 231, 610; Dave Messenger 231; Janet Murray 242; Barb McNally 236, 626; Alice Bahrs 639. Scratch: Carl Peterson 235, 536; Dave Messenger 194, 463; Janet Murray 210, 508; Barb McNally 192, 494.

Parkview Owls: Handicap: Ray Colon 289, 769; Gordon Fay 274; Kenneth Folk 734; Sandy LePree 285, 729; Maggie Savarese 251; Myla Wexler 716. Scratch: Ted Rafanan 236, 582; Gordon Fay 224; Wes Foley 602; Myla Wexler 195; Sandy LePree 552.

Bowlers of the Week: Joyce Swarm, 99 pins over her average, and Phil Ciquera, 238 pins over his average.

League scores for the week ending March 31:

Monday Night Special: Handicap: John Walker 276; Chris Carr 273; Matt O'Brien 733; Sean Fugere 725; Jacque Iverson 279; Lisa Morgan 260; Sandy LePree 708; K.C. Cridland 706. Scratch: Chris Carr 270, 714; John Walker 267; Sean Fugere 725; Matt O'Brien 700; Lisa Morgan 225; K.C. Cridland 224, 649; Sandy LePree 561.

Preserve Pinbusters: Handicap: Desi Sidote 259; John Rando 258, 741; Ivan Miller 258; Bob Lucier 704; Betty Noland 265, 702; Dianna Kirk 264, 687. Scratch: Jeff Koch 225, 623; Desi Sidote 216, 572; Betty Noland 208, 511; Dianna Kirk 188; Paula Weaver 478.

Suncoast Seniors: Handicap: Marty Suehovicz 286, 742; John Marcucci 267; Allan Gobbi 657; Helen Simonson 257, 687; Barb Steffen 236; June Williams 629. Scratch: Marty Suehovicz 249, 631; John Marcucci 244; Jerry Ness 603.

Late Starters: Handicap: Myron Pallwoda 268; Tony Lamacchia 257, 666; Rich Soletto 668; Millie George 242; Bunny Jackson 229; Kathy Hession 628; Marie Mooney 625. Scratch: Tony Lamacchia 235; Rich Soletto 234, 656; Ted Rafanan 634; Millie George 298, 492; Sandy LePree 181, 534.

Wednesday Night Men: Handicap: Mark Smith 296, 800; Jay Willet 295; Bryan Craig 802. Scratch: Mark Smith 278, 746; Scott Brown 268, 717; Bryan Craig 715.

Women's Trio: Handicap: Carol Vandyke 267, 702; Rose Damico 242, 667; Doli Wyspianski 242. Scratch: Carol Vandyke 189; Rose Damico 178, 475; Maggie Savarese 480.

Good Time Bowlers: Handicap: Carl Peterson 275, 688; Mike Bonadonna 245; Dave Messenger 650; Janet Murray 255; Barb McNally 226; Mary Jo Miller 629; Pat Stoner 619. Scratch: Carl Peterson 234, 565; Mike Bonadonna 200; Dave Messenger 539; Janet Murray 223, 511; Barb McNally 183; Pat Stoner 463.

Holder Hotshots: Handicap: Chuck Hindbaugh 277; Jim Jermann 273, 720; Jim Van Gilder 273; Jerry Ness 736; Kathy Calcagni 267, 737; Andrea Kish 264; Judy Hindbaugh 515. Scratch: Chuck Hindbaugh 244, 608; Jim Van Gilder 232; Jerry Ness 652; Kathy Calcagni 196, 524; Judy Hindbaugh 178, 515; Andrea Kish 178.

Sandy Oaks: Handicap: Larry Benefiel 249, 691; Lenny Dexter 238, 659; Karen Benefiel 231, 662; Kathy Slader 231; Joann Meyer 230, 651. Scratch: Bob Iverson 212, 598; Lenny Dexter 190; Reggie Brown 520; Karen Benefiel 161, 452; Ruth Frazier 138, 381.

Parkview Owls: Handicap: K.E. Conrad 301, 800; Bob Desmeules 280; Ken Brown 743; Lisa Morgan 287, 753; Rosemary Burdick 274; Joan Cothorn 731. Scratch: K.E. Conrad 268, 701; Wes Foley 221, 643; Lisa Morgan 247, 633; Rosemary Burdick 221, 541.

Bowlers of the Week: Carol Vandyke, 102 pins over her average, and Marty Suehovicz, 142 pins over his average.

Softball on slide as distict tourney looms

DHS regular-season finale tonight

AMANDA BARNEY
For the Riverland News

Even though the Dunnellon High School softball team didn't have school on April Fool's Day, an April Fool's Day game was no joke for the Dunnellon High School softball team.

Even though there was no

school, the Lady Tigers had to hit the field against rival North Marion, a softball powerhouse.

And it was the Lady Colts who rode off with a victory, dropping Dunnellon, 10-2.

Junior Jody Weber had two RBIs for the Lady Tigers.

Junior Bianca Pierro threw a complete game, striking out three,

but allowing 15 hits against North Marion.

Dunnellon had a tough time April 2 against Forest High School, falling 5-0 to the Lady Wildcats.

Sophomore Dania Clark and Pierro had one hit apiece for the Lady Tigers. Pierro pitched a complete game, striking out eight and allowing eight hits.

Dunnellon played April 3 against Crystal River, falling 1-0 in a close contest.

Clark and freshman Michelle Ruiz had two hits, while Senior Morgan Shalna, sophomore Kelly Howard, senior Angie DeGennaro, and Pierro had one hit each for the Lady Tigers.

The Lady Tigers played their last regular-season home game April 9 against Westport. Results were unavailable at press time. Dunnellon plays at 6 p.m. today at Belleview in its regular-season finale.

Touchdown celebration



Photos by JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Sophomore Taylor Kouba celebrates with freshman Tyra Thomas after Thomas scored the Lady Tigers first touchdown, a 50-yard reception from Ashley Winn, against Crystal River. Dunnellon lost to Crystal River, 20-14. This is the inaugural season for girls flag football at Dunnellon High School. For more about the Lady Tigers' first of flag football, see next week's edition of the Riverland News.



Quarterback Courtney Heinritz, a junior, unloads a pass attempt during pregame warm-ups in the Lady Tigers contest vs. Crystal River.



TOP RIGHT: Senior Carmen Rivera closes in on a Crystal River ball carrier during the Lady Tigers contest against Crystal River. BOTTOM RIGHT: Savannah Helton pursues a Crystal River ball carrier during the game Monday at Earl Bramlett Stadium.



SPORTS BRIEFS

County to offer youth tennis program

Youth ages 6 to 14 interested in learning the sport of tennis may do so this spring through Marion County Parks and Recreation's Youth Tennis Program. Sessions will start, as follows:

Tuesdays, through May 28: Belleview Sportsplex at 6501 S.E. 107th St.

Thursdays, April 11 to May 30: Coehadjoe Park at 4225 N.E. 35th St., Ocala.

Basic beginner classes will be taught from 3:15 to 4 p.m. and advanced beginner classes from 4:15 to 5 p.m. As part of this eight-week program, participants will also obtain a basic introduction to the game of pickleball.

A registration fee of \$16 per child is required for participation. Pre-registration is required and may be completed online by visiting marioncountyfl.org/parks.htm and clicking on the "Online Services" tab or in person at the main office at 111 S.E. 25th Ave., Ocala.

For information, call 352-671-8560 or email danny.smith@marioncountyfl.org.

DHS Booster Club to host golf tourney

The DHS Football Booster Club will host the ninth annual Phil Nichols Sr. Memorial Golf Tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 27, at the Citrus Springs Golf & Country Club.

Entry fee is \$75 for player, which will have a shotgun start and feature a hole-in-one cash prize of \$500 sponsored by Nichols Lumber & Supply Co.

There are also prizes for the longest drive and closest to the pin. Tournament pays first, second and third places for low gross and low net.

A complimentary lunch will be provided.

For information, call Carol Nichols at 489-1189.

'Run For The Springs' 5K slated Saturday

Runners and walkers wishing to take part in Marion County's first "Run for the Springs" 5K event on April 13. To register individually or as part of a team, visit www.marioncountyfl.org/corporaterun.htm and click under the "Register to Run" tab. Participants may also register in person the day of the event.

Race and recreation activities will start at 7:30 a.m. on the McPherson Government Complex grounds at 601 S.E. 25th Ave., Ocala.

DHS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK • PRESENTED BY GREENLIGHT DUNNELLON COMMUNICATIONS

Morgan Shalna, Softball

The senior made some spectacular catches in left-field against North Marion, saving a couple potential home runs while going 2-for-3 offensively against Holly McKinnon, one of the county's and state's best pitchers. Shalna also had several sacrifice bunts in the Lady Tigers' last two games.



Morgan Shalna

CONGRATULATIONS ATHLETES

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Chris Jackson, Track

The senior standout recorded the best time in Class 2A in the 800-meter run, posting a time of a 1:53.9 on April 4 at the University of Florida Relays.



Chris Jackson

NEWS NOTES

County sponsors farmers market

Marion County is bringing back its weekly Friday farmers market and is looking for additional vendors.

The "Health Happens" Farmers Market will be from noon to 6 p.m. Fridays at the McPherson Governmental Complex field at 601 S.E. 25th Ave., Ocala. The market will run through late December.

For information, call Wellness Coordinator Brittney Bruner at 352-438-2360 or email wellness@marion-countyfl.org.

Lions Club to host pancake breakfast

The Ocala 200 Lions Club will host a pancake breakfast and outside yard sale Saturday, May 4, at the Lions Clubhouse, 20826 S.W. Walnut St., Dunnellon.

Breakfast is from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and the \$5 donation includes juice, sausage, pancakes and coffee. Coffee only is \$1.

This event takes place the first Saturday of the month from September until June.

New civic group seeks members

The Citizens Alliance Network for Dunnellon Outreach, a group formed to engage citizens in the civic and political processes, is seeking new members.

For information, email Todd at estrus97185@mypacks.net or call Jonathan at 407-491-8158, or Patricia at 352-465-5523.

TOPS welcomes members, visitors

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 375 Rainbow Lakes welcomes new members and visitors. TOPS meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays at the Rainbow Lakes Community Center 4030 S.W. Deepwater Court, Rainbow Lakes.

For information, call 465-5807.

Martial Arts medal winners



Special to the Riverland News
Sepulveda's Martial Arts students competed March 9 at St. Cloud in an inner-school tournament between Sepulveda's ATA Dunnellon, Sepulveda's ATA Lake City and Mass Defense in St. Cloud. Medal winners, bottom row, from left, are: Wanya Epps, Alexis Hiers, Jacob Quillen, Aurora Tarnowski, Luke Fuller, Teegan Eversole, Randal Vanvalkenburgh; middle row, Austin Fuller, Rebecca Lambert, Katelyn Vanvalkenburgh, Alyx Stoico and Jordan Callahan; and top row, James Fuller, Jessica Norcross, Alisia Norcross, Ruth Norcross and Michael Joiner.

NEWS NOTE

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.

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 information, call 465-4864.

RAINBOW SPRINGS LGA

The Rainbow Springs Ladies Golf Association hosted a tournament March 7, which was "two better balls of four." Twelve members played on three four-person teams. Each player played her own ball. A gross score and net score was recorded for each player. The two best "net" scores were recorded for the tournament using 95 percent of handicaps.

First Place: C. Oman, J. Botzenhart, C. Potter, A. Carey with a net of 129.

Chip-Ins: C. Oman, hole No. 13.

Greenies: M.A. Pletcher, hole No. 4; J. Botzenhart, hole No. 8; R. Raw/C. Oman, hole No. 13; and J. Botzenhart, hole No. 16.

Birdies: C. Oman, hole No. 13; R. Raw, hole No. 13; and J. Botzenhart, hole No. 16.

The following women were

elected March 14 as new LGA Officers: Sally Brunnworth, president; Lydia Potter, vice president; Diane McGrail, secretary; Sherrie Schaefer, treasurer; and Mary Lou Gebhardt, assistant treasurer.

Results from March 21:

"T" and "F" is an individual tournament, gross and net. Everyone has a chance to score well, in this game, if they are lucky. All holes are played, but only the holes that begin with a "T" or "F" are scored and handicaps subtracted for net scores. Eleven members came out to play.

First Low Gross: J. Villa, 45. First Low Net: K. Guckert, 35; second low net, M.A. Pletcher, 36; third low net, A. Carey, 37.

Greenies: M.A. Pletcher, hole No. 8.

Results from March 28:

Twelve members played "Pinehurst," which allows players to choose their own partners, handicaps within 10 points. This game can get confusing as each player drives, then player A hits player B's ball. Player B hits Player A's ball for the second shot, partners select the ball they wish to use and play that ball alternately to complete the hole.

FLIGHT A
First Low Gross: J. Villa/J. McCarthy, 81.

First Low Net: M.A. Pletcher/S. Abrams, 67.

FLIGHT B
First Low Gross: C. Oman/A. Carey, 96.

First Low Net, tie: L. Potter/K. Guckert and N. Meyer/C. Boos, 72.

Chip-Ins: D. Broadway, hole No. 13; R. Raw, hole No. 11.

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TURTLE

continued from page 1

Mass., native and sophomore at Eckerd College, whose long-term goal is to become a veterinarian. "It seemed like such a cool opportunity. Here you can move about and learn more about why you're doing it."

On this particular day, students caught a turtle tagged 12 years ago. It also happened to be the 12th straight year in which the same turtle was caught, giving officials the rare opportunity to see its progress since it was first caught and released back into the wild.

"This is excellent," said Dr. Peter Meylan, a professor of natural sciences at Eckerd College, who had led the study since its inception in 1990. "For this large of a group, I'd say we caught about 100 or more turtles today. Not only did we catch a lot of turtles we can examine, we caught a lot of different species we can teach the students about."

Throughout the 20-plus-year study of turtles on the Rainbow River, Dr. Meylan's students have captured 10 different species. On Saturday, when more than 30 students took to the crisp spring waters, they caught eight different species, including a common snapper turtle and two soft-shell turtles.

"We're going to have a lot of data we can look over," he explained, noting the data collected is used for several honors theses and a couple of chapters in a book, "Biology and Conservation of Florida Turtles." "I do share these data with state agencies and the Rainbow Run data may have played a role in the state's decision to stop all commercial harvest of freshwater turtles about four years ago. That was a huge step. How important the project was in that decision is very hard to say, but we were able to show (in a senior thesis) that it was the large females that were missing from the population."

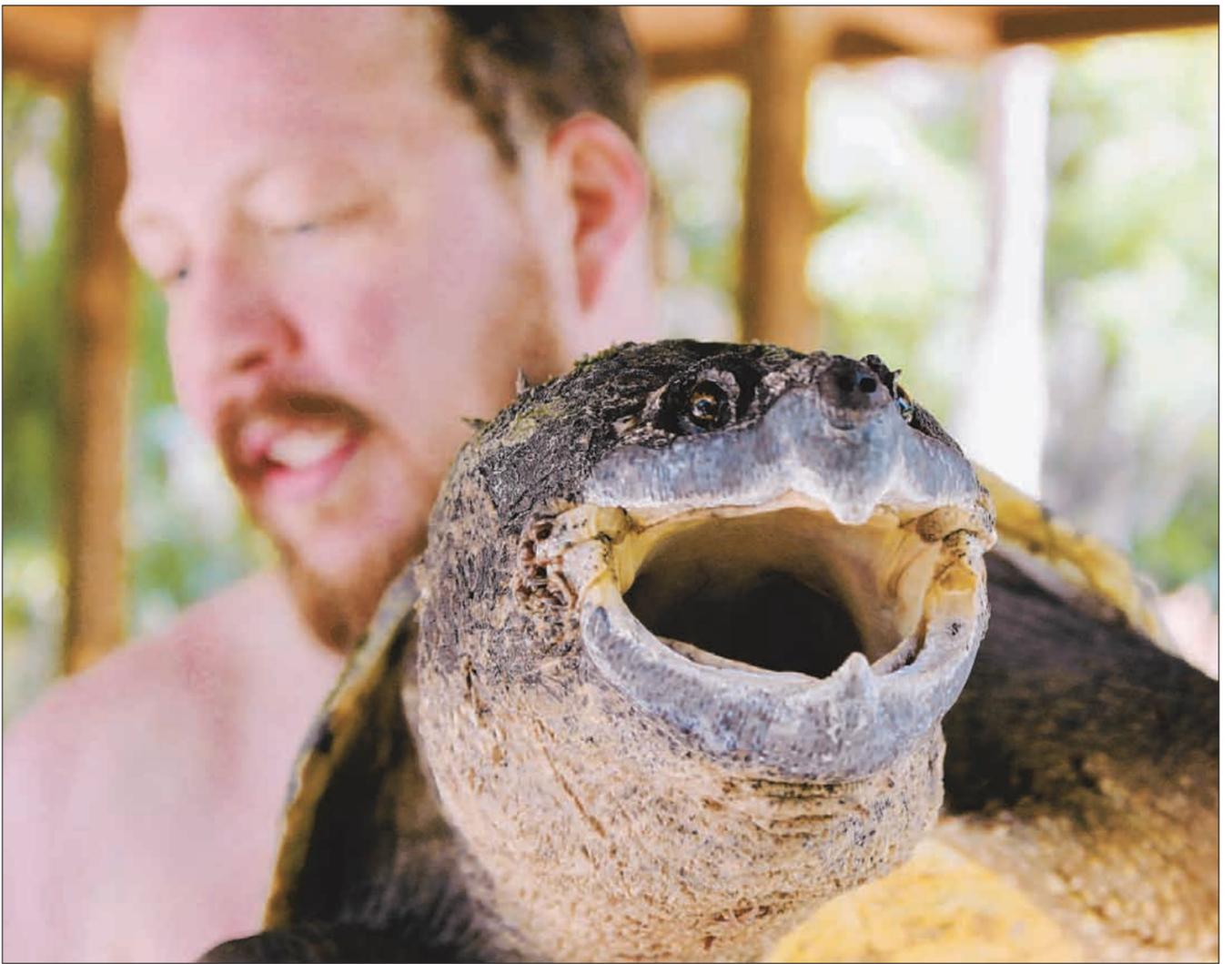
Dr. Steve Johnson from the University of Florida has participated in the study for the past eight years, bringing his students along with him. "It's a great way for my students to learn about the turtles," he explained. "This is a great opportunity to get them out of the classroom and into the environment which we've been studying about."

As the turtles were brought ashore and separated by classification, Dr. Johnson seized the chance to provide additional instruction about the different species. As the students gathered around, Dr. Johnson was brave enough, by some standards, to handle the monster-sized common snapping turtle brought in by Chris Hartman. The University of Florida student also hauled in one of two soft-shell turtles the group captured to gather statistics about.

"This was pretty amazing," he said, noting he'd done a turtle study in the Santa Fe River. "They were both fantastic learning opportunities, but this was one was definitely unique."

The experience of seeing nature up close at its finest is one reason Ben Atkinson, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Florida, continues making the trek to Dunnellon. This was his 10th year wading into the waters of the Rainbow River. He also helped Hartman capture one of two soft-shell turtles, the first year in which he's helped bring one of the species to land for the study.

"It's by far, one of the safest ones I've done," he said, noting in the other events he's done participants have had to be more mindful of alligators. "It's tough, but this is fun. It's a beautiful place to come to and be part of. It's a tradition."



Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Ben Atkinson, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Florida, holds onto a common snapping turtle Saturday, which was found in the Rainbow River. Atkinson has been a part of the Rainbow Run for 10 straight years, wading into the waters of the Rainbow River. Atkinson also helped University of Florida student Chris Hartman capture one of two soft-shell turtles, the first year in which he's helped bring one of the species to land for the study.



ABOVE: Matthias Fuell, a junior from Eckerd College and a biology major who is pursuing a career as a herpetologist, shows off one of the Suwannee cooter turtles students pulled from the Rainbow River. BELOW: Eckerd student Jessica Mullens prepares to put on her snorkel as she readies herself to venture into the Rainbow River to capture turtles.



ABOVE: Dr. Peter Meylan inserts a chip into a turtle captured Saturday in the Rainbow River. All turtles caught were measured, weighed and tagged before students re-released them back into the waters of the Rainbow River.

LEFT: Dr. Meylan watches as a student from the University of Florida shows him a pair of turtles caught in the river. The student unloaded the turtles back into the boat before making his way back into the river.

BELOW: A student from Eckerd College swims through a shallow portion of the Rainbow River after checking the banks for turtles to be used in a study.



Eckerd College students make their way along an area of the Rainbow River in search of turtles.

Falling from the skies



Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

A soldier with the 3rd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) watches as fellow unit members load onto a UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter on Wednesday, April 3, at the Dunnellon-Marion County Airport in preparation for a training exercise. Troops with the reserve unit were jumping from the helicopter at 1,500 feet as part of the exercise. According to a spokesman with the U.S. Army Reserves, reservists, like full-time military personnel, must make one jump every three months to keep their certification active.



ABOVE: A soldier drifts toward the ground while making a successful jump from a Blackhawk helicopter at 1,500 feet. BELOW: A patch sewn to the uniform of soldier from the 3rd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group signifies he's with the Airborne.

ABOVE: Soldiers wait to lift off in the Blackhawk helicopter in preparation for one of two jumps they were scheduled to make at the local airport. RIGHT: Soldiers make their way toward the Blackhawk carrying full gear, including parachutes, as they participated in a training exercise to keep their certification up to date. BELOW: Three soldiers drift toward the ground as the Blackhawk makes its way off toward the horizon as the troops successfully completed the first of two scheduled jumps.



EDUCATION NEWS

DHS, DMS students to present comedy

Players from Dunnellon High and Dunnellon Middle schools will present the ferociously funny, family friendly comedy, "Mama Won't Fly," at 7 p.m. April 12 and 13 and at 3 p.m. April 14 at the Dunnellon Middle School auditorium at 21005 Chestnut St. An outrageously hilarious race against the clock begins when Savannah Sprunt Fairchild Honeycutt agrees to get her feisty mother all the way from Alabama to California in time for her brother's wedding. Savannah's problem: Mama won't fly. Tickets are \$5 at the door. For information, call Dianne Sellner at 465-6745.

Yoga class slated at Dunnellon Elementary

CTAE will offer a yoga class from 4 to 6 p.m. starting today at Dunnellon Elementary. Classes will run through May 16. The fee is \$45 and registration takes place the first day of class. Participants will need an exercise mat and light hand weights. For information, call Lisa Bubba at 489-8051.

Harmony Preschool registrations taken

Harmony Preschool continues to welcome students for their Infant Class (6 months to 23 months) and 2- to 4-year-old class. Harmony can now accept VPK Transfers. Harmony also accepts students enrolled in the School Readiness (Vouchers) Program. Harmony Preschool is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. To register your child(ren), stop by the preschool at 21501 W. State Road 40, the preschool is housed in the Education Building of the First United Methodist Church, or call 489-9552.

Church collecting box tops for education

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will continue to collect Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup UPC labels for one of the local schools here in Dunnellon. Box tops and labels can be dropped off at the office of the church or put in the container in the church narthax. For information, call 489-5954.

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

Romeo students ready for FCAT test



Jane Ashman
Romeo
Principal

Romeo Elementary School will have FCAT testing April 15 through 25 for students in grades third through fifth.

On April 15 and 16, third-, fourth and fifth-graders will have their FCAT reading test. On April 17 and 18, third- and fourth-graders will have

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

their FCAT math tests while fifth-graders will have their FCAT science tests. From April 22 through 25, fifth-graders will have computer-based FCAT math tests. It is important for stu-

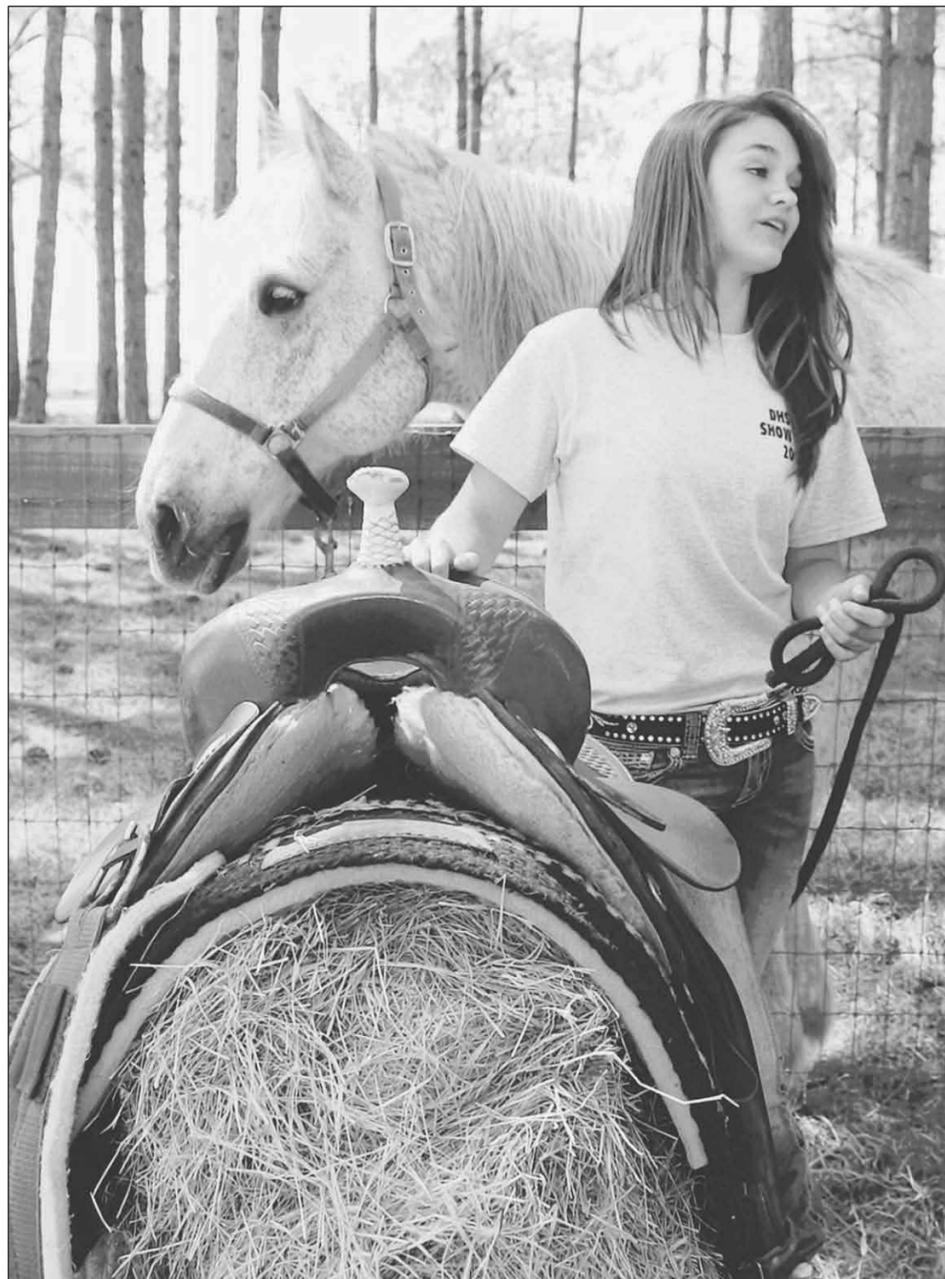
dents to be on time every day. The school's goal is to keep tardies to a minimum since testing begins at 8:10 a.m. Students will do their best if they are here early and settled prior to school starting or

testing beginning. Drop off begins at 7:20, and students can get breakfast to ensure they are ready for testing.

During the testing window from April 11 to 22, students should come to school. Romeo needs to

See **ASHMAN** page 13

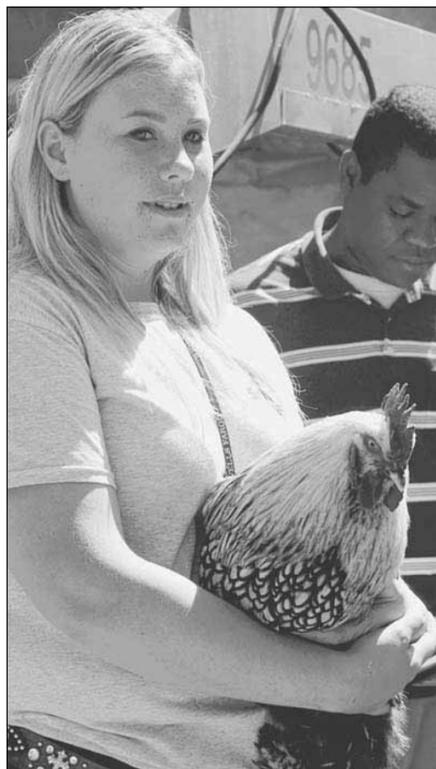
Food for America presentation



Photos by **JULIE MANCINI**/For the Riverland News

The DHS agriculture students on April 2 and 3 educated visiting classes about different aspects of the agriculture industry. Students attended working displays about horses, chickens and rabbits, tractors, citrus, pigs, sheep and bovine during the event, and were given an assignment to answer questions about what they learned.

ABOVE: Savannah Walker discusses the difference between English and Western saddles. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Senior Brittany Landers holds a rooster to show off to the group while senior Kevin Bruno looks on. The roosters and hens shown were layers, not meat poultry. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Freshman Bryce Follett gives a talk about hogs while showing the hog that will feed the FFA during their end of the year banquet.



County offering summer camps

Special to the Riverland News

Summer will soon be rolling into Marion County and with it a healthy offering of summer camp programs from Marion County Parks and Recreation. Parents and caregivers may register their children and teens now to participate in any or all of the following outdoor programs:

- **Kayak/Paddleboard Mini-camp** (Session I: June 10 to 13; Session II: Aug. 12 to 15): youth ages 10 to 15 will learn the basics of kayaking and paddleboarding. A participation fee of \$75 per child per session will include program equipment, entrance fees to local outing sites and snacks. Both sessions will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the indicated session dates.

- **Firewise Nature Camps** (weeklong 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. programs from June 10 to Aug. 9, no camp July 4): children ages 6 to 12 will explore nature themes and learn about wild-fire safety each week through field trips, nature hikes, special guest presentations and more. Planned camp topics include "animal outdoor sounds," "edible outdoor foods" and "waves of energy." A participation fee of \$95 per child per week will cover camp class materials, transportation and entrance fees to tour sites and snacks, as well as before-and-after camp care (7:30 to 8 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.). Children must bring packed lunches.

- **Extreme Adventure Camp** (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 29 to Aug. 2): youth ages 8 to 15 will partake in an intense camping program filled with kayaking, tubing, rappelling, rock climbing, paddleboarding and overnight camping fun. A \$130 participation fee will include program and camping equipment and snacks.

- **Fish Camp** (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 5 to 9): campers ages 8 to 15 will learn bank and boat fishing, boating safety, fish identification and more in a week of adventure by the water. A \$130 participation fee will cover program trips and fishing gear and a family fish fry on the last day of camp.

Marion County Parks and Recreation staff and volunteers will accompany participants at all times. Pre-registration is required and may be completed online by visiting www.marioncountyfl.org/parks.htm and clicking on the "Online Services" tab, or in person at the Marion County Parks and Recreation office at 111 S.E. 25th Ave., Ocala. Camp scholarships may be available under certain qualification requirements.

For information about these and other camp programs and scholarship opportunities, call Cathy Norris at 352-671-8560.

DMS students prepping for annual FCAT testing



Delbert Smalldridge
DMS
Principal

FCAT testing will be April 15 through April 26 at Dunnellon Middle School. We ask our parents to ensure your child has enjoyed a good night's sleep, a balanced breakfast and arrive at school on time.

DMS sixth- and seventh-grade students will take the Reading portion of the

FCAT on the computer as this is now a computer-based test. Students are well prepared and have practiced in our computer labs for this portion of the FCAT. The math, science and eighth-grade reading will be paper-based as in

years past.

During FCAT testing, students may not be in possession of cell phones or any electronic device. The penalty, even for an accidental incident, would be the invalidation of the student's test score. We

are encouraging our students to please leave their cell phones and electronic devices home during FCAT testing and thank our parents and students in advance for understanding the seriousness of this request.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

The DMS FCAT test schedule is:

- **Monday, April 15:** Sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade Math FCAT.
- **Tuesday, April 16:** Seventh- and eighth-grade FCAT Reading, computer-based.
- **Wednesday, April 17:**

See **SMALLRIDGE** page 13

SMALLRIDGE

continued from page 12

Seventh-grade FCAT Reading, computer-based; eighth-grade FCAT reading, paper-based.

● **Thursday, April 18:** Seventh-grade FCAT Reading, computer-based; eighth-grade FCAT science.

● **Friday, April 19:** Seventh-grade FCAT Reading, computer-based; make-up tests, all grades.

● **Monday, April 22:** Sixth-grade FCAT reading, computer-based.

● **Tuesday, April 23:** Sixth-grade FCAT reading, computer-based.

● **Wednesday, April 24:** Sixth-grade FCAT reading, computer-based.

● **Thursday, April 25:** Sixth-grade FCAT reading, computer-based.

The Book Bowl team will meet from 8:30 to 9 a.m. today as well as Tuesday, April 16, and Thursday, April 18, in the Media Center as they prepare for the Marion County Book Bowl Competition, scheduled for the first week of May. These young folks have read at least eight of the 15 books recommended by the Florida Sunshine State Young Readers Award (SSYRA) that are part of the competition. We thank these "Extreme Readers" for demonstrating their love of reading to all of us.

The Symphonic Band will practice from 3:40 to 5:30 p.m. today in the Band Room as they prepare for the Music Performance Assessment on Saturday. Thank you for all the after-school practice sessions, your dedication is proven by the beautiful music you produce and allow us to enjoy.

The Brain Bowl team will practice from 3:45 to 4:55 p.m. Monday, April 15, in Building No. 2 with Mr. Williams.

Dunnellon Middle School will celebrate National Poetry Month on Thursday, April 18, with a "Poem in Your Pocket." Mrs. Anderson, DMS Media Specialist, invites the entire Dunnellon Middle School campus to participate. Students with a poem in their pocket will receive a DMS Dollar when asked by an adult to read their poem. Students are also invited to visit Mrs. Anderson in the Media Center to show her their favorite poems. The poem may be one written by the student or just a personal favorite by someone else. The "Poem in Your Pocket" day is to bring awareness of the art of poetry and encourage a better understanding and appreciation of poetry in our lives.

We would like parents and students to visit the Dunnellon Middle School website at www.marion.k12.fl.us/schools/dms to review the current and future changes to the Common Core State Standards. The fundamental goal of the next generation assessments is to prepare all students for college or other postsecondary opportunities and dramatically increase rates at which students graduate from high school prepared for success.

Mark your May calendars for the upcoming notices and events:

● The DMS eighth-grade dance will be from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, May 4, in the DMS Café. The theme this year is "Hollywood Nights." Tickets are \$8 each and now on sale through the Guidance Office. Academic requirements are no out-of-school suspensions and the student must be in school the day before the dance. We hope all our students will enjoy this rite-of-passage as they look forward to moving to the high school and their adult lives.

● There will be a parent and student informational meeting at 6 p.m. May 7 about the 2013-14 DMS annual Washington, D.C., trip for upcoming eighth-graders. The annual trip is filled with learning opportunities while our students de-

Schedule of Events

Thursday, April 11

● 8:30 to 9 a.m. — Book Bowl practice in the Media Center.

● 3:40 to 5:30 p.m. — Symphonic Band Practice in the Band Room.

Friday and Saturday, April 12 and 13

● 7 p.m. — "Mama Won't Fly," DHS Drama Club production in the DMS Auditorium; tickets are \$5 at the door.

Sunday, April 14

● 3 p.m. — "Mama Won't Fly," DHS Drama Club production in the DMS Auditorium; tickets are \$5 at the door.

Monday, April 15

● 3:45 to 4:55 p.m. — Brain Bowl Practice in Building No. 2, Room 19.

Tuesday, April 16

● 8:30 to 9 a.m. — Book Bowl practice in the Media Center.

Thursday, April 18

● 8:30 to 9 a.m. — Book Bowl practice in the Media Center.
● Poem in Your Pocket Day. Have your favorite in your pocket and earn a DMS Dollar.

velop a greater understanding of the heroes who shaped the nation and fought for independence. Did we mention all the fun the students have while gaining this appreciation about our nation? We are very happy that Dunnellon Middle School can offer the eighth-grade class the opportunity to go on this educational tour.

The Marion County Health Department will offer free health shots from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 8, in Building No. 10 at Dunnellon Middle School. The shots will be given to all students who need their health record updated. This is a great opportunity for students who will be entering the seventh grade to have their health record updated. Please be reminded that all incoming seventh-grade students must have an up-to-date shot record in order to attend school in August as mandated by the state.

For information or for questions about your child's health record, call Mrs. Bartolet, R.N., the DMS nurse, at 465-6720.

Please don't forget to save your Box Tops for Education for Dunnellon Middle School. These little gems help us help our students with supplies they are unable to supply for themselves. Drop off your contribution either at Building No. 1, Front Desk, or Building No. 10, Attendance/Discipline Office.

ASHMAN

continued from page 12

have at least 95 percent of our students taking the FCAT in order to be eligible for an "A" school grade. It is important for your child to be here every day. If students are not here, they miss so much.

Reassure your child that we want them to do their best. We all have strengths and weaknesses.

Attendance is very important. Students that are absent will have only a small window of time to make-up FCAT. Tardy students will not be permitted to test until make-up times.

These two assessments measure student growth in Reading, Math, and Science (fifth-grade only). The FCAT is just one source of data we review to determine if your child has mastered the Sunshine State Standards for their grade. The FCAT grades are also used to determine our school grade and AYP status. It is our goal to earn the grade of "A" and to make adequate yearly progress (AYP).

Students are not permitted to have electronic devices in their possession during FCAT testing. Due to concerns based on recent security violations involving cam who have electronic devices during testing will

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

● 8:30 a.m. Friday — D.A.R.E. Graduation in the Cafeteria.

● April 15 to 18 — Monday thru Friday FCAT testing for students in third through fifth grade.

● April 22 to 23 — FCAT Testing, fifth grade.

● 2:30 p.m. April 16 — PTO meeting in the Media Center.

● April 19 — Kindergarten graduation pictures.

have their test invalidated. This means that if your child is found with an electronic device that reproduces, transmits, calculates, or records (e.g. a cell phone, camera or pager) in his or her pocket, at his or her desk or within his or her reach during the test, the test will be invalid.

D.A.R.E. Graduation

Romeo fifth-grade students will have their Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) graduation ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Friday in the in the cafeteria as we recognize them for their outstanding achievements on completing their requirements in the D.A.R.E. program, sponsored by the Marion County Sheriff's Department. This is a wonderful accomplishment for our fifth-graders, and we look forward to seeing their family and friends come out and support our students and this wonderful program.

Kindergarten pictures

Parents remember your child is young for a

short while. They will be grown before you know it, so capture that special moment in kindergarten. Have their graduation picture taken Friday, April 19.

If you wish to purchase your child's pictures, be sure to send all orders with payment for pictures in with your child April 19.

PTO news

The Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) meets at 2:30 p.m. the third Tuesday monthly in the Media Center. The next meeting is scheduled for April 16. We will discuss upcoming events that will be going on here at Romeo Elementary for the new year. Help support your child's education by joining the PTO. We look forward to seeing new faces and new ideas. Children are always welcome.

NEWS NOTES

Agency pursues \$1 million grant

The Annie Johnson Senior & Family of Dunnellon, a United Way organization, is participating in the \$1 million giveaway "Helping End Hunger in America" effort by the Feinstein Foundation.

Donors can help the needy in Citrus and Marion County by donating to Annie Johnson Senior & Family during March and April when the Feinstein Foundation will be adding money to all donations. All money and food collected stays in Citrus and Marion County.

For information, call Annie Johnson Senior & Family at 489-8021.

Boys & Girls Clubs seek donations

Many Boys & Girls Clubs are benefitting from car donations. The cars are sold at auction and the funds generated help support their many programs. People wishing to donate their cars or for information call 800-246-0493.

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AARP to offer free tax assistance

AARP continues to offer free income tax assistance through Saturday 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 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thurs-

days at the Rainbow Lakes Estates Community Center; and 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Dunnellon Public Library.

An appointment can be scheduled at the library reference desk by phone, but appointments are not required.

For information, call

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Wayne Sloan at 489-5066.

United Way offers free tax preparation

United Way of Marion County will offer free income tax preparation through a variety of VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) locations. Mar-

ion County residents are encouraged to get 100 percent of their return back. Call 211 to make an appointment. All volunteers providing tax assistance are trained by the Internal Revenue Service.

For information, call

Marsha Holloway at 352-732-9696 ext. 215.

Center raising money for equipment

The Family Hope Pregnancy Center of Dunnellon is raising money to purchase an ultrasound machine. The cost for the machine is \$15,800.

Those wishing to make a tax-deductible

donation may do so at Capital City Bank, 10241 N. Florida Ave., Citrus Springs. Checks must be made out to Christians United in Christ/ultrasound and monies raised will go directly toward the machine.

For information, call Marcy Boss, president, Christians United in Christ, at 489-0018.



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

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

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Auctions

DUDLEY'S AUCTION

Four Auctions 4-11 Estate Adventure Auction 3pm out, 6 pm in Motorcycles & Parts @ 6:30 1971 Norton 750 Commando, 1975 Ducati, 1978 Harley Davidson Sportster, parts, designer furniture, antiques & collectibles, tools, 4-12 On Site Estate Auction 9am, 13489 Government Road Brooksville, FL 34601 tools, Lawn equipment, Appliances, Sports, fitness eqpt, Antiques Furniture, 4-13 Real Estate Home Auction 10am, 5 16 Luck Point Inverness, FL 34450, 2/1 canal front, dead end street w/ upgrades 90x140 lot 4-13 Real Estate Villa Auction 2pm 3342 Belgrade Dr Inverness FL 34452 3/2 corner end unit move in ready maintenance free neighborhood "check website" www.dudleysauction.com 637-9588 10%BP Au2267 AB1667 Maine-ly Real Estate #381384

Garage/Yard Sales

DUNNELLON Fri. & Sat. 8:30-4:00pm Variety of Items Tools, Clothes, Misc. 12755 S.W. Hwy. 484

DUNNELLON Friday 12th, 8am-2pm Hunting Stand, Heavy Duty Smoker, Household, & MORE 5591 W. Riverbend Rd

YOU'VE GOT IT. Somebody else wants it!

Got something special you no longer use? Sell it in the Classifieds. It may be just the perfect item to fill somebody else's need.

Riverland News

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Trades/Skills

COMPUTER TECHNICIANS TRAINING!

Train for PC Technical Careers at sctrain.edu No computer Experience Needed! Job placement Assistance HS Diploma/GED a Must Start Immediately! 1-888-872-4677

General Help

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

"Call Now!" Looking to fill immediate positions. Training, 401(k), medical. No exp. necessary. \$550-\$800 a week. Call Karen 352-436-4460

Part-time Help

ASSIST SENIORS

Home Instead SENIOR CARE

We provide non-medical companionship and home help for seniors. Day, weekend and overnight shifts available. Join our special team of CAREgivers today.

352-622-5936 Lic. #HCS229393

Part-time Help

EXTERIOR PAINTING

MAINTENANCE RENTAL PROPERTIES Weekdays Dunnellon Semi Retired Welcome

Reply: Frank Boltz Box 248, Indian Rock Beach Florida. 33785

Part-time Help

Career Opportunities

ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE from Home. *Medical, *Business, *Criminal Justice, *Hospitality. Job placement assistance. Computer and Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV authorized. Call 800-443-5186 www.CenturaOnline.com

Appliances

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE WASHERS & DRYERS (352) 209-5135

How To Make Your Car Disappear...
Simply advertise in the Classifieds and get results quickly!

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Mobile Homes For Rent

BRING YOUR FISHING POLE!



INVERNESS, FL
55+ park on lake w/5 piers, clubhouse and much more! Rent includes grass cutting and your water
• 1 Bedroom, 1 bath @ \$350 inc. H2O
Pets considered and section 8 is accepted.
Call 352-476-4964 For Details!

Mobile Homes For Sale

MUST SEE!

3/2 on 1.5 Acres
FHA Approved
\$2600 Down
(Town of Hernando)
352-795-1272

Look

Easter Sale
Family Home Center
Three Lot Model
Clearance
NO HIDDEN FEES
\$72,900 30 x 76 4/2
\$69,900 30 x 60 3/2
\$82,900 32 x 76 4/2
Price Incls: Delv, Set, A/C Skirting, Steps, up-graded appliances & Furniture Remember The Reason For The Season 352-795-1272

Mobile Homes For Sale

HOT DEALS
Own Your Own Land? Financing Available to purchase your next New or used Manufactured Home
352-795-1272

★★★★★
MUST SELL
★★★★★

REPO FORECLOSURES
Bank Owned /must sell Bad Credit No Problem Minimum needed down \$5000 dollars
Call 352-795-2377

NEEDED

We Will Buy Your Used Manufactured Homes 1976-2013
CASH 4 you, less than 30 DAYS
352-795-1272

Waterfront Mobile For Rent

INVERNESS 55+ park
on water. Furnished 2bd, 1.5 bath, \$595. Rent inc. grass cutting and your water.
Call 352-476-4964 for details

Mobile Homes and Land

Credit Scores above 575 Qualify for several land/home packages in the Tri-County area
352-795-2377

Mobile Homes and Land

Mobile Homes with land.
Ready to move in. Owner financing with approved credit.
3Br 2Ba. No renters. 850-308-6473.
LandHomes Express.com

Condos/Villas For Rent

INVERNESS VILLA For Sale, Near Whispering Pine
Park close to stores/restaurant, Near Medical facility/ Hosp. light, updated end Unit, 2 BR, 2BA, Garage eat in kit., liv. Rm. /Din. Rm., front/back porch, garage, attic w/ storage, newer AC w/ guarantee. ALL Appl's UPDATED.
Near Condo Pool
Call (352) 637-3746 (352) 697-2475

Rental Houses

Buy 1-3bd Homes From \$1000/mo!
PreForeclosed and Rent2OWN Homes! Bad Credit OK! Only 500 Credit Score Min!
Near Condo Pool
Call 1-866-955-0621

Rent: Houses Unfurnished

DUNNELLON 3/2/2 located off 488 \$750mo, 1st, Last & Sec Req. fence yard, no pets pls
352-208-9462 352-598-9212

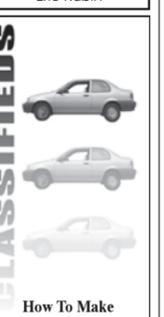
Real Estate For Sale

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Auctions - Estates

Bankruptcy Auction Onsite & Online
Precision Steel Works Corp. Thurs, April 18th at 11am.
Preview: Day of Sale 9-11am
3709 NW 81 Street, Miami, FL 33147
Welding Equipment & Machinery, Vehicles, Forklift, Power & Hand Tools, Warehouse Items, Steel Beams and more!
Visit www.moeckerauctions.com for Details, Photos and Catalog
Moecker Auctions (800) 840-BIDS
10% -13%BP, \$100 ref. cash dep. Subj to confirm.
Case No.:12-39848-BKC-AJ C
AB-1098 AU-3219, Eric Rubin



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Simply advertise in the Classifieds and get results quickly!

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Riverland News
www.riverlandnews.com

Citrus County Homes

Real Estate Auction



Near Chassahowitzka Bay
Homosassa, FL 8015 W.
Chassahowitzka St. 4BR 2BA 2,356+/- sf
Mobile Home with 6'x 8' shed.
Open Public Inspection:
1-4p Sun Apr 14 & 2 hrs before auction
Nominal Opening Bid: \$10,000
Auctions: 12:30p
Thur. Apr. 25 or bid live from anywhere at auctionnetwork.com
williamsauction.com 800.982.0425
Daniel S. Nelson Re Lic BK3223097
Thomas L Williams Auc Lic AU1112
5% Buyer's Premium

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Seeking ATV/ Hunting Property in the heart of Kentucky? Many properties waiting for you ranging from 56 acres to 343 acres.
Whitaker Bank (606)663-2283.

Campers/Travel Trailers

WE BUY RV'S, TRAVEL TRAILERS, 5TH WHEELS, MOTOR HOMES
Call US 352-201-6945

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BUYING JUNK CARS
★ Running or Not ★
CASH PAID-\$300 & UP (352) 771-6191

WE BUY ANY VEHICLE
In Any Condition, Title, No Title, Bank Lien, No Problem, Don't Trade it in. We Will Pay up to \$25K Any Make, Any Model.
813-335-3794
813-237-1892 Call AJ

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KING'S LAND CLEARING & TREE SERVICE
Complete tree & stump removal hauling, demo & tractor work. 32 yrs. exp. (352) 220-9819

LET US WORK FOR YOU!

Riverland News Classifieds Get Results!
CALL TOLL FREE 1-877-676-1403

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

418-0411 RIV
Estate of Skidmore, Raymond 2013-CP-440 F Notice to Creditors
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No.: 2013-CP-440 Division: F
IN RE: ESTATE OF RAYMOND E. SKIDMORE Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of RAYMOND E. SKIDMORE, deceased, whose date of death was February 6, 2013, is pending in the Circuit Court for Marion County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 110 NW 1st Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34475. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is April 4, 2013
Personal Representative: KAREN FIELD
494 Naugatuck Ave. Unit 2B, Milford, CT 06460

Attorney for Personal Representative: Melissa F. Williams, Florida Bar No. 0100084 Attorney for KAREN FIELD MARY F. TROTTER P.A., 541 Fieldcrest Drive, The Villages, FL 32162 Telephone: (352) 205-7245 Fax: (352) 205-7305 E-Mail: Melissa@trotterlaw.com April 4 & 11, 2013

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

419-0425 RIV
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF ACTION

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING
IN RE: The license to practice nursing of Jilayne Marie Salgado, L.P.N. 5704 Southeast 2nd Place Ocala, Florida 34480 & 2310 SE 30th Place Ocala, Florida 34471 & 623 Santa Barbara Place Cape Coral, Florida 33990
CASE NO.: 2011-10489
LICENSE NO.: LPN 5156303

The Department of Health has filed an Administrative Complaint against you, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting, Matthew G. Withers, Assistant General Counsel, Prosecution Services Unit, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C65, Tallahassee Florida 32399-3265, (850) 245-4444.

If no contact has been made by you concerning the above by May 16, 2013, the matter of the Administrative Complaint will be presented at an ensuing meeting of the Board of Nursing in an informal proceeding.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending this notice not later than seven days prior to the proceeding of the address given on the notice. Telephone: (850) 245-4444, 1-800-955-8777(TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (V), via Florida Relay Service. April 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2013

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

421-0411 RIV
5/3 sale date
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: **Tow Pro's Of Ocala** gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicle(s) on 5/3/2013 at 8:00 am at 1914 N. Magnolia Ave Ocala, FL 34475, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. **Tow Pro's of Ocala** reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
2004 BMW 4USB753554LT26105
April 11, 2013

Misc. Notices

419-0425 RIV
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April 11, 2013

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10 Words • \$8.20 Per Week • 44¢ For Each Additional Word • Pricing Includes Online • All Ads Must Be Prepaid • All Credit Cards Accepted

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11. _____ 12. _____ 13. _____ 14. _____ 15. _____

10 WORDS \$8.20 + 44¢ A WORD (Includes Online) = TOTAL

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Call Toll Free 1-877-676-1403

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2013 Corolla	2013 Camry	2013 Prius	2013 Highlander Gas	2013 Tacoma	2013 Sienna	2013 Camry Hybrid	2012 Prius C	2013 Prius V	2013 Venza	2013 Tundra	11 Models!
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SPECIAL 36* MONTH LEASE PROGRAMS

2013 Corolla.....	\$149 per mo.	\$2,548 due	2013 Rav4.....	\$259 per mo.	\$2,887 due
2013 Camry.....	\$199 per mo.	\$2,598 due	2013 Highlander Gas..	\$279 per mo.	\$2,678 due
2013 Camry Hybrid....	\$249 per mo.	\$2,648 due	2013 Tacoma.....	\$239 per mo.	\$2,638 due
2013 Prius C.....	\$199 per mo.	\$2,598 due	2013 Venza.....	\$279 per mo.	\$2,678 due
2013 Prius.....	\$229 per mo.	\$2,628 due	2013 Sienna.....	\$269 per mo.	\$2,668 due
2013 Prius V.....	\$279 per mo.	\$2,678 due	2013 Tacoma.....	\$239 per mo.	\$2,638 due
2013 Avalon.....	\$299 per mo.	\$2,698 due	2013 Tundra.....	\$299 per mo.	\$2,698 due

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