

# The Clewiston News

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2013

VOL. 87 - NUMBER 21 - 50¢

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## Who's Living in Your Backyard?

Man breaks into shed while owner is on vacation  
makes shed his home

BY MELISSA BELTZ  
The Clewiston News

A Clewiston resident received an alarming surprise when he came home from vacation earlier this month: a man had broken into the resident's shed and made it his new home.

According to a report released by the Clewiston Police Department, Daniel Hannam Jr., 22, of Clewiston, broke into a Clewiston resident's shed, changed the deadbolt, and made himself comfortable in the 10 x 10 structure.

In the report, the homeowner stated he went into his shed on June 10 after returning from vacation and

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## Sweetest Town Playground

BY MELISSA BELTZ  
The Clewiston News

Five days is all it will take to build the largest playground in Clewiston.

Brenda Holcomb and Mercedes Vary of Active Citizens For Children plan to build the largest playground in Clewiston starting September 25, ending with the playground's grand opening on September 29.

To make this happen, Active Citizens needs donations from the community.

With a July 1 deadline to order parts for the playground, Active Citizens needs the community's help to raise 30 to 50 thousand dollars.

The playground, which will be built in the same location as the former Wood Works Park near the First United Methodist Church in Clewiston, was designed by local students at the start of last year's school year.

An architect was brought in to help

SEE PLAYGROUND • 8

## New Dollar Tree Coming

BY MELISSA BELTZ  
The Clewiston News

Dollar Tree, Inc has set its sights on Clewiston and is looking to build a new store in our fair city in this year. City commissioners gave Dollar Tree the go ahead by approving the development order with a 4-0 vote (Commissioner James Pittman was not in attendance).

The new Dollar Tree store will be a 10,000 square foot, stand-alone building and will be located between First Bank of Clewiston and Burger King. In order to build the store, changes to existing roads will be made. The store will hire eight employees, including a local manager to run the store, according to Noel Barnett from Bohler Engineering, a Fort Lauderdale-based engineering company in charge of building the store. According to

Barnett, the goal is to have the store open by the end of the year, just in time for holiday shopping. Commissioners seemed keen on approving this development project, with Mayor Phillip Roland saying "we're excited to have Dollar Tree coming." Sheriff Steve Whidden also gave a presentation for commissioners to consider, concerning school resource officers in Hendry County schools. During their May 21 meeting, county commissioners approved a grant for Hendry County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) to hire new deputies, including school resource officers who would work specifically in Hendry County schools. The grant, however, will

SEE DOLLAR • 11

## HC Lost Under Gov. Scott's Radar

Commissioners 'frustrated' by lack of communication between Gov. and County

BY MELISSA BELTZ  
The Clewiston News

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) held their regular meeting in Clewiston's City Hall on June 11.

The board started the meeting by approving the consent agenda, which included budget resolutions concerning LaBelle Airport, as well as designating the month of May as Foster Parent Appreciation Month and designating June 15, 2013 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

The board approved several

amendments, including an amendment to the way the county is able to sell its property; specifically, the way the county is able to sell airport property. This amendment will make airport property exceptional to certain procedures, which are necessary for the county to take when it is trying to sell its property. It will, therefore, ease certain restrictions now interfering with the sale of Airglades Airport.

Several presentations were also given to the board. The first presentation, a review of the 2013 legislative session given by former state Rep. Joseph Spratt, sparked a passionate discussion about Governor Rick Scott's visit to Hendry County last week on June 7.

Spratt provided a summary of the bills that the Florida State House and Senate approved this year. In all, 259 general bills were passed by the House and Senate, of which 24 were

local bills. After giving an overview of the bills, which included the largest budget passed in Florida's history (\$74 billion dollars, \$368 million of which Governor Scott vetoed), Spratt quickly turned the board's focus to the local implications of the 2013 legislative session.

Spratt briefly went over the projects that Hendry County submitted to Governor Scott's office for review, which included a rehabilitation project for Hendry County Courthouse and repairs to the sewage pipes lead-

SEE BOCC • 11



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# Burning Yard Trash in Light of Hurricane Season

As residents prepare for Hurricane Season, they are urged to trim trees and remove yard trash BEFORE a storm threatens. This tip is to prevent objects from becoming danger-

ous projectiles during

a hurricane. In rural communities, tree and shrub trimmings, grass clippings, palm fronds, trees and tree stumps start to accumulate. Some rural residents do not have access to county or commercial solid waste collection service for yard trash.

Rural residents have two options: self-hauling yard trash to the neighborhood trash and recycling centers or burning yard trash. Yard trash burning might be a cost effective solution to hauling the debris away.

Burning small amounts of yard waste does not require an authorization from the Florida Forest Service, but you should check with your local city, county, or Florida Forest Service officials to see if there are any restrictions in your area.

Many people do not know or are not aware of Florida's outdoor burning regulations. Familiarize yourself with the

burning regulations in your area. If you are going to burn anything, here a few tips to keep in mind. Never leave a fire unattended, and make sure it is out before you leave.

Keep a shovel and water hose handy. Don't burn on windy days or when the humidity is below 35 percent. The yard trash material intended to be burned must be generated on the premises of the burn site.

The fires must not cause smoke, soot, odors, visible emissions, heat, flame, radiation, or other conditions to the degree that they become a nuisance or safety hazard.

The fire must be started after 9 a.m. and be out by one hour after sunset. Your fire must be contained to an eight-foot diameter pile or non-combustible barrel, and must be at least 25 feet from forests, 25 feet from your house, 50 feet from a paved, public road, and 150 feet from other occupied buildings.

If your fire escapes, you may be held liable for suppression costs and damage to the property of others. Wildfires can occur all year round in Florida. During the summer months, wildfires typically are smaller in size due to the wet season.



## How to Protect Your Family from Cyber Threats

Technology has swept the heartland of America, providing families new, more efficient ways to use their home computers to manage household finances, maintain personal histories and records and store precious digital photographs.

But what happens when a computer virus or invader attacks a family's computer? Worse still, what happens when an Internet interloper misuses technology and gains access to a family's bank account, personal passwords and other sensitive information?

"I know a lot of people think, 'That won't happen to me,'" says Kelly Morgan, Vice President and General Manager for Frontier Secure, which offers computer cyber security and identity protection to residential and commercial customers nationwide. "Sadly, many people learn the hard way that cyber thefts and intrusions are real threats that can create untold difficulties for families."

Luckily, there are easy steps you can take to mitigate cyber threats and also limit children's access to undesirable Internet content. Look for a protection package that offers the following:

Computer security that protects against viruses, spyware, rootkits and other malware for Windows and Mac computers, and offers e-mail filters, firewall protection, URL blocking, parental controls and real-time protection against new

threats.

Backup and sharing services that automatically, silently back up unlimited computer information and provide remote access to files and documents from other Internet-enabled devices.

Technical support that includes unlimited remote telephone support from certified experts around-the-clock, and access to information about wireless network setup, troubleshooting, diagnostics and repairs, PC tune-ups and security checks, iTunes and social media basic installation and training, e-mail setup on multiple devices, Microsoft software applications setup and troubleshooting, and file back-up and storage transfer.

Identity protection that offers unlimited professional consultation on identity protection, triple bureau credit monitoring and alerts, interval identity and privacy scans and identity theft restoration.

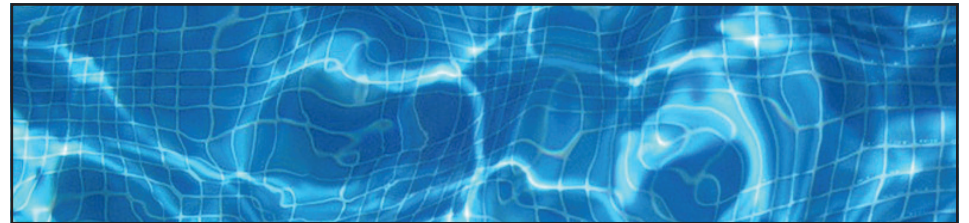
"The need for digital protection will only grow in the coming decade as information becomes more accessible and advanced security threats are created," says Morgan.

More information about protecting your digital life can be found at [www.Frontier.com/secure](http://www.Frontier.com/secure). Don't take your cyber security for granted. By taking measures now, you can save yourself from heartache and headache in the future.



COURTESY PHOTO

## The ABCDs of Water Safety



COURTESY PHOTO

With all the aquatic recreational activity that occurs during the Memorial Day weekend, fun can easily turn tragic.

In Palm Beach County, children ages one to four have had the highest drowning rate based on population in the last five years, and 22 percent of all drowning deaths occurred in swimming pools. Such sobering statistics should serve as a reminder to caregivers to be water smart and follow the ABCD's of water safety this holiday weekend.

**A – Adult supervision**

Whenever infants and toddlers are in or around water, an adult should supervise within an arm's length of the children. In addition to parental supervision, designate an adult "water watcher" (using a distinguishable item such as a lanyard or funny hat) whose sole responsibility is to watch the pool area for 15 minutes and not read, talk on the phone, or be influenced by other distractions. After 15 minutes, the distinguishable item should be given to another adult for 15 minutes, and so forth. Ensure that the water watcher is a sober adult who knows CPR and has basic swimming skills.

Do not use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision. "Water wings" or "floaties"

(inflatable water rings) and other pool toys are NOT safety devices. Only life jackets approved by the U.S. Coast Guard are designed and tested for safety.

**B – Barriers, beach safety and boating safety**

Have a properly working physical barrier around, on, or in the pool (i.e., isolation fence, pool safety cover, pool alarm) that meets code requirements. Have window and door alarms that sound when breached. Always swim at a lifeguarded beach and pay attention to the beach flags. Wear properly fitted life jackets approved by the U.S. Coast Guard while on a boat.

**C – Classes**

Take a water safety course at a local aquatic facility to learn the skills necessary to survive in the water. Take CPR classes.

**D – Drain Safety**

Have a pool professional check residential drain covers to determine whether or not they are safe. Encourage children to stay away from drains. Noncompliant drain covers can cause suction entrapment injuries and possible death. Those using a pool or spa should know where the cut off switch is for the pump, in case a suction entrapment incident occurs.



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**COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION**

**Chemical Dependence Anonymous Meetings**

Chemical Dependence Anonymous (CDA) meetings are being held on Mondays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Clewiston Gospel Ministries Church, located at 6800 Flaghole Road.

This is a 12-step program for drugs and alcohol. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Gene at 863-983-4437.

**HeBrews Coffee House**

First United Methodist Church of Clewiston presents the HeBrews Christian coffee house on June 21 at 7 p.m.

Open to all 18 to 29 year olds. Free of charge. Food, foosball, karaoke, video games, pool and more.

Call Dave Berkley for more info (863) 983-5269.

**Raft Race**

On Friday, June 28, the Raft Race weekend will kick off with a Pirate Party at 9 p.m. at The Tiki Bar. On Saturday, June 29, the Great American Raft Race will begin at 2 p.m. at The Tiki Bar/Roland & Mary Ann Martin's Marina. For more

information, call 983-3151.

**Free HIV testing**

National HIV Testing Day (NHTD), held annually on June 27, encourages people to get tested for HIV.

Early HIV diagnosis is crucial so that people who are infected can fully benefit from life-saving treatments, and so they can take extra precaution to prevent transmission to others.

Currently, almost 40 percent of people newly diagnosed with HIV in the USA have already progressed to AIDS, which means they were probably first infected years before and didn't know it.

In observance of NHTD, Hendry and Glades County Health Departments will offer free HIV testing for anyone on Thursday, June 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at our three clinic sites: 1021 Health Park Drive, Moore Haven; 1100 Olympia St, Clewiston; and 1040 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle. Please, "Take the HIV Test, Take Control."

**School Bus Driver Class**

The Hendry County School District is Recruiting Substitute Bus Drivers. Training classes will be held July 29 to August 8 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the LaBelle Bus Compound, located at 4040

Cowboy Way, LaBelle, FL 33935.

Applicants are required to have thier CDL driving permit before the first day of class.

For anyone interested, please contact the LaBelle Transportation Dept. at 863-674-4115 or the Clewiston Transportation Dept. at 863-983-1516 to register by July 22.

**Youth Movie Night**

There will be a youth movie night at the First Christian Church located at 201 N. Francisco St. on June 21, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Popcorn, hotdogs and refreshments will be served. All children under the age of eight must be with at least one parent the entire time. Children being dropped off must be checked in first, with child's name, contact name and phone number. Pickup time will be from 8:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please be prompt.

**Gospel Sing**

While Billie Swindle's Red Barn takes a hiatus, there will be a Gospel Sing at the First Christian Church located at 201 N. Francisco St., inside our air-conditioned facilities. Features different groups every first Friday of the month at 7 p.m. The Simple Faith Trio will be here Friday, July 5.

**Shed**

Continued From Page 1

found Hannam sitting in a lounge chair. When he told Hannam he was going to call the police, Hannam offered the homeowner \$75 not to notify authorities, then jumped a chain-link fence and ran away, according to the report.

The homeowner promptly called Clewiston Police. When the officers arrived at the home,

they found marks on the shed door where Hannam pried it open.

Police also found several items Hannam left behind in the shed, including his picture ID, social security card, food stamp card, cell phone, \$15 in cash, and three bags full of clothing, perhaps indicating that Hannam intended to make this shed his home, according to the report.

Stranger still, this was not the first time Clewiston Police was called to this residence.

According to the report, the homeowner informed the officers on scene that Hannam had

broken into his shed before and police warned Hannam not to return.

Hannam was charged with burglary to a structure, trespassing, damage to property, and resisting an officer without violence.

According to the police report, Hannam argued with officers about his charges, stating he should not be charged with burglary.

Hannam's reasons were simple: he had just been tried in court for breaking into someone else's shed and changing the locks, and was only charged with trespassing.

**Four Juveniles Arrested for ATV Theft**

BY HENDRY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On June 13, after receiving a report of a stolen ATV, Hendry County Deputies followed up on leads that lead them to the arrest of four juveniles.

It was reported to Hendry County Deputies that 15 year olds Julian Caballero and Felix Quinones, 14 year old Clayton Thomas, all of Montura Ranch Estates, along with 14 year old Luis A. Vega, of Clewiston, had been seen riding an all-terrain vehicle matching the description of the one reported stolen earlier in the day.

Witnesses reported they had seen the juveniles riding throughout the Montura Ranch community.

Deputies were able to locate the juveniles, who willingly lead law enforcement officers to a heavily wooded area where they had hidden the ATV.

Deputies took the juveniles into custody charging them with criminal mischief and grand theft of motor vehicle.

All four juveniles were transported to the Hendry County Sheriff's Office and later released to their guardians.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Police Blotter: %!\$# the Police**

Suspect David Gonzalez, 28, of Pahokee, had no shortage of profanities for Clewiston Police Officers when he became irate after officers questioned him for pushing and slapping a woman across her face on June 16.

Officers responded to a woman's cry for help and found Gonzalez screaming at her, telling her to "call the police" if she wanted to. When Officer Arnold identified herself, Gonzalez started jumping up and down, slapping his chest, pulling at his shirt, and yelled "F--- the police! You want to f--- with my friend? You want to f--- with me? We will fight!" Gonzalez then took off running towards another officer with clenched fists. Officer Arnold bounded after Gonzalez and grabbed him from behind, only to get a blow from Gonzalez's elbow across her mouth. A second officer helped restrain Gonzalez, but it took three officers to get him into their patrol car, as Gonzalez kicked, shoved, and braced himself against the officers.

As Officer Arnold headed to the police station with Gonzalez in tow, Gonzalez made one final attempt to resist, slamming his head against the car window repeatedly until he arrived at the Clewiston Police Station.

# Returning Home After a Hurricane or Flood

## Returning home after a storm may be just as deadly as the storm itself

Preparing to return home after evacuating will keep you safer while inspecting and cleaning up the damage to your home. Before traveling, ensure local officials have declared that it's safe to enter your community and you have the supplies you will need.

Follow the suggestions below for returning to, inspecting, and cleaning your home. Items to take when returning home include, government-issued photo ID and proof of address; important phone numbers; bottled water and non-perishable foods; first aid kit; cleanser/hand cleaning gel for personal use; hygiene products and toilet paper; insect repellent and sunscreen; long sleeved shirts, long pants, sturdy, waterproof boots and work gloves; flashlight, portable radio and extra batteries; and cameras for photos of damage for insurance claims.

### Before Returning

Find out if it is safe to enter your community or neighborhood. Follow the advice of your local authorities. Carry plenty of cash. ATMs may not work and stores may not be able to accept credit or debit cards. Bring supplies such as flashlights, batteries, bottled water, and non-perishable foods, in case utilities are out.

Create back-up communication plans with family and friends, in case you are unable to call from affected areas. Plan for delays when traveling. Bring extra food, water, pillows, blankets and other items that will make the trip more comfortable.

Keep the fuel tank of your vehicle as full as possible, in case gas stations are crowded, out of fuel, or closed. Carry a map to help you route around heavy traffic or impassable roads.

Find out if local medical facilities are open and if emergency services are functioning again. Do NOT call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number to do this. Understand that recovery takes time. Focus on the positive and have patience; others will have similar frustrations.

### First Inspection

If possible, leave children and pets with a relative or friend. If not, keep them away from hazards and floodwater.

Beware of rodents, snakes, insects and other animals that may be on your property or in your home. Before entering your home, look outside for damaged power lines, gas lines, foundation cracks, and other exterior damage. It may be too dangerous to enter the home.

Smell for gas. If you smell natural gas or propane, or hear a hissing noise, leave immediately and contact the fire department. If your home was flooded, assume it is contaminated with mold. Mold increases health risks for those with asthma, allergies or other breathing conditions. Open doors and windows.

Let the house air out before staying inside for any length of time if the house was closed for more than 48 hours. Turn the main electrical power and water systems off until you or a professional can ensure they are safe.

NEVER turn the power on or off, or use an electrical tool or appliance, while standing in water. Check the ceiling and floor for signs of sagging; water may be trapped in the ceiling, and floors may be unsafe to walk on.

### Cleaning Your Home

Wear protective clothing, including rubber gloves and rubber boots. Be careful when moving furnishings or debris since they may be water logged and heavier.

Throw out all food, beverages, and medicine exposed to flood waters and mud, including canned goods and containers with food or liquid that have been sealed shut. When in doubt,

throw it out. Some cleaning solutions can cause toxic fumes and other hazards if mixed together. If you smell a strong odor or your eyes water from the fumes or mixed chemicals, open a window and get out of your home.

Throw out items that absorb water and cannot be cleaned or disinfected (i.e., mattresses, carpeting, cosmetics, stuffed animals, and baby toys).

Remove all drywall and insulation that has been in contact with flood waters. Clean hard surfaces (i.e., flooring, countertops, and appliances) thoroughly with hot water and soap or a detergent. Return to as many personal and family routines as possible.

### Using Generators Safely

When using a portable generator, connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator. Do not connect a portable generator to a home's electrical system.

If you are considering getting a generator, get

advice from a professional, such as an electrician. Make sure the generator you purchase is rated for the power you think you will need.

### Caution: Carbon Monoxide Kills

Never use a generator, grill, camp stove, or other gasoline, propane, natural gas, or charcoal-burning device inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace, or any partially enclosed area.

Locate unit away from doors, windows, and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors. The primary hazards to avoid when using alternate sources for electricity, heating, and cooking are carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock, and fire.

### Let Your Family Know You're Safe

If your community has experienced a flood, or any disaster, register on the American Red Cross Safe and Well website, available through RedCross.org, to let your family and friends know about your welfare. You may also call 1-866-GET-INFO to register yourself and your family.

## Gas Price Update

Average retail gasoline prices in Florida have risen 5.1 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.51/g on Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 8,237 gas outlets in Florida. This compares with the national average that has fallen 2.1 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.61/g, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Florida during the past week, prices yesterday were 20.3 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 5.6 cents per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has decreased 5.0 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 8.0 cents per gallon higher

than this day one year ago.

"The national average has continued its downward decline in the last week, likely being helped by relief in the Great Lakes, a region that had been plagued with refining issues that have seemingly been resolved," said GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan. "While the national average stands higher than it did a year ago, we likely will see the average decline, and for motorists in the Great Lakes, the downward trend should mean well-needed relief at the pump. Areas of California may see prices rising slightly in the days ahead, but at this time we aren't seeing any short-term price spikes across the United States," DeHaan said.



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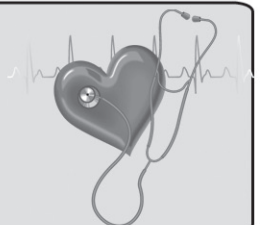
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# Religion Column

## Are You Ready to Change a Life?

BY PASTOR JOHN HICKS  
First United Methodist Church

Are you ready to change a life? Within each of us is the power to impart a legacy of love and acceptance to our children, our spouses, our parents, our families, our friends, our neighbors, and those we meet. It's called the blessing.

By choosing to live and give blessings, we can make a difference and change the lives of those special someones in our lives, as well as those we meet and greet every day. Not only that, in the process of blessing others, we will even find blessings for ourselves!

Throughout the Scriptures, we have been given a guideline on effective ways to share the blessings we can bestow on others. Basically, there are five elements of the blessing. We can live out the blessing every day by incorporating these elements as we reach out to bless those around us.

First, giving the blessing involves appropriate meaningful touch. Whether it is laying on of hands, a hug, a pat on the shoulder, placing a hand on a young child's head, or holding them in your arms, appropriate meaningful touch is a way



JOHN HICKS

to say "I love you" or to express care, concern, or friendship even before a word is spoken.

The second element of the blessing involves the spoken (or written) word along with appropriate meaningful touch.

Too many people have missed out on hearing their fathers, mothers, or spouses tell them they are loved or appreciated. The same is true for friends.

The third element of the blessing involves affixing spoken or written words to someone, letting them know that you value them.

It involves affirming their worth, uplifting them as a person of worth and a child of God. If a waiter or waitress is having a bad day, a word of encouragement or a note of thanks can lift them up. The same with those closest to us!

In Scripture, the blessing was also a time for a parent (grand parent or loved one) to assure a child or person of God's blessing on their future. It helped a child or

loved one envision positive things in their life and future. The fourth element of blessing is helping impart the picture of a positive future. Too many people are bombarded with the negative and rarely hear the positive.

People (especially children) carry the words we speak to them into their future, positive or negative. A harsh word begets a harsh word and

attitude, but a smile or kind word brings forth a smile and more positive outlook.

The fifth element of the blessing involves commitment. In Scripture, the choice to bless was usually linked to a special day or occasion; but it wasn't just a one-time event, it was an ongoing relationship.

We might want to create a special, intentional, purposeful event for blessing a child, spouse, or friend, but true blessings come from an ongoing commitment to continuously live and give blessings each day.

For instance, we can choose to hug our child

before they head out the door (appropriate meaningful touch), or write them a note to put in their lunch box letting them know we are thinking of them and praying for a good day (spoken message and attaching high value and picturing a positive future).

Life gets crazy, challenging, difficult, and sometimes beyond painful. Within each of us is an amazingly simple, life-changing gift that can help us plant

God's love in the center of someone's heart and future. Let's all share this gift of blessing and change lives!

## Sunglass Extravaganza

### Hot Savings at our Summer Sunglass Sale!

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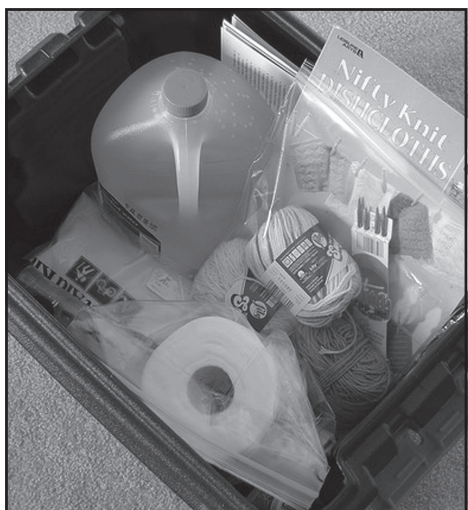
New styles released for Summer  
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## Prepare With an Emergency Kit

Being prepared means being equipped with the proper supplies you may need in the event of an emergency.

Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.

At a minimum, you should have these basic supplies: water (one gallon per person, per day -- three-day supply for evacuation, two-week supply for home); food (non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items -- three-day supply for evacuation, two-week supply for home); flashlight; battery-powered or hand-crank radio (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather radio, if possible); extra batteries; first aid kit; medications (seven-day supply) and medical items; multi-purpose tool; sanitation and personal hygiene items; copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth



COURTESY PHOTO

certificates, insurance policies); cell phone with chargers; family and emergency contact information; extra cash; emergency blanket; and map(s) of the area.

Consider the needs of all family members and add supplies to your kit. Suggested items to help meet additional needs are: medical supplies (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc); baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers); games and activities for children; pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl); two-way radios; extra set of car keys and house keys; and manual can opener.

Additional supplies to keep at home or in your kit based on the types of disasters common to your area: whistle; N95 or surgical masks; matches; rain gear; towels; work gloves; tools/supplies for securing your home; extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes; plastic sheeting; duct tape; scissors; household liquid bleach; entertainment items; blankets or sleeping bags.



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# Teach All Children How To Swim and Put a Fence Around All Pools



COURTESY PHOTO

## Data shows that most child drownings occur in pools

A new report released today from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reveals that children younger than age five represent more than 75 percent of all pool and spa submersion deaths, and 78 percent of pool and spa submersion injuries in the United States involve children younger than 15 years of age. Government data also show that African-American and Hispanic children between the ages of five and 14 are at a higher risk of drowning.

"Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death for children between the ages of one and four, and minority children drown in pools at an alarming rate," said CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum.

"The lives of countless children can be saved this summer. Take simple safety steps today -- teach all children to swim, put a fence around all pools, and always watch children in and around the water."

CPSC's Pool Safely campaign is focusing its attention on populations most at risk of drowning: Children between the ages of one and three represented 67 percent of reported fatalities and 64 percent of injuries, and African-American children between the ages of five and 19 are six times more likely to drown in pools than white and Hispanic children of the same age, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Data from USA Swimming indicate that 70 percent of African-American children and 62 per-

cent of Hispanic children cannot swim, making them more likely to drown.

The new CPSC Pool or Spa Submersions: Estimated Injuries and Reported Fatalities, 2013 Report shows annual averages of 390 pool- or spa-related drownings for children younger than 15, with 76 percent (296) of the victims being younger than five; 5,100 pool- or spa-related, emergency-department-treated submersion injuries for children younger than 15, with 78 percent (4,000) of the injured being younger than five.

CPSC Chairman Tenenbaum presented the annual Submersion and Entrapment reports for 2013 at an event today at the William H. Rumsey Aquatic Center in Washington, D.C.'s Capitol Hill neighborhood.

Chairman Tenenbaum was joined by U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (Fla.-23); Suzy DeFrancis, Red Cross chief public affairs officer, and Katey Taylor, mother of entrapment victim, Abbey Taylor.

Jesus Aguirre, director of the D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation, welcomed the group to the popular neighborhood pool.

"As we head into summer and families across the country are getting ready to take their kids to the pool, we must remind everyone how important it is to keep a careful watch on our children as they swim, and ensure that their pools and spas have proper safety equipment," said Rep. Wasserman Schultz.

"Working together, we can improve the safety of all pools and spas by increasing the use of layers of protection and promoting uninterrupted supervision to prevent child drowning and entrapment. With government programs like

the CPSC's Pool Safely, people can learn simple steps to take to save lives."

"Learning how to swim saves lives," said Suzy DeFrancis, chief public affairs officer for the American Red Cross. "The American Red Cross encourages all families to enroll in Learn-to-Swim programs by contacting your local pool." Families can learn about Red Cross programs and find water safety tips by going to [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

New data from CPSC's 2013 Submersion Report compile information on reported pool- or spa-related drownings between 2008 and 2010 and estimated pool- or spa-related injuries from 2010 through 2012 for children younger than 15. The estimated averages for the three-year periods represented show that residential locations dominated incidents involving victims younger than five years of age; 85 percent of the fatalities occurred at residential pools or spas.

About 50 percent of the injuries and 73 percent of the fatalities involving children younger than 15 years occurred at a residence. Of the reported pool fatalities for children younger than age 15, about 60 percent (231) occurred in in-ground pools; 15 percent (59) in above-ground pools, and nearly 10 percent (37) in portable pools. There were no reported entrapment fatalities for 2012.

The last recorded fatality of a child due to suction entrapment was in 2007. CPSC received seven reports of entrapment-injury incidents during 2012.

## Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted by sending e-mail to [obits@newszap.com](mailto:obits@newszap.com). Customers may also request photos and links to online guest books. A link to the obituaries is available at [www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com).

### Joy T. Roberts, 64

MOORE HAVEN — Joy T. Roberts passed away June 7, 2013 in Lehigh Acres.

She was born Mar. 25, 1949 in Clewiston, Fla. to the late Raymond D. Thielen, Sr. and Margie Nell (Cook) Thielen.

Survivors include two daughters Ranae Roberts Harrington, Jerri Lynn Schlueter (Barry); mother Margie Nell (Cook) Thielen; brother Donnie Thielen (Marge); sisters Regina Brown (Donald), Theresa Prescott (Doyle); grandchildren, Shelby Schlueter, Savanna Schlueter, Skye Schlueter, Andrew Harrington and Madison Harrington.

She was preceded in death by husband, Jerome W. Roberts; father, Raymond D. Thielen, Sr. and brother, Michael Thielen.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at 10 a.m. at Saint Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Moore Haven with Father Lorenzo Gonzalez officiating.

Interment was Wednesday, June 12, 2013 in Ortona Cemetery, Moore Haven.

Arrangements by Akin-Davis Funeral Home - Clewiston.



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# FWC Permanently Waives License Requirement for Lionfish Harvest

Temporary changes making it easier for divers to help control the lionfish population will be put into Florida rule soon.

At its June 12 meeting in Lakeland, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) adopted changes that will waive the recreational license requirement for divers harvesting lionfish using certain gear, and exclude lionfish from the commercial and recreational bag limits, allowing people to take as many of the invasive fish as they can.

Prior to the change, recreational anglers

could not catch more than 100 pounds of lionfish without being required to have a commercial license. Specific gear that can be used to target lionfish without the requirement of a recreational license includes hand-held nets, pole spears, Hawai-



ian slings, or any other spearing devices designed and marketed exclusively for lionfish.

An identical executive order was put into place in August 2012 and is set to expire August 3. The newly adopted rule

will take effect before the executive order expires, so there will be no lapse in the expanded permissions.

Lionfish are a non-native, invasive species that negatively impact Florida's native saltwater fish and wildlife.

Currently, the most effective method of removing lionfish from Florida waters is by spearing or using a hand-held net.

Removing the license requirements and bag limits will increase lionfish harvest opportunities.

## Thank You!

The Sugar Festival Committee would like to thank the following sponsors for all their efforts to make this year's Sugar Festival a SUCCESS!



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**Rodeo** – Hendry County Commissioner Karson Turner, Weekley Asphalt, K & M Drugs, McGahee & Perez, Hilliard Brothers, Rayburn Companies, Wedgworth Inc., Pam's Plumbing, Quality Electric

**5K Run** – Cross Training Ministries, Edwards Orthodontists, First Bank, Everglades Farm Equipment, CenterState Bank, Industrial Construction Solutions, Hendry County District 4 Commissioner Al Perry, Maxis Screen Printing, Roland Martin Marina, Dave Collins, Helena Chemicals

**Car Show** – Alan Jay Automotive Network

**Clewiston Museum/Seminole Heritage Event** – Ah-tah-tiki Museum, Jarrid Smith

**Honoree Breakfast** – Seacoast National Bank

**High Yield Luncheon** – First Bank of Clewiston

**Bond Street Dance** – Clewiston Pawn, WAFC True Oldies and Mr. Auto Insurance

**Rotary Club BBQ** – Clewiston Rotary Club

Be sure to mark your calendar for our

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual Clewiston Sugar Festival – April 10-13!**

Hope to see you there!

Clewiston

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# School's Out for the Summer

BY GIGI MEZZIO  
Clewiston Middle School

As Alice Cooper so aptly put it, "No more pencils, no more books, no more teacher's (or student's) dirty looks." Seriously! School is officially out for summer and we are all looking forward to spending the lazy days of summer sleeping in, eating leisurely breakfasts, relaxing on the beach, and participating in sports and outdoor activities. It's a carefree time of ice cream and watermelon, reading Jodi Picoult novels on the backyard hammock, and sipping ice cold lemonade, while agreeing that "Life is good."

Clewiston Middle School bid "Adios" to another graduating 8th grade class with its annual 8th Grade Achievement Ceremony held on Tuesday, June 4 at 10 a.m. Families flooded the school gymnasium and eagerly awaited the entrance of beloved students who would soon be moving on to high school. Principal Garry Ensor welcomed the throng of well-wishers and introduced the other dignitaries. Those present included Clewiston Middle School Administrator Rosa Perez, whom CMS heartily -- yet tearfully -- congratulates on her recent promotion to Principal of Central Elementary (Right on, Rosa!), Dean Johnston, Superintendent Puletti, Assistant Superintendent Swaggerty, and honorable school board members. Mr. Puletti expressed a brief accolade of encouragement to the young students prior to Mrs. Kristi Durance presenting medallions of recognition for outstanding performance. Juanita James presented her award for Career Research and Decision Making to Lazna Saad. Rainey Allen presented her History Medallion to Elizabeth Alvarez and the History Class Pin to Kathy Gomez. Steven Gwyn pre-

sented Joel McCray with the Science medallion, while Brad Garrett awarded his Science medallion to Madison Crouch. Brittney Shelton was Diana Chesler's medallion winner for Reading/Language Arts and Rache Valdes-Moya received the Reading/Language medallion from Lenette Leyva. For 8B, Cheryl Stein chose Jon Aragus for her Reading/Language Arts medallion and Kristi Durance gave her Reading/Language Arts medallion to Yanthuan Almenares. Kathy Irey presented the AVID Golden Binder Award to Courtney Blanset and Jose Velazques-Olvera. For the math medallion, Brett Hoots presented his medallion to Charles Snelgrove, and Robin Worley presented hers to Basil Tady. She also presented a medallion for Algebra I to Richard Perez.

All of her students who took either Algebra I or Algebra I Honors EOC and made a "3" or higher also received high school credit for the course. Two distinguished students earned a Level 5 on the 2013 Florida Writes: Tammy Perez and Richard Perez.

The only person who achieved perfect attendance for K-8th grade was Marielena Frenes. The AR points for this class were over 41,000! Way to go class of 2017! Closing remarks were spoken by Bob Cook, who presented his History medallion to Alkashia Keys. He thanked the parents for their support in their children's education while attending CMS, and related humanity to the principals of academia. In science, said Cook, rivers cut through rocks not by strength but by perseverance, and so must we as individuals, as we strive to seek and meet our personal goals and accomplishments. In math, said Cook, with its logic and order, solving the most difficult and complex problems means using the right princi-

pals and sequences, consistently. In Reading and Language Arts, said Cook, you were taught the power of words and how to combine them effectively to influence others. By studying the great writers, he said, you beheld the possibilities that exist within all of us and, hopefully, realized the possibility within yourselves. Lastly, said Cook, in social studies you gained an understanding of civilization and your place in history, while discovering how key people, at opportune times, changed the course of history. -- This knowledge opens up the possibilities that exist for you, as well. Be alert for your opportune moment!

CMS staff agreed with Mr. Cook's wish that students will "enjoy and rejoice in their success, remembering that it is not the end of the journey. ... We encourage you to go forth, boldly writing in large, vivid colors the story of your life and your contributions to our culture and society."

Later that evening, CMS was rewarded with an 8th grade dance in the school cafeteria. D.J. Orlando Echevarria kept the music blaring as students danced the night away, reveling in the excitement of turning over a new chapter in their academic careers. The theme "Shine Like A Diamond" was well demonstrated by the glamorous aura of well-dressed young people bidding a fond farewell to childhood. Many students danced to every song. Chaperone Lenette Leyva commented that "the kids danced so much, we barely got them to eat!" Along with Lenette's secret punch recipe, which students remarked was "the best ever!" the dance proved to be a sparkling end to a bright beginning.

## Playground

Continued From Page 1

the students design the park, and Active Citizens has been racing to collect the money needed to bring the students' creation to life ever since.

The playground will be built out of a plastic composite material, ensuring its longevity. It will include a large children's section, as well as a toddler section.

The playground will also be handicap accessible.

The ground cover will be made from special material, allowing wheel chairs free access to the playground and certain features of the park will be built at a height for wheelchair accessibility, as well. "We put in a lot of thought so the whole community can enjoy it for years to come," remarked Brenda Holcomb, President of Active Citizens for Children. Holcomb is one of the brains behind the Sweetest Town Playground.

She and her colleague Mercedes Vary have been working diligently to get the word out about the playground, so they can raise enough money to get the park built by the anticipated September 25 start date.

If Active Citizens is unable to raise enough money by July 1, the playground's build date will be pushed back to spring 2014.

There are several ways the community can help contribute to the playground. The first way is, of course, monetary donations.

Donations can be made at the Active Citizens' website ([www.activecitizensforchildren.com](http://www.activecitizensforchildren.com)), where donors will find the "donate but-

ton," which they can use to donate as much or as little as they choose.

Donators can also send checks to the Active Citizens' P.O. Box, which can be found on their website. Other, more visible, donation options are also available.

Pickets and entryway tiles may be purchased for a nominal fee and these proceeds will contribute to the building of the playground.

The picket will be used to build the fence that will border the playground.

A personalized message of 20 characters or less will be engraved on the picket for the entire community to see!

Entryway tiles will be placed at the playground's entrance and will include you or your child's name and handprint molded onto the tile.

Don't miss your opportunity to contribute to a new community playground and to have your name or message displayed for years and years to come.

If you cannot donate money or purchase pickets or tiles, consider donating your time to help build the new playground.

Active Citizens needs 100 volunteers per day for the five days that the park will be built (Sept 25 through 29).

Check out the Active Citizens for Children on Facebook; information on the next session to have handprints and names molded into entryway tiles will be posted on their Facebook page sometime before the end of this week.

Please contact Brenda Holcomb at 863.228.3690 or Mercedes Vary at 863.599.8950 for more information about the playground, pricing of pickets and entryway tiles, and for more ways you can contribute to the future "Sweetest Town Playground."



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# Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Stately shade trees
  - Like tails in the dog park
  - Cupfuls after OJ and cereal
  - In \_\_\_ of: replacing
  - No \_\_\_ traffic
  - Tequila plant
  - \*Sensitive spot on the elbow
  - Contradict
  - Hindu teachers
  - \_\_\_ eclipse
  - Distinct feature
  - Immigrants' night sch. class
  - Microscope part
  - Mazda sports car
  - Like days when hats fly
  - Gets it wrong
  - Lime-garnished Mexican beer
  - In good shape
  - Ping-Pong barrier
  - \*Conceal
  - Tokyo-born Yoko
  - Susan of "L.A. Law"
  - Smart \_\_\_: wise guys
  - Study feverishly
  - Work hard
  - Actor's nickname that sounds like a golf term
  - Fruity drinks
  - Johannesburg's land: Abbr.
  - Lawn cutters
  - Not entirely: Pref.
  - Foist (upon)
  - Below
  - Like many a teen boy ... and like the starts of the answers to starred clues?
  - End of \_\_\_
  - Be mindful of
  - Crossed (out)
  - Puts mail in boxes, say
  - Baker's amts.
  - Cub Scout groups

- DOWN**
- Arctic toymaker
  - Lucy of "Charlie's Angels"
  - "That's just like a guy!"
  - Events before evening twilight
  - Facing the pitcher
  - "To \_\_\_ it may concern"
  - Golfer Palmer, to fans
  - Conjecture
  - Short punches
  - From way back when
  - \*1777-'78 Continental Army campsite
  - Birdlike
  - Clairvoyants
  - Female advocacy org. since the 1850s
  - Make changes to
  - "Yes \_\_\_, Bob!"
  - \*Political head honcho
  - "Peanuts" boy with a blanket
  - Not a deep sleep

- Red, white or blue
- Inadvertent omission
- \_\_\_ hall: campus hangout
- "... bombs bursting \_\_\_"
- Big books
- Hailed car
- Crouched in fear
- State with confidence
- Pear variety
- Greenish blues
- "Ain't got a clue!"
- Pierre's female friends
- Gelatin shapers
- Some nest eggs: Abbr.
- Get ready, briefly
- Lumberjack's tool
- Meditative practice
- Golf course meas.

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

A	N	T		S	T	A	P	H		A	C	C	T	S
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xwordeditor@aol.com 05/27/13

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## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Clewiston Christian School Honor Roll

KINDERGARTEN: MRS. MCDONALD

#### All E's

Hilary Byers, Aidan Katryan, Hatton Kurtz, Daylen Moss, and Aundrea Sanchez.

#### All E's and S's

Jenna Hartley, Alicia Adkins, Madeline Jackson, Hunter Lee, Amelia Martin, Phoebe Stowe, and Izabella Vallejo.

#### Most Improved

Ayden Llossas

1ST GRADE: MRS. IGLESIAS

#### All A's

Olivia Branaman, Jillian Barton, Jared Wooten, Caleb Iglesias, and Madeline Carroll.

#### All A's and B's

Peyton Lee, Savanna Green, LaNaiya Myers, Gumaro Martinez, and Kinley Garrett.

2ND GRADE: MRS. BECK

#### All A's

Conner Harper, Audrey Mila, Nicholas McDuffie, Devin Nguyen, Ryland Polhill, Tyra Whitehurst, and Jayla Vallejo.

#### All A's and B's

Ty Pridgen, Jade Potter, Hilary Martin, and Jacob Alston.

#### Most Improved

Jacob Alston

3RD GRADE: MRS. BURRAGE

#### All A's

Dustin Nguyen and Ryan Potter.

#### All A's and B's

Adrian Cordova, Christian Gerena, Lelani Hare, Jacob Jackson, Andrea Marrero, Samuel McDuffie, and Paige Roth.

4TH GRADE: MRS. GIBSON

#### All A's

MiChaela Sparks, Landon Sutton, Amanda Mickler, Julia Jessup, and Alexis Acevedo.

#### All A's and B's

Stewart Cordero

5TH GRADE: MRS. CHAMBLEE

#### All A's

Rachel Kurtz, Alex Morrell, Michelle Mila, Nicole Roth, Hannah Stowe, and Jordan Sweet.

#### All A's and B's

Alex Granims, Sofia Pridgen, Morgan Sherman, and Madisyn Thomley.

#### Most Improved

Alex Granims, Madisyn Thomley, and Sofia Pridgen.

6TH GRADE: MRS. LEE

#### All A's

Melissa Manning, Emily Miller, Kalei Sutton, and Mariah Thomas.

#### All A's and B's

Grayson Brooks, Hailey Johnson, Carlie Lawson, Jessica Maxson, Jaylan Mendoza, Zinal Patel, and Vicki Wheeler.

### Eastside Elementary School Honor Roll

KINDERGARTEN

#### A Honor Roll

Matthew Almon, Zachary Alston, Terelle Alvin, Miguel Centeno, Isaiah Christian, Javier Ducoing, Jasmine Flores, Melanie Gonzalez, Imani Greaves, Crystal Guppy, Lilliana Hayes, Jenesis Hernandez, Colton Jones, Jason Lovell, Tyana McIntyre, Erico Mejia, Daniel Milian, Jarell Mills, Eduardo Ortiz, Leslie Perez, Jaden Ramos, Isaac Rios, Isayah Rodriguez, Aima Sanchez, Jayleen Staples, Kerrvon Summers, and Adalisia Velasquez-Puentes.

#### A/B Honor Roll

Anaelise Cornejo, Osmel Dominguez-Ortez, Suelyn Flores, Giovanni Garcia, Leonel Garcia, Marcus Givens, Roderick Jones, Joel Leon, Louie Madrigal, Zachary McNeil, Jordis Moya, Justice Morris, Christopher Paniagua, Ana-Bella Perez, Dulce Perez, Valentino Pupo, Alyssa Rodriguez, Mia Rosales, Joseph Saba, Jeremiah Salgado, Ethan Snead, Gerardo Tamayo, Jer'Ricka Taylor-Small, Byron Taylor, and Gerardo Villegas.

FIRST GRADE

#### A Honor Roll

Jasmin Centeno, Jessica Esparza, Jadin Herrera, Leslie Jones, Ricardo Lara, and Luke Llossas.

#### A/B Honor Roll

Cari Anthony, Bryce Barnes, Zy'Mauria Benfield, Leslie Calderon, Ahtziri Cardenas, Jessica Diaz, Taliyah Doctor, Victor Duprey, Kayla Hurtado, Ivan Flores, Zachary Frotten, Omar Gonzalez, Wyatt Kurtz, Dakota Long, Gabriel Lumpkin, Jatavius Macklong, Brian Mijangos, Frank Moody, Salome Ortiz, Mildred Pascual, Marco Perez, Persais Roman, Wendy Sanchez, Tajah Thiclín, John Wagers, and Tafarya Williams.

SECOND GRADE

#### A Honor Roll

Jayln Porth and Adrian Paige.

#### A/B Honor Roll

R'Daisha Brown, Derranae Bryant, Orlando Calderon, Ramiro Cardenas, Brendaliz Cervantes, Riley Chapelo, Joseph Claro, Aleah Cruz, Kenli Foligno, Kevin Freeman, Yael Garcia, Edwin Gonzalez, Nathalia Gonzalez, Nahdia Ifill, Alyssa Jones, DyVeesha Myers, Alexander Nguyen, Daniel Olmos, Rachael Reese, Romeo Rodriguez, Azucena Sanchez, Michael Vary, Jose Vega, and Yaneli Vega.

THIRD GRADE

#### A Honor Roll

Sharon Abrue-Castro, Christopher Alston, Andre Guajardo, Chris'Shariea Hardy, and Zanya Tulloch.

#### A/B Honor Roll

Silvestre Angulo, Donovan Baker, Briana Bedward, Summer Cartagena, Sebastian Castruita, James Edwards, Bryan Garcia-Ramos, Carlos

Marrero, Angelissa Perez, Anthony Saravia, Caylee Sherman, Mario Tamayo, and Ethan Weiss.

FOURTH GRADE

#### A Honor Roll

Kimberly Cardenas, Marshall Kurtz, Yesenia Mejia, and Malachi Summers.

#### A/B Honor Roll

Lauren Berry, Dustin Blair, Julia Bristoll, Fatima Emran, Shar'Nae Footman, Kristina Garcia, Joseph Guasp, Brenda Hernandez, Evelyn Jones, Fernando Lorenzo, Rolden Milian, Monserrat Paniagua, Eduin Perez, Gabriela Perez, Jessica Perez, Hisham Ramadan, Prudencio Ramos, Paula Roig, Denzel Rubia, and Angel Vasquez.

FIFTH GRADE

#### A Honor Roll

Dakota Ali, Jaivus Chavers, Kiyah Coco, Sebastian Diaz, Cade Gibson, Miranda Giddens, Bruce Jones, Juan Luna, Damaya Paige, Anthony Perez, Daniela Pupo, Wisam Ramadan, Kristi Rosquette, Stephanie Salto, and Jisela Staples.

#### A/B Honor Roll

Ashley Acevedo, Tierra Bradford, Du'Aricka Bryant, Deyla Cardenas, Litzzy Cardenas, Priscila Contreras, Yolanda Cruz, Mar'Lashawndra Ellison, Feria Farness, Sy'Mya Footman, Andrea Garcia, Kenia Granados, Isaac Hernandez, Jennah Hernandez, Davarious Johnson, Ashlyn Lytle, Pedro Morales, Alexa Navarro, Omar Olguin, Kalie Peele, Giovanni Reyes, Jaden Robinson, Anthony Rodriguez, and Shykeria Thompson.



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### CORRECTION

There was a misspelling in the edition of June 6, 2013, under the picture on page 20 entitled Annual Science Fair. The first place winner was Alyxander Pilgrim; his first name was incorrectly spelled 'Alexander' in the previous edition.



## Dollar

Continued From Page 1

only provide funding for three years. After three years, the salaries for those school resource officers will be cut, if no other funding is provided. Sheriff Whidden does not want this program to be "short-term," he especially does not want to be without these officers if something were to happen in the schools, so he asked city commissioners to provide additional funding after the grant runs out. City commissioners were left to ponder the Sheriff's presentation; a vote will be made at a future meeting. In response to a new state law, commissioners voted to approve an ordinance giving the Special Magistrate authority over red-light camera citations. Rather than the county overseeing these citations, the ordinance will give the municipalities the power to manage the infractions. Effective July 1, this ordinance will eliminate the need for violators who wish to challenge the citation to go to the courthouse in LaBelle; instead, violators will go before the Special Magistrate in Clewiston. The ordinance will also extend the amount of time violators have to challenge the citation to 60 days. It also gives commissioners the right to set an administrative fee of up to \$250 to cover the cost of having to call special meetings when

violators fight the infractions.

After approving the ordinance with a 4-0 vote, commissioners listened to an update on the CDBG Grant, which awarded the City of Clewiston \$700,000 to rehabilitate and replace ten housing units occupied by low- and moderate-income families in Clewiston. Nancy Phillips gave an overview of the project to commissioners. In all, four housing units will be demolished and replaced and six housing units will be remodeled once the project begins in July. Construction projects will take about four months and rehabilitation projects will take about 30 days, according to Phillips.

Commissioner Julio Rodriguez commented on the project, saying "what a great program" it is and how the people whose homes are being remodeled or reconstructed "have got to be blessed." Commissioners voted 4-0 to approve the project. Commissioners also voted 4-0 to approve the interlocal agreement between the City of Clewiston and Hendry County, concerning recreational facilities, programs, and services, which county commissioners also approved at their last meeting on June 11.

Before the meeting adjourned, commissioners learned that everything is set and ready to go for the July Fourth fireworks show. The show will be held on July 4 about 30 minutes after dusk at the Sugarland Sport Complex.

## BOCC

Continued From Page 1

ing to the Port of LaBelle -- both of which were vetoed, along with the other projects submitted. Spratt explained that Hendry County is number 12 on next year's list to receive state funding for such projects. (The only caveat is if funding runs out by number 11, Hendry County doesn't receive any money.)

After Spratt concluded his review, Commissioner Al Perry spoke up and voiced his concern that our small county is being lost under Governor Scott's radar. Commissioner Perry said a week before Governor Scott's visit to Hendry County, he and other members of Clewiston's City Commission met with one of Governor Scott's aids to discuss Airglades International Airport, LLC (AIA) and what a "game changer" it would be for the area if AIA purchased Airglades Airport. According to Commissioner Perry, the group had a "great meeting." Commissioner Perry went on to explain that when the group met in LaBelle to have an in-person meeting with the governor, AIA was brought up again.

"If I had to bet a dollar, [the governor] didn't have a clue what we were talking about," said Commissioner Perry. Chairman Karson Turner "concurred." Spratt responded to Commissioner Perry's concern. "They hire a lot of young,

bright, and very capable, very highly-educated staff that are brilliant in book knowledge, but [have] no common sense, or very little. And they don't understand the issues," said Spratt. "Trying to get them to particularly understand the issues of rural, small counties and small cities who don't have the wherewithal or the means to raise money quickly -- for some reason, we have not been able to educate these staffs."

Commissioner Perry continued to voice concern over Governor Scott's inability to understand the needs of our small county.

"18 dollars an hour will buy any house in Clewiston, or close to it," said Commissioner Perry. "They focus on the enormous companies who bring 5,000 jobs, and we're just looking for 100!" Commissioner Perry's statement was in reference to Commercial Jet, who intended to purchase Airglades Airport. The purchase would have brought 180 jobs to the area; however, the deal was lost and Commissioner Perry cited Governor Scott's office as the reason.

"It's very frustrating," said Chairman Turner in agreement with Commissioner Perry, regarding the stagnation that seems to stem from the governor's office. Chairman Turner quickly changed the somewhat hostile environment, by adding that Spratt's work for the county is indispensable. This year Spratt managed to get \$1.8 million for Hendry County from the state. Chairman Turner expressed that that \$1.8 million is "a water project that was not going to have funding" otherwise. Once the heated discussion came to a close, County Attorney Mark Lapp presented his staff report, which included a change order with the Hendry County Hospital Authority (HCHA). On January 1, 2012, Hendry County entered into a contract with HCHA to provide health care services for jail inmates. HCHA recently contacted the BOCC with concerns that the inmates needed more services on the weekends. BOCC approved the change order to allow extra hours of service for jail inmates, however, HCHA also stated they intended to terminate their contract with Hendry County in September, three months before it was due to expire. Chairman Turner expressed his frustration at this news, saying it's "disappointing" that HCHA isn't honoring its contract.

Attorney Lapp's report continued with an interlocal agreement between the county and the City of Clewiston, which has been an ongoing discussion for the better part of a year. In the agreement, the county is to provide \$50,000 for the city, in order for recreational facilities, programs, and services to be available to unincorporated county residents -- residents living in Monture Ranch, Pioneer, and the like. The county agreed to pay \$47,000 to the City of Clewiston, with a condition that proof of benefit must be shown. In other words, the City of Clewiston must prove to the county that this money is necessary and beneficial to the residents affected, in order to receive funding for the next fiscal year. The board approved the agreement for this fiscal year only, which ends September 30. Sarah Catala, Associate Planner for Hendry County, presented a proposal to the board after Attorney Lapp concluded his report. Catala asked the board to consider affording Kerogen Florida Operating Company the right to drill exploratory oil wells in Hendry County. Catala asked the board to be "generous to Kerogen," as they will be investing "a lot of money in the county." The board approved Catala's proposal, giving Kerogen the green light to begin their program looking for oil in Hendry County. The last item the board approved at their Tuesday meeting was a measure to conduct a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) study in Hendry County. The study could possibly lead to a lower flood insurance rate for the county, translating into lower taxes for Hendry County residents.

# Tiger Pride Brings Medals with Barnes and Ortiz Earning Gold

The Tiger Pride Wrestling Club was in action last Saturday competing in the Calvary Christian wrestling tournament in Ft. Lauderdale.

13 wrestlers made the trip with nine earning medals.

Leading the way were Bryce Barnes and Javian Ortiz, each won five matches that day, taking home the Gold medal in their divisions.

"Both Bryce and Javian wrestled tough, Bryce defeated quality kids throughout the day and Javian surprised a lot of people. We are really excited about both guys," said the coaches.

Hunter Barnes, Troy Wilcher and Joseph Claro Jr. each won four matches, taking home a silver medal.

"Both Troy and Joseph have been practicing very well and it showed on Saturday, they stayed out of trouble in matches and were attacking the entire time. We are very proud of what they did. Hunter has been getting better and better every time he steps on the mat. He wrestled probably the toughest opponent he's had all season on Saturday and came out on top, wrestling mistake-free and with precise technique," commented the coaches.

High school Captain Matthew Johnson won three matches taking home 3rd place.

"Matthew has been the most active wrestler this summer. Between camp and tournaments, he's close to around 30 matches so far in the last two months," said coach Renaldy. "His purpose is to obtain as much mat time as possible, which takes him a step closer to the goal he set last year on becoming a high school wrestling state qualifier."

Having been bothered by back pains all week, LaBelle wrestler Daryl Spooner put in a good performance on Saturday winning two matches by way of pin and one by decision, earning 3rd place. First year wrestler Blake Barnes not only



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Pictured above are the medal winners. From left to right in the top row are Kris Smith, Gary Adkins, Hunter Barnes, Roli Loreto, Troy Wilcher, Bryce Barnes, Blake Barnes, Matthew Johnson, and Renaldy Tapia. From left to right in the bottom row are Javian Ortiz and Joseph Claro Jr.**

competed in his first ever tournament, he also placed third, winning three matches that day.

Roli Loreto was also victorious in three matches, taking home the bronze. "Roli had one loss in an exciting double overtime match against a tough kid," said the coaches.

Other wrestlers that recorded victories that day were Harley Boren and Frankie Barnes. "Frankie was one win away from a third place finish, he lost his last match in overtime, but

nonetheless, wrestled great, overcoming a four-point deficit to tie that match and send it to overtime," said the coaches.

Other Tiger Pride competitors on Saturday were Austin Boren and Dallas Vallejo.

The club will host an exhibition match in their practice facility on Thursday, June 20 at 6 p.m.

It's open for any spectators wanting to watch these young wrestlers compete against each other.



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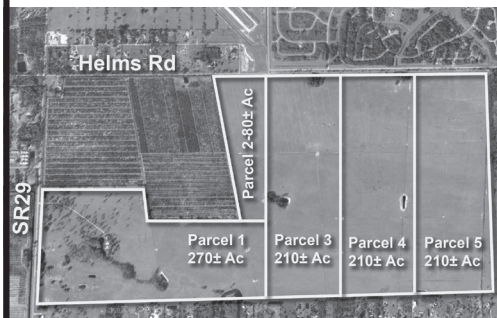
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PRELIMINARY PLAT APPLICATION  
HENDRY COUNTY**

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will hold a public hearing on July 10, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, La Belle, Florida, to consider the Preliminary Plat Application of River Landings (PL13-0001), a subdivision of a portion of Sections 21 and 28, Township 43 South, Range 28 East. The subdivision is located north of SR 80, south of the Caloosahatchee River, and is adjacent to the west side of the Riverbend Motorcoach RV Resort.

Copies of the files and information regarding the petition are available for public inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 South Main Street, LaBelle, Florida, and may be viewed Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the matter. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

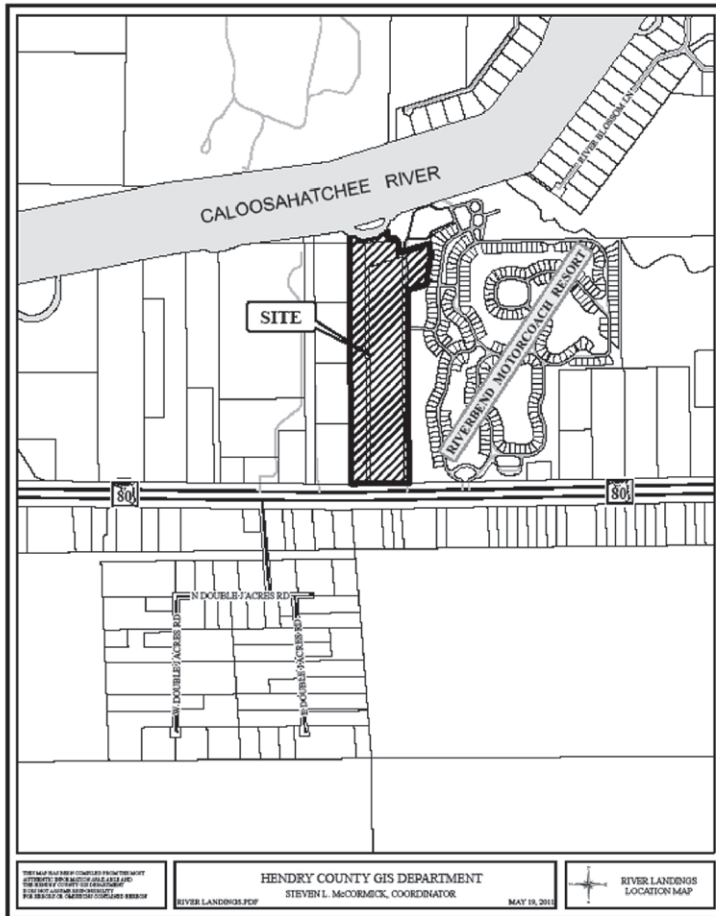
Petition Number: PL13-0001

Applicant: Tice Street, LLC, represented by Davidson Engineering

Location: 5992, 5970, 5942 West SR 80, LaBelle, FL

Property size: 30.20 acres +/-

Request: The applicant is seeking approval of a preliminary plat for a RV motorcoach development in accordance with RZ12-0007.



Orvell Howard, Chair  
Hendry County Local Planning Agency

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
FINAL PLAT  
HENDRY COUNTY**

Notice is hereby given that the Hendry County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the following petition on July 9, 2013, at 5:05 p.m., at the City of Clewiston, Commission Chambers, 115 West Ventura Ave, Clewiston, Florida. The Board of County Commissioners will consider whether or not to authorize the execution of the Rialto Pointe Subdivision Final Plat, a subdivision of a portion of Section 04, Township 43 South, Range 98 East. The subdivision is located on Riverbend Drive, north of the Caloosahatchee River, and is to the west of the Riverbend residential subdivision.

Copies of the files and information regarding the petition are available for public inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 South Main Street, LaBelle, Florida, and may be viewed Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

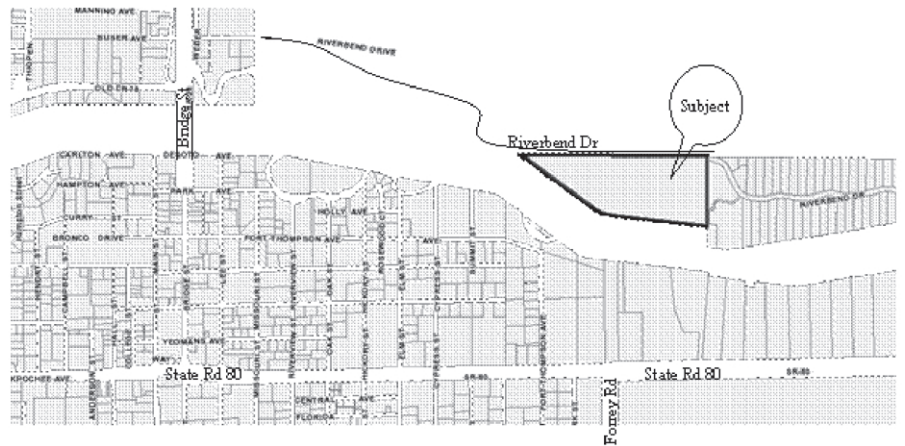
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Petition Number: PL13-0002

Applicant/Agent: TK Enterprises, LLP and Harold/Jeffrey Lazar, represented by H.L. Bennett, P.E., P.L.S. and Ms. Sherri Denning, Southern Heritage Real Estate and Investments

Location: Riverbend Drive, LaBelle, FL

Property size: 29.82 +/- acres



Karson Turner, Chairman  
Hendry County Board  
of County Commissioners

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Keywords:  
The Clewiston News, Glades County Democrat & The Sun

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## ARREST REPORT

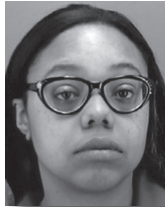
This column lists arrests, not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Anyone who is listed here and who is later found not guilty, or has the charges against them dropped, is welcome to inform the newspaper. We will confirm the information and print it.

**Scott McClusky, 49**



Arrested on 5/30/13 by Officer Clark  
For Lewd/lascivious behavior, victim 12 to 16 years of age

**Corhonda Lashay Davis, 25**



Arrested on 6/1/13, by Officer Arnold  
For Aggravated assault

**Brittany Cotton, 20**



Arrested on 6/13/13  
For Possession of synthetic narcotic with intent to sell

**Donna Cypress, 44**



Arrested on 6/13/13  
For driving while license suspended, habitual offender

**Gregory Stryker III, 37**



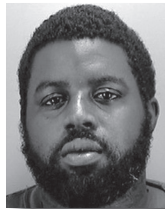
Arrested on 6/3/13 by Officer Hicks  
For Fleeing/eluding police

**William Gonzalez, 21**



Arrested on 6/5/13 by Sergeant Qualls  
For Lewd/lascivious behavior, victim 12 to 16 years of age

**Gerald Dixon Jr., 30**



Arrested on 6/13/13, by Officer Bozzi  
For Fugitive from justice

**Mark McGhee, 37**



Arrested on 6/14/13, by Deputy Huston  
For Possession of cocaine

**Josue Solis, 23**



Arrested on 6/6/13 by Officer Bolt  
For driving while license suspended, habitual offender

**Darrell Sanders, 45**



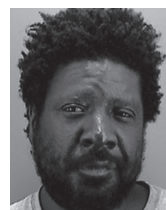
Arrested on 6/7/13 by Officer Garrett  
For Fugitive from justice in state

**William Tarter, 34**



Arrested on 6/14/13  
For Battery by strangulation

**Samuel Jones, 37**



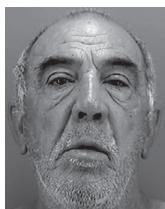
Arrested on 6/14/13, by Officer McLeod  
For Fugitive from justice

**Richard Osceola, 44**



Arrested on 6/7/13 by Officer Yeomans  
For DUI

**Juan Brito, 63**



Arrested on 6/9/13 by Officer Yeomans  
For Assault, domestic violence related

**Andrew Hughes, 50**



Arrested on 6/7/13 by Lt. Angell  
For driving while license suspended, habitual offender

**Daniel Hannam Jr., 22**



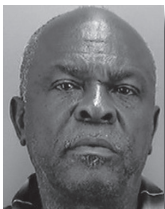
Arrested on 6/10/13, by Officer Nieves  
For Burglary

**Herchel Bernardi Lewis, 39**



Arrested on 6/17/13  
For cocaine possession with sell etc 1000ft workshop/busn sch II

**Walter Lewis, 67**



Arrested on 6/12/13, by Deputy Brawner  
For DUI

# Police Blotter: Take Me to Jail

After being pulled over for erratic driving, Daniel McKenzie, 50, of Illinois, asked Clewiston Police Officer Jackie Garrett why he was "f--ing" with him. Not ignoring the stench of alcohol coming from McKenzie's car, Officer Garrett politely asked him to step out of the vehicle to perform a sobriety test.

"I'm not playing your games," responded McKenzie. But, with a little more encouragement from Officer Garrett, McKenzie agreed saying, "OK I'll do it."

Officer Garrett demonstrated the first test, the "one-legged stand," and McKenzie attempted to follow suit.

But to McKenzie's dismay, he was unable to perform the test steadily and stated, "I'm not doing this sh--" as he walked away. Luckily, a little time was all McKenzie needed, because shortly thereafter he returned to Officer Garrett's side and said, "Let's do this sh--."

Unfortunately, that little time was not enough to sober McKenzie up. On his third attempt at the one-legged stand, McKenzie declared, "I can't do this."

Officer Garrett gave McKenzie an opportunity for redemption with a second exercise, the "finger to nose." It seemed, however, that McKenzie didn't quite comprehend the exercise; after Officer Garrett asked if he understood the test, McKenzie responded, "you're f--ing with me." McKenzie attempted the test anyway, swaying badly and falling forward as he tried to touch his finger to his nose.

Officer Garrett gave McKenzie one last chance to perform a third exercise, the "walk and turn," whereupon McKenzie stopped Officer Garrett and said, "I can't do this sh--, take me to jail." He was arrested on June 12.

McKenzie was charged with a DUI.



**Daniel McKenzie**



# Inland Birding Fun: Red-winged Blackbird (RWBL)

BY MARGARET ENGLAND  
Hendry Glades Audubon

Red-winged Blackbirds are one of the most abundant and boldly colored birds in North America. They breed in wetlands in most of the continent south of the tundra. Four of the 14 rec-



PHOTO/LARRY FROGGE

Pictured above is a Red-winged Blackbird female and chicks.

ognized North American subspecies of this bird breed in Florida.

The male is a stocky, broad, glossy blackbird with red and yellow shoulder badges. This stocky bird has a conical bill and medium-length tail. Males often show a humpback silhouette while they are perched with their tale slightly flared. Females are streaky brown with a pale breast and often have a white-ish eyebrow. Young birds resemble the female, but are paler below and have buff feather fringes. The oldest recorded Red-winged Blackbird was almost 16 years old. The Red-winged Blackbird's song is a high whistle, with the male's song a scratchy "conk-la-ree" and the female's song a series of three to

five short "chit" or "check" notes. They make a "check" call when feeding and an intense, fast scolding "chak chak chak" when alarmed.

In inland Florida, Red-winged Blackbirds are found around freshwater ponds and marshes in rural and urban areas. Their diet consists of weed and grass seeds, grains, insects and other invertebrates. They will eat in a flock with other blackbirds, grackles, or starlings.

Males fiercely defend their territories more than a quarter of the day during breeding season. They are often seen chasing other birds, large animals, and even people. Females will also defend the nests from intruders or predators. During the breeding season, five or more females will crowd their nests into one male's territory.

These nests are made by winding stringy plant material around stems of cattails, marsh plants, or small shrubs. The female adds wet leaves or decayed wood to the woven nest, then she plasters the inside with mud. When finished, the nest is four to seven inches across and three to seven inches deep. Three to four pale blue-green to gray eggs with black or brown markings are laid during the breeding season from March to July. In about 12 days, the blind, naked, poorly coordinated young are born, with the young fledging in nine to 10 days.

For information about the free trip to STA5 (Stormwater Treatment Area 5) July 20, go to: [www.hendrygladesaudubon.org](http://www.hendrygladesaudubon.org). Reservations are required.



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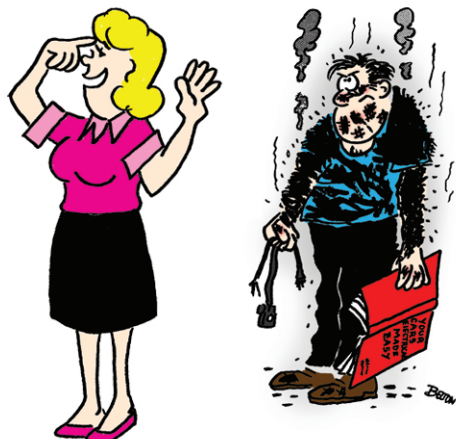
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SUBMITTED PHOTO

### Field Day Activities

Central Elementary School celebrates its annual Field Day activities. CES 4th graders are having a blast during field day.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

### Class of 2013 Fifth Grade

Central Elementary School celebrates the Class of 2013 fifth grade students during their graduation ceremony. Good luck next year, we will miss all of you.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

### 8th Grade Achievement

Pictured above is the CMS 8th grade achievement ceremony, held on June 4.



## Hendry Regional Medical Center Foundation Car or Cash giveaway!

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(Sales tax included)



### \$100 per ticket - only 400 tickets will be sold.

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Drawing will take place at Langford Ford in LaBelle on Friday, October 25th at 6:00 p.m. You do NOT have to be present to win. (Winner is responsible for Applicable fees/taxes.)

## DON'T WAIT; BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW! CALL 863-983-2735!

[gwilson@hrmc.us](mailto:gwilson@hrmc.us)

or stop by The Hendry Regional Medical Center Foundation at:  
544 W. Sugarland Hwy, Clewiston, FL 33440



PHOTO/GLENDA WILSON

### Representative Matt Hudson

State Representative Matt Hudson visited Hendry Regional Medical Center on June 10 for a tour of the facility. He was especially interested in seeing the new emergency department. Pictured above from left to right are R.D. Williams, Hospital CEO; Representative Matt Hudson; and Steve Nisbet, Hospital Trustee and Chairman of the HRMC Foundation.

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