

# Riverland News

Thursday, May 30, 2013

Vol 31 No. 32

75 cents

## City weighs future of Greenlight

City officials: All options on table

JEFF BRYAN  
Riverland News

Greenlight Dunnellon Communications is unrecoverable; however, that doesn't mean the lofty fiber-to-the-home program city officials

under took cannot be salvaged, said John Pierpont of J.M. Pierpont Consulting LLC.

To do so, Pierpont explained in an executive summary, city officials must act quickly and act now.

As it stands, Greenlight's current loan obligations are \$8,681,684, and the city's enterprise operation is losing \$280,000 per month. The strategic report indicated Greenlight, at its current pace, would not begin turning a profit for more than 10 years.

The first step officials must do is restructure the three

bonds of \$7.2 million with Regions Bank in Orlando, Pierpont said. Negotiations with bank officials are currently under way. City officials are hopeful they can strike a deal that would allow them to pay interest only payments on the bonds as well as lengthen the terms during the recovery period.

Secondly, the report stated

budget cuts must be made citywide. Plans are currently being developed.

Third, dispose of all excess assets.

Fourth, initiate a new business plan for Greenlight. Part of that plan would call for developing a full or partial exit strategy.

See GREENLIGHT page 3

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

#### Host families needed for exchange students

EF Educational Homestay Programs is in need of host families to place students from China for three weeks this summer from July 17 to Aug. 4.

These students are coming to the area to improve their English language skills and to experience American family life. Host families are asked to provide a bed for the students, an extra plate at the table, transportation to/from the course center at Dunnellon Christian Academy for classes/activities, and a welcoming environment.

Youths from the host families can earn community service hours by hosting. For every three new families who host from a church or organization, EF will make a \$50 donation to the organization.

For information, call: Pamela Lange at 352-274-3042.

#### RS Garden Club meeting today

The Rainbow Springs Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. today at the American Legion Hall at 10730 U.S. 41, north of Walmart. This will be the last meeting until September. Member and Master Gardener Brenda Noah will be the guest speaker.

For information, call Barbara Roberts at 489-9680.

#### Knights to host Luau Dinner

The Knights of Columbus will host a Luau Dinner Dance at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 8, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church parish hall.

Entertainment will be provided by Joe Koos with dancing until 10 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available from a Knight or the church office. There will be door prizes, 50/50 raffles and a basket raffle.

For tickets or to RSVP, call 489-6221.

## Paying tribute



### American Legion hosts Memorial Day program

**ABOVE:** Eugene Thomas delivers the invocation at the Memorial Day ceremony. **RIGHT:** Darlene Hedin of Lecanto waves her flag as Carolyn Cairns sings "Proud to Be an American" during the Memorial Day program May 27 at the American Legion in Dunnellon.

**CENTER:** Jacob Hilliard and Randi Jarrell of the Dunnellon High School AFJROTC Color Guard stand at attention during the Memorial Day ceremony May 27.

**BELOW:** Anna Miku and Frances Mahfuz sell poppies during the picnic lunch portion of the Memorial Day program at the American Legion Post 58 on May 27.

Photos by Julie Mancini



### Church to mark milestone

Bethel Baptist will celebrate anniversary

AUGIE SALZER

For the Riverland News

A simple beginning slowly grew into a durable, long-lasting house of prayer for one Dunnellon church.

Celebrating their 125th anniversary, the First Bethel Missionary Baptist Church was organized in 1888. It started out with only eight members, holding services outdoors and without a choir. The Rev. A. Brice, organizer of the church and their first minister, helped the small congregation purchase some land and build a wood structure on it.

Throughout the years, the congregation grew and the choir quickly became a reality. The members gradually built a red brick church around the original frame building. The board windows and rough doors of the church were eventually replaced with stained glass and smooth wooden doors.

The First Bethel Missionary Baptist Church has had only 12 ministers to lead and spiritually guide its members throughout the years. It also has managed to pay off the mortgage, replace the church roof and purchase a church bus, to name only a few of the many material accomplishments of these 12 men.

First Bethel did not even have central heat and air in the building until 1990, and the beautiful burgundy colored choir robes were not purchased until 1993.

The congregation has grown during the years and the church now has about 100 members, a choir and its own Vacation Bible School.

See CHURCH page 3

## DHS alum completes law school while battling cancer

Rose Garrison was diagnosed with thyroid cancer

JEFF BRYAN  
Riverland News

Lawyers characteristically are supposed to be tough, with a no-nonsense attitude and take-the-bull-by-the-horns approach to work ethic.

Rose McClain Garrison might not officially be a full-fledged practicing licensed attorney, but the 2004 Dunnellon High School graduate likely isn't stressing too much

about her upcoming bar exam in July.

Because if anything, she's certainly well prepared for the stress the hours, days, weeks and months of studying that is needed.

Sure, some of her legal studies at Barry Law School prepared her well.

It's more than likely the life lesson the 27-year-old learned outside the walls of academia that has her better suited to prepare

for the bar exam she'll take in July.

That's because during her final semester of law school, Garrison not only was busy with a full schedule of classes and a job with the state attorney's office in Orlando, she was battling cancer, thyroid cancer to be precise. Garrison received her official diagnosis on Oct. 12, 2012, that she had cancer. News,



Rose McClain Garrison poses outside of her Orlando home. The ear-to-ear scar under her jawline is noticeable from her October surgery from thyroid cancer surgery.

See CANCER page 14



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# Dunnellon students tour organic farm

**DOUG JOHNSTON**

*Special to the Riverland News*

The Garden Doctor is in.

On May 18, Angela Boone, Dunnellon High School's secretary of discipline, took a group of pre-teen and teenaged girls to The Garden Doctor Teaching Farm in Dunnellon to learn about organic farming and producing food on small plots of land.

The girls are members of the Dunnellon Chapter of Pretty Brown Girls, which Boone sponsors. The club is composed of girls from 4 to 18 years old.

Kevin Gunter, who owns and operates the farm, is a Junior Air Force instructor at Dunnellon High. He conducted a tour with the assistance of Judi Christiansen, Mildred Bernard and Dale Johnston, who owns and operates Johnston Place in Newberry, which is also an organic farm that specializes in aquaponic farming. All but Christiansen are Dunnellon High graduates, who either teach or have taught at the school.

The group was lectured about methods of procuring and producing their own seeds, how and when to plant including favorable moon phases for planting, when to water, how to transplant, how to fertilize organically, methods to keep fungus and insects out of the garden without using pesticides and other gardening information.

Gunter said he wants to educate as many people — young and old — about the need to grow their own produce for a healthier lifestyle and also to do ones part to help protect the environment.



“With only a small plot of earth, it is surprising how much food can be produced naturally.”

**Kevin Gunter**  
owner of The Garden Doctor Teaching Farm.

“It's important that people realize that the food they eat doesn't have to be laced with toxins from insecticides and fertilizer,” he said. “With only a small plot of earth, it is surprising how much food can be produced naturally.”

For information about Gunter's farm, email [gunterk2009@gmail.com](mailto:gunterk2009@gmail.com). For information about Johnston Place, call 352-472-7897. The farm is available for pre-arranged tours and both are available for consulting or demonstrations.



DOUG JOHNSTON/Special to the Riverland News

TOP: Dale Clark serves hot dogs and berry smoothies to members of Pretty Brown Girls at the Garden Doctor Teaching Farm. ABOVE LEFT: Kevin Gunter, owner of The Garden Doctor Teaching Farm, demonstrates planting techniques for members of the group. ABOVE RIGHT: Dale Johnston talks about organic farming to the girls Saturday at the Garden Doctor Teaching Farm.

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**GREENLIGHT**

continued from page 1

Fifth, create a method to continuously monitor the financial condition of Greenlight and the city.

Sixth, create favorable exit options such as a complete exit or a public/private partnership.

Seventh, continue service with limited growth, or outbuild, of Greenlight.

The potential keys to a successful future lay in increasing the customer base and possibly scraping video services for its program. Video services is the most costly expenditure and all business models show Greenlight cannot be profitable by offering that service.

That doesn't mean the city would just cut off its current video subscribers without proper notification and assisting them in finding a suitable provider, said Eddie Esch, interim city manager.

Currently, Greenlight has 401 customers — a far cry from the more than 800 customers former City Manager Lisa Algiere reported in July, 2012. The fiber-to-the-home program passes 2,400 homes. According to Pierpont Consulting's report, infill customers will always be the most profitable, and the potential for infill customers is significant.

"Customers have to feel confident that Greenlight will stay in business," the report stated.

Besides eliminating video services, the city's other option for Greenlight would be to sell the system outright. The estimated value of Greenlight is approximately \$3 million, not enough to pay back the current bond and loan city officials have under taken.

The worst-case scenario, the report stated, if the city cannot strike

a new deal with bank officials, would be to declare a financial emergency.

If officials are forced to do that, state officials would step in to assist the city in resolving the debt crisis. An arbitrator or administrative law judge would have complete control of the process, the report stated. In addition, the state would control and disperse all funds as they see fit. The city currently has \$3.2 million in total unrestricted reserves.

"We've got a lot of work ahead of us, that's certain," Mayor Nathan Whitt said.

Officials realize attracting clientele is critical, especially among Rainbow Springs residents who have boycotted the venture since the city's acquisition of their water/wastewater utility system.

"We've got to get them on board," said Whitt, who unveiled his "Mending Fences — Friends and Neighbors

Again." Among the key aspects are dropping the 25 percent surcharge to lure customers as well as seeing the end of the lawsuit filed against the city.

The city also agreed to a deal with of J.M. Pierpont Consulting LLC to assist in helping implement key points of the first two phases of its report, as well as develop and implement aspects of a third phase of a report of J.M. Pierpont Consulting LLC. Officials would be paid \$150 per hour plus receive "success payments" based on goals achieved throughout the process. The "success payments" were undefined.

"John and his folks have been a great asset and have a wonderful knowledge about the potential of Greenlight," Mayor Whitt said. "They are experts in handling this and I believe it's critical to keep them on board as we move forward."

**Watch and Clock Collectors meet monthly**

The Chapter 156 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC) meet at 8 a.m. the fourth Sunday monthly except December at VFW Post 4781 at 9401 S.E. 110 St., Ocala. The facility is off State Road 200,

behind Sims Furniture and next to MRMC Medical Park at Timber Ridge approximately 8/10 of a mile east of County Road 484.

The presentation topics are about repair and maintenance of clocks and watches and

related subjects. The public is welcome to attend. There is a \$2 fee, which covers refreshments and expenses.

For information, call Roger B. Krieger at 352-527-0669 or Jim Beeman at 352-369-3924.

**CHURCH**

continued from page 1

Maxine Thomas, the anniversary event chairwoman, has been a member of the church since she was 10 years old and now brings her grandchildren. The oldest member is 95-year-old Ola Butler. Anna Mae Mells has been a musician for the church for 50 years, according to Thomas.

"I remember the church was red brick until 1995," Thomas said. "Then it was painted a nice cream

**A banquet is set for 7 p.m. Friday.**

color: Everything else in the church is original as built by our forefathers."

There have been three pre-anniversary services already hosted by the First Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and the final service is slated for June 23.

"This is a milestone for this church," said the Rev. Nathaniel Rawls, the 12th shepherd of the church and pastor since 2004. "This

is something to celebrate that it has existed for that long. We have blessings from God."

They are also planning to host a banquet at 7 p.m. Friday at the Rainbow Lakes Estates Community Center. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased from Sister LeeRosa Rawls, chairwoman. The attire for the meal should reflect the church colors of burgundy, white and gold.

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

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# RIVERLAND NEWS

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## GUEST COLUMN

# Dig into reading this summer at the library

**KAREN JENSEN**

*Special to the Riverland News*

Readers of all ages will explore the magic and mysteries of the underground this summer as the Dunnellon Public Library presents its "Dig into Reading" summer reading program from June 10 to July 26. Explore groundbreaking books, digital music and magazines, as well as programs about construction, gardening, wildlife, geocaching and much more!

Special June programs at your Dunnellon Public Library include:

**FAMILIES**

● Through July 25 — "Marion

County Reads!" Visit any public library location and check out library materials for a chance to win prizes at a special drawing Friday, July 26, at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library at 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd. in Ocala. Plus, reading bags and activity sheets will be provided to children visiting their local library while supplies last.

● June 10 to July 26 — Participate in a countywide geocaching extravaganza. Discover the caches concealed at the various library locations. Visit [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) and find the hidden prizes!

● 2 to 3:30 p.m. June 13 — "Construction Zone" program

for all young builders and enthusiasts.

● 10:30 a.m. June 15 — Super Saturdays are even more special with the "Curious Moon Puppet Theatre." Join Curious Moon puppets as they dig a hole to China to unearth wonderful stories to share.

● 11 a.m. June 27 — Time for "Family Story Time," where reading is fun with books, music and flannel boards for toddlers and preschoolers.

**ADULTS**

● 11 a.m. June 2 — "Drop-In Book Club" provides an opportunity to share books and literary interests for adults.

● 1 p.m. June 7 — "Friday at

the Movies" program for adults and teens ages 13 and older. Children under 13 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Call the library for movie details.

**TEENS AND TWEENS**

● 3 p.m. June 25 — "Beneath the Surface" will allow teens and tweens ages 12 to 18 to tunnel into the far reaches of their minds!

**CHILDREN**

"Dig into Reading! Mine the mind and dig into some new adventures. For children ages 6 to 12 years of age.

● June 18 — "Garden Gnomes."

● 10:30 a.m. June 19 — "Get

Gardening."

● 10:30 a.m. June 26 — "Eat Your Veggies."

The 2013 Summer Reading Program is hosted as part of the Marion County Public Library System's efforts to encourage families to foster reading skills and promote the value of reading. Children's programming is presented in partnership with the various Friends of the Library groups. All programs are offered free of charge to the public. For more information, call the Dunnellon Public Library at 352-438-2520 or visit [library.marioncountyfl.org](http://library.marioncountyfl.org).

*Karen Jensen is the library community liaison.*

## LETTERS

### What is the problem with water quality in town?

Editor's Note: The letter writer requested this letter, which was also sent to city officials, be printed regarding water quality.

Recently, I was driving past the water tower on State Road 40 and I saw the water was being drained. Subsequently, I have noticed a change in the water quality.

Suddenly my towels, sheets and all my laundry are rough. I suddenly have a hard-water film on my glassware I wash in the dishwasher, which no additive seems to eliminate. My refrigerator filter, which I replace every six months before the indicator light reminds me to, needs replacement within a month of installation.

I know there was a question of the quality of the drinking water. What has been done with our tap water?

My towels and clothes are being ruined, my appliances are not working properly. I have read that hard-water residue causes these problems, and it also shortens the life of appliances.

**Patricia Evensen,**  
Dunnellon

### Greenlight worth hype, time to let bitterness subside

Let's cut Greenlight Dunnellon Communications a little slack.

I also stayed away from using their fiber optics service for a long time, because of the controversy about the dispute with Dunnellon. But it makes little sense to shoot yourself in the foot because that has an undesirable effect also.

I recently came on board the Greenlight service group, as did my neighbors on both sides of me. We have no choice in this area, but AT&T, which provides horrible service.

For example, I had AT&T DSL (high-speed Internet) service and it should be a crime for them to call it "high speed." I tested it several times and I was getting about .5 mhz on the downlink and less on the uplink.

When Greenlight connected me to the fiber optics cable, we immediately tested the connection and it went from the .5 (half mhz) to 5.65 mhz in a single fell swoop.

We all probably have problems with the poorly managed

See **LETTERS** page 5



## SOCIAL SECURITY

# Rocking retirement

Generations ago, retirement was thought of as a time to take it easy — a time of rocking on porch chairs and reminiscing about the good old days. But that's not the case with the current generation of retirees. In fact, many older people today continue to rock on. Just look at some of the superstars touring and performing concerts this year who are old enough to collect Social Security retirement payments. They're still rocking, but not in chairs.

Bob Dylan is on tour, as he usually is during summer months. Dylan is 71 years old. But with a recent album and new tour dates, you'd never know he was of retirement age.

Neil Young is touring with Crazy Horse to support their new album. The "godfather of grunge" is 67 years young. He's become the "Old Man" he sang about in his Harvest days.

Paul McCartney's current "Out There" tour may more appropriately be called his "Up There" tour. The former Beatle is now age 70.

Willie Nelson is "On the Road Again." The music icon is 79 years old and seems to be on nonstop tour.

Aretha Franklin is 71. Carlos Santana is 65. Carly Simon is 67. Mick Jagger and Keith Richards are both 69, as is Joni Mitchell. Leonard Cohen is 78. B.B. King is 87. They're all still performing their music.

Of course, some of these well-known

musicians may not be eligible to receive Social Security benefits. But all of them are of retirement age. So where are their rocking chairs and knitting needles?

It's hard to believe, looking at all of these mature stars, that retirement used to be associated with bridge and shuffleboard. It's not just musicians. In fact, many people decide to put off applying for retirement benefits. And even after they do begin collecting benefits, many "retirees" prefer to keep working — or at least moving and shaking.

Most people know that you can begin collecting early Social Security benefits at age 62, with a reduction in the monthly amount. The full retirement age is gradually going up from 66 for people born between 1943 and 1954, to 67 for people born in 1960 and later. You can delay retirement even further and receive a higher payment when you retire, up until you reach age 70. And another thing that has changed since the past generation: you can continue to work and still receive retirement benefits.

Learn more about Social Security retirement benefits by reading our publication on the subject at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs).

When you're ready to retire, the best place to apply is from the comfort of your home computer, with some of your favorite music blaring

See **GUEST** page 8



**Adon Williams**

## JERSEY GIRL

# Sir Paul? No intro needed

It finally happened, a dream come true. It's something I've wanted to do for 30 years. I can die happy now.

What has me so giddy? On a recent Saturday night, I finally saw Paul McCartney in concert. Yes, the Paul McCartney.



**Audrey Beem**

Sir Paul. The rock god. The heartthrob of my youth. Who am I kidding? The heartthrob of my whole existence. I finally saw him perform, in person, in the flesh. I am beyond ecstatic.

Many times in life you wait for something for so long only to be disappointed when it finally arrives. Like that first date with that boy I was so crazy about in high school.

But let me tell you, he did not disappoint. Mr. McCartney was everything I expected and more. He was amazing. Definitely the best concert I've ever been to, and I've seen my fair share.

I've been in love with Paul McCartney ever since I was 5 years old. My brother, Dominic, and I would beg our mother to let us stay up to watch The Beatles on the "Ed Sullivan Show." We had all their albums and when we weren't playing them, we were pretending to be them. They were definitely big in our household.

Many people turned their fancy and favor to John Lennon, who seemed to be the more poetic and artistic one of the famous foursome. But my heart never wavered from Paul.

After the Beatles split, a very sad day for many, I became a huge Wings fan and watched as McCartney's popularity grow once again. I was still a fan when he went solo, but was never lucky enough to see him in person. I've tried to purchase tickets only to be crushed by sold out signs minutes later.

I was very envious of Dominic who had seen him in concert three times.

The funny thing is, I almost didn't get there this time. I think they said the show sold out in seven minutes. But through some creative hunting and pecking, I was able to abscond two tickets for the big event.

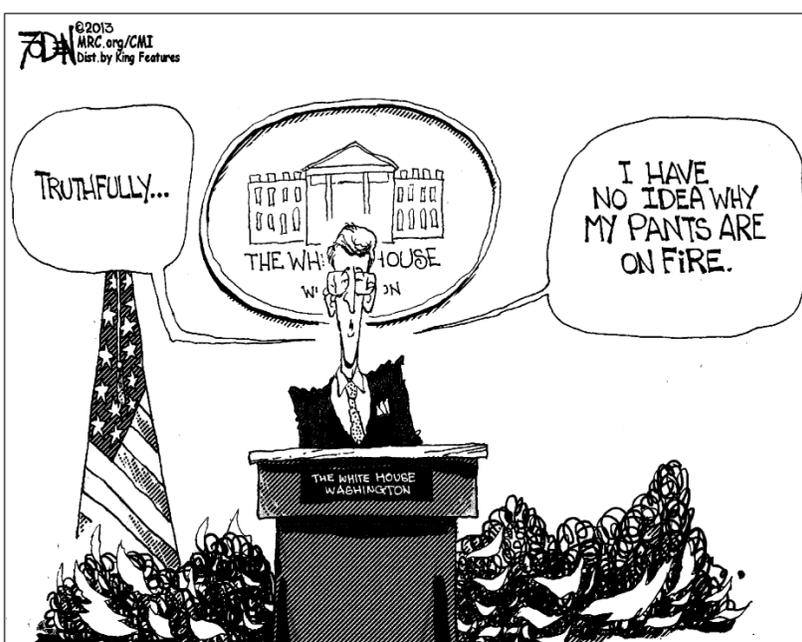
Then obstacle No. 2: at the last minute my husband couldn't go with me.

I invited my friend Alba from work to go and she told me she doesn't like his music. I told her I've given up friends for much less than that.

So after much pleading and cajoling, I convinced my youngest daughter to accompany me even though she barely knew any of his work. It was then that I realized how badly I had failed as a mother for not exposing my offspring to better music.

She didn't know he was the biggest selling artist of all time,

See **JERSEY** page 8



## 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.

## State park in need of volunteers

Rainbow Springs State Park is currently seeking volunteers interested in a high-paced volunteer position that will assist visitors and the park.

To start training to become a volunteer toll booth attendant, or serve in other various positions, contact Nicky Aiken at Nicky.Aiken@dep.state.fl.us or call 465-8539. This job requires volunteers to work on a schedule that can be flexible, take toll collections, run a register, assist with phone calls and reservations, listen and respond to radio communications, answer basic visitor questions and have a positive attitude.

Toll booth attendant volunteers are asked to volunteer a minimum of four hours and must be in uniform. The toll booth is open 8 a.m. until sunset daily.

The concession stand at Rainbow Springs State Park, run by the Friends of Rainbow Springs and volunteers, is in need of volunteers, especially on weekends. The hours of operation are currently from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Interested Volunteers would receive training and work two- or four-hour shifts. Volunteers will need to fill out a volunteer application. If interested, contact Joe at 522-0396 and leave your name and number.

## LETTERS

continued from page 4

Dunnellon government, but Greenlight is made up of ordinary people who have ordinary problems in life and need ordinary jobs. I might add that every one of them I have met before and during my installation were simply super individuals.

So seethe at Dunnellon if you wish, but don't keep shooting yourself in the foot. It feels great to call AT&T and tell them to "take a hike" and at the same time watch your DSL connection increase more than 10 times. Get over it and you'll enjoy life more as we are.

Ronald Stafford,  
Dunnellon

### Heads up to Rainbow Springs residents

The Board of Directors of the Rainbow Springs Property Owners Association has accumulated a huge balance, more than \$56,000, on past due annual assessments.

At every monthly meeting, they wring their hands and lament that most of the monies will be lost "because we can collect for only one year back."

I have told them, several times, that that is not true, but they fall back on poor legal advice from their attorney, who gives little, but charges a lot. This is our hard earned money they are willing to fritter.

Florida Statute 720.3085 gives all the details on collection of liens

for past due debts to a homeowners association, no matter how old the debt is. In addition, it stipulates that, in case of a new owner, that person or entity is equally responsible for the debt. There is no justification for not saving our money, and I won't charge anything for my advice.

There are three lawyers, who agree with this interpretation of the statute, ready to consult with our POA Board.

Since I am unavailable for a while, I have given their names to Penny Fyrogennis. All Mr. Bob Frankenfield and Mr. Dick Lemma have to do is call for details.

Dan Techentin,  
Rainbow Springs

### Why is city keeping information in the dark?

The agenda for the May 22 council workshop included an item for reviewing the consultant phase 1 and 2 analysis report on Greenlight.

The report was "to be provided at the workshop." The same agenda included the item "Staff Presentation of City's Financial Status." Again, the report was "to be provided at the workshop."

It appears that neither of these reports have made it to the public. So much for open government. It seems that the city does not want to publish anything that might make the staff, manager or Council look bad.

If the taxpayers forked over \$15,000 for a consultant to do a study and make a report, you would think that the taxpayers are entitled to see the report. You would think that if the staff did an analysis of the city's financial status that citizens would be entitled to see that report.

The same May 22 agenda includes another item titled "Proposed Rate Study for Water and Sewer" at a cost of \$21,790. According to the documentation, the study is to produce a "Revenue Sufficiency Analysis."

The consultant's proposal clearly states that this work, "Does not include a rate design evaluation or the development of potential changes to existing rate structures." I guess you have to pay extra for that work.

So what is the consultant going to do?

I guess the city is going to pay \$21,790 for a consultant to determine if the city is getting "sufficient" revenue from the water and sewer business. I wonder how they define "sufficient."

There must be some confusion about this study because the city's financial manager, in a May 13 memo to the consultant, refers to the work as a "Proposal for this year's rate study."

And then, during all of this complicated city business, Councilwoman Fleeger brings up the critical matter of asking each council member to donate \$50 to have children coloring books printed.

I wonder if she is even aware of what is going on around her.

The city is deep in debt, yet the council continues to spend \$15,000 for a consultant report that hasn't been made public; \$21,790 for another study of water/sewer rates; another proposed study on Greenlight where the

city pays the consultant \$150 per hour with no clearly defined deliverables or statement of work; and a "to be determined and agreed upon success payment."

I wonder how they define success. The only thing that could make this better is if the Greenlight consultant was related to a council member, and if the consultant was hired without any competition.

It just keeps getting better.

Hugh Lochrane,  
Rainbow Springs

**Editor's Note:** The city did not have the information available at the time the agenda for the workshop was released. This oftentimes occurs and is provided at the workshop and is available prior to regular City Council meetings. The subject regarding Councilwoman Penny Fleeger had been discussed in prior meetings. She is not asking for taxpayer dollars; however, she sought private donations from each council members.

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## DHS senior named Volunteer of the Year



**Michael Chung**

*Chung second straight student to win countywide honor*

**CHRISTINA BAUER**  
For the Riverland News

Once a year, students from the Marion County School District are awarded the honor of "Volunteer of the Year," an award given to an individual who has

shown exemplary service to their school and community.

This year, Dunnellon High School had the honor, for the second year in a row, of having a student from win this prestigious award. That student was none other than Michael Chung, a

well-known senior, who accumulated 200-plus community service hours in the past two years.

Chung began volunteering his freshmen year, helping with anything that needed to be done, just as he always has.

"I've known him since elemen-

tary school," said Danielle Prinz, a fellow senior and the winner of the Volunteer of the Year award in 2011-2012. "He's always wanted to help!"

Though Chung has always been a large helping hand, he said he never saw a reason to record the hours. He did the

See VOLUNTEER page 9

### EDUCATION NEWS

#### Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp slated

The Boys & Girls Club of Dunnellon is now taking applications for its 2013 Summer Camp, which will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 17 through July 31, but closed July 3 to 5.

Highlights include weekly themes and trips to Rainbow Springs State Park, Roller Barn and Regal Cinema summer movies. Registration cost is \$15 for new members and \$25 weekly. Applications may be picked up at the club's current location in Ernie Mills Park on Bostick Street. Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Boys-and-Girls-Clubs-of-Marion-Co-Dunnellon-Unit](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Boys-and-Girls-Clubs-of-Marion-Co-Dunnellon-Unit).

#### 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.

#### Romeo Elementary May's Terrific Kids

**Kindergarten:** Zachary Gifford, Nia Heppner, Blake Marra, Danielle Seitz, Alexa Swaney, Marissa Touchton and Meghan Weaver.

**First Grade:** Brianna Anderson, Kemari Autry, Ben Baillargeon, Dalton Jordling, Eveline Lugo, Ivette Matlala, Aidan Palmer and Mason Popik.

**Second Grade:** Carlos Aguirre, Gage Hiers, Conner Hrovat, Diana Marquina, Faith Marra, Anthony Thomas and Victoria Vichot.

**Third Grade:** Gissell Cardoso-Leanos, Jennifer Curriel, Kasey Lemanski, Sheyla Martinez, Luis Perez, Jasmine Torres and Jordan Vining.

**Fourth Grade:** Avery Braden, Alex Carver, Madison Crosby, Antonia DeLibro, Jade Deonath, Jasmyn Martin, Joseph Santiago and Alyxandra Stoico.

**Fifth Grade:** Madison Collins, Jordan Lasko, Sol Palomo Melendrez, Sandro Munoz, Zachary Pauline, Xavier Ramos and Grace Thompson.

### Take Stock in Children DMS scholarship winners



Special to the Riverland News

Seven Dunnellon Middle School eighth-graders had a life-changing moment recently when they learned they were selected for Take Stock in Children Scholarship program. Sponsored by the Marion County Public Education Foundation, the students will receive tuition for two years of college. Celebrating the selection, front row from left, are: DMS Counselor Michelle Brooks, students Kristin Starr, Dustin Morgan, Chris Ruiz, Emma Sylvester, Luis Gutierrez, Liset Romo and DMS Principal Delbert Smallridge; back row, Dr. Mike Mishkin, volunteer with the Marion County Educational Foundation, and Elaine Whiteaker, selection committee, Counselor Donna Durden, Assistant Principal Reginald Rocker and student Hannah Warren.

### PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

## DMS students, staff prep for annual academic ceremony

Dunnellon Middle School will celebrate student academic achievement at 7 p.m. today in the DMS Auditorium. This celebration is a very special one for us as it provides us the opportunity to recognize students in front of their families, peers and community for their hard work and dedication to their education.

These young people have consistently displayed an excellent work ethic that will provide the Dunnellon community and Marion County with fine leadership in the future. To these students, we say thank you. We are very proud of you and your spirit of excellence.

The Dunnellon Middle School FFA will

have Spirit Night from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday at Sonic. Please stop by the Dunnellon Sonic and support our FFA members. Hope you will join us in supporting DMS FFA.



**Delbert Smallridge**  
DMS Principal

Saturday will be a busy day for the Academic Brain Bowl Team, along with their sponsor, Mr.

Stephen Williams, as they compete in the Spring Academic Brain Bowl at Vanguard High School beginning at 9 a.m.

Good luck to team members: Megan Barde, Luis Gutierrez, Robert Reed, Trevor Vonneggern, Hunter Day, Kristen Starr, Cameron Pike, Shelby Meyers, Tyler LaMon and Kameron Grossi. Have fun and enjoy

meeting your Marion County peers. Thank you and your parents for the after-school hours you have spent to sharpen your competition skills and knowledge.

The Dunnellon Middle School Beginning and Symphonic Bands, along with the members of the DMS Chorus, will enjoy Saturday together as they spend the day at Busch Gardens in Tampa.

June 3 through June 6 is the last week of school at DMS and will be devoted to the successful completion of the CEOCE exams. Parents, we ask that you ensure your child has enjoyed a good night's sleep, a well-balanced breakfast and arrive at school on time.

The DMS schedule for our final week of

See SMALLRIDGE page 9

## Pre-K, kindergarten registration open

There's no better time than now to register children for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten classes this summer and regular kindergarten classes this fall.

Parents can register their children at local elementary schools at any time. They can complete and print online forms to bring with them to save time in the waiting line. Currently, more than 3,120 kids attend kindergarten in Marion County Public Schools.

Forms are available under the "Student Enrollment" option in the "Parent Information" tab at [www.marion.k12.fl.us](http://www.marion.k12.fl.us).

Summer VPK (Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten) classes are available from 7:39 a.m. to 5:20 p.m. June 10 through Aug. 1 at 10 elementary schools: Belleview, College Park, Dunnellon, East Marion, Fessenden, Greenway, Madison Street, Maplewood, Marion Oaks and Oakcrest.

To participate in VPK,

children must be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2013, a Florida resident, and not participated in a VPK school-year program.

Free breakfast and lunch are part of the VPK program each day, along with a snack. Parents must provide their own transportation for summer VPK programs and obtain a VPK Certificate of Eligibility from the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County at 352-369-2315.

To register, parents must provide the student's original birth certificate, two "proof of residency" documents (not including a driver's license), physical and immunization records and the child's social security card (optional).

To attend kindergarten starting this August, the same rules apply.

For more information, call your nearest elementary school or call the K-12 Academic Services Office at 352-236-0500 or the Title One Office at 352-671-4171.

## Dunnellon student awarded scholarship

**JULIE MANCINI**

For the Riverland News

Daytona State College is gaining a new student in their culinary management program next year.

Brittany Swaney, a senior at Dunnellon High School and a four-year member of the culinary arts program, was recently awarded a \$500 scholarship from the Marion County Schools Nutrition Association.

The award was presented to Swaney at on May 16, because she could not attend the awards ceremony on May 18, because of prom. Swaney decided in eighth grade, when she was figuring out which high school classes to take

that she wanted to be a chef. "My mother always loved to cook," Swaney said of her mother, Kelly. "She had tons of cookbooks and recipes around."

Swaney credits her mother, grandmother and teacher, Melissa Mosby, with teaching her how to further enhance her skills in the kitchen. Swaney said she likes to create entrees. At one point, she thought she might like being a pastry chef, but she realized it was harder than she had anticipated.

In order to earn the scholarship, Swaney had to write an essay explaining why she thought she deserved the award and submit a letter of recommendation. Four members of the association came to DHS for the

presentation of the award, bringing a large check, along with flowers and balloons. "Words cannot even describe how happy I was," Swaney said. "I was ecstatic."

Swaney has already earned her ServSafe certification, which means she knows how to prepare and serve food safely. On May 17, she took the ProStart industry certification, which she described as a test of everything she has learned in class, including history, terms and definitions, cuts, seasonings for different cultures, the business aspects of culinary arts and how to expand upon what she learned.

Swaney plans on a career in the cruise industry.



DAVID ROBERTO/For the Riverland News

Members of the Marion County Schools Nutrition Association pose May 16 with Brittany Swaney, center, and her culinary arts teacher, Melissa Mosby, right, after Swaney was awarded a \$500 scholarship.

OUT TO PASTOR

# Man's excuses in midlife crisis

Sometimes it is best to err on the side of caution. This, however, has not always been my modus operandi down through the years. In fact, I am not very good when it comes to practicing anything, just ask the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

As of late, though, I have been practicing caution like I was going to Carnegie Hall. I am not very good at it yet, but my goal is to come to the point of perfection in the area of caution as it touches my person, particularly my health and well-being. This may be because I have reached that age when most men go through a midlife crisis.

You can always tell when a man is going through his midlife crisis. He usually wants to prove he is as good at 60-something as he was when he was 20-something. Carelessly throwing caution to the wind, he attempts to do something beyond the energy of his existing body. One sure way to tell if a man is having a midlife crisis is to notice his recent injuries.

Personally, when I was 20 I was not good at anything, which has enabled me to skip my midlife crisis. I am glad to be 60 (okay, maybe I am a tad over 60) because now when I get tired I can say I am tired and sit down. At 60-something I have absolutely nothing to prove. I am no better or worse than I was when I was 20. It is, as my wife notes, the ageless wonder of incompetence.

The difficulty with growing older is that the old memory juices do not flow as swiftly as they once did. Of course, some of us never had a real gusher in that department anyway. The more memories I have, the less I am able to recall them in the innocence of their reality. Like the fisherman who tells the size of the one that got away. Memory seems to add or subtract according to the benefit of the

person conjuring up the memory.

A big problem a man in mid-life crisis has is that he does not remember how good he actually was when he was 20, unless of course, his wife knew him at that time. If he could, he would not have to try to replicate it when he is 60. This is one of the unique advantages of maturing. Forgetting always leads to exaggerating. Exaggerating at 60-something leads to injuries. The only purpose of this is to impress people who really are not being impressed.

As we grow older, things begin to change, and some things change for the better. When I was 20, I could not admit to anybody that I was tired. I would have been the laughingstock in my community if I would admit any such phenomenon. You know what they say about the unlimited energy that young people have. Now that I am in my 60s, I can blame my advancing years on just about anything.

"I love to do that, but at my age I don't have the energy." This has covered a multitude of sins, for which I am so grateful. Of course, it does have one drawback, when someone in

their 80s invites me to go for a walk, what in the world can you say to that?

This next one has to be one of my favorites. "I would love to do that but I have to get home for my afternoon nap." The person will look at me, notice my maturing features and understand that I desperately do need a nap, or something resembling beauty sleep.

I found one the other week that has proved quite beneficial. I was invited to a function during the evening, which turned out to be a rather boring affair. Once the meal was over, people were milling around engaged in small talk. Nothing bores me quicker than small talk. Not knowing what to do, I pondered the situation for sometime. Then, like lightning from the heavens, I was struck with a brilliant idea.

I went up to my host and said, "I'm sorry, but it is getting near my bedtime and I have strict orders from my doctor to go to bed early. You'll have to excuse me."

It worked like a charm. Everybody understood that a person of my age needs to go to bed early. I do not know who thought this up, probably Benjamin Franklin, but whomever it was, I owe them a steak dinner at the restaurant of their



James Snyder

## CHURCH BRIEFS

### Men of Valor Ministry

Join the men at the Rainbow Springs Village Church for the Men of Valor Ministry. The goal is for real men with real issues having real faith in Jesus Christ.

If child care is desired, call the church office for arrangements. Men of Valor meets at 7 p.m. the last Wednesday monthly.

For information about this ministry, please email Chris Greaves at RSVChurch@gmail.com or call the church at 489-0249.

Rainbow Springs Village Church is at 20222 S.W. 102nd St. Road, Dunnellon, south of Winn Dixie and west of U.S. 41.

### Women's Bible study

New 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 p.m. For more information check us out in Facebook at One Woman's Prayer.

## OBITUARY

### Marie Contrera, 89

Marie Louise Contrera, 89, died on May 19, 2013 at her residence.

Marie was born to the late Horace and Alice DeLiege in Ossining, NY. She graduated from Cazenovia College in NY and was employed with McCalls Publishing Company in NY. Marie moved to the Dunnellon area 33 years ago from New York.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Tony Contrera.

Her survivors are her daughter, Karen Contrera, Bridgeport, Conn.; her grandchildren, Jason A. Curry, Robin L. Avant and Sheree L. Curry; her three great-grandchildren; her dearest friends, Mike and Mary Carter.

Expressions of sympathy can be made online to robertsofdunnellon.com.

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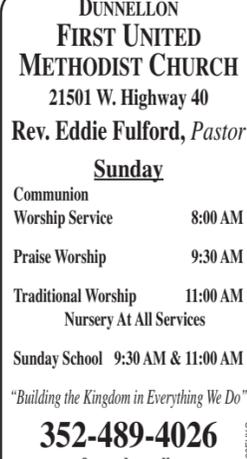
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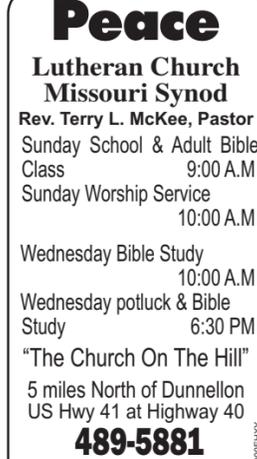
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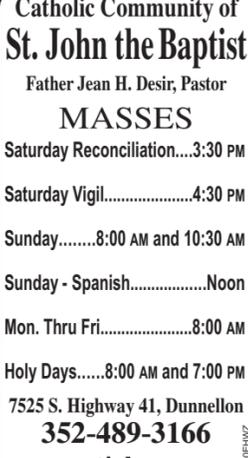
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 Bible Study.....4:30 PM

**For more information:**  
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 Pastor R.D. Hess  
 (352) 489-1788

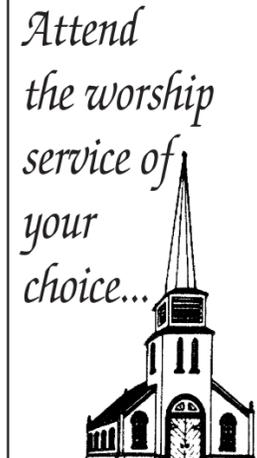
**Sunday**  
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 Worship 11:00 AM  
 Disciple Training 5:00 PM  
 (Nursery & Children's Church Provided)

**Wednesday**  
 AWANA 6:30 PM  
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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Items for homeless program

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

### American Legion activities slated

American Legion

Wall-Rives Post 58 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.

The public is invited to attend the Memorial Day Observance, which will be at 11 a.m. Monday, May 27, with a picnic to follow.

### 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.

### Writers Group meets Saturdays monthly

The Writers Group of Central Florida (Dun-

nellon), a new group open to all writers, will meet at 1 p.m. the first Saturday monthly at the Dunnellon Public Library. For information, email wgdunnellon@yahoo.com.

### 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. Deepwa-

ter Court, Rainbow Lakes. Take U.S. 41 to Rainbow Lakes Boulevard, 4.5 miles to the Community Center. For information, call 465-5807.

### 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.

## JERSEY

continued from page 4

biggest selling artist of all time, even surpassing Elton John and Elvis Presley. This is a man that has played with Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, Joe Walsh and Billy Joel. He made music with Tony Bennett and Michael Jackson. This man is a legend in his own time.

Actually, I begged her

to drive, which if anybody knows me knows it was a good idea.

To say I was excited the day of the concert is an understatement. I could barely sit still. I played Beatles songs all day and made everybody, even the dog, listen to them.

I was getting ready hours in advance. I put on my cutest tight skinny jeans, which I probably had no business wearing, and even learned

how to apply my new five-shade eye shadow kit. After all, if McCartney was going to see me for the first time, I had to make a good impression.

Everything went like clockwork, which is always good. We left the house in plenty of time, found parking with no problem, had a nice pre-show dinner and got into our seats an hour before the show.

I swear when he

walked onto the stage I felt pure bliss that cannot be explained with human words.

He was ageless and timeless. He played for three hours with no breaks. He did not disappoint a packed house of enthusiastic fans, who enjoyed another outstanding performance by the world's most successful musician. Impossible to believe he's 70 years old and all I can say is he's still got it.

My daughter says she has a new found respect for him. Deep down I'm sure she loves him as much as I do.

When Russell and I first got together, we agreed that we would be together forever, but we added a clause. If a certain famous person ever came to Dunnellon and wanted to marry us we would be free to go. We could each pick one person.

Twenty-one years ago,

I picked Paul McCartney. My choice has never changed.

Russell's choices have varied throughout the years from Selma Hayak to Julia Roberts to Angelina Jolie.

However, my heart belongs to Paul McCartney. If I was in love with him before, now that I saw him in person it is way beyond even that.

I'm still waiting for him to locate to this small town that I live in.

## GUEST

continued from page 4

www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

When you're ready to retire, the best place to apply is from the comfort of your home computer, with some of your favorite music blaring in the background. Begin the process with our Retirement Planner at www.socialsecurity.gov/retirement. Crank up the tunes, and start planning before you head out to your next concert.

**Question:** My spouse and I are both entitled to our own Social Security benefits. Will Social Security reduce our combined benefits because we are married?

**Answer:** No. When each member of a married couple works in employment covered under Social Security

and both meet all other eligibility requirements to receive retirement benefits, we calculate their lifetime earnings independently to determine their benefit amounts. Therefore, each spouse receives a monthly benefit amount based on his or her own earnings. If one spouse earned low wages or did not earn enough Social Security credits (40) to be insured for retirement benefits, he or she may be eligible to re-

ceive benefits as a spouse. To learn more about retirement, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/retirement.

**Question:** I have never worked but my spouse has. What will my benefits be?

**Answer:** You can be entitled to as much as one-half of your spouse's benefit amount when you reach full retirement age. If you want to get Social Security retirement benefits before you reach full re-

tirement age, the amount of your benefit is reduced. The amount of reduction depends on when you will reach full retirement age. For example, if your full retirement age is 66, you can get 35 percent of your spouse's unreduced benefit at age 62 (a permanent reduction); if your full retire-

ment age is 67, you can get 32.5 percent of your spouse's unreduced benefit at age 62 (a permanent reduction).

The amount of your benefit increases if your entitlement begins at a later age, up to the maximum of 50 percent at full retirement age. However, if you are taking care of a child who

is under age 16 or who gets Social Security disability benefits on your spouse's record, you get the full spouse's benefits, regardless of your age. Learn more about retirement benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/retirement.

Adon Williams is the Social Security Manager in Ocala.

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000EXN3

**SMALLRIDGE**

continued from page 6

school is as follows:

- Monday, June 3 — Normal Release at 3:40 p.m.; seventh-Block students will take their CEOCE today.
- Tuesday, June 4 — Early release, 1:40 p.m.; Blocks No. 2 and 4 will take their CEOCE.
- Wednesday, June 5 — Early release at 1:40 p.m.; Blocks No. 1 and 3 will take their CEOCE.
- Thursday, June 6 — Early release at 1:40 p.m.; final day of school; Blocks No. 5 and 6 will take their CEOCE.

Parents and students visit the Dunnellon Middle School website at [www.marion.k12.fl.us/schools/dms](http://www.marion.k12.fl.us/schools/dms) to review the current and future changes to the Common Core State Standards. The goal of

the next generation assessments is to prepare all students for college or other postsecondary opportunities and increase the high school graduation rates.

We also would like to remind everyone to save your Box Tops for Education for us. Thank you to everyone who has dropped off box tops throughout the year, we appreciate each and every one.

**Schedule of Events**

- Thursday**
- 7 p.m. — Awards Night at Dunnellon Middle School in the DMS Auditorium
- Friday**
- 4 to 7 p.m. — FFA Spirit Night at Sonic
- Saturday**
- 9 a.m. — Academic Spring Brain Bowl Competition at Vanguard High School; Band and chorus students Busch Gardens field trip

**VOLUNTEER**

continued from page 6

work and helped so much, because he wanted to, not because he was looking for praise.

"I like being able to know I can help people," said Chung, who also received the DHS Principal's Award and plans to attend Florida State University in the fall.

He only started keeping track of his hours during his junior year because of volunteer hour requirements for National Honor Society. Even still, he said, there are certain things he won't mark down, because it doesn't matter to him to be recognized for every little thing.

Chung is so modest that if it were not for Prinz, a proud friend, the school would not have known about the award. Her sister, Denise Fields, a fourth-grade teacher at Dunnellon Elementary School, who Chung has worked very closely with this year, made sure someone knew.

"Michael is not looking for praise, he's not looking for a pat

on the back," Prinz said.

Fields also had extremely high praise for Chung's commitment and dedication to helping her fourth graders, through a club known as "Tiger to Cub," a group founded by Prinz, where high school students are assigned an elementary buddy. The students work with the fourth-graders before school with homework, reading or just so that they have a shoulder to lean on. The club was designed as a one-on-one system, but Chung took it a step further.

He helps as many of the children as possible, especially in math, his specialty. He also helps many of the teachers with anything going on, but assists Fields the most, both with her kids as well as with any projects she herself is working on.

"I don't understand how Mrs. Fields is still sane," said Chung, who spent three hours a week helping her.

Chung also assisted Dunnellon Elementary School officials with its annual Fall Festival, FCAT preparation and "fraction cake," an activity to teach kids about measurements. During this past

summer, Prinz left Chung in charge of the Tiger to Cub summer volunteer program to tutor kids who were held back.

Chung, along with other Tiger to Cub volunteers, spent between up to five weeks helping the kids to be better suited for school.

"Michael is an outstanding role model for today's young people," said Fields, who nominated Chung for Volunteer of the Year honors. "The students he works with look up to him for not only being a smart guy who can help them with their work, but also a popular high schooler that they can relate to and talk to.

"He is dedicated in his commitment to work with kids weekly at DES. He takes it seriously and makes sure his time there means something. You will never find Michael just standing around waiting for a to-do list; he takes initiative and jumps up and helps whenever he thinks he is needed. It is evident that wherever Michael will go over the course of his adult life, success will follow; he will be a leader, make differences, and touch many lives."

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# Honoring great sacrifices



Photos by JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Bea Fischer and Joyce Bergeron add a flag for each of the Dunnellon area's war veterans who have passed away since last Memorial Day during the American Legion Post No. 58's Memorial Day remembrance ceremony.



**ABOVE:** "Uncle Sam" addresses the crowd during the Memorial Day ceremony at the American Legion on May 27.

**RIGHT:** The people attending the Memorial Day ceremony at American Legion Post 58 in Dunnellon were fed a picnic lunch following the formal observance.

**BELOW:** L.C. and Maureen Ramsey enjoy hot dogs and beans at the American Legion Memorial Day ceremony.



**ABOVE:** Mackenzie Ellington plays taps as the flag is raised to full staff on Memorial Day at American Legion Post No. 58. **BELOW:** Frank Strobl requests the colors Monday at the beginning of the Memorial Day ceremony at the American Legion post in Dunnellon.



# Sprucing up the Rainbow River



Photos by JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

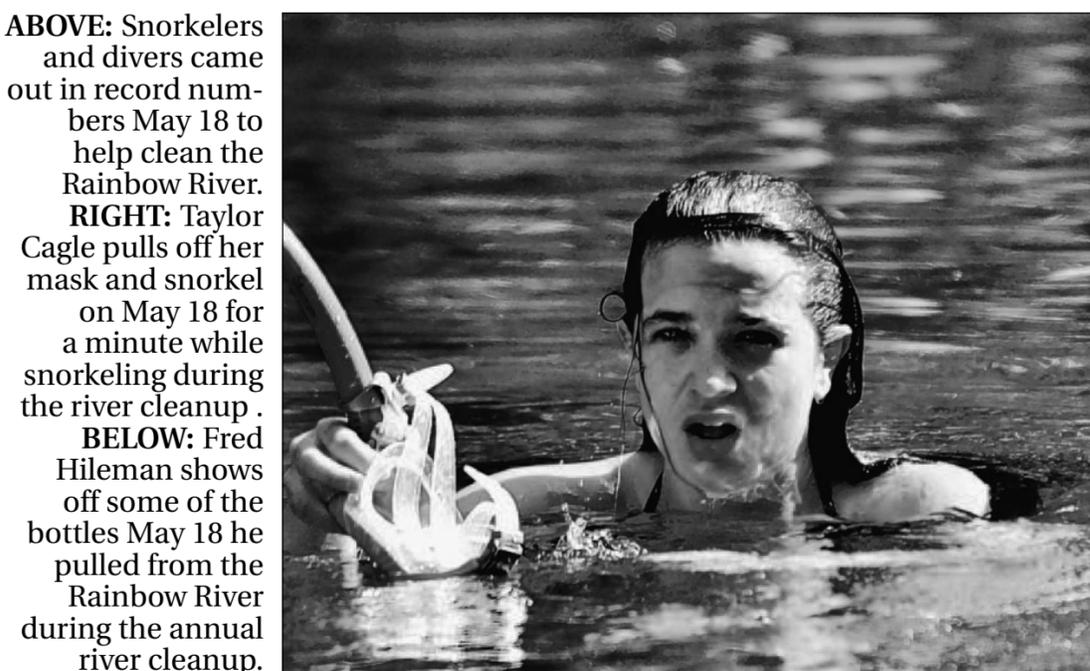
Sateke Village residents Fran and Thor Siegfried and their daughter Meagan, 11, found a piece of dock or a pallet in the River that was much too big for their canoe, so they got help from another group to remove it.



**ABOVE:** Snorkelers and divers came out in record numbers May 18 to help clean the Rainbow River.

**RIGHT:** Taylor Cagle pulls off her mask and snorkel on May 18 for a minute while snorkeling during the river cleanup.

**BELOW:** Fred Hileman shows off some of the bottles May 18 he pulled from the Rainbow River during the annual river cleanup.



**ABOVE:** Lamar Odom of Citrus Springs said he found a few cans and a golf ball during the cleanup. Beer cans were the most prevalent find. **BELOW:** Jim and Eleanor Moulton have been helping clean the river for five years. Jim said he wants his grandchildren and great grandchildren to be able to enjoy the river.



# SIMPLY SMARTER GRILLING

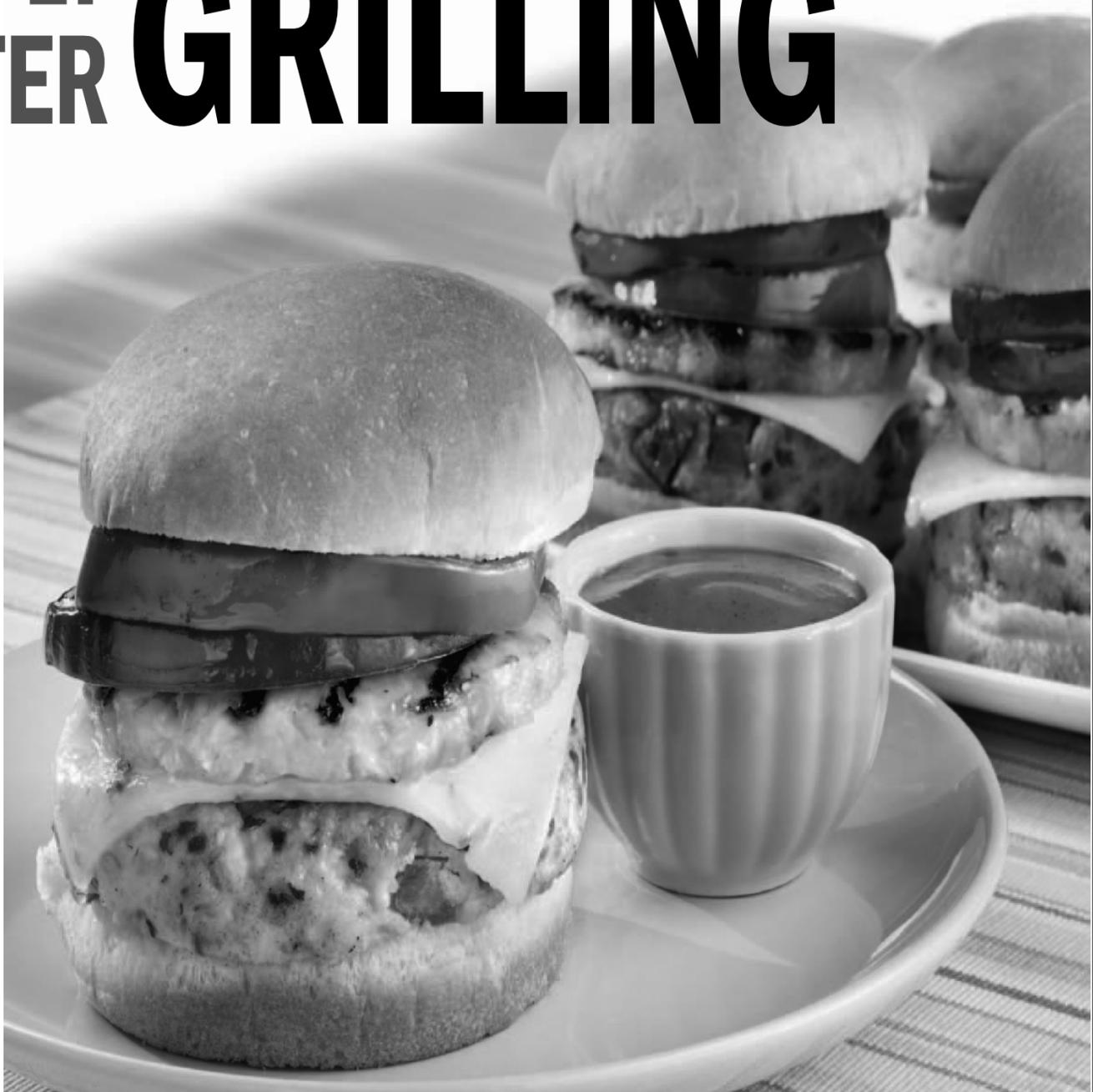
FAMILY FEATURES

**N**ice weather means it's time to fire up the grill. To enjoy dining al fresco any time, make your kitchen grill-ready with essentials for your pantry, fridge and freezer.

Stock up now on fresh meats and produce, as well as cool drinks and frozen treats to keep you outside and grilling all season long. The best part? Your backyard barbecue doesn't have to be expensive. For inspiration, try these grilling favorites from food stylist and loyal ALDI shopper Janice Stahl, who saves up to 50 percent by shopping at ALDI:

- Create a sophisticated summer dinner in no time by placing raw salmon, fresh lemon slices and a mix of chopped tomatoes, garlic, basil and red onion on a piece of aluminum foil; seal it to create a packet and throw it on the grill.
- Use a teriyaki marinade to add a kick to your chicken breasts and step up your grilling game with bacon-wrapped beef filets or marinated pork loin.
- Put a spin on the classic burger with Alaskan salmon or ground turkey patties.

With these simple tips and recipes, you'll be ready to show off your grilling expertise at any time. Visit [www.aldi.us](http://www.aldi.us) for more ideas.



## Italian Summer Kabobs

*\$1.50 per serving at ALDI. Recipe Courtesy of Chef Stacey, ALDI Test Kitchen*

Prep time: 25 minutes  
Cook time: 5 minutes  
Serves: 20

- 2 onions, cut into eighths
- 1/4 cup Italian dressing
- 14 ounces Italian with sundried tomato sausages, cut into 1" sections

- 8 ounces fresh mozzarella, diced into 20 pieces
- 20 large toothpicks or small skewers

Marinate in dressing for 20 minutes. Skewer 2 onion petals and a sausage onto toothpick. Grill until sausage reaches 165° (approximately 5 minutes). Add a chunk of mozzarella to each skewer; serve.

## Grilled Avocados with Vegetable Relish

*\$1.16 per serving at ALDI. Recipe courtesy of Chef Kates, ALDI Test Kitchen*

Prep time: 20 minutes  
Cook time: 10 minutes  
Serves: 8

- 1 lemon, juiced (about 2 tablespoons)
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon iodized salt, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper, divided
- 4 avocados
- 2 Roma tomatoes, halved and seeded
- 1/2 red bell pepper, halved and seeded
- 1/2 green bell pepper, halved and seeded
- 1/2 yellow onion, peeled and quartered
- Crushed red pepper, to taste
- 1/3 cup feta cheese crumbles

Preheat grill or grill pan on medium-high.

In small bowl, combine lemon juice, 2 tablespoons olive oil, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Slice avocados in half, and remove pits, leaving skin intact. Brush lemon juice mixture onto flesh and skin side of each avocado, to prevent sticking on grill. In small bowl, toss tomatoes, bell peppers and onions with 1/4 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon pepper and remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil. Grill avocados flesh side down, 1 to 2 minutes until dark grill marks form. Flip and continue cooking for 1 to 2 minutes more. Grill remaining vegetables for 3 to 4 minutes on each side, or until charred and tender. Place avocado halves on serving plate. Transfer remaining vegetables to food processor. Add crushed red pepper. Pulse gently to form chunky relish. Top each avocado half with vegetable relish, sprinkle with feta cheese. Drizzle with remaining lemon juice mixture.

## Hawaiian Turkey Burger

*\$1.86 per serving at ALDI. Recipe courtesy of Chef Alyssa, ALDI Test Kitchen*

Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cook time: 15 minutes  
Makes 4 burgers

- 1 egg
- 1 pound ground turkey or ground chicken
- 1/4 cup old fashioned oats
- 1 tablespoon crushed red pepper
- 2 tablespoons parsley flakes
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup red pepper, minced
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup BBQ sauce
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 pineapple, peeled, cored and cut into 1/2-inch rings
- 1 red onion, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch rings
- 1 green pepper, cored and cut into 1/2-inch rings
- 4 hamburger buns
- 4 slices pepper Jack sliced cheese

Beat egg in a bowl. Add ground turkey or chicken, oats, crushed red pepper, parsley, salt, pepper, minced garlic and minced red pepper.

Mix together until incorporated. Divide into 4 even patties, flatten and let sit in the fridge for 5 minutes.

Mix together mayonnaise and BBQ sauce. Set aside.

Heat grill to medium/high temperature. Place patties on the grill and cook for 5 to 7 minutes each side until desired doneness.

Brush oil on slices of pineapple, onion and green pepper, then grill 2 to 3 minutes on each side.

Lightly grill the bun and set aside. Spread both sides of the bun with the mayonnaise BBQ sauce.

When burger is almost finished cooking, place 1 slice of cheese on each patty and continue to grill until melted.

To assemble the burger, layer the bottom of the bun with the patty with cheese, pineapple, onion, green pepper and top half of bun.

## Grilling on a Stick

Switch up the usual cookout by hosting a summer kabob party. Food stylist Janice Stahl shops at ALDI to put together an affordable spread that includes sparring cherry tomatoes, fresh mozzarella and red onion drizzled with balsamic vinegar as an appetizer and chicken or sausage, bell pepper, zucchini and mushrooms for a main course. Even dessert comes on a stick with blueberries, marshmallows, fresh strawberries and a chocolate sauce for dipping.





# Friends of the Library bookstore open

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library Bookstore, which is inside the library, is at 20351 Robinson Road, behind Sweetbay. There are novels, bios, cooking, gardening, inspirational, craft, self-help, finance,

romance, children, VHS videos (Some DVDs), Books-On-Tape, history, politics, westerns, magazines and more. Daily sales are ongoing with books for as little as 10 cents. Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

and from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. The Friends continue to accept gently read book donations daily at the store. An all-volunteer staff operates The Friends Bookstore, with all proceeds benefiting

the Dunnellon Public Library. The Friends are committed to giving a monthly book endowment (new books), in addition to providing office equipment, landscaping, and various other library enhancements.

## CANCER

continued from page 1

she said, she'd been expecting for a month before the "official" results were given to her by her doctor.

Garrison said a year before finally breaking down and going to the doctor, she was constantly fatigued and had had numerous bouts with strep throat, but it was a growth on her neck that was cause for concern.

"I was exhausted all of the time and I gained a lot of weight," Garrison explained. "I thought, perhaps, it was mental exhaustion from studying. I didn't relate it to cancer. About a year before cancer was discovered. I tried avoiding the doctor. I kept getting strep throat or had really bad throat problems where I couldn't breathe or I couldn't swallow. I thought the bump was a tonsil that was swollen."

Garrison said she was given antibiotics and that her doctor didn't look into the bump further. However, three months later, she was back in the doctor's office when she shared her concern about having a thyroid problem. She said the doctor looked at the bulge and inquired what it was and how long it had been there. Garrison said she told them she didn't know and it had been there for a while. They tested her blood, which came back normal, but frustrated with the fatigue and constant throat problems, she went back to the doctors again in September.

"Finally, the doctor decided to a sonogram," she said, noting the doctor called and asked her to come in immediately because of the results of the sonogram.

What made it worse, Garrison explained, she had a trial the next morning she was working on for the state attorney's office. "I had to pass it off," she said. "Because of the urgency of the doctor's voice, I had a feeling it was cancer."

Though they couldn't be precise with the results, Garrison underwent a biopsy a month later which confirmed the worst. "That was an experience in



Rose McClain Garrison poses after graduation ceremonies in May from Barry University's School of Law.

itself," Garrison said of the biopsy. "It looked like someone had strangled me. I had this huge purple and blue neck that was swollen and here I am picking juries and holding trial. It was interesting to see how people looked at me."

Garrison's doctor immediately put her in touch with a specialist at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, where doctors there told Garrison she needed to schedule surgery immediately. Doing so, Garrison explained, was a tricky situation. School rules would not allow her to miss more than six days of school, even for medical reasons. Her finals were five weeks away.

"The surgery was going to be pretty extensive," she said. "But I was so close to finishing the semester."

So she delayed the surgery, opting to wait until her finals were concluded and she would miss, at the most, two days of school. Plus, Garrison said, she would have the opportunity to heal as much as possible during winter break and return for her final semester.

On Nov. 19, she went in for

surgery. Overall, the procedure lasted 10 1/2 hours in which doctors took out 19 nodes. "It was a lot compared to the number of nodes you have in that area, but the cancer was pretty spread out," Garrison said, explaining doctors had to make an incision from ear-to-ear under her neck. "It's a pretty big cut. They wanted to make sure they got everything out."

"It's a pretty big scar. When I woke up, I had some numbness. The doctor had told my family she had to sever a nerve connected to my vocal cord and I might not be able to talk for a couple of days. Thankfully, I was talking right when I woke up. The doctor was very surprised."

Thankfully, Garrison said, she did not have to undergo chemotherapy treatments and the radiation treatments weren't the "worst kind." She took radioactive pills for two months afterward and had to be on a very special diet, she explained. Her diet meant no meat, salt, dairy, lettuce, celery and carrots.

Her most recent doctor's appointment went very well.

"I had no new cancerous nodules and my blood levels are starting to get where they need to be," Garrison said. "I feel good, but the doctors said it'll take a year for me to heal from my neck. It gets very tense and I have to stretch it every day. I've started to lose a little bit of weight and my energy and strength are starting to return. After the surgery, I lost all of my muscle, it just disappeared. I've had to keep rebuilding it."

Garrison wasn't alone throughout her battle. She had her husband of more than three years, Justin, at her side as well as her parents and siblings.

"It was difficult even when we knew, and he went into shock a little bit," she said. "You see your future and your wife. He was strong about it, but at first, he didn't want to talk about it, he just wanted to ignore it. I would not recommend husbands do this. I sat down with him and told him exactly what I needed from him and he was extremely great."

## 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 seeks more volunteers to participate in this program, which the sheriff's office sponsors.

The purpose of the program is to protect the Rainbow River and allow it to be used in a safe and prudent manner. Volunteers go out on patrol in a sheriff's boat and assist tubers, bathers and other boaters with any problems they may have. All volunteers receive the necessary training. For information, call the Dunnellon District Sheriff's Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, at 402-6050.

### 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.

### 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. On the third Wednesday monthly, the club will continue meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the Rainbow Springs Golf & Country Club. For information, contact Ellie Pollock at 465-6803 for a reservation by the previous Tuesday weekly.

### Voter registration drive slated

The Citizens Alliance Network of Dunnellon Outreach will conduct a voter registration drive from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 1, for residents who have not yet registered. The group will meet across the street from Grumble's House in the Historic District. Email Jon Brainard at jonbrainard@gmail.com.

### New civic group seeking new members

The Citizens Alliance Network for Dunnellon Outreach, a forward-looking alliance formed in November 2012 in hopes of engaging 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.

### 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 back packs full of food on the weekends for needy children in the area. For information, call 465-3666.

### Group to distribute toiletries, clothing

Christians In Action (CIA), a new charitable organization formed to help local food pantries, will provide toiletries and clothing to needy families who qualify under federal rules. Free toiletries and clothing will be distributed from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday monthly at New Second Bethel Missionary Baptist Church at 1940 W. Henry Blair Lane. The church is behind Dunnellon Mulch and Stone. For information, call Geri Davis 352-489-6332 or Susan Lebrun 352-465-8660.

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# Riverland News

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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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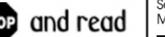
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NOTICE OF SALE  
The following property will  
be sold at public auction  
per FL Stat 677.209-10 for  
storage and other charges  
for which a lien on same is  
claimed. Auction is June  
17, 2013 at 10:00 AM at  
Marino's Cars & Trucks  
Inc, 623 N Magnolia Ave,  
Ocala FL 34475, phone  
352-732-6011. No titles,  
as is, cash only.  
2000 MAZDA MIATA VIN#  
JM1NB3536Y0145432  
Owner: State Farm Mut-  
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Lessee: Brandon Hiffel,  
Lienholder: NONE  
Interested parties, contact:  
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772-595-9555  
May 30 and June 6, 2013.

**Lien Notices**

451-0530 RIV  
06/18 sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOTICE OF SALE  
The following vehicle will  
be sold at public sale to  
satisfy a lien, per FL Stat  
713.585, at 10:00 AM on  
June 18, 2013 at A-One  
Transmission Shop Inc  
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Inc, 1911 SW 3rd Ave,  
Ocala FL 34474, phone  
352-629-9777. No titles,  
as is, cash only. 1997  
Chrysler Sebring Cv, VIN  
3C3EL45H8V1597867.  
Cash sum to redeem  
vehicle \$3023.82. Notice  
to owner or lienholder  
as to right to a hearing  
prior to sale date by  
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cordance with FL Stat  
559.917. Proceeds of  
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May 30, 2013

**Meeting  
Notices**

450-0530 RIV  
06/05/13 Meeting  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Early Learning Coal-  
ition of the Nature Coast, a  
United Way supported or-  
ganization, will be facilitat-  
ing the bi-monthly Board  
of Directors meeting on  
Wednesday, June 5, 2013  
at 9:00 a.m. The meeting  
will be held at the Early  
Learning Coalition of the  
Nature Coast's main office  
at 1560 N. Meadocrest  
Blvd, Crystal River, FL,  
34429. Please contact  
Coalition Staff at  
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May 30, 2013

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UNTIL JAN 2014

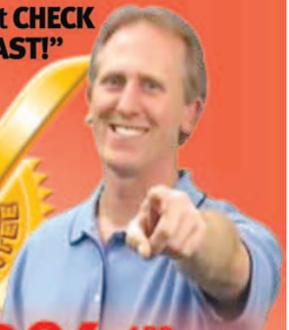
ADDITIONAL BONUS!  
MILITARY DISCOUNT

FOR ACTIVE OR INACTIVE MILITARY WITH MILITARY ID

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**0.9%** APR X 60 MONTHS  
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All Pre-Owned Vehicles include:  
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DRIVE FOR ONLY...  
**\$149** Per Mo.  
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**\$169** Per Mo.



...for a New 2013 Honda **ACCORD LX SEDAN**  
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**\$229** Per Mo.



...for a New 2013 **Honda FIT**  
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**NOT A LEASE!**

DRIVE FOR ONLY...  
**\$9,976** One-Pay Lease



...for a New 2013 Honda **CR-V LX 2WD**  
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**\$27,093**



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**\$25,941**



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1. 36 month closed end lease with approved credit, 12,000 miles per year 15 cents per mile thereafter. \$2995 cash or trade equity plus taxes, tag & fees. First payment, tag and lease and state fees due at signing. Any dealer installed equipment at additional cost. \* Not a lease. 2. 36 month closed end one-pay lease of \$9,976 with approved credit, 12,000 miles per year 15 cents per mile thereafter. \$2500 cash or trade equity. Payment is plus tax, tag and lease and state fees due at signing. Options at additional cost. † Covers internal lubricant parts. See dealer for details. All preowned vehicles include \$2000 cash down or trade equity. Offers valid thru date of publication.

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## All-New 2014 Chevy Impala 1LS

36 month lease

**\$299\*** Mo.



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<p><b>New 2013 Chevy Camaro LS</b> DRIVE TODAY FOR... <b>\$305 Mo.</b> WITH... <b>\$0 DOWN!</b> <small>Plus \$750 Accessories Allowance!</small></p>	
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\* \$2300 down. 1) \$2100 down. 2) \$1750 down. 3) \$1999 down. All leases 12k miles/year. All new car prices include \$2500 cash or trade equity, must qualify for all incentives to obtain price, USAA, rebates, Targeted In Market Program, trade assist. All offers on approved credit. All options at dealer retail, limited to in stock vehicles only. All prices and/or payments plus tax, title, tag, & state fees. Dealer installed options and accessories additional cost. Vehicles subject to prior sale. Applies to in stock units. Offer expires on date of publication.