

Riverland News

Thursday, February 13, 2014

Vol 32 No. 15

75 cents

City, Florida Cable seek solution



Mike Markham



Nathan Whitt

Council to meet tonight, discuss potential resolutions

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

Questions continued to be asked Feb. 5 at a special City Council meeting regarding the closing of the sale of the city's telecommunications sys-

tem to Florida Cable, and what options the city can take to collect the \$1.3 million purchase price.

Linda Fernandez, a long-time broker in the greater Dunnellon area, questioned the City Council as well as

other officials about how a closing could transpire without funds being provided.

"How could these people take possession without funding?" asked Fernandez, a member of the city's Historical Preservation Board. "Did

you have a title company? How did this happen?"

Mayor Nathan Whitt explained both Virginia Casady, the city attorney, and Mike Markham, who is serving as special legal counsel, worked on the closing for the city. In addition, Whitt said, a

See SOLUTION page 3

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Friends Valentine's sale ends Friday

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library Valentine's Sweetheart Book Sale concludes Friday. All items will be half price, including specialty books. Store hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. All proceeds from the bookstore, membership fees and other fundraisers benefit the Dunnellon Public Library.

For information, call 438-2520.

State Park to host bird walk Feb. 22

Rainbow Springs State Park will host a bird walk at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. Bird walks will be conducted by Fred Hileman, a Rainbow Springs volunteer and president of the Citrus County Audubon, along with assistance from other birding enthusiasts.

All participants are asked to meet at the tubing entrance, which is at 10830 SW 180th Ave. Road, which is about 1/2 mile north of County Road 484 and 3 1/2 miles south of State Road 40. Beginners are welcome. Bring binoculars or other birding tools, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, bug spray and water. A few pairs of binoculars may be available for use.

Admission is \$2 per person. For information about the walk, email president@citruscountyaudubon.society.com.

Valentine's Day dinner/dance slated

The Men's Club of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will host a Valentine's Barbeque Dinner & Dance from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday in the parish hall at the church at 7525 U.S. 41. Tickets are \$7.50 per person. Doors open at 5:30 with dinner served at 6:30 and dancing until 10. For information or tickets, call the church office at 489-3166; Joe at 522-0169; or John at 585-7317 or 445-9964.

'Whole lotta love'

11 couples mark 60-plus years of marriage

STORY BY
AUGIE SALZER

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."

— 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Love, laughter, faith and friendship are some of the main ingredients needed to survive more than 60 years of marriage, at least for 11 married couples in Dunnellon.

Gene and Donna Harvey were destined to be together 82 years ago. They were both born in the same hospital, but Donna was there a week before Gene arrived.

"When the nurse brought Gene into the nursery, I told her to put that big guy next to me," she jokes. "We've been together ever since."

Usually Donna is the straight man for her husband who is well known for his funny stories, jokes and antics, but they both enjoy telling the

See LOVE page 10



Council ponders search for filling top post

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

While the City Council has been pleased with the efforts of Eddie



Eddie Esch

Esch in the role of interim city manager, several council members are

open to the idea of opening the search for external candidates.

At the Feb. 5 special City Council meeting, Vice Mayor Dennis Evans applauded Esch for his experience in the private sector, mainly on the construction side.

"I do have some concerns with this expertise and management skills within the city and laws we have to abide by," Evans told his counterparts, suggesting the Council advertise the position statewide. "I really, really think we have time to do this to go outside and see if there's anybody out there. If not, then Eddie is definitely going to be the best choice for this (role)."

Councilwoman Fleeger Fleeger agreed with Evans.

"I think Eddie has some rough spots," she said. "He's an intelligent man. He's going to meetings and learning about it constantly. I think he's open to suggestions. He's not closed minded. He barks and he can have a temper, but I think he's learning. Government is different than the real world."

Fleeger praised his efforts of the past eight-plus months.

"I think he's done a

See COUNCIL page 3

Group aims to restore historic Masonic Lodge

Work underway to make much-needed repairs

AUGIE SALZER
For the Riverland News

One of the many Dunnellon historic buildings located in the downtown area will soon be receiving a much needed face lift. The original Masonic Lodge No. 114 will once again be a structure of pride, as it was when first built 70 years ago.

"We are working hard to get the building back in shape," chairman of the lodge's Trustee

Board, Courtney Wilson said. "We are working with an architect now. We want to make sure that it is done right."

Already part of the structure and a small house, located on Williams Street at the corner of Park Avenue, have recently been taken down and removed.

"Had gotten complaints about the building," Dunnellon Code Enforcement Officer Larry Straus said. "After being notified

about the complaints, they were able to take down part of the building themselves."

Approximately 60 feet of the old building, which was unsafe and had to be removed, used to be the J&R Auto sales, said Butch Hagins, past Worship Master.

"We had an engineer check on the foundation," Hagins said. "That part of the building was

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AUGIE SALZER/Riverland News
Curley Williams, left, and Butch Hagins stand in the actual meeting room of Dunnellon Masonic Lodge No. 114. The group is planning to renovate the historical structure.



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AUGIE SALZER/Riverland News

Approximately 60 feet of the old Dunnellon Masonic Lodge No. 114, which was unsafe and had to be removed, used to be the J&R Auto sales.

MASONIC

continued from page 1

sitting on a slab, instead of a foundation and it didn't have steel rods in the walls for support. It was cheaper to just tear it down."

Throughout the years, the Masonic Lodge, originally called the Blue Lodge, hosted its meetings upstairs. The members entered on the north side of the building and climbed a narrow, steep stairway to their private meeting room.

The main floor once held a beauty shop, a barber shop, and the Community Thrift Store was located there for many years. The south section, now torn down, used to have a service station.

"When I was 13, my

uncle was a member of the lodge and he would bring me here," Hagins recalled. "While he was at the meeting I went to the soda shop downstairs."

The cornerstone was chiseled in 1944 with the names of their then current officers: T.H. Brown, Worship Master; K. Seymour, Senior Warden; T. Mann, Junior Warden; S. Lee, Treasurer and V. Simpson as Secretary are listed on the concrete marker.

"Simpson was the principal of the black school called Booker T. Washington," Hagins said. "All the black kids went there. That was before integration. The school used to be where the Boys & Girls Club is now."

Hagins joined the lodge in 1992 and

served as worship master from 1994 until 1999. He was promoted to be the District Deputy Grand Master and held that position until last year when he had to step down due to poor health. He is now on emeritus status, but still manages to help when needed.

Although a relatively small lodge, the members continue to support their building and the community, according to Curley Williams the lodge's Tyler.

"I'm like the sergeant-at-arms at the meetings and I have to know the password and everything," Williams said, explaining his position with the lodge.

"There have always been about 20 to 25 members since I've been here. We are like

a brotherhood. We help with the upkeep of the building and help those in distress."

The old building has recently gotten a new roof, but the members are not actually doing anything more until they get the report from the architect.

"We have spent the last two years working on this and we want it to be done professional and done right," Wilson said. "This is not a one-man show. We all have to vote on what we are doing. We're just getting through tearing it down and we have our hands full right now. We are small and it will take more time."

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

State park to host Cracker Days

Rainbow Springs State Park will host Cracker Days from 9 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 22 and 23. The park is 1 1/2 miles north of Dunnellon on U.S. 41. Admission is \$2 per person; children 5 and younger are free.

Cracker Days features people whose skills echo pioneer life in 1800's frontier Florida, from an authentic Cracker Camp where fire, soap, butter, candles and biscuits are made, trappers and traders tell stories, spinning wheels turn to the weaver, potter, woodcarver, wood turner and corn grinder and to basket, rug and broom makers and more. Various foods and drinks will be available.

Garden Club slates meeting

The Rainbow Springs Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the American Legion Hall, 10730 U.S. 41.

Shari Blissett-Clark of Bat Belfrys Inc. will present a PowerPoint program titled "Bats - Myth & Reality." Live Florida bats will be on display.

Rainbow Springs Garden Club is open to everyone in the surrounding areas. Annual membership, September through May, is \$10. Visitor fee is \$5 applicable toward annual membership. Two visits and you're paid for the year. Refreshments will

be available and Grow and Share plants will be sold. 50-25-25 tickets will be sold and door prizes will be awarded.

For information, call Alice Kennedy at 465-3002.

Tickets on sale for murder mystery

The Greater Dunnellon Historical Society will host a murder mystery dinner four nights in March.

"Death Bemoans Her" will be at 7 p.m. March 7 and 8 and March 14 and 15. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each.

Diners will have the opportunity to question suspects about the death of Mystic Madame Magda, while attending a meeting of the Gazillionaire Girls Group.

Tickets will be available Tuesdays, Feb. 18 and 25 and March 4, if any tickets are left, at the Historic Depot at 12061 S. Williams St.

Organizers request that guests wanting to sit together during the performance should purchase tickets together. For information, call 465-5005.

New event to benefit Habitat for Humanity

The inaugural Strawberry and Craft Festival will be from 8 to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 1, in downtown historic Ocala. The event includes a craft show, free entertainment, a Kidzone and all things Strawberry. Proceeds from the festival will benefit Habitat for Humanity Marion County Inc.

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COUNCIL

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wonderful job," she said. "I don't know what we'd do without him."

Mayor Nathan Whitt was lukewarm to the suggestion of opening a statewide search and leaving Esch "to hang out to dry" during a search for an external candidate.

"He's been the right guy for the job," Whitt said. "I know full well he's the most qualified. He's done a lot of that out of the box stuff. He's got 20 to 30 years of practical experience, and he's showing that."

Evans countered the first-term mayor's remarks.

"If we should find someone better suited with more experience and has real experience, then we should consider them," Evans said, noting Esch "has done a great job." "Personally, if we find someone else, we should retain him at whatever salary he's at now and assign him another title."

Evans said it's a must for the Council to conduct an outside search, especially for the citizens. "I just think we owe it to the city to do the best we can."

Councilman Erik Collop said advertising for a city manager is a good business decision the city could make at this time.

"(Eddie's) been great, I really do think that," Collop said. "In all fairness, he's the best we have at this time. Maybe there is some all-star person who can come in and manage our city. If we do that, Mr. Esch should embrace that."

Councilwoman Lynne McAndrew said she'd

been weighing the pros and cons about promoting Esch to a full-time role.

"One issue for me is trust issue," she told Esch. "When we were not told the money (for Florida Cable) was not there, that was a long time. Maybe that was a lesson learned, but don't hold it to yourself. It's stressful even on you; hindsight is 20/20."

Esch defended himself.

"I did not withhold anything from you," he explained.

"We were still being told about a password issue, the same password issue we'd been told about."

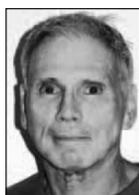
"Should I have done it different that Monday night? It was absolutely the first item I was going to talk about, but then Mr. (John) Pierpont came in and I did not know what he was coming in for. I didn't know it at that time."

The Council questioned how much it could potentially cost the city to advertise the position statewide. City Clerk Dawn Bowne told officials it could be posted on several websites at no cost, including the Florida League of Cities. However, she said, the biggest cost would be incurred by placing advertisements in major newspapers.

In January, the Council had requested city staff and Virginia Cassidy to tweak its in-house hiring policy as well as modify the requirements for the city manager position.

Esch was the lone city employee to apply for the position.

The City Council will discuss the issue again at tonight's special Council meeting, slated for 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.



Dennis Evans

SOLUTION

continued from page 1

long string of emails from the city's attorneys and Florida Cable show how city officials are calling this "perfect storm" of why the system wasn't funded. "We were told the money is in there, the money is in there," Whitt said about the allegedly funded escrow account.

Fernandez continued to question the closing though.

"One second here, in layman's terms, I go to closing as your agent," she explained. "And all of a sudden, you're told we're sorry we don't have funding but it's some place and we'll give you possession of your house. You tell me how that works?"

The first-term mayor was pointed with his response.

"I don't think you understand fully how this deal was handled," he said. "They kept promising us \$1.3 million and not following through on that promise. The city has moved past the spending. It's frustrating for us to move forward."

Joan Duggins, a Rainbow Springs resident, asked what was stopping Florida Cable from selling its recent acquisition. "They have the title, what's to stop them?" she questioned officials, who told the packed room the city has placed liens against all Florida Cable-owned assets.

Eddie Esch, interim city manager, told both the City Council and the public that during the closing David Saurez, the president/CEO of Florida Cable, kept reiterating the money was in the escrow, but there were problems getting the password cleared up and released to Cassidy.

Cassidy pointed out that while the city has yet to receive the agreed upon purchase price; the city not running the sys-

tem is beneficial.

"For the city it has turned out well, the city got out from under financial obligations, which is what its goal was," she explained. "The city is no longer required to take care of Greenlight."

While residents sought answers for the closing; city officials sought a remedy to the lack of funds received for the sale of the fiber to the home program, which has been a financial burden to the city as opposed to the money-making program officials believed it would be when funding was secured in November 2010.

"We've been round and round on this thing," Whitt said about the closing. "Personally, I am a bit taken aback."

Whitt then asked if there was anyone in the crowd willing to speak on behalf of Florida Cable. John Cooper, a Stark-based attorney representing Florida Cable, stepped forward.

"I'm not here to make you any promises," he told the Council. "We are working diligently to resolve the issues. I will tell you we are doing absolutely everything we can to bring it to a close."

Whitt asked if Cooper had an alternative proposal to offer the city.

"I have been given dates, but I am reluctant to share those dates with you," he said, noting the funds are sitting in account; however, those funds continue to remain tied up through Florida Cable's venture capital group, Signal Lake. Because portions of the funding are from overseas sources, federal agencies have frozen the assets to determine where the money is coming from.

"We are amendable to doing anything to resolve the matter," Cooper said.

One point Whitt brought up with Cooper was Florida Cable's refusal to sign the supplemental agreement

detailing fines.

"We had trouble with language of the agreement," Cooper said, adding the interest rate "was unreasonable." However, Whitt and other officials were quick to correct it was not an interest rate, it was a fine, which Suarez had agreed to.

In addition, Esch told Cooper and the City Council the city continues to pay certain operating expenses for Florida Cable. The privately owned company has yet to reimburse the city for those expenses as officials wait for contracts to roll over from the city to Florida Cable.

"We've paid some of those bills to keep that system alive," Esch said. "If that system goes down or goes dark, it comes back on us. It's putting the system in jeopardy."

Vice Mayor Dennis Evans was caught off-guard by the news the city is still paying for some expenses related to the now defunct Greenlight venture.

"I had no idea they weren't paying their expenses," he said. "I would think they'd have to do that. Why wouldn't that money come out of Mr. Suarez's company assets, or from whoever his money man is?"

Cooper said he would be "glad" to address those bills with city officials, but reiterated his stance about the daily fines. "I'm not going to promise you something," he said, adding "he had nothing else to offer" the city. "I don't want to make promises. But I'll address any

concerns specifically."

After the lengthy debate, Whitt said he understood the situation Cooper was in, but stressed promises had been made and broken.

"I'd like to see the deal fulfilled," he explained.

Cassidy then stepped in with a potential solution, which had been discussed via a conference call, which Esch, she and Florida Cable attorneys participated in. That offer would be to have Florida Cable issue three promissory notes as well as an agreed upon fixed interest rate. City officials were shooting for the maximum allowed rate of up to 18 percent. However, Cooper and his client were agreeable to an 8 percent rate. Additionally, a time frame to pay those notes would be included, depending on the City Council's preference.

An option, if the promissory notes were signed by Florida Cable, would be then signing those over to both Regions Bank and All-America Leasing, which owns the headend equipment currently in use by Florida Cable.

"As a way to deal with Regions Bank and All-America, we are amendable to that process," Cooper said.

Nothing was finalized, triggering the City Council to set a special meeting for 5:30 p.m. today at City Hall.

"It's cut and dry how we have to move forward," Whitt said. "I've never quite seen a deal done this way."

CORRECTION

Due to an editor's error, Jerry Rogers, vice president of Rainbow River Conservation Inc., was misidentified in a story titled, "Residents: More law needed on river." The Riverland News apologizes for the error.

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OUR VOICE

Council should gauge outside interest for top position

The Dunnellon City Council wants to name a new full-time city manager.

The problem, though, among elected officials about who to name to the top post and how best to go about it is at the center of debate.

Mayor Nathan Whitt believes it's a waste of time and money to post advertisements statewide seeking potential applicants who could come into right the sinking ship. He and other members of the Council have praised Eddie Esch, who's served as interim city manager since Lisa Algieri's abrupt departure more than eight months ago.

Algieri's resignation came at a time when city officials and the public learned about the financial quagmire as a result of the failed attempt by the city to launch its own telecommunications system. Esch has also drawn praise from citizens, and in a position which is widely regarded as a hot seat, that's saying a lot.

City Attorney Virginia Cassidy and Mike Markham, special legal counsel for the city, told the Council continuity is best for the city moving forward with Regions Bank, resolving the current fiasco with Florida Cable and assisting with discussions with Gov. Rick Scott's office. Both gave their nod to Esch remaining in the top spot. First off, they are being paid for legal advice; not business advice.

We don't disagree continuity is best, and we will have that for the next few months.

The City Council, in January, extended the interim tag for Esch through May. That gives officials the continuity it needs to navigate us through the coming months, while allowing Esch the chance to prove to doubters on the Council, or in the public, he's got the chops to lead the city in

the coming years.

We deserve clear answers. We need to know exactly how the closing with Florida Cable was botched so badly on the city's part. Yes, we all know Florida Cable failed to fund the escrow, and the privately owned company deserves a share of the blame. What has not been answered is why the city allowed the closing to transpire without the password or proof the \$1.3 million was in place.

There is no denying that Esch has done an admirable job in the past eight-plus months of directing city staff and keeping the focus where it needs to be, and he does deserve credit for boosting morale within City Hall and the ranks of employees. His wealth of private sector experience should not be diminished, and it should be taken into consideration.

Several residents urged the Council to at least test the waters to see if there are other "better qualified candidates." On the flip side, there are a few residents who believe the likelihood of attracting a suitable candidate who would willingly step into this mess is questionable. That might be true, but you cannot catch fish if you don't cast a line.

So here are two solutions: Esch should be considered a candidate; however, he should be required to resubmit his resume, correctly, and the Council should seek outside candidates.

If by May, the Council believes the pool of outside applications doesn't measure up to Esch's experiences and qualifications, we recommend promoting him. But if there's a candidate who jumps off the page, knocks your socks off during the interview process, then we need to do what's right by the citizens.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bob Cabbage bio 'simply amazing'

Augie Salzer's biographic overview of Bob Cabbage's life and professional career in music, sound and now in video as a composer was simply amazing. I've had the pleasure of hearing this accomplished pianist perform and can attest that he is fascinating.

Thanks for giving us this cover of appreciation for one of Dunnellon's finest. Bravo to Mr. Cabbage.

Ron McAndrew,
Dunnellon

Dunnellon needs to improve its website

On these dank and dreary days, I like to visit other places by surfing the web. There are many fascinating sites that will let you visit many places in the world via their webcams.

You can be in London, New York City, the Pacific coast, Hawaii and

even Wasilla, Alaska, without leaving your chair. So one day I decided to visit the website of my own hometown Dunnellon and yikes! Was I disappointed.

If a town has only a website, it should convey a warm feeling and the desire of the web visitor to want to come to visit the town itself. The "official" Dunnellon website, www.dunnellon.org, was as much as a cell phone instruction manual.

What I saw read like a dry town newsletter, there were a handful of "artsy" photos: a close-up of a blue bird, a close-up of an otter, the view of long rusty "something" jutting out into the waterway in front of some trees, a close-up of a waterfall, a close-up of a man, a child and tiny fish and the view of what I took to be a swamp, no captions, these photos

See **LETTERS** page 5

THE JERSEY GIRL

Oh, it must be love

There's no doubt my 15-year-old granddaughter is in love. Now whether it's puppy love, a mad crush or the real thing, only time will tell.

But no matter what, it's obvious they're crazy about each other. They pick at and tease each other the way kids that age do, and they can't stand to be apart. It's cute, yet scary.

I have mixed emotions. Dominique, of course, is too young to get serious. Yet, I ended up marrying my high school sweetheart and so did Dominique's mother.

Sadly, they both ended in ugly divorces and I never want my granddaughter to go through something like that. However, I'll also note many young loves go on to highly successful marriages.

We want her to go to college, find a career and then settle down, in that order, but life has a way of throwing you curve balls when you least ex-

pect them.

At my age, I realize you hardly know yourself when you're that young. You're still growing and discovering what you like and what makes you tick. Therefore, I would say it's not a good idea to get serious with someone while still so immature. Yet, if you had told me that at her age I wouldn't have listened.



Audrey Beem

Watching them together makes me smile.

First, I love to see my granddaughter happy.

Second, because it brings back so many good memories of that time in my own life. You know, when you're over the moon in love and can't wait to see each other and you feel like you will die if they break up with you.

You sit in the classroom waiting for the bell to ring so you can see him for even a few minutes. And when the phone rings and it's him on the other

line; you get all tingly inside. Oh yes, those were the days.

The first boy I ever liked drove a mini-bike and his name was Ralph. He would ride past my house and if I was lucky enough to be outside he would stop for a few minutes.

Needless to say I spent a lot of time outdoors, wandering around the yard and waiting to hear the sound of his motor in the distance. He wore ugly shoes and did Elvis impressions but I was crazy about him. He was going steady with my best friend and she didn't even know I liked him. Sounds like a romantic comedy.

The funny thing is that once Ralph liked me back, we lasted a few weeks and then I was kind of over it. But I often wonder where he is now and how his life turned out. Think back to your first love and I guarantee it will make you smile every time.

I know if I want to spend time with my granddaughter,

See **JERSEY** page 5



SOCIAL SECURITY

Olympians of (Social) Security

While the eyes of the world focus on the XXII Winter Olympics in the resort town of Sochi, Russia, this month, we'd like to bring your attention to another worthy focal point: Internet safety.

Feb. 11 was Safer Internet Day. If there were an Olympic event for safe Internet transactions, we believe the Social Security Administration would be in the running for a gold medal. We take Internet security seriously. After all, Security is our middle name.

What are some of the convenient, safe, and secure things you can do online at www.socialsecurity.gov?

You can get a personalized estimate of your future benefits using our Retirement Estimator. Apply for retirement or disability benefits. If you don't plan to retire but you want to apply only for Medicare at age 65, you can do it online. You can even establish and maintain a my Social Security account at any age to access all your personal Social Security information at any time convenient for you. All of these things can be done in minutes, and you don't have to worry about security issues. On Safer Internet Day and every day, your information is secure with us.

If you've experienced a safe, convenient service at our website, why not share the experience at our social media hub? Of course, you'll want to be careful not to post any personal identifying in-

formation, such as your Social Security number. But whether you want to spread the word about

Safer Internet Day or share an experience you've had dealing with Social Security, we encourage you to join us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest. You'll find these connections, along with the ability to get email updates, view the photo blog, join webinars and more at our social



Michael W. Grochowski

media hub. Just visit www.socialsecurity.gov/socialmedia. The Olympics have begun in Sochi, but remember that the Social Security Administration gets a gold medal when it comes to safe transactions on the Internet. Security is our middle name.

Social Security Q&A

Question: If I retire at age 62, will I be eligible for Medicare?

Answer: No. Medicare starts when you reach 65. If you retire at 62, you may be able to continue medical insurance coverage through your employer or purchase it from a private insurance company until you become eligible for Medicare. For more information see our publication, Medicare, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs, or call us at 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778).

Question: My spouse died recently and my neighbor said my children and I might be eligible for survivors' benefits. Don't I have to be retirement age to receive benefits?

Answer: No. As a survivor, you

can receive benefits at any age if you are caring for a child who is receiving Social Security benefits and who is under age 16. Your children are eligible for survivors' benefits through Social Security up to age 19 if they are unmarried and attending elementary or secondary school full time. If you are not caring for minor children, you would need to wait until age 60 (age 50 if disabled) to collect survivors benefits. For more information about survivors benefits, read our publication Survivors Benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

Question: My dad receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. He soon will be coming to live with me. Does he have to report the move to Social Security?

Answer: Yes. He should report any change in his living arrangements within 10 days. The change may affect his benefit amount. Also, we need his correct address so we can send correspondence when needed, even if he receives his payments electronically. He can report the change by mail or in person at a Social Security office. Or, have him call Social Security at 800-772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778). Changes must be reported promptly or a penalty may be charged and held from future benefits. For more information about the kinds of changes that need to be reported, read the publication What You Need To Know When You Get SSI at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

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

JERSEY

continued from page 4

her boyfriend has to be a part of our day, and I don't mind. He's a good kid from a good family. While planning our girls' weekend trip for 2014, the first thing she asked was if he could come. Did she forget the meaning of girls' weekend?

How I wish we could turn the clock back about 10 years; go back to the time when Nanaw was her favorite companion. When Jesse McCartney was her only crush and you could cheer her up with an ice cream cone. I can remember when she thought boys had cooties.

The scary thing is this boy has been "the one" for Dominique for awhile now. They have been going steady and breaking up for a couple of years now. This time it seems to be for real, but when you have attraction like that, it's hard to break.

What attracts us to another person? Endorphins and hormones? A sight or smell? Their genetic makeup? They say they knew they were meant for each other when they discovered they're both mayonnaise/ketchup freaks. They also have a lot in common, not just their age, but they're both athletic, both funny and pretty sheltered. But that's a good thing.

I just hope neither of them gets their heart broken; hearts are so fragile at that age, or at any age for that matter.

Yes it's entirely possible that this sweet, awkward country boy may become my grandson one day. I'm going to treat him as well as I can and get to know him. After all, I plan on being in Dominique's life forever and I'm taking no chances.



LETTERS

continued from page 4

were for an art gallery not a tourist attraction.

If Dunnellon is interested in tourist dollars it needs photos of people having fun — swimming and picnics at the local parks, fun kayaking at the local waterways, fun biking, jogging and hiking at the local trails, fun eating at our local eateries and panoramic views of our local parks and waterways.

We need photos of our local hotels/motels and the prices they charge, we need photos, a brief description and the price range of local eateries and we need photos, opening hours and prices of our local parks and other entertainment sites. Many a time I have seen a car full of people drive up to the tuber's entrance only to turn around and drive away. That's money that could've have been spent in town but now is gone.

Why so many photos? The last thing a small town needs is for disappointed tourists — because with Facebook, bad news travels like a plague and we don't want that.

If a town has only one website it should be laid out to attract the tourist first and put as much information as possible, as early as possible and as attractive as possible and then add the business and other dry information toward the back.

It is said that folks that

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

surf the web only spend a few seconds of time on a particular website before they move on to the next and if Dunnellon is going to attract the tourist we need to grab the tourist quickly and say "come here."

**A.C. Rosier,
Dunnellon**

Editor's Note: We agree; however, the city website serves as a functional site as opposed to a tourist-oriented website. With that being said, perhaps the city and Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce could work together toward creating such a website.

Bashing others doesn't solve problems

I had planned on keeping my mouth shut, which is hard for me to do.

Normally, I stay away from politics and the printed media. There are so many talking heads

spewing opinions it is hard to hear yourself think — and that is a problem because most people don't think on their own they just re-spew what they heard. More important, an opinion is just that — an opinion. We take them too seriously.

I need to stand up for someone who is getting kicked to the ground because he has a difference of opinion. He is perfectly capable of defending himself but he has chosen not to.

Jeff Bryan is a nice guy. He has worked diligently for the betterment of Dunnellon even if this means bringing to light some not so flattering facts.

I have never met another editor so dedicated to the city he reports about. Personally, I think he is on his way to an ulcer because he cares so much.

As someone who has written for other papers, it is rare to find an editor

who will let you publicly bash him the way some of our citizens did.

You may think I am biased because he is my "boss." You are wrong. I don't get paid for my column, so I can insult him without impunity. I don't need my columns to be printed to be a writer. It's in the blood.

The bickering needs to stop — on both sides.

Nero is playing that damn fiddle while the rest of us burn. Like hundreds of cities and towns around the nation, Dunnellon is dying.

Let go of your grudges. Let go of the personal insults.

Ask yourself what have you done for the betterment of Dunnellon?

I think deep down you all have one thing in common, you want Dunnellon to thrive.

Grow up. Be nice to one another. Prove you are better than Congress. Get a mediator if need be. Get over yourselves. Choose your battles. Get along or get out.

If you can't sit down, work out your differences as adults and pursue a common goal, then we aren't very civilized are we?

Can we save trees and get much needed tax income at the same time? I am sure it is possible. We may never know until you put down your weapons and come to the table.

Like the man said "Can't we all just get along?"

**Kathleen Wallace,
Dunnellon**

NEWS NOTES

Kiwanis Club to host fashion show

The Kiwanis Club of Dunnellon will host the "Simply Spring" fashion show at noon Saturday, March 1, at the Rainbow Springs Golf & Country Club. Fashions will be presented by Grumble's House. There will be a luncheon, cash bar, entertainment, demonstrations and prizes. Tickets are \$25 per person.

For information, call Ellie Pollock at 465-6803.

Habitat for Humanity seeks volunteers

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County is looking for volunteers to help in construction, fundraising, the ReStore and the upcoming Strawberry and Craft Festival. For information about volunteering with Habitat for Humanity of Marion County Inc., visit habitatocala.org/ volunteer or call Brittny Fish, volunteer coordinator, at 352-351-4663. Habitat for Humanity of Marion County is a donor/volunteer-driven organization.

AARP Driver Safety Class slated

An AARP Driver Safety Program for those 50 and older which, with certain exceptions, qualifies graduates for a discount on their automobile insurance, will be given over two days, three hours each day. Cost is \$20 per person for all materials, except pen or pencil. However, if you are an AARP member, the cost is \$15. Bring your AARP card with you.

The course will be from 1 to 4 p.m. March 6 and 7 at the Marion County Sheriff's Substation on U.S. 41. Class size is limited and reservations are required. For information or reservations, call 465-6359.

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CHURCH NOTES

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 schedules mission trip

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is planning a mission trip in June to visit Haiti. The small group plans to do construction work on hurricane-damaged properties.

The group is collecting new/slightly used children's clothing and school supplies to bring with them for the children of Haiti. To make a donation, including monetary donations to help with shipping costs, call 489-3166 or send checks payable to St. John's to Haiti Mission 7525 S. U.S. Hwy. 41, Dunnellon FL 34432.

Church to host flea market

Dunnellon Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Ohio and Chestnut streets, will host its annual flea market from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 22.

The event will feature homemade baked goods, collectibles, jewelry, linens, books, pictures and much more.

Southern Express to perform at church

The Southern Express 18-piece Big Band will perform from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at First Congregational Church at 7171 SW State Road 200. Tickets, which are \$10 each, are available at the door or may be reserved by calling the church office at 352-237-3035 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays.

Church schedules concert series

Dunnellon Presbyterian Church will host its annual concert series on the following days. Concerts are free and open to the public. All love offerings received are gifted to the performers. Dunnellon Presbyterian Church is at 20641 Chestnut St.

● 3 p.m. — Sunday, March 16, The U.F. saxophone quartet, Collision, will perform a variety of traditional to jazz arrangements. The students are Gerard Weber, Jordan Jones, Michael Shine and Gregory Snider and are under the direction of Dr. Jonathan Helton.

● 3 p.m. Sunday, April 27 — The Central Florida Master Choir will present its spring concert, "Bernstein, Beatles and Beyond," under the direction of Dr. Hal McSwain, accompanied by GayLyn Capitano, with guest harpist Victoria Lynn Schultz.

● 3 p.m. Sunday, May 25 — Pianist/vocalist Renee Deuval will present "Music For the Ages," highlighting works from classical composers as well as the introduction of three new arrangements of Russian poetry set to music.

Musician slated to perform



Special to the Riverland News

Acclaimed acoustic guitarist Jim Scott will perform at 2 p.m. Saturday at Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists at 7633 N. Florida Ave., Citrus Springs. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

From his widely varied background, Scott considers himself a contemporary folk artist in the sense that folk music represents people with a positive and hopeful spirit. "Folk follows a long tradition of social commentary," Scott said. "It's the voice of the people. That's what I like to think I'm representing."

His musical, "The Tree and Me," has been staged at colleges in New York

and Michigan. He also performs for kids and has written songs with elementary school classes. His "Big and Little Stuff - Songs for Kids" marks his fifth recording of original songs released on CD. He's taught at numerous colleges, including Oberlin College in Ohio, and conducted workshops throughout the country.

"My messages are of ecology and social conscience, but also of optimism," Scott said. "I believe in the power of song and self-expression for change."

For information about the concert, call Pam at 489-3545 or Connie at 386-334-7684.

OUT TO PASTOR

What comes after that initial kiss?

Quite a few, if not most put a whole lot of credence into a kiss. Much can be argued in favor of this philosophy, but not from me.

I grew up in a generation that never kissed on the first date. Sad to say, that idea went out with Noah and his ark and you can kiss that idea goodbye.

Nothing wrong with a kiss, if it is with the right person. It seems we are living in a culture where all anybody thinks about is kiss, kiss, kiss. So much so, that the average kiss is just that, average. Whatever happened to the romance factor behind the kiss?

I am one who is not given to hugging people let alone kissing them. I have friends in a certain church that believes in what they call, "A Holy Kiss." They take it from the Bible where it says that we are to greet one another with a holy kiss. As soon as I find out and understand what a holy kiss is, I might start doing it. But not until then and don't count on it.

I am one of those people who likes a warm friendly handshake. Such a handshake conveys all I really want to say at the moment. It is not that I am unfriendly and it is not that I do not have warm feelings about people. I just like to preserve "my space."

A kiss could mean a lot of things to different people. I see an advertisement on television all the time that says, "Every kiss be-

gins with Kay." What does that really mean? Does everybody have to go to the Kay's jewelry store in order to kiss someone? Is that where kissing really begins? If so, please count me out.



Rev. James Snyder

A kiss should be something special and not thrown around like some dirty old rag. It should mean something to the people involved.

Some believe romance begins with a kiss. If that is so, I am out of the game.

So many people "kiss and tell" that I think there should be some kind of law enacted to prohibit this sort of activity. A kiss should be a private activity not to be shared with the whole world. When sharing such an activity with the whole world, it ceases to be romance and enters into the area of performance. And boy do I hate performance. Not just because I am a bad actor. ... Well, maybe it is just because I'm a bad actor.

Today kissing is so cavalier that it hardly means anything to anybody.

I still remember my first kiss.

I was in Bible school studying for the ministry where I met this girl. We had been dating two months before I realized we were dating. On many things, especially in the romantic arena, I am rather slow. At the end of our first "date," she surprised me by hugging me. I had never been hugged before. I

See PASTOR page 7

CERT training sessions slated

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will begin Thursday, March 4, at the Marion County Sheriff's Office at 692 NW 30th Ave., Ocala. The six-week course training will be from 5 to 7 p.m. and helps prepare participants to take care of themselves during a disaster. This course will offer training on disaster preparedness, fire safety, disaster medical operations and more.

Once trained, participants have the opportunity to join their local neighborhood team that will assist first responders during a disaster. CERT Teams assist by

assessing their community and providing basic medical treatment to those in need and report all the information to Emergency Management.

The CERT Program is offered by the Marion County Sheriff's Office,

Bureau of Emergency Management and is a free to all who are interested.

For information or for an application, call Emergency Management at 352-369-8100 or email Marion-CERT@marionso.com.

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GATHERINGS

A DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

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

8 1/2 Miles North of Dunnellon Off of Highway 41, Left at Church Sign on SW 5th Place

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

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God is still speaking,

Jesus didn't reject people. Neither do we.

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Adult Bible Discussion 12:00 Noon

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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

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

DUNNELLON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
21501 W. Highway 40
Rev. Eddie Fulford, Pastor

Sunday

Communion 8:00 AM
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

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

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

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"

American Legion Post No. 58 hosts veterans' dinner



Special to the Riverland News
American Legion Post No. 58 hosted veterans on Feb. 5 from Quiet Oaks Assisted Living Center to a delicious dinner at the post. Following opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, all veterans were introduced and thanked for their service to our country. All these veterans served in World War II.

OBITUARY

Dorothea 'Dot' L. Baillargeon, 78

Dorothea L. Baillargeon, 78, passed away Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014, surrounded by family and friends at Gosnell Hospice House after a courageous battle with COPD.

Dorothea was predeceased by her husband, John L. Baillargeon and daughter, Andrea J. Baillargeon. Dorothea is survived by her children, John Baillargeon of Brunswick, Mary Markrell (Richard) of Inverness, Arthur Baillargeon (Suzanne) of Walpole, N.H., Michael Baillargeon (Gail) of Murrells Inlet, S.C., Mathew Baillargeon (Patricia) of Dunnellon; her grandchildren, Rebecca, Joseph, Ryan, John, Jeremy, Mathew, Jacob, Ally, Benjamin and Shawna; and niece, Dorothea Thompson of New Jersey.

Dot, as she was known to many was born in Portland and lived most of her life in this city. She attended Cathedral Grammar School where she was taught by the Sisters of Mercy. Dot believed

that "every individual has the potential to be good". She enjoyed "giving back" and by the age of twelve satisfied her desire to help her fellow man by starting her day

making beds and delivering meals to residents of the St. Joseph Home for Aged Women (known to us today as St. Joseph's Manor.) Dot completed her education at Portland High School where she pursued business courses. At the same time, she was being pursued by an admirer who eventually took her down the aisle to be his bride for 48 years!

Dot worked as a secretary for a local bank until she married and started her large family of six children, then worked nights as a key punch operator for many years. Later, Dot applied for and became administrative assistant to Bishop Proulx. This position allowed Dot to spread her wings" in many directions and "brought her

dreams full circle." It led to her being named to the position as Diocesan Direction of the Pontifical Mission Aid Societies. This was an historic appointment because at that time in the history of the Catholic Church there were only five women in the United States (three nuns and two married women) holding this position. She remained in this position for many years until she retired in 1990. It was then that a warmer climate beckoned Dot and her husband to move to Florida.

After Dot's husband passed in 2002, she returned to her home city of Portland and resided at the Deering Pavilion, where she formed the Better Breathers' Club. She saw a need among residents suffering with oxygen needs due to lung or pulmonary disease such as asthma, chronic bronchitis and COPD. In the last year Dot reunited with her



Dorothea 'Dot' L. Baillargeon

childhood friend, Phillip Christy and enjoyed many trips and special times together which she spoke of often.

Dot said, "When I go to bed at night" I like to think "my day has counted, and I look forward to waking up and doing it all over again." She was an unstoppable spirit, and we were very blessed to have had her in our midst!

Visitation was Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014, at St. Peter Catholic Church, 72 Federal Street., Portland, Maine. A Mass of Christian Burial followed at 2 p.m. at the church. Arrangements are under the care of Advantage Funeral Services, 981 Forest Ave., Portland. Please visit www.advantageportland.com to sign Dorothea's guestbook and to leave condolences for the family. In lieu of flowers, family requests that donations be made to your local hospice.

There will be a Mass at St. John's the Baptist Catholic Church in Dunnellon at a date and time to be announced.

PASTOR

continued from page 6

did not know what to do with my arms. I did not know if I should stand there or if I should say something. At the time nothing really came to mind so I just stood there saying nothing.

The frightening thing about this first hug was I could not sleep all night long. I had no idea what it meant and I did not know what I was supposed to do. What would I say to this young lady when I met her the next day? How could I look her in the eyes?

I am not sure if I have ever gotten over that first hug after all these years. The thing I did not realize at the time was, every kiss begins with a hug. Forget Kay, whoever she is.

Then, the inevitable happened.

We had concluded our "date," and I took her over to the doorway of the dormitory where she lived. All of a sudden, at least from my perspective, she rose up on her tippy toes and kissed me right on the lips. Then she turned around and went away into the dorm, leaving me standing on the porch not knowing what happened or what to do next.

It was February and just a week away from Valentine's Day. I had my Valentine's Day present and my

dilemma was, what do I now give her in return? What in the world could ever top a kiss?

Being a naïve young gentleman, I did not possess the resources to process this sort of problem. I had never bought anybody a Valentine's Day present in my life. What did they really look like?

After some soul-searching and wallet rumbling, I bought her a heart-shaped box of candy. When I presented it to her, she was thrilled and kissed me again. What do I have to do now? Do I buy her another box of candy?

The next few hours were rather foggy to me and even the next couple of days. By the end of Valentine's Day, I discovered I was engaged to be married and it all started with a hug.

The apostle Paul put it best when he wrote, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

A kiss is an expression of love. It is not so much the kiss as what comes after that kiss; a relationship that gets better and better every year.

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.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS

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

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| <p>1985 Nobility 1040sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Double Carport Fla Room</p> <p>6160 SW 55th Court - Lot # 072 \$21,900</p> <p>This is a beautiful fully renovated home. This home has had every room updated includes laminate floors, newer roof, A/C in 2013, Dble carport, and Fla Room.</p> | <p>1988 Nobility 1056 sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport/ (2) Sheds Screen Room</p> <p>5587 SW 59th Street - Lot # 152 \$18,500</p> <p>This is a great home that has been freshly painted inside and out. Laminate kitchen/hallway floors, newer stainless appliances, A/C & ductwork replaced 2013.</p> |
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| <p>2013 Skyline 1344sq ft. 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport / Shed Screen Room</p> <p>6065 SW 56th Court - Lot # 081 \$74,995</p> <p>LEASE TO OWN \$949/month or</p> | <p>1989 Homes of Merit 1352sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport/Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5651 SW 57th Street - Lot # 325 \$15,900</p> <p>This is a great floor plan, huge living room, formal dining room, eat in kitchen, bonus room for office space, and large master bedroom & bath with glamour tub and shower.</p> |
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| <p>1991 Nobility 960sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport/Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5626 SW 56th Street - Lot # 356 \$24,900</p> <p>This is a newly remodeled home from front to back. Newer kitchen cabinets, all newer sub flooring, laminate/carpet, bathrooms, and more. Everything you need—Furnished.</p> | <p>1990 Homes of Merit 1040sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport/Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5661 SW 56th Place - Lot # 344 \$30,000</p> <p>This home has lots of improvements such as Acrylic Lanai with tile floors, double pane windows, metal roof over, newer appliances, and much more.</p> |
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| <p>1991 Nobility 1456sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Double Carport LG Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5740 SW 57th Place - Lot # 246 \$39,000</p> <p>This home is large with a living room, a family room, large bedrooms with handicap accessible bathroom. This home has indoor laundry and a large shed.</p> | <p>1990 Nobility 1456sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5440 SW 56th Street - Lot # 260 \$27,995</p> <p>This is a large home with over 1456sq ft. This home sits on a culd-a-sac very private. Beautiful kitchen and large indoor laundry room. Partially Furnished.</p> |
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| <p>1989 Palm Harbor 1008sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5549 SW 58th Place - Lot # 206 \$19,900</p> <p>This home has a great view off the back porch, looks over our rolling green acres. This home has newer windows, a/c, range, and dryer. All appliances included plus freezer.</p> | <p>1989 Nobility 832sq ft. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath Carport Shed Screen Room</p> <p>5604 SW 58th Place - Lot 174 \$12,900</p> <p>This home has a great floor plan and very open. This home is Fully Furnished—ready to move in. Seller is motivated.</p> |
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 PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE 02/28/14

Dunnellon's Desmond Frazier watches as Citrus' Zach Saxer flips the ball to a teammate in the second half of Friday night's District 5A-6 Championship game in Crystal River.
MATT PFFNER/Riverland News



Tigers fall to Citrus, 69-63, in title game

DHS will play tonight at Gainesville Eastside School gym.

SEAN ARNOLD
For the Riverland News

CRYSTAL RIVER — If you focus on Citrus' talented core of players and impressive record, you might overlook the struggle it's endured for its

successes this year. In Friday's District 5A-6 championship game, three days after the Hurricanes narrowly knocked off Lecanto, Dunnellon made sure CHS would have to, once again, earn its accolades.

Without fouled-out team leader Devin Pryor for the final 4:37 of play, the 'Canes played even with the Tigers for the second half in holding on for a thrilling 69-63 boys basketball victory in the Crystal River High

School gym. With the win, Citrus earned itself a home game against District 5A-5 runner-up Lake Weir for Thursday's regional quarterfinal round, while Dunnellon will play at 7 p.m. today at Gainesville Eastside.

See **TIGERS** page 9

SPORTS BRIEFS

Church men's club to play horseshoes

The Men's Club of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will play horseshoes at 9 a.m. Saturdays at the church.

Horseshoes will be provided to anyone needing them and instructions in pitching, scoring and court maintenance will be provided. The public is welcome.

For information, call 489-5954.

County schedules disc golf seminars

Marion County Parks and Recreation is offering an introduction to disc golf, a sport that combines elements of Frisbee® and traditional golf and that emphasizes hand-eye coordination and low-impact fitness. This free program is from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. the second and fourth Saturdays monthly at Brick City Adventure Park at 1211 SE 22nd Road, Ocala.

The program is open to residents 6 years of age and older; participants will receive an introduction to the sport and light technical instruction that includes how to putt, drive for distance and place the disc near the basket.

For information, contact Marion County Parks and Recreation at 352-671-8560 or email parks@marioncountyfl.org.

United Way to host St. Paddy's Day 5K

United Way of Marion County's high school youth program will host a St. Patrick's Day 5K run/walk at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 8, starting and ending at downtown square to benefit the United Way.

Entry fee is \$20 prior to Monday, March 3, and \$25 afterward. Race forms can be downloaded at www.uwmc.org or participants can register at Active.com.

For information, call Katrina Ganzler at 352-732-9696.

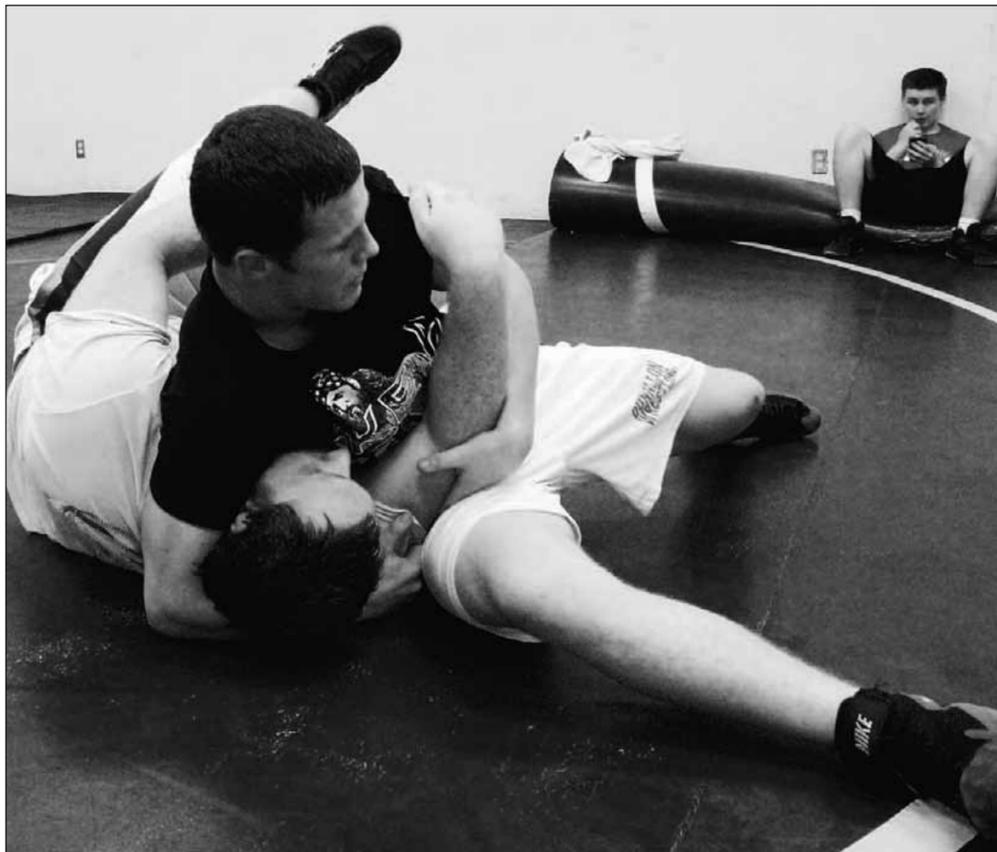
Sea Cadets Corps seeks members

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@manatee.org.

Medal mentality



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Dunnellon High's Cole Fgan brings his teammate, Alan Perrotta to the mat in a headlock as the pair began their preparations for the Class 1A State Wrestling Championships, which will be Friday and Saturday at the Lakeland Civic Center. The top-six placers, in their respective weight classes, earn medals. Fagan competes at 195 pounds while Perrotta wrestles at 285 pounds.

DHS grapplers, Fagan, Perrotta, aim for top-six finish

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

If Cole Fagan and Alan Perrotta have anything to do with it, the two Tiger grapplers would like to put Dunnellon on the map and make their mark at the Class 1A State Wrestling Championships on Friday and Saturday at the Lakeland Civic Center.

The pair represents 50 percent of the Marion County contingency who will compete at the state tournament this weekend, where the best-of-the-best will take to the mats in the two-day event. The top six placers will earn a coveted spot on the medal stand. All told, the 14 weight brackets feature the top 16 wrestlers in their respective

weight classes.

"It's medal or bust," Farris said about his two grapplers. "They have the ability to achieve it and reach that medal stand."

Dunnellon coach Jeff Farris believes his two wrestlers have done well this season, but they all know the "work isn't done." The ninth-year coach is eager to see Fagan and Perrotta reach the medal stand, which would be a first for a Tiger grappler since Carl Jackson placed sixth in the 140-pound class three years ago. All told, Dunnellon hasn't had a wrestler capture an individual state title since Bobby Gonzales won it all in 2005 competing at 152 pounds.

For Fagan, the third-year wrestler has enjoyed a breakout

season. Overall, the junior is ranked fourth in the state in the 195-pound weight division in Class 1A. Fagan, who's also a standout on the football field, enters the state championships with a 43-1 mark; however, he's one of four grapplers in his class with one loss on the season.

The offspring of Kevin Fagan, who was a part of a NCAA championship team with the University of Miami as well as two Super Bowl titles with the San Francisco 49ers in the late 1980s, said a key in his improvement this season was competing throughout the summer. In addition, Cole said his father has played a significant role in his conditioning. Unlike his sophomore year when

See **MEDAL** page 12

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Book Fair ends Friday

Friday will be the last day of the DMS Spring

Book Fair. Parents, if you haven't visited the book fair yet, stop by Building No. 1 to obtain a visitor's badge so you may check out all the great titles and items on this last day of the book fair in the Media Center. The book fair is open from 9 a.m. until noon. We hope you will have time to stop in and find just the right items for your readers.

It is not too late for our DMS students to send a Valentine's Day carnation to a friend or special someone while helping support the DMS FFA with its fundraiser. Carnations are \$1 each and you will be giving more than a flower; you will be giving someone a big smile on Valentine's Day.

There will be no school throughout Marion County on Monday in observance of President's Day. Dunnellon Middle School basketball teams will have two home games this week. Both the girls and boys teams will host Fort McCoy on Wednesday followed

See **BOOK** page 11



Delbert Smallridge
DMS Principal

FFA helps forge career path for Dunnellon junior

Walker wants to be a veterinarian

BECCA FRECHETTE
For the Riverland News

Savanna Walker knows where she is headed after high school, and her involvement with agriculture class and FFA has helped her decide that path.

"FFA has definitely helped me discover my passion and choice of career as a veterinarian," said Walker, a junior and three-year member of

FFA. "I joined because I love agriculture, especially livestock. I hoped to gain knowledge about animals and growing crops."

That's just part of what Walker says she has gained from her experiences. She also emphasized that it was so much more than that.

"I've developed important social skills that I would have never had the opportunity to learn

See **WALKER** page 12



BECCA FRECHETTE/For the Riverland News

Dunnellon High junior Savanna Walker poses with her steer, Buddy, who she will show at the SEYF.

DHS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK • PRESENTED BY LINDA'S HAPPY PET SPA

Jody Weber, softball

The senior stalwart led the Lady Tigers to three straight victories against Trinity Catholic, Crystal River and West Port in the past week. In the process, Weber was 6-for-9 from the plate, collecting five RBIs with three doubles and a home run.



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Cole Fagan, wrestling



Cole Fagan

The junior 195-pounder took first place at the Region 1A-1 Wrestling Championships. Fagan, who's ranked fourth in his weight class, improved his record to 43-1 as he prepares for his first appearance at the Class 1A State Wrestling Championships.

School tax plan gets OK for ballot

JIM CLARK

For the Riverland News

With little fanfare, the Marion County Commission on Tuesday approved putting a property tax issue to fund local schools on the November ballot.

The 1-mill levy would be used to "help fund art, music, library and PE programs along with paraprofessionals (teacher assistants) and vocational assistants," according to a fact sheet put out by the School Board.

George Tomy, school superintendent, told commissioners that it was expected to raise \$14 million per year.

According to the fact sheet, it could also help hire more teachers to help meet class-size requirements.

The resolution that was passed was sent in by Beverly Morris, School Board attorney. It was adopted by that board on Jan. 14.

In addition, the resolution authorizes creation of an independent citizens financial oversight committee.

School Board Chairman Bobby James also appeared at the meeting with Tomy.

Afterward, Tomy said school officials were ready to start a push to get the measure passed.

TIGERS

continued from page 8

It initially appeared the second-seeded 'Canes (25-2) would have an easier time with Dunnellon (16-10), which split with Citrus in the regular season and won the coin toss for the top seed. Mostly without junior Sam Franklin, who sat out the opening quarter over disciplinary reasons stemming from Tuesday's 64-62 semifinal win, Citrus jumped to a 30-14 advantage midway into the second quarter, behind a trio of 3s by Pryor and 12 early points and five steals by junior Desmond Franklin.

But with some short-possession misses by Citrus and a couple of 3-pointers from junior Desmond Frazier and sophomore Darion Baker, the Tigers cut the lead to 34-30 with 22 seconds remaining in the half.

"As can happen," CHS head coach Tom Densmore said, "the lead went away really fast. We just had to gather ourselves at halftime and say we're still up six and the second quarter's behind us. It was hard to get breathing room. Dunnellon just kept coming at us.

"I thought both teams played better than they did in both of our previous games," added Densmore, whose team defeated DHS by 18 at home in January. "I don't remember playing them in a game like that this year, where we were both at the top of our game."

While the Tigers, thanks in large part to the ferocious rebounding efforts of junior Andre Hairston (21 boards, 19 points), did prevent Citrus from



MATT PFIFFNER/For the Riverland News

Dunnellon's Rico Rosario, front, and Desmond Frazier grab a rebound away from Sam Franklin of Citrus late in the fourth quarter Friday night in Crystal River.

stringing together any fierce rallies for the remainder, they stayed at least two possessions behind for all but 10 seconds of the second half, after a Frazier free throw made it 60-57 with 3:30 to play.

"You can't spot a 24-2 team 14 points," said DHS head coach Travis Licht, referring to Citrus' 25-11 lead early in the second quarter. "We dug ourselves into a little bit of a hole, and we spent the whole game trying to dig out of it.

"I'm proud of our guys. They played as hard as they could, and they played really well. As long as we're playing at a high level this time of the year, we always have a chance."

Desmond Franklin guarded his cousin Frazier for most of the game, but had to go to the bench for a stretch in the fourth — and played more cautious defense late in the game — after getting his

fourth foul. Frazier finished with a team-high 26 points off of four 3s, while Desmond Franklin, later forced to take over at point for Pryor, had 22.

"Everything runs through Devin," Franklin said. "He sparks our team. I had never played that role before, but you've got to do what you've got to do."

Despite not finishing the game, Pryor, also a cousin of Frazier's and both Franklins, paced everyone with 28 points. He said his teammates assured him after he fouled out.

"Sam (Franklin) told me, 'we're not leaving you with a loss,' and he meant it," Pryor said. "I told Dez (Franklin) that (Dunnellon's) not going to stop him when he penetrates, so he just needed to keep driving."

Shortly before fouling out, Pryor gave his team a 60-48 lead, its biggest of

the second half, on a soft lay-in.

"I think people look at our record and think we just kind of sailed through the season," said Densmore, putting his team's championship in perspective. "But we've had adversity all over the place. We started the season with no football players, and then we're still without Sam (Franklin until January). Then, when Sam comes back, (senior) Mitchell Ellis breaks his ankle two games later. Then we wrap it all up by losing the coin toss (for the seeding).

"And then tonight, we go the first quarter without Sam and most of the fourth quarter without Devin (Pryor). But it seems like a different guy rises to the occasion every time. We've fought through everything. Nothing's been handed to us."

NEWS NOTES

Art classes back at Romeo Elementary

Jo Love is so happy to be "home" with her students at Romeo Elementary School. She has missed you all so much. You have wonderful manners and curious minds, what more could your art teacher want?

Autumn Chervenack and Onesti Ryan won art awards for their "tag art" designs Jan. 25 at the Appleton Museum of Fine Art in Ocala. Congratulations girls, you represented the arts of Romeo so well.

Love will send home a lot of artwork in the next few weeks, both from the coming nine weeks and the first nine-week grading period. Parents, we hope you celebrate the arts with your children; it is such an important part of a total education and mental growth.

Students will have some of their art displayed at Brannen Bank in Dunnellon in late February and in April at the superintendent's office in Ocala.

Keep your children drawing and their imaginations growing.

Church collecting Box Tops for Education

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

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LOVE

continued from page 1

story of how they first met.

Their bond continued to grow as they lived in the same neighborhood in Munhall, Pa., and their families knew each other. The young couple went to the same school, in the same homeroom and graduated together. Donna decided to become a Munhall Indians mascot so she could go on the bus with the band, because Gene was "the big handsome drummer."

"I don't understand why she liked that I was a drummer," Gene joked, "because she keeps telling me to beat it."

Two years after graduation, the couple married on Nov. 10, 1951, and they are still sweethearts. They contribute their long-lasting relationship to a sense of humor and being best friends to each other.

"The only argument we have is about the toilet paper," Donna said.

Another couple celebrating their 62nd anniversary this month is Jack and Gale Theisen. They knew each other only three months before Jack proposed while dancing on the dance floor.

"I already had the ring from the (military) PX," Jack remembered. "We were dirt poor, but we didn't know it."

Two months later, they were married, but it almost didn't happen. Their wedding day started with a few mishaps. Gale had borrowed a wedding dress from a friend and at the last moment the zipper broke and "I had to use safety pins to hold the dress together."

Then, the singer for the ceremony couldn't make it and Gale was devastated. Gale sings beautifully, music is a good part of her life and she wanted her good friend to sing at her wedding. Her future husband suggested they "just get someone."

"I didn't want some stranger singing at my wedding, when I wanted my friend to sing," Gale said. "It took me a while to get over that one, but I've learned not to let the little things get in the way of my deep abiding love for him."

After the delays, the wedding took place. Fifty years later, Jack decided to give Gale a new ring to replace the one from the PX. This ring has five diamonds, one diamond for each decade of marriage and for the five children they had.

"Jack wanted me to only wear the new ring because it made the engagement ring look so small" Gale said. "I did that for a year. Now I wear both rings."

The couple moved from Miami to this area in 1996 where they met Donna and Gene. Both couples clicked immediately. They are all the same age, both married 62 years, the men worked for the airlines, but not the same one, and their children went to the same school. They met at a Catholic Church and their friendship started. Now they do almost everything together from cruising to volunteering at the church and everything in between.

"We are the same age, have the same values and the same anniversary," Jack said. "We all believe that a good solid marriage is to have good Christian values."

Don and Frances Meehan are another couple that believe it is important to have a strong faith to survive marriage. Although they married in St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Warrenton, Va., Frances was not a Catholic and

didn't become one until two years later.

"My family and I never joined any church until I met Don," Frances said. "Now the church is very important to us. We have gone back to St. John's for our 50th and 60th anniversary celebration."

Don was a career U.S. Army guy when the cute couple first met at the USO and they have been together for more than 60 years. They both agree that love, patience and to always be companionable is very important for a marriage.

"I took a country girl and showed her the world," Don said about his 20-year career in the military. "We were only separated for one year, while I was in Vietnam, during our whole marriage. Being together has always been a priority with us."

The secret for a successful marriage for Helen and Charles Herr is to be tolerant of each other and their ups and downs. Talking to Charles for a minute it is obvious, with his quick wit, that laughter is very important to them.

"I laugh quite a bit," Charles said. "But she does, too."

When Helen first met her husband, he was shy and she is not sure what has happened.

"He was so shy when we met. It was later that he got goofy," Helen said with a laugh. "We were really in love with one another and still are."

They were married at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Baltimore, Md., 61 years ago and are still involved in the church.

The church in Summerville, Mass., is where Mario and Ann Patacchiola first met almost 70 years ago. He had just come home from boot camp for a week and went to church to see his students from Sunday School when he met his future bride. Although Mario taught 10th grade and Ann had the second-graders, they didn't meet until he came home on leave. She sent him letters while he was in the U.S. Navy and they were married about a year later.

"When we were younger we had a lot of arguments, but now we have learned to compromise," Ann said. "Now we do everything together. He even takes me to my hair appointments and we go grocery shopping after."

The next couple had a very unusual start to their courtship.

Bob and Sonja Anderson were both at the same party, only he came with a date and she doesn't even remember him being there.

"I was with another girl at the party when I spotted Sonja, a blue-eyed-blond," Bob fondly remembered. "The lights went on and the fireworks have been going on ever since."

It took Bob about a month to break up with the other girl and get his affairs in order before he asked Sonja for a date, which she accepted. After a couple of years of "going steady," they got married 60 years ago in her sister's home on Staten Island, N.Y. On their 50th anniversary, they renewed their vows at an Elvis Presley Chapel in Las Vegas.

"We get along and don't make waves," Sonja said. "We both give more than 50 percent to the marriage and it all comes out even."

Jack and Cecile Harrison also had a unique meeting before they married more than 68 years ago. He was stationed at Fort Devens, near the little French town of Gardner, Mass., and walked past her



AUGIE SALZER/Riverland News

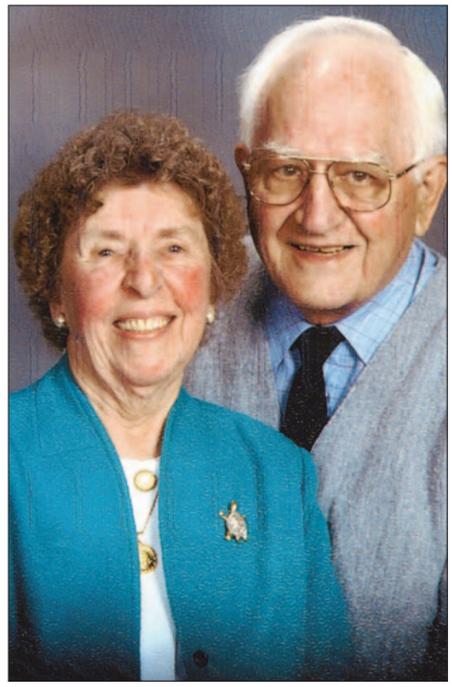
Jack Theisen, left and his wife, Gale, right, and Gene Harvey, sitting, and his wife, Donna, standing in back, pose in Gene's classic Ford Mustang. Both couples have been married 62 years.

Bernard & Kathryn Sammons Sr.



Bernard and Kathryn Sammons Sr. will celebrate their 65th anniversary April 17. The couple married April 17, 1949, which was Easter Sunday that year, at the "old" Methodist Church in Dunnellon. The couple celebrated their honeymoon at Silver Springs in Ocala where their picture, above, was taken. They first met at Dunnellon High School. The Sammons' first date was on Kathryn's front porch swing. According to Bernard "Bunny" Sammons, he knew she was the one, "when I first laid eyes on her." Bunny courted his bride-to-be on his bicycle because he didn't own a car yet. The couple had six children, five of whom are still living.

Jack & Cecile Harrison



Jack and Cecile Harrison also had a unique meeting before they married more than 68 years ago. He was stationed at Fort Devens, near the little French town of Gardner, Mass., and walked past her house every evening. They talked and talked and eventually got to know one another.

"Everything in the town was French — the stores, the church, the papers, advertising and all the people were French," Jack said. "Fortunately, she learned English in school."

He was then shipped overseas to Germany, but Cecile wrote to him twice a day. She was out fishing when Jack returned three years later.

"When I knocked on the door her father took me to where she was fishing," he said. "When I found her we just hung on each other."

One month later, they were married and honeymooned in Canada so he could meet her aunts and uncles.

Kenneth & Jeanette Kouba



Kenneth and Jeanette Kouba meet in high school while living in Millville, Ohio. Their first date was at a burlesque show in Cincinnati. Kenneth knew "she was the one when he saw her" standing at the top of the stairs at school. They were married June 29, 1946, at Jeanette's parent's home in Millville, Ohio.



BOOK

continued from page 8

on Thursday with a visit from Howard Middle School. The girls play at 4:30 p.m. each day with the boys to follow at 5:30. Admission is free.

The DMS sixth-grade field trip to Silver River Museum & Environmental Educational Center will be Friday, Feb. 21. Admission for each student will be paid by DMS using Title 1 funds. Eligibility requirements include: sixth-grade students who wish to go on the field trip must have no more than one unexcused absence from Jan. 28 through Feb. 20 and return the completed parent permission form to their homeroom teacher.

Parents, please note that the day at the Silver River Museum is devoted to school students only.

Silver River Knapp-In Festival offers students a unique hands-on look at history. Students will meet and view expert flint knappers at work as they create and shape stone tools; meet archaeologists, potters, hide tanners, bow makers and other specialists of prehistoric skills as they demonstrate and discuss these ancient skills. Students will also enjoy watching archery, tomahawk and atlatl dart throwing — a tool that uses leverage to achieve greater velocity in dart throwing. We know the students will enjoy this day-trip into the past.

Interim reports will be issued Friday, Feb. 28. We would like to remind our parents and students that Dunnellon Middle School offers free tutoring with morning and afternoon sessions. Thanks to DMS being a Title 1 school, we have the funds available to offer this exceptional academic tool to all students who want assistance with any of their core subjects. We

Thrift Shop makes donation to DMS



Photo by Joann McCullough

Delbert Smallridge, center, principal of Dunnellon Middle School, received donation checks on behalf of the school Feb. 7 from the women of the Dunnellon Community Thrift Shop. Sue Plummer, left, of the Thrift Shop Donation Committee learned of the school's field trip plans beginning the next couple of weeks and was given a rundown of costs, which include lunches, admissions, gas and drivers for buses. Smallridge has made it a goal to take all the middle school

classes to either the Silver River Museum with its special Knapp-In exhibition or to Silver Springs State Park this year. The school also has a new music department director with an almost nonexistent budget. The Thrift Shop ladies conducted a vote, decided and presented a \$499 check toward field trip and/or miscellaneous expenses and a \$499 check to be given to the music department to be used at the director's discretion. Also pictured is Barbara Hayes, Thrift Shop treasurer.

request a parent permission form be completed for your student to attend tutoring with our highly qualified instructors.

Feb. 28 is also the deadline to enter your futuristic drawing of what a healthy school breakfast will look like in 3014. Forms for the art contest entitled, "School Breakfast in 3014," sponsored by the DMS Café and the Marion County Food and Nutrition Department are at the front desk in Building No. 1.

We invite our creative and talented young people to come up with their vision of what a healthy school lunch will look like in 3014. Submit your drawings to Cindy Guile, cafeteria manager. Local winners will have their drawing

move on to the national contest. The contest is in preparation of the National School Breakfast Week Celebration, slated from March 3 through March 7.

The 2013-14 Yearbook pre-sale will run through March 21. Yearbooks cost \$30 during pre-sale. After pre-sale, the cost will increase to \$35. The DMS yearbook staff — YERDs — have created an exciting 92-page color yearbook with a custom cover.

Yearbooks are expected to arrive for distribution in late May. A limited number of extra yearbooks will be ordered, so order yours during the pre-sale, and save \$5.

In May, yearbooks will cost \$35 and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis and a limited

number will be placed on order. If you would like to place a dedication ad in the yearbook, there is still time. For information, call 465-6720.

Parents of sixth-grade students, if your child received a recommendation letter in November and December for a follow-up with an eye doctor, pediatrician or dietician with his/her health screening, please return the parental reply.

If your child has already been seen for a medical evaluation, just mark the reply section found at the bottom of the school screening result form and return it to the DMS Clinic. This follow-up is part of your child's permanent health record. For questions or information, call the DMS nurse at 465-6795.

HONOR ROLLS

Dunnellon Middle School Second Quarter Honor Roll All As

Sixth Grade: Kendall Neumann and Enoch Torres.
Seventh Grade: Yisaira Aguirre, Mandy Bernstein, Kairin Bonilla, Tiana Joyner, Madisyn Leeds and Kendal Waldrop.
Eighth Grade: Kayla Gandy, Darby Langworthy, Chandler Neal, Chantal Ruiz, Timothy Vieira, Trevor Vonseggern and Emily Weaver.

"A/B"

Sixth Grade: Jessica Alexander, Tia Ard, Samantha Bagdanovich, Ally Baillargeon, Noelle Beyer, Nathaniel Carroll-Douglas, Alexa Castilla, Samantha Chamberlain, Katelynn Clarke, Keziah Crespo, Emily Fowler, Gweneviere Ivie, Alianna Lacombe, Haley Ladeau, Rebecca Lambert, Michael Livingston, Faith McNelly, Kendazya Moore, Sandro Munoz, Gabrielle Munro, Faith Murphy, Christopher O'Brien, Isaac Pacheco, Jamie Pena Munoz, Mary Powell, Kenneth Richardson, Gabriel Rodriguez, Kaylie Rodriguez, Amber Vonseggern and Logan White.
Seventh Grade: Zachary Bones, Mary Caprio, Amber Dudley, Lateisha Edwards, Yoander Ferrer, Christian Gamache, Idette Garcia Hernandez, Matalyn Gibbs, Charles Hill, Noah Hilliard, Brandon Jaglal, Hessten LaRose, Obed Lopez, Sayra Loya, David McDearmid, Rebecca Munoz, Connor Neal, Beatrice Ortega, Cielo Palomo Melendrez, Biridiana Perez-Sanchez, Erin Robinson, Luz Sanchez-Sotelo, Mason Sereda, Caroline Shank and Joel Shelton.
Eighth Grade: Cody Caraballo, Rayanna Carlisle, Elizabeth Centeno, Carly Chinnners, Alicia Colon, Angie Diaz, Eduardo Escalante, Robert Farnell, Daisy Franco, Jacob Hicks, Cierra Lyons, Brandon Martin, Julia Martini, Alexandria McCrae, Hanna Mello, Tyler NeSmith, Emily Newsom, Heather Noll, Lindsay Reddick, Danielle Rodriguez, Michael Santiago, Adrienne Sikora, Kimberly Singleton, Chariyah Smith, Kaylah Starks and Londyn Swanson.

Romeo Elementary School Second Quarter Honor Roll All As

Third Grade: James Dixon, Aubrey Hewett, Melissa Hill, Conner Hrovat, Angela Jaimes, Joceline Jurado, Christian Morgan, Elizabeth

Muniz, Madisyn Smith, Samantha Tweedy and TJ Watts.

Fourth Grade: Andrea Abbott, Gissell Cardoso, Natalie Carter, Saul Chacon, Anaya Ferrell, Hailey Grossi, Malorie Hagenhoff, Alexis Hiers, Chandler Hiers, Delaney LaMon, Peter Reich, Jazmine Stapleton and Jordan Vining.
Fifth Grade: Rhett Bradham, Teegan Eversole, Erik Garratt, Roman Gonzalez, Preston Tyler Mills, Calista Neal, Michael Obear, Ashleigh Palmer, Erick Romero-Lopez and Joseph Santiago.
"A/B"

Third Grade: Carlos Aguirre, Jerry Aguirre, Nikkita Baker, Shyam Kane Baldeo, Isabella Chandler, Robert Chervenack, Madison Clark, Alaina Corbitt, Kailey Fowler, Miguel Garcia, Karen Garcia-Martinez, Claritze Gonzalez, Isabella Gonzalez, Satilla Harris, Landon Hitt, Jesse Holcomb, Garrett Howell, Kindred James, Kayla Jarrell, Hernan Jurado, Abbigale Kosek, Chase Letien, Juan Lopez, Faith Marra, David Miranda, Marcial Munoz, Yanet Palomo-Barragan, Brandon Peterson, A.D. Pittman, Ava Rieck, Journey Ryan, Candice Soutar, Yaquelin Trejo-Antonio, Dilan Verzaal, Bohde Wood and Roy Wyckoff.

Fourth Grade: Josue Alvarado, Sully Anderson, Caleb Beville, Kennedy Brown, Elyssa Caro, Aisling Chico Garcia, Darrien Decker, Destiny Gonzalez, Stephani Hurd, Zela Jett, Chitra Kalika, Kasey Lemanski, Shreya Martinez, Cadence McNelly, Megan Mills-Ajello, Anibal Munoz, Solis Palomo-Melendez, Victoria Peterson, Cynthia Saldana, Shelby Smith, Miranda Snyder, Jasmine Torres, Nayeli Vargas and Bethany Vaughn.

Fifth Grade: Alexis Appleby, Adrianna Anglemeyer, Manuel Betancourt, Avery Braden, Jhony Castro, Sabastian Chapman, Autumn Chervenack, Jade Deonath, Jonas Duncan, Melody Dunne, Jacqueline Enriquez, Elias Erickson, Kevin Ferrell, Morgan Heil, Cesar Hernandez, Chad Holland, Matthew Brycen Hunt, Bayleigh Johnson, Jacqueline Jurado, Jacqueline Lemanski, Marisol Magana Lugo Aguirre, Gabriel Martinez, Sarah Ortiz, Nick Place, Michael Rey, Onesti Ryan, Paul Shelton, Bridgett Strong, Anthony Velez and Sam Wryals.

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EDUCATION NEWS

Tractor Supply, FFA offering scholarship

Following a successful initial campaign in 2013, Tractor Supply Company has announced the second annual Growing Scholars program in partnership with the National FFA Foundation. Last year, Tractor Supply customers donated \$362,324, resulting in 284 scholarships awarded to FFA members in their pursuit of a college degree.

The Growing Scholars program will be supported nationally by each of the more than 1,245 Tractor Supply and Del's Feed & Farm Supply stores Friday through Feb. 23, which includes National FFA Week.

Tractor Supply customers can donate \$1 or more at store registers during the checkout process to support local FFA chapters and their members. Ninety percent of funds raised through

Tractor Supply's Growing Scholars program will be utilized to fund scholarships for FFA members. The remaining 10 percent of donations will benefit state FFA organizations.

To be eligible for the scholarship program, students must be current FFA members and either high school seniors or a freshman, sophomore or junior college student seeking a two- or four-year degree or other specialized training program. Major areas of study will also be considered when determining scholarship recipients.

"We can't thank Tractor Supply and its customers enough for supporting FFA, student and alumni members and agriculture education in general," said National FFA Foundation Executive Director Robert K. Cooper. "The Growing Scholars program truly makes a difference in the lives of our youth."

WALKER

continued from page 8

before," she explained.

For the past two years, Walker has shown pigs at the Southeastern Youth Fair. "My interest is more directed toward larger animals, so this year I am showing a steer," Walker said, noting his name is Buddy. "He is a 1300-pound puppy dog."

Buddy is a Charolais, a breed originating in France and introduced to the U.S. in the 1940s. The breed is known for producing meat that has less fat.

"My favorite thing about him is his personality," Walker explained. "One day, I was feeding Buddy, and he was lying down, so I went over next to him and started scratching his belly. Well, he must have enjoyed it because he rolled over on his side, extending his legs all the way out. Now every time I work with him, he expects to be scratched all over."

While Walker has

immensely enjoyed raising Buddy, she admits that balancing her responsibilities was difficult.

"There were some sacrifices that I had to make, but that's all a part of growing up and learning how to place my priorities," she said. "My favorite thing about FFA is having the opportunity to expand my knowledge beyond the classroom. The biggest challenge I faced this year with FFA was managing time."

As far as becoming a veterinarian, Walker has been doing her research, looking at colleges and requirements and asking a lot of questions.

"I talk to my vet frequently and always ask a ton of questions for advice," Walker said, noting she'll graduate in 2015 and likely move to Gainesville or Texas. "My dream college is Texas A&M; however, UF is much closer to my family."

Wherever she goes, Walker knows she wants to go out and see new places and meet new people.

DHS softball squad off to torrid start

JEFF BRYAN
Riverland News

An offense clicking on all cylinders early in the season has propelled the Dunnellon High School softball team to a 3-0 record with impressive victories against Trinity Catholic and Crystal River, a District 5A-6 rival.

The Lady Tigers most recent win came Monday against Ocala West Port in which Dunnellon pummeled the Wolf Pack, 15-3, in five innings. Senior Courtney Pike led the Lady Tigers offensive attack, notching two RBIs. Natasha and Isabella Pierro as well as Ele Goodloe and Michelle Ruiz had one RBI each. Senior Courtney Heinritz had three hits and

senior Jody Weber had two hits to pace the Lady Tigers' 16-hit attack.

Natasha Pierro kept the West Port offense in check throughout during her complete game performance. She allowed two hits and no earned runs while striking out five batters and walking just one.

On Friday, Dunnellon toppled the Lady Pirates, 11-6, behind the solid offensive performances of Weber, who was 2-for-3 with a double and a home run as well as Heinritz, Chestnut, Kelly Howard and Kasey Bernstein who also had two hits apiece.

In the Lady Tigers' season-opener Feb. 4 against Trinity Catholic, Dunnellon dispatched the Celtics, 19-5. Weber and Goodloe paced the Lady

Tigers with three RBIs each while Howard, Bernstein, Ruiz and Heinritz drove in two runs apiece.

Natasha Pierro pitched four innings of relief to record the victory. She didn't yield a hit while allowing two unearned runs. She struck out seven and walked two. Vanessa Hernandez started for the Lady Tigers, pitching two innings while allowing one earned run and two hits, while striking out two and walking two.

Dunnellon will play at 6 p.m. today against North Marion at home and at 6 p.m. Friday at Crystal River in a rematch with the Lady Pirates. The Lady Tigers also play at 7 p.m. Monday at West Port and at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, at Lake Weir.

MEDAL

continued from page 8

he felt tired, or "gassed," that hasn't been the case this year.

"I do love wrestling," he said, explaining he and his father lift weights in the morning and work on agility drills to make him quicker on his feet. "My dad is pretty into (wrestling). He doesn't know as much about it as some of the other sports he's involved with, but he really enjoys it and has been a great supporter."

Coming from such an athletic family — his sisters, Kasey, Sami and Haley were a part of the Lady Tigers softball team which won back-to-back state championships and a national title in 2010 — is often tough.

"It's hard, at times, being from an athletic family," said Cole, who won the Region 1A-2 title. "When people realize who my family is, the expectations are higher. But I don't worry about it, I just want to be Cole."

Farris praised Cole's efforts this season as well as his work ethic and leadership.

"He's athletic, he's gifted in that he can pick things up very quickly," Farris said. "He comes from a great family; they're all athletic."

The fourth of six children for the Fagan family, Cole said he's not looking ahead to potential opponents; opting instead to focus on simply who's next.

"I just need to focus on the match at hand and



JEFF BRYAN/Riverland News

Alan Perrotta attempts to escape the grasp of a teammate as he prepares for the Class 1A State Championships, which begin Friday.

how I wrestle," he explained. "If I wrestle my style and don't worry about the other person's style, I think I'll be alright."

Cole knows his athleticism is an attribute.

"This is the hardest sport I've ever done," he explained, adding he would consider competing at the collegiate level if the opportunity presents itself, but playing college football is his No. 1 goal. "The competition in wrestling and football are completely different. Here, it's all on you and how you perform. Winning in wrestling, as an individual, is very rewarding, very satisfying"

His lone regret about wrestling is not having started sooner. Cole said his brother, Jack, began competing last year, but did not wrestle this year.

"I wish I would've started when I was younger, I really love it," said Cole, whose first-round opponent will be Brad Grundy, a sophomore Berkley Prep who posted a 24-6 record this season. "Wrestling has be-

come a big conversation in our house."

Perrotta, too, is enjoying a breakout campaign in this, his final season in prep wrestling. He said qualifying for the state tournament "feels really good."

"It's very rewarding," said Perrotta, who finished fourth at the Region 1A-2 tournament in the 285-pound weight class. "I wasn't sure I was going to make it this year, because it is tough."

Perrotta certainly has a tough task in the opening round as he'll square off against Jamal Fiffer (35-1), a senior from University Christian in Jacksonville, and the top-ranked 285-pounder in Class 1A. "Coach and I share the same philosophy: anyone can be beaten on any given day," Perrotta said. "I cannot worry about his record and his ranking. I can control what I do. I have stay focused and avoid messing up."

Perrotta, who's posted an impressive 32-7 mark in his second season, said wrestling has been enjoyable.

"It's fun; it takes hard work and determination," he said, crediting Cole with his improvement. "I have to wrestle against him every day, and he definitely pushes you to be better. He's been a lot of help this year."

The two-day tournament is standard with its features, meaning two losses and a wrestler is out. To advance to the second day and remain in medal contention, a grappler has to win two matches on the opening day of the tournament. If a participant reaches the semifinals in the winner's bracket, they're guaranteed of at least a top-six finish and a place on the podium.

"It would be the icing on the cake to accomplish that feat," Perrotta admitted. "I certainly hope to be there by the end of Saturday night."

Solution to puzzle on Page 14

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Woman's Club of Dunnellon installs six new members



Special to the Riverland News
The Woman's Club of Dunnellon recently installed six new members, from left: Adele Williams, Dorothy Satterwhite, Claire Snyder, Paulette Froehlich, Barbara Johnson and Judith Capone. Also pictured are Gerry Hess, second vice president and installing officer, and Barbara Waugh, recording secretary.

The Woman's Club of Dunnellon will meet at noon today at its clubhouse at 11756 Cedar St. Lunch will be a salad bar. The club will meet again at noon Thursday, March 13, for a potluck luncheon. Joey Weisbaum from First United Methodist Church will be the guest speaker and discuss the church's Forget-Me-Not program, a day care for elderly.

Plans are underway for a Sunday brunch, March 16. There will be two seatings, one at 11 a.m. and the second seating at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10, and must be purchased in advance. They are available from Treva Matthews, or any member of the club. Each sitting is limited to 50 people so get your tickets fast.

Club members will take a boat trip March 27 on the Withlacoochee River out of Yankeetown, with lunch at Ike's afterward. The Woman's Club of Dunnellon's annual fashion show will be April 12. Tickets will be available soon. For information regarding Woman's Club activities, call Gerry Hess at 465-8195 or Joanne Schemery at 465-7161.

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 12

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Riverland News

ERRORS

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

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

Chronicle Connection

Diabetic Test Strips a diabetic needs unopened, unexpired boxes, we pick-up, call Mike 386-266-7748 \$SWE PAY CASH\$S

Free Offers

RAINBOW RIVERS CLUB MEMBERSHIP Free Rainbow Rivers Club Membership w/4 years remaining. Transfer Fee and 1st quarter maintenance fees paid. Call anytime 352-489-0989 or 352-895-1529

Sales Help

The Williston Pioneer has a opening on our advertising team. E-mail your resume to Carolyn Ten Broeck at editor@willistonpioneer.com. We are an equal opportunity employer. Drug testing required.

Trades/Skills

Now Hiring: OTR CDLA Drivers

New Pay Package and \$2500 Sign-On Bonus! Mostly 5-10 days out. Full benefits, achievable bonuses. Call for details 1-888-378-9691 or www.heyl.net

Tanker Drivers:

Up to \$5,000 Sign-On Bonus! Up to 51cpm plus additional pay for HazMat loads, pump offs, mileage bonuses! 1-year OTR. Call 877-882-6537 www.oakleytransport.com

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

Career Opportunities

AIRLINE CAREERS
begin here - Get FAA approved Aviation Maintenance Technician Training, Housing and Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-741-9260 www.FixJets.com

Schools/Institution

Now ENROLLING

MASSAGE THERAPY Classes Start, April 28, 2014 Spring Hill DAY & NIGHT SCHOOL
BENE'S International School of Beauty www.benes.edu



(727) 848-8415 (352) 263-2744 1 (866) 724-2363 ★ TOLL FREE ★ STATE APPROVED FOR VA TRAINING

Auctions



Thur 2/13 Estate Adventure Auction out-3pm, in-6pm (Two Auctions) Bush Hog P273 /com 0-turn mower, furniture, tools, everything from new to collectibles Sat. 2/15 MORRISON On Site Construction Asset Liquidation Auction: 9am. 24030 NW 27th, 32668 call for info 637-9588 Dudley's Auction .com 4000 S Florida (US415) Inverness Ab1667 10% bp cash/ck.

TVs/Stereos

DISH TV Retailer. Starting \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) Broadband Internet starting \$14.95/month (where available.) Ask About SAME DAY Installation! CALL NOW! 1-800-980-6193

Furniture

BRAND NEW Queen Size Pillow Top Mattress Set \$150. Still in Original Plastic. (352) 484-4772

Garden/Lawn Supplies

Husqvarna Riding Lawn Mower 48" cut, good cond. 6 yrs old, asking \$700. Moving (352) 209-4311

Garage/Yard Sales

DUNNELLON Fri, Sat, Sun 8a-? Antiques, Furn, Misc 20929 W McKinney Av

DUNNELLON

Thurs beginning @ 12:00 noon Fri - Sat 8a-4p Tools, old doors, lots of wood, beer neon lights, mirrors & pool table lights. Chrome alloy wheel 16x8 and lots of glass ware. Must empty garage. 20235 The Granada Behind Sun Trust Bank

Household

Liberation by American Standard Walk-In Bath - Don't Struggle Getting Out Of A Normal Bathtub. Stay in your home longer, safely, independently. Liberation Walk-In Baths Commended by the Arthritis Foundation. Best Lifetime Warranty in the Industry. Hydrotherapy, Chromotherapy, Aromatherapy no extra cost. Installation Included! Get \$1,000 Off - Call Toll-Free Today 1-866-583-1432.

Sporting Goods

GUN SHOW

Ocala National Guard Armory 900 SW 20th Street Feb. 15, Sat. 9-5 Feb. 16, Sun. 9-4 Concealed Weapons Classes Daily Bring your GUNS to sell or trade GunTrader GunShows.com 352-359-0134

Tree Service

STUMP GRINDING CALL JIM FOR FREE ESTIMATES (800) 478-8679

Mobile Homes For Rent

BRING YOUR FISHING POLE!



INVERNESS, FL

55+ park on lake w/5 piers, clubhouse and much more! Rent incl. grass cutting and your water ★ 1 bedroom, 1 bath @ \$395 Pets considered and section 8 is accepted. Call 800-747-4283 For Details!

Waterfront Mobile For Rent

INVERNESS

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

Mobile Homes and Land

Mobile Homes with acreage. Ready to move in. Seller Financing (subject to credit approval). Lots of room for the price, 3Br 2Ba. No renters. 850-308-6473 VMHomes.com

Rent: Houses Unfurnished

Dunnellon Clean, Quiet, 2/1/1 New floors/paint \$750. mo. (352) 433-6868

DUNNELLON

Rainbow Lakes Estates, 2/2/1 Roomy, Clean & Bright \$650. month + utilities dep. & application. (352)465-1277

Real Estate For Sale

Blue Ridge Mountain Getaway!

4.64 acres, only \$44,800. Beautifully wooded 4.64 acre estate with picturesque rolling mountain views. Ideally located at end of quiet country road with no traffic. Enjoy privacy along with peace & quiet. Build when you are ready. All underground utilities: water, electric, fiber optic cable. Excellent financing. Perfect for weekend mtn cabin or year-round residence. Call now 866-952-5303, x 146

Notices to Creditors/Administration

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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.

Vehicles Wanted

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

Classic Vehicles

AUTO SWAP CORRAL SHOW 21TH ANNUAL WINTER SWAP MEET SUMMER COUNTY Fairgrounds, Bushnell Feb. 14, 15, 16th 1-800-438-8559

Trucks

DODGE 1981 Ram 1500 Truck WANTED. Clean, good running pickup, any year up to 2004, prefer 4x4, will pay fair price. Call 207 701-6444 9am to 9pm

Vans

CHRYSLER 2012 Town & Country Wheelchair van with 10" lowered floor, ramp and tie downs Call Tom for more info 352-325-1306

Boats

"Affordable Mobile" all type marine repairs 711 NE 6th Av. Crv Riv 352-398-5903

Heating/AC

Comfort Works, Inc. Air Conditioning and Heating Service, Res/Com (352) 400-8361 Lic# CAC1817447

Home/Office Cleaning

Kat's Kritter Kare & Kastle Kleaner, Pet Sitting & House Cleaning (352) 270-4672

Recreation Vehicles

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

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Campers/Travel Trailers

Holiday Rambler 2008, SAVOY, 26 ft. Travel trlr. New awning, 1 slide out, central vac. ducted air. Emmuculate inside & out \$12,500. 352-586-1694

Trucks

DODGE 1981 Ram 1500 Truck WANTED. Clean, good running pickup, any year up to 2004, prefer 4x4, will pay fair price. Call 207 701-6444 9am to 9pm

Vans

CHRYSLER 2012 Town & Country Wheelchair van with 10" lowered floor, ramp and tie downs Call Tom for more info 352-325-1306

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Notices to Creditors/Administration

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is February 13, 2014. Personal Representative: /s/ CLINT R. FOLEY 888 N.W. 165th Court Road, Dunnellon, Florida 34432

Attorney for Personal Representative:

BRETT & REYNOLDS, P.A. /s/ Joel O. Parker, Esq. Florida Bar No. 0070201 8810 S.W. Highway 200, Suite 122, Ocala, Florida 34481 February 13 & 20, 2014.

IN RE: ESTATE OF WILLIAM L. LETTS, SR., Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of WILLIAM L. LETTS, SR., deceased, whose date of death was November 27, 2013, File Number 2014-CP-99, is pending in the Circuit Court for Marion County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Box 1030, Ocala, Florida 34478. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE TIME OF SERVICE OF

LOVE

continued from page 10

house every evening. They talked and talked and eventually got to know one another.

"Everything in the town was French — the stores, the church, the papers, advertising and all the people were French," Jack said. "Fortunately, she learned English in school."

He was then shipped overseas to Germany, but Cecile wrote to him twice a day. She was out fishing when Jack returned three years later.

"When I knocked on the door her father took me to where she was fishing," he said. "When I found her we just hung on each other."

One month later, they were married and honeymooned in Canada so he could meet her aunts and uncles.

"When I met her family I had no idea what they were saying," laughed Jack who still doesn't know a lot of French. "Our marriage couldn't be better. We would do it again."

It was a blind date that got Emil and Audrey DeDonato together and humor has kept them together for 63 years.

"It was the sixth or seventh date when I asked her how old she was, because she looked like she just got out of high school" Emil said. "When she said she was 28 I told her she was running out of time if she wanted to get married. This was her last chance."

They both agree that it takes love, compromise and taking care of each other for a marriage to work.

"If every married man had a wife like Audrey, there wouldn't be a single divorce in this country," Emil said. "And you can quote me on that."

The last couple is "still in love" after almost 60 years of married life. Tom and Carolyn Alter met at a sock hop in high school, she was a sophomore and he was a senior.

They believe attitude, similar background, kindness, love and a strong religious belief, are the ingredients necessary for a marriage to work.

"It's helpful to be mature and know what you want in a marriage. It wasn't easy, but fortunately it's been good," Carolyn said. "We expected to have a good life together and it looks like we fulfilled it."

All the couples mentioned have one thing in common — they all love each other.

Mario & Ann Patacchiola



Mario and Ann Patacchiola first met almost 70 years ago. He had just come home from boot camp for a week and went to church to see his students from Sunday School when he met his future bride. Although Mario taught 10th grade and Ann had the second-graders, they didn't meet until he came home on leave. She sent him letters while he was in the U.S. Navy and they were married about a year later.

Don & Frances Meehan



Don and Frances Meehan are another couple that believe it is important to have a strong faith to survive marriage. Although they married in St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Warrenton, Va., Frances was not a Catholic and didn't become one until two years later. "My family and I never joined any church until I met Don," Frances said. "Now the church is very important to us. We have gone back to St. John's for our 50th and 60th anniversary celebration."



Bob & Sonja Anderson



Bob and Sonja Anderson were both at the same party, only he came with a date and she doesn't even remember him being there. "I was with another girl at the party when I spotted Sonja, a blue-eyed-blond," Bob fondly remembered. "The lights went on and the fireworks have been going on ever since." It took Bob about a month to break up with the other girl and get his affairs in order before he asked Sonja for a date, which she accepted. After a couple of years of "going steady," they got married 60 years ago in her sister's home on Staten Island, N.Y. On their 50th anniversary, they renewed their vows at an Elvis Presley Chapel in Las Vegas.

Tom & Carolyn Alter



Tom and Carolyn Alter met at a sock hop in high school, she was a sophomore and he was a senior. The couple is "still in love" after almost 60 years of married life. They believe attitude, similar background, kindness, love and a strong religious belief, are the ingredients necessary for a marriage to work. "It's helpful to be mature and know what you want in a marriage. It wasn't easy, but fortunately it's been good," Carolyn said.

Emil & Audrey DeDonato



It was a blind date that got Emil and Audrey DeDonato together and humor has kept them together for 63 years. "It was the sixth or seventh date when I asked her how old she was, because she looked like she just got out of high school" Emil said. "When she said she was 28 I told her she was running out of time if she wanted to get married. This was her last chance." They both agree that it takes love, compromise and taking care of each other for a marriage to work.

Put American Workers Back to Work, Buy American.

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|--|---|--|
| <p>WOOD PLANTATION SHUTTERS</p> <p>\$13⁹⁵ Measured & Installed</p> <p>LIFETIME WARRANTY</p> <p>MADE IN AMERICA</p> <p>24" W x 36" H \$84 Inst. 36" W x 50" H \$175 Inst. 48" W x 48" H \$224 Inst. 48" W x 60" H \$280 Inst. 72" W x 62" H \$434 Inst.</p> | <p>2" FAUX BLINDS</p> <p>Our blinds are built with a STEEL HEADRAIL. Unlike the Flimsy Plastic Headrail like the HomeCenter's</p> <p>INSTALLED FREE!</p> <p>EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES</p> <p>36" W x 48" H \$39 Inst. 52" W x 62" H \$68 Inst. 60" W x 62" H \$75 Inst. 72" W x 72" H \$93 Inst.</p> | <p>VERTICALS</p> <p>INSTALLED FREE!</p> <p>EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES</p> <p>36" W x 48" H \$39 Inst. 52" W x 48" H \$49 Inst. 60" W x 48" H \$69 Inst. 72" W x 72" H \$86 Inst.</p> |
| <p>STAINED BASSWOOD SHUTTERS</p> <p>\$18⁹⁵ Sq. Ft. Measured & Installed</p> <p>LIFETIME WARRANTY</p> <p>MADE IN AMERICA</p> <p>24" W x 36" H \$96 Inst. 36" W x 50" H \$199 Inst. 48" W x 48" H \$269 Inst. 48" W x 60" H \$319 Inst. 72" W x 62" H \$557 Inst.</p> | <p>SUNSCREEN SHUTTERS</p> <p>EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES</p> <p>24" W x 36" H \$49 Inst. 36" W x 48" H \$62 Inst. 52" W x 48" H \$93 Inst. 72" W x 60" H \$131 Inst.</p> | <p>CELLULAR SHADES</p> <p>EXAMPLE OF OUR PRICES</p> <p>26" W x 46" H \$79 Inst. 35" W x 36" H \$89 Inst. 48" W x 36" H \$99 Inst.</p> |

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Clip, complete and mail to: Expires 2/28/14. In-County Only

Riverland News

www.riverlandnews.com
20441 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Dunnellon, FL 34432
Call 352-489-2731

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2014 VERSA NOTE S

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\$11,999



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Model # 20114 Vin # 356557

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\$17,286



Model # 21213 Vin # 306245

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\$16,838



Model # 31054 Vin # 723261

2014 ALTIMA 2.5

STARTING AT

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**2008 ACURA
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\$14,956



**2013 BUICK REGAL
 TURBO PREMIUM 1**
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\$22,960



**2013 CHEVROLET
 AVALANCHE LT**
 Stk # G127A

\$36,494



**2011 CHEVROLET
 CRUZE LT W 2LT**
 Stk # G073B

\$14,960



**2013 CHEVROLET
 EQUINOX LS**
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**2012 CHRYSLER
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\$24,963



**2012 FORD
 FIESTA SE**
 Stk # G061A

\$12,998



**2012 GMC
 TERRAIN SLE-1**
 Stk # FT608A

\$20,875



**2010 GMC
 TERRAIN SLT-2**
 Stk # GT023A

\$19,994



**2012 HONDA
 ACCORD EX-L**
 Stk # GT235A

\$21,975



**2009 HONDA
 CIVIC SDN EX**
 Stk # P6331B

\$13,961



**2010 HONDA
 CIVIC CPE LX**
 Stk # F999A

\$14,447



**2010 HONDA
 PILOT EX**
 Stk # TGT058A

\$19,973



**2013 HYUNDAI
 ACCENT GLS**
 Stk # P6316

\$12,990



**2011 HYUNDAI
 SANTA FE SE**
 Stk # FT612A

\$17,990



**2009 HYUNDAI
 SANTA FE LIMITED**
 Stk # GT112A

\$17,946



**2013 HYUNDAI
 TUCSON GLS**
 Stk # GT070A

\$20,446

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