



Seminole Herald

WEEKEND
December 19, 1999
92nd Year, No. 85
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Sanford, FL
75 Cents

Serving
Sanford, Casselberry,
Lake Mary, Longwood,
Oviedo, Winter Springs
and Seminole County
Since 1908



Weather
Mostly Cloudy
w/ few showers.
High: 74
Low: 56

2A



**Dingle, Raiders
Rout Broward**

1B



**Find Romance
on Lake
Monroe**

1C

SO WHEN SANTA CLAUS
BRINGS ME A DOG, I
WON'T HAVE TO BORROW
YOU ANYMORE..



Dec. 19
6 shopping
days to Christmas

Bike Ride is Sunday

Sunday, Dec. 18, the Seminole County Police Athletic League Inc. is hosting a 28-mile Bike Ride/Charity Fundraiser.

The bike ride starts 8:30 a.m. at Lake Mary Cycles, 105 Waymont Court. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 per participant.

The money raised will be used to provide food and gifts for needy families throughout Seminole County. Bike patrol members from Seminole County law enforcement plan to take part, as do members of a bicycling club. The riders will have a police escort.

For more information, contact Sgt. John Zeh at 407-665-6763.

Today is ...

Sunday, Dec. 19, 1999
Today is the 353rd day of 1999
and the 88th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1686, Scots sailor Alexander Selkirk was rescued from the uninhabited island of Juan Fernandez in the Pacific Ocean. His adventures were the basis of Daniel Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe."

On this day in 1950, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was appointed commander of NATO forces.

On this day in 1957, "The Music Man," starring Robert Preston, opened on Broadway.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ralph Richardson (1902-1983), actor; Leonid Brezhnev (1906-1982), Soviet leader; Jean Genet (1910-1986), writer; Edith Piaf (1915-1963), singer; Cicely Tyson (1933-), actress, is 66; Phil Ochs (1940-1976), singer; Richard E. Leakey (1944-), anthropologist, is 55; Kevin McHale (1957-), basketball player, is 42.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1948, the Philadelphia Eagles defeated the Chicago Cardinals 7-0, winning the NFL championship. The game was played in a snowstorm.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Actors are the jockeys of literature. Others supply the horses, the plays, and we simply make them run."
Ralph Richardson

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Dec. 15) and full moon (Dec. 22).

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Index

Business 6A
Classified 4B-6B
Comics 6C
Crossword 6B
Dear Abby 5C
Horoscope 6C
Obituaries 3A
Opinion 4A-5A
People 3C-5C
Police Log 3A
Sports 1B-3B

Police shooting victim had fake gun

By Bill Kerns
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Investigators have determined that the man who was fatally shot by Seminole County sheriff's deputies in Longwood on Thursday was carrying a replica of a semi-automatic handgun, not an actual weapon.

Jay Scott Duff, 33, was fatally shot by deputies Thursday at 11:20 p.m. after he rushed at them with what appeared to be a weapon in his hand in the parking lot at the Brauser Business Center just off

Duff charged officers with replica of a semi-automatic pistol

1225 Bennett Drive in Longwood. "Deputies observed the subject charging at them, with his hands outstretched in front of him, with what they believed was a handgun," said Steve Olson, a spokesman for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies shot Duff several times, and

he was pronounced dead at the scene, Olson said.

Investigators on Friday determined that the object in Duff's hand was a replica of a semi-automatic pistol, a non-firing device.

An investigation is being conducted to determine how many rounds were fired,

and how many times Duff was hit. Six deputies were involved in the shooting. They are on administrative duty as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Sheriff's Office conducts an investigation into the case.

Duff is also a suspect in a series of crimes which occurred earlier that day in the Casselberry and Longwood areas, according to investigators.

According to Casselberry police, purses belonging to victims of a pair of robberies that occurred earlier on Thursday

See Gun, Page 7A

Schools pursue grant funding for to boost test scores

By Bill Kerns
Staff Writer

SANFORD — The Seminole County School Board is applying for \$600,000 in state grants for teacher training and a proposed Leadership Academy.

The grants are designed to provide training for teachers to assist them in raising test scores of low-performing students and those in Exceptional Student Education programs.

Governor Jeb Bush's 1-year-old A+ Plan calls for schools to receive letter grades based primarily on student scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), which measures reading, writing and math skills. Other factors include suspension rates, attendance, and high school graduation rates.

"We've done a pretty good job of funneling money to (six) schools that got D's," said School Board member Larry Furlong. "But, as I understand this A+ Plan, literally one point on a test can make or break a letter grade for a school. We've got to look harder at the C schools. We don't want them get D's."

The Leadership Academy would begin through a \$100,000 grant proposal. The Academy

would provide networking and training to administrators and teachers are designated as leaders in the school-district.

The school-district is also applying for a \$300,000 grant to train teachers in methods of meeting state standards for the education of Exceptional Students.

The district would analyze data of low performing students and develop strategies to better meet their educational needs.

In addition, the school-district is applying for a \$200,000 grant through the Goals 2000 program for training teachers. The training would include mentoring, research, and tuition assistance.

Programs would be planned to encourage the retention of teachers at low performing schools. In addition, the district will provide training for teachers in grades five to six and eight to nine, when students are making the transition from elementary school to middle school and from middle school to high school.

"The training would be used in as many schools as possible," said Marion Dailey, director of instructional support services for the school-district.

All three of the projects
See Schools, Page 7A

New center for children



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Timothy Hudson, Sheryl Moon, Shirley Allen, Bernard Brown, Edward Blacksheare and Velma Williams unveil the sign for the new child care center operated by the Sanford Housing Authority.

SHA to open new center

By Bill Kerns
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Grand opening ceremonies were held Thursday for a new child care center operated by the Sanford Housing Authority.

The New Beginning Child Care Center, located at 1221 W. 7th Street, will be ready for use by children on Jan. 5, 2000. It will be open to the public weekdays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., with reduced prices for families who receive federal income assistance.

"We have found that the number one barrier

to individuals becoming self sufficient is the need for child care," said Tim Hudson, director of the Sanford Housing Authority.

The facility is equipped to house 31 children. The staff will initially include two infant teachers, one toddler teacher with an assistant, and one pre-school teacher. As enrollment increases, the staff will also increase.

"We have really experienced workers," Hudson said.

The building has been a child care facility since 1959, most recently as the Westhaven

See Center, Page 7A

Lake Monroe prairie dog has a name

By Michelle Jerla
Managing Editor

The mystery of how a prairie dog came to live on the shore of Lake Monroe

may be answered.

Several months ago, Sanford resident Melissa Lewis said she lost a male prairie dog after the four-legged rodent



escaped from her apartment. Although she searched for it, she was unable to find her lost pet.

"We didn't give up looking for it for it for a couple of weeks," Lewis said. "Finally,

we thought the poor thing had died."

However, after seeing an article in the Seminole Herald about a prairie dog living on Lake Monroe, she realized her pet, who she calls Chip, may still be alive.

Chip, along with his sister, Daisy, was purchased by Lewis at a local pet store several months before the escape. Each prairie dog cost approximately \$250.

Lewis said Chip escaped after finding an opening under her dishwasher which
See Name, Page 7A

Lake Howell senior honors grandfather in art contest

By Nicole King
Herald Intern

Hugo Pasquarelli thought he was going out to dinner with his family. They had promised him a meal and he was hungry. So he was understandably puzzled when they drove to the Winter Springs VFW.

"I was wondering why we were there," Hugo said. "We were supposed to go out to dinner and we ended up at the VFW."

What Hugo didn't know was that his granddaughter Mandy Bernardi had drawn a colored pencil picture of him and had entered it into the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Award.

Mandy, 18, a senior at Lake Howell High, wants to attend college at Cooper Union, an art school in New York City. The



Photo submitted to the Herald

Hugo Pasquarelli and his granddaughter Mandy Bernardi with the drawing Mandy created of Hugo.

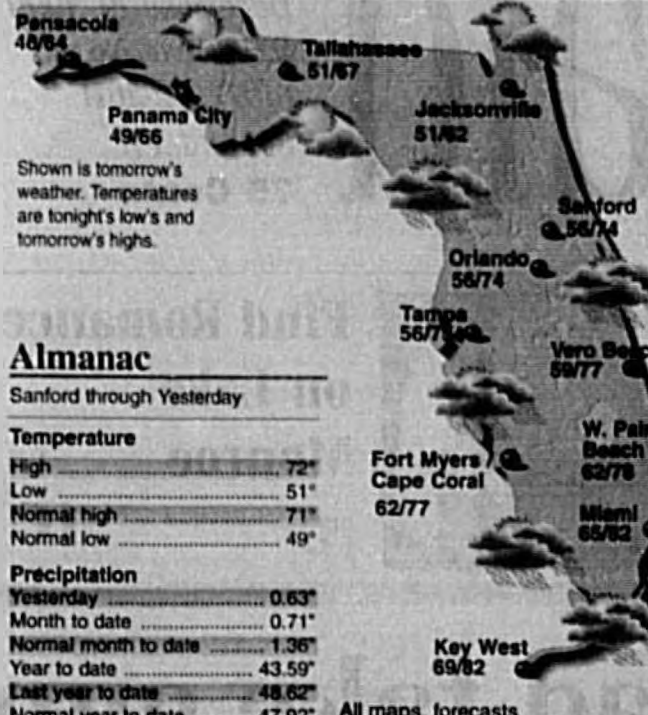
Art Award is a scholarship sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary VFW and encourages stu-

dents to draw a patriotic picture. Mandy chose to draw her
See Honors, Page 7A

ACCU WEATHER® FORECAST FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY

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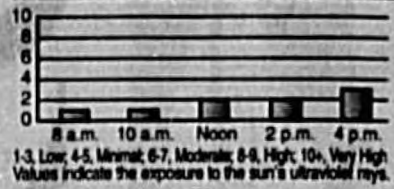
Florida Weather



Five-Day Forecast for Sanford



UV Index Tomorrow



Almanac

Sanford through Yesterday

Temperature

High 72°
Low 51°
Normal high 71°
Normal low 49°

Precipitation

Yesterday 0.63"
Month to date 0.71"
Normal month to date 1.36"
Year to date 43.59"
Last year to date 48.62"
Normal year to date 47.92"

Regional Weather

Florida: Plenty of clouds tonight with a few showers, especially in central and southern areas. Variable cloudiness tomorrow with a few showers.

Georgia: Mostly cloudy tonight with a few showers across the south; partly cloudy across the north. Variable cloudiness tomorrow with a shower.

Mississippi: Partly to mostly cloudy tonight with a shower possible in the extreme southeast. Partly sunny tomorrow.

Alabama: Mostly cloudy with a few showers tonight. Variable cloudiness tomorrow with a few showers, mainly in the morning.

South Carolina: Partly to mostly cloudy tonight with rain across the extreme east. Mostly cloudy tomorrow with showers possible late along the coast.

Louisiana: Mainly clear to partly cloudy tonight. Plenty of sunshine and pleasant tomorrow.

Sun and Moon

Sunset tonight 5:31 p.m.
Sunrise Sunday 7:13 a.m.
Moonrise today 2:27 p.m.
Moonset today 2:27 a.m.

Full Moon Dec 22
Last Quarter Dec 29
New Moon Jan 6
First Quarter Jan 14

Tides

Tides for Daytona Beach Shores, Sunglow Pier

Tomorrow

Time	Height
First Low	10:46 a.m. 0.2 ft.
First High	4:24 a.m. 4.6 ft.
Second Low	11:01 p.m. -0.4 ft.
Second High	4:47 p.m. 4.2 ft.

Monday

Time	Height
First Low	11:45 a.m. -0.2 ft.
First High	5:24 a.m. 4.9 ft.
Second Low	11:56 p.m. -0.7 ft.
Second High	5:46 p.m. 4.3 ft.

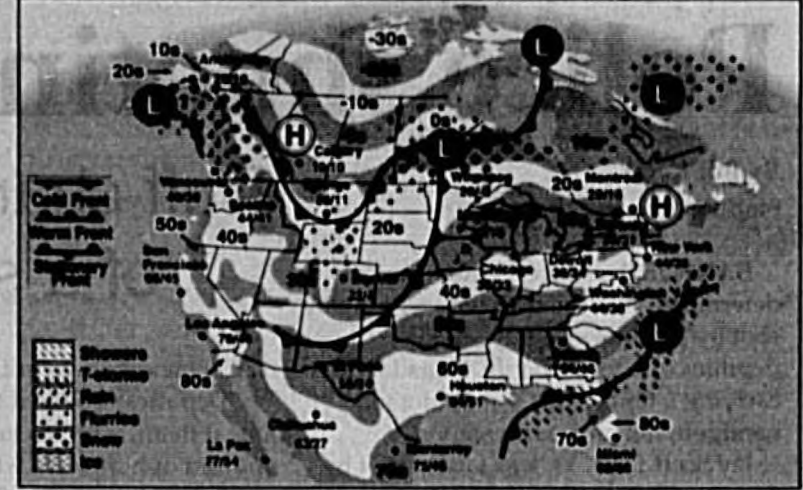
Regional Cities

City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albany, GA	58	47	c	63	49	c
Apalachicola	65	53	pc	67	51	c
Atlanta, GA	54	46	c	58	42	c
Bainbridge, GA	67	49	sh	67	51	c
Boca Raton	78	66	pc	81	67	pc
Cairo, GA	66	48	c	66	51	c
Coral Springs	77	66	pc	79	65	pc
Crestview	63	52	sh	65	47	c
FL. Lauderdale	80	66	pc	81	66	pc
Fort Myers	77	61	pc	83	62	pc
Gainesville	67	52	sh	78	57	pc
Key West	82	71	pc	80	73	pc
Kissimmee	78	67	pc	77	66	pc
Lakeland	74	56	pc	78	61	pc
Melbourne	73	62	pc	78	61	pc
Naples	79	61	pc	84	62	pc
Ocala	74	63	pc	78	66	pc
Panama City	64	53	sh	65	47	c
Sarasota	79	69	pc	78	63	pc
St. Augustine	64	54	sh	78	56	c
St. Petersburg	77	60	pc	78	65	pc
Tallahassee	67	50	pc	68	62	pc
Tampa	75	58	pc	77	62	pc
Thomasville	67	48	c	66	51	c
Widows, GA	67	48	c	67	58	c
Vero Beach	77	60	pc	78	63	pc
W. Palm Bch.	78	65	pc	80	66	pc

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	54	46	c	58	42	c
Baltimore	44	32	pc	51	39	c
Birmingham	59	47	sh	58	39	c
Boise	43	26	c	32	19	c
Boston	37	30	s	46	36	s
Charleston, SC	58	48	c	65	52	c
Charleston, WV	47	40	pc	59	40	c
Chicago	38	33	c	34	18	sn
Cleveland	45	34	s	44	33	c
Daytona Beach	69	56	sh	78	59	pc
Denver	32	4	s	28	12	s
Des Moines	36	15	sn	21	13	sl
Detroit	38	34	pc	42	30	c
El Paso	56	24	s	50	23	s
Fairbanks	15	1	c	8	-7	sn
Grand Rapids	37	32	pc	37	24	sn
Helena	27	16	pc	37	24	sl
Honolulu	74	62	s	79	65	pc
Houston	64	51	pc	60	28	c
Indianapolis	47	36	pc	59	28	sh
Jacksonville	62	52	c	74	55	pc
Kansas City	42	24	c	27	13	c
Las Vegas	62	39	s	58	35	s
Little Rock	55	41	pc	48	28	sh
Louisville	54	45	pc	48	33	sh
Memphis	59	49	pc	50	32	sh
Miami	82	68	pc	80	69	pc
Minneapolis	37	31	c	32	20	sn
Mobile	30	16	c	19	7	sn
Nashville	59	49	pc	50	35	c
New Orleans	61	50	pc	64	46	c
New York City	44	36	s	46	36	pc
Oklahoma City	49	29	c	36	21	c
Omaha	32	14	sl	24	11	c
Philadelphia	44	32	s	51	41	c
Phoenix	68	41	s	68	44	s
Portland, OR	47	42	c	48	40	c
Providence	36	26	s	47	37	pc
Raleigh-Durham	48	43	pc	59	45	c
Rapid City	26	5	pc	25	14	pc
Reino	52	22	s	50	20	s
St. Louis	48	35	c	36	21	f
Salt Lake City	38	19	pc	38	20	pc
San Antonio	30	8	s	30	11	s
St. Pete, FL	34	26	pc	32	18	sn
Seattle	44	41	sh	50	42	c
Topeka	42	22	c	28	15	c
Tucson	66	32	s	64	35	s
Washington, DC	44	36	pc	50	43	c

Tomorrow's National Weather



World Cities

City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Athens	66	57	c	67	51	sh
Beijing	20	8	c	15	0	pc
Berlin	32	17	pc	18	12	pc
Buenos Aires	83	63	pc	85	67	pc
Cairo	77	63	pc	82	69	pc
Hong Kong	65	46	pc	66	46	sh
Jerusalem	69	51	s	71	56	pc
London	36	25	s	40	33	s
Moscow	68	78	pc	69	71	f
Mexico City	88	73	pc	86	71	pc
Moscow	30	15	sl	16	9	pc
Paris	37	27	pc	33	27	s
Rome	65	46	c	64	38	f
Seoul	22	7	pc	15	5	pc
Sydney	71	59	sh	65	58	pc
Tokyo	41	36	pc	47	36	c
Winnipeg	30	18	pc	17	11	pc
Zurich	38	18	sn	21	18	c

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• finding life's purpose
• building friendships

You're invited to keep dry with us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am at the movie theater behind the Seminole Towne Center Mall.

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NOTICE

Due to manufacturer's shipping delays, the Goldeneye 007 video game for Nintendo 64 and the Madden NFL 2000 video game for Gameboy on page 2 in this week's Target advertising supplement will not be available. Rain checks will be offered. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

TARGET
EXPECT MORE. PAY LESS.™

New Years Eve Gala

\$30.00 Per Person • \$55.00 Per Couple
7:00 PM - ?
Public Is Invited
Music By Jack Elton
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Happy Year 2000

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SAVE \$1,300

Home Service Kit includes oil, air, and fuel filters; foam pre-cleaner; spark plugs; and two quarts of oil.

Spring is just around the corner at you John Deere dealer's store. And with huge savings and Same-As-Cash until June 2000* on a full line of lawn and garden equipment, you may see green long before the first day of spring. So don't wait for your grass to grow. See your John Deere dealer today, because offers end February 29, 2000.

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*Offer ends February 29, 2000. Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan, for non-commercial use. If balance is not paid in full by the end of the Same As Cash promotional period, interest will be assessed from the original date of purchase at 19.8% APR unless you reside in CA (19.2% APR). AL, FL, KS, LA, ME, MA, MN, NE, NC, ND, PA, VT & WV (18% APR); TX (14% APR, but rate may vary); with a \$0.50 per month minimum. Other special rates and terms may be available, including installment financing and financing for commercial use. Available at participating dealers. Prices and models may vary by dealer.

What no Peggy, no Dorothy, no Sonja?

When I think of influential women in sports, my thoughts do not concur with a list recently printed in the O.P. (Opposition Paper).

The O.P. was sailing along with picks No. 1 and No. 2 Babe Didrikson Zaharius and Billie Jean King were no brainers.

Then came Donna Lopiano.

So, I'm saying to myself maybe a Grand Piano or a Steinway. But what's a Lopiano? Should we be paying this much respect to

someone 99.9 percent of the world doesn't know exists? Personally, I'd have picked Wilma Rudolph, Althea Gibson, Nancy Lopez or Mary Lou Retton as the No. 3. The O.P. had them ranked 5th, 6th, 30th and 44th.

Worse yet, the O.P. choose raspy-voiced commentator Mary Carillo as its 20th pick — far ahead of the great champion Chris Evert (29) whose game has been copied by scores of players who followed her into tennis. Maureen (Little Mo) Connolly and Steffi Graf, two of the game's most super champions, aren't even on the list. Neither are earlier tennis greats, Helen

Willis and Alice Marble.

For some reason, the O.P. reused to recognize a single woman figure skater on its All-Century Roster — nor list the Olympic Champion U.S. Women's Ice Hockey team. I wouldn't have objected to having Peggy Fleming or Dorothy Hamill near the top of the list. Sonja Henie definitely should be there (she has her skates on Hollywood's Walk of Fame). And what about Katarina Witt? We hear *Playboy* ranks her No. 1 on its roll.

Ice skating today is more popular than reading newspapers. As far as influential women in sports go, wouldn't you agree that Marge Schott had an influence on baseball? No owner's name — not even George Steinbrenner's — was mentioned as frequently in recent year's than Schott's. Marge couldn't tell you which league her Cincinnati Reds were in. Marge, to be sure, was in a league of her own.

The Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders deserve credit for their contributions to sports. They became America's Team before the Cowboys did. I'd pick them

over Donna Lopiano.

I'm glad the O.P. didn't have Roseanne Barr on its list of influential women in sport. She almost single-handedly ruined singing the National Anthem at the ballpark. Morganna the Kissing Bandit made her mark yet wasn't listed either. Too kissy-kissy.

If it were my pick for the woman who changed sports broadcasting it would have been Phyllis George's debut at CBS opened the door for the many, many women now doing TV and Radio. Do you remember when George asked Roger Staubach why he didn't talk as much about his sex life as Joe Namath did of his. To her surprise, Staubach answered that he had sex often but with only one woman — his wife.

Women will be more prevalent in the 21st Century Sports. We better keep an eye on Venus and Serena Williams. I figure a woman is going to pitch in the Big-Leagues soon and another place kick in the NFL. I doubt, however if we'll ever see another Babe like Babe Didrikson Zaharius. Say goodnight, Donna Lopiano.

Russ White's column appears Tuesday through Sunday in the Seminole Herald.

Russ White

Obituaries

CAROLINE MAE ADDISON

Caroline Mae Addison, 67, Sawyer Street, Orlando, died Thursday, Dec. 16, 1999. Mrs. Addison was a homemaker. Born in St. Paul, Minn., she moved to Central Florida in 1969 from Anaheim, Calif. She was Lutheran.

Survivors include daughters, Becky Fuerst of Orlando, Kari Griffin of Orlando; son, Rick Fuerst of Orlando; brothers, Carl Anderson of Atlanta, David Anderson of Big Lake, Minn., Ronald Anderson of Tacoma, Wash.; sister, Kathy Olivier of Orlando; one granddaughter. Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home, Oviedo Chapel, is in charge of arrangements.

CLARA L. BURT

Clara L. Burt, 77, Triplet Lake Drive, Casselberry, died Friday,

Dec. 17, 1999 at her residence. Mrs. Burt was a homemaker. Born Sept. 26, 1922 in New Castle, Ind., she resided in Central Florida for 47 years. She was a member of Prairie Lake Baptist Church.

Survivors include husband, Leo E. Burt, Casselberry; son, Jerry Hardesty, Casselberry; brother, Charles Richey, Tucson, Ariz.; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

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

MYRTLE ELLEN SMITH

Myrtle Ellen Smith, 82, Fort Pierce, died Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1999. Mrs. Smith was born Nov. 10, 1917 in Bluefield, W.Va. She was a former resident of Sanford for 45 years, moving to Fort Pierce in 1997.

Survivors include husband, Byron Smith, Jr., Fort Pierce; daughter, Linda Schirard, Fort Pierce; son, Byron "Bucky" Smith, LaBelle; brother, Leo Jackson "Jack" White, Bluefield, W.Va.; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Yates Funeral Homes, Fort Pierce, is in charge of arrangements.

TRUTH NAOMI WILLIAMS

Truth Naomi Williams, 82, Becon Tree Place, Oviedo, died Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1999. Mrs. Williams was an assembler for Universal Company. Born June 27, 1917 in Paterson, N.J., she moved to Central Florida in 1987 from New Jersey. She was Protestant.

Survivors include daughter, Robin Appel, Oviedo; four grandchildren.

Jerla named Herald managing editor

From Staff Reports

The *Seminole Herald* has hired Michelle Jerla to serve as the paper's managing editor.

Jerla comes to the *Herald* from the *Roane County News*, located in Kingston, Tenn., where she served as news-editor. She was also editor of the *News'* weekly publication, *The Rockwood Times*.

A University of Tennessee-Knoxville graduate, Jerla earned a bachelor's degree in communications. She also earned a professional degree from the Danish School of Journalism, located in Aarhus, Denmark.

"Michelle comes to the *Seminole Herald* with impressive credentials," said *Herald* Publisher Doug Fetzer. "We look forward to Michelle

becoming a part of the *Herald* team, as well as an active member of the community."

Jerla began her newspaper career as a reporter for the Kingston newspaper, covering several municipalities and the education beat. She also held several freelance jobs, including the designer of a quarterly newsletter for an assisted-living community and media coordinator for the area's annual county fair.

During her career, Jerla has received numerous awards, including first place for news coverage and feature writing.

She also was recognized for her page design, photography and overall newspaper layout. "We're very pleased to have a journalist of Michelle's caliber join our staff," said *Herald* Editor Dan Ping. "Her talents will be an asset to the *Herald*."

As managing editor at the *Seminole Herald*, Jerla will assist Ping in the news department's daily operations. In addition, she will cover the Lake Mary area and oversee the production of the paper's Sunday Life Style section.

"I look forward to exploring my new surroundings and meeting people in the community," Jerla said. "The *Seminole Herald* is a good newspaper; and, as part of a team, I hope to help make it a great newspaper."

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Police Log

DUI

Casselberry - Zane Richard Sustaita, 20, 550 Hattaway Dr., Altamonte Springs, was stopped on December 17 at 2:41 a.m. by Casselberry Police Officers. He was charged with DUI.

Lake Mary - Branimir Hanzir Ladusic, 28, of 302 Rachelle Ave., Sanford, was stopped by Lake Mary Police Officers on December 17 at 3:28 a.m. He was charged with DUI.

Lake Mary - Anthony T. Morales, 28, 651 N. Park Avenue, 651 Park Ave. Winter Park, was stopped by Lake Mary Police Officers on December 16 at 3:47 a.m. Charded with DUI.

Sanford - Daniel D. Rohloff, 36, of Lake Monroe, was stopped by Sanford Police Officers on December 12 at 11:43 p.m. He was charged with DUI.

Altamonte Springs - Mike Richard Roeschlein, 32, of 520 Seasons Court, Winter Springs, was stopped by Sheriff's Office Deputies. He was charged with

DUI

Sanford - Dilworth Dixon, 35, of 223 Tuskegeest Street, Sanford and Oscar Edwards, 28, of Maltese Court, Fern Bern, were arrested on December 16 by Sanford Police Officers. They were charged with possession of cannabis and possession of cannabis with intent to sell or deliver.

Grand Theft

Altamonte Springs - Michael Patrick Dougherty, 49, 643 Tangerine Street, Altamonte Springs was arrested by Sheriff Department Deputies on December 16 at 6:20 p.m. He was charged with Grand Theft.

Battery/Domestic Violence Winter Springs - Michael Lee Montgomery, 20, of 11th Street, Sanford, was arrested by Winter Springs Police Officers on December 16. He was charged with Battery/Domestic Violence.

Disorderly Conduct

Sanford - Sheniqa Jennie Daw-

son, 20, of 116 Wind Ridge Circle, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford Police Officers on December 16 at 4 p.m. She was charged with Disorderly Conduct.

Aggravated Assault With a Firearm

Sanford - Jermaine Terrell Jackson, 18, of 1205 W 13th Street, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford Police Officers on December 17 at 12:18 a.m. He was charged with Aggravated Assault with a Firearm.

Child Neglect

Sanford - John Joseph Hoover, 47, 4035 Honeybee Point, Sanford, was arrested by Sheriff's Office Deputies on December 16 at 5 p.m. He was charged with Child Neglect and Possession of Drug paraphernalia.

Grand Theft/Automobile Altamonte Springs - Kenneth J. Riqueline, 18, 866 Prienta Ave., Altamonte Springs, was arrested by Sheriff's Office Deputies on December 16 at 10:30 p.m. He was charged with Grand Theft/Automobile.

LOTTERY

Here are the winning numbers selected in the Florida Lottery:

Fantasy 5 (Dec. 17)
1-5-8-18-22

Lotto (Dec. 18)
6-18-32-38-48-48

Mega Money (Dec. 17)
6-6-14-24 - Megaball 28



Dec. 17
Play 4
5-4-0-3
Cash 3
5-6-8

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Opinion

Our View

Are there Scrooges in Sanford?

Recently, a 69-year-old man in a southern Seminole County community became aware of a neighbor who needed cheering up for Christmas. The neighbor had lost a leg due to an illness.

Believing in the old adage "neighbor helping neighbor," he took it upon himself to go house-to-house, asking for donations, with which to give his neighbor and his family some Christmas joy. According to the daughter of the 69-year-old man, only one neighbor gave a donation.

She told the Herald, "Most of the rest either said they didn't know the man, or didn't wish to give because he wasn't a member of their church." She said her father just couldn't believe the responses he heard, and was extremely disappointed.

This wasn't a low income neighborhood. It's rather upscale. It apparently wasn't a case where neighbors hardly had enough for themselves and simply couldn't afford to help.

We, as are the daughter and her father, are surprised at the lack of response. It appears that we have more Scrooges with a bah-humbug attitude than one would expect, especially at this time of year.

We also question the response that they couldn't give because the man "was not a member of a certain church." If many people barely knew him, what did they know of his beliefs. For that matter, if he wasn't even connected to religion, he is still a human being, and as such, should be considered as one deserving of the kindness of others.

There is no question that there will be people around the world, in the U.S.A., in Florida, Seminole County, and possibly right next door to us, who won't have a happy holiday season. It would be impossible to assume everyone will have a Merry Christmas, or every child will have gifts under that tree, if indeed, there even is a tree.

But from time to time, we have the opportunity to help another person. Even Scrooge eventually saw the light. When opportunity knocks, open the door. However, do exercise caution in giving freely, as there are some who are using this time of year to fill their own coffers in the name of charity.

When the cause is right, let's help others. Don't be a Scrooge.



Your View

Guff says educate, do not advocate

To the editor:

The Dec. 17 Sentinel carries an article titled "Principals Question Drug Policy." In this article, the Sentinel points out that Dr. Ron Pinnel, two principals and Board Member Jeanne Morris differ with the official Board Policy about expelling students in possession of controlled substances at schools. The article states that 23 students have been expelled for possession of controlled substances as compared with 3 for the same time period in the each of the previous three years.

Since I am the Board Member who suggested the zero tolerance policy mean zero tolerance last summer, I would like to respond:

Since the Board on a 4-1 vote adopted the policy last summer, I have spoken to Dr. Pinnel and many principals in the school system. My message has been

constant and repetitive. Educate students about the policy! I have asked that Dr. Pinnel make sure the message "Bring your drugs or weapons to school — and you are gone!" is presented as more than a one time warning during the first day or two of school when discipline policies are discussed. I have asked teachers spend 5 to 15 seconds each week or at the beginning of each grading period to remind students that being in possession of controlled substances or weapons on school grounds means that they will be expelled. I have asked that newsletters from schools remind parents of the consequences and that school newspapers carry ads to remind students what happens if they choose to bring controlled substances or weapons to school.

Little of this has been done. Apparently, the administration has chosen to abdicate, rather than educate.

We all know that much of learning is about repetition. Only

fools think you can tell a child once and have meaningful understanding of all aspects of the situations they may find themselves in. We haven't taught children in meaningful ways about the personal costs of involvement with controlled substances or weapons in our schools. Rather, some more liberal individuals under the guise of being more soft-hearted toward wayward children are suggesting that the Board water down the policy and allow for 54 different interpretations of "zero tolerance".

At the Dec. 14th Board meeting, I called for schools to "Educate — Not Abdicate!" After all, we are in the education business. After sitting on expulsion panels for three plus years, I am more convinced than ever that the use of drugs is a major cause of disruption in classrooms. Students in possession and bragging to their friends, or under the influence, or desperately needing their

next drug experience show up in case after case. Usually there are 10, 20 or even 30 referrals in their discipline record. That's 10, 20, even 30 times that education in that student's classroom stopped while the student was referred to the office. That's unacceptable to me.

We can, and should, teach students that the proper response to being handed drugs in school is "Hands Down-Walk Away." Just turn your hand over and let them drop to the ground — then walk away. Students who do that are not in possession and will not get in trouble. It's a message that should be taught in all our schools. The public is demanding accountability in the classroom. Sending an unequivocal message to students that schools are places to learn is a part of classroom control and accountability in schools.

Bob Goff
School Board Member
District 3

The Meter

A few days before Christmas and all through Sanford, The Meter measures up who has been naughty or nice.



Do you hear what I hear? The Board of Seminole County Commissioners kept a meeting going past 3 a.m. this past week. Chairman Carlton Henley said he appreciated the other commissioners for their willingness to listen to comments from citizens concerned about zoning changes and development proposals.



Best wishes: Thanks, Charles Schutz, for nearly 50 years of memories. Schutz will retire on Jan. 4 because of illness. We'll miss Snoopy, Charlie Brown and the rest of the gang. We wish him well in his battle with colon cancer.



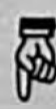
Jingle bells: Charles Anderson is once again ringing the Salvation Army Christmas bells. Monies he and other bell ringers receive will help needy families in the area. Say Merry Christmas to Charles and the other ringers when you see him at the Sanford Wal-Mart Plaza.



Knock, Knock: Later this month Sanford police will begin knocking on doors throughout the city, bringing bags full of crime prevention tips. Patrol officers will visit 12 homes per week. That's one way of building communication with residents.



Laughing all the way: Thank you, everyone for driving courteously and safely while doing your Christmas shopping. We've heard it from one of Santa's elves that law enforcement officers may give citations of appreciation for drivers they see being courteous. These good citizens could receive food or gift certificates. Bad drivers will receive worse than charcoal.



Enough, already: The Ridgewood Villas apartment complex is condemned, and since November city officials have been serving title notices to proceed with demolition. On Thursday a fire erupted at the complex, destroying one of the buildings. Tear that place down already.

Other programs as effective, not illegal

Bill Campbell feels strongly about affirmative action. To the mind of Atlanta's second-term mayor, it is as important an issue to black Americans today "as our right to vote was back in the 1960s."

Furthermore, said Campbell, in remarks published in a recent issue of Time magazine, "African-Americans have to be as resolute on this issue as the Jewish community is about aid to Israel."

But the mayor didn't leave it at that. He went on to say that any "handkerchief-head Negro" who has the temerity to disagree with him on this issue ought to be shunned by the black community.

Although he didn't mention her by name, Campbell appeared to be alluding to Cynthia Tucker, the editorial page editor for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, with whom he has had a running battle for the past six years.

Tucker, one of the nation's better and brighter journalists, and hardly a right-wing Republican, supports the goals of affirmative action. But she is a realist.

Given that strict race-based affirmative action programs have been struck down by courts throughout the land, she thinks it

logical that cities like Atlanta adopt new approaches to achieve the same affirmative action goals.

Indeed, as this is written, Atlanta finds its minority set-aside program — which requires the city's prime contractors to create joint ventures with minority- or female-owned businesses — facing a federal court challenge.

The wager here is that Atlanta's program will be found discriminatory, much as similar minority set-aside programs in San Diego, Detroit and other cities have been declared as such.

So how might Atlanta and other cities promote the affirmative action goal of sharing the wealth, in the form of local government contracts, with minority-owned businesses, without discriminating against majority-owned businesses, without running afoul of the courts?

Tucker holds out Detroit as an example. Back in 1994, that city faced a legal challenge to its race- and gender-based set-aside program. But rather than wage an ultimately futile legal battle to preserve the program — much as Atlanta Mayor Campbell vows

to defend his city's program by "any means necessary" — Detroit devised an alternative program.

It gives preference to locally based companies. And, as Tucker has noted in her writings, over the past six years minority- and female-headed companies have been awarded roughly \$600 million in contracts with the city, about the same as under the old, illegal, race- and gender-based set-aside program.

And much as Detroit has come up with a racially neutral contracting system that nonetheless supports minority contractors, states are starting to replace their race-based college admissions programs with programs that accomplish the same goal of campus diversity, but without resorting to illegal, divisive quotas.

The model is Texas, where the top 10 percent of each high school's graduating class is eligible for admission at any of the state's public colleges and universities.

Under this racially neutral system, blacks make up 4.1 percent of students enrolled this year at the University of Texas at Austin, the state's premier campus. That's the same percentage as in 1996, when the state still had its race-based affirmative See Perkins, Page 5A



Joseph Perkins

We need your input and opinions. Letters to the editor and guest columns are both encouraged and appreciated.

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Opinion

The young and useless

Our local television station was doing one of those success profiles of a guy in town who had made a gazillion dollars and had women sending in resumes in hopes of having his children. I found the whole thing mildly irritating, but I really lost it when they announced that this guy was 27 years old. No average man over the age of 40 needs to hear that. If they can make a V-chip that filters out sex and violence, they should be able to invent a gizmo that prevents the viewer from learning that not only is most of the world doing better than he is, they're also doing it at half his age. Maybe they could even make a thingy that substitutes a higher, more palatable number whenever age is mentioned. Wouldn't it be great to hear that Bill Gates is 87 or Ricky Martin is 63 or Mark McGwire is 74? It would give us all hope for the future.



Red Green

of what it is now and there is no physical evidence of any type of muscle. I can stand beside that picture at any time and comfort myself that I have not "started to sag" or "let myself go" or "lost a step." I was out of shape at 13 and I've maintained it all these years. Nobody looks at my picture and says, "Wow, is that you?" Instead of looking good for a year or two and then fading but my whole life, I opt for looking good all the time and feeling good my whole life.

The Signs That You Are Non-Communicative

1. When you phone somebody, you hope to get their voicemail.
2. You never ask anyone a question because you have no interest in their answer.
3. When you have a passenger in your car, you turn the radio up as loud as it will go.
4. You spend a lot of time alone in the garage.
5. When you have something to say, you speak loudly, without taking a pause, and then quickly exit the room.
6. E-mail is your favorite method of communication because you can say whatever you want without interruption and then delete the reply without reading it.
7. When you come upon someone walking in the street, instead of saying, "Good morning," you pretend to see something important in the distance and start running toward it.
8. Your office phone has been set on Voice Message since 1991.
9. On the rare occasions that you send greeting cards, you don't sign them.
10. You wear headphones that aren't plugged into anything.

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No Peaking

A lot of guys I know have a photograph of themselves in great physical shape. Maybe they were on the rowing team or maybe they were running every day or maybe they just had the time and motivation to work out on a regular basis. So they have this picture of themselves with small waists and rippling muscles. It might be on their desks or somewhere in their homes or, even worse, buried deep in their minds. Every time they see or even think about that picture, they are reminded of how the aging process has destroyed them. It's been a constant deterioration from that earlier peak of physical prowess to the pitiful flabby lethargic bald specimen they have now become. I, on the other hand, have a picture of myself on the beach at the age of 13. My weight was within 10 pounds

Bush puts Christ back in Christmas

Asked during the Iowa Republican presidential candidate debate "what political philosopher or thinker do you most identify with," George W. Bush shocked the journalistic, political and possibly some in the religious establishment when he unhesitatingly replied: "Christ, because he changed my heart."



Cal Thomas

MSNBC's Chris Matthews expressed shock, wondering why Bush didn't name someone else. Matthews cited a biblical passage: "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's" (Matt. 22:21). His implication was lost on me, unless he meant to suggest that Bush's answer was a cynical ploy to win Christian Coalition votes. Would such an statement have been made about a Jew or a Muslim who practiced his faith?

Appearing on CNN's "Inside Politics," analyst Bill Schneider predicted Bush's remark would be "controversial." On the same program, Ronald Brownstein, a political reporter for the Los Angeles Times, said he wished Bush had had a backup answer, like his father, implying that President Bush might have gone down easier with some folks — meaning the media elite — than Jesus Christ.

Some may recall a similar controversy 23 years ago when Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter said that he had been "born again." At the time, NBC's John Chancellor employed the vast resources of his news division, announcing on the air they had "checked

this out" and found the experience to be a "fairly common" one, "known to millions of Americans, particularly if you're Baptist."

Wesley Pippert, who covered the Carter campaign for United Press International, recalls that the press' lack of understanding of Carter's religious faith prompted one journalist to inquire whether Carter would ever "demand Baptist standards of behavior and morals from everybody else."

Funny how they never ask that of atheists and agnostics, or people who have fallen away from an intense faith, like Bill Bradley, or practice it only when convenient, like Bill Clinton.

Pippert remembers Carter spokesman Jody Powell telling him that the American people, on the whole, are better equipped to understand the spiritual aspects of Carter's life than "the people who are trying to explain it to them." In his book, "The Spiritual Journey of Jimmy Carter," Pippert writes: "We in the press, among others, have seriously misunderstood Carter's faith in Christ and have therefore portrayed him erroneously as an enigma."

In a New York Times op-ed piece in 1978, Pippert said that if Carter took his faith so seriously that it affected his worldview, the press had an obligation to learn more about it so the press could better explain Carter to the public.

One might think the press would have learned something in the nearly two decades since Carter left office. But remarks



about Bush's comments in the debate indicate either that they have learned nothing or their prejudice runs deep. At a time of social upheaval and moral degeneracy in high and low places, the public is hungrier than ever for a person who takes his religious faith seriously enough to at least impose it on himself and to take instruction from it in ways that can promote the general welfare.

The nation's problems are not the result of too much religion practiced too fervently, but of too little religion practiced infrequently.

Bush was asked a personal question and he responded in a personally appropriate way (Gary Bauer and Orrin Hatch dittoed Bush's statement). Rather than ridiculing and attempting to intimidate Bush into silence on his beliefs, the press should investigate what difference Bush's often-

declared faith has made not only in his personal life but in his worldview. For example, some believe that Bush has been too "weak" in his debates. But could this be mistaken for civility, which we are told is in short supply? Is Bush willing to win the White House at all costs? Apparently not, according to his wife, Laura. Is this an extension of his faith? I think it is.

Bush has cut through the crass commercialism and the religiously empty shopping malls by putting Christ back in Christmas. Most of the press doesn't get it. They are in good company. Some in Jesus' time neither followed the star nor the Man whose unique life the star and the angel announced — but only to eyes willing to see and ears open to hear.

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Perkins

Continued from Page 4A
action system in place.

Following Texas' lead, California has adopted an admissions policy whereby the top 4 percent of each high school graduating class throughout the state is eligible to enroll in the top-tier University of California system.

And in Florida, Gov. Jeb Bush has gone so far as to propose that the top 20 percent of graduates from each of that state's high schools receive automatic admission to the state college or university of their choice.

One wonders what Atlanta's mayor would have to say if Georgia moved to a college admissions system similar to that in Texas or California, or the one being proposed in Florida. Perhaps he would find it as offensive to his racial sensibility as the challenge to his city's minority set-aside program.

But affirmative action programs based strictly on race and gender are a thing of the past, whether the mayor of Atlanta and fellow black leaders like it or not.

That's why it is absurd for Campbell to disparage an editorialist for endorsing alternative programs that can accomplish

the same affirmative action, while also passing legal muster.

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Joseph Perkins is a columnist for The San Diego Union-Tribune.

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School Board considers changes in drug policy

By Bill Kerns
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Middle and high school principals want the Seminole County School District's expulsion procedures to be changed, allowing them flexibility in recommending sanctions in cases where small amounts of drugs are found on campus.

Seminole County middle and high school students caught with drugs this year face more rapid expulsions because of changes in policy passed by the School Board.

Students may receive automatic expulsions of at least one semester for possessing even a small amount of marijuana, cocaine, or other controlled substance. The School Board approved the change in the "Zero Tolerance" policy relating to drugs in schools in June.

Ron Pinnell, director of secondary education for the school district, said that school principals want the authority to work with district administration to recommend more flexible consequences for possession of small amounts of drugs, tailoring the punishment to fit the student's circumstances.

"The implementation of this policy has resulted in the full exclusion of some students who were found to have been in possession of a minuscule amount of marijuana or to have been in momentary posses-

sion of a very small amount of the drug without any indication of intent to use it," Pinnell said.

Students are subject to expulsion from Seminole County public schools for a minimum of one semester for possession of a controlled substance, such as narcotic or hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, and marijuana.

Prior to this school year, suspension for possession of controlled substances had been at the discretion of school administrators. Students were automatically expelled for the sale, purchase, or distribution of a controlled substance, but not for possession.

"It bothers me that here we are looking to back off the policy when I really don't feel we've done the job of educating," said School Board member Bob Goff, who proposed the policy change in June. "I'd rather educate than abdicate."

Out of 65 middle and high school students found in possession of controlled substances last school year, 67 percent either went to an alternative school or received full exclusion from school, according to school district records.

Pinnell said that student expulsions for possession of controlled substances have increased this school year.

"I would like to say that because the numbers have increased we're doing a bet-

ter job and we're solving some problems," said School Board Chair Sandra Robinson.

Jeanne Morris voted against the policy change in June, saying that expulsion for possession of a controlled substance should be left to the discretion of principals. The change was approved 4-1.

"I think we're tying not only our principals' hands but our own," Morris said. "This might be one place where we might want to revisit this and give our principals back some discretion."

Students are still able to appeal expulsions to the School Board.

Principals may submit letters concerning recommended punishment for the School Board to consider during student expulsion hearings.

In addition to the changed Zero Tolerance policy, the School Board took another step to crack down on student discipline this school year.

Under the student conduct code for secondary students, which received final approval in June, any student suspended out-of-school for a third time in a school year will be recommended for expulsion. Students were previously allowed four out-of-school suspensions.

Students who are expelled after three suspensions must appeal to the School Board to be admitted back to the same school on a behavior contract.

Creative Christmas cage



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent
Libby Prevatt recently hosted a bridge party in her Sanford home. As part of her preparations for the event, she decorated an old bird cage with poinsettias.

State Attorney's Office offers survivors support group

SANFORD - The Seminole County State Attorney's Office is offering a Homicide Survivors Support Group for per-

sons who have lost a loved one to homicide. The group meets the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. until 8

p.m. at the Juvenile Assessment Center, 181 Bush Loop, Sanford.

There is no charge for persons who wish to attend. For additional information, phone Maria Mitchell at 407-665-6112.

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GOURMET
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Seminole County Solid Waste Division Holiday Operating Schedule

Seminole County's Solid Waste Division has provided the schedule below to assist customers in unincorporated Seminole County in planning for disposal activities during the holiday season. This schedule can also be found on the Environmental Services' Web Site at www.co.seminole.fl.us/envsrvs/waste1.htm or call the County's Solid Waste Customer Service Line at (407) 665-2260 for assistance.

Holiday	Date	Residential Collection	Commercial Collection	Transfer Station
Christmas	12/24/99 - Fri	YES - Pickup	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
	12/25/99 - Sat	Closed	Closed	Closed
	12/26/99 - Sun	Closed	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
New Year's Day - 2000	12/31/99 - Fri	YES - Pickup	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
	1/1/2000 - Sat	Closed	Closed	Closed
	1/2/2000 - Sun	Closed	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
	1/3/2000 - Mon	YES - Pickup	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
Memorial Day	5/29/2000 - Mon	NO - Pickup	7:30AM - 5:30PM (Commercial)	7:30AM - 5:30PM
Fourth of July	7/4/2000 - Tues	NO - Pickup	7:30AM - 5:30PM (Commercial)	7:30AM - 5:30PM
Labor Day	9/4/2000 - Mon	NO - Pickup	7:30AM - 5:30PM (Commercial)	7:30AM - 5:30PM
Thanksgiving Day	11/23/2000 - Thurs	NO - Pickup	Closed	Closed
	11/24/2000 - Fri	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
	11/25/2000 - Sat	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
	11/26/2000 - Sun	Closed	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
Christmas Day	12/24/2000 - Sun	Closed	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
	12/25/2000 - Mon	NO - Pickup	Closed	Closed
	12/26/2000 - Tues	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
New Year's Eve	12/31/2000 - Sun	Closed	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM
New Year's Day	1/1/2001 - Mon	NO - Pickup	Closed	Closed
	1/2/2001 - Tues	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM	7:30AM - 5:30PM

Christmas Trees will be collected at curbside (unincorporated county areas only) during the following periods.

December 29, 1999 through January 19, 2000

December 27, 1999 through January 24, 2001

Tire Amnesty Days are scheduled from 9:00A.M. - 4:00 P.M. on the following dates at the Central Transfer Station, 1634 SR 419, Longwood:

January 22, 2000
April 22, 2000
July 22, 2000
October 21, 2000

**FREE DISPOSAL for up to 10 tires
Seminole County Residents Only
No Commercial Businesses**

Please contact the County's Solid Waste Customer Service Line for additional information (407) 665-2260.

Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Day - February 6, 2000 from 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. at the Central Transfer Station, 1634 SR 419, Longwood. Please contact John Hauserman at (407) 665-2250 for additional information.

Citizens not residing in the unincorporated areas of the county should contact their respective cities for holiday collection information:

Longwood - (407) 260-3480

Casselberry - (407) 262-7725

Oviedo - (407) 997-6000

Sanford - (407) 302-9414

Winter Spring - (407) 327-1800

Lake Mary - (407) 324-3000

Altamonte Springs - (407) 869-2604

Gun

Continued from Page 1A
were found in Duff's white full-sized cargo van.

One robbery occurred in a Casselberry Wal-Mart parking lot on State Road 436, and the other in a Casselberry Target store parking lot near U.S. Highway 17-92.

Duff is a suspect in a strong-arm robbery of a woman Thursday morning in the Casselberry Wal-Mart parking lot. Police said he later tried to cash checks belonging to the victim in the Suntrust Bank in Longwood, where he left behind some iden-

tification.

He is also a suspect in an armed robbery that occurred Thursday night in a Casselberry Target store parking lot just off U.S. Highway 17-92, police said.

In that case, Duff pointed what appeared to be a handgun at a woman and took her purse. He then tried to purchase cigarettes with the victim's credit card at a nearby Winn Dixie on State Road 434, police said.

An alert was issued for Duff, which led Longwood police to pull him over shortly before 11 p.m. Shortly after the traffic

stop, Duff pulled out what was described as a handgun, prompting Longwood police to call for backup.

Backup arrived from several area police agencies as well as the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. Duff exited his van and walked around the business center parking lot.

"Officers and deputies urged Duff to drop the weapon in his hand," Olson said. "He did not. He rushed at deputies, who then fired at him."

Duff's wife had reported him as missing Wednesday. Accord-

ing to the report, she expressed concern about Duff's possible involvement with crack cocaine.

Deputy Tim Smith was slightly injured when a bullet ricocheted and grazed his left leg during Thursday's shooting. He was treated at a local hospital and returned to duty, Olson said.

Duff is a registered felon for a strong-arm robbery in Nashville, Tenn. in 1996. He registered as a known felon with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office in 1998, after moving to the Lake Mary area, authorities said.

Center

Continued from Page 1A
Kindergarten and Daycare for 29 years. It was purchased and renovated for a total of \$195,000 through federal funding.

The Child Care center contains cribs for infants, facilities for teaching, and area for play inside the building as well as outside. Each room contains its own restroom.

There will be reading programs and parent training workshops.

A courtyard contains a divided play area for older children and

younger children.

"I think that we have a wonderful addition for the community," said Sheryl Moore, director of the facility. "Our location is in the middle of the public housing community, which makes us convenient for the young mothers who need this service."

On the second floor of the building, Seminole Community College will hold adult literacy classes.

In addition, the Home Institute Program for Pre-School Young-

sters (HIPPY), a non-profit organization based out of the University of South Florida in Tampa, will operate a program for preschool children on the second floor.

Lelia Ross, who was the director of Tender Loving Care For Children when it opened in the current facility in 1959, toured the building during Thursday's Grand Opening Ceremony.

"This is beautiful," Ross said. "It's so nice to see it being well cared for."

Residents in public housing administrated by the Sanford Housing Authority assisted in renovating the building.

"I do feel that this will be very rewarding, inspiring and motivating for all of the residents to have their own child care center that enhances job readiness and retention programs," said Sanford City Commissioner Velma Williams.

The cost to families receiving federal income assistance is \$5 per week for each child. The facility is also open to anyone.

Honors

Continued from Page 1A
grandfather, 82, an army veteran of World War II. The Winter Springs VFW sponsored her for the contest.

The picture features Hugo sitting in a chair, reading to his grandchildren who sit around him. Behind him is an American flag and various scenes from his life.

Judy Bernardi, Mandy's mother, said the look on her father's face was priceless when the picture was presented.

"He was genuinely shocked

when he saw it," Mandy agreed, "He didn't know what to say."

Mandy said she wanted the picture to be a collage of her grandfather's life and experiences.

"I wanted to show him when he was young and in the war," Mandy said, "And now he is older and passing the experience off to his grandchildren. I drew him reading about the war and telling his grandchildren about it."

Mandy said her grandfather's experiences in the war affect the entire family.

Hugo finds it hard to put into words how he feels about the picture.

"It's a beautiful picture," he said. "What an idea."

Hugo said he likes the scenes of him that are in the background of the picture.

"I like the pictures of me when I was young and felt good," he said.

Mandy, who said she has always liked to draw, tries to make her pictures as realistic as she can.

Judy said Mandy's picture

looks like Hugo will "stand up and walk right out of it."

The winners of the scholarship will be announced in February. If Mandy's picture is chosen for first place, she will receive a \$3,000 scholarship, a trip to Washington D.C. and the picture will be published on the cover of the national VFW magazine.

Whether or not Mandy wins the scholarship, Hugo is proud of her.

"I've got a beautiful granddaughter who's a great artist," he said.

Name

Continued from Page 1A
leads to another apartment. Her neighbor, not realizing what the prairie dog was, got rid of the rodent by throwing it out the door.

After realizing what her neighbor did, the search began for the animal. Finally, Lewis said she basically gave up on ever finding her beloved pet.

"It was an expensive loss, but I just really missed him."

Last week, however, Chip once again "popped" up after local residents began seeing what they thought was a prairie

dog burrowing in the dirt alongside Lake Monroe. On Tuesday, the Central Florida Zoological Park confirmed the rodent was a prairie dog, which are not native to Central Florida but to the Great Plains from Montana to Northern Mexico.

On Thursday, Lewis, who lives in Sailpointe Apartments next to Lake Monroe, went to the prairie dog's burrow to see if it is Chip.

"It is definitely him," she said. "I couldn't catch him, but he looks so happy."

Lewis said she will continue

to try to capture Chip so she can take him home. But, if she doesn't, she has her other prairie

dog, a pet alligator, one bird and two cats to keep her company.

Schools

Continued from Page 1A
would be performed in partnership with the University of Central Florida and the Area Center for Educational Enhancement.

The Florida Department of Education has \$10 million in available funding through the Goals 2000 program, to fund local education reform and staff development projects.

The state will give priority to grant proposals that address needs such as local school improvement efforts, technology as an instructional tool, teaching reading at an introductory level, classroom management, and school safety.

The state Legislature will meet in March to consider funding requests.

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"The Best Is Yet To Come"

CHRISTMAS BUFFET
11:30AM - 4:00PM
Soups and Salads

Spiced Pumpkin Soup	Chicken a la Reine Soup
Red Bliss Potato Salad	Cucumber & Onion Salad
Waldorf Salad	Tri-Colored Pasta Salad with Marinated Mushrooms
Tossed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings	Tropical Fruit Salad with Yogurt Dressing
Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce	Watermelon Rind Pickles
Smoked Salmon Spread	

*Imported & Domestic Cheese Display
Fresh Vegetable Crudite with Dipping Sauces*

Carving Station

Chef Carved Tom Turkey with Giblet Gravy	Entrees
Roast Prime Beef Au Jus with Horseradish Sauce	Roast Pork with Spiced Apples
	Honey Baked Virginia Ham w/ Orange & Pineapple Honey Glaze
	Grilled Salmon Beurre Blanc

Vegetables and Starches

Homemade Mashed Potatoes	Green Bean Casserole
Candied Yams	Homemade Sage - Tyme Dressing
Squash & Zucchini Medley	Glazed Baby Carrots

Deserts

Pumpkin Pie	Apple Cobbler
Key Lime Pie	Banana Pudding
Chocolate Layer Cake	

Breads

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Reservations Requested Call:
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1936 school publication provides array of information

The Seminole High School "Celery Fed" dated June 4, 1936, gives lots of information on happenings then, mainly activities during the

last few weeks of the school year. Following are a few gleanings from this publication.



Grace M. Stinecpher

Honors Received
Talented pianist, sophomore Daphne Takach, won first place in the state contest at Rollins College

and also another first place in the Amateur Hour held in Jacksonville. She was also an accomplished violinist.

Another sophomore, Louise Johnston, was the new "Miss Florida". She would compete in the National Beauty Meet in Cleveland during the summer. (Since her last name was not given in the article, I called Doug Stenstrom who was in her class. He knew right off who she was and gave further information. She moved to Brooksville and graduated from high school there. She married soon afterwards, but died young. Doug remembered going to her funeral at the Ebenezer Methodist Church in Elder Springs.)

Sally Staff Banquet
On April 21, 1936, the Salmagundi

Staff and Senior Faculty Committee had enjoyed a banquet at the Mayfair Hotel. The tables were attractively decorated in the blue and silver colors of the annual. After a short program and the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner", the staff attended the theater.

Those present were Margaret Bennett, Jane Gantt, Virginia Meriwether, Esta Benjamin, Caroline Hill, Doris Walker, Doris Rockey, Charlotte Moughton, Elizabeth Brigham, Elizabeth Turner, Robert Wilson, Francis Roumillat, Frank Benjamin, and Roy Wright. Faculty attending were Mrs. Maybelle Maxwell, Miss Ruth Hand, Miss Lillian Dunlap, Miss Margaret Long, Mr. Earl Kipp.

Thespians Receive New Members
Troupe No. 30 of the National Thespians, the SHS Dramatic Society, received several new members at their recent meeting. To achieve this honor, candidates must earn points by acting in plays and assisting in various backstage positions such as prompter, props and stage manager.

These new members were Daphne Takach, Nancy Rosseter, Antoinette Fries, Marjorie Cogburn, Dorothy Stewart, Marguerite Ingley, Lenora Whidden, Cecilia Truluck, Joanne Azarello, Billy Zachary, Boyd Coleman, and Raymond Monsalvatg.

Members received at a previous meeting were Mary Higgins, Martha Adams, Katherine Thigpen, and Marian Estridge.

Edwin Bonishe was elected as Best Thespian of the Year.

Commencement Program
Monday, June 1 - Annual Recital by pupils of Mrs. Fannie S. Munson
Wednesday, June 3 - Class Day Exercises
Thursday, June 4 - Junior Senior Banquet - Mayfair Hotel
Friday, June 5 - Senior Day - All day picnic at Daytona Beach
Sunday, June 6 - Baccalaureate; sermon by Rev. A.H. Cole
Monday, June 7 - Graduation exercises - Honorable Karl Lehman, speaker

Class of 1936 Plans
Here is a listing of those seniors who expressed having plans for the next year; a large number of students were undecided.

Attending college (Unspecified):
Mary Nell Smith, Clara Meisch, Catherine White, Marguerite Grimbail, Ernest Wilson, Anna Cornell, and Mary Glidewell.

Nurses Training - Mary Alice Williams, Doris McWhorter, Jessie Kersey, and Nora Riley.

University of Florida - Karlyle Housholder, Clifford Gustavison, Arthur Moss, Herbert Smith, Roy Wright, and John Kader.

FSCW - Charlotte Moughton, Sue Harrison, and Ruth Meisch.

Beauty College - Janet Gant, and Theresa Humphrey.

Louisiana State University - Virginia Meriwether, Edwin Bonishe, and Francis Roumillat.

Sullins College - Margaret Reitz, Agnes Scott, and Margaret Bennett.

Joining the Navy - William Burnett, Robert Beecher, Jerry Senkarik, Eunice Tyler, and L.E. Tew

Those with individualized aspirations included Carl Fesler who planned to be an adventurer; Wynell Faircloth, telephone operator; Kathleen Adams May, knew she'd be keeping house; Raymond Anderson, attending diesel school; St. Clair White, planned to tour the United States while Mary Tamm was going to tour the world.

Robert Quantock would explore the wilds of Georgia; Bob Raulerson was to be a grease monkey; Charles Robinson aspired to be a gigolo and Max Rumbley planned to marry a woman with plenty of dough.

Jack Morrison stated that he was going into partnership with John Mause, but John refused such partnership.

It would be interesting to know if any of these plans materialized.

Picture Identifications

The photograph of the 1952-'53 eighth-grade class published Nov. 17 prompted two calls to identify people. Doris Bridges Holcomb, who is in the picture, gave the most identification, but Susan Smith Byrd also helped.

Several were misidentified, so I will guess the correct names.

Front row, from left, James Sparks, James Dobson, William Yates and Ralph Smith. Second Row: Alan White, Joe Russi, Tony

McDaniel, Gene Pharis, Leo Hiles, Pee Wee Owen, and Wally Van Ness. Both agreed that the person on the end was not Meredith Scott; but couldn't identify him.

Third Row: First person is Jean Kempf. The fourth person is not Tony McDaniel; he is in the second row.

Fourth Row: After Edna Cowan is Helen Mikolajcik, not Kathy Bauman.

Fifth Row: the second person from the left is Carol Arwood.

I received lots of help on the Sanford Museum dedication picture, published Dec. 5, namely from Sonny Raborn, Doug Stenstrom, Clyde Long and Fairby Singletary. There was disagreement as to the lady on the extreme right on the front row.

Fairby thinks it might be Alma G. Anderson, while Sonny identified her as Mrs. C.R. Dawson whose husband is in the second row. Doug believes that it is him between Hutchison and Stinecpher standing in the back.

There was a consensus that the man between Randall Chase and Hutchison is Robert Bauman and that Mr. Dean's first name was Robert, not Rolland.

The only unidentified person is the lady between Mrs. Roumillat and Mrs. Key.

Thanks to all who helped! Curator Alicia Clarke is especially pleased to have the correct identifications on the museum dedication picture.

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The Rivalry Heats Up in '00

Team USA will definitely be looking for revenge in the first big grudge match of the new millenium. And you don't want to miss the action! Contact your local Florida Rotary Club today and reserve your seats!

Waller replaces Kids House of Seminole's roof

SANFORD — Eagle Scout Rick Waller responded to Kids House of Seminole's need for a new roof by arranging the donation of materials and securing qualified volunteers to re-roof the entire structure.

On Saturday, Dec. 11, from 8 a.m. to dusk, Eagle Scout Waller and various community volunteers worked at Kids House replacing the roof. Materials, equipment, and food were donated for the project from several sources, including: Prestige Lumber & Supplies, Inc. of Longwood (roofing materials), Ace Hardware of Longwood (gloves), and Publix of Lake Mary (food).

Kids House of Seminole Inc. is a non-profit organization formed by a collaboration of agencies concerned with the investigation, prosecution, and resolution of child abuse and neglect cases in Seminole County. Its mission is to aid abused children by providing all necessary services for child abuse cases — from report and investigation through treatment and prosecution — in a friendly, non-threatening environment.

To accomplish this mission, Kids House provides a child-friendly facility for information gathering and treatment of victims of child abuse.

The facility is used primarily during the investigative process and is a place where investigators from law enforcement, the Child Protection Team, the State Attorney's Office, and the Department of Children and Families, interview abused children. Specialized interview rooms are set up where children are interviewed in a less threatening environment than might otherwise be available.

The interview rooms are outfitted with advanced video and audio recording devices to gather the best possible evidence for use at trial, and to reduce the additional trauma to the victim which is sometimes associated with the process.

The house was donated by the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners at the request of Sheriff Donald Eslinger. The house was renovated in June and July by more than 100 volunteers and Kids House received more than \$50,000 in donations and in-kind service.

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Military News

Army Pvt. **Claudia M. Flores** has graduated from the unit supply specialist advanced individual training course at Fort Lee in Petersburg, Va.

Flores was trained in receipt, storage, issue and accountability of an individual, organization, and installation of supplies and equipment, and also train-

ing in the maintenance of small arms.

Flores is the daughter of Maria and Rene Flores of Longwood, and is a 1998 graduate of Lake Mary High School.

Army Pvt. **Wilfredo Maldonado** has graduated from the automated logistical specialist

advanced individual training course at Fort Lee in Petersburg, Va.

The soldier was trained in the skills and knowledge required to receive, store, issue, ship, and account for subsistence supplies. The training included ration breakdown, and commissary functions such as price

changes, inventory, displays, and security.

Maldonado is the son of Wilfredo Maldonado of Bayamon, Puerto Rico, and Ileana Castro of Deltona. Maldonado is a 1997 graduate of Pine Ridge High School in Deltona. Air Force Airman **Travess C. Langford** graduated from basic military

training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

Langford also earned college credit toward an associate's degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Langford is the son of Trudce C. Langford of Longwood and is a 1999 graduate of Lyman High School in Longwood.

Air Force Airman First Class **Thomas A. Baker** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

Baker also earned college credit toward an associate

degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Baker is the son of Danielle A. and Thomas M. Baker of Longwood, and is a 1996 graduate of Spruce Creek High School in Port Orange. He received an associate's degree in 1999 from Daytona Beach Community College.

Navy Petty Officer Third Class **Timothy N. Harper** was recently promoted to the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Goose Creek, S.C.

He was promoted based on sustained superior job performance and proficiency in his designated specialty.

Harper is the son of Steven B. and Kimberly J. Hanson of Sanford, and is a 1997 graduate of Seminole High School.

Army Cpl. **Gonzalo E. Lasally** is one of 2,900 soldiers assigned to the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum in Watertown, N.Y.

Lasally is a communications chief assigned to the 87th Infantry Battalion.

He is the son of Beatrice and Guillermo V. Lasally of Deltona.

Air Force Airman **Nietra M. Lowe** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, Lowe studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

She also earned credit toward an associate's degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Lowe is the daughter of James O. and Adlena O. Lowe of Sanford, and is a 1998 graduate of Seminole High School.

Navy Fireman **James L. McBryde** will spend the holidays deployed in Yokosuka, Japan, aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Kitty Hawk.

McBryde will work to preserve peace as part of the nation's forward defense forces.

McBryde is the son of James L. Church of Sanford, and is a 1998 graduate of Seminole High School in Sanford.

Army Pfc. **Michael A. Nelson** graduated from the Ranger training course at the U.S. Army Ranger School in Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

The course is designed to develop confident and capable small-unit leaders assigned to units engaged in close-combat and direct fire battle situations.

Nelson is an infantryman with the 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield in Hinesville, Ga.

He is the son of Steve A. and Audrey S. Nelson of Casselberry, and is a 1996 graduate of Lake Howell High School in Casselberry.

Air Force Airman **Nelly Romero** has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, Romero studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate's degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Romero is the daughter of Nestor A. and Germi E. Romero of Deltona, and is a 1999 graduate of Deltona High School.

NOTICE

Due to manufacturer's shipping delays, the Goldeneye 007 video game for Nintendo 64 and the Madden NFL 2000 video game for Gameboy on page 2 in this week's Target advertising supplement will not be available. Rain checks will be offered. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.



NOTICE

Due to manufacturers problems, the Xhilaration knit separates advertised on page 27 of this week's target advertising supplement will not be available. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.



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Attention Kmart Shoppers

In the Kmart December 19, 1999 weekly ad circular, on page 24 features the White-Westinghouse Personal CD player for 29.99. This CD player does not have an AC adapter as stated in the ad. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our customers.



Seminole swim coach to take pool job

By Bill Kerns
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Popular Seminole High School teacher and swim coach Tony Ackerson is tentatively planning to resign his teaching duties to manage the new community swimming pool at the school.

Ackerson, who has been at Seminole High School since 1988, would teach his final American Government class at the school on Dec. 17 to become the pool supervisor.

"Until I actually sign the contract it's hard for me to say that this is definite," Ackerson said. "It's a sad thing to leave teaching, because I absolutely love it."

He would remain the head coach for varsity boys and girls swimming and water polo while managing the pool.

"If I didn't get to continue

coaching I probably wouldn't do this," Ackerson said. "A lot of people have fought hard for the pool, and the first two years will be critical. I want to make sure that it is done well."

The full-time contract position carries a salary of \$42,000 per year.

"This is good for my family, and the pool has been a big part of my life for three years now," Ackerson said. "I have very mixed emotions about no longer teaching. Still, it's not like I'm no longer going to be at Seminole High School. I'm not moving 500 miles away."

The contract was not finalized by the Sanford City Commission on Monday because of technical matters. Clauses in the contract presented to the commission referred to Ackerson as an employee, when he is being hired on a contract without the benefits received by city employees.

Ackerson is an experienced life-

guard who holds a master's degree in Exercise Physiology from the University of Central Florida.

He is a former swimmer at Hendrix College in Arkansas where he earned a bachelors degree in Political Science.

In addition to supervising the pool facilities, the proposed two-year contract will allow Ackerson to form and coach a swim club. The club's activities would first need to be approved by the City Commission.

The new 50-meter pool facility will open in January 2000, in time for spring semester swimming classes. Instruction will be available to students as well as the public at the \$1 million facility.

The City Commission has yet to set the pool hours. However, tentative plans call for the pool to be open to the public Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to at

least 8 p.m., and reserved for the school prior to 5 p.m.

On Saturdays the pool will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on Sundays the pool will be open from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For three years, Ackerson has been among the leading promoters of the idea to construct a community swimming pool at Seminole High School.

"The pool is something that just about everybody thought would never happen," Ackerson said. "Now, you can look out there and see water in this Olympic-sized swimming pool. That's emotional to see."

Ackerson lives in Lake Mary with his wife Tami, a former Seminole High School calculus teacher who is now at Oviedo High School. They are raising two children, and Tami Ackerson is expecting a third.

Groot leaves county for private law practice

By Russ White
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Deputy Seminole County Attorney Lonnie Groot is leaving government law to join the Orlando law firm of Shutts & Bowen. Groot served on the county legal team for 15 years.

Deputy County Manager Cindy Coto announced Tuesday during a Board of Commissioners meeting that Groot was leaving. Coto — instead of Groot — presented the legislative update to the commission.

Commissioner Daryl McLain called Groot's departure "unfortunate" for the county and its residents. "He served Seminole County extremely well," McLain said.

"I am about to post an advertisement for an

attorney with government background," County Attorney Bob McMillan said. "It will depend on the experience and the capabilities of this attorney as to whether he or she will be the county's next Deputy Attorney."

McMillan has called the department's legal team together for a meeting on Friday to detail what is planned.

County Chairman Carlton Henley praised Groot for his "faithful, dedicated service."

Commissioner Randy Morris said that Groot's leaving is a "big loss" to the citizens of the county.

"If it were possible to love an attorney, Lonnie Groot would be that attorney," Morris said. "He did everything with integrity. And he handled the most difficult and heated issues that arose."

Commissioner Grant Maloy said he mar-

veled at how quickly Groot responded to queries.

"If you asked for something, Lonnie Groot got it to you that same day," Maloy said. "He was a great county employee who will definitely be missed."

Each of the commissioners said that Groot was the "workhorse" of the legal staff. He had a wide range of responsibilities, ranging from the county's new adult entertainment and public decency ordinances to legislative issues in Tallahassee.

Groot said Wednesday that he will leaving the county's service in early January. He informed McMillan that he was resigning more than a month ago. Shutts & Bowen, the firm Groot is joining, has had numerous contracts with Seminole County.

Fake snake report leads to convenience store robbery

From Staff Reports

LONGWOOD — A suspect in a convenience store robbery on Friday distracted the clerk by telling him there was a snake in the storeroom, then barricaded the clerk and stole money from

the cash register.

On Friday shortly before 2 a.m., the white male suspect entered the Mobil Station at the corner of State Road 434 and U.S. Highway 17-92 in Longwood, asking to use the restroom, according to the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

The suspect came back and told the clerk there was a snake in the storeroom. When the clerk went to look he was barricaded in by the suspect, who put soda cases in front of the door and then took the an unknown amount of cash from the register and fled,

investigators said.

Investigators are searching for the suspect, who is described as a white male in his mid 20's, 5'10", 150 pounds.

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Business

Repowering of FPL plant scheduled to begin in February

By Bill Kerns
Staff Writer

DEBARY — The repowering of the Florida Power & Light Company's Sanford power plant is scheduled to start in February, according to the company.

Crews and contractors are currently preparing the site for the \$600 million repowering project. FPL plans to begin construction in February 2000 and expects to be fully operational by

early 2003.

The FPL plant site, in operation since 1927, is located north of the St. Johns River and west of US Highway 17-92. From 17-92, Barwick Road runs west between the plant and its cooling pond and then north, and it is used by many residents of the Meadowlea manufactured home community.

Repowering plans call for replacing the almost 30-year-old power plant technology with new combined-cycle

technology using natural gas instead of oil. The project will double the generating capacity of the existing facility without requiring additional land to meet the needs of FPL's customers in Central Florida.

"Our neighbors and customers who use Barwick Road or Highway 17-92 may have noticed a lot of movement at the plant," said Roxanne Kennedy, FPL Sanford plant manager. "We want to assure them that we'll keep them posted on our activities and will

do as much as we can to coordinate our activities with the state's widening of 17-92."

The repowering proposal calls for expanding the power plant's current capability of providing power to 220,000 homes and businesses to serving more than 486,000 homes and businesses in the area.

Once the project is completed in 2003, tax revenues generated from the plant will increase from \$1 million per year to \$10 million, according to

FPL.

The Combined Cycle technology is 40 percent more efficient than traditional methods. It includes a series of turbines that produce electricity.

Electricity is produced from the combustion turbines — similar to a jet engine — and the combustion turbine's exhaust heat, which is normally lost in traditional methods. The exhaust heat is used to produce steam for the steam turbines, creating the combined-cycle.

Renovation ribbon cutting



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Officials recently gathered for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the renovation of the Marina Hotel, which will make it part of the world-wide Best Western membership organization on Jan. 15. Most of the interior refurbishing has been completed.

Business Briefs

Parsons promoted at Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement of Central Florida, Inc., announced this week that it has appointed Seminole County resident Rene Parson, market director for Aerial Communications in Orlando, to serve on its Board of Directors.

Keller Outdoor Inc. reports growth

Keller Outdoor Inc., 451 CR-15 in Sanford, reported sales of over \$14 million and an average growth of more than 10 percent this year.

Bobby Keller, who heads the environmental service firm with his brother Rikk, said he may acquire a private landfill and expand the company's Sanford facilities next year.

"From our vantage point, this level of growth is likely to continue for the next two to

three years and we are considering a number of expansion needs and options," Keller said.

Keller has expanded its environmental services division to include more than 215 container and seven trucks, and the company may acquire its own landfill.

Landscape maintenance revenues grew this year to over \$2.8 million from \$800,000 in 1998 Keller said.

Keller said the company, which also handles landscape design and irrigation systems, employs approximately 150 workers this year, with the projection that 15 to 25 new jobs will be made available in the new year.

Alaqua Lakes promotes Cummins

Alaqua Lakes, the custom home community in North Seminole County, developed

by Taylor Woodrow Communities, has promoted Terry Cummins to the post of marketing director.

Cummins has had over 14 years of experience in marketing and general real estate.

She will be responsible for directing marketing and advertising campaigns aimed at prospective home buyers.

FDOT names Snyder district secretary

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has named Mike Snyder as new district secretary for district five, which covers nine counties in Central Florida including Seminole.

Snyder has been with FDOT in various managerial positions since 1990.

He will begin his new position at the DeLand FDOT facility this week.

Options good only when company's strong

By Bruce Williams
Special to the Herald

DEAR BRUCE: My company matches 50 percent of the first 6 percent that I contribute to a 401(k) plan. Soon the company will be offering employee stock purchases to allow us to use 10 percent of our income to purchase stock at a 15-percent discount. We must hold it for 12 to 18 months before selling. I am currently at a 20-percent cap, but I am interested in participating in the stock purchases. What do you suggest?

J.G., Ky.

DEAR J.G.: There's one variable you didn't address: How is your company doing? If the company is on the upswing and doing very well, your advantage of the tax shelter pales in comparison to what the stock could do for you. It may well be that you could buy the stock inside your 401(k) or, if you could roll over the 401(k) into a self-directed IRA, you might then invest in the company stock. A 15-percent discount is substantial, but its worth is predicated upon the future of the company, and you should know that at least reasonably well.

DEAR BRUCE: I am thinking of starting a small business — about \$100,000 a year. The start-up costs are nominal. I have a fellow faculty member (and a fan of yours) who questions whether we should incorporate. He insists that a corporation will not save us personally from liability. He says that I should stick with a self-proprietorship, but I lean toward a corporation. What do you think?

J.N., via e-mail

DEAR J.N.: I am on your team on this one. Everything I have ever done from a business perspective has been incorporated. The corporate shield will not mean much for you, because not only are you the officer of the corporation but you are also the grunt in the field. If something were to develop, the plaintiff would sue both you as an individual and the corporation. Still, I think when you sit down with your accountant that you will find there can be advantages with the corporation. If nothing else, it requires you to keep your finances sorted out. That in itself is quite a benefit.

DEAR BRUCE: I saw an article that told of a couple who received many unsolicited, un-

used credit cards. Instead of taking out a construction loan, they used their credit cards for cash to build their house. When their house was completed they applied for a mortgage and paid off their credit cards. What do you think of that idea?

C.W., Sedona, Ariz.

DEAR C.W.: These are the kinds of stories that sound good but in reality are difficult — even impossible — to pull off. Even though you are receiving a rash of unsolicited, "pre-approved" credit cards, the reality is that a lot of them are not. Further, if there is a flurry of activity with applications, everyone gets nervous. You have to be a master at juggling as the teaser rates go away or super juggling — almost a

Personal finance — to borrow next month's money to pay off this month's payments. It probably sounds good to a features writer, but it would be very difficult to pull off.

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(Send your questions to: Smart Money, P.O. Box 503, Elfers, FL 34680. E-mail to: bruce@brucewilliams.com. Questions of general interest will be answered in future columns. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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Sanford native heads Bar association

Sanford native Berry St. John was installed as president of the New Orleans Bar Association in November.

The 2300-member organization represents the interests of lawyers practicing in the New Orleans metropolitan area. St. John graduated from Seminole High School in 1958.

For the past 29 years, St. John has practiced with the New Orleans law firm of Liskow & Lewis, and heads the firm's environmental law section.

He received his law degree from Tulane Law School. He also served for five years in the U.S. Navy.



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**New York Times
Bestsellers**

Non-Fiction

1. **'TIS**, by Frank McCourt. (Scribner, \$26.) An Irish immigrant gets used to life in America: a memoir.
2. **TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE**, by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday, \$19.95.) A sports-writer tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
3. **HAVE A NICE DAY!** by Mick Foley. (ReganBooks/ HarperCollins, \$25.) The autobiography of a professional wrestler known as Mankind.
4. **THE NEW NEW THING**, by Michael Lewis. (W.W. Norton & Company, \$25.95.) Profile of Jim Clark, the founder of Silicon Graphics and Netscape.
5. **A MAN NAMED DAVE**, by Dave Pelzer. (Dutton, \$19.95.) The concluding volume of a memoir that began with "A Child Called 'It'" and "The Lost Boy."
6. **ALL THE BEST, GEORGE BUSH**, by George Bush. (Drew/Scribner, \$30.) The former President's letters, diary entries and memos, with commentary.
7. **THE GREATEST GENERATION**, by Tom Brokaw. (Random House, \$24.95.) The lives of men and women who came of age during the Depression and World War II.
8. **THE ART OF HAPPINESS**, by the Dalai Lama and Howard C. Cutler. (Riverhead, \$22.95.) What Buddhism and common sense tell us about everyday problems.
9. **WHEN PRIDE STILL MATTERED**, by David Maraniss. (Simon & Schuster, \$26.) The life of the football coach Vince Lombardi.
10. **JOHN GLENN: A Memoir**, by John Glenn with Nick Taylor. (Bantam, \$27.) The former astronaut and United States senator from Ohio tells his life story.

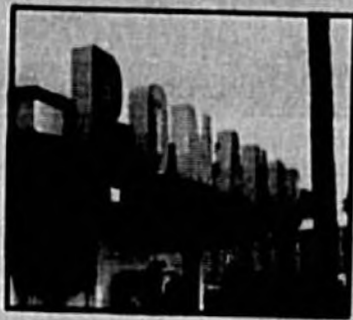


Fiction

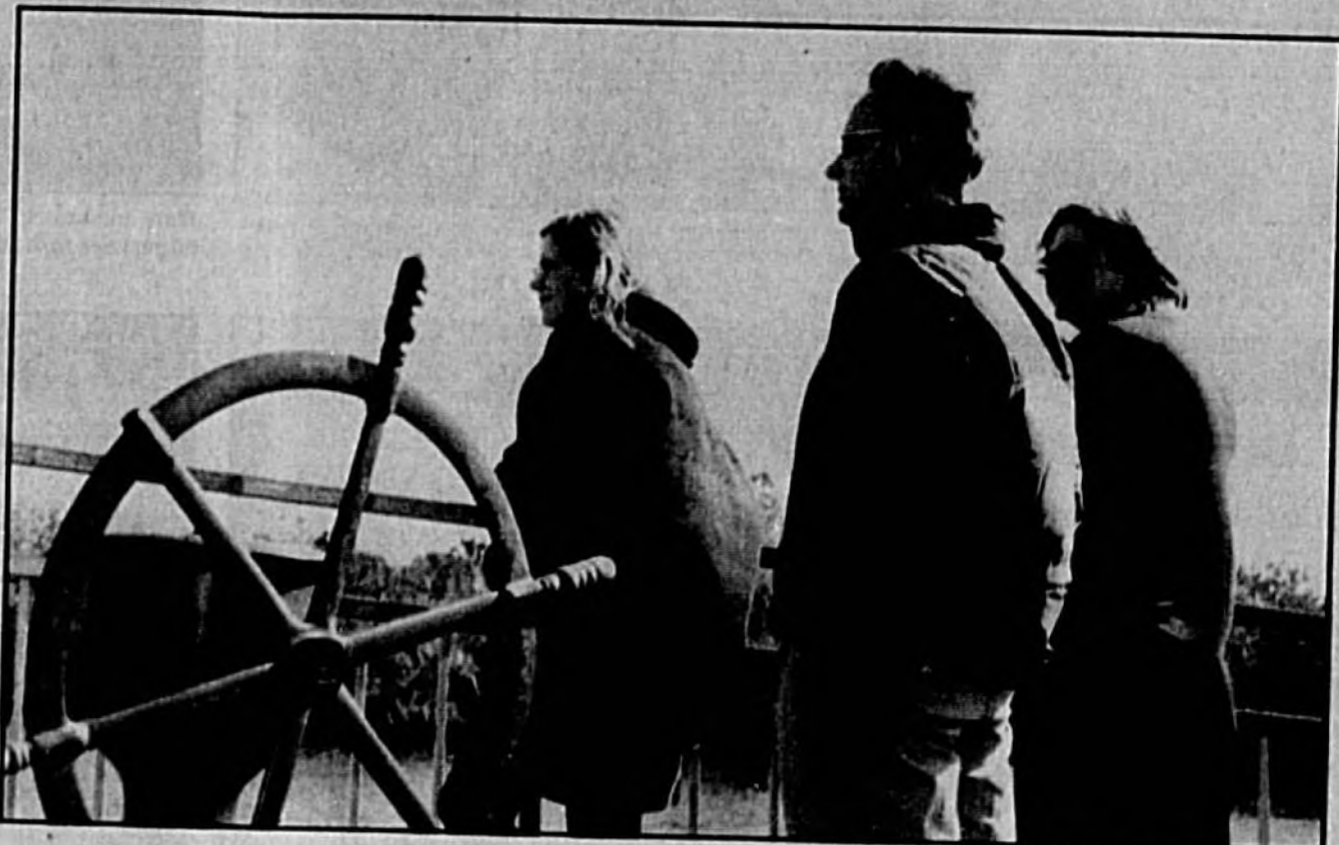
1. **HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN**, by J. K. Rowling. (Levine/Scholastic, \$19.95.) A British boy's life at a school for witchcraft is menaced when an infamous murderer escapes from prison.
2. **HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS**, by J. K. Rowling. (Levine/Scholastic, \$17.95.) A British boy finds trouble when he returns to a witchcraft school.
3. **HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE**, by J. K. Rowling. (Levine/Scholastic, \$16.95.) A British boy finds his fortune attending a school for witchcraft.
4. **POP GOES THE WEASEL**, by James Patterson. (Little, Brown, \$26.95.) The lives of Alex Cross and his fiancée are imperiled as he pursues a serial killer at large in Washington's diplomatic corps.
5. **A WALK TO REMEMBER**, by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner, \$19.95.) In 1958, a high school senior in North Carolina finds love with the daughter of a Baptist minister.
6. **IRRESISTIBLE FORCES**, by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte, \$26.95.) The marriage of a professional couple is strained by their having to live a continent apart.
7. **"O" IS FOR OUTLAW**, by Sue Grafton. (Wood/Holt, \$26.) The private eye Kinsey Millhone has to reappraise her youthful values while trying to solve a murder.
8. **PERSONAL INJURIES**, by Scott Turow. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$27.) A crooked lawyer joins forces with an F.B.I. agent who has secrets of her own.
9. **HEARTS IN ATLANTIS**, by Stephen King. (Scribner, \$28.) Five long, interconnected stories about an America haunted by the Vietnam War.
10. **TARA ROAD**, by Maeve Binchy. (Delacorte, \$24.95.) Two women — one from Ireland, one from New England — exchange houses for the summer.



Romance at Sea



Romance River Cruises, located at 433 N. Palmetto Ave. in Sanford, offers three- and four-hour tours of Lake Monroe and the St. Johns River. For more information, call (407) 321-5091. Pictured right, Merrybeth Root from Spokane, Wash., and Jody and Beth Howard of Sanford enjoy a Lake Monroe tour recently.



Cruise boat offers entertainment on Lake Monroe

By **Jana S. Jacobs**
Herald Intern

SANFORD — Earl and Marsha Ford knew just how to celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary, the same way they have for the last two years — an afternoon cruise on The Rivership Romance.

"This our third time on the boat," said Earl Ford, who is visiting Grand Island from Indiana. "We enjoy the river, the food is good and it's scenic."

Replacing the Grand Romance, The New Romance has been cruising the St. Johns River and Lake Monroe since 1996. The Grand Romance, a detailed replica of a St. Johns side-wheeler, now cruises the Mississippi as a gaming ship out of Market, Iowa.

The 300 passenger cruise boat runs up and down the river on three- or four-hour tours offering scenic views, dining and entertainment for its shipboard patrons. Anniversaries, birthdays, corporate functions and sight-seeing are just some of the reasons people decide to take a journey on the Romance.

"My sister-in-law is visiting," said Jim VanDelinder of Sanford. "We thought a day on the water would be fun. We don't think we'll be disappointed. I suppose, like everyone else, we'd like to see something special like a manatee," he said.

Jody and Beth Howard of Sanford decided to treat their mother to something

special during her visit from Spokane.

"We watch that boat go back and forth everyday and thought we'd try it out," said Jody Howard.

Harry Jones from Highlands Ranch, CO, said he and his wife found out about the Romance through his AAA membership. He said it was listed in their vacation book guide and they decided to make a reservation.

"We're glad we came, it's very interesting," Jones said.

Marge Harrigan, New Smyrna, is spending her birthday on board with her family. Her husband Ed said this is their second time on The Romance. They are joined by their daughter Kathie Leonard, her husband David and their daughter Katiyrn, 8, from Middletown, RI. The Harrigan's said they are taking the cruise to gear up for the cruise they plan to take next year for their 50th anniversary.

Many businesses use the unique facilities of The Romance to hold corporate gatherings, team-building exercises and holiday parties. Director of corporate sales and sometimes cruise director, Allen Dapson, said the boat is frequently used by pharmaceutical representatives and other corporations for sales presentations and other company functions.

Ramona Clement, president of Florida Hospital East Orlando's volunteer auxiliary said they chose The Romance for their yearly outing as a way to thank

See Romance, Page 2C



Photos by **Jana S. Jacobs**
A sight from the The Rivership Romance.

Dear Santa ...

The Christmas, Fla. Post Office stays busy this time of year

For 31 years, retired Navy electrician Jack James, 75, of Christmas, Fla., has been Santa Claus to thousands of youngsters throughout the world. Santa's Christmas home is stacked with letters once again. For each boy or girl who includes an address, Santa sends a handsome postcard with a picture of Santa reading his mail. Santa said he figures he'll receive 5,000 letters this year. That keeps he and Mrs. Claus (Alice) extremely busy. Santa used to purchase all the stamps himself but civic groups such as the Christmas Women's Club now help defray the cost. Russ White of the Herald paid a visit to Christmas (located off Route 50 between Orlando and the Space Coast). How remarkable that the sand looked very much like snow outside Santa's workshop. Reindeer played in the field. Inside their charming place, Santa and Mrs. Santa were cozy and warm.

Q. Santa, seems as if it really is beginning to look like Christmas?

A. Christmas is a most wonderful time, especially for those of us who live in Christmas. Joan Templeton, the postmaster of Christmas, and her helpers are just as busy as Santa himself. Santa has his own special box at the Post Office. There's a picture of Santa on it. People travel from all over the state so they can have their Christmas cards postmarked from Christmas. We have a Cracker Christmas festival the first weekend of December that gets things started. This year's Festival was the biggest ever. Santa had boys and girls on his lap for several hours.

Q. What are the children asking for this year?

A. Most of the boys are asking for Pokemon cards. That's a new one for Santa. Now and then, a boy will say he wants something else. That's good because there are just so many Pokemon cards. Santa read in the newspaper that people are making counterfeit Pokemon cards. That's not nice. The girls, bless them, still ask for Barbie Dolls.

Q. Does Santa get E-Mail?

A. Not now. Santa prefers to get letters the old-fashioned way. He's a little slow keeping up to progress.

Q. Has anyone sent Santa presents?

A. Ho Ho Ho. Santa gets candy and gum and cookies. Not as many cookies as he used to get. Santa's biggest joy is reading the letters. The children write very nice things to Santa. More than just "I Want, I Want."

Q. We've heard that People Magazine may do a story on Santa. Is that true?

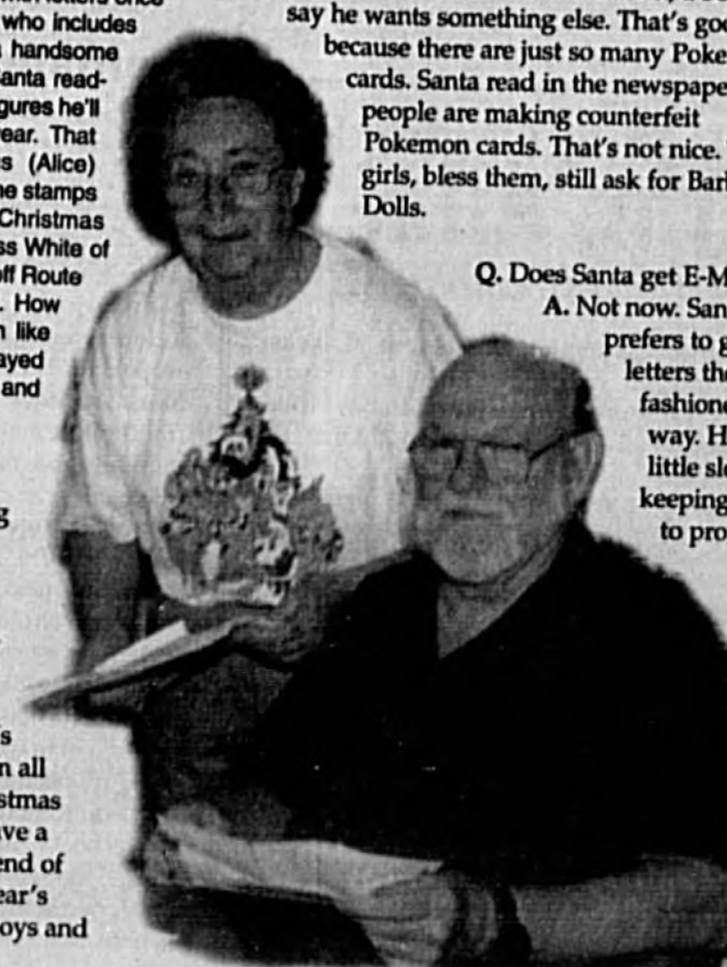
A. A lady reporter talked to me. She seemed very interested in visiting me in Christmas. I think she called a Santa at North Pole, N.Y., too. And a Santa at Santa Claus, Ind.

Q. What's the most interesting letter you ever received?

A. A few years ago a 12-year-old girl in West Virginia wrote to Santa and said that she was very concerned about her little brother and sister. She said they were cold and hungry. I knew right away that this was very different than a letter asking for toys. I contacted the post office in West Virginia and the postmaster had the delivery man check things out. The mailman found the three children alone. Their mother had died and the father had run off. The people up there immediately helped. I felt good about lending what little I could from here in Christmas.

Q. How long have you and Mrs. Santa Claus been married?

A. We're about to celebrate our 52nd anniversary. My wife is a wonderful companion and a great help at Christmas. She seems to enjoy being Mrs. Santa. She tells everyone that she definitely believes in Santa. Who could ask for more?



**Jack and Alice James aka
Santa and Mrs. Claus**

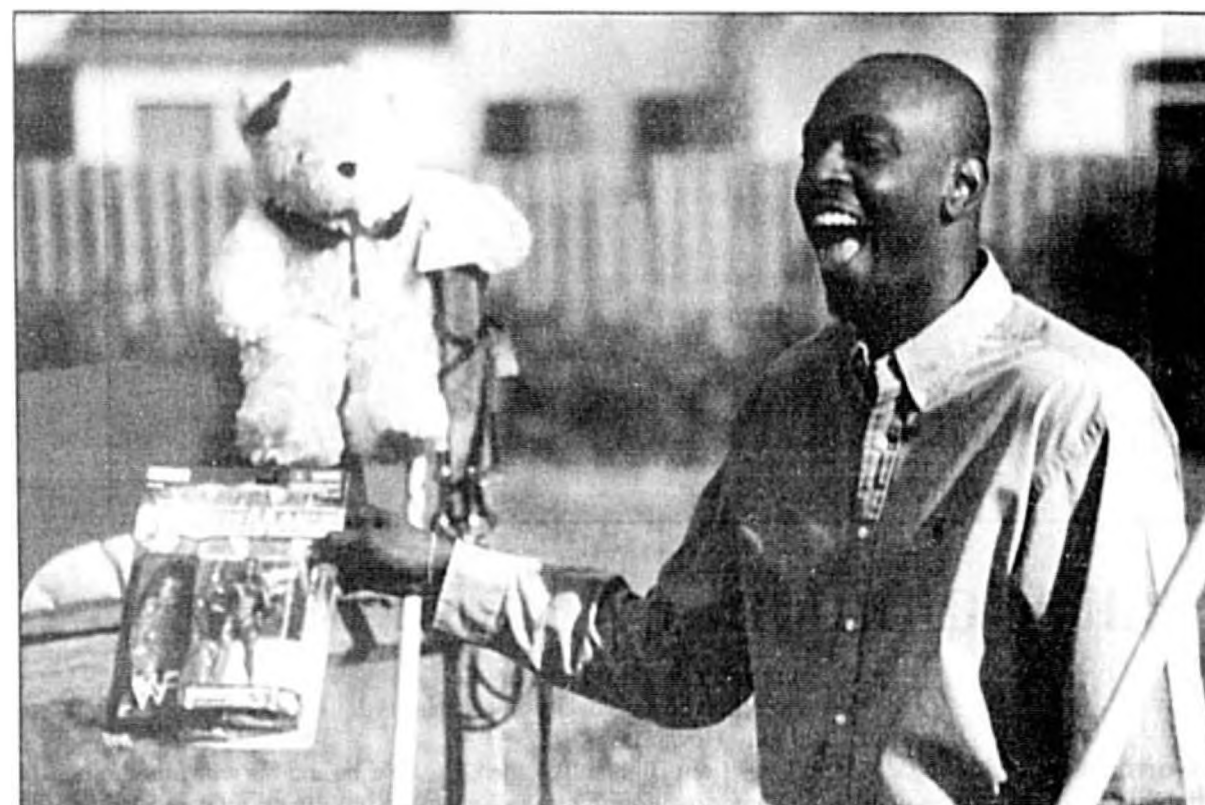
Tommy Vincent's Faces Around Seminole County



Amber Knapp waits patiently with Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer for the Sanford Christmas Parade to begin, which was recently held in the city's historic district.



Mary and Lewis Pope make sure their grandchildren, Lewis III and Carey Pope, get the most out of the holidays by taking them to the recent Sanford Christmas parade.



Phillip Hampton with CPH Engineers Inc. gets into the holiday spirit by giving toys to children. The headquarters staff of CPH Engineers recently gave a variety of toys and gifts to the area's needy children.



Melinda Soubannara, Margaret "Maggie" Dill and Sallie Jenkins wait for students to purchase books during Heathrow Elementary School's recent Scholastic Book Fair.

Mother believes distraught ex-boyfriend shows signs of a stalker

DEAR ABBY: What do you do when your daughter's ex-boyfriend continues to call you and ask for information about her personal life and activities?



Dear Abby

After two years of dating, "Anna" ended the relationship. There were vast differences in their maturity and goals and she had been unhappy for some time. Our family always welcomed him into our home, and I think because of this, he feels that I'll sympathize with him. I have told him that I cannot and will not give out information that is no longer his concern, yet he continues to call. He cries and

tells me how much he loves her, that he cannot live without her. This is beginning to frighten me, as I have seen him driving down our street late at night with the headlights turned off. He is not a teen-ager; he is 24. My daughter insists that he would never harm her, but his denial of reality makes me very concerned.

A WORRIED MOM

DEAR WORRIED MOM: The next time he calls and cries, tell him that the signals he's sending out are not those of "love" but obsession. Tell him that he has been seen driving by with his lights off, and it's not a sign of devotion; it could be considered stalking. Explain that you are concerned about him because his behavior isn't normal, and if he's unable to accept reality, he should seek professional counseling. If he persists, consider getting caller ID — and notify the police about the drive-bys.

DEAR ABBY: I am in love with a 44-year-old man I'll call "Mark." He was a guest for about five months here at the hotel where I work. Mark would stay here Monday through Friday and go home every weekend. His job transfer was the reason he was staying here. After he sold his home, he planned to move closer to here.

Well, a few days ago Mark got promoted, and now he has to work in Detroit. He lives only a couple of hours from Detroit, so he might not have to sell his house after all. The bad thing is, not only is Mark working in Detroit, he also has a wife.

I know this whole thing is wrong, but I love him. He promised to leave me his pager and cell phone numbers when he left, but he didn't. In fact, my boss was the one who told me that he got the new job and would never

be back again. Mark and I saw each other for most of his stay here, and I miss him so much. I don't know why he left the way he did or why he hasn't even called. I have a boyfriend, and he happens to like Mark. (He doesn't know about us.)

I have Mark's address and telephone number at home, but I can't call because of his wife. I'm in the process of making plans to move to Detroit just so I can be near him. Abby, I love Mark and will do anything just to see his face and hear his voice — even if it's for the last time. What should I do?

MISSING MARK IN MICHIGAN

DEAR MISSING MARK: A man who cared about you and respected your feelings would not have left it to your boss to tell you about his promotion and the fact that he wasn't returning.

Not only are you missing

Mark, you also seem to be missing the entire picture. Face it, my dear — you've been dumped.

DEAR ABBY: Since it's the holiday season, your readers might enjoy the encounter I had with a last-minute holiday shopper years ago.

It was five minutes before closing time on Christmas Eve. I worked in the lingerie department of a major St. Louis department store. The regular employees were balancing and closing their cash registers, so I was the only seasonal employee left on the floor. As the closing announcement was sounding, my supervisor directed me to wait on a young man who had hurriedly entered the department.

To each of my questions regarding cost, size, style or color, his reply was, "Doesn't matter. Just one of everything that

amounts to \$200." I then selected panties, slip, nightgown and a negligee in medium sizes and neutral colors. After boxing the items and ringing up the sale, I wished him a happy holiday and hoped that his wife would like the gifts.

He replied, "Doesn't matter. She'll return them unopened, she just wants to see the sales receipt to see how much I spent on her."

Abby, the entire transaction took 15 minutes and gave me a humorous story to tell my waiting family. The gifts I received that year were praised to the skies and not one was returned. A lesson learned.

SHIRLEY IN CAPE CORAL, FLA.

DEAR SHIRLEY: Thank you for sharing. More than a few people can benefit from that lesson.

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Romance

Continued from Page 1B
its volunteers. A group of administrative staff from the Orlando Sentinel was also on board for a team-building luncheon.

The friendly atmosphere on board is due, in no short part, to its loyal employees. Dapson has worked on The Romance since his college days. He graduated from college and used his degree in architecture but wasn't fulfilled.

"Architecture is not a people-person job. This is," he said. When his friend, John Sternberg, the Romance owner's son, invited him back to work, he jumped at the chance. "You really couldn't ask for a better job, especially when I get to come out on the boat. It's beautiful out here and the people are wonderful."

The boat's captain, Charles Riedel, has worked on the boat for six years and has been its captain for 18 months.

"People take vacations to do what I get to do out here, and I

get paid for it," he said. He is a hospitality management student at the University of Central Florida and this is his part-time job. Riedel said he worked his way up from cleaning toilets to first mate and then decided to get his captain's license.

The boat's staff are not the only folks to provide a friendly atmosphere. You never know who'll turn up to ride the Romance. One of the last on board was a man they call "The Colonel" from Vacherie, LA.

Colonel Beauregard, mingles among the passengers bestowing the charm and personality of a dashing southern gentleman. With his turn of the century riverboat garb, Louisiana accent, walking cane and cigar, he lends a flavor of authenticity to the tour. Today he served as the primary alligator spotter.

"Where I come from, there's a gator every three feet," he said in a thick southern drawl.

The Rivership Romance sails

from the Sanford Marina six days a week and offers both a lunch and dinner cruise.

The family-owned operation has been providing tour and dinner cruises since 1982. The New Romance started her career shortly after WWII carrying American and Canadian troops and armaments patrolling the Great Lakes. The Sternberg family purchased the boat in 1995 and brought it to Sanford to replace The Grand Romance. After much reconditioning the new Romance started its new life in semi-retirement in 1996.

The Ford's said the service and the scenery is what keeps them coming back to The Romance. When cruise director Dapson asked the couple what their secret to a long happy marriage was, Ed replied, "A lot of 'Yes, ma'ams.' I do whatever makes her happy."

Taking her on a river cruise aboard a ship called the Romance can't hurt either.



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119-157



Life Style

Double ring rites unite Welborn, Littleton



Mr. and Mrs. Dennis "Clay" Littleton

Lori Michelle Welborn became the bride of Dennis "Clay" Littleton June 12 in Westview Baptist Church, Sanford. The Rev. Dennis Littleton performed the traditional 1 p.m. double ring ceremony. Glenn Welborn was the soloist.

The bride is the daughter of Glenn and Ann Welborn, Sanford, and the bridegroom's parents are the Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Littleton, also of Sanford.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride chose for her vows a white satin sleeveless gown fashioned along the empire silhouette. The entire bodice, overlaid with re-embroidered lace, featured a Sabrina neckline edged in pearls and a deep low back. Rows of pearls detailed the empire waist of the simple A-line skirt designed with an inverted pleat in the back. A panel of re-embroidered lace accented the cascading chapel-length train. A lace and pearl tiara held her veil of imported illusion and she carried a bouquet of white, pink and yellow roses.

Leslie Welborn attended her sister as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Kelly Littleton and Janen Smith.

Jenna Tillman was the flower girl. The bridesmaids wore sleeveless floor-length pastel gowns and carried hand bouquets of pastel roses.

Ellery Taylor served the bridegroom as best man. Groomsmen were Mark Williams and Brad Welborn. Ushers were Michael Davidson, Tony Hale, Blake Jackson, Ron Kidd and Russ Smyth. Ring bearer was Michael Martindill.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the First Baptist Church of DeLand.

After a wedding trip to St. Augustine and Edisto Island, S.C., the newlyweds are making their home in Sanford. The bride is a full-time student and the bridegroom is employed as a sales representative by Amxter Inc.

Who's the boss? After 60 years, both are

Bridge players end year with fun and flair

Eva and William Richardson say they have had a very happy marriage for 60 years. And there is no doubt who the boss is. William chuckled, "Both are the boss." He claims the success



Doris Dietrich

to their happy 60 years of togetherness is a "matter of give and take." He added, "You have to get along with your wife." During the 60 years, Eva has always been proud of her role as wife and homemaker. Would she take William to be her husband all over again? She answered with an emphatic, "Yes, I would."

The Richardsons were married Dec. 2, 1939, in Champaign, Ill. William was an automobile mechanic at nearby Rantoul. They soon traveled to Florida and have lived in Sanford for more than 50 years. He was a mechanic for General Motors and retired from Tuttle and White Construction, Altamonte Springs, where he was a mechanic on heavy equipment. William keeps busy with a variety of crafts and woodworking.

The couple are the parents of three children: Colleen Ghammashi, Salem, N.C.; William C. Richardson, Jacksonville; Robert Richardson, Tavares; and Steve Richardson, Osteen. There have been seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

In celebration of their 60th anniversary, the couple was honored with an open house at their home, 1700 Forest Drive, Sanford. About 60 guests called during the appointed hours,



Toni Hobson, hostess Libby Prevatt, Harriet Pentecost, co-hostess Francis Mitchell, Terri Millikan and Helen Ernest prepare for some serious bridge.

including three families from Illinois.

Bridge Social

The true spirit of the holiday season filled the air Wednesday at the Geneva home of Libby Prevatt when she entertained the Bridge Social for the December gathering. The spacious home was decorated in gold, white and moss green. Focal point of the distinctive decorations was a gold and white Christmas tree adorned with white silk poinsettias and satin and beaded ornaments created by the hostess.

Libby credits the co-hostess, Fran Mitchell, for preparing the "great refreshments" gracing the dining room table. Special guest was Jean Williams, a former player, "who was a delight to us," Libby said.

After refreshments, players spent the afternoon playing serious bridge. Winners were Betty Halback, high, and Doris Stein, second high. Other players were: Thelma Smith, Mary Dale Jones, Carol Dennison, Zella Siskind, Gail Stewart, Rose Jacobson, Alice Potter, Shirley Mills, Marion Smith,



Mr. and Mrs. William Richardson

Harriet Pentecost, Rusie Dean, Toni Hobson, Helen Ernest, Margaret Gross, Terri Millikan and Wilma Heaton

to open those beautiful greeting cards that arrive from near and far. It's always so nice hearing from longtime friends who have moved away.

From the mailbox: One of my favorite things to do during the holiday season is

Since the death of his wife, Mimi, Jack Greene has kept in See Doris, Page 4C

Crooms Academy, Crooms High alumni prepare for reunions

The City of Sanford will roll out the orange and maroon carpet for Crooms Academy when more than 500 Crooms Academy and Crooms High School alumni will flow through the welcome gates of this city that many call home.

Returning to their roots will be an experience to remember for students who walked down the hallowed halls of dear old Crooms Academy.

Through the alumni of Crooms, the name is heralded in every land. They will return to celebrate.

All Crooms Academy's students, alumni, family, and friends are invited to attend many activities.

The joint Worship Service with the Crooms Academy classes of the '50s and '60s on Sunday, Dec.

26, at 10:30 a.m. in the Roy A. Allen Gymnasium on the campus. The speaker will be Dr. W. Frank Williams, pastor of Mt. Zion



Marva Hawkins

Missionary Baptist Church, and a member of the Crooms Academy Class of 1959. The Earl E. Minott Inspiration Choir will render the music, along with the Gilbert Harris Trio.

The Classes of 1963 and 1966

The Extraordinary Class of Crooms Academy and Crooms High Reunion Activities, Dec. 22-26, 1999.

• Wednesday, Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m. Welcome-Acquaintance, The Elks Lodge, 619 Cypress Ave. Wear your African attire.

• Thursday, Dec. 23, Tee Time Invitational Golf Tournament at

Winter Springs Golf Club.

• Thursday, Dec. 23, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The Extraordinary Picnic-"Sporty Hat Day" Lillie Green Community Center at 325 Station St. in Altamonte Springs. Wear your Crooms T-shirt.

The Coffee Pot Experience at Lillie Green Community Center. Enjoy your '60s khakis, converse sneakers, pleated skirts and black and white oxfords.

• Friday, Dec. 24, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. The Extraordinary Prom at Lillie Green Community Center. Wear your semi-formal or formal. Music featuring 1963, James Brown, "The Temptations," and Laverne and Eddie Jackson.

• Saturday, Dec. 25, 3 p.m., Homecoming Crooms Parade "Celebrating the Legacy of Crooms Academy." Parade route begins at 13th St. and Lake Ave., west on 13th St. to the Crooms Academy parking lot. Come join the Crooms Academy Pep Rally entertainment, visit with all former students of the Class of 1963, and the Sanford Community, celebrating your rich educational Crooms Academy heritage. The Class of 1966 will join the Class of 1963.

To close out the Class of 1963 class reunion, they will join on Sunday, Dec. 26 at 11 a.m. at a worship service and fellowship with all of the classes of the '50s and '60s in a new experience, "Crooms Alumni Marching Toward the New Millennium with God's Help" at Crooms Academy Roy A. Allen

Gymnasium, speaker will be the Rev. Dr. W. Frank Williams, pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Sanford, and presiding Minister Rev. Rufus Boykin.

Music by the Earl E. Minott Inspirational Choir. The Sanford Community is invited along with all the Crooms alumni, students and staff.

At 2:30 p.m. in the Crooms Academy Cafeteria, the Class of '63 will honor all teachers and administration at a reception. For information about the Class of 1963 events, call Sherlyn J. Polk at 407-321-4881.

Crooms Academy reunion Classes 1931-1949:

"Crooms Academy Graduates Celebrate Excellence Marching Toward the Millennium" Dec. 26-30, 1999.

• Sunday, Dec. 26, 5 p.m., Vesper Service at the New Life World Center, 1311 Oak Ave. Speaker will be the Rev. Ronald Merthie.

• Sunday, Dec. 26, 7 p.m., Reacquaintance Hour, Elks Lodge at 619 Cypress Ave.

• Monday, Dec. 27, 6 p.m., Banquet at the Sanford Civic Center at 401 East Seminole Blvd.

• Tuesday, Dec. 28, 11 a.m., cruise aboard the Rivership Romance, enjoy your friends and classmates.

• Tuesday, Dec. 28, 7 p.m., Classes will continue the celebration at Elks Lodge.

• Wednesday, Dec. 29, 11 a.m., the Crooms Academy classes of 1931-1949 will visit the site of Mr.



Above: Members of the reunion committee for the Classes 1931-1949. Below: Members of the reunion committee for the Classes of the 1950s.



and Mrs. Crooms' gravesite in Daytona Beach. They will also visit the other sites of the area and have a Dutch treat lunch.

• Thursday, Dec. 30, 11 a.m., Closing Celebration, Fish Fry, Elks Lodge at 619 Cypress Ave. For more information call coordinators Katie Burke at 407-322-1628 or Kathryn Alexander at 407-323-6366.

Crooms Academy Reunion Classes years 1950-1959:

The Fifth Reunion Dec. 26-29 of the Golden Years. • Sunday, Dec. 26, 11 a.m., Worship Service, Crooms Academy Roy Allen Gymnasium. Speaker Rev. Dr. W. Frank Williams, Sunday, Dec. 26 at 7 p.m. Reacquaintance Hospitality See Marva, Page 4C



Members of the reunion committees for the Classes of 1963 and 1966.

Life Style

County celebrates St. Lucia Day in Lake Mary

In Sweden and Norway, it is the custom on Dec. 13 - St. Lucia Day - for a girl, wearing a white dress, a red sash and a crown of lingonberry twigs and blazing candles, and carrying a tray of rich saffron buns and steaming coffee, to wake her family. It is often the youngest daughter who carries out these duties and sings St. Lucia as she wakes the family with the food.



Mary Rowell

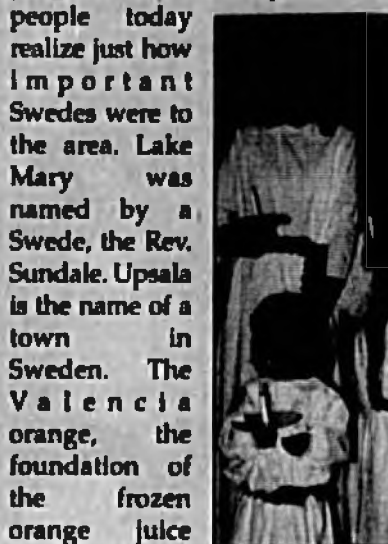
Dec. 13 is St. Lucia Day because, in the Julian calendar, it was the shortest day of the year. It was also believed to be the day on which St. Lucia was martyred.

The song St. Lucia uses the well-known Italian melody, but

the lyrics are different. This year, the St. Lucia Festival was held at the Lake Mary Historical Museum on Sunday, Dec. 12. The festival rotates from one local museum to the next. The special guest speaker for this year's festival was Charlie Carlson. Charlie is known to most people in the county as a Florida cracker, but he's also a Swedish descendant.

In 1871, Swedes were brought into Sanford as factory workers. Many were almost indentured servants. It was very hard for them, Charlie said. They came to this country speaking only Swedish and had to learn, not just a new language,

but new customs. As history is bulldozed by progress and developers, few people today realize just how important Swedes were to the area. Lake Mary was named by a Swede, the Rev. Sundale. Upsala is the name of a town in Sweden. The Valencia orange, the foundation of the frozen orange juice trade, was developed by Swedes, thus founding the citrus industry in Florida.



Front row - Emily Uhler, Tiffany Searle and Vendela Searle Back row - Margareta Uhler, Ariella Searle and Nina Searle

After Charlie talked to the attendees, he asked all the Swedish descendants to stand up and tell a little something about their families. Douglas Stenstrom talked about his ancestor Nels Julius Stenstrom. According to family legend, Nels was everything - from an ensign to the captain of a Swedish ship, which landed in Savannah, Ga., in 1872. Hearing about the Swedes who had come to Florida the previous year, Nels left the ship and walked to Sanford. He became the first dairy farmer in the area.

Also in the audience was Charlie Carlson Sr., the 92-year-

old father of speaker Charlie Carlson. He talked about how his Swedish ancestors got to America.

The Sjöbloms also talked about their family. The first Sjöblom came across the Atlantic in 1881 and brought his wife more than two years later. The first Sjöblom was instrumental in planting large parts of Lake Mary.

A very special guest was Kristina Lanthen Miller. Kristina is from

Lund, a city in the southern portion of Sweden. She charmed the audience by telling them in Swedish how happy she was to be here. Mayor David Meador then spoke and told the audience how important it was to keep the traditions of our past alive.

It was then time for the St. Lucia procession. Two women and four girls, all dressed in white, one wearing the St. Lucia crown, walked to the stage singing St. Lucia in Swedish. They sang several other songs in Swedish to entertain the audience. While the original St. Lucia crowns had real candles, this one was battery operated for safety's



Herald photos by Mary Rowell
Jerry Vick and Al Strom from the Sons of Norway in front of the Viking ship.

Also in attendance at the festival were Jerry Vick and Al Strom. Jerry and Al are members of the Sons of Norway. They brought an incredible replica of a Viking ship. The ship was in its parade or display mode. When they compete against other groups of the Sons of Norway, they stow the shields and use a larger mast.

The planning of the festival was coordinated by Lake Mary Historical Commission members Ettie Jane Keogh and Lillian Griffin. Helping them were commission members Gayle Bjorski, Fran Brender, Harriett Boyd, Mary Wolfe, Claire O'Connor and Lois Jackson. Pat Fox from the Woman's Club also helped out by signing visitors in and distributing Swedish Christmas ornaments.



Pat Fox and Mary Wolfe with the Swedish ornaments they were giving out to visitors.



Outgoing Seminole County Historical Society President Douglas Stenstrom with Lake Mary Historical Commissioner Ettie Jane Keogh and incoming Seminole County Historical Society President Charlie Carlson.

Marva

Continued from Page 3C
Hour, Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Drive (South 17-92) one block from Lake Mary Blvd. (casual attire)

- Monday, Dec. 27, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Classes of the '50s family picnic, Fort Mellon Park, Lakefront (Crooms T-shirts and caps).
- Tuesday, Dec. 28, 9 p.m. Garden Club of Sanford Inc. 1950s dance and celebration night, oldies, (semi-formal) Music by D.J. Hudson.
- Wednesday, Dec. 29, Mark Two Dinner Theater, 3376

Edgewater Drive, Orlando. "Fiddler on the Roof," semi-formal, tickets, reservations needed.

Buses leave St. Paul Baptist Church at 4:30 p.m. Dinnertime is 6 p.m.

Chairperson is Richard (Dick) Evans, call 407-323-1803. Garden Club of Sanford 407-322-9626 during activities.

Crooms High School Class of 1964:

- Reunion Dec. 26-29.
- Sunday, Dec. 26, Joint Worship Service with the Classes of 1950s and 1960s.

- Sunday, Dec. 26, Get Acquainted Dinner, Sanford Chamber of Commerce.
- Monday, Dec. 27, 1:30 p.m. The Crooms High Class of 1964 will challenge the Crooms High Class of 1969 to a softball game at the Lee P. Moore Park, Hidden Lake area. All are invited to pull for your team, along with the class picnic.
- Tuesday, Dec. 28, celebrate aboard the Rivership Romance, cruise with the Class of '64.
- Wednesday, Dec. 29, join the class for a bowling team set at 6

p.m.

For information call Sammie Harkness at 407-323-1799.

There are still openings for classmates at the various class reunions.

Crooms High School Class of 1969 activities:

- Wednesday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m. Get acquainted at the Garden Club of Sanford at 200 Fairmont Drive. Words of wisdom by Minister David Black of Jacksonville.
- Thursday, Dec. 23, 7 p.m. Come on out to the class prom,

(semi-formal). Music to remember at the Garden Club of Sanford.

- Friday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m. Picnic-Fun-Food at the Garden Club of Sanford.
- Saturday, Dec. 25, 3 p.m. The class will join other Crooms alumni for the legacy of Crooms Homecoming Parade, 134 St. and Lake Ave. to the Crooms Academy campus-pep rally.

The St. Peters Free Will Baptist church will host the Class of 1969 worship service. The church is located at State Road 427 in Altamonte Springs. The

guest speaker will be Minister Elder Lovis Montgomery of Detroit.

Monday, Dec. 27, Softball game, Classes of 1964 vs. 1969 at Lee P. Moore Park in Hidden Lake. For more information, contact Sylvia Graham at 407-330-3711, and Bernadette Gardmer 407-324-0755.

The Class of 1961, Sandra Gaines will join other classes.

Happy Birthday to Marlyen Jenkins, Violet Crawford, Gloria Flourary, Devolia Harris, and Armenthus Royal.

Doris

Continued from Page 3C
touch. Local readers will remember Jack as the accountant associated with Ron Dycus. Jack has been living in Vero Beach near his brother for several years and gets back to

Sanford occasionally. He is doing fine and brought the news that both his lovely daughters, Jacqui, and Lisa, delivered baby girls during 1999. Jack seems tickled plum pink over his two new granddaughters.

Jonnie Elam sold her house in Sanford and moved to Indian Harbour Beach this year to be near her daughter Paula. Jonnie

lived in Sanford for many years and is a former administrative aide to Bob Besserer, administrator of the Seminole Memorial Hospital. In later years, she took up golf and became quite an accomplished duffer.

World travelers Pat and George Beers are comfortably settled in their home at Lady Lake after their return from Korea, where George was a heli-

copter pilot. Now retired, George is an avid golfer and Pat also plays, but not with the relentlessness of George, she says. Their son, Charles, still lives in Sanford. The couple were very active in the community when they lived in Sanford.

Jan Bauerle Brush is still living at Jensen Beach since her move from the mansion where she and her late husband, Don Bauerle Sr., lived in Paola. The couple frequently opened up their home for fund-raising events in and around Sanford, and it was quite the show place. Jan reports she is doing fine.

Happy birthday
There are a number of birthdays being celebrated on Christmas Day. The ones we know sharing the day with Jesus are: Isabel Wilson, Cussie Ryals and Jim Estep. Congratulations is the word.

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