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### 151—INVESTMENT PROPERTY FOR SALE

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### 181—APPLIANCES & FURNITURE FOR SALE

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**BED:** \$120 brand new queen double-sided pillow-top set w/warranty. Can deliver. 407-275-7626

**BED:** \$205 luxury king pillow-top mattress set. New, in plastic. Del. avail. 407-275-0612.

**BED:** 1 brand new full-size orthopedic firm set w/warranty. \$85. 407-275-0935.

**BED:** 1 full size orthopedic firm mattress set. Never used. Warranty. \$95. 407-331-1941.

**BED:** 1 queen luxury firm pillow-top mattress set. Brand new w/warranty. \$155. 407-331-1322. Delivery available.

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**BEDRM - 8 PC Loren CHERRYWOOD** Sleigh bed, Rails, Dresser, Mirror, Chest, 2 NiteStds, unused, Still Boxed, Cost \$7k. Sell \$1950 407-660-1415

**BEDRM - 8 PC High-end Louis VIII CHERRYWOOD**, all DoveTail, Dresser, tri-mirror, Chest, 2 NiteStds, Unused, Still Boxed, Cost \$15K, Sell \$3,250. 407-660-1415

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**DAYBED:** Victorian style, 2 twin mattresses w/warranty, pop-up trundle. All brand new, \$295. 407-331-1941.

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### 187—SPORTING GOODS

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### 217—GARAGE SALES

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Huge Multifamily Yard Sale. Something for everyone, don't want to miss this one! Sat/Sun, (117th/18th), 206 Laurel Dr. Sanford, off Airport Blvd. follow signs.

### 221—GOOD THINGS TO EAT

**Navel Oranges Red Grapfruit Meriwether Farms** 3461 Celery Ave, Sanford.

### 222—MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Old Upright piano, needs some TLC. \$100. 407-330-1672.

### 223—MISCELLANEOUS

**1st Time Home Buyers Seminar** Century 21 Selective & Wells Fargo Home Mortgage invites you to a first time buyer's seminar on Feb 3, at the Oviedo Memorial Bldg. The seminar starts at 6:30pm. For more info please contact Jack Luiz, Jr. 407-366-6320 or Jason Doughty, 407-622-2766.

**Busch Gardens "Tampa Tickets" (2) for \$95.00, will deliver. Good anytime. 407-365-7035.**

### BUSH HOG MOWING SERVICE

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### 231—CARS FOR SALE

**1960 Nash Rambler:** Runs great, 2 door, body & paint in good condition, excellent gas mileage. Standard transmission. \$4,500. 407-322-6926.

**1990 Acura Integra RS - 1** owner, auto, AC. 407-365-7025. \$1,975.

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**1995 NISSAN 240SX/SE** AUTOMATIC, 2 DOOR, AM/FM, SECURITY ALARM, COLD A/C, CLEAN, WELL MAINTAINED, CD PLAYER, ONE OWNER, STEEL GREY COLOR. \$3500 OBO CALL 386-789-8070

### 231—CARS FOR SALE

**1990 Honda Accord EX:** 2 door, Standard shift, CD player, Sun roof, A/C. Good condition. \$2,500. 407-688-4324.

**1999 Ford Escort:** 60,000 miles, very clean, runs excellent. \$4,800. 408-314-7183 or 407-322-2344.

**92 Dodge Dynasty, P.S., P.B.,** cold air, new transmission, new muffler, good condition. \$2100. 407-324-2782/

### 234—AUTOMOTIVE ACCESSORIES

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**2001 Nissan Frontier 4x2 XE:** King Cab, low mileage with a cap. 5 speed, AC, CD/tape, 4 cyl. Burgundy. \$9,500. 407-330-4186.

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\$25,000 Bonus and \$3,000 Towards Closing Costs\* on Inventory Homes. We are running out of time and homes - only 4 inventory homes remain!

For those of you who know superior value, we are pleased to offer our remaining four, Evans Luxury Designs inventory homes with a \$25,000 Bonus! For those who appreciate the finer things in life, Buckingham Estates is a source of constant pleasure:

Magnificent 24-hour manned gated entry • Convenient location next door to Heathrow • A natural landscape set in a mature canopy of overhanging oaks • A beautiful 2,500-sq-ft. clubhouse/cabana and community swimming pool coming soon with a children's play area nestled around a shimmering lake • Private tour available. Call today to make your appointment!

Lot	Model	Under Air	Bed/Bath/Gar	Price	Bonus Price	Avail
52	Chesterfield	3438	4/3/3	\$419,745	\$394,745	Sold
54	Glen Garry	2600	4/3.5/3	\$368,840	\$343,840	Sold
58	Milano II	2985	3/3/Den	\$401,259	\$376,259	FEB
68	Carrington	2746	3/3.5/3	\$363,443	\$338,443	NOW
83	Mayfair	3316	4/3/3	\$409,250	\$384,250	NOW
94	Carlisle	3666	4/3/3	\$482,028	\$457,028	Sold
103	Greenwich	3574	4/3.5/3	\$453,860	\$428,860	Sold
108	Carlisle	3317	3/3/3	\$410,022	\$385,022	NOW

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## BUCKINGHAM Estates

Homes from the \$260s to \$500s  
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I-4 to exit 101A, West on S.R. 46A, Right on Orange Blvd. Left on Markham Rd. to Buckingham Estates entrance on the right.



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\*Engineered Homes Bonus applicable only to inventory homes listed above and purchased by 1/31/04. \$3,000 closing cost contribution applicable only if using an Engineered Homes approved lender. Terms and conditions subject to change without notice. Prices, promotions and features subject to change without notice.

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## SEMINOLE HERALD and LAKE MARY HERALD

Present

# Best Built Homes In America

The Herald Is Pleased To Announce Publication Of Building The Best Homes In America, A Special Section That Will Focus On Seminole County's Red-Hot Housing Market.

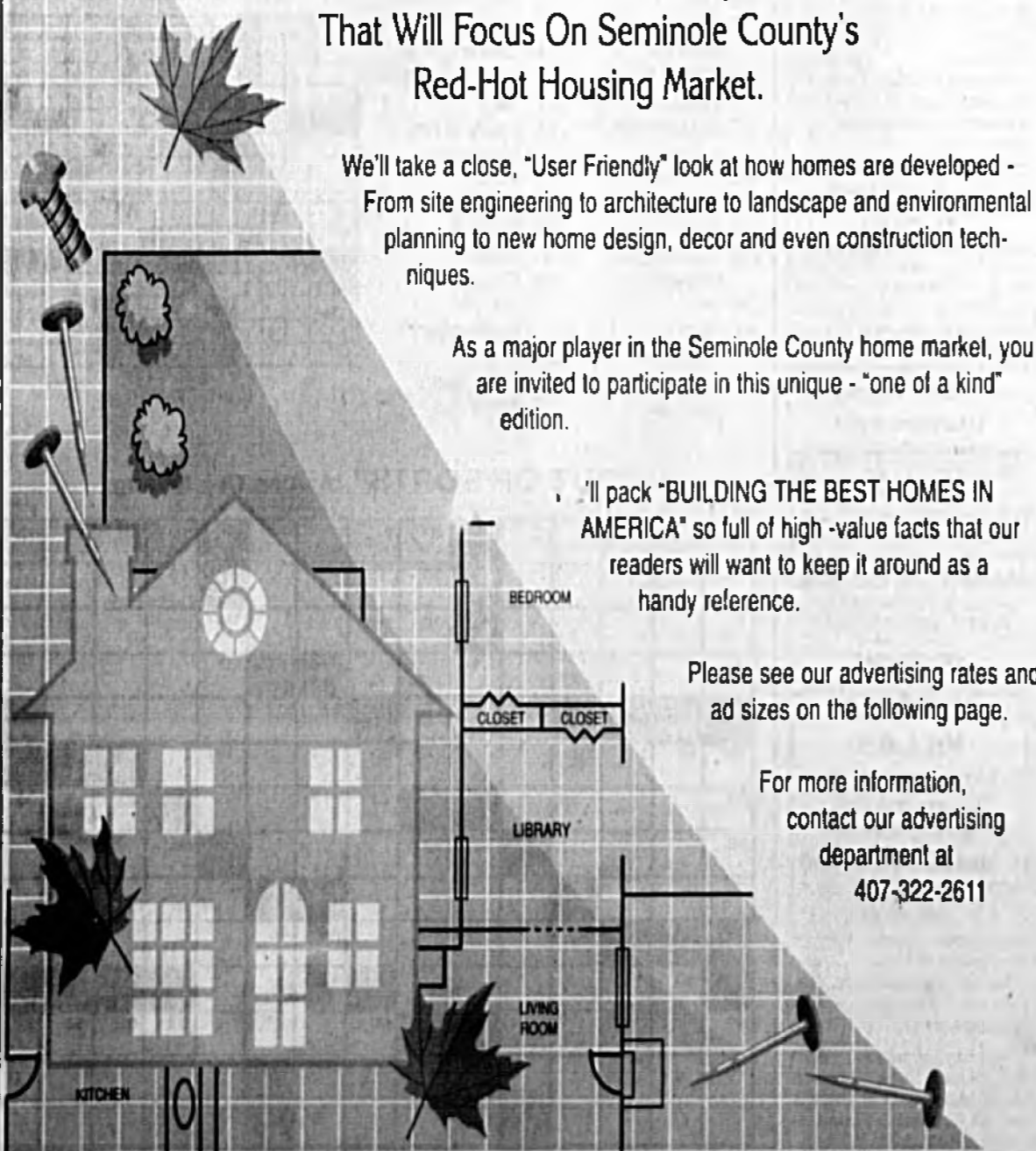
We'll take a close, "User Friendly" look at how homes are developed - From site engineering to architecture to landscape and environmental planning to new home design, decor and even construction techniques.

As a major player in the Seminole County home market, you are invited to participate in this unique - "one of a kind" edition.

It'll pack "BUILDING THE BEST HOMES IN AMERICA" so full of high-value facts that our readers will want to keep it around as a handy reference.

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# THE SEMINOLE HERALD

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Sanford, Florida

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MIDWEEK

JANUARY 21, 2004



## New faces

The boys' basketball teams from Lake Mary Prep, Lake Howell and Trinity Prep are starting to gain a lot of notice with their play of late.

See Sports, Page 8

## Man wanted for sex charges found in Calif.

A convicted sexual offender, who was wanted for allegedly molesting a Seminole County 5-year-old girl, was captured last week in Ventura, Calif. Charles Hair, 60, was arrested on a warrant charging capital sexual battery.

The case got started after a tip was phoned into the Florida Child Abuse Hotline in November. Investigators looked into the case in late 2003. After interviewing the victim, they arrested the girl's uncle on Nov. 18. He is identified as 21-year-old Michael Pederson, who lives in the Winter Park area of unincorporated Seminole County. He was charged with sexual assault and other sex-related crimes. He is currently being held in the Seminole County Jail.

They also arrested the victim's mother on a charge of child neglect and making a false report. The mother, Dawn Marie Pederson, 22, also lives in the Winter Park area of unincorporated Seminole County. She was arrested on Nov. 20, and has since bonded out of jail.

Investigators also received information that a man, who was staying with Pederson, may have also molested the girl. He was identified as Charles Hair, a convicted sex offender. A warrant was obtained, but before investigators could catch up with him, Hair withdrew a large sum of cash and fled the state along with Pederson. The warrant was turned over due to Hair's out-of-state flight. An investigator was able to track Hair to California, where Ventura police officers located him. Hair was awaiting repairs to his RV to be completed when police caught up with him.

Right now, California authorities have Hair in custody. California charges are also pending because Hair, a convicted felon, had two guns when he was arrested. The status of Dawn Pederson is unknown at this time.

## Seminole Smile



Lisa Armondi — Cactus Bob's American Grill and Pub Shift Manager

## Longwood eyes 17-92 CRA participation

By Christopher Patton  
Managing Editor

LONGWOOD — The city of Longwood has been absent from the Seminole County redevelopment district along U.S. Highway 17-92 for seven years, but one commissioner is looking to change that trend.

Commissioner Mike Holt requested a presentation from the redevelopment agency during the commission's meeting Monday. The group

## Commissioner Holt suggests redevelopment agency will help fill empty buildings on highway

includes Seminole County and the cities of Casselberry, Lake Mary, Sanford and Winter Springs.

Each city is represented on a board, which makes suggestions for improvements in the 13-mile district that runs from the lakefront in Sanford to Fern Park at the Orange County line. A portion of tax

dollars from the 1,700 acres of the district are earmarked for improvements along the state highway, and some of the recent projects the redevelopment agency has contributed to are the state farmers' market pavilion in Sanford and Fern Park roadway improvements.

The redevelopment agency

has had some success. Before it formed, taxable values of properties in the corridor grew at an average annual rate of .06 percent annually, which was about 50 times slower than other unincorporated areas of the county. Since 1997, taxable value of properties within the U.S. Highway 17-92 redevelop-

ment area have grown by more than 7 percent annually.

Longwood commissioners — none of which were on the board when the city decided not to join the redevelopment agency — had many questions for U.S. Highway 17-92 Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Coordinator Kevin Fall. Commissioner John Maingot said he would be hard pressed to give city taxpayer dollars to benefit

See CRA, Page 7

## LET FREEDOM RING

### Sanford celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. Day with parade, banquet

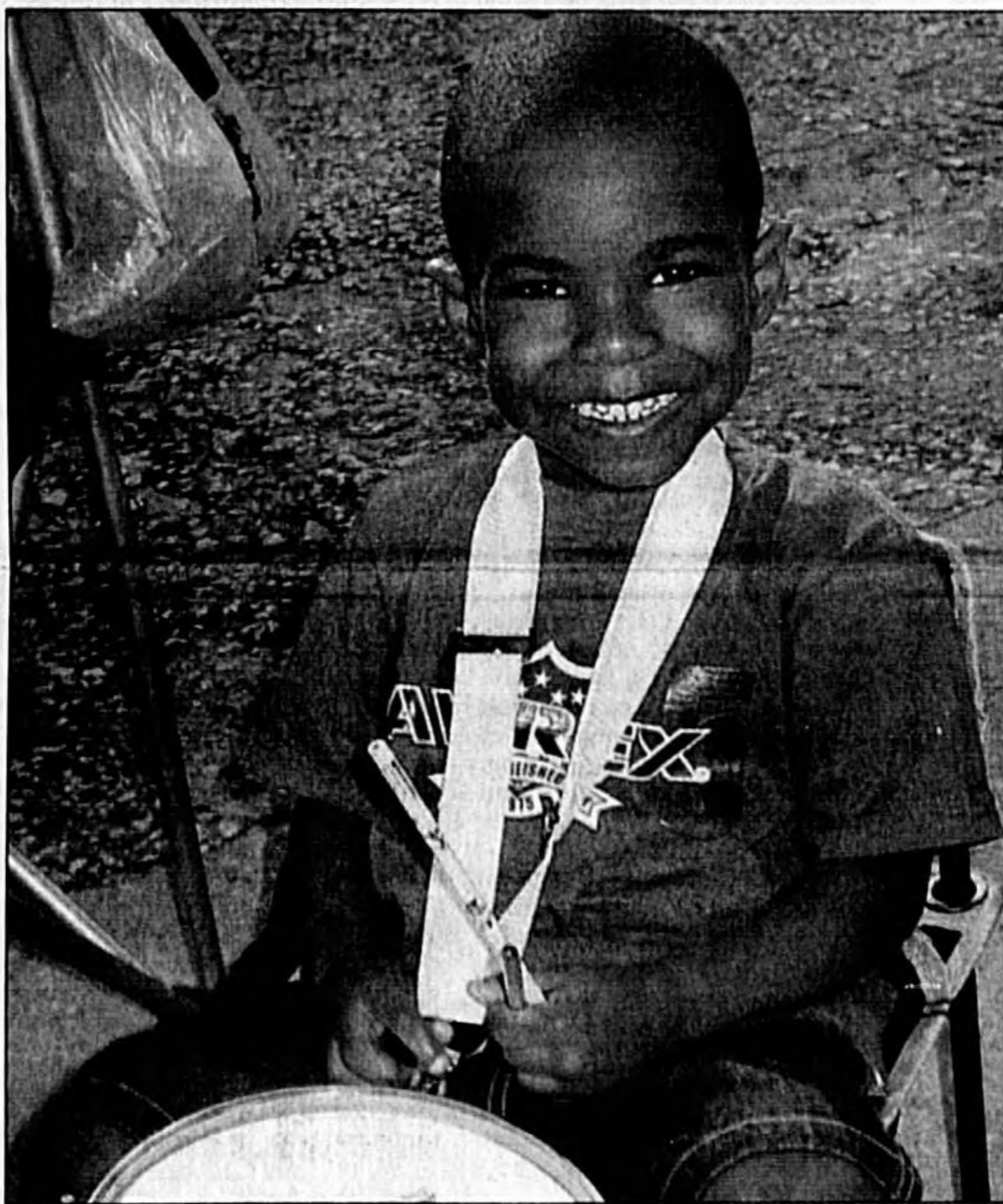
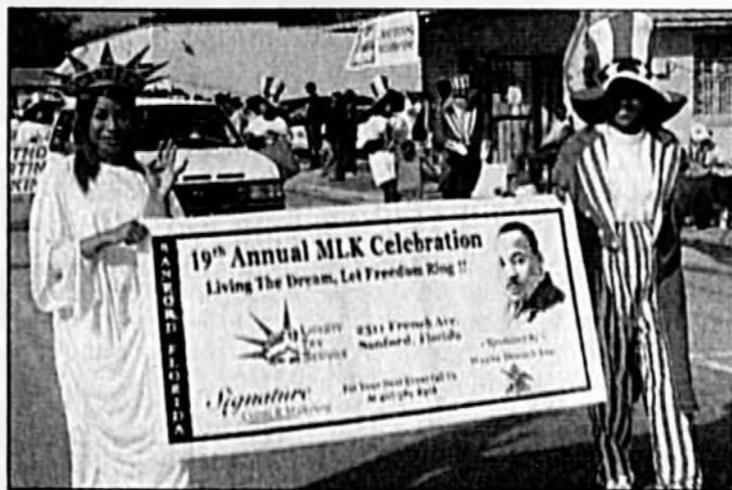
By Dan Ping  
Editor

SANFORD — Though many victories have been won in the Civil Rights movement, there remain challenges to overcome. That was the message of the Rev. Michael Warren, keynote speaker during the 19th Annual Commemorative Banquet honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Warren, the pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church of Apopka, spoke to a crowd of more than 400 people who attended the Saturday night event at the Sanford Civic Center. The theme for the evening was "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A day on ... not a day off!" The MLK Celebration Choir performed two selections during the banquet, and number of people were honored for their service to the community. Nine-year-old Michael Walker, a member of Progress Missionary Baptist Church, energized the crowd prior to Warren's message by reciting a portion of King's "Be the Best of Who You Are" speech.

Warren told those gathered that while great strides had been made to accomplish King's dream

See Banquet, Page 3



Herald photos by Tommy Vincent

Uncle Sam and Lady Liberty from Liberty Tax Service march down 13th Street as hundreds lined the street including Ralph Jarvis Tillman, 3, son of Reniece Tillman of Sanford.

## Iraqi Diary: The new lieutenant arrives

Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Charlie C. Carlson III, son of Sanford historian Charlie C. Carlson II, is deployed in Baghdad as part of the 549th Military Police Company. He is providing the Herald with a journal of his experiences.

14 Jan 2004 The other night we conducted a recon to scope out two target houses that we plan on doing a raid on in the near future.

In Baghdad a patrol of two humvees was hit by a roadside bomb near the Oil Ministry building and they opened fire on a passing car. The car had nothing to do with the bomb. It was an Iraqi family with their kids returning from a trip to the hospital. The driver of the car and a 10-year-old boy were killed and a 6-year-old and 8-year-old were wounded by the 30 caliber fire. These people were just innocently

passing the patrol when the IED went off. It was another story like many others where innocent people and kids have been killed in this war.

Another chopper was shot down west of the city and landed in a lake but the crew was not killed. Now the Shiite Muslim Cleric Al-Sistani is speaking out against U.S. plans to appoint a new Iraqi government without holding national elections. This is stirring up some protests. Today in Baquba a car bomber attacked a police station and killed three people and injured a bunch more. Police stations are still a main target of the insurgents, and I still get nervous whenever I have to conduct



Carlson

inspections of them.

Last night, to wind-down the evening, SFC Goldberg and I watched a movie on his laptop computer and right after the movie we were informed the new lieutenant was ready to be picked up at BIAP (Baghdad Airport)

along with 5 new soldiers. SFC Goldberg and I led two trucks along with the commander and his truck out to BIAP to pickup the new personnel.

When we got to the airport we found the only road to get in was blocked off because of a night mission going on around the airport. So while we waited for the road to open, we went to midnight crow at a mess hall near the airport. We

were hungry because we didn't get much to eat at Camp Marlboro at chow time. We had tried eating at Camp Marlboro earlier because they had fried chicken, but when we arrived we found that all the Iraqis in ICDC (Iraqi Civil Defense Corps) training had gone through the line before us and ate all the chicken leaving the U.S. soldiers with leftover scraps. It's our food but they let the Iraqi trainees eat first and we are often stuck with leftovers. I sarcastically told a group of ICDC "I hope y'all enjoyed that fried chicken and thanks for drinking all the cokes in the cooler."

Anyway, back to the BIAP story. We finally got into the airport pickup area and received our new incoming troops about 0100 in the morning. The newcomers included

See Diary, Page 7

## Cities fighting state bill

By Christopher Patton  
Managing Editor

Cities across Seminole County are passing resolutions to fight a state bill that could cost them the power of levying fines for violations of municipal ordinances.

Legislators passed House Bill 113A last summer as the first measure in overhauling the state's court system. Currently, counties fund local courts, but with the 1998 voter-approved constitutional amendment to Article 5 all courts are to become the financial responsibility of the state by July 1, 2004.

"All the county offices suddenly became a state responsibility so when it becomes a state responsibility the state wants to have an accounting process for the use of state attorney time, public defender time and all that stuff," said Craig Conn, legislative counsel for the Florida League of Cities. "And the budget crunchers in Tallahassee got a hold of the expenditures —

See Citations, Page 6

## Hastings to speak at ALPI

By Marva Hawkins  
Herald Correspondent

The Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. (ALPI) will celebrate its 35th annual corporate

meeting luncheon, celebrating 35 years of service to 22 counties.

Guest speaker Saturday, Jan. 24, at noon, at Orlando Marriott-

Lake Mary, will be the Honorable Congressman of the U.S. House of Representatives Alcee L. Hastings, a native of Seminole County. He was born in Altamonte Springs, elected in 1992 and most recently reelected in 2002, capturing 77 percent of the vote.

He was a 1953 graduate of Crooms Academy of Sanford, Fisk University in 1958, and earned his law degree from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

Known affectionately as "Judge," Alcee Hastings has

See ALPI, Page 3

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# SEMINOLE SUMMARY

A GLANCE AROUND OUR COUNTY

## IN BRIEF

### Sheriff's office continues aggressive driving campaign on Interstate 4

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office, Altamonte Springs Police Department and the Florida Highway Patrol (Seminole County Division) continue to enforce aggressive driving along Interstate 4 and the Central Florida Greenway (State Road 417) in Seminole County.

The A.D.D. C.A.R.E. (Aggressive Driving Deterrent — Combined Aerial Road Enforcement) operation will continue along Interstate 4 during the months of January, February and March, monitoring both east and west bound traffic during peak times.

The sheriff's office recent staffing of two "Aggressive Driving Enforcement Deputies" have added extra patrol in these areas and other state roads in Seminole County.

These two positions are funded by the Florida Department of Transportation for a three-year period. Their emphasis has been nighttime aggressive driving.

On Friday night, Jan. 2, 23 traffic stops were made between the hours of 7 p.m. and 12 a.m., all for aggressive driving. These patrols will continue on a regular basis and are committed to making a difference on the roadways of Seminole County.

Aggressive driving is defined as two or more of the following:

- Following too closely
- Improper lane change
- Multiple lane changes
- Visible high rate of speed.

The A.D.D. C.A.R.E. operations have already proven to be highly effective. In the inaugural two-month period of A.D.D. C.A.R.E., traffic crashes on Interstate 4 declined 33 percent. The media attention proved highly successful in delivering the message.

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office urges motorists to drive safely, exercise due care and "Buckle Up."

### Woman charge for filing a false abduction report

The woman who filed a false police report, regarding an abduction from a shopping center last week, turned herself in today at the Seminole County Jail.

Sherri Leigh Campbell, 22, of Winter Springs, faces a charge of filing a false police report, which is a misdemeanor. She posted \$250 bond and was released.

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office estimates in excess of 250 personnel hours were expended in the investigation of this case by sheriff's office investigative staff.

This adds up to nearly \$9,800, which represents the collective personnel hours invested in this case. The sheriff's office will request the cost be paid back as restitution, if the defendant is found guilty and/or adjudicated as such.

## Public servant spotlight

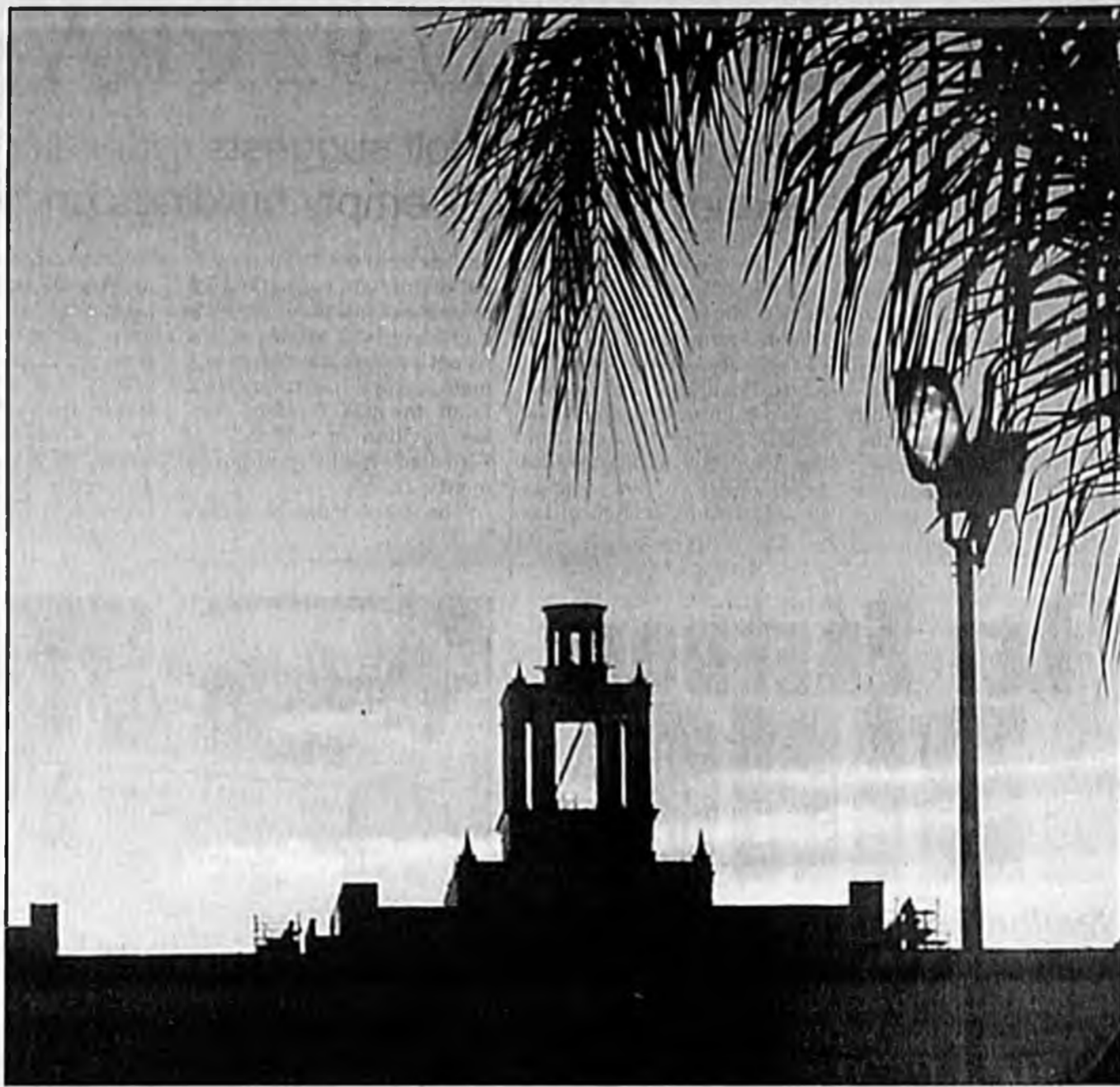
**Name:** Anthony "Tony" Seda  
**Professional title:** Patrolman first class/community relations

**Department:** Lake Mary Police Department  
**Years on the job:** Five years  
**Born:** Bronx, N.Y.  
**Age:** 32  
**Marital status:** Single  
**Schools attended:** Daytona Beach Community College, Kenneth E. Bragg



**Vocational School:** Seminole Community College  
**Training:** Corrections Academy, law enforcement academy  
**Special education/training:** Crime prevention practitioner  
**Hobbies:** Going to the movies and reading  
**Why did you choose your current profession:** To help and serve communities and make them a better place to live.

## Above the law



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Construction workers put the finishing touches to the top of the new Seminole County Justice Center building on U.S. Highway 17-92 at North Bush Boulevard. The center will house the state attorney's office and courtrooms for criminal trials. These workers are on top of the new building and are above the law for construction purposes only.

### DUI Charges

• Diane Marie Miley, 43, of Northlake Drive, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police Thursday near a store in the 3700 block of Orlando Drive. Officers said she had allowed her young son to drive, sitting on her lap. She reportedly admitted to drinking a bottle of wine and was going to the store for cigarettes. She was arrested on charges of driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol, accompanied by a person under 18 years of age, careless driving, and permitting an unlicensed minor to drive.

• Jose Santizo, 20, of West Ninth Street, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police Saturday, following an accident in the 400 block of Oak Avenue. He was charged with DUI alcohol or drugs, reckless driving with damage to property, giving false information to a law enforcement officer and operating a motor vehicle without a valid license.

• Troy Martin Lewis, 19, of Hidden Lake Drive, Sanford, was stopped by Sanford police Sunday in the 100 block of Country Club Drive in Sanford. He was charged with DUI alcohol or drugs, reckless driving with property damage, operating a motor vehicle without a valid license, and leaving the scene of a crash involving damage to property.

• Danny Lee Olson, 49, of East 20th Street, Sanford, was located near his vehicle by Sanford police Friday, on East 25th Street. Officers said there was smoke coming from the vehicle and it had two flat tires. Olson, was arrested on charges of DUI alcohol or drugs, reckless driving, refusal to submit to a DUI test, and driving with a suspended license.



### Drug related

• Nathan Alexander Podrie, 30, of Winter Park, was arrested by Sanford police Saturday at Woodmere/Central Drive in Sanford, by officers investigating a possible domestic disturbance. Podrie was said to be in possession of marijuana. He was arrested on a charge of possession of under 20 grams of marijuana.

### Domestic case

• Craig Robert Fournier, 37, of Wornall Drive, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police at his residence Sunday following an altercation with a female. He was charged with battery — touch or strike (domestic).

### Shoplifting

• Philip Anthony Andrade, 36, of Windchase Boulevard, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police Friday at a store in the 3600 block of Orlando Drive. Officers said he attempted to take several items from the store without paying. He was charged with petty shoplifting from a merchant.

• Charletta Letta Reid, 19, of Drew Avenue, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police at the Seminole Towne Center, where she reportedly took \$42 in property from a store without paying. She was charged with petty shoplifting from a merchant.

• Johnny Wayne Ausbaugh, 57, of Orlando, was arrested by Sanford police Monday at a retail store in the 1500 block of French Avenue. He reportedly took anti theft alarms from

items and attempted to leave the store without paying for \$17.44 in merchandise. He was arrested on a charge of larceny — use of an anti shoplifting control device.

### Traffic Stops

• Joseph Williams, 48, of Edward Higgins Terrace, Sanford, was stopped by Sanford police Friday near his residence. He was charged with driving with a suspended license, attached license plate not assigned, no current insurance, and possession of a controlled substance (cocaine). After being taken to the Seminole County jail, he was searched and officers said they found cocaine compressed in a dollar bill. He was given an additional charge of smuggling contraband into a county detention facility.

• Alexander John Kozlakowski, 35, of Mattie Street, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police Monday as the result of a traffic stop on West 13th Street. He was charged with driving with a suspended license, and driving without headlights.

• Brandy Beth Schwartz, 29, of Daytona Beach, was arrested by Sanford police Monday following a traffic stop on East 26th Street at Palmetto Avenue. She was charged with driving with a suspended license and having an expired license tag.

• Robert Eugene Fryer, 23, of Madera Avenue, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police Sunday following a traffic stop on Orlando Drive at State Road 417. He was charged with driving while his license was suspended, having no headlights after sunset, no seatbelt, failure to exhibit current registration, and possession of under 20 grams of marijuana.

## OUT & ABOUT

WED 21

Circus Page International is coming to the Sanford Civic Center, with shows at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Adults, \$10. Children 12 and under free. There will be clowns, animal acts, pony rides and much more.

The city of Sanford Waterfront Master Plan Steering Committee will meet at 4:30 at City Hall in the City Manager's Conference Room. Discussion will center on midges and the Riverwalk project. The meeting is open to the public.

The Literary Group of the Sanford Woman's Club will meet at 10 a.m. at the home of Linda Miller, 2404 Oak Ave. Shirley Millis and Betty Colbert are the co-hostesses.

The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra presents the first concert in the 2003-2004 Focus Series, titled Beethoven. The concert takes place at 7 p.m. in the Margeson Theater of the Lowndes Shakespeare Center, 812 East Rollins St., Orlando. Maestro Andrew Lane hosts this premier concert in the series. Pianist Steven Lin joins Maestro Lane and members of the Philharmonic for Piano Concerto No. 1, and the orchestra will perform Symphony No. 4. To purchase tickets, call the box office at 407-896-6700 or log on to [www.orlandophil.org](http://www.orlandophil.org).

The Sanford Senior Center, 401 E. Seminole Blvd., will host an "Over 50 Dance" from 2 to 4 p.m. Music is provided by the Deltonans, a 12-piece Big Band. Cost is \$3. For more information, call 407-302-1010.

THUR 22

The 37th Central Florida Boat Show will be held at the Orange County Convention Center expansion facility from Jan. 22-25. New model debuts of every type of boat imaginable will be featured. Adult admission is \$7, and children under 12 are free. For more information, call Shelly Jones at 407-298-1167 or log on to [www.boatshowflorida.com](http://www.boatshowflorida.com).

A support group for women on spousal and partner abuse will be held for eight consecutive weeks from 9 to 10:30 p.m. at Market Square at Heathrow 120 International Parkway Suite 220. Join facilitator Kelley Rogers, life-skills coach, for a free confidential educational and support group for women with body image, self-esteem and eating concerns. For more information, call 407-829-7960.

A support group for women on eating disorders will be held for eight consecutive weeks from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Market Square at Heathrow 120 International Parkway Suite 220. Join facilitator Kelley Rogers, life-skills coach, for a free confidential educational and support group for abused women. For more information, call 407-829-7960.

FRI 23

The Helen Stairs Theater for the Performing Arts will present "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" on Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 24 at 2 and 7 p.m., Jan. 30 at 7 p.m., and Jan. 31 at 2 and 7 p.m. Student shows will be on Jan. 23 at noon and Jan. 26-29 at 9:30 a.m. and noon.

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**Banquet**

Continued from Page 1

of a world without prejudice, much work remains. "All is not well in America, all is not well in the world," Warren said. "The task is great and the challenge tremendous, but if we have a mind to work, we can do anything." Like the Israelites of Jerusalem

Nehemiah's day, Warren told his audience that they could accomplish much if they adhered to four principles. First, he said people must be committed to preparation. "Preparation is the first step to accomplishing anything," Warren said. "A penalty will be paid if we do

not prepare ourselves." Preparation, according to Warren, means not only preparing spiritually, but also educationally, socially, economically and politically. Second, Warren said a plan is no good without an operation or action. "Faith without works is dead," Warren said. "We

can't just talk the talk, we've got to walk the walk." Third, there must be determination to face the challenges and overcome the obstacles. "We must be determined — and that means doing more than just meeting one weekend in January," Warren said. "Our destiny is in our hands, but we've got to be determined." Finally, there must be a

celebration of past success. "We've got to remember where we've been so we know where we are going," Warren said. "We can't lose sight of the great many things we have accomplished." The commemorative banquet is organized each year by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Steering Committee for the city of Sanford. The steering committee was

formed in 1986 by then Sanford mayor Bettye Smith and a group of concerned citizens. Since that time the committee has diligently planned and hosted events commemorating the contributions King made. In 1993, the city of Sanford was selected for the Commemorative Statewide Celebration by Gov. Lawton Chiles.

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**Motivational singers to appear Jan. 24**



Herald photo by Marva Hawkins

The Young Motivational Singers of Tampa Bay will appear in concert, Saturday, Jan. 24, at 5 p.m. at the St. John Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, 920 Cypress Ave., Sanford. This group of young, very talented singers, have won many awards having appeared at both the State and National NAACP Act-So youth contest. The youth of Sanford and Seminole County are also invited to witness this great concert. Director of the group is Eleanor Mobley Solomon, former Sanford native, and daughter of Mrs. Freddie Muller Mobley.

**ALPI**

Continued from Page 1

distinguished himself as an attorney, civil rights activist, judge and now member of Congress. He was appointed as the first African-American Federal Judge in the state of Florida. He served for 10 years. An outspoken advocate for making our country safer, more secure, ensuring our election systems are easier and fair, providing job training, re-education for displaced workers, funding Head Start and education programs and making social security an independent agency. Throughout his lifetime, Hastings has

championed the rights of minorities, women, the elderly, children and immigrants. A member of the House Rules Committee, he is a senior member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Hastings is the ranking Democratic member of the subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security. He is also a senior Democratic member, an influential member of the Democratic leadership, vice chair of the Florida Delegation, vice president of U.S. Congress organization for security and

cooperation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly, vice chair of Democrat Select Committee on Election Reform. His philosophy is simple when it comes to governing, he firmly believes that progress and change can be achieved through mutual respect and appreciation. The ALPI Family, city of Sanford, city of Lake Mary, County Commissioners and Central Florida area is proud to host this historical 35th Annual Corporate Luncheon, Saturday, Jan. 24, at noon at the Orlando Lake Mary Marriott.

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# BUSINESS

## Gourmet bakery locates in Sanford

By Sabrina Helse  
Herald Correspondent

SANFORD — If you've driven down U.S. Highway 17-92 lately, you might have noticed that there is a wonderful smell in the air; the smell of something wonderful cooking. It is coming from the new Bruno's Gourmet Kitchen which offers patrons a wide variety of all natural gourmet pastries and breads made from scratch by French Chef Bruno Ponsot.

Ponsot, who was born in France and studied there, came to Orlando in 1986 to work as a chef at Disney World's French Pavilion. He then moved on to be the chef for Orlando French restaurants Le Coq Au Vin and Le Provence, before deciding to start his own company focusing on his specialty, pastries.

He started with a wholesale pastry business four years ago that supplied gourmet pastries to local stores such as Whole Foods and The Fresh Market. Three years ago he moved that business to Sanford, and just before Thanksgiving of this year, Bruno opened the doors to Bruno's Gourmet Kitchen.

"Customers come in here and find things that they can't find anywhere else," Ponsot said regarding his

decision to open his store in Sanford. "We use the freshest ingredients. Everything is made from scratch using all natural ingredients. That's why we can supply things to places like The Fresh Market where they tout themselves as having all natural foods."

Included on the menu are French and Italian pastries as well as danishes, croissants and specialty breads. The shop also makes custom specialty cakes and even wedding cakes.

"We offer customers a very high-end product, but we keep our prices reasonable so that our customers can come back and enjoy our products often," he said of his pastries that range in price from about \$2 to \$4 a piece.

Bruno's has many specialties, but Ponsot himself recognizes two outstanding creations from his kitchen. The first is the "Success Cake," a hazelnut and meringue cake with a praline and buttercream icing topped with toasted almonds and the second specialty and what is probably the most requested item, is the "Napoleon," a three-layer puff pastry with a custard filling and sugar icing. The rectangular treat is made fresh every day in order to meet with customer demand.



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Bruno Ponsot, the owner of Bruno's Gourmet Kitchen in Sanford, displays a tray of his delicious pastries during the Taste of Seminole event in October. Ponsot has been supply area businesses like Whole Foods and the Fresh Market with gourmet goodies. He recently opened his business to the public.

Now that the holidays are over, plans for a grand opening celebration are in the

works. Ponsot asks customers to keep an eye out or check with the store for a special event soon.

If your mouth is watering and you would like to taste some of Bruno's creations, visit Bruno's Gourmet Kitchen at 2533 S. Laurel Ave., in Sanford Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Book store opens with 'hair-raising' murder mysteries

By Michelle Donahue  
Herald Correspondent

SANFORD — Don't be alarmed by the body slumped over the manicure table.

The Sanford Book Shoppe in downtown Sanford is causing quite a stir with its eye-catching window display. Located at 222 E. First St., the book store is using its display window to promote a grand opening event featuring acclaimed author Nancy Cohen.

The event is Saturday, Jan. 31, from 2 to 4 p.m., and Cohen will autograph books from her beauty salon murder mystery series. Book titles in her series include "Murder by Manicure," "Permed to Death," "Highlights to Heaven," "Hair Raiser," and "Body Wave." All her stories are set in Florida.

Book signings of this cal-

iber are just one of the many unique treats and features that clients can expect the Sanford Book Shoppe to offer. Making their upstairs conference room available to community groups free of charge is another.

"We really want to help the local community," said proprietor Michael Barr. "Our goal is to draw people to downtown Sanford, so that they can see and take advantage of all it has to offer. Making the conference room available free of charge for worthy causes who book it in advance is just one of the things we hope will help accomplish that."

Barr also said that he does not consider the other local bookstores to be his competition, but rather team players in promoting Sanford's enchanting and historic essence.

See Books, Page 6



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Sanford Book Shoppe manager Monica Harper arranges the beauty salon-style display window to promote a book signing by murder mystery author Nancy Cohen.

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## Obituaries

## EVENLY H. BEERS

Evenly H. Beers, 91, of East First Street, Sanford, died Thursday, Jan. 15, 2004, at Central Florida Regional Hospital. She was born Feb. 12, 1912, in New Jersey, and moved to Sanford from Lake Mary in 1980. She was a homemaker and Protestant by faith.

Survivors include close friend Sandy Ganas.

Donations may be made in her name to American Cancer Society, 218-A East New York Ave., DeLand, 32724.

Phoenix Cremation Society, South Daytona, in charge of arrangements.

## FRANCIS NICHOLAS DRAKE

Francis Nicholas Drake, 78, of Winter Springs, died Saturday, Jan. 17, 2004, in Longwood. He was born May 8, 1925, in South Shields, England. He was a plumber.

Survivors include daughter, Lorraine A. Drake; brother, Henry Drake.

Funeral services will be Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 10 a.m. at Banfield Funeral Home with Pastor Joel Hunter officiating.

Banfield Funeral Home, Winter Springs, in charge of arrangements.

## CHARLES L. ECHOLS, SR.

Charles L. Echols, Sr., 82, of Sanford, died Monday, Jan. 19, 2004, in Sanford. He was born March 18, 1921, in Pinkard, Ala. He was a railroad conductor and member of First United Methodist Church of Sanford. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army.

Survivors include daughters, Elaine Langston, Delonoga, Ga., Toni G. Fermon, Lynn, Mass.; sons, Charles L. "Buddy" Echols of Palm Coast and Ivey Echols of Inverness; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at First United Methodist

Church of Sanford, Thursday, Jan. 22, at 11 a.m. Visitation will be held at Oaklawn Chapel on Wednesday, Jan. 21 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home, Oaklawn Chapel, Sanford/Lake Mary, in charge of arrangements.

## PATRICIA J. GIPSON

Patricia J. Gipson, 63, of Orlando, died Thursday, Jan. 15, 2004, in Longwood. She was born Jan. 17, 1940, in Great Falls, Mont. She was a telephone operator.

Survivors include husband, Kenny; daughters, Sheryl Corder, Dianna Boris, Rhonda Hoelzer, and Robert Frye; son, Gregory Parham; brother, Hal Scholtz; 15 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Banfield Funeral Home, Winter Springs, in charge of arrangements.

## HENRY IVES JEHAN, SR.

Henry Ives Jehan, Sr., 86, of Lake Mary, died Friday, Jan. 16, 2004, in Lake Mary. He was born March 26, 1917, in New Haven, Conn. He was a wire and cable engineer, and a deacon and elder at Markham Woods Presbyterian Church in Lake Mary.

He was a member of Hiram Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M., New Haven, Conn. and volunteered with AARP as a tax preparer and 55 Alive as a driving instructor.

Survivors include son, Henry Ives Jehan Jr., Lake Mary; sister, Marie Jehan Minick, Marlton, N.J.; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at Oaklawn Chapel, Saturday, Jan. 24, at 10 a.m. Visitation will be at Oaklawn Chapel Friday, Jan. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home, Oaklawn Chapel, Sanford/Lake Mary, in charge of arrangements.

## CARLTON MOYER

Carlton Moyer, 81, of Sanford, died Sunday, Jan. 18, 2004. Born April 25, 1922, in Huddleston, W.Va. he was a longtime resident of Central Florida. He was an automobile service manager for J.C. Penney. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Sanford and a veteran of World War II.

Survivors include sons, Robert, Sanford and James, Deltona; brothers, Homer and Ernest of Jacksonville; sister, Loreene Capicetti, Longwood; three grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Jan. 23, at 2 p.m. at Gramkow Funeral Home chapel, 500 E. Airport Blvd.

Gramkow Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

## AGNES S. PETERSON

Agnes S. Peterson, 93, of Casselberry, died Saturday, Jan. 17, 2004, in Altamonte Springs. She was born Dec. 21, 1910, in Richland, Iowa. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include daughters, Ann P. Fritz and Jane E. Peterson; son, John L. Peterson; brother, Jack H. Sellars; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, Jan. 31, at Elm Grove Cemetery.

Banfield Funeral Home, Winter Springs, in charge of arrangements.

## LAWRENCE O. RUSH

Lawrence O. Rush, 79, of Lake Mary, died Saturday, Jan. 17, 2004, in Lake Mary. He was born Jan. 30, 1924, in Lancaster, Ohio. He was a retired salesman for Huttig Sash and Door Company. He was a B-52 flight engineer during World War II in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Survivors include wife, Mildred; sons, Thad and Brian, both of Lake Mary; brother, Carl, Plain City, Ohio; sister, Donna Kintz, Dover, Fla.; four grand-

children.

Graveside services will be held at Glen Haven Memorial Park, Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 10 a.m.

Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home, Oaklawn Chapel, Sanford/Lake Mary, in charge of arrangements.

## ROBERT SAMUELS

Robert Samuels, 56, of Heathrow, died Monday, Jan. 12, 2004. He was born in Baltimore, Md. and was a mortgage banker.

Survivors include wife, Diane, Heathrow; mother, Blanche, Baltimore; son, Daniel Poskevich, Heathrow; daughters, Sheri Bonner, Baltimore, Lindsay and Marni Samuels, both of Heathrow; brother, Paul Samuels, Tampa; two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel with Rabbi Yosef Konikov officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

Beth Shalom Memorial

Chapel, Orlando, in charge of arrangements.

## GRACE D. SMITH

Grace D. Smith, 91, of Lake Mary, died Monday, Jan. 12, 2004, in Orlando. She was born Sept. 25, 1912, and moved to Central Florida from Washington, D.C. in 1966. She was a 35-year volunteer at the Hospital Auxiliary of the Central Florida Regional Hospital. She attended Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Sanford.

Survivors include sons, Harry D. Smith and Thomas F. Smith; and two grandsons.

An interment service will be held Friday, Jan. 23, at 10:30 a.m. at the Holy Cross Episcopal Church Garden.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 410 S. Magnolia Ave., Sanford, and the

Hospital Auxiliary Education Fund at Central Florida Regional Hospital.

Gramkow Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

## CHARLES D. TOBIAS

Charles D. Tobias, 82, of Casselberry, died Thursday, Jan. 15, 2004, in Orlando. He was born Sept. 17, 1921, in Bloomville, S.C. He was an engineer and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was employed in the springs industry.

Survivors include wife, Annie E.; son, Charles D. Jr.; daughter, Deborah T. Shaldjian; sister, Lilly Mell Denton; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 19 at Northland A Church Distributed with Pastor Kevin Ulrichko officiating.

Banfield Funeral Home, Winter Springs, in charge of arrangements.

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**Stephen Warren Higgins**

Stephen Warren Higgins, 55, died January 16 at his home in Longwood surrounded by his family. He fought a valiant battle against cancer. He was born in Sanford, Florida on Feb. 27, 1948, one of twins born to the late Mary and Edward Higgins, Jr. A descendant of the Higgins and Wiggins families of Sanford, Steve was proud to be a native Floridian - a genuine Florida cracker. After graduating from Indian River Junior College in Ft. Pierce, Florida, and completing a brief but distinguished career in the Air Force, Steve received his baccalaureate degree in Urban Planning from the University of Florida, his beloved alma mater, and a master's degree in Public Administration from Florida State University. In 1981 he became Deputy City Manager for General Government for the City of Gainesville, Florida and was recognized in 1983 for his "dignity, professionalism and worth in government service". He was a well-known building contractor in Orange, Seminole and surrounding counties. At the time of his death, he was employed by Jim Macon Building Contractor, Inc. in Altamonte Springs, Florida. Steve's special interests included golf with his son-in-law, cheering for the Florida Gators, working in his yard, exploring on his bicycle and enjoying a day at the beach.

He is survived by his wife Jan, two daughters, Shana Hales and son-in-law, Mark Hales of Orlando, and Katie Higgins of Longwood; sister-in-law, Patricia Graf of Hyde Park, New York, a twin brother, Scott and wife, Sharon of Sylva, North Carolina; a brother, Clark and wife, Chrystal of Orlando, as well as four special nieces and a great nephew, Amy Horack and husband, Beau of Weddington, North Carolina; Abbey Higgins of Raleigh, North Carolina; Heather Higgins and Meaghan Higgins and great-nephew Cameron Higgins, all of Orlando, Florida. The Higgins family will be forever indebted to Steve's neighbors and his many close friends, especially Jim Macon and his staff, Raul Castillo, M.D. and his wonderful staff, and the caring nurses of VITAS Hospice organization especially Judy Edwards.

A memorial service will be held at Holy Cross Episcopal Church located at 401 South park Avenue at 4th Street in Sanford on January 26, 2004 at 2 p.m. with Father Al Cole officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Florida Hospital Cancer Institute in care of Dr. Francis (www.fhcilabs.com) 2501 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32804 and Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 410 S. Magnolia Avenue Sanford, Florida 32771-1918.

**Citations**

Continued from Page 1

and they want to know on a fairly consistent basis what those expenditures are and how they are going to be funded. That led to the creation of this bill, which in part removed the authority of public defenders and state attorneys to either prosecute or defend violation of city and county ordinances."

The bill shifted the financial burden of the courts to municipalities and counties as it prohibited state attorneys from appearing in court to prosecute municipal ordinances and proposed to charge a \$200 filing fee for each code or ordinance violation. There were more than 120,000 ordinance violations dropped off in city and county courts last year, according to the Florida League of Cities. If nothing changed to House Bill 113A, the state could make about \$24 million from the filing fees.

"That is not going to happen," Conn said. "Either cities or counties would stop issuing citations because they couldn't afford the fees or the \$200 is going to have to be adjusted to reflect reality."

Many of the fines received for ordinance citations are less than half of the proposed filing fee, which could make the citation process ineffective.

"Most of our code violations are well under \$200 so it's going to cost us more money to file the action and then we will have to pay attorneys on top of it. The most we would ever get back is \$50 or \$75 so it's not

worth it," said Lake Mary City Manager John Litton, as city commissioners approved a resolution refuting House Bill 113A earlier this month.

According to Conn, he foresees changes being made to the bill with a "glitch bill" being passed during the legislative session that starts in March, but it is still determined to what degree of changes will be made.

"They knew going in they would have this session to address any concerns there were and there were a lot," he said.

Conn said the state legislature has been receptive to the league of cities proposed changes.

"They've (state senate) recognized most city ordinances, such as open container, being in the park after hours and things like that, the fines are \$100 or less so if you have a \$200 filing fee that doesn't make any sense," he said.

Conn said the additional filing charge citations will probably be reduced to \$10 or \$20, but it will still account as an upfront charge for cities and counties.

"I think the Florida League of Cities has got their attention," said Longwood City Manager John Drago, as city commissioners approved the resolution refuting House Bill 113A Monday night. "I think there will be some changes to it, but the more cities that adopt the better chance changes will be made."

**Books**

Continued from Page 4

"We will be actively working together with other local merchants, including the other bookstores," said Barr, going on to explain that the true book collector will visit all the local shops in search of rare finds for their collections, as used bookstores offer totally unique inventory.

"The more quality merchants the city has, bookstores included, the more revenue it will result in. And that can only help to preserve Sanford's nostalgic charm for years to come," she said.

A life-long entrepreneur, Barr ran his first successful business venture by selling tropical fish while attending college in Anchorage, Ala.

"I learned a very valuable lesson when my first order came out frozen as solid

blocks of ice after the airplane got stuck on the runway during poor weather conditions," Barr laughed. "I realized then that although setbacks may sometimes occur, they should only serve to strengthen your resolve to succeed."

And Barr knows what he is talking about when it comes to success. His track record has included owning a profitable real estate firm in the Florida Keys, in addition to several shopping centers and a marketing agency. Mr. Barr is also the secretary of the Libertarian Party of Seminole County, as well as a regional representative on the state level for them. He is also one of 83 elected or appointed officials from the Libertarian party, serving in

the capacity of chairman for the Soil and Water Conservation District.

"One of the reasons I selected this particular location for my bookshop was so that I could also set up the Soil and Water Conservation District office along side it," Barr said, referring to the district's separate office inside the bookshop. "It provides us with the opportunity to educate our visitors on what the Soil and Water Conservation District is all about after they come in to browse our varied selection of books."

In addition to this unique, symbiotic relationship between the two distinct entities, the Sanford Book Shoppe is also in the process of creating a full-scale business center for clients to uti-

lize, complete with laptop hook-up, wireless service, fax capabilities, and full color printing.

"We are also going to add specialized events in the very near future," said Monica Harper, store manager and former event planner. "We will be offering children's story groups, poetry readings, and holiday celebrations, to name a few."

The Sanford Book Shoppe is normally open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, but is also open later during the week, and on Sunday when meetings are scheduled. Coffee, tea and food items are always available for purchase at the bookstore snack bar.

For more information, call 407-324-7299.

**Business Briefcases**

**Two area chamber of commerce plan 'after hours' gatherings for Jan. 22**

The Sanford Seminole County Chamber of Commerce will hold a Business After Hours gathering, Thursday, Jan. 22, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at Catherine Hanson Real Estate & Sanford Mortgage Corp., 206-208 Elm Ave. in Sanford. The theme will be the Chinese New Year. There will be food, beverages and live entertainment.

The Seminole County Lake Mary Regional Chamber of Commerce will hold a

Business After Hours gathering, Thursday, Jan. 22, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Bonefish Grill, 1761 W. State Road 434 in Longwood. An array of appetizers will be available.

For more information, call 407-333-4748.

**Heath teams with Signature GMAC Real Estate**

Longtime real estate executive Ned Heath, who at one time co-owned Central Florida's largest independent companies with annual sales in excess of a half-billion dollars, has been contracted by

Signature GMAC Real Estate as a special consultant.

Heath, a founding partner in Higgins & Heath/Better Homes and Gardens which was a dominant force in Central Florida for 20 years, will provide "strategic planning and development" for Signature GMAC in 2004 as it embarks on its 16th year in business, said Signature Principal Susan McIntyre.

Heath's company — Ned Heath Consulting, LLC — has been providing consulting services around the country for the past three years for major

real estate and technological companies, as well as mortgage and title insurance companies.

Signature GMAC already is recognized as Central Florida's largest locally owned and operated real estate company with seven offices, about 175 sales associates and annual sales volume in excess of \$200 million.

"We can't afford to rest on our laurels," McIntyre said. "Like everyone else we're competing for market share."

Heath knows all about market share and is expected to have a big impact in this area. He and former partner Patrick Higgins founded Higgins & Heath in 1979 and built it into a major real estate heavyweight with seven offices, more than 300 agents, separate mortgage and title insurance companies and \$500 million in annual sales. The company was sold to Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate in 1998 where Heath served as senior vice president for Florida before forming his own company.

"I'm really excited about this opportunity," Heath said. "Signature is a great company with a solid infrastructure and an outstanding team of managers from which to build. My job is to utilize those strengths and expand those strengths."

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**Diary**

Continued from Page 1

our new 2nd lieutenant who will be our platoon leader. She is fresh out of West Point, and her name is Lt. Rowe from Virginia. The other newcomers include a new gunner for my A-team under Sgt Buckley. He is a private and will replace Raymaker who is replacing Finnel as the driver. All new privates are automatically assigned as gunners so we will have to change over our weapons system. The new private is Pvt. Honstead from Colorado and he is fresh out of basic and MP training.

Before we departed the airport at about 0200 in the morning, we gave these newcomers a briefing about what to expect if we come under fire en route to camp. We tried to drive home the fact that this is not training, it is not play, and is deadly serious business. For newcomers I know this must have been very frightening but they must understand what we deal with here and that over 500 are dead and thousands have been sent home without limbs. The facts must be faced in order to stay healthy.

You can imagine what it must have been like for these newcomers to ride back through the night in Baghdad. I know they must have expected to be blown away at every corner, but we arrived safe and sound at Camp Marlboro, which is the other thing they'll have to get used to. We got

them all settled in and they are doing fine as new Nightstalkers. My new gunner is going on his first patrol with us tomorrow and the new 2nd Lieutenant will be with us too. In a week they will be adjusted to this environment, but if we get hit before then, they will be adjusted a little sooner.

It is still pretty cool at night and tonight we cooked a pot of stew on our fire pit. It was pretty good. It consisted of potatoes, Italian sausages, cabbage, and rice. They also had some chicken quarters earlier but that was already gone by the time I got to the pot. At least we didn't have the Iraqi trainees lining up to eat like at the mess hall.

SPC Richardson is spending his time putting together a puzzle that was sent over in the boxes from The Seminole Herald. It is a picture puzzle of farm vegetables and corn stalks. He almost has it done. It has kept him busy.

We have been informed that right after we return to the states we are deploying in April to the NTC (National Training Center in California's Mojave Desert). We will start desert training for our redeployment back to Iraq for another year. I'm really sick of war. I'm sick of seeing blown off legs, bowels ripped out by bombs, human heads rolling around in the debris of a car bombing, kids killed, and generally living in constant fear.

These are the pictures that should be shown in the news, not glorified pictures of soldiers in crisp, clean uniforms. There is a big difference between "glorified" and "horrificed," maybe if the public were a little more horrified they would think twice about war.

I say it is time for the proponents of these bloody fiascos to share some of the load. I've done my part. Plenty of soldiers feel the same way. This one-sided crap where a few of us keep risking our lives while cheerleaders isn't cutting it with me. I'm not a gladiator for political pleasures. I'm an indentured-servant constantly being denied my rightful discharge and being recycled as a political pawn so Washington doesn't have to reinstate the draft. I'll gladly match combat time with anybody and my service in Panama, Bosnia, plus both the 1st and 2nd wars with Iraq should be enough.

As our current deployment draws to a close, we anticipate that we will be out of the patrolling business in a couple of weeks. Now with the news of deployment to NTC and another redeployment back to Iraq, our homecoming will be bittersweet. As usual, we've been thrown another curve ball.

Next issue: Training the newcomers.

**CRA**

Continued from Page 1

other city projects. "Judging from what accomplishments that I have seen made, most of it has been up in the Sanford area and it is extremely good and beneficial for the city of Sanford, but I haven't seen very much in other areas," Maingot said.

Fall said each city and the county suggest redevelopment projects in their own areas of the corridor. As the agency has raised about \$3 million since its inception, the CRA cannot fund whole infrastructure improvements, but rather "piggy backs" on other projects to add the extra "bells and whistles." The CRA can fund small improvement projects to building facades and property landscaping through small business grants.

"Basically the way the agency works is we allow the cities to bring forward the projects of what they would like to do in their borders, and we reserve money for that," Fall said. "The ball would be in your court to immediately come forward with projects to access CRA funds."

Commissioner Butch Bundy said, "The concept of the CRA I like is the tax dollars that are derived from this area are spent in this area. I think it's just a good opportunity to get more bang for a buck."

Fall said Longwood's participation in the redevelopment agency could also help the CRA out with a project to develop uniformed design standards for the corridor. As the corridor was developed before many land development codes were in place, the stretch of highway is blighted with signs. Longwood recently revamped its land development codes, and has seen increased redevelopment as a result, Mayor Dan Anderson said.

"We put a lot of time and effort into coming up with our new land and development code, and our goal was to stimulate redevelopment," Anderson said. "Nobody will say it to my face, but most other people around the county laughed at our idea, but we have seen tremendous results from it."

Holt said he viewed one of the biggest benefits of joining the CRA is the city will have some word in what is developed in the corridor.

"We won't have someone come in and build what they want and zoom they're gone," he said.

In particular, the city of Longwood has a redevelopment issue at the intersection of State Road 434 and U.S. Highway 17-92. On each corner of the intersection is a gas station that is closed. Three of the empty service stations are within the city limits.

"I think that bothers a lot of us because they come in and

make their money, and then we're left with empty gas stations," Holt said.

Commissioners did not vote in favor or against joining the CRA as the presentation was for information purposes only. However, Holt

said after the meeting that he would seek to put consideration of joining the CRA on the commission's next agenda for further discussion and possibly a motion to accept.

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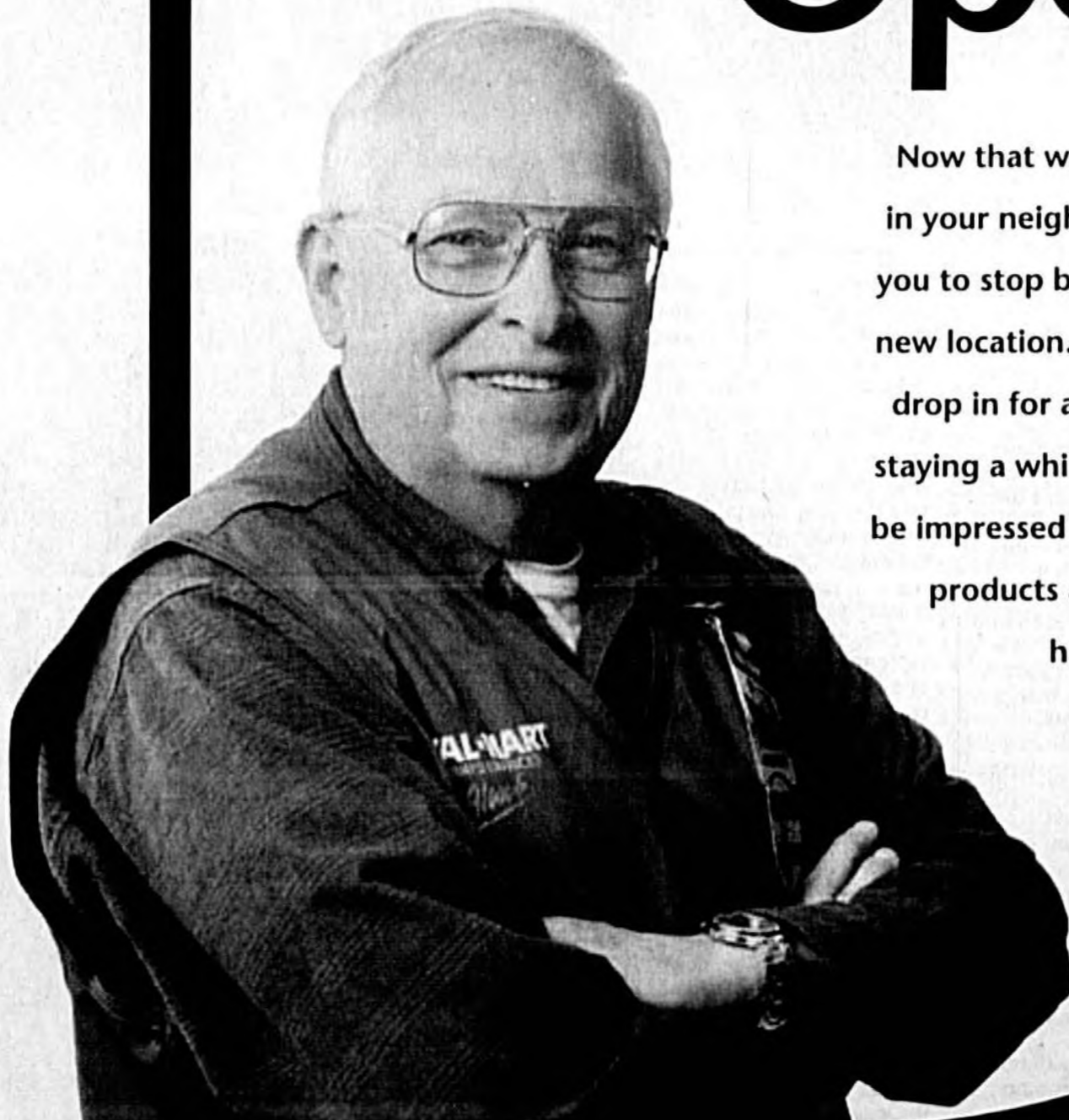
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# Sports

## Briefs

### LONGWOOD BABE RUTH TRYOUTS

Final pre-draft registration for the Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball spring season will be held from 9 a.m. to try-out time this Saturday (January 24) at Candyland Park.

Leagues offered and the registration fee (make checks payable to: Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball) is as follows:

\* T-Ball (age 5 or 6 by July 31, 2004), \$40 (Free for first time T-Ball players) - No tryouts for T-Ball age.

\* Rookie (age 7 or 8 by July 31, 2004), \$65.

\* Minor (age 9 or 10 by July 31, 2004), \$75.

\* Major (age 11 or 12 by July 31, 2004), \$75. Note that the Major Division will play on 70 foot base paths with leadoffs - Real Baseball!

\* Babe Ruth (ages 13-15 by July 31, 2004), \$85.

\* Senior (ages 16-19 by July 31, 2004), \$90.

All players that were DRAFTED to a team in the Fall 2003 season will return to that same team for the Spring 2004 season UNLESS that player chooses to go back into the draft. A player that was placed on a team AFTER the draft must participate on Skills Evaluation Day and enter the Spring 2004 draft.

Any player that did NOT play in the Fall 2003 season, MUST be present and participate in the skills evaluation. All players participating in the skills evaluation on tryout day WILL be drafted to a team.

Also note that Longwood Babe Ruth has scholarships available for those players that qualify.

For additional information, please contact Kelvin Lee at 407-682-3160, call the information line at 407-831-8266, or visit the league website at [www.lwbr.org](http://www.lwbr.org).

Games are held at Candyland and Reiter Park.

### SANFORD LITTLE LEAGUE SIGNUPS

Sanford Little League will be holding spring registration for baseball and softball teams (boys and girls ages 5-15) on this weekend, January 24th & 25th, at the Walmart Supercenter on 17-92 in Sanford from 10 a.m.-to-4 p.m. each day.

Fee to register is \$40.

The Sanford Little League is also currently having a membership drive for the Spring 2004 Season.

The membership fee is only \$10.

For more information call 407-755-2006.

### ALTAMONTE TO HOLD FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL TRYOUTS

Altamonte Springs Fast-Pitch Softball will be holding Evaluation/Team Placement this Saturday, January 24th.

For additional information, please email David or Wanda Phillips at [coachs@aol.com](mailto:coachs@aol.com), or call 407-332-7754 Ext. 211.

### WINTER SPRINGS ADULT SOFTBALL

The Winter Springs Parks and Recreation Department will be taking registrations through January 30 for the Spring 2004 season.

WSPRD offers both recreational and competitive leagues for Men and Women Class 'C' and 'D' teams, plus Co-Ed and Corporate leagues.

For more information contact the Joel at 407-327-8964, the WSPRD at 407-327-6589 or check the internet at [www.winterspringsfl.org](http://www.winterspringsfl.org).

## New teams emerging from the shadows

### Lake Mary Prep, Lake Howell, Trinity Prep boys making noise

By Dean Smith  
Sports Editor

Don't look now sports fans, but there may be some new power emerging in Seminole County.

While most of the basketball headlines have been grabbed by the Lake Mary High School girls, the outstanding play of the Rams' Darryl Merthie and the Oviedo boys' play against big teams, three other local teams are starting to make a lot of noise.

The Lake Mary Prep boys' basket-

ball team, led by diminutive superstar C.J. Marimon, has been on a very impressive roll of late.

Monday night, the Griffins (11-5) won their sixth straight game, 78-47, over district foe Warner Christian from South Daytona with the senior trio of 6-foot-3 Justin Stanley (22 points, 12 rebounds), 6-foot Luke Fuller (12 points) and the 5-foot-5 Marimon (nine assists) doing the damage.

LMP opened the regular season with a pair of losses, but in addition to the six wins in a row it has also won seven of its last eight games and 11 of 14. The Griffins are also a perfect 6-0 in district play.

Friday, LMP won its 10th overall, 84-65, over Lighthouse Academy (6-8) from DeLand with the Stanley (23 points, including three three-pointers), Marimon (15 points, six assists) and Fuller (10 points, nine rebounds)

and freshman Bryan Benefiel (10 points) all scoring in double figures.

The team has been particularly outstanding during the most recent streak, winning by an average score of 69.2-to-44.3 (59-36 over Trinity Christian, 67-60 over Circle Christian, 56-23 over The Master's Academy, 71-35 over Community School, 84-65 over Lighthouse Academy, 78-47 over Warner Christian).

One of the biggest highlights of the streak came last Monday (January 12th) when the Griffins had the unique opportunity to play at the TD Waterhouse, home of the Magic, and made the most of the opportunity by beating The Master's Academy, a District opponent, 56-23.

The win was a total team effort as all 11 varsity players played and contributed to the team's best defensive See Preps, Page 9



Photo courtesy of Arch Booth, Magic Memories, Inc.

Justin Stanley (white uniform) scored 22 points and pulled down 12 rebounds as Lake Mary Prep won its sixth straight game, 78-47, over Warner Christian.

## SCC women try for top

### Raiders to tackle Patriots

By Dean Smith  
Sports Editor

SANFORD — Ringggggg! Whether it was a let-down from beating defending conference champion Daytona Beach or the prospect of playing for first place in the M-FC, the Seminole Community College women's basketball team finally broke out a first-half funk and rolled over Santa Fe Community College, 81-61, in Mid-Florida Conference action last Saturday night at the SCC Health and Physical Education Center.

With the win, the Raiders are now 14-5 on the season and, more importantly, 2-0 in the conference heading into tonight's matchup with 3-0 Central Florida Community College in Ocala. The Patriots won their third M-FC game of the week on Saturday with a 61-55 triumph over DBCC that dropped the Falcons to 0-3 in the conference.

Game time is set for 5:30 p.m. at the 'White House.'

SCC came out flat and fell behind 7-2 and remained behind until Jennifer Anderson and Natalie Emmanuelli hit back-to-back three-point shots to tie the game at 30-30 with less than three minutes left in the half.

The Raiders closed the half on a 14-0 run to lead 38-30 at halftime and then stretched the run to 20-0, taking a 44-32 lead with 18:27 left in the game.

Freshman Danielle Jenkins got a rare start and made the most of it, scoring 11 points in the first half and finishing with a team-high 19 points.

Emmanuelli also scored in double figures, netting 13 points.

Kirsten Harris led a strong Raiders front line effort with 10 points and seven rebounds, while co-center Marlana Spencer added four points and a team-high 10 rebounds and power forward Rosanna Davis had eight points and seven rebounds. Nichole Bennett came off the bench score nine points.



Herald photos by Jim Wentz

Sophomore Natalie Emmanuelli (top) fights through a hoard of Santa Fe Community College defenders to try to get off a shot during Seminole Community College's 81-61 women's Mid-Florida Conference basketball victory over the Saints at the SCC Health and Physical Education Center Saturday night. Emmanuelli's three-pointer with less than three minutes left in the half tied the game at 30-30 as part of a 20-0 run by the Raiders over the end of the first half and the start of the second half to bring the hosts their second M-FC win in as many starts. But it was the all-around effort of freshman Danielle Jenkins, left, that was the difference as the Savannah, Georgia import led SCC with 19 points and also pulled down six rebounds. The Raiders will be looking to take the M-FC lead tonight against fellow unbeaten Central Florida Community College in Ocala



## Raiders beaten at home

By Dean Smith  
Sports Editor

SANFORD — The Seminole Community College men's basketball team gave it the old college try Saturday night, but just could not pull it off.

Santa Fe Community College from Gainesville used the tremendous quickness of guard Bryan Harrison and the overall athletic ability of former Pine Ridge star Alonzo Hird to keep the host Raiders at bay as the Saints held on for a 72-63 Mid-Florida Conference victory at the SCC Health and Physical Education Center.

Behind 12 points from Harrison and several blocked shots and rebounds by the 6-foot-9 Hird, SFCC was able to take a 33-28 lead into the lockerroom at half-time.

The Raiders stayed close behind the shooting of Rushawn Johnson, nine points all coming on three-point shots, and leading scorer TJ Jones, eight points, but foul trouble on the front line hurt SCC.

At the half, Will Greene had three personals, while Kemanie Samuels, Vince Mosley and William Graham had two fouls each.

The Raiders came out cold to open the second half as the Saints took a 10-point lead, which they held for much of the remainder of the game.

SFCC led by as many as 14, but SCC battled back to within seven and had a chance to get within six midway through the second half.

A missed free throw and lay-up, followed by a lay-up for the Saints, built the lead back to 11 and the Raiders could never cut effectively into the lead again.

Harrison finished with a game-high 23 points, while Johnson led SCC with 16. Jones chipped in with 13, while Graham had a big second half and finished with 12 points and seven rebounds.

The Raiders will look to get back on track tonight when they travel to Ocala to take on conference unbeaten Central Florida Community College. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m. following the women's 5:30 p.m. game at the 'White House.'

## UCF men escape Belmont 68-63 for 12th straight win

From Staff Reports

Gary Johnson scored a game high 24 points and led four players in double figures as UCF (14-2, 9-0) held on to defeat Belmont (9-5, 4-3) 68-63 at UCF Arena Monday evening. With the win, the Golden Knights posted their 12th consecutive victory and retained sole possession of first in the Atlantic Sun.

Leading 6-5 early in the game, the Knights went on an 11-0 run highlighted by three triples, including back-to-back treys from Johnson, to push its lead to 18-5 with just over 10 minutes to play in the opening stanza.

The Bruins chipped away at the lead and tied the game at 27 apiece with under two minutes remaining in the half and trailed just 31-29 lead at

the intermission.

Belmont took its first lead at 35-33 and the second half would remain nip-and-tuck as the score was tied on nine occasions and the lead would change hand 10 times.

The Bruins grabbed their largest lead, 50-43, with just over eight minutes remaining but the Knights were able to whittle the deficit as they connected on six consecutive

free throws to close to within one at 50-49 and then drew even at 52 all following Dexter Lyons traditional three-point play. The team's continued to battle and following Lyons' three were tied at 58 with less than three minutes remaining.

With the score knotted at 58, Johnson would score nine of the Knights final 10 points, including eight at the free

throw line.

UCF only had four players score in the game and all would be in double figures as both Josh Bodden and Lyons poured in 17, while Roberto Morentin added 10.

Saturday the Golden Knights, led by 13 points from Morentin, converted 28 turnovers into 26 points See College, Page 10





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71-HELP WANTED

Christian Science Church, Longwood seeking organist for Sunday & Wednesday services, and a soloist for Sunday services. Pls call Sandy, 386-575-2725.

DRIVERS

Large Bulk carrier looking for drivers to operate for Sanford, FL to various points in Florida. Requires a Class A CDL with X endorsement. Pneumatic tank experience preferred but will train qualified applicant. Sign on bonus. Excellent pay and benefits. Call 1-800-741-6800 ext. 229

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71-HELP WANTED

1 PT cook with Institutional Cooking exp. needed on weekends. Apply direct. The Sanford Bridge, 500 S Holly Ave, Sanford, 321-283-0200.

Equipment Operator: Loader, backhoe, backhoe for utilities contractor. 407-322-8133.

Full Time Entry Level Shop Technician Position w/Benefits Avail. w/Local Distributor. Requirements: Reading Micrometers, Reading Drawings, Attention to Detail. Lift 50+ lbs. Have a Positive Attitude & Willing to Learn. Apply at 200 Tech Drive, Sanford, FL. P#407-330-0301

Get paid to wave: Great opportunity for the outgoing and energetic. Days only, no experience necessary. Call 407-330-2076.

INVESTIGATE BEFORE YOU INVEST!

Always a good policy, especially for business opportunities and franchises. Call Florida Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services at 800-435-7352 or FTC-HELP for free information. Or visit our Web site at www.ftc.gov/bizop. Florida law requires sellers of certain business opportunities to register with Florida Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services before selling. Call to verify legal registration before you buy.

71-HELP WANTED

LABORERS NEEDED FOR UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTOR. PLANT Drug free workplace. Apply at: 990 Miller Drive, Altamonte Springs 407-260-9000.

Maintenance Manager: The Comfort Inn and Suites located at I-4 and SR46 is now recruiting for a hands on maintenance manager to join our dynamic team. Position is a salary position that will require a 5 1/2 various days workweek with minimum of 45 hours a week as well as being on call when not on property. Position is a one-person department that will be performing work orders and doing preventative maintenance in two rooms per day. HVAC, Electrical, Pool Certification and General Maintenance experience required. A team player and positive attitude a must. Salary based upon experience. Apply in person at Comfort Inn and Suites at 590 Ava Court, Sanford, FL, (next to Cracker Barrel), or E-mail slaytoncomfort@hotm.com or via fax to #407-585-1585.

Need experienced full time Waiter or Waitress. Ask for Peter, 407-323-4040

Extra Income \$12-\$17/Hr. Track & File US Government Hud/FHA Mortgage Refunds Home Training Provided Call Tracker Resource 1-800-301-2470

71-HELP WANTED

Part time Program Support Tech. Fri & Sat nights, 11pm-7am. Contact Ms. Deloris, Sanford Bridge, 321-283-0200.

Preschool teacher, Part Time mornings, degree or CDA required. 407-328-8260.

Responsible adult to manage and maintain numerous stocking locations. Good Driving record a must. Non-smoker. Able to communicate with people. Able to lift 50 lbs. Fastener experience a plus. Monday thru Friday. Company benefits. Apply in person Monday thru Friday, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Electronic/Fastners, Inc. 801 Cornwall Rd., Sanford, FL 32773

Sales Opportunity Qualified, experienced Mortgage/Sales professional. Must have \$60,000 prior. Turnkey. Down market ready. 100% commission split. Call (800) 854-0054, Friday only.

Tow Driver: Class D lic. Experience pref'd. Apply to Athon's Towing, 2499 Old Lake Mary Rd., Sanford, 407-321-2948.

Tutor: P/T, required 3 to 4 hours on week days for 3 children attending elementary & middle schools located in the Heathrow/Sanford area. Assistance needed with homework & FCAT. Begin Feb 04. Please fax resume & hourly rate expectation, 407-302-3016, pct\_tch@jagchiro.com

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Wanted: exp'd BKkeeper who wants to be financial wizard. Sm startup, \$8/hr F/T + Bonus. Lk Mary. Fax resume: 407-708-1886.

Wholesale distributor seeks experienced customer service/counter sale rep. Must be motivated & seek growth opportunity. Fax: 407-323-8811 call 407-328-0040. DFWP.

71-HELP WANTED

Wrecker Driver: Exp only. Seminole County. Must have clean license. Clean Background check. Drug test req. Call (407) 322-8522.

93-ROOMS FOR RENT

Lake Mary Blvd & 427. \$350/Mo. incl. util, kit, W/D, cable, nr SCC, airport, NS, quiet. Prof. 407-322-1607

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95-ROOMMATE WANTED

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95-ROOMMATE WANTED

Lake Mary, New Home, Exc. Area. \$395/MO wsh/dry, dish/HBO & tennis near SCC, Sem Twm Ctr. Quiet N/S. Prof. 407-322-1607

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96th YEAR No. 45  
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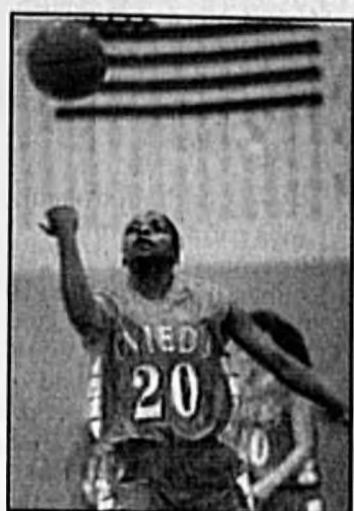
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**WEEKEND**

JANUARY 25, 2004



## Winning with Whitney

Whitney Tossie and the Oviedo girls basketball team are the first county team to get to 17 wins.

See Sports, Page 13

## Sheriff's office arrests man for child porn

A Lake Mary man is in the county jail after his arrest Tuesday on 99 counts of possession of child pornography.

Robert B. Corwin, 47, listed as a financial mortgage broker, was the subject of investigation after an arrest in Clearwater on Feb. 15, 2003. Clearwater police, working an Internet sting, arrested Corwin after he drove to Clearwater for what he thought was an alleged sexual liaison with a 12-year-old boy. Instead, Clearwater police were waiting for him.

He was arrested on their charge. Clearwater police subsequently contacted the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

Corwin's computer was seized at his home on Pine Bay Drive in Lake Mary. The sheriff's office computer forensics team was called in to analyze the data on his computer. The result of the search identified numerous graphics and video files which were consistent with violations of state statutes. The investigation found in excess of 99 photos of child pornography that had been exchanged and downloaded.

Corwin was located at his Lake Mary residence Tuesday and brought in for questioning and arrested. During the interrogation, Corwin is said to have told officers that any child pornographic images or video files on the computer were attained solely by him.

Authorities are trying to trace the origins of the photos, and will be in contact with other jurisdictions as the investigation continues. It is believed that there are no local victims in this case.

## Seminole Smile



Jane McLaughlin —  
Sanford Police  
Department Officer

# City Hall shake-up abolishes jobs

By Dan Ping  
Editor

SANFORD — For the second time in six months, the city of Sanford is laying off employees and restructuring staffing because of financial concerns.

City Manager Al Grieshaber informed 10 employees Thursday morning that their positions were being eliminated as part of a reduction in force (RIF). The employees, all white-collar

City manager says scale back is reorganization; he will ask commission to cut positions entirely Monday

workers in City Hall, included four top-level managers. Grieshaber said the RIF was a continuation of an employee layoff that occurred in June before he was hired by the city commission. At that time, 17 positions were eliminated with 14 employees losing their jobs.

The layoffs were made to stem increased spending from reserve funds, Grieshaber said. An unaudited financial analysis shows the city spent slightly more than \$1 million from reserves to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2003, which ended Sept. 30. Grieshaber projects the city

will again pull from reserves this year. "We've got to stop paying reoccurring costs with non-reoccurring revenue," Grieshaber said. But much of the reserve spending in recent years has been on one-time expenditures and not employee salaries. In fact, about

\$500,000 was pulled from reserves last year to repair a major stormwater pipe that collapsed in front of Victory Temple of God church on Pine Street.

Grieshaber said the reduction in force will save \$277,000 annually. That's about \$450,000 short of the \$750,000 Grieshaber said the city will have to pull from reserves to balance the 2004 Fiscal Year budget.

See Jobs, Page 3

## Equestrian LAW Enforcement

Sanford department begins volunteer mounted patrol



By Christopher Patton  
Managing Editor

SANFORD — There's a new posse in town, and like the ones portrayed in the old Western movies they're rounding up volunteers.

The Sanford Police Department officially began its Citizens on Mounted Patrol program last year with two volunteers. After some training in August, Mary Parkinson, of Edgewater, and Jackie Baker, of Sanford, patrolled the city streets for their first time in December.

"We had a lot of people that just stopped by," Parkinson said atop her horse Savannah. "They were so glad we were checking on their backyards."

The two volunteers primarily checked the alleyways of Sanford's historic district. They also were present at the downtown Christmas parade. According to Sanford police Sgt. Randy Smith, the mounted patrol will come in handy for patrolling tight areas such as alleys and downtown events.

"Once we get up and running we will be available to other agencies in the county for search and rescue," Smith said. "You can get to a lot of places

See Horse, Page 11



Mary Parkinson and her horse Savannah (top) were one of the firsts to sign up for the volunteer mounted patrol in Sanford. The initiative is being led (above) by Sanford police Sgt. Randy Smith and his horse Cherokee.

Herald photos by Tommy Vincent

## Iraqi Diary: Training the newcomers

Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Charlie C. Carlson III, son of Sanford historian Charlie C. Carlson II, is deployed in Baghdad as part of the 549th Military Police Company. He is providing the Herald with a journal of his experiences.

17 Jan. 2004 We went on patrol yesterday it was a muddy mess. We have had rainy weather and road conditions are muddy with large puddles and pot holes.

We were headed back into Camp Marlboro and I was in the last of three vehicles of my patrol. I was looking ahead just in time to see this Iraqi girl slip in the mud. She got up and then slipped up

again. Some kids were pointing at her and laughing. She quickly turned on them, yelling and waving her hands in a mad manner. She wasn't hurt, but she was muddy and mad. Then my first vehicle hit a pot hole and splashed water on a sheep and an Iraqi guy that were beside the road, they both jumped back at the same time.

I have been spending most of my time with our new soldier and lieutenant, training them for the situation here. I



Carlson

did MK64/MOD9 assemblies for my three teams which gave my new gunner a chance to get familiar with his equipment. Today I took the new folks to the 2nd Cavalry range. We conducted an M4 weapons qualification in which our new lieutenant qualified expert with her M4. She thanked me for the help and coaching I gave her, and for helping her on the M68 sight adjustment.

The NCO in charge of the

See Diary, Page 11

## County to address ORMC shortfall

By Christopher Patton  
Managing Editor

LAKE MARY — Seminole County Commissioners are expected to hear results from a task force charged with finding a solution to the Orlando Regional Medical Center (ORMC) Level I Trauma Center fiscal concerns.

In September, commissioners refused to provide \$600,000 to cover a \$5.8 million shortfall at ORMC. They were the only government entity to do so as the city of Orlando and four other surrounding counties of Orange, Osceola, Lake and Sumter all donated public funds to ORMC.

The estimated shortage by ORMC is to help pay for requests from physicians to increase their per diem rates. Without public assistance, ORMC officials said they may be forced to close the only level I trauma center in the Orlando region.

The Seminole County Health Task Force — comprised of 11 individuals from the medical, insurance and consulting fields — ended its fifth meeting at the Lake Mary Community Center Wednesday evening with grim news of its previous work. A

special visit from State Rep. David Simmons (R-Longwood) put to rest that any suggestion to raise taxes to support the ORMC shortfall would surely be defeated by state leaders.

An ORMC task force appointed by area state legislators ended its investigation of the situation in December and endorsed a plan that would ask taxpayers to foot the bill for the trauma center.

"I can state to you the recommendations that they made, which I reviewed, I think have very little chance, as a matter of fact, zero chance of passing in the legislature and Florida House," Simmons said. "The speaker has made it very clear that any efforts to raise taxes is going nowhere in the Florida House and that is quote nonnegotiable."

According to Simmons, there are other alternatives to solving the trauma center fiscal woes without increasing taxes. He said he would be filing a bill during the upcoming session that would raise the automobile insurance requirement for personal injury protection (PIP) — or "no fault" coverage — from \$10,000 to

See ORMC, Page 3



Simmons

## Director of state lands to visit Wekiva group

From Staff Reports

Eva Armstrong, director of the Division of State Lands for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will give a program sponsored by the Friends of the Wekiva River, Inc. (FOWR) on Thursday, Feb. 5.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Markham Woods Road, located on the east side about a mile north of State Road 434.

Armstrong will illustrate the lands the state has already acquired, and stress the need to target and purchase additional lands via the Florida Forever land buying fund. (Florida Forever was previously Preservation 2000.) She will show slides of public lands, discussing the unique environmental values and

wildlife of each.

The program is free and open to the public.

"The work of the Division of State Lands has never been more important," said Armstrong, who works from the DEP office in Tallahassee. "We get over 800 new residents a day moving to Florida. Unless we buy these wild areas, these unique ecosystems, they'll be lost forever."

In her role with DEP, Armstrong helps target fragile natural land for public purchase and otherwise helps evaluate the need for conservation lands in Florida. Florida is blessed by having nearly 24 percent of its total lands protected as state parks and preserves, national forests, county and city parks, and private preserves.

Yet, Florida is also losing

See Wekiva, Page 3

### Natural Attraction

**WHO:** Eva Armstrong, director of the Division of State Lands for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
**WHAT:** A program about natural lands the state has preserved and other lands they are targeting  
**WHEN:** Thursday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Seventh Day Adventist Church on Markham Woods Road

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