Riverland News

Thursday, January 2, 2014 **Vol 32 No. 9** **75 cents**

Two found shot to death in Rainbow Lakes Estates

Wife, estranged husband leave behind three children

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

An apparent domestic dispute Sunday night in Rainbow Lakes Estates turned deadly, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

According to the law enforcement agency, Latalia Robinson, 32, and her estranged husband, Dean Hamilton, 33, were found dead with "apparent gunshot wounds."

A news release from the Marion County Sheriff's Office said a friend of the family became concerned after he did not hear from either Robinson or Hamiltion overnight, so he responded to the listed address where both victims were found.

According to the Marion County Sheriff's office, Robinson worked at West Port High School. Her Facebook page stated she began working at the school this past year as a biology teacher. Hamilton was employed at Cheney Brothers.

Robinson was a mother of three children — one boy and two girls — all of whom attend Romeo Elementary School.

Sherry Downes, who lived about two miles from Robinson, had known her for about two years. Downes said their children rode the bus together to school and spent time playing with each other in Rainbow Lakes Estates.

Downes said she last spoke to Robinson on Dec. 22 when she extended an invitation to Robinson and her children for a birthday party for one of Downes' children. "She was a very sweet lady," Downes, a mother of two, said about Robinson. "She will truly be missed.

"She had a great personality. I'm so heartbroken right now. I just talked to her and she's gone, I'm so hurt."

The Special Investigations Bureau is now investigating the case as an act of domestic violence and further information will be released as it is developed.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Paper changing delivery method

Beginning Jan. 9, Riverland News subscribers who currently receive their paper by carrier will begin receiving their paper through the USPS mail. In addition to the change in delivery service, those who receive a complimentary Sunday Citrus County Chronicle will no longer receive the bonus paper.

For information about the changes, call Jackie Lytton, circulation sales leader, at 888-852-2340.

Woman's Club set to meet Jan. 9

The Woman's Club of Dunnellon will meet at noon Jan. 9 at its clubhouse. Seven new members will be initiated. David Huckabee will be the guest speaker and discuss Alzheimer's disease. There will be a potluck luncheon. Joan Deneau, Pat Grams, Cathy Kunz and Betty Von Seggern will be the hostesses. The club's annual Soup-a-Thon will be Feb. 1.

For information, call Gerry Hess at 465-8195.

Thrift store changes hours

The Annie W. Johnson Thrift Store has changed its hours of operation. The store is now open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Donations being dropped off at the store are welcome from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and pick up of donations can be scheduled between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays. For information, call 465-7957.

Boys & Girls Clubs seek donations

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

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Chief resurgence

Photo courtesy of Jeff Romance/FSU Sports Information

Terrence Brooks picks off a pass against Florida Atlantic earlier this season. The Dunnellon native who is the starting free safety for the top-ranked Seminoles, will play against Auburn at 8:30 pm. Monday night in the BCS National Championship game in Pasadena, Calif. Brooks and company are hoping to win the program's first national title since 1999.

Dunnellon native to compete for national title with FSU

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Slightly more than four years ago, Terrence Brooks made a commitment to Florida State University.

The two-way standout from Dunnellon High School was eager to be a part of putting the Seminoles' football program back in the national spotlight.

Brooks also wanted to prove he belonged at the highest level of collegiate football. Having come from an unknown high school in a relatively unknown town, he certainly had his work cut out for him.

The senior standout free safety has done both. Florida State has risen through the ranks during his collegiate tenure, finally breaking through this past season with an unbeaten record, a No. 1 ranking, an ACC Championship, but more important, a shot at the BCS National Championship on Monday night against Auburn in Pasadena, Calif. Kickoff is set for 8:30 p.m. on ESPN.

"I'm ready," he said via a phone interview prior to the team's abbreviated Christmas break. "(The past four years) have definitely gone by so fast. It's bittersweet. I'm just get ready to bring (the championship) back to Tallahassee."

If Brooks and company can do so, they'll not only break a 13-year title drought in the state's capital; the Seminoles will end the Southeastern Conference's grasp on the national championship. SEC teams have combined to win the past seven national crowns.

"Really, we just need to keep doing what we do," he said about FSU's upcoming opponent. "It's just a matter of doing what we do. We don't want to give them anything, and we want to take care of business. They do some great

See **CHIEF** page **3**

Pair break terms of deal

Animal hoarders back in custody

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Two women placed on probation for hoarding animals in 2011 have been charged for violating their probation.

Penelope Walker, 69, and her daughter, Gina Walker, 47, were each charged with 37 counts of animal cruelty in February 2011, but the two struck a plea deal with the state attorney's office in October 2011 to avoid a sentence.

Penelope Walker

Gina Walker

As a part of their plea deal, the Walkers adjudicated guilty, served one year in jail and were given five years probation. In addition, each had to go through a mental health evaluation and successful follow-up treatment. The women were not allowed to own or care for any animals, were allowed for random animal inspection, were not to maintain employment or volunteer for any facility that cares for animals. They are also required to pay a $500 fine and court costs.

As an added requirement, each woman was to serve her probation in Marion County, scheduled to end Jan. 31, 2017.

However, that all

See **ANIMAL** page **2**

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: FOR THE LOVE OF LITERATURE

Friends of the Library contribute key funds

AUGIE SALZER
For the Riverland News

The love of reading has motivated some residents to put forth extra effort to give everyone an opportunity to experience the special joy of reading.

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library have been working for many, many years with the primary goal of promoting reading, according to their current president Barbara Caban.

"We enjoy reading so much and we want to share that with everyone," Caban said. "The library is a place for resources, reading and enjoyment."

The Friends is a nonprofit, volunteer organization with the sole purpose of helping and supporting the Dunnellon Public Library.

The first actual library in Dunnellon was started by the Women's Club with just one shelf of books in their clubhouse.

Different local clubs raised funds and the people of Dunnellon provided material and helped erect a structure for the library, which now houses Greenlight Communications. The books were in place on many shelves in the new building by 1961.

Three years later, the daily operations were taken over by the Central Florida Regional Library System that later changed its

See **LITERATURE** page **14**

AUGIE SALZER/For the Riverland News

Barbara Caban, left, president of Friends of the Dunnellon Library, and Helen Maurer, look over books prior to stocking the shelves at Friends Library located inside the Dunnellon Public Library.

Longtime volunteer assists at event

JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

James Johnson, 108 years old who has been a longtime volunteer with Dunnellon Fire Rescue, chats with folks Dec. 19 at the department's annual Needy Children's Christmas Party at the Dunnellon Bingo Hall. For more photos, see page 8 of today's issue.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fourth annual tree give-away planned

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District will host its fourth annual native tree give-away at 10 a.m. Saturday Jan. 18 at the McPherson Government Complex Field in recognition of Florida's Arbor Day on Jan. 18. Marion SWCD will give away approximately 2,000 trees, which consist of longleaf pines, redbuds, dogwoods, white oaks and common persimmons.

The trees are available on a first come, first serve basis. Experts will be available onsite to consult on proper planting techniques, as well as, on how and what trees to plant to attract wildlife.

For more information, call 352-622-3971, Option No. 3.

Agency in need of volunteers

The Annie W. Johnson Service Center and the Annie W. Johnson Thrift Store are in need of volunteers, who should have an understanding and a passion for the causes supported by the agency.

For information, call 489-8021.

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.

Norm's Clean Cuts accepting toys, food

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

For information, call 465-3666.

Group to distribute toiletries, clothing

Christians In Action (CIA), a 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.

ANIMAL

continued from page 1

ended recently when they were listed as an absconder/fugitive by the Department of Corrections after, according to reports, they left without notifying anyone of their whereabouts, did not report to a probation office, changed their address without notifying the agency and had contact with animals even though forbidden to do so. A recommendation was made to revoke their probation and sentence them to prison, and warrants were issued for their arrest.

According to a Marion County Sheriff's Office report, authorities had been notified Friday by the Leon County Sheriff's Office that Penelope Walker had been released from a hospital and they had her in custody. Marion County Officials went to Leon County and brought her back to Ocala.

Additionally, records stated Gina Walker waived her extradition rights in Alabama and was brought to the Marion County Jail.

Both women are being held without bond. Their next court date is Jan. 29. According to court records, Gina Walker will be represented by John James Nugent III while Penelope Walker will be represented by the Public Defender's Office.

When Dunnellon Police Department officials stumbled upon Penelope and Gina Walker in the Rainbow Springs Plaza in February 2011, they found the mother and daughter had more than 50 animals locked in cages for the better part of several weeks as the two made their way to Florida from Arkansas in search of a better life for both them and their animals.

Marion County Animal Control officers removed 37 live and at least 12 dead animals from the vehicles in which the animals were covered in feces and malnourished.

Altogether, a total of two donkeys, six goats and seven dogs were removed from a van and a total of 19 dogs, two cats and one bird were taken from an RV. The live animals were mostly kept in crates; officers found the deceased animals in bags, coolers, boxes and crates. The crates had layers of animal waste, with one crate weighing in at 92 pounds.

Solution to puzzle on Page 14

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

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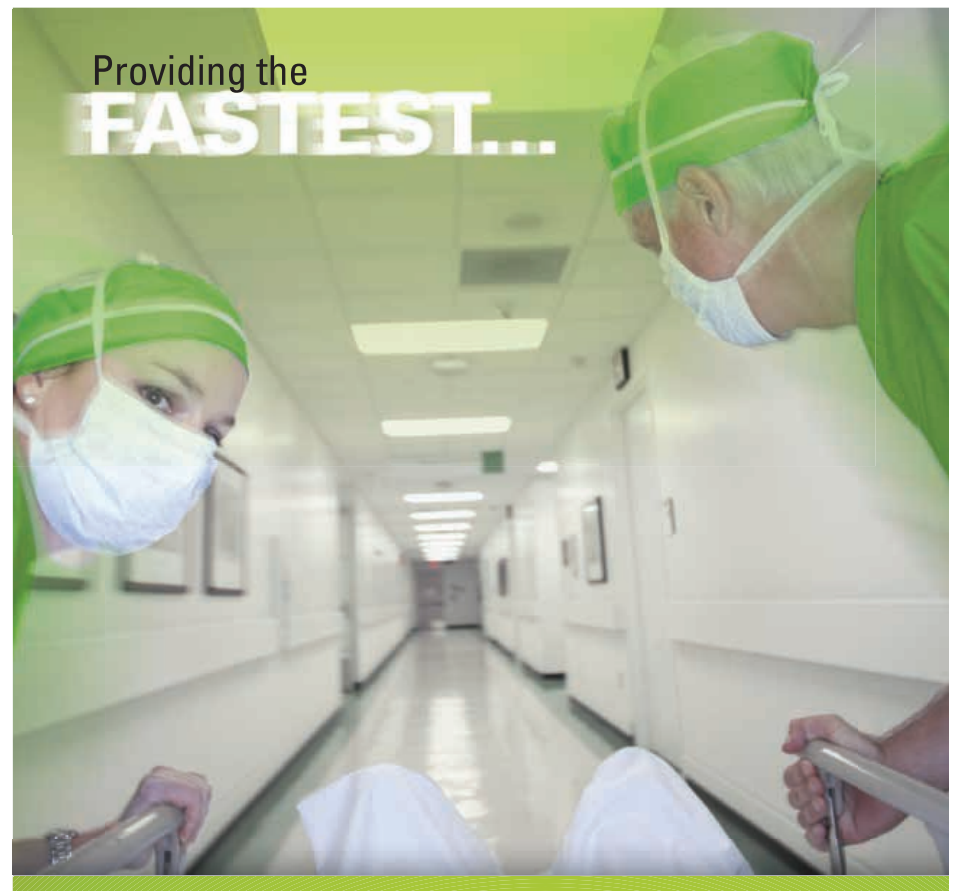

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Chamber schedules annual awards dinner

Special to the Riverland News

The Dunnellon Chamber of Commerce is busily preparing for its annual awards/installation dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Rainbow River's Clubhouse.

During the evening's festivities, awards will be given out and newly elected board members will be sworn in. The chamber will present awards in the following categories:

- **Community Service Award:** The Community Service Award was first presented in 1986 and its purpose is to recognize one or more persons who have been instrumental in serving our Community.
- **Community Youth Award:** The Community Youth Award recognizes one or more persons who have been instrumental in Youth Services in the Dunnellon Area.
- **Making A Difference Award:** This award is presented to an individual who has done an outstanding job of making a difference in Dunnellon.
- **Community Involvement: Award:** The Community Involvement Award is to recognize one or more persons who have been instrumental in making Dunnellon area a better place in which to work and live.
- **Service Above Self Award:** This award is to honor someone of good moral character who is well respected and has given outstanding service to the community without thought of personal gain or recognition.
- **Business Leader Award:** The Business Leader Award is given to a business leader who enhances the Chamber and the local business community, demonstrates a commitment to community and civic affairs and serves as a business leader in the community.
- **Heritage Award:** While the following award is not presented every year, the Heritage Award is given to a person or persons who have contributed and promoted the historical heritage of the community.

Tickets for the event are on sale now and are $25 per person. The cost includes the price of dinner as well as appetizers, desserts, wine and drinks. Seating is limited,, so reserving your tickets now is important.

To submit nominations, for information or to purchase a ticket for the event, call the Chamber of Commerce at 489-2320 or email Dunnellon chamber@bellsouth.net.

Photo courtesy of Jeff Romance/FSU Sports Information

Terrence Brooks pressures Miami quarterback Stephen Morris earlier this season.

CHIEF

continued from page 1

things over there. I'm sure our coaches will have us prepared and ready. We did a lot of work to get us into the national championship. Now, we just need to finish it."

Practicing against a Heisman trophy winner certainly hasn't hurt the Seminole defense in preparing for the national title game, Brook said in reference to Jameis Winston, the red-shirt freshman who's been key in guiding the FSU offense and helping catapult the 'Noles into the national championship game.

"It definitely makes us better each and every day," said Brooks, who earned second-team All-ACC honors this past season. "That's what makes our practices better; we just benefit so much. I feel like our receivers don't get enough credit. It's just great overall, because we just want to get better each day.

"Our defense doesn't get enough love though. The defense definitely has come together well. I love playing with these guys. I feel like we've all become better throughout the season."

Coming from a small town, Brooks believed he always had something more to prove. However, that hasn't been the case the past two seasons. As a junior, he ranked fifth on the team in tackles. This year, he's again fifth on the team in tackles despite missing one game due to a concussion.

"For me, it's just really being more of a student of the game," said Brooks, who earned first-team All-American honors from CBS Sports at free safety while leading the nation's top-ranked pass defense. "I think coach (Jimbo) Fisher has brought in a great coaching staff. I feel, personally, like our maturity level is at an all-time high. We want to learn more; we just play for each other. We just have fun with it. We take it one game at a time. We just put in a lot of good work, but we're still grinding, going out there with a purpose.

"I'm very blessed to get to this point. It's definitely surreal. It won't hit me until after the game that my collegiate career is over. I'm happy I'm getting this opportunity to show what I can do. Hopefully, we have a lot more players to make it from Dunnellon. I hope I shine for my city."

Overall, the Seminoles are 44-10 during Brooks career, all under Fisher. Also notable is Florida State's record in bowl games under their fourth-year head coach. The 'Noles have yet to lose since Fisher took over for legendary coach Bobby Bowden beginning in 2010. FSU has notched wins in the Peach Bowl (2010, defeated South Carolina); the Champ Sports Bowl (2011, slipped past Notre Dame); and the Orange Bowl (2012, thumped Northern Illinois). Overall, the Seminoles have won six straight bowl games dating back to 2008.

It was the Notre Dame victory two years ago that gave Brooks his "defining moment" in his collegiate career when the then-sophomore had a game-sealing interception against the Irish. Brooks admitted it was the moment he knew he could play at the NCAA Division I level.

"Getting that interception is when it really settled in that I can play with these guys," he explained. "I feel like I've evolved from that, I can just feel it."

But the turnaround in Tallahassee has been instrumental. Prior to 2010, Florida State had posted a 25-18 mark in the final fours under Bowden, including a scandal-plagued 2007 in which the Seminoles vacated seven victories.

"We know we've laid a good ground work, a good standard, a standard that is going to be improved upon each year," Brook said about the program's return to national prominence. "That standard includes how we play on the field and how we carry ourselves on and off the field."

His football career his far from finished though. Brooks could very likely find himself playing again in the fall, except for it won't be Saturday afternoons and evenings, it could mean Sundays with an occasional contest Monday if the NFL calls his name in April.

"I'm very blessed to get some attention," he said, assuring NFL Scouts have been in contact already. "For the most part it's great, but right now I'm focusing on what we need to do to get this national championship back to Tallahassee. Everything else will take care of itself. If you do what you're supposed to do every day, then I certainly hope I'll be playing on Sundays.

Playing professionally would be a dream come true, Brooks said.

"I'm glad I can be a role model to some kids in (Dunnellon), my small little town," he explained. "I'm glad to have everyone's support. It's going to be a good (game). I'm just ready for this. I've been waiting for it for a long time."

However, the past four years hasn't always been the easiest or the best. It's been during those lean times he's leaned on his faith in God and his family.

"My whole life I've been going to church," he said, noting his great-grandfather began taking him to church at a very early age. "My great-grandfather was a wondeful influence on me, and he taught me how important a great relationship with God is. It's carried me through those tough times. My relationship with God has gotten stronger and I believe I've shown that. I'm very blessed to have stayed healthy, and I definitely owe that all to (God)."

Sports, of course, has always been a way of life.

"My mom always kept us in all kinds of sports," he said. "We played it all. I just kept on going with it."

Brooks credited his cousin, Rodney Jones, a standout running back at Dunnellon in the early 2000s with teaching him how to play the game with passion and a certain intensity.

"I always looked up to him," he said. "Rodney was a great influence for me. Since I've been here. It's my teammates and coaches, the support of Dunnellon and my family and God. That's all I really needed."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

American Legion activities slated

The American Legion Wall-Rives Post No. 58 will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, with dinner proceeding the meeting at 6. The Women's Auxiliary will meet at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8.

Cub Pack No. 469 meets from 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays.

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

The outdoor flea market and pancake breakfast will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18. Cost is $5 per person.

Penno VFW Post plans events

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

Join us for darts at 1 p.m. Tuesdays and bingo at 1 p.m. Mondays. $1 Hot dogs are available for lunch on those days.

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

The canteen is open Sunday through Saturday at noon; and closes at 8 p.m. or later Monday through Saturday except for meeting nights, and 6 p.m. Sundays. For information, call 465-4864.

Writers Group meets first Saturday monthly

The Rainbow River Writers Club meets at 1 p.m. the first Saturday monthly, except January and July, at the Dunnellon Public Library, 30351 Robinson Road. All writers of all genres are welcome.

Writers hear and critique each other's creative efforts, socialize and talk shop as is the tradition and custom of all writers regardless of time or place.

For information, visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wgdunnellon or email waltersylvester@yahoo.com

TOPS welcomes members, visitors

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 375 Rainbow Lakes welcomes new members and visitors. TOPS meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays at the Rainbow Lakes Community Center 4030 SW Deepwater Court, Rainbow Lakes. Take U.S. 41 to Rainbow Lakes Boulevard, 4.5 miles to the Community Center. For information, call 465-5807.

S. Dunnellon Civic Associaton meets

The South Dunnellon Civic Association Inc. meets at 4:30 p.m. the second Monday monthly at 1962 W. Test Court, South Dunnellon.

The facility is on the left side of street just before The Annie W. Johnson Center. The public is invited to come help, and give ideas to promote community improvement and safety.

For more details, contact Randy Campbell at 465-7135 or e-mail randolphcampbell@bellsouth.net.

Police collecting used cell phones

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

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The *Riverland News* serves Dunnellon and the surrounding areas: Blue Cove, Chatmire, Hills of Ocala, Lake Tropicana, Rainbows End, Rainbow Lakes Estates, All the Rainbow Springs Area, Rio Vista and Vogt Springs.

The *Riverland News* is delivered on Thursday to subscribers by our carriers and mail. The newspaper is also available inside area stores and at various boxes throughout the community. Local subscription rate is $28 a year. Call for Florida and out-of-Florida rates.

The *Riverland News* is published in Dunnellon, FL by Citrus Publishing, Inc., 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429-5760.

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RIVERLAND NEWS

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TIME TO SMILE

A trip to the loo

I left at 10 minutes to 11 o'clock. Not a mile from home, I pulled into a gas station to change from my stylish boots to my comfortable sneakers.

Kathleen Wallace

There's no need to impress strangers I will never see again. By the time I hit U.S. 19, a 20-minute drive from my house, I already had to use the facilities.

I tell myself it is psychosomatic. The next gas station I see I will pull over. Oops! Fiddling with the radio, I miss the first one. I'll try for the next.

I have the Christmas music going. Singing at the top of my lungs, I realize is painful to my ears. Dang!

I passed three gas stations — two of which are on the other side of the road and for some reason crossing traffic seems like a big deal.

Pay attention Wallace. There is no excuse for missing that last station.

Now I am on the beautiful, but bathroom-free Suncoast Parkway. There are no cars for miles, just pretty scenery. I honk at the gaggle — bushel, pack, herd? — of bike riders zipping by on the nature trail.

I can't wait until they extend it to Dunnellon. I don't understand why people don't use this highway. There are fewer tolls and zero traffic.

Scratch that. I would like to keep it that way so forget I made that previous statement.

I might as well be on I-95 in Connecticut with all this stopping and going. Gee, the traffic is horrible today. Actually, it is once I hit the Tampa area. I miss big cities until I remember what it is like to drive in them.

The Sunpass lane makes for an easy entry into the parking garage.

Finding an empty parking spot on my first go round is pure luck.

OK, in case I forget next Sunday, write this down: I am parked on Level 1, Row 5 in the Goddard section. It has green signs – Green, Goddard, got it. I may have to call you and ask you where I parked.

My need for the facilities has kicked up a notch. Doing the "potty dance" is not an option, but it may come to that.

I take the elevator to Level 5 to take the tram to the terminal, to hop on the elevator, to take the escalator, to take the tram to the security line with no bathroom in sight. Who designed this airport? Seriously, an elevator, to a tram, to an elevator, to an escalator, to a tram before you reach a bathroom.

Security is slow moving as usual.

We all had to listen to

See **TIME** page **5**

THE JERSEY GIRL

Columnist preps for 2014

Can it possibly be 2014 already? Where does the time go? Going into 2013, I hardly wanted for anything, but entering 2014, I do have a few requests.

Audrey Beem

My first thought is, of course, the family. I hope 2014 is a healthy and happy one for all. I don't wish to hear the words hospital, infection or hemoglobin ever again.

I want my grandkids' guardian angels to work extra hard watching them and keeping them safe from harm. I hope my granddaughter continues on the path of enjoyment and hope my grandson stays as sweet and funny as he is right now.

I wish for love for both my brothers. We're looking forward to my older brother, Dominic, moving back to Florida where he belongs. Five years is a long time to be away from the family. All we need to do is sell his house in Iowa and find him a decent job. It would be a dream come true to have the whole family together for the holidays this year.

I want my daughters to continue to learn about life and to be loved the way they deserve.

I want my mom and dad to enjoy another year of good health and new adventures.

I want Dunnellon not only to pull through, but to thrive. Let's hope our leaders make some wise decisions.

Kudos to Jeff Bryan and the Riverland News for always keeping us informed about what's going on and for telling us what we need to know; and I thank our readers for their loyalty.

Now in 2014 I want to get my teeth whitened, my eyelids lifted, sunspots gone, lose 20 more pounds and voila, a new me. Now that I'm not wearing glasses anymore, I want to learn how to apply eye makeup like the professionals do. The smokey-eye look, or perhaps some glitz and glimmer. I also hope to find time for pedicures.

This year I want to continue eating healthy and exercise more. Don't we say that every year? I want to look into this glutton-free venture further and learn more about what I should, or should not be putting into my body.

And that reminds me, my husband is finally getting one year closer to 50.

I want to attempt to cook my first prime rib, maintain a comfortable relationship with my in-laws and spend quality time with the few friends I've managed to hold onto throughout the years.

I want 2014 to be a year of home refurbishing. We need to finish installing the double-paned windows and start getting some color on the walls. There is a paint swab called "Freckles" that I would love to incorporate into the master bedroom. I also want to stain our pool deck.

Many good thoughts for the courageous military men who put their lives on the line every day.

I hope Michael J. Fox and Valerie Harper continue going strong; Tim Tebow reinvents himself and comes back better

See **JERSEY** page **5**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor lacks compassion, may God forgive him

As I Viewed the Dec. 26 edition of your newspaper, I was immediately filled with anger, heartbreak, and disbelief.

During this holiday season, how could you post a picture on your front page of the grieving Lay family?

With your article on our small town's 2013 year in review, there were plenty of wonderful newsworthy items in which a front page picture could have been placed.

I am shocked that instead you chose to post a family's heartbreak of losing their son, Kyle.

I cannot imagine the loss of a child, nor this family's pain and all they have been through this past year. To post their heartache at what should be the most joyful time of year for all families is unacceptable.

Instead, further in your article, you could have mentioned the wonderful attempts of this family to change the laws of children riding in truck beds after losing their own son to such a tragedy — if in fact you felt it necessary to mention tragedies at all.

Now I write this, why was it necessary to post any past tragedies at Christmastime? Was it also necessary to remind us of the sad turn of events within the Hakken family? Could you not have instead chosen to celebrate the wonderful happenings within our small town during 2013?

As a community it is my prayer that we love, strengthen, guide and encourage our neighbors with our triumphs, not remind them of their pain.

In my opinion, your lack of compassion for these families during the holidays is horrible. God forgive you.

Nancy Schwier,
Dunnellon

OPINIONS INVITED

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

SOCIAL SECURITY

Ring in New Year with a COLA

Many people ring in the New Year with Champagne. People who receive Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) get to ring it in with a COLA. This year, more than 60 million Americans are receiving a 1.5 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) in their monthly benefit payment.

Michael W. Grochowski

The 1.5 percent COLA begins with increased benefits for more than 57 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2014, and payments to more than 8 million SSI recipients in late December 2013.

The estimated average monthly Social Security payment to a retired worker is $1,294 (in 2014), up from $1,275 (in 2013). The average monthly Social Security disability payment for an individual is $1,148 (in 2014), up from $1,131 (in 2013).

The basic monthly federal payment for SSI is $721 (in 2014), up from $710 (in 2013).

Some other changes that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security payroll tax (taxable maximum) will increase to $117,000, up from $113,700. Of the estimated 165 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in 2014, about 10 million will pay higher taxes as a result of the increase in the taxable maximum.

The amount of earnings needed for one credit of Social Security coverage has gone up as well, but all workers can still earn up to four credits in a year. In 2014, a worker earns a credit after earning $1,200. In 2013, one credit of coverage was $1,160. It takes 40 credits to be fully insured for retirement benefits.

Information about Medicare changes for 2014 is available at www.medicare.gov.

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice to learn more about the COLA and other Social Security changes in 2014.

Social Security Q&A

Question: I am nearing my full retirement age, but I plan to keep working after I apply for Social Security benefits. Will my benefits be reduced because of my income?

Answer: No. If you start receiving benefits after you've reached your full retirement age, you can work while you receive Social Security and your current benefit will not be reduced because of the earned income. If you keep working, it could mean a higher benefit for you in the future. Higher benefits can be important to you later in life and increase the future benefit amounts your survivors could receive. If you begin receiving benefits before your full retirement age, your earnings could reduce your monthly benefit amount. After you reach full retirement age, we recalculate your benefit amount to leave out the months when we reduced or withheld benefits due to your excess earnings. Learn more about Social Security reading our publication, How Work Affects Your Benefits, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10069.html.

Question: I didn't enroll in Medicare Part B back when my Part A started a few years ago. Can I enroll now?

Answer: Yes — but if you want to do it this year, you'll have to act soon. The general enrollment period for Medicare Part B, medical insurance, began Jan. 1 and runs through March 31. Keep in mind that although there is no monthly premium for Medicare Part A, there will be a premium for your Medicare Part B. And in most cases, that premium goes up each 12-month period you were eligible for it and elected not to enroll. To find out more about Medicare, visit www.medicare.gov or www.socialsecurity.gov and select the "Medicare" link.

From everyone at Social Security, have a Happy New Year.

Michael W. Grochowski is the Social Security regional commissioner in Atlanta.

TIME

continued from page 1

the snottiest teenager tell the poor person on the other end of her phone how much she hated her and what an awesome person the speaker was.

More important, if she had a super power it would be the ability to dye her hair without (messing) it up. What a waste of a super power.

I made the mistake of taking out my license in line. She took a photo with her phone. I am not sure where it was pointed. Reminder to self: check my credit rating.

With my shoes back on and sweat rolling down my back, I found my way to the bathroom. Ah, relief!

The departure board tells me my flight is delayed an hour. What time is it now — there is no clock in sight

The person who designed this building has obviously never flown.

Perusing the gift shop, I buy an $11 bagel and yogurt and a book — "The Aviator's Wife" by Melanie Benjamin — I can't really afford.

Three chapters in and I want to strangle the heroine for being an empty-headed, helpless twit.

The majority of the people sitting next to me have their heads glued to an electronic device. I am finally able to strike up a conversation with the young woman sitting next to me. She is extremely intelligent, polite, polished and a Scientologist. We had a fascinating conversation.

No, I am not converting. I can barely commit to cleaning my house. There is no way I am committing to a religion.

She departs for her flight while we are told our flight is delayed another two hours. Group moan, "UGH!"

My slow moving book has turned into a yawn. As a desperate bored writer, I pull out my 2-by-3 notepad with pen — a birthday gift from my good friend Betty — and I begin this column.

It distracts me from the number of adults who don't cover their mouth when they cough; the five crying babies; and one whiney toddler.

On the bright side, there is a Chihuahua in a full Santa suit with a fluffy white hood and a belt. Buckle up it's going to be a bumpy ride.

Seriously, we are flying into a storm.

JERSEY

continued from page 4

than ever; and Amanda Knox finally finds some peace and remains on American soil.

I would like to see more of Jennifer Lawrence, Jimmy Smits, Robin Roberts, Andy Garcia and Teresa Caputo, the Long Island Medium and less of Kanye West, Miley Cyrus, "Teen Mom," Tan Mom, Octo Mom and George Zimmerman. In fact, I hope never to hear his name again.

My personal goals for 2014 are to continue to keep the family going, many more words to flow from my brain, more time with the grandkids and strive to be a good person and a good friend when needed. I want to improve in thoughtfulness. You know how some people remember birthdays and always send cute little inspirational messages? Well I'm not good at that at all. So I hope to pick it up a notch.

I guess I should take a more serious interest in my retirement. I've been investing in my 401(k) plan for years, but since I plan to live to be 100, I better up the stakes a bit.

I hope we all get to keep our jobs unless, of course, we hit the lottery which would be even better. Believe me, we're buying tickets and trying.

I wish much luck and happiness this year to everyone.

'Pig Out on Reading'

ABOVE: DJ and Amanda Sperber meet Daisy II, the Famous Pot Belly Pig, at the Dunnellon Public Library. After a little coaxing by his mom, DJ did give Daisy II a pat.
LEFT: Snowbird Ann Welch gets a smooch and a few snorts from Daisy II who was in Dunnellon as part of the "Pig Out on Reading" program visiting five area libraries.
BELOW: Farmer Minor, Daisy II and the pugs visited Dunnellon Library with the message, "Keep reading lots of good books, visit the library often, watch a little less TV, and pig out on reading."
Photos by DARLENE MANN/Riverland News

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Jeremiah A. Hubbard, DO
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000H05O

Sitdown with Santa Claus

Jolly 'Ol St. Nick visited with elementary-aged students at DHS' Kiddie World

Alysha Baker

Makayla Zorger

Cadie Lenz

Madeleine Hatcher

Mitchell Hodge

Brent Casey

Aubri Lynn

Myah Roof

Dylan Shaffer

Glorida Gonzalez

Te'Mirah Walker

Jayden Curley

Travis Cumbie

Madelyn Williams

Alliana Kelley

Malek Ellawand

Sinai Rodriguez

Bailey Edwards

Landen Reed

Hailee Hutchinson

Sitdown with Santa Claus

Jolly 'Ol St. Nick visited with elementary-aged students at DHS' Kiddie World

Reilly Heaton

Ayden LaGray

Phyllis Canada

Aubrie Hiers

Daniel Crapps

Aiden Roof

Dustee Shaffer

Na'Onna Rodriguez

A.J. Callahan

Killian Scott

Laura Ferrer

Jayleigh Lovette

Alexis Stephens

Nicholas Koumarianos

Javon Williams

William Woods

Lily Metzgar

Lillian Lea

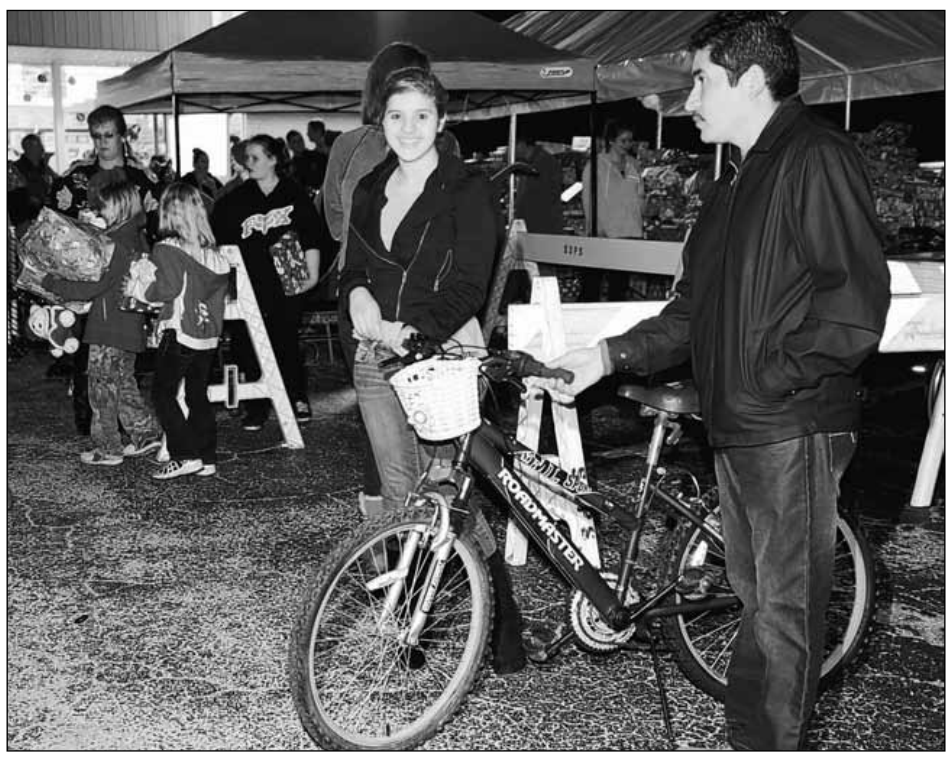
Lillian White

Deck the Bingo Hall

Photos by JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Kianna, 7, gets her face painted by a volunteer from the Ocala Clown Express Dunnellon Fire Rescue's Needy Children's Christmas Party. Slightly fewer than 400 children attended the event. Drawing winning ticket numbers were displayed on a screen. Families who did not have a Christmas tree could also be entered into a drawing for one.

ABOVE: Freckles the clown applies a temporary tattoo to a young boy's hand.
RIGHT: Jocelyn, a teenager, won a bike in the ticket drawing at the annual Needy Children's Christmas Party at the Dunnellon Bingo Hall.
BELOW: Volunteer Brandie Kirkwood talks to Santa about her plans for Christmas break when school lets out.



ABOVE: Amora, 4, gets her face painted by a volunteer from the Ocala Clown Express.
BELOW: Santa Claus surveys the crowd after arriving at the annual Needy Children's Christmas Party.

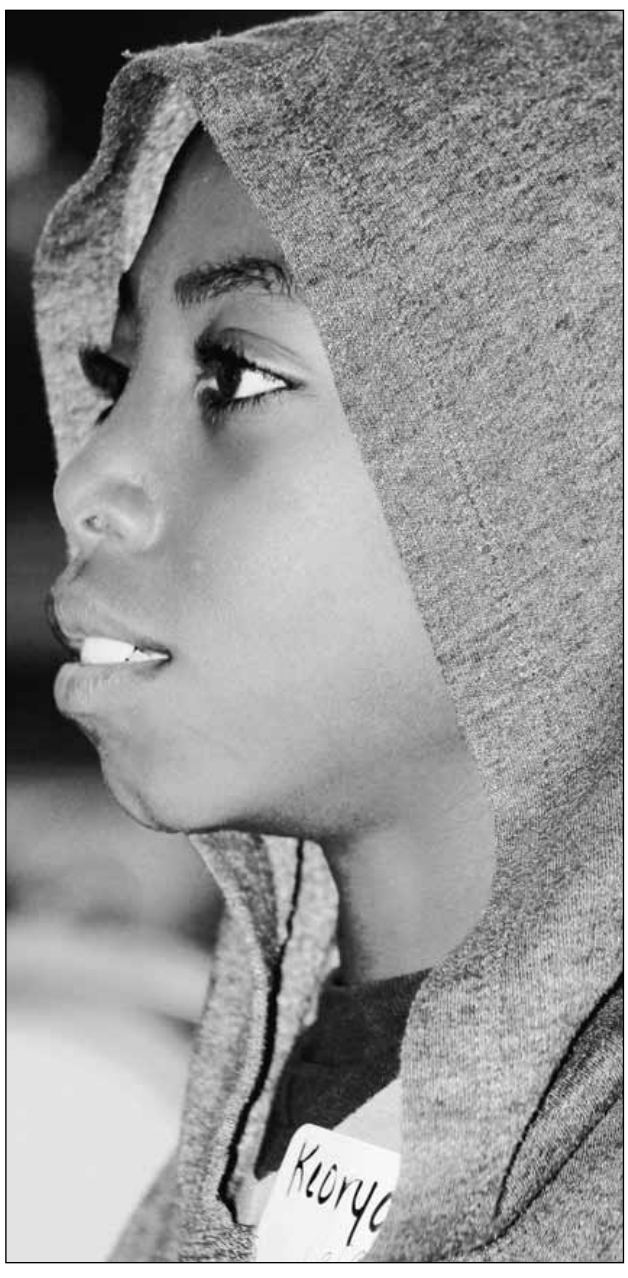
Photos by JEFF BRYAN & LAURA RILEY/Riverland News

Keaira Bostick and Sue Lavac look over an ample supply of earrings while searching for a Christmas present with the help of a Walmart associate Dec. 17 during the third annual Cops 4 Kids Christmas program.

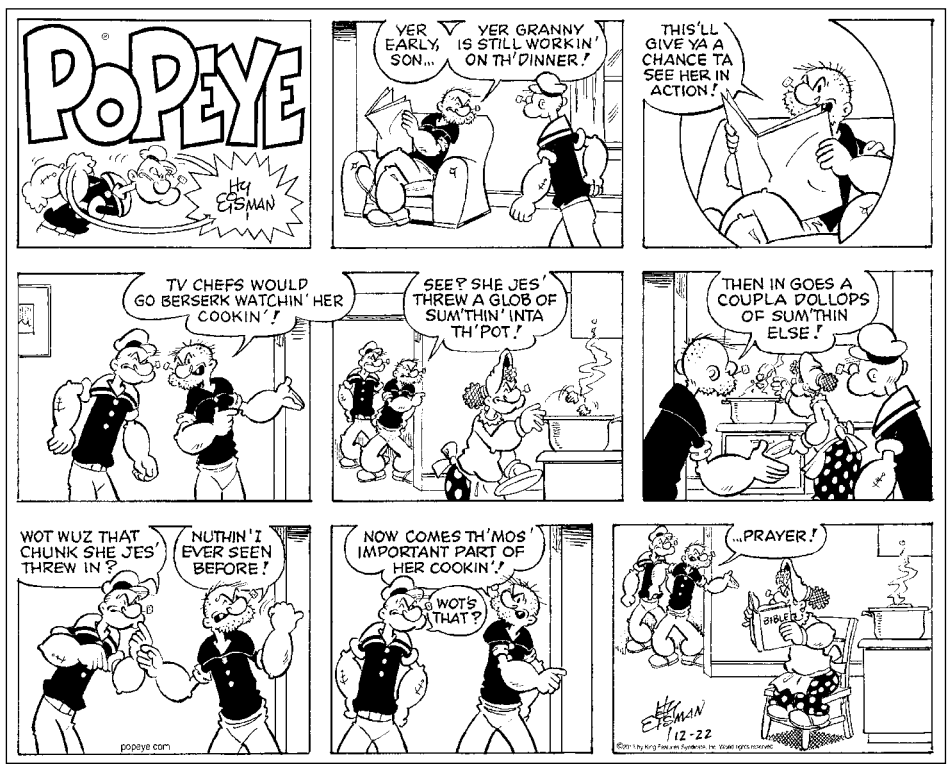
Gift of giving

ABOVE: Theodore Riuenburg, right, and Officer Adam Robinson check the price tag on a pair of pajamas.
BELOW: Keoryan Jeffries chats with Officer Mike Anger, not pictured, while the two wait for dinner at The Blue Gator.

ABOVE: Serenity Sewell, left, chats with Lt. Sue Webb of the Dunnellon Police Department and Ron from Rainbow River Canoe & Kayak, which bussed the children from The Blue Gator to Walmart.
LEFT: Javon Lee and Charlene Williams search the men's department for a gift.
BELOW: Dalton Brookins, center, and David Paulen, right, check out a game app on Darlene Parker's phone while waiting on dinner at The Blue Gator.



Fun and GAMES



Super Crossword

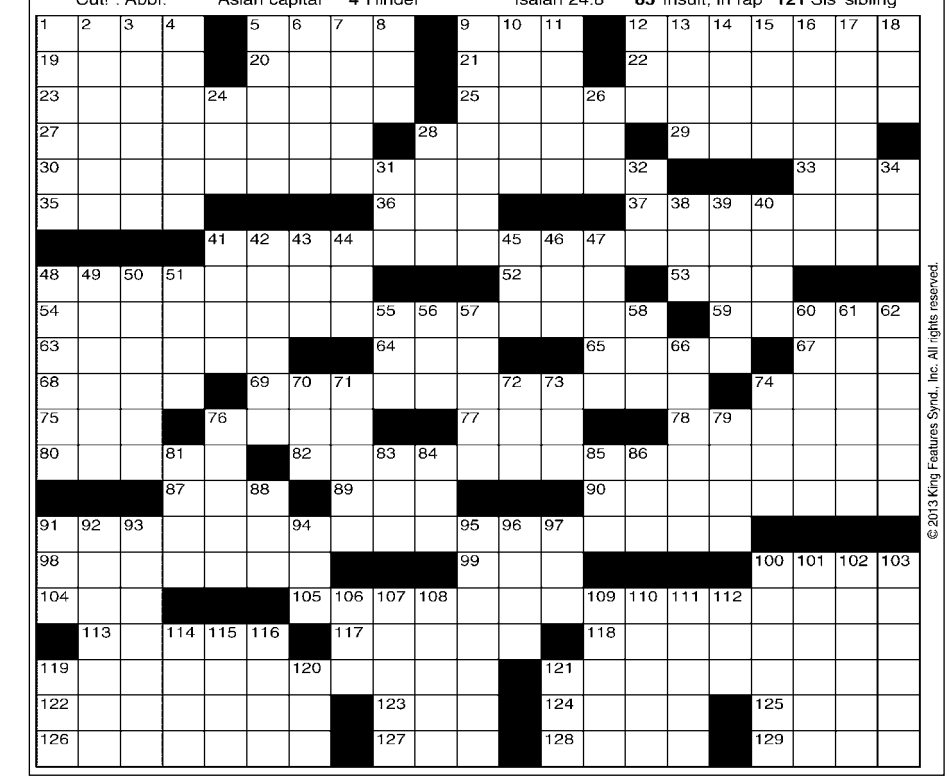
BAD MOVES

ACROSS

1 "No" voter
5 Lhasa — (small dog)
9 Obscured
12 Curtail
19 Sports side
20 Rice and Curry
21 Trick-taking card, often
22 Plant ailment
23 "To Kill a Mockingbird" novelist
25 Wisconsin, with "the"
27 Of the aorta, for example
28 San Fran NFLer
29 Alternative to a Roth IRA
30 Annual hoops drawing
33 Seek damages, perhaps
35 Unit of force
36 Poker great Ungar
37 Captivates
41 Internet pop-ups, e.g.
48 Lurched side-to-side
52 It's breathed
53 One crying "Cut!": Abbr.
54 Mouthpiece, tank, flippers, etc.
59 Former Golden Arches burger
63 — Space Telescope
64 Sculling tool
65 Marker bobbing on the water
67 West of old Hollywood
68 Big name in car rental
69 Medieval lyric poets
74 "Je t'—" (Fifi's "I love you")
75 Wish undone
76 "For — the Bell Tolls"
77 Nissan Xterra, e.g.
78 Hotel giant
80 Green basil-based sauce
82 New Mexico tourist attraction
87 NHL's Bobby
89 "Yoo- —!" ("Hey!")
90 County seat near Cedar Rapids
91 A South Asian capital
98 World's lowest lake
99 Horror maven Craven
100 Smidgens
104 Popeye's gal
105 Libertarian presidential candidate of 2004
113 — -arms (soldier)
117 Scottish tyke
118 In a restless way
119 1955 "Arabian Nights" adventure film
121 Intrepid type
122 Permafrost regions
123 Filled up on
124 Do followers
125 This, in Avila
126 Do a mailroom job
127 Kin of "Inc."
128 "The — lama, he's a priest": Nash
129 Leopold's partner in crime

DOWN

1 Within reach
2 Within reach
3 Kilt material
4 Hinder
5 Central courtyards
6 Rice —
7 Silvery fish
8 Sugar suffix
9 Regular visitor
10 Quitter's cry
11 Actress Pfeiffer
12 Live
13 Jurist Robert
14 Suitor's gift
15 "Keep — yourself!"
16 Seems to last forever
17 Injured oneself
18 Summer, to Sartre
24 Go wrong
26 Mutt's noise
28 Tube lover's punishment
31 Narc's find
32 "Assuredly"
34 Lion chaser?
38 Flanders of Springfield
39 "— brother's keeper?"
40 Ford make, for short
41 Public prosperity
42 "The noise of them that rejoice —": Isaiah 24:8
43 "— Mir Bist Du Schön"
44 Adj. modifier
45 Joplin piece
46 Suit's partner
47 Pitcher Hideki —
48 D flat's equivalent
49 Big name in contact lenses
50 Red gems
51 Dies away
55 Betting slip
56 Catch cold
57 Lawn growth
58 Karel Capek sci-fi play
60 Composer Kabalevsky
61 Cranston a.k.a. "the Shadow"
62 Microscopic
66 Part of the Greater Toronto Area
70 Bird of myth
71 Siouan tribe
72 Give the title
73 Eggs in labs
74 Guinness of "Cromwell"
76 Fish bait
79 "Terrible" guy
81 Frog's kin
83 Angling pole
84 Hack (off)
85 Insult, in rap
86 Foldout bed
88 "Norma —"
91 Simple vow
92 Emmy-winning Jane
93 Fitness guru Jack
94 "Thwack!"
95 Gave a blue ribbon, say
96 Acute
97 Kauai, e.g.: Abbr.
100 Fez dangler
101 Melodious passage
102 Thin down
103 First U.S. space station
106 Part of many Arabic names
107 Political plot
108 Singer/guitarist John
109 President Martin Van —
110 "What's in —?"
111 Real imp
112 Scots' "no"
114 Signals "OK"
115 Frizzy hairdo
116 Russian autocrat
119 Slick 50 rival
120 Solo finish?
121 Sis' sibling



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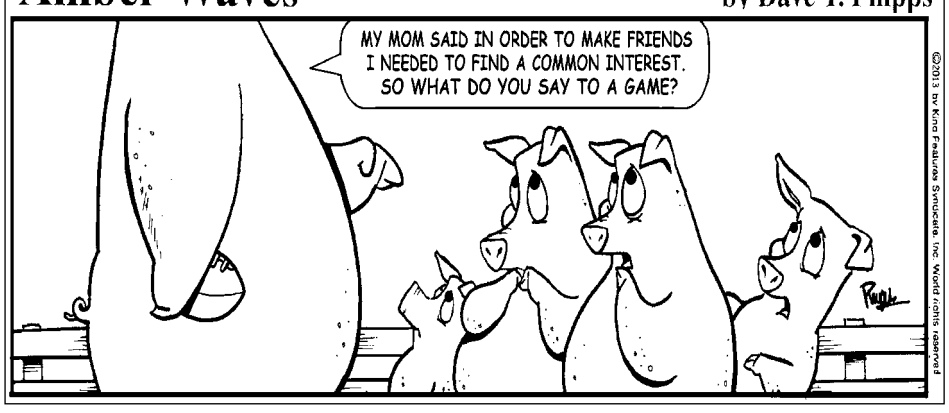
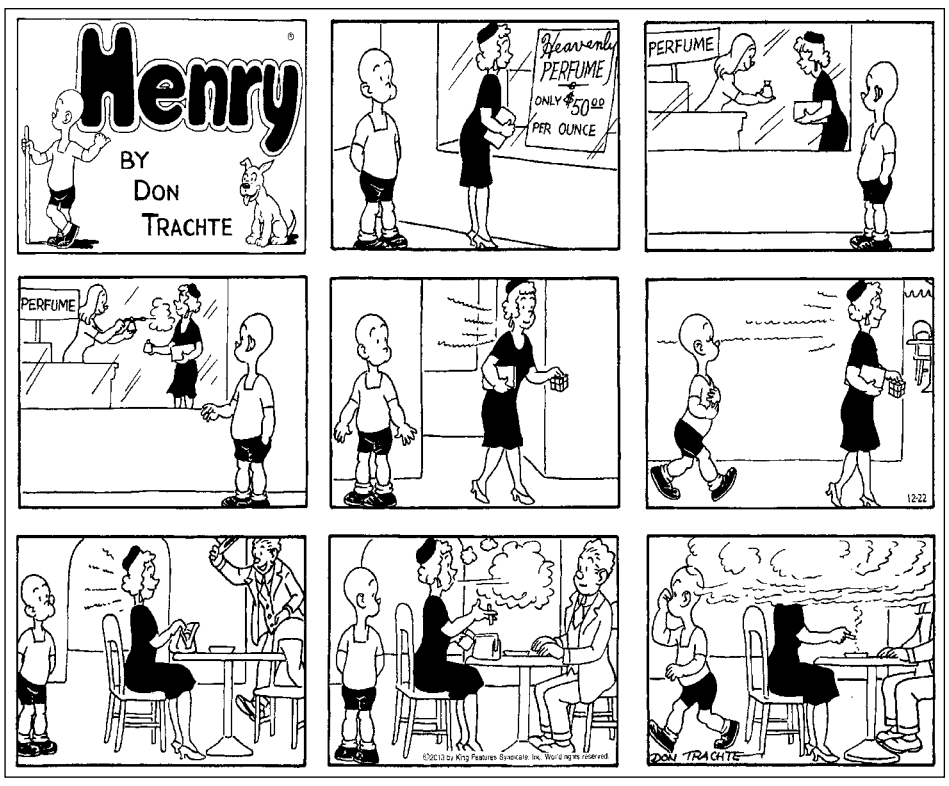
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

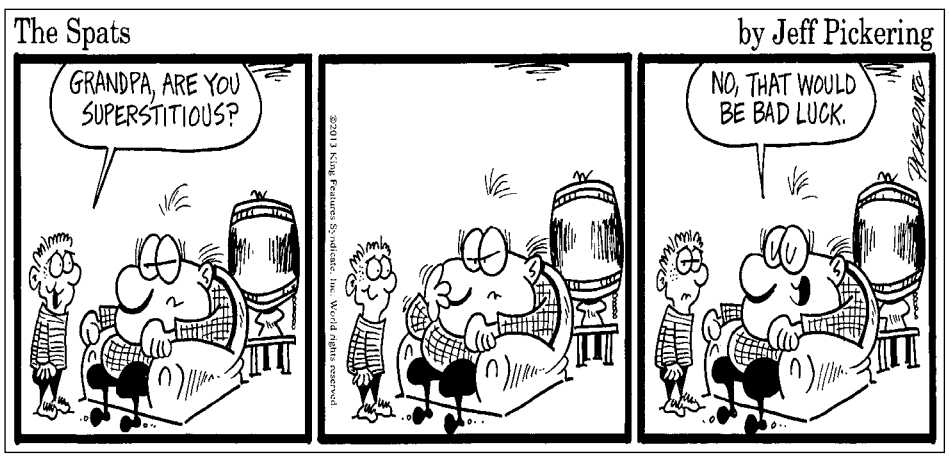


Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

The Spats

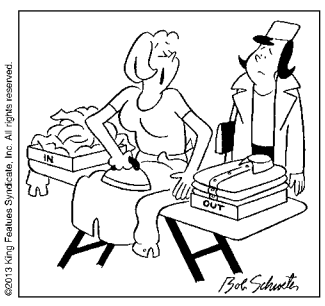
by Jeff Pickering



SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Fold — CARESE
Lost — RAFTID
Cover — CAYPON
Exact — TIFINE



"It's not easy being married to an _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ expert."

TODAY'S WORD

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a good time to take a much-needed break from your recent hectic schedule and spend some time in quieter surroundings. Important news could arrive early next week.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The Taurean traits of reliability and thoroughness could be well-tested when decision-makers consider your proposals and/or requests. Be prepared to answer some probing questions.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A sudden attack of boredom leaves you with some tasks undone. It's OK to take a short respite. But get back to work by week's end so that you have time for other projects.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Avoid prejudging a situation just because it looks bad. Facts could emerge that would make your position uncomfortable, to say the least. A relative has interesting news to share with you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to begin reassessing some of your recent decisions about your long-range goals to see if they still have merit. Spend more time with loved ones this weekend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An unsettled situation at home or on the job early in the week could drain your energy levels, making it difficult to get your work done on schedule. But things improve by midweek.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A temporary setback could give you time to go over your plans to find weaknesses you might have overlooked before. A romantic getaway with that special person is favored this weekend.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Professional and personal situations benefit once you set a positive tone in getting things off to a good start. Honest dialogue smoothes over any occasional display of balkiness.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A problem with workplace colleagues or family members seems to defy even your sage counsel. But be patient. Your words eventually will lead to a resolution.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't just wait out that unexpected and unexplained delay in your career move. You could gain added respect if you ask why it happened and what you can do to move things along.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Although your workplace strategies usually are accepted, you could be challenged by someone who isn't so favorably impressed. Be prepared to defend your positions.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your friendship circle expands, with new people coming into your life at this time. Welcome them warmly. But don't neglect those cherished longtime personal relationships.

BORN THIS WEEK: You love to search for knowledge and share it with others. You would make an especially fine teacher.

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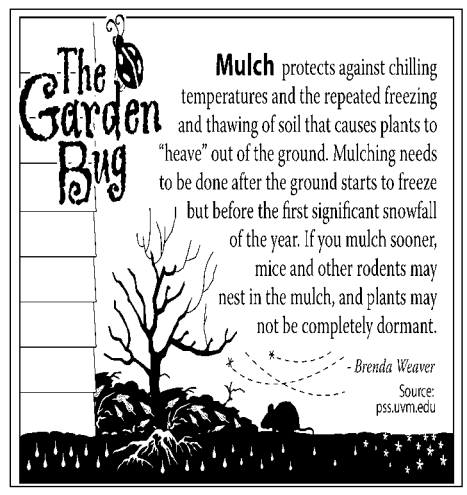
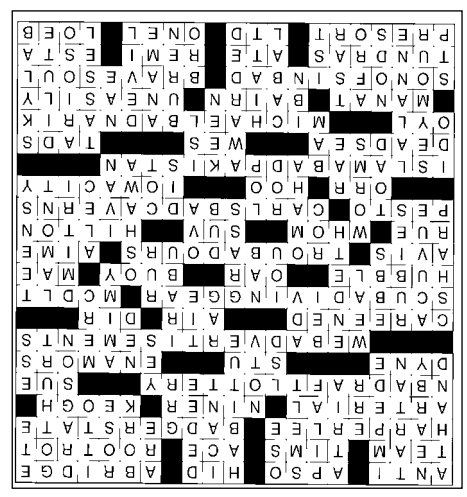
The Garden Bug





Sheriff's office plans Citizens Academy

Special to the Riverland News

The Marion County Sheriff's Citizens Academy and Partnership (CAP) program, a free 12-week educational course about the operations of the Sheriff's Office, is accepting applications for the winter course. The class will be offered at three locations.

• The Marion County Sheriff's Office will host a class from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Jan. 28. The class will be at the MCSO Central Operations, 3300 NW 10 St. in Ocala in the Multipurpose Conference Room. To register for this class, email Jenifer Lowe at JLowe@marionso.com or call 352-368-3598.

• The Belleview Public Library, 13145 SE County Road 484 in Belleview, will host a class from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Jan. 29. To register for this class, email Jenifer Lowe at JLowe@marionso.com or call 352-368-3598.

• On Top of the World will host a class from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays beginning Jan. 30 at its Master the Possibilities learning center. Registration for the OTOW class is open to the public but must be done through Master the Possibilities by calling 854-3699 or online at MasterThePossibilities.com.

All students must complete the application form found on marionso.com.

During the program, MCSO staff will highlight all units within the Sheriff's Office, giving citizens an in-depth understanding of what the agency is doing for the community.

Each week will focus on a different aspect of the agency, personnel, equipment, policies, procedures and overall function. Students will have an opportunity to view specialty unit equipment, hear from experts in the field of law enforcement, investigations, corrections and prosecution.

After graduation, students will be offered an exclusive chance to obtain their concealed weapons license through a firearms safety course instructed by Sheriff Chris Blair.

Gail Carson Trio to play Sunday Sampler

The Will McLean Foundation begins the new year with the Gail Carson Trio at the first 2014 Sunday Sampler performance at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, at the historic Dunnellon Depot at 12061 S. Williams St.

The Gail Carson Trio is comprised of three very unique women: Carly Bak, Carolyn Dunn and Gail Carson, who perform individually and with other groups at folk festivals and musical venues around Florida. They are combining their considerable talents for an afternoon of guaranteed delight.

Donation is $10 at the door and includes complimentary snacks at intermission. Funds help support artists who educate through writing and singing about Florida. For information, call 465-2167.

Visit www.willmclean.com for details about the 2014 Will McLean Festival, scheduled March 7 to 9. Check out Facebook for the Sunday Sampler at www.facebook.com/sundaysampler or the Will McLean Foundation at www.facebook.com/pages/Will-McLean-Foundation-Will-Fest/124841780903700.

NEWS NOTES

Chorale scheduled to begin rehearsals

The Dunnellon Community Chorale will begin rehearsing for its next program, "Broadway Memories," at 3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, at Dunnellon Presbyterian Church, 20641 Chestnut St.

Those who've sung with the Dunnellon Community Chorale are welcome back and the group encourages new singers to join the group for this "musical walk down Broadway," which will bring back well-known songs from Broadway hit shows.

For information, call the church office at 489-2682.

Knights to host dinner dance

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.

To RSPVP or for information, call 489-6221.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE

MONDAY, 2:00 P.M.

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.

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Riverland News

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

Today's New Ads

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Sumter County Fairgrounds
SUMTER SWAP MEETS
SUN. JAN. 5th.
1-800-438-8559

Trades/ Skills

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Driver Trainees Needed NOW! Become a driver for Werner Enterprises. Earn $800 per week! Local CDL Training (877)214-3624

General Help

DRIVERS:
Home EVERY Weekend,
Dedicated Southern Lanes & OTR!
All Miles PAID (Loaded & Empty)!
Or Walk Away Lease:
No Money Down, No Credit Check.
1-888-880-5916

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1-877-676-1403

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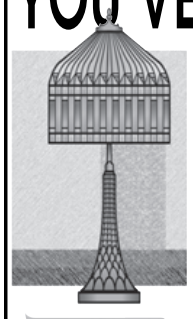

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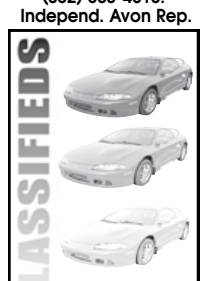

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Riverland News
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Sunday Jan. 5th
Antique & Collectible Auction
Pre: 10am, Auc: 1pm
500+ lots, antiq. furn, silver/gold jewelry coins, china, porcelain, check website for catalog & photos
****
call for info 637-9588
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2 New 3/8" X 4' X 12' Drywall Sheet. Delivery Av. $15.
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(352) 484-4772

White Wicker Trundle Bed, Steel enforced, Great Shape
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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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AUTO SWAP/ CORRAL
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1-800-438-8559

Vans

CHRYSLER
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Vans

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Misc. Notices

Home/Office Cleaning

Kat's Kritter Kare & Kastle Kleaner, Pet Sitting & House Cleaning

(352) 270-4672

Misc. Notices

417-0102 RIV
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Dunnellon proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE #ORD2013-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DUNNELLON, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF DUNNELLON, CODE OF ORDINANCES, SUBPART B, LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, APPENDIX A, "ZONING" BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, SECTION 2.2 TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION OF GROSS FLOOR AREA; AMENDING XIII, "ADMINISTRATION," DELETING SECTIONS 13.8, "AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN" AND 13.10, "PROTEST OF AMENDMENTS;" AMENDING SECTION 13.11 TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR QUASI-JUDICIAL REZONINGS; AMENDING SECTION 13.14 RELATING TO SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR REZONING TO RBO, B-3, B-4, B-5, OR B-6 ZONING DISTRICTS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS THEREFORE;AMENDING OTHER SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 13 OF APPENDIX A TO BE INTERNALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AND WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A public hearing is scheduled for the Regular City Council Meeting on January 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Dunnellon City Hall, 20750 River Drive.

COPIES OF THIS ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT DUNNELLON CITY HALL, 20750 RIVER DRIVE, DUNNELLON, FLORIDA 34431, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 4:00 P.M. THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND COMMENT.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, ANY PERSON REQUIRING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION AT THIS HEARING BECAUSE OF A DISABILITY OR PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK AT (352) 465-8500 AT LEAST THREE CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROCEEDING. IF A PERSON DESIRES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION WITH HEARING, HE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, HE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

January 2, 2014.

418-0102 RIV
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Dunnellon proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE #ORD2013-06

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DUNNELLON, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF DUNNELLON, CODE OF ORDINANCES, SUBPART B, "LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS", BY AMENDING SECTION 94-37 REGARDING PUBLIC NOTICE OF QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARINGS BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A public hearing is scheduled for the Regular City Council Meeting on January 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Dunnellon City Hall, 20750 River Drive.

COPIES OF THIS ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT DUNNELLON CITY HALL, 20750 RIVER DRIVE, DUNNELLON, FLORIDA 34431, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 4:00 P.M. THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND COMMENT.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, ANY PERSON REQUIRING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION AT THIS HEARING BECAUSE OF A DISABILITY OR PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK AT (352) 465-8500 AT LEAST THREE CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROCEEDING. IF A PERSON DESIRES TO APPEAL ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THE ABOVE MEETING OR HEARING, HE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, HE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

January 2, 2014.

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OUT TO PASTOR

To judge or not to judge that is the dilemma

Rev. James Snyder

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage does not allow any pets in our domicile. Something about cleaning up their mess and fleas and other things that I cannot recall. When our last child moved out of the house so did all pets. They are now just fond memories, at least on my side.

So no pets are roaming around our house but I do have a variety of pet peeves. My wife graciously allows me to keep my pet peeves as long as I keep them to myself and they do not mess up the house. For the most part, I try to do that, but occasionally one of my pets escapes from its pen.

A pet peeve that recently escaped from its cage is, people taking something out of context to prove their point. You can make anything say and mean anything you want it to say or mean. The politicians have perfected this art and I think it ought to remain within the confines of Washington, D.C.

It always amazes me that politicians can virtually say the same thing to different crowds and have it mean different things to separate crowds. Nobody can twist and turn words like a professional politician. Just think what these politicians could do if they put this great talent to benefit the people of the United States who elected them.

Getting back to my pet peeve. Perhaps a few examples might help explain what I am talking about.

In Pennsylvania, we have a saying that if you do not hear the whole thing you might just misunderstand what it is about and jump to the wrong conclusion. The saying goes like this, "Throw Papa down the stairs..." and if you stop here, Papa may go tumbling down the stairs. However, it is the end of that saying that changes the whole meaning of that phrase, "... his hat."

If you focus on the first part of the phrase, you completely misunderstand what it is all about and poor old Papa will suffer the consequences. I wonder how many people have been thrown down the stairs because somebody just heard part of what was actually said.

Another one has to do with my wife. We have been married for over 40 years and get along famously but every now and then she will say, "Who do you think you are?" The first time I heard this I was rather stunned.

If I would take that question by itself and divorce it from its context, I might flounder in the sea of despondency. After all, if my wife of 40 something years does not know who I am, something is amiss.

Perhaps, after all these years, she is losing it, whatever "it" is. On the other hand, after all these years she still cannot figure me out. I find that rather silly myself. I am a rather simple person. My wife has a different name for it, she calls it simpleton but it means the same, I think.

I distinctly remember one time when she asked this question she caught me off guard and I reintroduced myself to her. Let me just say, I will never make that mistake again.

Every so often, she will say in a voice loud enough for everybody in the house to hear, "Somebody in this house is getting to be very messy." The first time I heard this I went through the house looking for that "somebody" not knowing that it was me. At least I am somebody in this house, which is better than, "Who do you think you are?"

It is important to put everything together and in context.

Perhaps the most ridiculous example of this is people quoting the Bible. It always amazes me that those who claim the Bible is not really true, always cite the Bible to prove their point. Those who pick out fragments of the Bible to prove their point are rather pathetic.

Who has not heard somebody quote Matthew 7:1? "Judge not, that ye be not judged." From that, they conclude that Jesus does not want us to judge anybody for anything. If they took the pains to read a few more verses they would find out that they are completely misunderstanding what Jesus is talking about.

I have yet to hear somebody pull out Hebrews 12:6, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." It sort of sounds like judging to me.

If somebody wants to excuse something they are doing, they will invariably pull some phrase out of the Bible, always out of

See PASTOR page 13

Thrift Shop gives donation to Fort family for vehicle

Photo by Herb McCullough

Joann McCullough, left, Thrift Shop president, presents a donation to Violet Grace Fort, Kim Fort and Kimber Fort.

Special to the Riverland News

Violet Grace Fort arrived with her mother, Kim, and sister, Kimber, Dec. 23 at the Dunnellon Community Thrift Shop to receive a $1,000 donation check, which Kim exclaimed was "huge."

It will go toward the purchase of a new van. The family is in serious need of a newer van with a wheelchair lift as their current one has more than 200,000 miles, is becoming unreliable, and their family of nine are "packed in tight" Kim said with a laugh. Most of Violet's doctors are in St. Petersburg requiring many trips back and forth.

The 5-year-old suffers from Rhett syndrome as well as a cellular disorder. She is unable to speak, use her hands or walk. The check was attached to a small animated dog that sings Christmas carols and although Violet was napping, her eyelashes fluttered when the little dog "sang" and shook the bell on its tail.

Kim indicated accumulating the funds to purchase the van will be ongoing and she is so appreciative of the support shown by the people of Dunnellon and the Riverland News for telling their story.

CHURCH NEWS

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.

Lutheran Church to host Gospel concert

The Jacob Brothers Gospel Music Trio will perform at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at Joy Lutheran Church. The Jacob Brothers — Bob and Mike Jacobs and Mike Lawyer — are gospel veterans and have been dedicated to the ministry spreading the Gospel through music since 1962. A free will offering will be collected.

Joy Lutheran Church is located on SW State Road 200 at 83rd Place, Ocala. For information, call 352-854-4509, ext. 221.

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

GATHERINGS

A DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

Dunnellon Seventh-day Adventist Church
Welcome To Our Services
Hwy. 41 & Hwy. 40
Saturday
Sabbath School 9:30 AM
Sermon.....11:00 AM
Tuesday
Bible Study.....4:30 PM
For more information:
352-489-3455
www.dunnellonsdachurch.com
000FZW4

Peace
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Rev. Terry L. McKee, Pastor
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:00 A.M
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 A.M
Wednesday Bible Study 10:00 A.M
Wednesday potluck & Bible Study 6:30 PM
"The Church On The Hill"
5 miles North of Dunnellon US Hwy 41 at Highway 40
489-5881
www.PeaceLutheranOnline.com
000FZWA

Dunnellon First United Methodist Church
21501 W. Highway 40
Rev. Eddie Fulford, *Pastor*
Sunday
Communion
Worship Service 8:00 AM
Praise Worship 9:30 AM
Traditional Worship 11:00 AM
Nursery At All Services
Sunday School 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
"Building the Kingdom in Everything We Do"
352-489-4026
www.fumc-dunnellon.org
000FZU7

Romeo Baptist Church
Pastor
R.D. Hess
(352) 489-1788
Sunday
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Worship 11:00 AM
Disciple Training 5:00 PM
(Nursery & Children's Church Provided)
Wednesday
AWANA 6:30 PM
Youth Group 6:30 PM
Bible Study 7:00 PM
8½ Miles North of Dunnellon Off of Highway 41, Left at Church Sign on SW 5th Place
000FZWT

Calvary Baptist Temple
21841 S.W. Marine Blvd.
Rainbow Lakes Estates
Sunday
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....5:00 p.m.
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.
Every 4th Sunday.....5:00 p.m.
"Share, Praise & Fellowship"
Pastor Jamie Parker
352-489-8962
"Please Join Us As We Worship In His Name"
000G4H4

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
000G4IR

000GK64
Join us @ First Baptist ... 4 Blocks west of Hwy 41 on Powell Road
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FBCDunnellon.com
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SPIRIT DRIVEN DISCIPLESHIP

First Congregational United Church of Christ
God is still speaking,
Jesus didn't reject people. Neither do we.
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Adult Bible Discussion 12:00 Noon
7171 SW SR 200, Ocala, FL
352-237-3035
uccocala.org
Dr. H.W. McSwain, Jr., Pastor
A Progressive Community of Faith in the Heart of Central Florida
000GAAF

000GUYF
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

000GRAM
Holy Faith Episcopal Church
19924 W. Blue Cove Dr.
Dunnellon
The Rev. J. James Gerhart
Sunday Services
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
Sunday School 9:45 AM
"Godly Play"
Healing Service
1st Sunday Every Month
Following 10:00 AM Service
489-2685
Holy Faith * Blue Cove Rainbow River CR 484 SR 200

DIABETES OR PROSTATE CANCER?
Your sex life and erection can now survive
FREE book by doctor reveals what the drug companies don't want you to know!
Dr. Kevin Hornsby, MD, will mail the first 37 men that respond to this ad a free copy of his new thirty dollar book "A Doctor's Guide to Erectile Dysfunction." He's so sure this book will change your life he will even pay the postage and handling. If the popular pills don't work for you, regardless of your age or medical history, you owe it to yourself and your lady to read this book now! Call Toll Free 800-777-1922 24-hrs. and leave your name and address (only).
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CLEANMASTER
26 Years in Business
Carpet Cleaning $18 Per Room (3 room minimum)
Dry Cleaning or Steam
Furniture Cleaning $60 Sofa and Loveseat
1 Chair Cleaned FREE
Gutter Cleaning Entire House Only $50
Pressure Cleaning
• House
• Driveway
• Pool Enclosure
• Roof
Dryer-Vent Cleaning Specials $55 "Prevent Fires"
THANK YOU CITRUS/MARION COUNTIES
CALL (352) 489-4844
Owner Does The Work
000HOJW

CHURCH NEWS

Church schedules informational series

Peace Lutheran Church will host a series titled, "Get in Touch With Your Faith," a Christian information class, starting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16. Pastor Terry McKee will conduct the class for each week, for 12 to 16 weeks, depending on the questions and desires of the group.

The public is welcome. Participants' level of participation is optional, and there will be no tests. There is no fee or obligation for the class. Register by calling the church office at 489-5881.

Peace Lutheran Church is at 7201 U.S. 41. For information, visit www.PeaceLutheranOnline.com or www.TinyURL.com/Peace41-40.

Church plans baked ziti dinner

Holy Faith Episcopal Church will host a baked ziti dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17, at Holy Faith Episcopal Church at 19924 W. Blue Cove Drive. Donation is $7 for adults; $3 for children, 12 and younger. Takeout dinners are available. For information, call 489-2685.

Church schedules spaghetti dinner

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church of Dunnellon will host its annual spaghetti dinner at 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, in the Friendship Hall at the church at 21501 West State Road 40.

Adult tickets are $6 in advance; children 10 and younger are $3. Adult tickets at the door are $7.

For information, call the church office at 489-4026.

Dunnellon CERT team celebrates Christmas

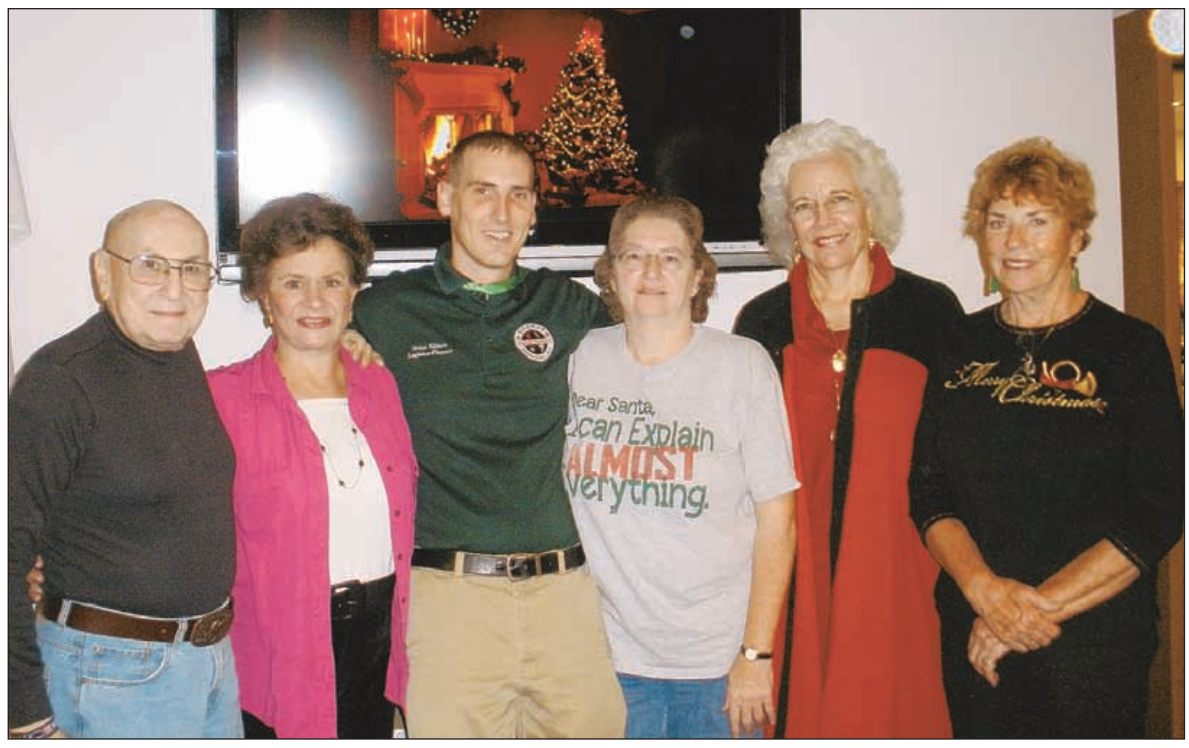

Photo by Pat Stepanski

The Marion County Emergency Management team hosted a Christmas party for volunteers at the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Members of the Dunnellon CERT team joined in the festivities. Pictured, from left, are Bob Bella; Clinnon Alexander; Brian Gibson, Marion County CERT director; Terry Rapp; Kathryn Taubert; and Rosey Roberts-Burns. The Dunnellon CERT team meets at 3 p.m. the third Wednesday monthly at the Dunnellon Sheriff's office at 19995 SW 86th St., just off U.S. 41. The next CERT training will begin early this year. For information, call Clinnon Alexander at 465-5166 or email Clinnon@aol.com, or call Brian Gibson, 352-369-8120 or email bgibson@marionso.com.

PASTOR

continued from page 12

context, and hide behind it. It would be like a 200-pound man hiding behind a golf club thinking nobody can see him.

When our grandchildren were younger, they thought if they closed their eyes, we could not see them. Just because they could not see did not mean we could not see. That is okay for small children but when it comes into adulthood, it is quite silly.

Jesus also said, "Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eyes; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye" (Matthew 7:5).

I have read my Bible more than 100 times throughout my life and I have learned one basic truth that goes along with this. True love always judges without being judgmental.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship in Ocala. Call him at 866-552-2543 or email jamessnyder2@att.net. His website is www.jamessnyderministries.com.

UW seeks KidCare community partners

Special to the Riverland News

United Way of Marion County has joined a statewide effort to help more uninsured children receive health care benefits at a price their families can afford through Florida KidCare, and is currently seeking companies and agencies in Marion, Hernando and Citrus counties that are willing to help by becoming a KidCare community partner.

Many families who are eligible for coverage don't even know it. United Way has found that community partners can help give greater access to families with uninsured children.

By helping families secure heath care for their children, companies will receive monetary rewards for their efforts. The incentives for each KidCare community partner is $10 for each new approved application and $5 for each renewal application plus a bonus paid for reaching a minimal monthly goal.

United Way's goal is to enroll as many eligible children as possible. If you would like to become a KidCare community partner or have questions, call Faith Beard at 352-732-9696 or email fbeard@uwmc.org.

VITA training set

United Way seeks volunteers who are interested in preparing taxes for free through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to Marion County residents. No experience necessary, and certification training is provided.

The next training sessions will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, and Thursday, Jan. 9, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11. All classes will be at the Marion County Literacy Council at 120 SW 5th St. Ocala. Interested volunteers can select which session they want to attend, or can certify online.

For information or to register, call Marsha Holloway at 732-9696, ext. 215, or email mholloway@uwmc.org.

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AUGIE SALZER/For the Riverland News

Dorothy Tanner, left, Pauline Gauthier and Diane Campbell, treasurer of the Friends of the Dunnellon Library, work together in their bookstore at the Dunnellon Public Library.

LITERATURE

continued from page 1

name to the Marion County Library.

In 1985, the Friends raised funds to add an additional 1,000 square feet to the library to continue with their main goal.

In May, 2008 the county replaced the smaller building with a structure that was more than four times as big. In the 16,000 square feet of space there was room for a computer area, children's library, a study area, a community/meeting room and the separate area for the Friends bookstore.

"The county allowed space for the Friends Bookstore when they built the library," said Caban. "It was great. At the old library we had a shed to keep our extra books."

At the larger building the Friends added a mission to "recognize daily and long-term needs of the Dunnellon Public Library" and to support them by funding for some items not covered under the county budget for the library.

The group has a membership of about 190 members and of that number there are 35 core members who are actively working to oversee the operation of the bookstore. They accept gently used books and resell them in the store.

"All the books in our store are donated," Caban said. "We have a good relationship with the community. They buy the books and then bring them back to us to sell again."

In support of their new purpose the group has provided a Florida friendly landscape around the library and at the entrance. They have also donated a garden area in the center of the parking lot with some stone benches under the trees to just sit and enjoy nature with a book.

"All the tables and chairs in the meeting room, the refrigerator and microwave in the staff kitchen have all been donated by us," remembered Pauline Gauthier, a 13-year core member. "We also got all the blinds and about 10 relaxing chairs for the library."

The white rocking chairs on the front porch inviting patrons to sit and read have been donated by individuals and different organizations.

The monument sign at the front entrance to identify the Dunnellon Public Library took the Friends about three years, after the library opened, to raise the funds.

"The sign was the first bill I paid when I became treasurer," Diane Campbell said. "We also paid for the stone benches and the Buster and Booker (statue)."

It was Donna Hancock, also a 13-year member, who came up with the words "Keep Reading" for the back of the sign.

"I'm a reader and that is the main reason I'm here," Hancock said. "I am just so glad we have a library."

Gauthier spent a lot of time and effort obtaining the flag and flagpole that stands in front of the library.

"Progress Energy installed and paid for the flag and pole," Gauthier said. "It took a lot of phone calls and convincing, but they did it."

The all-volunteer group also donates $1,500 each month to the library to purchase new books and videos.

"We donate the money, but the librarian selects all the books to be purchased," Caban said. "The books are housed here and are available to the entire (Marion County Public Library) system."

The funds are raised through donations, membership dues and by keeping the Friends Bookstore open, with an all volunteer staff, from Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Friends membership meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the library meeting room. Meetings aren't held during the summer.

"We don't just buy books," Hancock said. "We also pay for the unexpected things the library needs throughout the year."

The staff at the Friends store is friendly and willing to help anyone find a special book or learn about an author.

"I love to read and I read three or four books at a time," co-chair of the store committee Helen Maurer said. "If there is a special book someone is looking for, we can call them when it comes in. We give them a week to come in and buy it."

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

Puzzle answers on Page 2

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