

# Riverland News

Thursday, October 9, 2014

Vol 32 No. 48

75 cents

## One dead, one hurt in boating mishap

Incident occurred last Thursday on Withlacoochee River

**BUSTER THOMPSON**  
For the Riverland News

CITRUS SPRINGS — Two boaters were involved in a fatal single-vessel boat crash last Thursday on the Withlacoochee River when their

bass boat struck a tree, resulting in the death of one of the men on board.

According to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) spokeswoman Karen Parker, the men were a father and a son

who launched their 1987 16-foot Champion boat at the Dunnellon boat ramp off U.S. 41.

Frank Allen Howard Jr., 59, of Morriston, was at the helm and his father, Frank Allen Howard Sr., 79, of Ocala, was

the passenger as they headed south on the river.

About 3 1/2 miles up river, Howard Jr. arrived at a bend and went under some overhanging tree limbs along the west bank of the waterway and struck a cypress tree head on, according to the FWC report. This was at 11:15 a.m.

Howard Jr. was thrown from the steering console forward and landed near the boat's front deck and his father, Howard Sr., was ejected from the boat into the river. Citrus County Sheriff's Office deputies and Dunnellon police were first on the scene

See **BOATING** page 3

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

#### Fero & Sons Insurance celebration today

Fero & Sons Insurance, in conjunction with its 60th anniversary, will host a "community picnic" from 4:30 p.m. to dusk today at Ernie Mills Park.

A deejay will play music spanning the past 60 years. Hot dogs and sodas will be offered while supplies last. A bounce house will entertain the children.

Presentations by local officials will be made beginning at 5 p.m., including a proclamation from the City Council presented by Mayor Nathan Whitt.

#### Friends of Library plan book sale

The Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library will host its Fantastic Fall Bookstore Sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

On Friday, all hardcover books will be \$1 each or a bag for \$4; on Saturday, hardcover books will be 50 cents each or a bag for \$2. Paperback books will be six for \$1 both days. All other products will be half off both days of the sale.

For information, call 438-2520.

#### RLE Garden Club to host plant sale

The Rainbow Lakes Estates Garden Club will host its annual plant sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in the youth center at the RLE Community Complex, 4000 Deepwater Court. All plants will be priced between \$1 and \$4.

For information, call M.J. Abbott at 489-4452 or Jackie MacPherson at 465-6586.

#### State park to host art show Oct. 18 and 19

Rainbow Springs State Park will host the annual Art in the Park show and sale on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18 and 19. Art will be shown, and for sale, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 18 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 19.

For information, call 465-8555.

### 16TH ANNUAL JAZZ UP DUNNELLON

# READY TO ROCK



Special to the Riverland News

Final Note, performs in 2013 during Jazz Up Dunnellon. The Dunnellon-based band is comprised of Kelly Michel, the lead singer and horn player; his wife, Amy, who plays the keyboard and saxophone; his son, Justin, plays rhythm guitar; and his nephew-in-law, Steve Gavidia, is on bass. Longtime family friends, Don Weber and Judd Hollie round out the six-piece group, with Weber holding down the drums and Hollie as the second guitarist. Final Note will begin performing at 5 p.m. Saturday at Penn Plaza on East Pennsylvania Ave.

## Final Note jazzed to be in the mix

**JEFF BRYAN**  
Riverland News

A family, who jams together, stays together, or so it seems for Final Note.

For the past 10 years, Kelly Michel and his family have definitely taken family get-together's to an entirely different level as five of the six members of the band are related in one way or another.

First, there's Kelly Michel, the lead singer and horn player; add his wife, Amy, who plays the keyboard and saxophone; his son, Justin, plays rhythm guitar; and his nephew-in-law, Steve Gavidia, is on bass. Longtime family friends, Don Weber and Judd Hollie round out the six-piece group, with Weber holding down the drums and Hollie as the second guitarist.

Final Note was born 10 years ago, shortly after Kelly

and Amy had performed with an Ocala-based group that disbanded almost as quickly as it came together.

But for Kelly Michel, it just served as the launching board for him to form a band since relocating to the Dunnellon area from Miami. Music has always been a big part of Kelly's life since picking up a trombone at the age of 12.

"For us, it's relaxing," Kelly said of the family-oriented band, which will perform at the 16th annual Jazz Up Dunnellon music festival from 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday along East Pennsylvania Avenue as well as the Downtown Historic District, which is comprised of West Pennsylvania Avenue and Cedar Street. "The music we had our kids listen to when they were younger really influenced them and that's what's influenced our songs

See **FINAL** page 10

### ENTERTAINMENT

BluzBusters, blues and boogie, Chamber of Commerce; Rusted Steel, rock, Chamber of Commerce; Final Note, classics, rock, blues and jazz, Penn Plaza; Rock Steady, classic, British rock, blues, Latin fusion, Bob Rodgers; The Suitors, electric blues, Badcock Furniture; Helen Blazes, rock and blues, Crock's Pub & Rodeo Grill; Buddy Shaw, rock and variety, Gigi Hunter; Tropic Haze, blues and classic rock, Home Outfitter; Ocala Jazz Society, old standards and other genres, Two Rivers Inn; Deja Blue, blues and classic rock, Insurance Centre of Dunnellon; RStyle, classic rock, oldies, blues and some jazz, H. Michael Evans, P.A.; Rick Dahlinger Trio, jazz, Always Something; Scott and Michelle Dalziel, eclectic, folk, blues and jazz, Annie Johnson Thrift Store; and Jackson Nickels, solo singer/songwriter, Annie Johnson Thrift Store.

## Organizers make subtle tweaks for festive event

**JEFF BRYAN**  
Riverland News

Looking to reinvigorate Jazz Up Dunnellon after 15 years, organizers believe they've already accomplished it, but they'll let the crowd decide for themselves as the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce prepares for the 16th annual Jazz Up Dunnellon.

"I'm very excited about it, it's a little bit different than what I do," said Randy Smith, the entertainment coordinator, who noted he typically organizes events featuring bands with one to three stages. "It's a little bit of a challenge, but I'm blessed that they called me into help out. The musicians have all been very helpful, so that we can do this again. We've got a lot of great musicians in the area; a lot of good seasoned musicians, too.

"I've got a lot of other ideas, maybe some doing some other things differently in the years to come. I would do an event every week if I could. I love doing events, and they've been really good to me about everything really."

The yearly music festival kicks off at 5 p.m. Saturday along East Pennsylvania Avenue and the Downtown Historic District, which encompasses both West Pennsylvania Avenue and Cedar Street (State Road 40). The Historic District will be closed off to traffic while speed limits along East Pennsylvania Avenue will be reduced to 20 mph throughout the night of the event. Roads will be closed beginning at 4 p.m.

Viola Soffe, president of the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce, praised the herculean efforts of Smith for going above and

See **FESTIVE** page 3

## RS Realty office renovations underway

Gissy purchases property, building, lots

**AUGIE SALZER**  
For the Riverland News

A lot of banging and sawing is being done to renovate the building of the Rainbow Springs Realty Group Inc. Although there is a lot of construction activity going on, the realty group is still doing business as usual in the rear of the building.

The major changes began after Jim Gissy purchased three acres and the realty building

located on the land in July 2014. Gissy is the executive vice president of sales and marketing for Westgate Resorts in Orlando and has been selling real estate for more than 30 years. During that time he has also acquired a large portfolio of personal real estate holdings in the central Florida area.

Gissy first saw the 40-year-old building about eight years ago when he assisted his parents in

buying a home here from Keith Caton, a current broker and one of the owners of the Rainbow Springs Realty Group Inc.

"I always liked the building, because it sits on a hill and I liked the land," Gissy said by phone recently. "I bought it for an investment and it's a smart thing for me to do."

In 2006, he also purchased 108 acres and restored a spring on

See **RENOVATIONS** page 2



AUGIE SALZER/For the Riverland News

Members of JMW Construction Services Inc. make their way around the side of Rainbow Springs Realty Group Inc. as renovations to the building are underway. The project is expected to be completed in December.



**RENOVATIONS**  
continued from page 1

land that feeds into the Rainbow River in Dunnellon and named the private sanctuary Gissy Springs.

In addition to buying the realty building, he also purchased another 43 home sites, mostly in the Country Club Estates section of Rainbow Springs. Gissy will have Caton and his agents sell the land for him.

"This is just the beginning of many things I plan to do in Dunnellon," Gissy said.

The realty group is working on a marketing plan to build new homes on the newly acquired lots.

The structure in the process of renovation has already housed different real estate offices, home builders and several construction companies under many names in its lifetime.

The 2,500-square-foot building will basically remain the same, except it will have a metal roof and be built to current code, according to John Williams, a Dunnellon contractor with JMW Construction Services Inc. The supports holding up the building were rotting and sagging and no longer suffi-

cient to do the job. Contractors have already built a new concrete block foundation as part of the numerous planned renovations to the structure.

"I have a lot of subs (contractors) working with me now for 20 years," Williams said of his work on the building. "They know what I expect of them and I know the kind of work they do. That is why we are still able to compete with other companies."

The work began in September and the seven owner/agents of the Rainbow Springs Realty Group Inc. moved from the main building into a small space behind the work area. Ann Engel and Gail Caputo, the office staff, and the agents have dealt with the noise, dust and disarray knowing they will soon be in a state-of-the-art facility.

"John (Williams) is working with us during the construction," Caton said. "He gives us fair warning when the water will be off for a few minutes or we can't use the door for a while."

The close-knit group formed the Rainbow Springs Realty Group

Inc. in November 2011 when the agents also became the owners. Caton, the broker, Janet Pigeon, Yulee Commander and Sharon Graley, agents, have been in the real estate market at the same location for 20-some years. Agents Rosalie Adler, Carole Caird and Dale Ravens



**Keith Caton, broker**

have been in the business for many years, but not at the same place.

"It is unique to be an agent/owned company and we are all on the same wave length," Commander said. "It took a lot of faith and courage to step forward and make this happen."

The group has numerous years of experience in selling real estate and new home construction and they all live and work in the area.

"The prices are good on resales, but a lot of people like brand-new homes," Adler commented. "I love looking at blueprints and help the customer realize what their home will look like."

Their real estate business has increased each of the three years the group has been incorporated.

"We have a good staff and referral base,"

Caton said. "The real estate market in Dunnellon is doing well and we've increased our business by 35 percent each year."

The 3-year-old realty is pleased to have a new landlord and eventually a beautiful new building. They also plan to suggest to new home builders that they use JMW Construction Services Inc., as Gissy highly recommends his work and is using him for the renovation.

"I've seen his work and he is very competent," Gissy said about Williams' completed homes. "I also like to give work to the local people."

The "Pardon our Dust" sign located in front of the real estate office located on U.S. 41 and SW 88th Place Road will be removed just before Christmas when the remodeling will be finished.

Augie Salzer is a correspondent for the Riverland News. Email her at [augie@thingsintown.com](mailto:augie@thingsintown.com).

**Birth announcement**



Special to the Riverland News  
**Ariel Silver-Rose Becker is the first great-great-grandchild of Carmen Fisher, who lives in Dunnellon Square. Ariel was born last month in Hartford, Conn.**

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MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

**Florida Freshwater Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Officer S. Seiler secures the scene of this fatal boating accident last Thursday about 6 miles south of the boat ramp in the city of Dunnellon.**

**BOATING**

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but had difficulty getting to the crash site.

Howard Jr. was pronounced dead a short time after being transported to Citrus Memorial hospital, according to Parker.

Howard Sr. was transported to Ocala Regional Medical Center with minor injuries, she said.

Citrus County responders and Dunnellon police were the first to arrive at the incident southeast of Dunnellon — approxi-

mately 6 miles upriver — while being led by a Citrus County Sheriff's Office helicopter.

Due to problems accessing the scene, responders had to utilize a boat belonging to Bud Holian, an area resident.

"They knocked on the door and asked if I had a boat," Holian said.

Holian's boat arrived at the scene a mile south of his home.

"Their boat was in the tree," Holian said of the damaged Champion bass boat.

According to Holian and

the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, a passing kayaker boarded the 16-foot vessel in an attempt to resuscitate the severely injured boater while waiting for responders to take over.

"He was doing a good job," Holian said about the good Samaritan.

Holian's boat was used to transport the injured boaters back to shore.

The crash remains under investigation, according to Parker.

*Chronicle reporter A.B. Sidibe contributed to this report.*

**FESTIVE**

continued from page 1

beyond in securing artists to perform.

"I think he's done a great job," Soffe said, as Beverly Leisure, the executive director of the Chamber, added, "he's done awesome."

Among many of the subtle changes this year will be the addition of several first-time performers at Jazz Up, mixed in with several veteran artists familiar with the nuances of the popular festival. "We have a lot of groups we've never used before, so we have a lot of new voices and new genres. That's going to be exciting."

In addition to several new performers, Soffe explained the layout will be different from in years past. She said Smith plans to stage artists of similar genres in sections, so as eventgoers make their way through the streets, they won't run from genre to genre.

"The music will blend together, so as it's not as haphazard as it's been in the past," she said. "There's going to be a good flow."

In addition to the ever-popular music the event draws, there will be plenty of food and drinks available for the crowds to enjoy. Plenty of vendors will be spread out across both East and

West Pennsylvania Avenue and four beer gardens will be set up; however, only chamber-approved cups can be used for alcoholic beverages on the streets during the event, and a volunteer staff will monitor and enforce the rules. Those without such a cup drinking alcoholic beverages will be required to empty their drink or potentially be fined, law enforcement officials said.

Mardi-Gras themed accessories and Jazz Up Dunnellon T-shirts will be on sale. In addition, the Dunnellon Police Department will once again open its "bar" and serve two different styles

of nonalcoholic drinks. The police department's goal is to promote nonalcoholic drinks to the public and show you can have a great time without alcohol. All proceeds and donations raised during the night will benefit its "Cops for Kids" program. Cops for Kids is a program that provides a child the opportunity to shop for their family and themselves, making it a holiday season they will not forget.

For information about Jazz Up Dunnellon, visit [www.dunnellonchamber.com](http://www.dunnellonchamber.com) or call the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce at 489-2320.

**Riverland News**

A member of the Florida Press Association

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**Solution to puzzle on Page 10**

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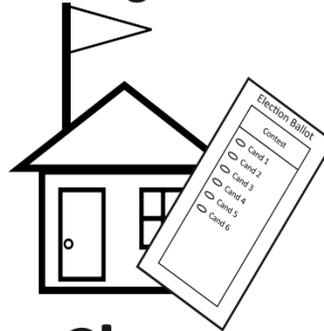


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**Precinct 4510**

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## OUR VIEW

## Officials lack community connection

We certainly have to give credit, when credit is due, to Councilmen-elect Walter Green and Chuck Dillon. We've seen a lot of them both in public since the pair earned seats in uncontested races. They've taken an old-school approach to public service, a method we've seen little of with current members of the City Council, or of City Manager Eddie Esch for that matter.

Both Green and Dillon haven't minced words about their desire to talk to the citizens, or business owners, within the community in the past six to eight weeks. It's certainly a breath of fresh air to know they actually want to hear about the woes and ill-gotten decisions made in the past.

On the flip side of that coin, we have current council members who would rather we forget the past, not mention it and move on. The old adage, those who forget about history are doomed to repeat comes to mind.

Instead of spending time talking to citizens and business owners alike, current city officials would rather make the long trek into Ocala to rub elbows with folks who likely have no legitimate concerns about the well-being of the taxpayers in the city, or outlying areas.

The Marion County Chamber of Economic Partnership (CEP) had made a push to partner with the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce, but those talks have seemingly cooled. We're sure within the next year, they'll resume. But the CEP has had little presence in Dunnellon, though it assured folks it would be here for the businesses.

Frankly, we do not understand why the Council approved a \$7,500 budget expendi-

ture for a CEP membership. What are the taxpayers getting for their money? Are the businesses within the CRA district receiving the proverbial bang for their buck? What about the water and sewer enterprises? Why money is being pulled from their respective budgets still remains a mystery.

It's a waste of money, a waste of our resources and a waste of officials' times ignoring problems here. What's even more mindboggling is no one on the City Council questioned it, though those folks rarely question expenditures.

But what is perplexing is we have two business-oriented entities in the city, that money was not budgeted for respective memberships to the Dunnellon Area Chamber of Commerce or the Dunnellon Business Association. Both are, or should be, fighting for the business community. Yes, we realize the city is given "ambassador" memberships, but it's not quite the same. The city, at the very least, should pay for its memberships to both groups, not receive a free ride.

If the city cannot find the money, then it shouldn't be allowed a courtesy membership for the sake of playing nice.

It would serve those who will continue to serve on the Council in the coming year as well as Esch to make a conscious effort to beat the streets, so to speak, and start talking with the people. There's a big difference between hearing folks' concerns and understanding their concerns.

The problems we face, we must face together, and that means officials need to be cognizant of serving the voters and businesses in Dunnellon. Not serving special-interest groups elsewhere in the region.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 'National Take Back' a success, again

The Dunnellon Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) teamed up Sept. 27 for the National Drug Take Back Day to give the public an opportunity to safely dispose of their expired, unused, and unwanted medications. The collection took place in the police department's parking lot. During the take back, the department collected more than 75 pounds of pills. The DEA picked up the pills and will properly dispose them.

It is important that we provide this opportunity to citizens in and around the community to safely dispose of their unwanted or expired medications without contaminating our environment and water systems.

This addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that waste away

in the home medicine cabinet are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Unfortunately today the rate of prescription drug abuse throughout the U.S. is alarmingly high. And worse, the majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained right from family and friends.

**Chief Joanne Black,**  
Dunnellon Police Department

## City has a slew of unsolved mysteries

"Unsolved Mysteries" was a television series where the TV audience could help solve mysteries or at least be aware of them. Dunnellon could be on a local edition of "Unsolved Mysteries."

• **Mystery No. 1:** What happened to the nearly \$465,000 worth of surplus equipment left over from Greenlight. The equipment was moved from the \$20,000-a-year leased

See LETTERS page 5

## THE OTHER GUY

## A Royal love affair

Excuse me for my recent giddiness, the likes I have not experienced since I was a wide-eyed 11-year-old boy. Forgive me as well for my drooping eyelids and the dark circles under my eyes. I haven't been sleeping much lately.

I'm also fairly certain my blood pressure has, at times, exceeded the recommended standards established by experts in the health care field.

Look folks, I have a number of excellent reasons.

First of all, it's October.

But this isn't your typical October, because simply there hasn't been an October to be excited about these past 29 years. Yes, it's been a frustrating time.

No more. The Mighty Casey hasn't struck out quite yet. The joy has returned, not to Mudville, you see, but to KC, as in the Kansas City Royals.

Growing up 45 minutes north of the "big" city, we had two choices as youths. We could cheer for the Royals, or we could cheer for the St. Louis Cardinals, a meager four-hour trek across Interstate 70.

Kansas City, in my youth, had many wonderful attributes. Sure they won on a regular basis; they could knock the socks off the Yankees once they got past them in the American League Championship Series (ALCS) in 1980.

But as a young boy who loved baseball, the best attribute was

George Brett, a hard-hitting third baseman. There were two similarities the now-Hall of Famer and I shared: we both had a passion for the game and were left-handed hitters. That's where it ended.

I couldn't hit, nor throw worth a darn. My dreams of becoming the next George Brett were dashed by the time I was 8 years old. It never damped my enthusiasm for the game or for the Royals.

In 1985, Kansas City won it all, knocking off the St. Louis Cardinals in the I-70 Series, which might have had its share of controversy. For you Cardinal fans out there, we will not discuss the Game 6 call at first base. For those of you completely unfamiliar with it, I encourage you to visit YouTube.

However, all has not been well in Kansas City since the Royals' championship run in 1985.

There's been no reason to cheer in October. There's been little to no faint hope either, unless you count the strike-shortened season in 1994. There's been rebuilding project after rebuilding project. More 100-loss seasons than I or most Royals' fans care to remember.

Unlike some city officials who want to ignore past mistakes city officials have made, I take solace in remembering when the Royals were relevant and when they were the laughingstocks of Major

League Baseball. It makes one appreciate the great years, and it makes us appreciate the lean years we've stuck by the once-beleaguered franchise.

The Royals are far from done, though the so-called experts believe the team never should have advanced past Oakland in the wild card play-in game. Shocked. The Royals weren't supposed to topple the mighty Los Angeles Angels and their talent-laden roster, filled with some overpriced players.

Kansas City's brand of "small ball" might not be exciting to some, but it certainly harks back to a time when the basic nuances of the game were critical. But this team is just as much fun to watch because of their similarities to the Royals of my youth. They hustle, they play hard and they leave us on the edge of our seats.

Kansas City now has the task of taking down the Baltimore Orioles, the odds-on-favorite to win the ALCS. While I'm trying my best to temper my enthusiasm, how can I?

Folks love the underdog, they love the Cinderella story, and maybe I can convince a few folks to help paint the town blue.

After all, it's October, it's time for pumpkins and some (Royals) magic.

In the meantime, if I look dreary it's because of a few heart-stopping moments and sleepless nights. But after 29 years, it's a small sacrifice.



Jeff Bryan  
Editor



## GUEST COLUMN

## DBA opens office, visitor center

**MATHEW BAILLARGEON**

Special to the Riverland News

The Dunnellon Business Association is successfully up and running thanks to the support and membership of numerous businesses in the greater Dunnellon community. The DBA has several upcoming events that are open to the public and we encourage their participation to help support small business. We are so delighted that the new DBA office and Dunnellon visitors center is now open thanks to the support of so many.

DBA member, Just a Cupcake Bakery & Café, recently opened its doors to the delight of many residents and visitors as a second location. Its other location is in the Heritage Village shops of Crystal River if you are ever in that area.

After numerous Dunnellon residents and businesses found them in Crystal River, they were invited to open in our community. They knew Just A Cupcake Bakery & Cafe would be a hit and they were right.

Although their name sounds like cupcakes are all that is on their menu, we promise you can find fresh salads, sandwiches and homemade soups to complement their delicious homemade cupcakes and pies.

Just a Cupcake Dunnellon will celebrate its second location with the Dunnellon community as well as its new membership with the Dunnellon Business Association with its grand opening and ribbon-cutting from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16. Just a Cupcake will have some great specials to offer visitors as well as a deejay and face painting available. They will have T-shirts, hats and other giveaway items for those attending.

Please help welcome them to Dunnellon and come enjoy a tasty lunch, dinner or treat. They will have VIP discounts available. Not a VIP yet, it's easy. Just text 244326 and reply that you would like to hear about their specials.

Fero and Sons Insurance is celebrating 60 years of serving the community for insurance needs. Fero and Sons Insurance will host a community event beginning at 4:30 p.m. today at Ernie Mills Park until dark. Stop by to congratulate them and enjoy some food and fun.

Have you heard of or tried Simply Seafood, a DBA member, for its fresh seafood market or eatery yet?

We are very proud that Deborah and John Galeazzi, owners and local residents, were recently recognized by Trip Advi-

sor as a top 10 restaurant in the Central Florida area. This is a major accomplishment and one that the Galeazzies, as well as the Dunnellon Business Association, are delighted they achieved.

TripAdvisor is a travel website providing reviews of travel-related content. It also includes user-generated content and a forum. We know that when businesses are featured on websites such as TripAdvisor, it brings more visitors and potential new residents to our beautiful area.

Congratulations Simply Seafood.

We appreciate your continued or future support of our local small businesses, it helps make a difference for so many in our community. This includes the Riverland News. They provide an outstanding service and product that relates to our Dunnellon community. This journalism-styled paper also has the community news that is important to know to keep you in the loop of what's happening in Dunnellon. Your support does make a difference with your subscription.

Dunnellon is our community, shop local.

Mathew Baillargeon is president of the Dunnellon Business Association.

**LETTERS**

continued from page 4

warehouse to the Rainbow Springs Utility warehouse when the city paid to get out of the lease.

Is the equipment still there? If it was sold, who got the money? Is Florida Cable in charge of the equipment? Was it junked? Was any money generated for storing it for someone else?

I am attempting to find Judge Crater to help solve this mystery.

**• Mystery No. 2:** Is Dunnellon legally liable for the remainder of the money owned on the head-end equipment lease? Since Dunnellon gave Greenlight to Florida Cable did that end Dunnellon's responsibility for the \$1 million lease? When is All-American going to reprocess the equipment for non-payment? Will more money be coming out of the seemingly inexhaustible Greenlight funds? Jimmy Hoffa might have the answers if we can contact him.

**• Mystery No. 3:** Is there any chance Dunnellon or Regions Bank will ever get any money for the transfer of Greenlight assets to Florida Cable? What has happened to the revenue generated from the 500 customers the past months? Does Florida Cable keep it? Perhaps someone from Florida Cable can go with me when I buy my next car and talk the dealer into just transferring the car to me.

**• Mystery No. 4:** How much is the city putting out in total revenue entitlements to secure the

motel by the tracks? How much money will flow into the city revenue stream as a result of the motel? Is the city ultimately responsible for the grant money if the motel bails out or fails? Will Rainbow Springs Utility plant be affected by the additional hook-up? Could the motel be built below ground level so the existing low-water pressure will be adequate? Does the fire department have a three-story ladder?

**• Mystery No. 5:** Who performed the city IT computer work before the city filled the new IT position? What did it cost before the new hire position to keep the system going? Did the new IT employee actually work for Florida Cable or was he still on city payroll? Is the majority of IT work spent on the utility system and who did it before for the utility? How much money will the city save with the new position?

There are many great mysteries in life. Is there really such a place as Dickey's BBQ or is it just a hopeful sign in a vacant lot? Will people really pay to stay right next to a railroad track?

Some mysteries will never be solved such as the logic behind the Greenlight business plan, why the outrageous legal fees, buying the house on Delaware and why the former city manager's glowing evaluations and raises.

Some things have no answer, ask Virginia Dare.

Abbott and Costello never found out who was on first base.

We have to look at the

historical track record of decision-making, budget overview and planning to see if the mystery of getting Dunnellon on track can be solved.

Perhaps with the installation of two new council members and a new attitude, the mystery of making Dunnellon viable again will be solved. After all "who" really was on first, so the answer was always there.

For Abbott and Costello "I don't know" was the right answer for who was on third base, but not a good answer for the City Council, which should know what's really going on.

Good realistic decisions and competent governmental oversight will solve a lot of Dunnellon mysteries, the answer has always been right there.

Steve Swett, Dunnellon

**Editor's Note:** The city IT position was filled by a Greenlight employee, who remained in the city's employ after the Greenlight-Florida Cable transition was complete. The employee was paid with funds remaining in the debt services money set aside during FY 2014.

**A few random thoughts about decisions**

My thanks to Mr. Battista, Mr. Rosier, Mr. Swett and Mr. Lochrane for their recent, and past, letters taking the Dunnellon City Council to task.

Mr. Battista my apologies to you that Dunnellon is not living up to your expectations. It was as you described it,

"once upon a time," but then arrived a city manager, "assistant" city attorney and Council that allowed the manager and attorney to run rampant over, not only the residents of Rainbow Springs, but the residents of the city. As you have discovered, the apathy in Rainbow Springs and the city is pathetic.

I am not afraid to lay my head on the chopping block, but I sure would like some assistance at Council meetings. I find it repulsive for the mayor to use profanity in replying to my comments. As I stated at the Sept. 22 meeting, figures I used at a previous meetings, are straight out of the city's budget. I do not make statements unless I can back them up with cold, hard facts. Mr. Battista, if you are the gentleman who owns the sandwich shop by the railroad, you are a victim of double jeopardy.

We still feel that it is ridiculous for both the city and Rainbow Springs to keep the lawsuit going regarding the water/sewer situation. Yes, we are glad the 25 percent surcharge will be off our bill, permanently we hope. We would love to have a refund of the money we have paid for the surcharge. There is no guarantee to either side that they will win and at what expense?

We took our water/sewer bill that covered Aug. 15 to Sept. 16 and took 25 percent of it, arriving at \$15,717.5. This amount, if our bill remained in the same range, times 12 months is

\$188.61. This would not even cover the cost of the city's attorney for one trip from Orlando to Dunnellon.

As I said at the City Council meeting Sept. 22, it is going to take how many water/sewer bills for how many years to cover attorney fees for either side?

Then, there is the waste of money to hire an IT employee. Please justify this hiring and the amount they are going to be paid.

Why do we need a fire department? We all pay county taxes for this service and if the city imposes a fire fee it is going to burden the city residents even more. Keep this up and you won't even have a city as many people will have moved out because they cannot afford to live here.

Has anyone ever done an analysis of how many city employees, other than Council members, actually live in the city of Dunnellon? How many support the businesses of Dunnellon?

Mr. Walter Green and Mr. Chuck Dillon, good luck in righting the sinking ship of the city of Dunnellon.

Joan K. Duggins, Rainbow Springs

**Editor's Note:** City residents do not currently pay the county's fire assessment fee. In addition, only one of the 43 full-time city employees resides within the city limits.

**NEWS NOTES**

**Tickets on sale for murder mystery**

The Greater Dunnellon Historical Society will host its next murder-mystery, "Evil Never Dies," at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 17 and 18. Doors open 20 minutes before the performance.

Tickets are \$25 and include a full dinner and dessert. Tickets will be available at the society's historic depot 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or until they are sold out.

**Spaghetti dinner fundraiser on tap**

Families in Need of Dunnellon will host a spaghetti fundraiser from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 25, at the American Legion Post No. 58 on U.S. 41.

Cost is \$6 per person. Proceeds go toward purchasing food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.

For information, call Jan DeWitt at 208-3514.

**Police collecting used cell phones**

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

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352-465-7272

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**Tuesday**  
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adventepiscopal.net

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**Sermon.....11:00 AM**

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

For more information:  
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www.dunnellonsdachurch.com

**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

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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  
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# Royal week

Dunnellon High School celebrated its annual Homecoming Week with a multitude of activities, including matching day, decade day, class color day and spirit day. The school also revived its traditional homecoming parade, the first since 2009, last Thursday. After the parade, the Dunnellon powder puff games were at Ned Love Field. To cap off the week's festivities, the Homecoming Queen and King were crowned at halftime of Friday's football game against Belleview. Students celebrated with the annual Homecoming Dance on Saturday at the school.

Clockwise from above left: The Dunnellon High School AFJROTC leads the parade down to the football field Thursday on the campus of the school.

Miss DHS Vanesa Hernandez and Senior Homecoming Court candidates Kia Robinson, Sydney Cohen, Sierra Oliver, Angela Garcia, David Lenkowski and Anthony Vazquez pose on the senior float.

Sierra Oliver reacts to hearing her name called as Homecoming Queen.

Anthony Vazquez is crowned 2014 Homecoming King by Mr. DHS Will Thomas.

First runners-up Savannah Helton and David Lenkowski pose.

Photos by JULIE MANCINI/  
Riverland News





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Clockwise from above left: Junior Shelby Webb pulls the tug-of-war rope against the freshmen. The senior team eventually won the contest.

Freshman Alexis Robinson runs the ball last Thursday against the juniors. In the pouring rain, the freshmen would go on to beat the sophomores in the powder puff championship game.

Journalism student Samantha Barlow is dressed as a camera as part of the journalism class walking unit in the parade. Each of the school's clubs was invited to have a float or walking unit and homecoming sweethearts.

DHS senior and Elvis tribute artist Cote Deonath sang three songs during the Homecoming dance, including the King and Queen's dance song.

Jared Grego plays the sousaphone last Thursday in the Dunnellon High School Homecoming Parade.

Photos by JULIE MANCINI/  
Riverland News



## Tigers rattle off fifth straight win



JULIE MANCINI/For the Riverland News

Dunnellon running back Rudy Sinflorant eludes Belleview defenders on en route to the end zone for the first of his two scoring runs. The junior ran for a season-high 154 yards and two touchdowns as the Tigers manhandled the Rattlers, 45-7, for their fifth straight win this season. Dunnellon plays at 7:30 p.m. Friday at North Marion.

### DHS dismantles Belleview, 45-7

DAVID PIEKLIK

For the Riverland News

Dunnellon scored 45 unanswered points and its defense was an immovable object Friday at Ned Love Field, as the Tigers won their fifth straight with a 45-7 victory against Belleview on homecoming night.

Trailing by a touchdown early, the Tigers (5-1 overall, 3-0 District 5A-5) dominated the rest of the game against the Rattlers (1-4 overall, 0-2 District 5A-5), holding them to 87 total offensive yards.

Rudy Sinflorant ran for 154 yards and two touchdowns for the Tigers, while quarterback Kobie Jones tallied 115 yards on the ground and a rushing touchdown of his own.

"Their backs were against the wall, and they knew this was our homecoming game," Sinflorant said of Belleview. "We can't sleep on any team. We take every week one-by-one."

Like their season, the game started shakily for the Tigers. They fumbled on their first two possessions, with the Rattlers capitalizing on quarterback Erik Pitts' 2-yard touchdown run early on. That would be the last time the Rattlers would be anywhere near the end zone.

The Tigers drove 79 yards on their next possession, with Sinflorant running the ball in from the Belleview 2-yard line, and the ensuing extra point tied the game. Following a three-and-out

possession by Belleview leading to a punt, Sinflorant again found the end zone on a 7-yard run.

Belleview punted away its next possession, and then Pitts threw an interception that stalled a drive that had moved the Rattlers near midfield. As time expired in the first half, Tigers kicker Zachary West drilled a 42-yard field goal to increase the lead to 17-7.

Touchdowns by Jones, backup quarterback Dante White, running back Kane Parks and wide receiver Matthew Livermore put the finishing touches to the highlight reel.

The Tigers defense gained praise from coaches and players afterward for their work to put pressure on Pitts all night, and close holes for Rattlers running backs.

The result: 52 rushing yards for Pitts and 1-of-6 passing for 5 yards, 11 yards rushing for running back Edward Motley Jr. and 19 yards rushing for Shakir Fontenot.

While it was a convincing win for the Tigers, defensive lineman Will Thomas sees room for improvement.

"We always give up one play or something during the game," he said, "and we've got to get away from that. We've got to be a lockdown defense."

Linemate Javonte Johnson agreed.

"We're going good right now," he added, "we have to focus on next week ... we'll be ready."

## Tigers aim to upend N. Marion

JEFF BRYAN

Riverland News

Dunnellon coach Price Harris has consistently preached the "one game at a time" mantra throughout his first season at the helm of the Tiger football squad.

Now might not be a better time for those who haven't bought into his belief to get aboard, as Dunnellon will play perhaps its biggest game of the season with plenty on the line for a young Tigers' unit eager to make their mark not only in the District 5A-5 race, but perhaps the state.

Winners of five straight since a 17-6 season-opening loss to West Port, Dunnellon aims to improve its football on one of two coveted playoff spots when the Tigers travel to North Marion for a 7:30 p.m. game Friday at Stan Toole Memorial Stadium in Citra.

Winners of two straight since a 30-26 loss to Suwannee, the Colts have literally run roughshod over its past two foes, breaking the 50-point mark twice and outscoring their opponents, 104-24. Even with North Marion's high-powered spread offense, Harris isn't planning on changing the Tigers' approach entering its seventh game of the season.

"We're going to do the same stuff we've done," Harris said when asked if he'll scrap his

See TIGERS page 9

### PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

## Students artwork submitted for annual festival

The first nine weeks of school are almost over and that means that Mrs. Love will leave Romeo and head to Dunnellon Elementary for nine weeks of art while Mrs. Litterine comes here to teach music to our Pioneers.

Before she goes, there are a couple of art events families should consider planning for.

Fine Arts for Ocala will be Oct. 25 and 26. If you and your family have never been to this art show, you should make this your year. If you have been before I'm sure you will be going back and I, most likely, will see you there. All of our students have been working on masterpieces of art that might be one of the 40 pieces selected to show our Romeo talent. Come out and support the arts by attending this free event.

Also, we will show selected pieces of art throughout October at the School Board offices in Ocala.

Notices will hopefully be coming your way if your child's art is selected for either showing.

As always, keep the arts and the fun knowledge of our worlds humanities in mind, read about it, draw and paint with your student and go to a museum if possible with them. The Appleton Museum in Ocala is a wondrous place. Be art smart.

### Romeo Round-Up

The time is once again upon us for Romeo Round-Up, which will be Thursday, Oct. 23. There is no school the following Friday, so we feel it will make this year's turnout better than ever.

We will need donations of bags of individually wrapped candy. Therefore, we have a contest that began Sept. 29. The class in each grade level that donates the most bags of individually wrapped candy will receive a popcorn party following Round-Up. We are also in need of individually wrapped baked goods (Lil Debbie's, etc.) for the cake walk.

You can sponsor this event for \$20 and have your name posted at a door. All sponsors will receive one "free" trick-or-treat pumpkin necklace.

Volunteers are needed for set up, take down and to man the

trick-or-treat doors. You can purchase tickets for food at the ticket booth. Money will be accepted at the ticket booths only. Food, refreshments and drinks will be available at 5 p.m. in the cafeteria.



Jane Ashman Romeo Principal

Trick-or-treat necklaces can be purchased in advance for \$4

each. They are on sale now until Wednesday, Oct. 22. Necklaces will be sent home Wednesday, Oct. 22, to prevent lost necklaces. Necklaces may be purchased the night of Round-Up for \$5 each at a ticket booth on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be a limited number of necklaces sold.

Trick or Treating will start at 5:30 and the Round-Up will conclude at 7:30.

### Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be Oct. 20 to Oct. 23. The book fair will be open from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 23 during Romeo Round-Up. Please come in and see the great books available to purchase. The money raised from the book fair goes directly toward library materials and the Accelerated Readers program. If sending a check with your child, please put the student's name, phone number (with area code) and a physical address on the check (a post office box is not sufficient). Also please make checks payable to Romeo Elementary.

### School pictures

SWI Photography will be here for school pictures Oct. 21 and 22. Every student's picture will be taken for the school yearbook. Your child's teacher will notify parents of the specific day for pictures. Payment must be made on the day your child's pictures are taken or you can place your order online before picture day at swiphoto.com/picture day. Click on picture day, choose Romeo Elementary, then choose your package and bonus options.

### Schedule of events

- Oct. 20 to 23 — Book Fair.
- Oct. 21 and 22 — School pictures; money packets due.
- 5 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 23 — Romeo Round-Up.
- Oct. 23 to 30 — Red Ribbon Week.
- Oct. 24 — No school, teacher in-service workday.

### PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

## Consider school your first 'job'

We lead off our weekly article with the ongoing request to parents and the community to assist us in the delivery of the message of attendance. Speaking to your children and grandchildren about the benefits of attendance is a great "Be There" opportunity.

As parents, we are the first and greatest teacher in the



Delbert Smallridge DMS Principal

lives of our children. We are the key component in developing the understanding in our children, from youngest to oldest, that attendance does matter and going to school and arriving on time is an everyday priority, which will lead them to success throughout their entire lives.

A thought that might get your conversation started could include how school is

their first job and the most important job of their life. Going to school every day and arriving on time develops habits that prepare our children to be ready for the work force upon graduating from high school. The good attendance habit benefits not only our children, but also our schools and community.

The DMS Student Council and SAVE club participated in the Dunnellon High School homecoming parade

See SMALLRIDGE page 9



Special to the Riverland News

Members of the Dunnellon Middle School Student Council and SAVE Club participated last Thursday in the Dunnellon High School homecoming parade. The kids demonstrated excellent behavior, were excited to be at DHS, and were completely in awe of the "big kids."

**SMALLRIDGE**  
continued from page 8

last Thursday. The DHS staff was very excited about the return of the annual parade, and the DMS students who participated were thrilled to be part of this communitywide event. We are honored to have been given the opportunity to participate in such a fun activity. We look forward to next year's parade, and hope to help the DHS students and staff pack the stands for homecoming 2015.

Free tutoring is off and running. Any student who would like additional help in their core subjects are welcome to attend, but parents must first fill out a permission form and return it to the front office. Transportation must be arranged prior to students staying for after-school tutoring. Due to tight budget constraints, we must insist parents arrive promptly at 4:45 p.m. to pick up students. We hope our students will take advantage of this grand opportunity to receive academic assistance for free.

DMS will participate in the "backpack program" this year for needy student/families this year. Selected students will be provided a backpack of food to take home Fridays and will return the backpack Mondays. For information, parents, or guardians, should contact Donna Durden, guidance counselor, at 465-6724 between 8:15 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The school nurse and a staff of trained technicians will conduct the annual sixth-grade health screenings Monday, Oct. 20. All sixth-grade students are eligible for the state-mandated health screenings, which include height, weight, BMI results, scoliosis, vision and hearing evaluations.

If you have any questions regarding the health screenings, call the school nurse 465-6720. Volunteers are needed to help assist our clinic in keeping organized during this process. If you would like to volunteer, call and let us know if you can assist. Those who wish to be a volunteer at DMS, you must fill out a volunteer application at least one week prior to the event for approval. Volunteer applications can be picked up at the front office.

There is a parent information night from 6 to 7 p.m. Oct. 28 for Take Stock In Children at the Public Foundation office at 1239 NW 4th St. in Ocala. Parents who are in need of more information about Take Stock In Children or have questions about their application paperwork can attend this information night.

The Coupons for Education annual fundraiser is complete. We would like to thank everyone who supported our DMS students by purchasing one of these value-packed booklets. We know you are enjoying all the great savings that were offered this year.

Things to watch for throughout October at DMS are: United Way Hat Day, which will be Fridays. Students may wear a hat to school when contributing \$1 to United Way. Also in October, look for "Silver Wars" to begin. Each first-period class will compete to see who can collect the most "silver" in coins to contribute to United Way. Monies will be col-

lected by United Way representative Mrs. Thomas, and the winning class will receive breakfast with Mrs. Thomas. The Student Council will host a Halloween costume contest. Each student can pay \$1 to wear their costume. All proceeds will go to United Way.

**Schedule of Events**

● 3:40 to 4:40 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, and Thursday, Oct. 16 — Cross Country team practice.

● 3:45 to 5 p.m. Mondays and Fridays — Boys volleyball practice.

● 3:45 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays — Girls volleyball practice.

● 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. Mondays — Student Council will meet in Building No. 2, Room No. 6.

● 3:45 to 4:55 p.m. Tuesdays — Academic Brain Bowl practice with Mr. Williams, in Building No. 2, Room No. 19.

● 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15 — FFA members will meet at 7:30 a.m. for tool ID practice with Mrs. Pridgen. Also, tickets are on sale for the spaghetti dinner and cake auction Thursday, Nov. 13. Tickets are \$5 each.

● 4 to 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17 — Red Ribbon United Way Dance in the DMS Café. Cost is \$5 plus a canned food item. There will be a deejay and Walmart gift cards as prizes for drawings throughout the dance.

**TIGERS**

continued from page 8

team's no-huddle approach in favor of time management. "Our routine, our style is not changing. It's never about the other team. Our focus is how good is our unit going to play, we never focus in on the other team."

Harris knows the Colts possess plenty of talent, on both sides of the ball.

"They've got speed, they've got speed, they've got speed," he said. "It's going to be a challenge, and right now, there's nobody that gives us a shot in this game. Luckily, the game is not played on paper. If we can do enough good things, then maybe we can offset their talent."

And that means the Tigers

**DUNNELLON AT NORTH MARION**

- **WHEN/WHERE:** 7:30 p.m. Friday at Colts Stadium.
- **RADIO:** WOW 104.9 FM.
- **RECORDS:** Dunnellon 5-1 overall, 3-0 District 5A-5; North Marion 4-2, 2-1.
- **LAST WEEK:** The Tigers pummeled Belleview, 45-7, for its second-highest point total of the season. The Colts ran roughshod over Crystal River, 52-12.

will likely have to play one of their most complete games of the season, something Harris knows his team is capable of after their performances against Santa Fe and Belleview, their most recent victim in a 45-7 victory.

"They played really well, I was proud of the way they played," Harris said. "You know, it's funny, but the other game I thought we played extremely well, even though it wasn't a runaway, was the Santa Fe game. We probably fought our hardest

there."

Harris also commended his players for playing above the level of its competition, an aspect the Tigers struggled with the previous week in a 20-18 victory against Crystal River.

"We didn't fall down to their level, that's what we should do every week," said Harris, whose team amassed 478 yards of total offense, including 390 yards on the ground as six different players scored for the Tigers.

While Harris doesn't believe his team has yet to peak, he believes they are getting close to that point.

"That's the whole goal, we definitely haven't done that yet," he said. "We're starting to capitalize in the red zone and taking advantage of mistakes. Hopefully, we will continue that this week."

Key for the Tigers, Harris said, is not pressing against the Colts, a problem he alluded to has been their Achilles' heel the past several years in which they've fallen short of their county and district rival.

"When you press bad things happen," he said. "I'm trying to stress to them this game is no more important than any other game. I think if we can understand that, I think we can be successful."

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# FINAL

continued from page 1

and style.”  
But Kelly knows one thing is for certain, selecting a genre for Final Note isn't an easy order.

“We can't say we're any one specific genre,” said Kelly, explaining his band performs songs from as far back as the 1950s to the early 2000s as well as styles ranging from jazz, rock and blues. “We have a wide variety of songs we play, and we've gotten a lot of feedback from the audience throughout the years they enjoy the variety.” Perhaps what pro-



Photo courtesy of Final Note

**Final Note, a regular performer at The Blue Gator, will be back on stage Saturday at Jazz Up Dunnellon for the eighth consecutive year.**

motes their sound better than anything isn't the variety, but the use of horned-instruments. Kelly said the band has

taken well-known hits such as “Mustang Sally,” “Long Train Running” and “Rock Around the Clock” and

given it their own personal twist.

“I think having horns is what promotes all of the different styles we encompass,” he added. Playing at home though is a special treat for Kelly and family, because it's home.

“I think it's gotten better over the years,” Kelly said of Jazz Up Dunnellon, an event for which Kelly and his family built their own special stage. Final Note will again occupy the west parking lot at Penn Plaza.

Added Justin, “It's special watching the crowd fill up the parking lot and hanging around to listen to us play.”

# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★**

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

Puzzle answers on Page 3

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# Riverland News

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## 10-11 Saturday

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## & contents

## 9:00 am contents

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## 8am - 4pm

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# RIVERLAND RELIGION

## If everything goes right something's wrong



Rev. James Snyder

It was a week when everything went just the way I had planned. It is hard to express your feelings when something like this happens because it rarely happens.

The infamous To-Do-List from the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was completed to her ecstatic satisfaction.

That never happens. In fact, I finished it in time to have a little "Me Time." I sat on the back porch with a steaming hot cup of coffee and enjoyed an evening with nothing to do. I am not sure

how long I sat there, but my coffee was just as hot as it was on my first sip. I do not know how my wife does those things. I have never enjoyed a cup of coffee more.

I had an appointment across town and in traveling across town I never hit one red light. I think that should go into the Guinness book of records. It has never happened to me before and I

was reveling in the deepest kind of satisfaction I have ever known. I got to my destination 20 minutes early. I love early.

After paying all my bills for the week and balancing my checkbook, I had \$100 left over. What in the world,

See PASTOR page 12

### OUT TO PASTOR

## OBITUARIES

### Carol Nichols, 71

Carol S. Nichols, 71, of Dunnellon, Florida, passed away Friday, September 26, 2014.

She was born May 18, 1943, in Washington, D.C., to the late Rodney Wilson Schull and Catherine Theresa Wallach Schull. She was the bookkeeper and co-owner of Nichols Lumber. Mrs. Nichols was preceded in death by her husband, Philip Nichols Sr.; stepfather, William Sharpe; brother, Scott Sharpe; father-in-law, Kendrick Nichols; and mother-in-law, Margaret Nichols.

She is survived by her son, Philip Nichols of Dunnellon; brothers, John Sharpe (Pamela) of Land O' Lakes, William "Billy" Sharpe; sister, Barbara Fritter of Ackworth, Georgia; grandson, Rafe Logan Nichols; brother-in-laws, Harold McNeil (Sheila) of Tampa, Grady Nichols; aunt, Eileen Lockte; cousin, Crystal Marquess of Italy; nephew, Alex Sharpe; nieces, Nancy Langford, Harrison McNeil, Printice McNeil; and many more family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Dunnellon on Thursday, October 16, 2014, with Rev. Eddie Fulford officiating. Interment at Dunnellon Memorial Gardens will follow at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Citrus County or First United Methodist Church in Dunnellon. Expressions of sympathy may be made online at robertsofdunnellon.com.

Sign the guest book at [www.riverlandnews.com](http://www.riverlandnews.com).

### Ellie Rex, 90

Ellie Rex, 90, died October 2, 2014 at Timber-Ridge Assisted Living Facility.

She moved to St. Pete, Florida from Latham, New York in 1971 and managed the Country Dinner Playhouse. In 1975 she moved to Bradenton and became the office manager for State Farm Agent, Ronnie Grubbs. In 1997 she moved to Dunnellon. She helped get Dunnellon Main Street started and was the volunteer coordinator. She also became a member of the Greater Dunnellon Historical Society, secretary and volunteer at the Community Thrift Shop, active member of First United Methodist Church, activities coordinator for Dunnellon Square Mobile Home Association and volunteered at the Library book store. She won a state award for "Outstanding Florida Main Street Supporter" and was also awarded a plaque for "Outstanding Community Involvement" by the Chamber of Commerce.

She is survived by three daughters, Nancy Heffner, Beverly Saucier and Janet Brown: one son, Edwin Ferree; seven grandchildren: six great-grandchildren.

Memorial services for Ellie will be at 3 p.m., Sept. 18, 2014 at the First United Methodist Church, Pastor Eddie Fulford officiating. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church, Dunnellon.

Sign the guest book at [www.riverlandnews.com](http://www.riverlandnews.com).

those who knew him as a true Southern gentleman. Gary was born on March 25, 1927, to parents Mary Wynema Garrick and Clarence Morgan in Grove Hill, Alabama. He and his brother W.K. grew up in Grove Hill, fishing in the nearby Mobile Bay and playing sports, particularly football. Gary played quarterback for the local high school, where his moves on the field captured the attention of college recruiters. College would have to wait, because Gary loved his country more than he loved football. The nation was fighting World War II, and young Gary was determined to be part of his country's fight. At just 17, he convinced his Aunt Nettie to sign papers giving him permission to join the United States Navy despite being legally too young to join the ranks. He served on a troop ship during World War II until was discharged in August 1946. After the war, Gary and his brother W.K. headed together to New Orleans, the beloved city he lived in for nearly a decade. He worked for the Army as a pilot instructor, cementing his lifelong love for aviation. He accepted a position with the Navy Department of Defense as a pilot education specialist that relocated him to Miami. He worked and lived in Miami until his retirement from the Department of Defense in 1987.

He and spouse Jayne Morgan (married in 1982) moved to Dunnellon in 1987. In his retirement, he got to pursue his passions for golf, playing bridge, his daily crossword puzzle and tending his vegetable garden and citrus trees. He loved a nightly martini, a daily walk, University of Alabama football, tinkering with home improvement projects, following politics and his family.

Gary is survived by his wife, Jayne Morgan of Dunnellon; daughter, Kellie Marzullo (Joe) of New Smyrna Beach; son, Garrick Morgan (Elizabeth) of Jacksonville; stepson, Scott Evans (Julie) of Jacksonville; grandchildren, Ashley Marzullo, Jack, Nicholas and Blake Evans; niece, Leslie Morgan Gross and Allison Morgan Estope; nephew, Don Muse (Kristi); niece, Stacey Muse; sister-in-laws, Donna Muse and Becky Morgan. He is survived by many friends and neighbors in the Rainbow Springs community.

He will be interred in a private ceremony at National Military Cemetery in Bushnell. Donations in his memory may be made to Wounded Warrior Project®; PO BOX 758517 Topeka, KS 66675 or [www.woundedwarrior-project.org](http://www.woundedwarrior-project.org).

"A gentleman is one who puts more into the world than he takes out." — George Bernard Shaw

Sign the guest book at [www.chronicleonline.com](http://www.chronicleonline.com).

### Bernard Capone, 80

Bernard "Bernie" Capone, 80, of Dunnellon, passed away July 21, 2014, at his residence. Bernie was born in Long Island, New York on August 1, 1933, to the late Charles and Dolores Capone. He joined the Navy at 17 serving during the Korean war, he saw combat but also was able to travel around the world twice. He proudly served on two destroyers and a carrier. He also completed a degree in engineering from Trine University in Angola Indiana.

Mr. Capone went on to work for Grumman Aerospace and later became a liaison for GE engineering the F14 Engine; this is where he met his beloved wife. He was a chief designer of the airplane and was called to assure the engine fit properly. He also engineered boats. The first boat was built in Palm Beach, Florida where he lived for 30 years, followed by the second boat in Israel. Bernie's career led him to Israel where he was under contract with the Israeli Navy through Grumman Aerospace and lived in Israel for 3 1/2 years. Bernie loved to travel and see the world; he met many lifetime friends on cruises with his wife over the last few years. His smile was contagious, never a frown or harsh word.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Judith Capone; many other family members and friends who will miss him dearly.

A Celebration of Bernie's life will be 9:30 a.m., Monday, October 13, 2014, at Florida National Cemetery with Military Honors.

Sign the guest book at [www.riverlandnews.com](http://www.riverlandnews.com).

Clarence Garrick "Gary" Morgan, 87, of Dunnellon, Florida, passed away at home on September 17, 2014. A devoted son, brother, husband, father, friend and patriot, he is widely described by

### Clarence Morgan, 87

those who knew him as a true Southern gentleman. Gary was born on March 25, 1927, to parents Mary Wynema Garrick and Clarence Morgan in Grove Hill, Alabama. He and his brother W.K. grew up in Grove Hill, fishing in the nearby Mobile Bay and playing sports, particularly football. Gary played quarterback for the local high school, where his moves on the field captured the attention of college recruiters. College would have to wait, because Gary loved his country more than he loved football. The nation was fighting World War II, and young Gary was determined to be part of his country's fight. At just 17, he convinced his Aunt Nettie to sign papers giving him permission to join the United States Navy despite being legally too young to join the ranks. He served on a troop ship during World War II until was discharged in August 1946. After the war, Gary and his brother W.K. headed together to New Orleans, the beloved city he lived in for nearly a decade. He worked for the Army as a pilot instructor, cementing his lifelong love for aviation. He accepted a position with the Navy Department of Defense as a pilot education specialist that relocated him to Miami. He worked and lived in Miami until his retirement from the Department of Defense in 1987.

He and spouse Jayne Morgan (married in 1982) moved to Dunnellon in 1987. In his retirement, he got to pursue his passions for golf, playing bridge, his daily crossword puzzle and tending his vegetable garden and citrus trees. He loved a nightly martini, a daily walk, University of Alabama football, tinkering with home improvement projects, following politics and his family.

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## Thrift Shop donates to Victorian Holiday



Photo by Joann McCullough

Karen Keen, left, and Barbara Hayes, volunteers with the Dunnellon Community Thrift Shop presented Candy Craig, president of the Historic Village Shoppes, a \$1,000 donation to help pay for the Victorian Holiday ice slide for area children. It was brought up at the Thrift Shop's meeting that this was a highlight of the November "holiday" for many children who have never experienced ice, let alone slid down an "ice hill." The Historic Village Shoppes of Dunnellon will host its 15th annual Victorian Holiday from 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, in the Historic Village. The event will include a snow slide, horse and carriage rides, vendors and more. Organizers are accepting applications for arts and vendors. They are also in need of sponsors for the snow slide, so that it can continue to keep the event free to the public. For information about reserving a vendor space, volunteering or sponsoring this event, call 465-0603 or 954-895-6959.

## CHURCH EVENTS

### Church schedules Latin dance Oct. 18

The Spanish community of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will sponsor a Latin dance from 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 18, in the Parish Hall. Music will be provided by "Los Sabrosos de Ocala." Tickets are \$10 per person. For information, call Lilly at 489-3166.

### Church fall concert series announced

Dunnellon Presbyterian Church has announced its schedule for its Fall Concert Series. All events begin at 3 p.m. Sundays and are free and open to the public. Concerts will be at the Dunnellon Presbyterian Church at 20641 Chestnut St.

Flowing Sounds will perform Sunday, Oct. 19. Flowing Sounds blends stringed instruments and woodwinds together. This chamber ensemble will present a string trio performing classical music, a string and woodwind classical duet, as well as two double basses performing popular arrangements. Musicians include Barbara Shellenberger, Jean DuBose, Lynn DuBose, Karl Sutphen and Jim Davis.

The Dunnellon Community Chorale will perform Sunday, Nov. 9, presenting its second annual "Tribute to Veteran's" concert. Under the direction of Jeanne Wolfanger and accompanied by Connie Hart, the chorale will perform music celebrating America's proud history. The American Legion Post 58 color guard will open the program and guest performers, The Shade Tree Pickers, will also entertain.

The Central Florida Master Choir will perform Sunday, Dec. 21. Under the direction of Harold W. McSwain Jr., the Central Florida Master Choir will present its annual Christmas program performing the "Magnificat" by Pergolesi, as well as "Mass in G major" by Franz Schubert along with various versions of "Hallelujah/Alleluia" in styles from the Renaissance up to Beethoven.

## Greaves — 50th anniversary



Gerald L. and Roberta T. Greaves recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a party given for them by their four children with family and close friends in attendance. The Greaves, who moved to Dunnellon 12 years ago, were married Sept. 5, 1964, in Wilmette, Ill. In addition to their four children, the Greaves have 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

### Peace Lutheran to host Oktoberfest dinner

Peace Lutheran Church will host an Oktoberfest dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Oct. 24.

Tickets will be available at the door for a donation of \$7 for adults and \$3 for children, ages 5 to 11. Children 5 and younger are free.

Peace Lutheran Church, "The Church on the Hill," is at 7201 U.S. 41.

For information, visit [www.PeaceLutheranOnline.com](http://www.PeaceLutheranOnline.com) or see Peace Lutheran Church-Dunnellon on Facebook.

### Vendors sought for church event

Crafter's, flea market and food vendors are needed for the Church of the Advent's annual Trash to Treasure sale, which will be Saturday, Oct. 25. Spaces are available for \$15 each; tables are not provided. Shaded spots are assigned on a paid registration basis.

For information, call the church office at 465-7272 or Al Sickle at 352-208-5664 or email [jsickle391@gmail.com](mailto:jsickle391@gmail.com).

The Church of the Advent is at 11251 County Road 484, Dunnellon.

### Church to host spaghetti dinner

First Baptist Church of Rainbow Lakes will host a spaghetti dinner from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at the church at 19756 SW Beach Blvd. Donation is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and younger.

For information, call 489-1490 or 489-7787.

### Church plans holiday gift sale Nov. 7, 8

Holy Faith Episcopal Church will host a pre-holiday gift sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8, inside Faith Hall at 19924 W. Blue Cove Road. Twenty vendors will be on hand with their wares. In addition, original artwork, quilt creations for pets and people and more will be available. There will be drawings for free times and lunch will be offered. Admission is free.

For information, call the church office at 489-2685 or visit [www.holyfaithepiscopal.com](http://www.holyfaithepiscopal.com).

**PASTOR**

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do you do with \$100 left over after paying all your bills? It did not take long to come up with a solution. I decided to take my wife out for supper on Friday night at her favorite restaurant. It was a glorious night on the town and the service at the restaurant was superb. Never have I enjoyed a more wonderful time on the town. The steak was done to a perfect T, just the way I like it. The waitress kept my coffee cup filled to the brim.

All through our meal, neither cell phones rang nor did we receive a text from anybody. Now seriously, how often does that happen? I checked several times to make sure my phone was still on. I sat back and decided to enjoy our anonymity. It is good to just chill together.

As we came near the end of our delectable evening repast, I was about to mention to my wife what a tremendous week we were having and then ...

Then, I woke up. It was all just a dream. A good dream, but a dream nevertheless.

Why is it dreams never come true? Why is it that my dream life is so much superior to my actual life? No wonder as a person gets older they want to spend more time sleep-

ing. I think I am just about there.

For a brief moment, I experienced what a perfect week would look like, even if it was just in my dreams.

A perfect week is not when everything goes our way, because, if everything goes right then you know something is wrong. Call it pessimism if you will or maybe just a dash of reality.

It is when things go wrong that I begin to understand what life is all about. I begin to understand that nothing is perfect. And, if nothing is perfect, then neither am I. I like that. The only perfect person at our residence is my wife, and I have her word on that and she never lies to me.

Demanding perfection is a rather foolish thing. If I demand perfection from someone, they in turn are going to demand perfection from me. That is more stress than I care to live with, especially at my age.

After more than four decades of marital bliss, I have made an astounding discovery that has made my life so much more pleasurable. It took me a long time to come to this, but I sure am glad I have.

For many years, I was hard on myself trying to be perfect in everything I did. Then, I got married and all of that went away. It was a struggle at first, but I came to one astounding conclusion that has

changed my life and brought me to a point of chilling out for the rest of my life.

In our home only one person needs to be perfect. That one person is not me. What a blessing it is to realize that you are not perfect and you do not have to live up to that standard of perfection. I can be goofy, make mistakes and act silly and nobody cares. All those years of trying to be perfect were wasted.

Now I have come to the place where I have acceded to the fact that my wife is perfect. I gladly anoint her as Queen Perfection in our humble Castle. All of the burden now rests upon her. She does not need to worry; I am there to support her in that aura of perfection.

The nice thing about all of this is, she does not need much help from me. It is almost like I am retired for the rest of my life with nothing else to do. The burden of perfection does not rest upon my shoulder.

Oh yes, the checkbook. After looking at it while awake, I discovered I was \$100 overdrawn.

Solomon understood this when he wrote, "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weigheth the spirits," (Proverbs 16:2).

Everything does not have to go right for me to rejoice in the goodness of the Lord.

**Sunday Sampler**



Special to the Riverland News

Come be part of the "Peoples Republik" and enjoy the songs of Grant Peeples at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, at the Historic Dunnellon Depot, 12061 S. Williams St. Peeples, a native Floridian, has been dubbed a "guitar-sliding poet" by Music News Nashville with a voice that No Depression states, "sounds like a '57 Chevy with glass mufflers." Donation is \$10 at the door and includes complimentary snacks at intermission. Funds help support artists who educate through writing and singing about Florida. For information, call 465-2167 or check out Facebook for the Sunday Sampler at [www.facebook.com/sundaysampler](http://www.facebook.com/sundaysampler).

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