

Riverland News

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Vol 32 No. 6

75 cents

County trims sales tax plan



Kathy Bryant



Carl Zalack

If authorized, stadium levy will be 3 years; final decision due Dec. 17

JIM CLARK

For the Riverland News

The vote to fund a new minor league baseball stadium in Ocala moved a step closer Tuesday, and in the process the financial burden

on county taxpayers got a little lighter.

Marion County commissioners tentatively agreed to put a half-percent sales tax referendum on the ballot for March 18. In the process, commissioners pared back

the request to a three-year tax.

The original request from Ocala city officials had been for a five-year duration.

At the regular meeting on Dec. 17, commissioners will be given a choice of two pro-

posed ordinances, one calling for a traditional election and the other with an all-mail ballot.

Commissioners complained about the title proposed by

See TAX page 11

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Christmas dinner open to the public

Families in Need will host Christmas dinner from noon to 4 p.m. at American Legion Hall Post No. 58 on U.S. 41. The dinner is free and open to the public; however, because this is a community event, takeout meals are not available.

This year, Families In Need will have live music provided by a professional family. For information, call Jan DeWitt at 208-3514.

Temporary lane closures slated

Drivers in the Dunnellon area need to stay alert for temporary lane closures as the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Pospiech Contracting Inc. continue work on a drainage improvement and flooding prevention project.

Motorists should anticipate single lane closures on State Road 40 at the intersection with U.S. 41 through Dec. 19.

This temporary traffic control plan will be in effect during the hours of 7:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. Workers will be on hand to assist with directing traffic through the construction area.

The total project cost is \$451,400. The work is estimated to be completed in January.

Restaurant partners with Food-4-Kids

Dunnellon Food-4-Kids will be the beneficiary of a community fundraiser hosted by Bob Evans Restaurant from 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. today. Bob Evans will donate 15 percent of ticket sales to Food-4-Kids backpack program. A flier must be presented when paying for the meal.

Fliers can be picked up at Norm's Clean Cuts or the lobby of the Dunnellon Public Library. Bob Evans Restaurant is at 11300 SW 95th Circle in Ocala on State Road 200.

Christmas magic



JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Santa Claus rides atop a firetruck from Dunnellon Fire Rescue as the Jolly Ol' Elf was the final participant in the 90-minute-long Dunnellon Christmas Parade. All told, the event had 782 participants and more than 50 entries, which covered 1.4 miles from Dunnellon Christian Academy to Blue Run Park.

Annual Christmas parade draws 2,000 spectators

JEFF BRYAN

Riverland News

Approximately 2,000 people lined the streets of the Historic District and East Pennsylvania Avenue for the annual Dunnellon Christmas Parade, and for an event with slightly more than a month to plan spectators weren't disappointed.

This year's parade drew a record 782 participants among the 50-plus entries. The parade itself lasted approximately 90 minutes covering the 1.4-mile route along Chestnut Street and East Pennsylvania Avenue.

Not only did this year's theme pay homage to Dunnellon's quaint small-town charm, hence the theme, "A Small Town Christmas," but event organizers realized the

See MAGIC page 9



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Clinton Burns, left, and Bob Schmidt, both of whom are World War II veterans and were selected as the grand marshals for this year's event, wave to spectators as they ride in a World War II-era jeep during the event.

Council paves way for sale of GDC

JEFF BRYAN

Riverland News

The Dunnellon City Council on Monday helped pave the way for the sale of Greenlight Dunnellon Communications to Florida Cable by nixing a portion of the resolution that forbid the city from selling the telecommunications company.

When the city secured the \$7.3 million in financing from Regions Bank in November 2010 and adopted a resolution to start the fiber-to-the-home program, the bond covenants prevented the city from selling the system.

But with negotiations with Florida Cable almost finalized and the deal to be approved by the Dec. 19 deadline, the City Council had to remove the wording which prohibited city officials from selling Greenlight. The city defaulted on the \$1.6 million bond payment due to Regions Bank by Nov. 12 and is being sued by bank officials.

Eddie Esch, interim city manager, told the Council the final documents necessary for approval of the sale should be finalized soon. He said he anticipates a special meeting will need to be called Monday to approve the deal.

Resident Mary Ann Hilton questioned the Council as to the potential implications for selling the system when the covenants of the bond were written stating selling Greenlight could not be done.

Virginia Cassidy, the

See COUNCIL page 10



Santa Over the Rainbow set to light up park

Volunteers band together to stage event

JEFF BRYAN

Riverland News

Do you believe in the magic of Christmas?

If not, you should, because Linda Booth is a believer.

For good reason too, because in September the longtime coordinator of Santa Over the Rainbow thought she would have to cancel the annual Christmas-time event at Rainbow Springs State Park.

It certainly wasn't due to lack of attendance or interest, as

the long-running attraction is widely popular for both children and adults. No, it had more to do with a lack of volunteers to assist with the many facets of planning, preparation and execution.

"We have several volunteers who've been here for the past 17 to 19 years," she said, explaining she's been involved with Santa Over the Rainbow for the past dozen years, including the past eight as the event coordinator. "These gentlemen,

they work so hard, but they're getting older, we're all getting older. It's very tedious work."

The word was put out volunteers were sorely needed, and in a hurry if there was to be an event. Once news spread Santa Over the Rainbow might be nixed, folks stepped to the plate.

"It feels good, and I'm glad we're getting the support," Booth said. "We were able to ask around. We put articles

See SANTA page 10



Riverland News file photo

A volunteer with Rainbow Springs State Park looks over the headsprings as he awaits the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus via a pontoon boat. This year's Santa Over the Rainbow starts Friday.

OBITUARY

Charles Ronald 'Ronnie' Waters, 54

Charles Ronald (Ronnie) Waters, 54, a resident of Dunnellon, went to be with the Lord Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013, at Ocala Regional Hospital. Born in Gainesville, son of the late Charles Roy Waters and Evelyn Marie Witt Waters Tyson, he was also preceded in death by his step-dad, Gary Wright Tyson.



Charles Ronald 'Ronnie' Waters

life (and at times, mischief!)

He is survived by his daughters, Cari Jo Waters of Inglis and Colby Lynn Waters of Inverness; soon-to-be born granddaughter, Bristol Ann Smith; sister, Sandra Waters Lewis of Conover, N.C.; and brothers, Lamar Lesley Waters of Starke and Timothy Darrel Tyson of Dunnellon; his

loving nieces and nephews; his girlfriend, Dawn Patton; and his loving fur-baby, Sissy.

How do we say goodbye to someone that was so full of life? Someone that was loved by so many... With a celebration of life service at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at Cross Brand Cowboy Church, 4631 SW 162nd Court, Williston, FL 32696, officiated by Pastors Billy Keith and Russ Randall. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Cadence Bank, 11392 N. Williams Street, Dunnellon, FL 34432, RE: Ronnie Waters Funeral Fund.

First Birthday



Natalie Brooke Roberts will celebrate her first birthday Dec. Her parents are Olivia Randall and Wayne "Rooster" Roberts. Her paternal grandparents are Wayne and Michele Roberts of Dunnellon. Her paternal great-grandparents are Bob and Pat Chester, also of Dunnellon. Her maternal grandparents are Scott Randall of North Palm Beach and Gale Randall of Fernandina Beach. Her maternal great-grandparents are Don Randall of North Palm Beach and Ann Randall of New Smyrna Beach.

OUT TO PASTOR Christmas cheer drama solved in matter of minutes

I enjoy being cheerful and Christmas time is a special time to be cheerful and I try my best to live up to it. Occasionally, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will suggest I am going a little too far.



Rev. James Snyder

During the rest of the year I stay out of shopping malls as much as possible. During the Christmas season, I want to go to the shopping mall and walk around without any purchases to make. I like watching people spend their money on things they do not need and for people they may not like.

I like to give cheer more than anything else. Actually, it is the only thing I can afford. And so I will send my cheerfulness into cheer bankruptcy. Whatever that may be.

The Christmas season has never been a time for me to spend excessive amounts of money. I leave all that to my wife. She knows how to shop and she begins her Christmas shopping right around February. I could never figure that out. When I buy a gift for someone, I want to hand it to them right then. She has the discipline to buy Christmas gifts months ahead of time.

Something happened this past week that brought all of my cheerfulness to an abrupt halt.

I had just come from the mall where I was making fun of people scurrying around trying to find the latest bargain. It is a little strange to me that when people get a gift for somebody they look for a bargain.

When I got home, I sat down in my recliner reminiscing about the day and then I did something I do not normally do. I took out my wallet to clean it. This is something I do at least once a year.

Sometimes I get cards in my wallet that have expired or are no longer valid. No sense in having things in your wallet that you do not need or cannot use. Several cards had expired and so into the trashcan they went.

You can tell a lot about a person by the things in his wallet. My wife, on the other hand, carries a purse. I will not be caught dead looking in that purse. In fact, I would be dead if caught looking. I am not sure what she has in her purse and I do not want to know what she has in there. I love living.

A man's wallet is a

See PASTOR page 3

CHURCH EVENTS

Photos, stories wanted of Holy Faith

Parishioners of Holy Faith Episcopal Church in Blue Cove will celebrate its 50th anniversary Sept. 20 and 21.

As part of the celebration, the 50th Anniversary Committee is working to compile a history of the church in the community. All past and present members of the church, friends, neighbors and families can help by searching their memories and scrapbooks for stories and photos related to Holy Faith.

Photos would be promptly copied and returned. The goal by September 2014 is to share the past and continuing relationship of Holy Faith with the Dunnellon community.

Committee members will be happy to do at-home interviews. Interviews can be arranged by calling 489-2685.

Church group to host craft fair Saturday

The Altar & Rosary Society of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will host a Christmas Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, in Father Stegeman Hall. The church is on the corner of U.S. 41 and State Road 40.

For information, call Pat at 489-1984.

Church concert series finale set for Sunday

The Dunnellon Presbyterian Concert Fall Series will conclude at 3 p.m. Sunday with a performance by the Central Florida Master Choir, which will present its annual Christmas program. The event is free. The church is at 20641 Chestnut St.

Advent, Christmas services at Peace

Advent service will be at 7 p.m. Dec. 18 at Peace Lutheran Church. A soup and sandwich meal will be served at 6 p.m., prior to the Advent services, by the ladies of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

Christmas services will be at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve and 10 a.m. Christmas Day.

Toys-4-Tots are being collected at the church. Toys should not be wrapped. Also, food is being collected for Food-4-Kids.

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

Church slates special Sunday services

First Congregational United Church of Christ will host a series of spe-

cial programs throughout December, beginning Dec. 15 when the hand bell choir will perform "Do You Hear What I Hear?" as the prelude to the worship service, and selected movements from Handel's Messiah will be sung by the choir, along with featured soloists.

On Dec. 22, the Stix Ministry, a unique performance group, will begin the worship service with a prelude in movement. The Stix Ministry is a multi-age group that uses pantomime and sticks (dowel rods) to portray biblical themes in a new, moving and inspiring way.

The Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 6:30 p.m., and will include a variety of Christmas carols sung by the choir and congregation, with featured performances on guitar and hand bells.

Sunday worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. First Congregational United Church of Christ is located at 7171 SW State Road 200.

Birth Announcement



Aidan James and Nicole Meredith Harrison of DeFuniak Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Aidan Cole, on Nov. 13 at Sacred Heart Hospital in Miramar Beach, Florida. Aidan weighed 9 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21 inches long. He is the grandson of Craig and Theresa Hopkins of Cuba, Mo.; Lorretta Harrison of Ocala and Jerry Jones of Millville, N.J. His great-grandparents are George and Barbara Gaunt of Dunnellon.

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

GATHERINGS

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Catholic Community of St. John the Baptist
Father Jean H. Desir, Pastor
MASSES
Saturday Reconciliation...3:30 PM
Saturday Vigil.....4:30 PM
Sunday.....8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
Sunday - Spanish.....Noon
Mon. Thru Fri.....8:00 AM
Holy Days.....8:00 AM and 7:00 PM
7525 S. Highway 41, Dunnellon
352-489-3166
www.stjohncc.com

Episcopal Church of the Advent
11251 S.W. Highway 484 (1.3 Miles West of State Road 200)
352-465-7272

Sunday
8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Tuesday
9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer, Mass, and Healing

Weekday Groups:
Tues. 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 508
2nd Sat 8am Fellowship Breakfast at IHOP

adventepiscopal.net

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.

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Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 AM
Sermon.....11:00 AM
Tuesday Bible Study.....4:30 PM

For more information:
352-489-3455
www.dunnellonsdachurch.com

Holy Faith Episcopal Church
19924 W. Blue Cove Dr. Dunnellon

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Sunday Services
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Rev. Terry L. McKee, Pastor
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Sunday Worship Service 10:00 A.M.

Wednesday Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday potluck & Bible Study 6:30 PM
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US Hwy 41 at Highway 40
489-5881
www.PeaceLutheranOnline.com

Garden club donates to children's party



Photo by Don Molter

Rainbow Springs Garden Club president Alice Kennedy recently presented a check from the group to Dunnellon Rescue Fire Chief Joe Campfield to help with The Needy Children's Christmas Party. Dunnellon Fire Rescue is still seeking donations for the yearly event. Those wishing to help in this cause may send their donations to 12014 S. Williams St., Dunnellon, FL 34432. The event will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, at the Dunnellon Bingo Hall.

CHURCH EVENTS

Church to host Saturday Supper

The Third Saturday Supper will be from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Community Congregational Christian Church at 9220 N. Citrus Springs Blvd., Citrus Springs in the Dewain Farris Fellowship Hall.

Adult tickets are \$10 and children are \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Takeout is available. For information, call 489-1260.

Holy Faith schedules Christmas Eve service

Holy Faith Episcopal Church in Blue Cove will host a Christmas Eve service beginning at 7 p.m. with carols and continue at 7:30 with the service of Holy Communion. For information, call the church Office at 489-2685.

Methodist church plans Gospel concert

First United Methodist Church of Dunnellon will host the return of gospel great Ivan Parker of the famed gospel group The

Gaithers on Saturday, Jan. 4, in the church sanctuary.

Tickets are \$25 per person for reserved seating in the "artist row," which offers assigned seating within the first five rows of the sanctuary and a meet-and-greet with Parker prior to the show. Light refreshments will be offered at the meet-and-greet reception beginning at 5:30.

Photographs are encouraged during the meet-and-greet.

General admission tickets are \$15 per person. Tickets are available:

- In the church narthex at the conclusion of the 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. church services;

- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at The Sign Shop at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Williams Street. For information, call 489-2114.

- On the Internet at www.villagecrier.com.

First United Methodist Church is at 21501 West State Road 40.

New women's Bible study slated

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. For information, check us out on 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. The public is welcome.

For information, call 489-5954.

PASTOR

continued from page 2

little different. He has things in there that are rather practical. There will be a driver's license, a Social Security card, insurance card, not to mention credit cards. Everything he needs to get through a week with plenty of cheerfulness on the side.

Going through my wallet this time I found something that shocked me to the core of my being. There in my wallet, folded up rather neatly and tucked in a corner, was a \$50 bill. I cannot tell you the last time I saw a \$50 bill. How it got there, I will never know.

My father always had a folded \$50 bill in his wallet for emergencies. I am not my father.

Ordinarily, you would think finding \$50 in your wallet would be a moment of rejoicing. Not so here.

It is toward the end of the year, all gifts are purchased for Christmas and all bills are paid. I like to pay ahead of time just to make sure the bills are being paid. And so there was nothing that needed to be paid at that time.

Life has taught me several lessons and one in particular. If you find extra money it means some disaster is about to befall. Usually the catastrophe that happens costs more than the money you find. I found \$50 and so it is reasonable to believe that the catastrophe facing me will cost \$100.

I did not know if I should mention this to my wife. It is not that we are

superstitious, we have just lived life long enough to know what comes around goes around and what goes up usually comes down.

What is going to happen now? What is going to go wrong? What in the house is going to fall apart?

Then my dilemma was solved.

My wife came into the room and said, "I was wondering," and she was stammering a little bit as she said it. "I was wondering if perhaps we could take the grandchildren out for Christmas lunch tomorrow. I know it costs a lot, but I think they would enjoy it."

I smiled and she looked at me a little quizzically and asked, "What are you smiling about?"

It was then I pulled out of my wallet the neatly folded \$50 bill and waved

it in her direction and said, "I think Christmas lunch with the grandchildren tomorrow would be a fantastic idea."

Some people worry about what they do not have. I worry about what I have to make sure I am using it in the best possible manner.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High" (Psalms 92:1).

I am thankful for what I have but I am also thankful for what I do not have. Nothing takes the place of a contented heart and my contentment rests in the Lord Jesus Christ. I need nothing more.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship in Ocala. Call him at 866-552-2543 or email jamesnyder2@att.net. His website is www.jamesnyderministries.com.

Riverland News

A member of the Florida Press Association

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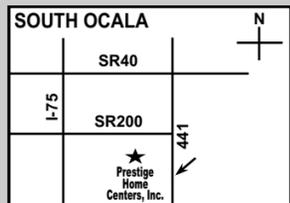


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RIVER VIEWS

RIVERLAND NEWS

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 Editor ~ Jeff Bryan
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OUR VIEW

Christmas spirit shines brightly

"Maybe Christmas doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."
 — The Grinch

Wow! Amazing! Wonderful! How else could one describe the Dunnellon Christmas Parade and post celebration, which attracted approximately 2,000 people to the business districts in the heart of the downtown area as well as a stretch of U.S. 41?

Maybe, perhaps, it is what Dunnellon's residents and business owners needed in what one could argue is a remarkably tough time in the city, considering the current circumstances, most notably the filling of a state of financial emergency with Gov. Rick Scott's office and the pending lawsuits against the city.

There were plenty of smiles, laughs and thank you's during the evening's festivities. There are still plenty of thank you's since the event concluded, and deservedly so.

When word spread the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce would not be able to plan a parade this year due to lack of volunteer manpower, several concerned business owners and community leaders rose to the occasion.

Even the city of Dunnellon pitched in where and when needed, waiving permits and working with the business community to show the city has a heart.

Too bad city officials have shown an unwillingness to work more closely with the business community to move our fair city forward. Suggestions for the City Council to begin revamping the current comprehensive master plan; repairing the funding for the Community Redevelopment Area; rezoning critical areas to attract potential hoteliers and other much-needed businesses have fallen

on deaf ears. Maybe, perhaps, the Christmas spirit will spread into their cognizant thought processes. Hopefully, our city officials were taking notes during the process; they could learn a lesson or two about planning and execution.

Still, Saturday's festivities couldn't have happened without our business community from small-business owners contributing their time to others contributing financial donations. And the behind-the-scenes folks aren't concerned about who gets credit for how it happened; they just want the citizens to know it happened with the support of the business community.

The Christmas Parade isn't the lone event that was almost a no-go. The ever-popular Santa Over the Rainbow, short on volunteers in August, put out a call for help and plenty of folks answered that bell too. For the next two weekends, Santa and Mrs. Claus will descend upon Rainbow Springs State Park to greet and meet children as families will take in the awe-inspiring light displays.

That's just a fraction of how the community rallies when the call is put out. That says a lot about our fractured community, because everyone played a significant role, no matter how small or large.

It would also be wonderful if more community and business leaders would start pushing the City Council to move forward with reasonable plans for an ecotourism-based industry. We have a lot of civic-minded people who want to see the city survive, thrive and prosper.

Maybe, perhaps, the City Council will take note that when there's a plan and excitement behind it, folks will come out to support it and the people putting it together. Do you hear what we hear?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

City, attorney, editor off base in claims

Is anyone else scratching their heads regarding city of Dunnellon Mayor Nathan Whitt, interim City Manager Esch and newly hired esquire Michael Markham's comments blaming Regions Bank as antagonistic during the city's recent descent into self-inflicted bankruptcy?

Mayor Whitt said "Regions is not playing nice" and "there is liability on their side," referencing Regions Bank. Mr. Esch said "no one can make heads or tails" and further Regions Bank "has their own agenda." Mr. Markham espouses the long and well-known advice that there is going to be pain now and in the future. He additionally said, "I cannot fathom how a bank can make the loan" and solely blames Regions Bank, but not the irresponsible former/current City Council members or the city of Dunnellon electorate who voted for these City Councils.

Jeff Bryan, current editor of the Riverland News, also wants to place blame on Regions Bank and Rainbow Springs residents for the city's current financial debacle as inferred from his recent diatribes he terms "editorials," a misuse of the definition of the word in my mind.

Certainly, banks are in the business to make a profit for their shareholders. Does this really come as a surprise to anyone except the aforementioned individuals?

Do we really need to pay an attorney \$200 per hour to tell us that we are headed toward bankruptcy and further pain, while he and his firm bill us for hundreds of hours of "discovery?" Mr. Markham is telling us what we already know and what many have stated for several years.

Regions Bank has already granted several extensions/renegotiations on financial notes due from the city for

See **LETTERS** page 8

THE JERSEY GIRL

Anticipation bubble busted

The sight of the bulldozers had us giddy with anticipation. We could hardly contain our curiosity. For weeks, my daughters and I rode by and smiled. We speculated on what we thought it would be. In fact, it was the talk of the town. Why were they clearing the land on the corner of State Road 40 and U.S. 41? What desperately needed establishment would soon occupy that prime location spot?



Audrey Beem

Our visions were crushed. A shiny new business was not meant to be. The land is being cleared for a drainage retention area. The hard to believe rumors started swirling around and then it was confirmed in the Riverland News.

Now, I'm not saying the drain field isn't warranted. That particular spot has been flooding for as long as I can remember. I cannot even count the number of times I've been traveling home and had to turn around because the water under the old train overpass was too deep to attempt to cross. So it was a definite problem and needed to be addressed.

However, my hopes had al-

ready turned to a lavish new Lowes store, a chain restaurant or maybe even a movie theatre with an arcade for the kids; three things Dunnellon desperately needs.

How many times have you been at home on the weekend, when something breaks and you have to drive to Ocala or some other city for the part? Wouldn't it be nice not spending half the day in travel time to locate it? I know a few years back Lowes did try to come to Dunnellon, but for some reason it never happened.

What better way to spend a rainy Sunday afternoon than at the movies with a big tub of buttery popcorn sitting in your lap? But who wants to travel more than 20 miles to do it? I don't know about you, but my mom and I would probably be there every weekend. Even if they showed older movies for \$1, it would still be a fun way to pass the day.

We can boast about many good restaurants in town, but we sure could use a Sonny's or a Chili's. That corner would have been prime location. Motorists traveling down U.S. 41 would be tempted to stop, and our local es-

tablishments needn't fear. I think there are more than enough appetites to go around.

Rumors about various businesses coming to town have been passed around for years. How long has that sign been there behind Walgreens declaring a Sleep Inn and Dickey's BBQ coming soon? What happened to that one? Of course, "soon" could mean so many things. Soon as the year 2020 arrives? Soon as this town decides it's OK, or as soon as pigs fly? I really don't know the answer to that one.

We could definitely use a shoe store with discount and high-end sections, a coffee shop where you can read books to pass the time, a bowling alley or even a skating rink that we can freeze over in the winter months to make ice.

Sure I love Walmart, but it's crazy we consider that our mall. Everything you need pretty much has to be bought there. Let's give that store some competition.

Ecotourism is the engine that drives Dunnellon's economy, but once the tourists visit then it's up to us to give them reasons to come back.

Our little town could be booming right now. A large business or

See **JERSEY** page 9



"Sorry, sir, there's no smoking allowed..."

SOCIAL SECURITY

Check in before international travels

Mark Twain once advised people to "Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Americans today have taken that advice to heart, and are visiting places around the globe — often for vacations, and sometimes to relocate in another country. If you are one of these people and receive Social Security benefits, we offer a special website: "Social Security Payments Outside the United States." Here you can find answers to such questions as "will my Social Security payments be affected? Do I have to let Social Security know I'm out of the country? When should I do it? What happens if I need to contact Social Security while I am out of the country?"



Adon Williams

You can find answers to all of these questions and others at www.socialsecurity.gov/international/payments.html. The website features a "Payments Abroad Screening Tool", which asks you a few short questions to determine if your payments can continue.

The page also offers links to publications, such as Your Payments While You Are Outside The United States, which explains how your benefits may be affected and other important information you need to know about receiving So-

cial Security benefits while outside the country.

And one more important point to note. If you receive Social Security benefits as a dependent or survivor there are additional United States residency requirements that may affect your benefit payments while you are outside the United States.

It also is important to note that there are different provisions for anyone receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Once you have been outside the United States for 30 or more days in a row, your SSI cannot start again until you have been back in the country for at least 30 consecutive days. There are special rules for dependent children of military personnel who leave the United States and exceptions for students studying abroad.

So if you receive Social Security or SSI benefits and are planning to travel or live outside the United States, you'll first want to pay a visit to www.socialsecurity.gov/international/payments.html.

Social Security Q&A

Question: Is it true that 10,000 people are retiring each day? What is the best way for me to apply and avoid long lines in my Social Security office?

Answer: Yes. The best way is to use our online retirement

application at www.socialsecurity.gov. You can complete it in as little as 15 minutes. It's so easy. You can apply from the comfort of your home or office at a time most convenient for you.

Once you've electronically submitted your application, you're done. In most cases, there's no need to submit any documents. There's also no need to drive to a local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative.

Question: Does Social Security offer tools for retirement planning?

Answer: Yes. Social Security offers several retirement planning tools to help you better understand your Social Security protection as you plan for your financial future. Go to www.socialsecurity.gov/planners to get started. Then choose a benefit calculator to estimate your monthly benefit amounts.

Question: How can I get a new Medicare card?

Answer: If your red, white and blue Medicare card is lost, stolen or damaged, you can request a new one at www.socialsecurity.gov.

However, you can use our online application only to request a Medicare card. If you need a Medicaid card, please contact your state Medicaid office.

Adon Williams is the Social Security manager in Ocala.

Winter Wonderland



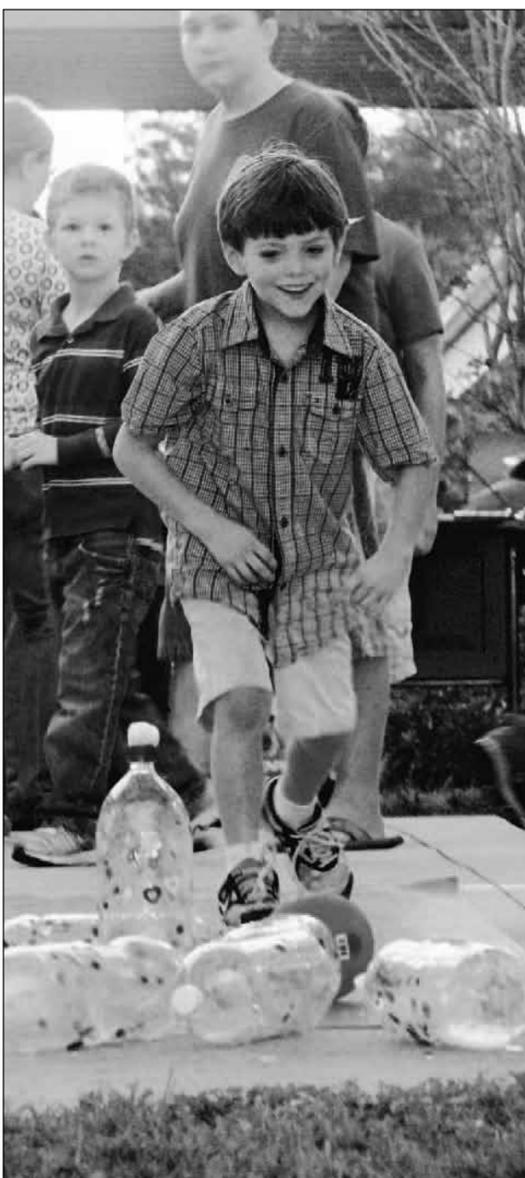
Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Dunnellon Elementary School second-graders sing carols Friday night during the school's Winter Wonderland Festival. The inaugural event featured games, food, singing, a silent auction, a Florida-style snowball fight and a visit from Santa Claus via a Polar Express experience.



ABOVE: Second-grade students make hand gestures while singing Christmas songs for spectators during the Winter Wonderland Festival.

BELOW: Landon Fleming, a first-grader, smiles while chasing down a ball during a make-shift bowling game at the inaugural event.



ABOVE: Second-graders shake maracas while singing "Feliz Navidad" as they perform for spectators at the Winter Wonderland Festival.

LEFT: Kyra Hall, a third-grader, plays in a version of a pop-bottle toss game while at the school's winter festival as others look on.

BELOW: The crowd watches a young girl attempt to knock down the pins during a bowling game.



Rockin' Christmas celebration

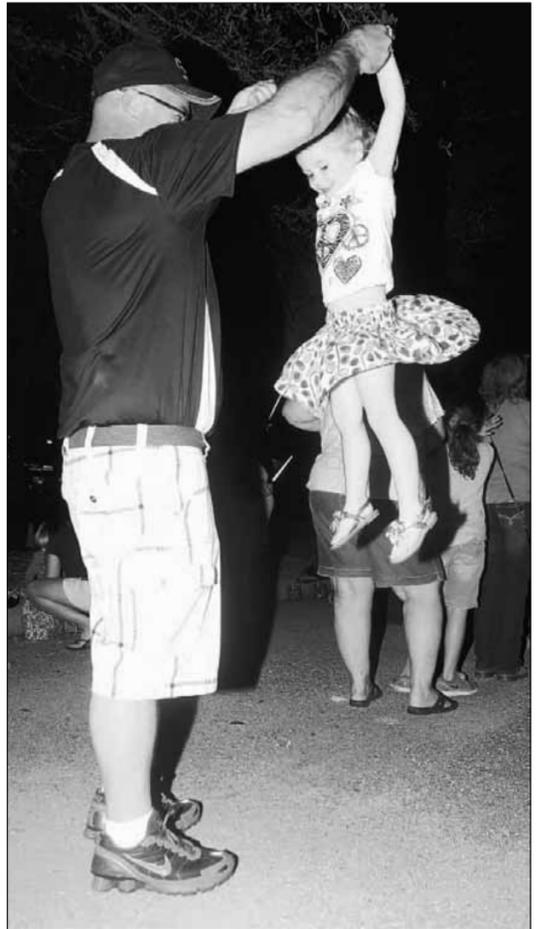


Photos by JULIE MANCINI & JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

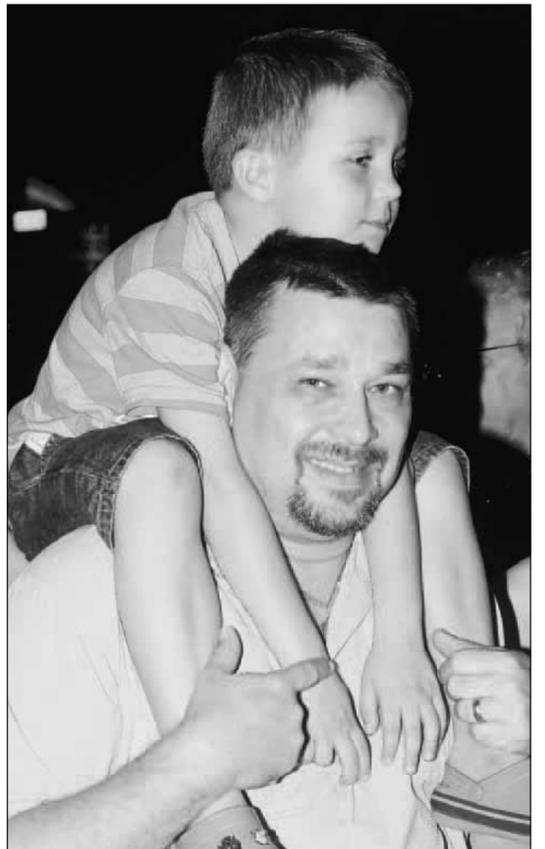
Alissia Whalen takes pictures of Cote Deonath, a local 16-year-old Elvis Presley Tribute Artist, as he performs Saturday at the post-parade Christmas celebration at Dunnellon Plaza. The event, which also featured bounce houses, face paintings, a snow machine and an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus, drew approximately 2,000 spectators after the 90-minute parade through the heart of the downtown business district. For more photos, see next week's edition of the Riverland News.



ABOVE: Members of Dunnellon High School's Junior ROTC holler as classmate Cote Deonath performs during the post-parade celebration. **RIGHT:** Deonath sings to a patron at the celebration event, which drew approximately 2,000 people. **BELOW:** Scott Lovell, left, holds his daughter, Isabella, who cheers for Deonath while his wife, Lindsay, applauds after one of his songs during his performance Saturday night.



ABOVE: Hayden DeLeon is lifted into the air by her father, Scott, as the two waited in line to participate in many of the post-celebration activities available to youths. **BELOW:** Seven-year-old Ryan Rhoades rests his chin on his father, Wayne's, head as he waits in line for the bounce house.



Christmas magic



Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

A spectator waves to Clinton Burns and Bob Schmidt, both of whom are World War II veterans and were chosen as the grand marshals for the annual Dunnellon Christmas Parade. Close to 2,000 people lined the streets of the Historic District and East Pennsylvania Avenue for the event. This year's parade drew a record 782 participants among the 50-plus entries. The parade itself lasted approximately 90 minutes covering the 1.4-mile route. For more photos, see next week's Riverland News.



ABOVE: Becca Frechette walks along the parade route. Frechette was a part of the Michelle-o-Gram entry, which won first place for most original float. **BELOW:** Kelsea Owens, an elf, totes her son, David, along behind her in a stocking.



ABOVE: Floats and other entries, including Scally's Lube & Tow, make their way toward Pennsylvania Avenue. **LEFT:** Ronnie Nichols, left, Shiann Lober, Peggy Nichols and Sue Peterson wave flags as members of the American Legion Post No. 58 make their way along the parade route on East Pennsylvania Avenue. **BELOW:** Members of 2 Hot 2 Trot Mounted Drill Team perform for spectators during the parade.



LETTERS

continued from page 4

Greenlight debt over the last several years.

Regions Bank has also granted the city an extremely low interest rate on the borrowed monies, much lower than rates extended to any other private enterprise requesting a loan.

Regions Bank practiced due financial diligence by requiring collateral for the \$7.3 million borrowed by the city; the collateral being excise taxes collected by the city; perhaps for the next 15 to 20 years to offset any losses in the event Greenlight failed.

Regions Bank has consistently done the right thing in this financial fiasco and to blame them is irresponsible nonsense or in plainer words "horse manure."

It is time for city leaders to step back and say the buck stops here.

Matthew Fox,
Rainbow Springs
Editor's Note: The city is paying Michael Markham \$325 per hour. A discount of \$60 per hour.

City officials need to 'wise up'

When I read that Dunnellon was upset because Regions Bank wouldn't play "nice" I couldn't believe how naive that statement was.

Banks are not in the business of being "nice," they are in the money business and when someone borrows a boatload of money and then can't come up with the payments there is no "nice," there's trouble. And any notion of getting money from the governor may get the response of "If I do it for you I'd have to do it for every broke-bottom town in the state."

Trying to squeeze millions of dollars out of the handful or residents and businesses in this town would be impossible and it wouldn't be hard for most of our folks to move out, leaving Dunnellon in worse shape than it is.

Dunnellon's eye toward the subdivisions is not a good idea. There's a reason that folks move into subdivisions — it's to get away from living in a city no matter how nice it is. And although subdivisions do use the local services, at the end of the day, like any other

visitor these folks go away to their homes leaving their involvement in the city and its matters at the gates.

As times changed, Dunnellon stubbornly clung to the old ways confusing the idea of no growth as slow growth. Some business made an attempt to come to Dunnellon, but when it came to the wire nothing happened. A feeble attempt by Dunnellon was made in asking the folks what they wanted in order to keep the town going but when the families responded their wishes fell on deaf ears. People can only take so many false promises before they no longer care.

Our children grew and left, folks moved out or died and the remainder are folks on such tight budgets that they can't afford to leave and this is what Greenlight depended on. The developers of Greenlight must've not taken a survey of our population, its age and income bracket, because had they done it there would be no Greenlight. But once again Dunnellon ignored what was right in front of it and now it's in dire straits.

One of the surprising ways Dunnellon can make some quick cash is to have more festivals — car shows, junk shows and garage sales bring in people and bring in the cash. Another is to sell their excess land and overstocked equipment.

As for the Ecotourism business, the Rails to Trails system in this area won't be finished until spring and Dunnellon shouldn't ignore it. If Dunnellon is to survive, it has to stop being so stubborn and consider attracting young people and their families as residents and low-impact ecotourism business for income.

How much sadder must Dunnellon get? Churches with more empty pews than full ones; Jack O' Lanterns smiling at no one;

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empty streets on Christmas morning.

When I arrived here, I was 30 years old and the town had sparks of life: a Walmart, a Beall's outlet and many new places to shop. But here it is 30 years later and there are more houses for sale in my area than are occupied. Longtime businesses have shut down or been torn down. I wasn't sure I should go shopping on Black Friday, but when I went down our streets you could fire a cannon and not hit anything. Why?

Wise up Dunnellon, wise up.

**A.C. Rosier, Dunnellon
Christmas Parade was amazing**

I just had to write and tell you that the parade Saturday in Dunnellon was beyond our expectations. We had heard it almost did not happen, but later found out a group of local merchants along with the city of Dunnellon were picking up and putting on the parade after all.

We were asked to be a sponsor and since our business just opened a new office in Dunnellon, we welcomed a chance to be a part of the community.

The size of the parade and the number of people who turned out to watch it amazed us.

What a powerhouse that group of businesses are, and I know that the Riverland News is a part of it as well. Keep up the good work and we will see you at the parade next year.

Barbara Donohoe, Audibel Hearing Centers

Thanks to participants in Christmas Parade

We are so thankful for all of the community and business support for this year's Dunnellon Christmas parade.

We appreciate the following groups for their participation:

Al's TV and Satellites, American Legion Post No. 58 with the Military Vehicles Preservation Unit, Mr. Bob Schmidt and Mr. Clinton Burns, grand marshal's; Annie Johnson Thrift Store and Service Center, Audibel Hearing, Bellevue Police Department, The Blue Gator, Blue Run Bicycles, Blue Run Veterinary, Boy Scout No. 452, Cub Scout No. 574, Daisy Girl Scout Troop No. 3606, Deeper Life Church, Diamond Portraits, Dunkin Donuts, Dunnellon Community Church, Dunnellon Fire Department, Dunnellon Little League, Dunnellon High School Marching Band, Dunnellon High School Junior ROTC, Dunnellon Middle School Marching Band, Dunnellon Police Department and the Marine Unit with City Councilman Erik Collup, Penny Fleeger and Mayor Nathan Whitt; Dunnellon Pop Warner, Dunnellon Elementary 4H, First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church Youth Group, Florida Forestry Smokey Bear, Bob France, Gideon's International, Girl Scout Troop No. 320, Girl Scout Troop No. 504, Girl Scout Troop No. 3600, Girl Scout Troop No. 3602, Heritage Senior Living, High Maintenance, Inflate A Fun, Kountry Girl Salon, Little Miss and Mr. Dunnellon, Lorie Howard, Making Strides Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer Awareness Law Enforcement Cars, Marion County Commissioners Steve Moore and Kathy Bryant, Marion County Fire Rescue Station No. 22, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County Sheriff's Office River Watch Patrol, Memory Lane of Ocala, Michelle-O-Gram, Mid

Florida Antique Farm Equipment Club, Ocala Police Department, Penn Station Deli & Grill, Rainbow River Animal Hospital, Rainbow River Canoe and Kayak, Rainbow Lakes Fire Department, Repeat Boutique, Santa Claus, S & H Iron Horse Express, Shirt Solutions, Cote Deonath, Sepulveda's ATA Martial Arts, Scally's Lube & Go and Towing, TLC Rehab and the 2 Hot 2 Trot Mounted Drill Team.

We appreciate the patience needed to check in and register the 782 individuals and more than 57 different groups in just one hour. This is the first time we used the First Baptist Church and Dunnellon Christian Academy property for our lineup. We are so thankful for the use of their property; it provided the space needed for such a large group of floats, separate area for oversized large trucks and rigs, and a separate area for horse groups which have to be separated from regular lineup area for safety reasons.

Thank you again to all groups and individuals who participated. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped at check in and lineup to accommodate such an enormous group in such a short amount of time.

We hope that those who participated this year will make sure they register to participate next year. Please keep checking our website — www.dunnellonchristmasparade.com — for updates, photos and information about next year's event.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

**Dunnellon Christmas Parade Committee
Police say thanks to all for parade support**

The Dunnellon Christmas Parade was

bigger than ever this year. There were more spectators and we received many compliments about the seamless flow of the parade. This was all because of the outpouring of assistance with traffic control from the Marion County Sheriff's Office and Bellevue and Ocala police departments as well as the many volunteers, who were organized by Dr. Cheryl Stanley.

Chief Joanne Black said: "The theme for the parade, it's a 'Small Town Christmas,' was nothing short of a small community making a big statement and we are so proud to be a part of it".

The Dunnellon Police Department would like to give a huge thank you to the following, because you helped make this day possible and the parade a huge success. Thank you to Dunkin Donuts for the doughnuts, share boxes and cups to decorate the float and the refreshments of hot coffee and doughnuts for the float builders; Shamus Johnson for letting us use a generator; Annie Johnson's for decorations; Walmart for cardboard boxes; Penn Station Grill for the wonderful dinner before the parade; and all the officers and staff of Dunnellon Police Department for the hours of float building.

Chief Joanne Black, Dunnellon Police Department

Solution to puzzle on Page 11

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

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MAGIC

continued from page 1

significance of the Dec. 7 date that coincides with the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor as they chose Bob Schmidt and Clinton Burns, both of whom are World War II veterans, to serve as grand marshals this year.

"I've heard nothing but great comments," said Charlene Williams, event spokeswoman. "we were blown away that our efforts, our brainstorming, our planning that everybody who just walked around before the parade was taking it all in."

"They say it takes a village to raise a child, but it also takes a village, and it literally took a village, to make this parade successful. I think what we had hoped to accomplish, is coming up with a plan that we can do year after year after year. We want more continuity in the route, the lineup and the date that if you participate you know what to expect. That's critical."

And to help with that continuity, organizers of the event have tentatively scheduled the 2014 Christmas parade for the first weekend in December. Williams said the lineup at First Baptist Church/Dunnellon Christian Academy and route will be the same.

"We want to enhance our continuity," she said, adding the post-parade celebration will again be on the other side of town. "Planning for next year now allows us the opportunity to get with school band directors, to have more marching bands involved that need to have a year's notice to participate in. I'd love to get the Shriners, a clown group or two. It takes a lot of planning



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Members of the Mid Florida Antique Farm Equipment Club make their way along the parade route during this past Saturday's annual Christmastime event.

to pull this event off." Not only does it take a lot of planning, but a lot of volunteers. Williams said more than 70 volunteers helped prepare for the day's events, from assisting at the setup at the post-parade celebration to the parade itself.

"We cannot thank those who helped out, who took time out of their day and away from their families to help us accomplish this feat," she said.

The inaugural post-parade festivities certainly didn't go unnoticed by those who attended. Organizers said approximately 2,000 spectators attended the celebration at Dunnellon Plaza. The event included bounce houses, face painting, a snow machine, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus as well as performances from Cote Denoath, an Elvis Tribute Artist, and Ocala-based band R-Style.

"We were hoping for a couple of hundred people, that's what we

were dreaming of," Williams said of the post-parade festivities. "To have the number of people we had, we were just blown away."

Dunnellon Merchants and the city of Dunnellon partnered to host the traditional Christmastime event. On Monday, at the City Council meeting, officials raved about the success of the event and praised the efforts of those who were involved. The city did not spend any money in assisting with the event.

"It was absolutely amazing," Mayor Nathan Whitt said. Eddie Esch, interim city manager, echoed the first-term mayor's sentiments.

"It was an amazing team effort," he said. "It's probably one of the smoothest events I've ever been a part of, but, of course, you never see what goes on behind the scenes the day of the event."

For information about next year's parade and highlights

from this year's event, visit www.dunnellonchristmasparade.com

or on Facebook at Dunnellon Christmas Parade.

JERSEY

continued from page 4

restaurant would help the economy, enhance tourism and tempt our wallets too. It's a win-win people. If we offer the goodies, the people will come. Except for another pizza place or another bank our small town could use just about anything. The possibilities are endless.

So maybe there's a tiny bit of room on that corner lot for a Taco Bell or Krystal's? After all, the land has already been cleared. How hard would it be to squeeze one in?

If not we'll all ride by and admire the retention pond for years to come, and we'll talk about what could have been.

I'm still waiting for that burger joint halfway down the tube trip on the Rainbow River.

Long live Dunnellon — with a little nudge from the commercial industry.

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Spectators gather around a decorated gingerbread house as a volunteer reads a Christmas-themed story to visitors of Santa Over the Rainbow in December 2011. The event kicks off at 6 p.m. Friday.

Riverland News file photo

SANTA

continued from page 1

in the paper and on the radio. We got some people to help, but we could have used more. So far, we're doing well."

So for those eagerly awaiting Santa and Mrs. Claus' arrival at Rainbow Springs State Park, they won't have to wait long as Santa Over the Rainbow will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday as well as Friday to Sunday, Dec. 20 to 22. Lights-only display will be Thursday and Friday, Dec. 26 and 27. Admission is \$2 per person; children 5 and younger are free. Passes are not valid for this event.

Once again, the Clauses will be portrayed by Sam Scott and Rosemarie Klueker.

"They look like the part, like

they really are Mr. and Mrs. Claus," Booth said. "They have such a rapport and a lot of people wonder if they are married, they walk up the hill holding hands. Everybody thinks they look like the real thing. They are so friendly with everyone."

Hosting the event is a matter of providing a special Christmas for families and seeing them leave with smiles on their face.

"You know you've done something good," Booth said. "Basically our goal is to make them happy and you know you're doing something right when you see them leave with a smile on their face. We keep the price down low and keep it a family atmosphere; we don't want to look like it's so commercialized."

The first weekend the event is open will feature two special musical groups. On Saturday, the Shade

Tree Pickers will perform.

"They've been coming every year to our event, they are very good," Booth said. "They stroll around the park and play their kind of music. It's really nice and folks enjoy it."

On Sunday, Hearts to Hand will perform. The group is a deaf-based choir. "They're a special treat to see, they are wonderful."

Booth couldn't resist praising the folks who stepped forward to make this year's event possible, once again.

"Definitely, without the help of all of our volunteers this wouldn't be possible," she said. "This is a great group of people who are helping to put this together to have it only open for a short time. There's a lot of people involved and for everyone, the main thing is to see the families come in, have a good time and leave smiling. That's the main thing."

COUNCIL

continued from page 1

city attorney, advised the Council not to speak about the situation, but addressed Hilton's question.

"It is those sections," Cassidy explained, noting Section 4.09 of Resolution 2010-21, "that are invalid, because they are illegal according to the Florida Constitution. If the city is going to move forward with the sale of the system, this has to be done. The Council, Mr. (Michael) Markham and myself are doing what's best for the city."

In other action, the Council:

Approved Resolution 2013-19, which notified the Marion County Property Appraiser the city is considering implementing a uniform method of collecting non ad-valorem special assessments for fire services. The resolution is strictly for notification purposes, city officials stressed. To begin collecting the assessment in Fiscal Year 2015, they were required to notify the county by early January.

It's then that city officials will begin considering whether to pay for a study showing how a special assessment fee can be implemented and how much it would cost taxpayers.

"I don't know how comfortable any of us are with doing this," Mayor Nathan Whitt said, noting if anything the discussion would spark a debate among

residential and business property owners inside the city limits.

Initially, the city had discussed placing the issue on the ballot but if officials had waited until the November 2014 elections, they wouldn't have begun collecting revenues until 2015. One way to gauge citizens' opinions is through a straw poll.

"I'm getting mixed feelings about it from citizens," Mayor Whitt said, adding the healthy part of the debate includes the multiple options the Council and taxpayers would have on the table to discuss.

"There are some people I've talked with that want the service," Vice Mayor Dennis Evans said. "But just like you Mayor Whitt, there are some people who don't want it, but then they'd end up paying the county assessment."

Councilman Erik Collop said he understands the need to make up for future budget shortfalls; however, he told his colleagues the high property tax and water rates are already deterring families from moving into the city. Adding more fees, he said, could prevent businesses that want to build here and young families from coming here.

"We want growth here, we want businesses here and we want families here," he said.

The Council will resume discussions about the fire assessment in January.

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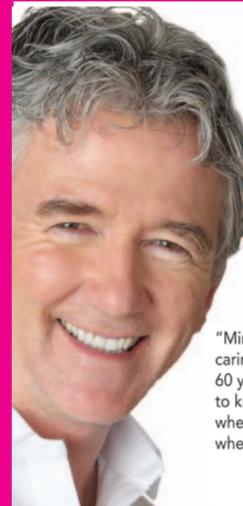
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Haven House veterans visit Post No. 58



Veterans and staff from Haven House Assisted-Living Facility were hosted to supper Dec. 4 at American Legion Post No. 58. Following introductions and opening prayer, a delicious pork dinner served by Chef Wilson Tyndal was enjoyed by all.

Special to the Riverland News

TAX

continued from page 1

the city, which eliminated the words "minor league," and only said "baseball and community stadium." Despite objections from the city, officials voted to restore the "minor league" designation.

Another beneficiary from the sales tax could be Sheriff Chris Blair, who had a strong discussion about a budget transfer of funds during the morning part of the meeting, which didn't end until nearly 3 p.m. Blair expressed the need for more cars, and, if there is an excess of funds for the stadium, they will be used for sheriff's vehicles.

The city's estimated cost for the stadium is \$38 million, but Ocala representatives said there is a 20 percent contingency built in, causing the optimism that some money will be left over.

Included in the money from the sales tax would be work on the 49th Avenue extension, which will connect 66th Street with the new flyover that opened last year.

In the afternoon session, Wes Wilcox, su-

pervisor of elections, reaffirmed what he had said in the morning. To conduct a March 18 election, he would have to have a definite decision by Dec. 17, 90 days before the date. At the Jan. 7 meeting, ballot language would have to be decided so he could start having ballots printed.

There was discussion of putting a list of projects in the ordinance for funding from excess money, but that was dropped in favor of the shorter term. Commissioner David Moore said it first, emphasizing that "if you tax people you'll find a way to spend it." Commissioner Stan McClain immediately followed suit, calling for four years or less.

Commissioner Kathy Bryant didn't want to include excess items in the ordinance, commenting, "I've always said I'd like to see the project stand on its own."

Commissioner Earl Arnett said that the stadium should come first in the funding, "but then there should be public safety."

Ocala City Manager Matt Brower discussed the funding, but some city and county officials originally dis-

agreed about the length of the bonds. It then went into a discussion of the timeline for financing.

Eventually, when he called for action and no one responded, Chairman Carl Zalak passed the gavel to McClain, and Zalak made the motion to approve, which then passed unanimously.

If the sales tax referendum passes, the funding would not be available until January 2015. The city wants to start construction in the summer of 2014, and will have to obtain financing to be paid back from the sales tax revenue.

In the morning session, Wilcox provided figures that showed that the turnout would probably be the same in March as in other times of the year. Answering a question about the integrity of the election and safeguards against fraud, he explained the process that includes mailing about 216,000 ballots. One of the requirements when the ballot is returned is that the back of the envelope must be signed, and the signature must match the one on record for the voter.

He said after that the

ballots would "never leave our facility," which he says has dual security systems.

He said he believed he could conduct the election for the same cost, whether by mail or traditional polling places votes.

He said the ballots would be mailed Feb. 26. Overseas ballots would be mailed Jan. 31.

During the public comments in the morning, several people who had spoken earlier against the proposal spoke once more. One woman spoke about a semipro team in Leesburg, one person recommended upgrading the College of Central Florida field, and another kept referring to a "triple A" team. The Florida State League Tampa Yankees are a Class A team. The Yankees' triple A team is in Scranton, Pa.

Butch Verrando pointed out the failure of Greenlight in Dunnellon, and said "this ballfield has the potential to do the same thing for the city of Ocala."

He was one of several people, including commissioners, who want to emphasize that local contractors and workers be used for the project.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Knights to host dinner dance Jan. 11

The Knights of Columbus of Dunnellon will host a Country & Western Dinner Dance from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Jan. 11 in the parish hall of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at 7525 U.S. 41.

Music will be provided by the Country Sunshine Band. Doors will open at 5:30 with a southern style dinner served at 6:30. There will be a cash bar, a 50/50 raffle, wine basket raffles and a door prize.

Tickets are \$15 per person and are available from the Knights of Columbus or the church office.

For reservations or information, call 489-6221.

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.

For information, contact Ellie Pollock at 465-6803 for a reservation by the previous Tuesday weekly.

Group to distribute toiletries, clothing

Christians In Action (CIA), a charitable organization formed to assist local food pantries, will provide toiletries and clothing to families who qualify under federal guidelines.

Free toiletries, such as dish and laundry detergent as well as shampoo, lotion, deodorant and toothpaste, 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 489-6332 or Susan Lebrun 465-8660.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle answers on Page 8



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Romeo Elementary issues reminder about tardies



Jane Ashman
Romeo
Principal

Romeo Elementary School administration and staff would like to remind parents and students about the Marion County Public School rules and regulations for tardies and early check out procedures.

Florida Law states each parent or legal guardian of a child is responsible

for the child's regular school attendance, according to Florida Statute 1003.24, the Marion County Public Schools Code of Student Conduct states. Failure to attend school in a regular and timely fashion hin-

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

ders the education process and may result in failing grades. Each student enrolled in a Marion County Public School is expected to attend school every day and be punctual. A student is allowed three excused

tardies/early sign-outs within a nine-week grading period. Thereafter the school administration will address consequences for excessive tardiness and early sign-outs as outlined in the Level 1 - Corrective

Measure Code, "Violation of Attendance Procedures."

Effective Dec. 2, after the allowed three tardies: You will receive a phone call to remind you that your child has exceeded his allowed three tardies.

Four tardies will require

See **ASHMAN** page 16

SPORTS BRIEFS

Educational grants available to schools

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

Through April 4, educators serving students who live in unincorporated Marion County may receive funds under the 2013-2014 Stormwater Education Grants Program. Grantees may receive up to \$750 to use for stormwater/water resource education and up to \$1,000 to purchase equipment related to these projects. Interested applicants may visit www.marioncountyfl.org/stormwater.htm to download grant application instructions and forms.

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

Young Marines seek new members

The Dunnellon Young Marines is seeking new recruits. Interested youth, ages 8 through high school age are eligible.

The Dunnellon Young Marines meet from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays at the American Legion on U.S. 41 in Dunnellon. The fee to register for the first year is \$45.

For information, call Capt. Rocky Chin at 352-873-9396.

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 Todd Dunn, commanding officer, at 352-212-5473 or tdunn@manateediv.org.

'Magic' moment



Photos by **JEFF BRYAN**/Riverland News

Author David Mark Lopez, who penned the "Maddie's Magic Markers" series, points to a student during a question-and-answer session last Thursday at Dunnellon Elementary School. Lopez, who lives in South Florida, but has a law office in Ocala, has visited schools throughout several states since publishing his first book 11 years ago. For more photos, see Page 13.

Author of 'Maddie's Magic Markers' series visits DES

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

"Maddie's Magic Markers" spilled into the Media Center on Thursday at Dunnellon Elementary School, and leading students on the journey through Maddie's adventures was David Mark Lopez, the author of the series consisting of six books so far.

The self-published author, who practices law in south Florida, never envisioned the first book, "Maddie's Magic Markers," becoming a series. Lopez explained his thought process at the time was to provide his then 11-year-old daughter a special birthday present as well as remain connected with Maddie. At the time, Lopez was living in McIntosh while his daughter resided in Georgia with her mother.

"I'd always loved writing," said Lopez, who has a bachelor's degree in English and education. "When I started writing the book, it was never my intention to start a series. I wanted to give her an extra special gift. But when my friends read it, they encouraged me to publish it. So I began the process of self-publishing it."

All told, the six books in the



Candice Ratliffe grimaces after Lopez cracks a joke.

series have sold about 65,000 copies. But writing, illustrating and publishing the books aren't about sales, Lopez contends. "This is a labor of love, this is an amazing hobby," he added.

Maddie is now 22 and preparing for her upcoming wedding in January. She recently graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in journalism/mass communications, Lopez said. The series, which Lopez is aiming for 12 books total, has evolved throughout the years to include his other

two children, Natalie, 14, and Brett, 12, from his second marriage.

"There came a point when my other kids started asking, 'what's up daddy, when am I going to be in a book?'" Lopez said. "So I began incorporating them into it, and over the years, it became 'Natalie's Magic Markers,' and currently it's 'Brett's Magic Markers.'"

He envisions the series going into the future, but how it concludes, he hasn't decided. Lopez did hint the series may conclude with his death and the markers being passed onto his grandchildren. Currently, he's beginning the initial stages of planning the seventh book.

But touring schools throughout the U.S. is part of the joy in sharing his love of writing but encouraging a love of reading and imagination in future generations. Lopez said his visit to Dunnellon Elementary was the 43rd school he had visited in 2013. Altogether, he said, he's visited schools throughout Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina and as far as Nebraska.

"It's always a pleasure to share the stories with other kids," he said.

County seeks contest entries

Special to the Riverland News

Ninety-two miles of rivers. Thirty-two thousand acres of lakes. More than 40 springs. Opportunities to enjoy Marion's water resources are almost unlimited, and a Marion County department wants to bring local youth closer to them this month.

The Marion County Office of the County Engineer invites students ages 18 and under to participate in its "Discover our water resources" art and photography contest. Through Dec. 20, students attending a public, private or home school in Marion County may submit creative entries depicting any of the following themes: Marion County water bodies, wildlife, karst or limestone features, water uses and recreation in water.

Art entries must be original illustrations created in print or digital formats. Print entries must not exceed 8 1/2-by-11 inches in paper size. Photography entries must be original and unedited, and must be submitted in digital versions of at least 300 dpi in size.

A selection committee will recognize the top art and photography entries through publication of the winning creations in the Office of the County Engineer's 2014 "Discover our water resources" stormwater education booklet. The publication will be distributed to local schools and county residents to encourage learning about water quality and stormwater pollution prevention.

The contest application and guidelines are available at www.marioncountyfl.org/stormwater.htm. Entries are due Dec. 20 and may be emailed to stormwater@marioncountyfl.org or delivered to Kim Dinkins at the Office of the County Engineer at 412 SE 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34471.

For information, call 352-671-8686.

DMS Band members prep for Ocala Parade, winter concert

Dunnellon Middle School Advanced Band members have been working hard and preparing to delight us with their melodious holiday music on Saturday as they proudly represent us at the annual Ocala Christmas Parade.

We know everyone will appreciate the joyous and

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

uplifting holiday classics these young musicians will perform for us.

The DMS Advanced Band, Beginner Band and Chorus will perform at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, in the Auditorium as they present their Winter Con-

cert for the community. The concert is free and will add to the beauty and wonder of the Christmas season.

Students will enjoy an early-release day Friday, Dec. 20, as they depart campus at 1:40 p.m., and

begin their Winter Break. Winter Break for the Marion County School District is from Saturday, Dec. 21 through Sunday, Jan. 5. Students will return to school Monday, Jan. 6.

DMS staff and adminis-

tration ran across the following tips parents may use to encourage our children to learn and to succeed in school.

• Tip No. 1: Building relationships with teachers and school personnel is an effective way to communicate to our children we care about what

See **SMALLRIDGE** page 16

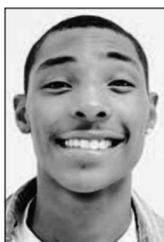


Delbert Smallridge
DMS
Principal

DHS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK • PRESENTED BY CENTRAL RIDGE INSURERS LLC

Andre Hairston, boys basketball

Hairston led the boys basketball team to a pair of big wins last week. In a 77-73 win against West Port, he logged 23 points and 17 rebounds and in a 57-51 district win over Citrus, Hairston had 21 points and 10 rebounds.



Andre Hairston

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Cole Fagan

Cole Fagan, wrestling

The junior 195-pounder posted a 5-0 record Saturday at the seventh annual Rob Hermann Cup at Citrus High School to win his weight class. Fagan is also a standout football player for the Tiger football team.

'Magic' moment



Photos by JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Second-grade teacher Lynette Edmondson smirks at author David Mark Lopez while "playing" the part of his daughter, Maddie, in the first book in his series, "Maddie's Magic Markers," which has evolved to include his other children, Natalie and Brett. Lopez plans to write at least six more books, bringing the total in the series to 12.



ABOVE: Riley Fleming smiles as Mark David Lopez introduces himself to second-graders last Thursday during his visit to Dunnellon Elementary School. **BELOW:** Dakota Hamilton raises her arm to answer a question Lopez asked students during his visit. Lopez met with groups of students in grades kindergarten through fifth.



ABOVE: Victoria Dicken, right, Joseph Hester, Parker Raulerson and Emalee Stevens keep a watchful eye on Lopez during his presentation to second-grade students at Dunnellon Elementary School.

LEFT: First-graders listen attentively to Lopez share tidbits from the first book in his series, "Maddie's Magic Markers."

BELOW: Students listen as Lopez shares why he wrote his first book, "Maddie's Magic Markers," and how the series has progressed to include his other two children, Natalie, 14, and Brett, 12.



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ERRORS

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Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices

402-1212 RIV
Vs. Phillips III, William L. 42-2013-CA-002634-AXXXX-XX Notice of Action
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR MARION COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION
Case No.: 42-2013-CA-002634-AXXXX-XX

REGIONS BANK SUCCESSOR BY MERGER WITH AHSOUTH BANK,
Plaintiff,

vs. WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III and the UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III, if living, and all unknown parties claiming by, through, under or against the above named Defendants who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said unknown parties may claim an interest as spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees or other claimants, claiming by, through, under or against the said WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III or the UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III; UNKNOWN TENANT # 1; AND UNKNOWN TENANT # 2;
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION - MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

TO: WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III and the UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III, if living, and all unknown parties claiming by, through, under or against the above named Defendants who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said unknown parties may claim an interest as spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees or other claimants, claiming by, through, under or against the said WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III or the UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF WILLIAM L. PHILLIPS, III, if they are deceased.
Whose Residence is Unknown
Whose Last Known Mailing Address is: 757 SE 17th Street #450, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Marion County, Florida:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on ROD B. NEUMAN, Esquire, of Gibbons, Neuman, Bello, Segall, Allen & Halloran, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 3321 Henderson Boulevard, Tampa, Florida 33609, within thirty (30) days of the date of the first publication of this notice, or on or before January 3, 2014, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

DATED this 18 day of November, 2013.

David R. Ellspermann, CLERK CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ N. Hernandez, Deputy Clerk

"If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at the Office of the Trial Court Administrator, Marion County Judicial Center, 110 NW First Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34475, Telephone (352) 401-6710, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711."

EXHIBIT "A"

Legal Description out of Warranty Deed recorded in Official Records Book 2194, Page 1678:

The following described land, situate, lying and being in Marion County, Florida, wit:

A parcel of land lying in the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20, Township 14 South, Range 21 East, Marion County, Florida, said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the East boundary of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20 with the South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326; thence South 00 degrees 28' 31" West, along the East boundary, 210.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 28' 09" West, parallel with said South Right of Way line, 210.00 feet to the Point of Beginning of the herein described parcel; thence continue North 89 degrees 28' 09" West, 415.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 28' 37" East, along a line that lies 60 feet East of, as measured at right angles to and running parallel with the West boundary of those lands described in Official Records Book 1185, Page 544, of the Public Records of Marion County, Florida, 210.00 feet to the aforementioned South Right of Way line and the North boundary of said lands described in Official Records Book 1185, Page 544; thence South 89 degrees 28' 09" East, along said Right of Way, 415.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, along the East boundary of said lands described in Official Records Book 1185, Page 544, 210.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Parcel 2:
A parcel of land lying in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20, Township 14 South, Range 21 East, Marion County, Florida, said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 20 with the South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326; thence South 89 degrees 28' 09" East, along said Right of Way line, 516.14 feet; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, parallel with the East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 1255.22 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27' 41" West, along a line that lies 10.00 feet North of, as measured at right angles to and running parallel with the South boundary of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 477.48 feet; thence North 44 degrees 29' 31" W, 54.70 feet; thence North 00 degrees 28' 37" East, along the aforementioned East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 1006.48 feet; thence North 89 degrees 28' 09" West, parallel with the aforementioned South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326, 30.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 28' 37" East, 210.00 feet to the aforementioned South Right of Way line; thence South 89 degrees 28' 09" East, along said Right of Way line 30.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Parcel 3:
Together with a non-exclusive perpetual easement for ingress and egress to County Road 225-A more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Southwest corner of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20; thence South 89 degrees 27' 41" East, along the South boundary thereof, 250.00 feet to the East Right of Way line of County Road 225-A; thence North 00 degrees 28' 04" East, along said Right of Way line, 20.00 feet to the Point of Beginning of the herein described easement; thence continue North 00 degrees 28' 04" East, along said Right of Way line, 28.66 feet; thence South 89 degrees 27' 41" East, parallel with the aforementioned South boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 1297.74 feet to the East boundary of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4; thence South 44 degrees 29' 31" East, 23.10 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27' 41" West, 24.75 feet; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, parallel with the aforementioned East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 12.33 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27' 41" West, 1289.31 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Parcel 4:
A parcel of land in the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20, Township 14 South, Range 21 East, Marion County, Florida. Said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the East boundary of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 with the South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, along said East boundary, 210.00 feet to the Point of Beginning of the herein described parcel; thence continue South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, along said East boundary, 1006.48 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27' 41" West, along a line that lies 48.66 feet North of, as measured at right angles to and running parallel with the South boundary of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 1297.74 feet to the East Right of Way line of County Road No. 225-A (50 feet wide); thence North 00 degrees 28' 04" East, along said Right of Way line, 774.24 feet; thence South 89 degrees 24' 27" East, along the North boundary of Parcel II (2) of the Chibcha Farm, Inc., Mortgage to Government Employees Corporation as recorded in Official Records Book 1047, Page 323, of the Public Records of Marion County, Florida, 612.87 feet to the West boundary of that certain parcel described in Official Records Book 1185 Page 544, of the Public Records of Marion County, Florida; thence North 00 degrees 28' 37" East, along said West boundary 442.72 feet to the Northwest corner of said parcel recorded in Official Records Book 1185, Page 544, and the South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326; thence South 89 degrees 28' 09" East, along said Right of Way line, 60.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, 210.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 28' 09" East, along a line that lies 210 feet South of the aforementioned South Right of Way line of County Road 326, 625.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

LESS AND EXCEPT

A parcel of land lying in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29, Township 14 South, Range 21 East, Marion County Florida, said parcel more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 20 with the South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" East, along said East boundary, 1093.74 feet to the Point of Beginning of the herein described parcel; thence South 89 degrees 27' 41" East, 516.14 feet; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, parallel with the East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 161.39 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27' 41" West, along a line that lies 10.00 feet North of, as measured at right angles to and running parallel with the South boundary of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 477.48 feet; thence North 44 degrees 29' 31" West, 54.70 feet to an intersection with the aforementioned East boundary; thence North 89 degrees 27' 31" West, along a line that lies 48.66 feet North of, as measured at right angles to and parallel with the South boundary of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 92.95 feet; thence North 37 degrees 28' 08" East, 153.88 feet to the aforementioned East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 and the Point of Beginning.

Legal Description out of Warranty Deed recorded in Official Records Book 2194, Page 1691:

A parcel of land lying in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 29, Township 14 South, Range 21 East, Marion County Florida, said parcel more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 20 with the South Right of Way line of County Road No. 326; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" East, along said East boundary, 1093.74 feet to the Point of Beginning of the herein described parcel; thence South 89 degrees 27' 41" East, 516.14 feet; thence South 00 degrees 28' 37" West, parallel with the East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 161.39 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27' 41" West, along a line that lies 10.00 feet North of, as measured at right angles to and running parallel with the South boundary of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 477.48 feet; thence North 44 degrees 29' 31" West, 54.70 feet to an intersection with the aforementioned East boundary; thence North 89 degrees 27' 31" West, along a line that lies 48.66 feet North of, as measured at right angles to and parallel with the South boundary of said Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, 92.95 feet; thence North 37 degrees 28' 08" East, 153.88 feet to the aforementioned East boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 and the Point of Beginning.

December 5 & 12, 2013.

Lien Notices

404-1212 RIV
12/26 sale
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
BIG JOE'S TOWING SERVICE INC. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicle(s) at 1125 NE Jacksonville Rd., Ocala, FL 34479, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. Superior Towing /C&M Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
Sale Date 12/30/13- 9AM
2004 TOY VIN# 2T1BR32E8C304083
Dec. 12, 2013.

Lien Notices

Notice of Public Sale: D & D TOWING OF Ocala gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicle(s) at 1125 NE Jacksonville Rd., Ocala, FL 34479, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. Superior Towing /C&M Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
Sale Date 12/30/13- 9AM
2004 TOY VIN# 2T1BR32E8C304083
Dec. 12, 2013.

Lien Notices

Towing gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicle(s) on 12/30/2013 9:00 am at 2157 NE Jacksonville Rd., Ocala, FL 34470, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. Superior Towing /C&M Towing reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
184GH547R7X519610
1993 Dodge
1GCHG35R0X1032751
1999 CHEVROLET
1J4FT7854XL581926
1999 JEEP
2B4GP4431R401769
2001 DODGE
4TKFW403X61005680
2006 TRAVEL SUPREMO
Dec. 12, 2013.

CANCELLATIONS

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

Riverland News

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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Become an Avon Rep Today! Free Training. \$10 to join. Call Chuck (352) 503-4816. Independ. Avon Rep.

FURNITURE Brocade style couch with matching chair, large brown recliner \$1400, dining room table round with 4 matching chairs \$500, beautiful like new!!!! Please call: 352-341-0952

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Lost Gold Chain Late Husbands with wedding band & gold cross. Dunnellon Chinese buffet parking Lot (352) 489-6761

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TEACHER
Fulltime, Exp. Req. CDA Preferred TODAY'S CHILD (352) 344-9444

Professional

POLICE EVIDENCE CLERK

The City of Dunnellon Police Department is accepting applications for an Evidence Clerk. High school graduation or possession of an acceptable equivalency diploma and valid Florida driver's license essential. Experience in law enforcement with a completion of Police Academy, Patrol Duties or at least three (3) years of experience in a law enforcement related area. At least two (2) years of general office experience. Complete Managing Property and Evidence in Law Enforcement course within 6 months of employment or when school becomes available. Must obtain a job description and application package online at www.dunnellon.org/police or at the Dunnellon Police Department, 12014 S. Williams St., Dunnellon FL 34432 and return to the same address no later than 12/19/2013. Electronic applications/resumes not accepted. E.O.E., DFWP.

Trades/Skills

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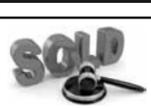
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Auctions



DUDLEY'S AUCTION

Two Auctions 12-10 On Site Estate 9615 E Oak Ct Floral City 9 am Jan Boat, Tools, Mower, 12-12-13 Estate Adventure 3pm outside Household-Tools, Yard furniture + 5:30pm 1981 Yamaha 650 Bike w/177 miles, 1994 Toyota PU ext cab w/cap, 1992 Starline Boat 179 Malibu new motor 6pm inside Quality Furniture, Coin collection, Christmas & Decorative items. Great sale. Call for info 352-637-9588 Dudleysauction.com 4000 S Florida (US41S) Inverness Ab1667 10%bp cash/ck

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FURNITURE Brocade style couch with matching chair, large brown recliner \$1400, dining room table round with 4 matching chairs \$500, beautiful like new!!!! Please call: 352-341-0952

Garage/Yard Sales

DUNNELLON 11500 Camp Drive/BLUE COVE ESTATE SALE - Everyrthing GOES - Dec 13&14 Fri & Sat 8am

YOU'LL ♥ THIS!

HUGE HUGE SALE WOODLANDS
Fri, Sat. 8-4
Power tools, Handtools, 16"skilaws, ChainSaw, Log Splitter T.V's, Records, Antiques, NEW GAS FIREPLACE Gun Cabinet, Antique babybuggy, Rounded Glass China, Xmas, Kitchen, Bedding Bath, Bldg. Supplies, Furniture, LADIES PLUS CLOTHING, Much More. DONT MISS THIS. Hwy#441 North to 88th Place Rd. Follow Signs.

Estate Sales

DUNNELLON Fri. 13, Sat. 14, 9am-3pm Furniture, framed art, tools, various household, linens, kitchen ware, freezer 11540 Camp Drive

General

Comforter - King Set Ralph Lauren Adirondack Bear Print. Incl Flannel Sheets. Still in pkg. Great Gift! \$150 obo (518) 802-0220

Wanted to Buy

LIONEL TOY TRAINS Wanted Any Amount Any Condition. Cash Paid Will Pick Up (352) 346-3328

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55+ park Enjoy the view! 2 bd, 1 bath Lot rent, car port, water, grass cutting included. Call 800-747-4283 for details

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.

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Self Storage Notices

407-1219 RIV 1/4 sale Out-Back Self Storage PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Notice is hereby given that on Jan. 4, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. the under-signed Stop & Store LLC.

Self Storage Notices

DBA Outback Self Storage will sell at public sale by competitive bidding, the personal property, stored with the under-signed Stop&Store LLC. DBA Outback Self Storage, 19545 West Hwy 40, Dunnellon FL.

Self Storage Notices

34432. Tenants and units: Unit# A100 Melissa Scott HHG We reserve the right to refuse any and all bids. Dec. 12 & 19, 2013.

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

400-1212 RIV Stevens, William J. 2013-CP-1689 Notice to Creditors (Summ. Adm) PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2013-CP-1689 Division: Judge Robbins Deceased.

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

497-1212 RIV Pope, Ray Alfred 2013-CP-1034 Notice to Creditors PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2013-CP-1034 Division Probate Deceased.

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

499-1212 RIV Verburg, Norma Lucille 2013-CP-1843 Notice to Creditors PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File Number: 2013-CP-1843 Deceased.

Notices to Creditors/ Administration

401-1212 RIV Vs. Bryant, Elbert R. 42-2013-CA-001739 Notice of Sale PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No. 42-2013-CA-001739

Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices

DRUMMOND COMMUNITY BANK, a Florida Banking Corporation, as successor in interest to PERKINS STATE BANK, Plaintiff, vs. ELBERT R. BRYANT and PEGGY R. RYGH, Defendants.

Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated November 4, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 42-2013-CA-001739 of the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in and for Marion County, Florida, when the Clerk of Court, David R. Ellspermann, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash by electronic sale on January 5, 2014, at 11:00 am at www.marion.realestate.com the following described property:

Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices

PARCEL A The West 1/2 of Lot 18, Block "T", LAKE TROPICANA RANCHETTES, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book "G", Pages 70, 70A through 70D, inclusive, of the Public Records of Marion County, Florida. TOGETHER WITH 1982 CLAS DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME, IDENTIFICATION NUMBER GD0CRL42818319 A & B SITUATED THEREON.

Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices

ASHMAN

continued from page 12

parents to attend a parent conference regarding the number of tardies. You also begin to have wake-up calls at 6 a.m.

Five tardies will result in your child receiving a discipline referral. Discipline referrals become a permanent record that may follow your child to middle and high school.

Please understand the importance of your child being in school, on time, every day. The school day begins at approximately 7:45 a.m., but most students begin working at 7:25.

PTO news

The holiday season is upon us and the PTO is

Schedule of Events

- **Today** — Grandparent Readers visit.
- **6 p.m. Friday** — Christmas Classic Movie Night. Doors open at 5:30.
- **Dec. 23 to Jan. 5** — Winter Break, no school.
- **Monday, Jan. 6** — Classes resume.

proud to announce Santa's Shoppe is open through Dec. 19 between 7:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Students will have the opportunity to shop for gifts starting as low as 25 cents. Children love having something to give their loved ones on Christmas!

Family Movie Night

Family Movie Night will be at 6 p.m. Friday

in the cafeteria. The PTO will show a holiday-themed movie, which will be announced. Bring the family and enjoy a movie together. Admission is free. All children attending will receive a special gift — supplies are limited/first come basis. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Santa's Shoppe will also be open for your convenience.

Christmas candy grams

Send a Christmas greeting/treat to someone special. Candy grams cost 50 cents each and are on sale now through Dec. 18. They will be delivered to the classrooms Dec. 19. Order forms will be sent home soon.

SMALLRIDGE

continued from page 12

is going on in the school.

• **Tip No. 2:** Make sure our children are healthy by providing a well-balanced diet, plenty of rest, regular trips to the doctor and dentist.

• **Tip No. 3:** Display and model a love of learning and appreciation for a good education. Parents who value education and learning tend to have children who feel the same way.

• **Tip No. 4:** Be available to help, but don't do your child's work even if it means your child doesn't do things to your standard, we need to let them learn to manage homework and time management on their own.

• **Tip No. 5:** Have reasonable expectations for your child, not every child is a straight "A" student. We need to build curiosity and enjoyment for learning and celebrate educational milestones with our children as they reach them. These are just a few simple tips we can share with our children to motivate

them to do their best in school.

Tutoring

Free tutoring is available from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no tutoring on early release days and non-school days. Tutoring takes place in the DMS Media Center with highly qualified instructors. Parent permission forms are available at the front desk if you would like your student to attend tutoring. Please fill out a parent permission form and return it to the front desk. Transportation must be arranged prior to students staying for after school tutoring. Due to tight budget constraints, we must insist parents arrive promptly at 4:45 to collect students.

Box Tops for Education

Please continue to drop off your Box Tops for Education at Dunnellon Middle School. Thank you to everyone who has donated their box tops to us. Please drop your box tops off at the front desk of Building No. 1 or Discipline/Attendance Office at Building No. 10.

Schedule of Events

TODAY

- **7:30 a.m.** — FFA practice in the Ag Room.
- **3:40 to 5 p.m.** — Boys and girls basketball practice in the gymnasium.
- **3:45 to 4:30 p.m.** — Chorus practice in the Band Room.
- **3:40 to 4:45 p.m.** — Girls Bible Study Club.
- **MONDAY, DEC. 16**
- **3:40 to 4:45 p.m.** — Tiger Fit Club
- **TUESDAY, DEC. 17**
- **7:30 a.m.** — FFA Subdistrict Contest, Central Christian Church, Ocala.
- **3:40 to 5 p.m.** — Boys and girls basketball practice in the gymnasium.
- **3:40 to 4:45 p.m.** — Brain Bowl practice.
- **3:45 to 4:30 p.m.** — Chorus practice in the Band Room.
- **6 p.m.** — FFA Alumni meeting, DHS Cafeteria.
- **WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18**
- **3:40 to 5 p.m.** — Boys and girls basketball practice in the gymnasium.

Holly Jolly Holiday Sale

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