



Tamara Gilchrist wins second straight state title

Restoring and Improving Sanford... One Brick at a Time

2nd street project in Sanford

INSIDE

GOOD LUCK ON YOUR BUSINESS VENTURE...PEOPLE'S LAW PAGE 7A

Seminole Herald

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90th YEAR, No. 193

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1998

50 Cents

Dramatic sea rescue attempt



Sanford Fire and Rescue members respond to the lakelront with their personal watercraft. They were trying to save a heart attack victim who was later identified as a Mrs. Robertson, 68. She was presumed dead after ar-

iving at the Central Florida Regional Hospital emergency room. She was traveling aboard the Grand Romance when she started complaining of chest pains.

Elderly woman dies despite rescue efforts

By David Frazier HERALD STAFF WRITER

SANFORD - A pleasure cruise turned to tragedy Wednesday afternoon for an elderly woman. Central Florida Regional Hospital identified the 68-year old female by last name only.

Mrs. Robertson was traveling with her son on the Grand Romance, the cruise ship that sails out of the Sanford marina going north. The ship was 30 minutes out when Robertson

began experiencing chest pains and light-headedness. She collapsed shortly after.

Sanford Fire and Rescue responded to the scene on 1 of its 2 personal watercraft. Once paramedics got Robertson to the dock, they found a pulse and then rushed her to the Central Florida Regional Hospital. A pulse still registered after her arrival to the hospital's emergency room. She died shortly thereafter.

The Yamaha personal watercraft was used in the rescue. Please See Rescue, Page 3A



Memorial Day parade to honor veterans

By Nick Pfeiffner HERALD STAFF WRITER

SANFORD - Plans have been finalized for the annual Memorial Day parade through downtown Sanford. With sponsorship on a rotational basis among the various military veterans organizations, this year's parade will be under the auspices of Seminole County Area Veterans Advisory Council (SCAVAC).

Likewise, as has become local tradition, veterans will gather at a specific location for associated activities following the

event. This year the gathering is scheduled for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10108, 2644 Sanford Avenue in Sanford.

The participants in the parade will gather at the Greater Sanford Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot on East First Street in Sanford at approximately 10:35 a.m. The parade will then proceed west on First Street to Park Avenue, then north on Park to Veterans Memorial Park (at the flag pole area) on the lake front of Lake Monroe.

At the traditional hour of 11 a.m., ceremonies will begin.

Although the observance of Memorial Day (formerly known as Decoration Day) dates back to immediately following the Civil War, the designation of the last Monday in May was only started in 1971. History indicates the first observance was held in Waterloo, NY, on May 5, 1865.

As various U.S. presidents signed proclamations declaring the observance, Memorial Day has been known as "Prayer for Peace" Memorial Day, and a time for decorating with flowers the graves of servicemen.

Please See Parade, Page 3A

Lake Mary begins plans for 25th anniversary celebration

By Mary Rowald HERALD CORRESPONDENT

LAKE MARY - When the city of Lake Mary decided it wanted to celebrate the city's 25 years of incorporation, it called on the Lake Mary Historical Commission to plan it. Plans were discussed at the May meeting of the commission and a planning meeting was held less than a week later. All the plans have not been finalized, but it's shaping up to be a great day.

The city was incorporated on Aug. 7, 1973. The anniversary celebration will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8 beginning at 10 a.m.

The Community Improvement Association of Lake Mary has already agreed to help with the 25th. The commission will be contacting other civic groups to ask for their input and their involvement. The next meeting of the Anniversary Committee will be held Tuesday, May 26 at 6 p.m. Representatives from all the civic groups are being asked to attend. If you have anything special you would like to see, come share your thoughts.

There will be entertainment and food. There will also be a contest for students. The Lake Mary Historical Commission is asking students to build a replica of City Hall or one of the

historic buildings in Lake Mary. The best building will win. There are 2 major categories: Individual and Scout Groups. The individual category is divided into 5 age groups: K and 1st; 2nd and 3rd; 4th and 5th; Middle School; High School. Winners in each age group of this category will receive a savings bond. The Scout Group category is for Scout troops or dens. There are 6 age groups in the Scout Group category: Brownie Girl Scouts; Junior Girl Scouts; Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts; Wolf and Bear Cubs; Webelos Cubs; Boy Scout Troops. Winners in this

Please See Celebrate, Page 3A

Sheriff tells kids the score: Zero tolerance for alcohol, drugs

By Russ White HERALD STAFF WRITER

SEMINOLE COUNTY - Sheriff Don Eslinger delivered a 2 word message today to area teen-agers who make be making plans to party this summer: "Zero Tolerance."

"If a minor knowingly possesses alcohol or a controlled substance, he'll be incarcerated," Eslinger said. "We want to send a clear message that this isn't OK."

The sheriff and representatives from the State Attorney's Office and Seminole County School District also participated in a press conference

to announce the beginning of the enforcement of a strict policy which a growing number of law enforcement officials rate a top priority.

"Zero tolerance means zero tolerance," Eslinger said. "It won't be like it was before when a deputy might have poured out the rest of a kid's beer and sent him home. There's going to be a consequence for breaking the law. This is an attempt to prevent some of the tragedies that result from the use of alcohol."

The sheriff said the Seminole County public schools and his office will be informing parents of the policy. Please See Zero, Page 3A

Lake Mary searches for answers to airport noise

By Nick Pfeiffner HERALD STAFF WRITER

LAKE MARY - Despite a number of approvals and announcements pertaining to noise-reduction efforts at the Orlando-Sanford Airport, some government officials and citizens, many from Lake Mary, remain skeptical.

At tonight's meeting of the Lake Mary City Commission, Commissioner Thom Greene says he will report on a meeting he is proposing, prior to June 4, with Sanford Mayor Larry Dale and Airport Authority Chairman Sandra Glenn. Greene says both Dale and Glenn have responded to his invitation and will meet with him.

He wants the meeting prior to June 4 as it is the date for the next Lake Mary commission meeting, and Greene plans to explain a number of points at that time.



Lake Mary Commissioner Thom Greene is planning a meeting on airport noise abatement.

He said the meeting with Dale and Glenn, "...will include a discussion of recent developments at the airport which, when implemented, will contribute to noise reduction over Lake Mary."

He lists a number of developments he plans to explore at the meeting:

- (a) The new ILS (Instrument Landing System)
(b) Funding of the new FAR 150 noise study
(c) Application by the airport

Please See Noise, Page 3A

Our Town Sanford is so 'sheik'



Downtown business owner Barl Rush this past Friday arrived at the Sanford Main Street fund-raiser, All That Jazz, as the Sheik, Rudolph Valentino. Main Street fosters downtown preservation and rejuvenation. For more about Sanford's colorful past and thriving present, see our special section, Our Town Sanford, inside today.

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When we think of crushy, we must try to remember the crushy, the envy, the frustration from which it has arisen.

John Street



Photos Courtesy of John Cullum

### HOSA installs officers

Seminole High School's HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) recently held its officer installation banquet at the Heathrow Country Club. Installed officers were (from left): Ana Alba, David

Iglesias, Mitch Pernal, Natasha Chida, Jenny McNeal, Ryan Guerrina, Kiedra Daniels, Angela Stringham, Anna Thompson, Brooke Hall, and Shannon Brewer.



Seminole High School HOSA member Christy Culum (left, left photo) receives her membership pin from sponsor Emma Pentecost and Academy of Health



Careers director Nancy Julian, President Carlos Cash (right, right photo) receives the HOSA Leadership Award from sponsor Emma Pentecost.



Special Photo by Tommy Wood

### The first brick

Sanford Mayor Larry Dale, (right), holds a paving brick as a symbol of the 'Restoring Sanford, one brick at a time' project. With Dale at the project ground breaking, (from left), Paul Porter of Conklin, Porter and Holmes, St. Johns River Water Management District Engineer Rod Petzoldian, State Representative Tom Feeney, Seminole

County Commissioner Win Adams, Sanford City Commissioner Brady Leasard, and Dale. The kick-off of the first step in the revitalization, held this past Friday at Magnolia Square in downtown Sanford, was for the beginning of the '2nd Street Project'.

## Lyman students take 2nd in science fair

Special to the Herald

LONGWOOD - The team of Thomas Frosell and Robert Stachow Jr. received second place honors in the recent Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held in Ft. Worth. These young men from Lyman High School impressed judges with their project on Fuel Grain Geometry in Hybrid Rocket Propulsion in which they investigated ways to power rockets using materials derived from compounds that are stable and therefore safe to store, transport, and handle.

Frosell and Stachow also received a special award from the U.S. Air Force. They are both Juniors at Lyman High School. They arrived back in Orlando Saturday evening with many ideas already formed on how they can spend

their award money to improve the project for next year.

Lake Brantley High School Student, Paul Sherman, also received a fourth place award in Medicine and Health for his project related to cancer studies. Paul is a Senior at Lake Brantley.

Students qualify for the ISEF, whose primary sponsor is Intel Corporation, by enrolling at affiliated fairs like the Seminole County Regional Science, Math, and Engineering Fair held each year in February. All middle school and high school students in public, private and home schools in Seminole County are eligible to be nominated by their schools to participate in the regional fair. Rules and information are available from the fair director and on the internet www.sciserv.org. There are no fees to enter the Seminole fair.

## WEATHER

**Today:** Sunny. Highs in the low-90s. Lows near-70. **Friday:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the low-90s. Lows in the upper-80s. **Saturday:** Afternoon thunderstorms. Highs in the low-90s. Lows in the upper-80s. **Sunday:** Afternoon thunderstorms. Highs in the upper-80s. Lows in the upper-80s.

**THURSDAY** Sunny 83 70  
**FRIDAY** Partly 88 68

**SATURDAY** Tstrms 93 68  
**SUNDAY** Tstrms 88 67

**THURSDAY:**  
**SOLAR TABLE:** min. 2:05 a.m., maj. 8:05 a.m., min. 2:15 p.m., maj. 8:30 p.m.  
**TIDES:** Daytona Beach: high: 4:21 a.m., 4:57 p.m., low: 10:42 a.m., 11:15 p.m. New Smyrna Beach: high: 4:26 a.m., 5:03 p.m., low: 10:47 a.m., 11:20 p.m. Cocoa Beach: high: 4:41 a.m., 5:17 p.m., low: 11:02 a.m., 11:35 p.m.

### BEACH CONDITIONS

Daytona Beach & New Smyrna Beach: Seas are 2-4 feet with a moderate chop. Water temperature at Daytona is 77 degrees and at New Smyrna, 77 degrees. Winds are from the southwest at 10-15 m.p.h.

The high temperature in Sanford Wednesday was 88 degrees and the overnight low was 66.  
Recorded rainfall for the period ending at 10 a.m., Thursday totaled 0.00 inch.  
\*Sunrise.....05:28 a.m.  
\*Sunset.....01:15 p.m.

**LOTTERY**

Here are the winning numbers selected on Wednesday in the Florida Lottery:

Powerball  
3-6-15-19  
Lotto (May 19)  
13-05-07-08-08-07

Play 4  
2-4-4  
Cash 3  
4-4-4

**Jeil suicide**  
SANFORD - Sheriff's investigators have revealed the identity of the inmate who reportedly committed suicide at the John E. Peck Correctional Facility late Tuesday night. The next of kin, reportedly located out of state, have been notified and the man's name released. Dead is Robert W. Akers, 54.

Sheriff's spokesman Lt. Jack Cash said the Akers had returned to his cell after consulting with his attorney, and hanged himself with a bed sheet.

He had been held on charges of robbery, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, possession of a controlled substance, possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver and an additional charge of robbery from out of the county.

**Chamber meeting**  
SANFORD - The Greater Sanford Chamber of Commerce will hold a Business After Hours gathering this evening, from 8:30 to 7 p.m. at 205 North Elm Avenue in Sanford. The event is being hosted by Greene, Dycus & Company, PA. The affair will be catered by "We Three Girls" of Sanford.

**Air pollution advisory**  
CENTRAL FLORIDA - The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has issued an air-pollution advisory for Central Florida.

Ozone, the major harmful ingredient in smog, is at a dangerous level. Ozone reacts with lung tissue and can inflame and cause harmful changes in breathing passages. It can decrease the lungs' working capacity and cause coughing and chest pain. Ozone air pollution can especially be harmful to those with lung disease, including asthma.

Children and senior citizens should remain indoors as much as possible during the alert duration.

Ozone pollution-even at low levels-has been linked to hospital admissions and emergency room visits for respiratory problems. Since ozone pollution can also be harmful to healthy adults, people should refrain from exercising

during the advisory. For more information on the harmful effects of air pollution, please contact the American Lung Association of Central Florida at 425-LUNG.

**Car giveaway**  
SANFORD - This Friday morning will be a big day for a number of Seminole County high school students. Seniors who have top grades at the various schools will participate in a drawing at the Seminole County Sheriff's office at the Orlando-Sanford Airport. The drawing will take place at 10 a.m. and is open to the general public.

As each student's name is selected, he or she will have the opportunity to select from a number of automobiles on display in front of the sheriff's office. The vehicles were among those seized by the sheriff's department as the result of criminal activities.

The incentive car giveaway project has been an annual event sponsored by Sheriff Don Eslinger, as an award for excellence in school work.

**One day later**  
SANFORD - The second Sanford City Commission meeting this month, normally held on the fourth Monday, has been moved to Tuesday, May 26 because of the Memorial Day holiday. All city facilities will be closed for the holiday Monday but will be open during normal hours on Tuesday.

In addition to the regular commission meeting on Tuesday beginning at 7 p.m., an afternoon work session has been scheduled, expected to begin at 3:30 p.m. in the city manager's conference room at Sanford City Hall.

**Costume storage needed**  
LAKE MARY - The costumes used by the Lake Mary Historical Commission, at Olde Lake Mary Days, were very well received. Storage of the costumes is now a concern. The historical commission is looking for a donation of an armoire or some type of cedar chest. If you have one to donate, please contact a member of the commission or call the Frank Evans Center at 334-9003.

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Delores Lash, Fran Brender and Jean Brooklyn hold an example of an afloat the historical commission would like to replicate in honor of the 25th anniversary of the incorporation of the city. Notable Lake Mary buildings will be represented on the afloat.

### Celebrate

Continued from Page 1A  
category will receive a gift certificate to their council shop. All of the best buildings will be kept on permanent display in the Frank Evans Center.  
Contest entry forms are available at City Hall. The deadline for entering the building contest is July 15. Buildings must be brought to

City Hall Friday, Aug. 7 for judging. If you have any questions, call Mary Rowell at 321-1498.  
As part of the celebration, the Lake Mary Historical Commission will be having 25th Anniversary afloats featuring various historic sites in Lake Mary. More details will be announced as plans are confirmed.

### Noise

Continued from Page 1A  
to upgrade airspace to class C airspace  
(d) FAA directives which have varied approaches and takeoffs to abate noise.  
Greene added, "I will also be requesting of Mayor Dale and Chairman Glenn agreement or acceptance of the following points which I believe will contribute to noise reduction either directly or indirectly:"

- (a) Appointment of a new airport director who is sensitive to noise problems and abatement
- (b) Creation of and funding of a noise abatement employee position at the airport
- (c) Inclusion of the north-south runway expansion in the airport DFI
- (d) Implication of noise abatement procedures generated by the updated FAA noise study

### Zero

Continued from Page 1A  
ing students and their parents of the strict, new policy. "We want to prevent alcohol and drug related incidents," Ealinger said. "And we want it in effect for June and the summer. This is the time a lot of kids - especially high school seniors - get in trouble."

Everyone - from the good kid with straight A's having a beer with his pals at a cul de sac to a high school dropout smoking marijuana - is subject to the law. "There are no what ifs or exceptions," said Lt. Jack Cash of the Sheriff's Office.  
"The kid having a beer one week may have another and another the next week, get into a car and kill someone," Cash said. "It's illegal for minors to drink alcohol, period. This doesn't mean throwing a kid in jail with a Ted Bundy. It does mean there will be a consequence, however."

Ealinger and other law enforcement leaders say that the failure of the juvenile system in recent years has been a failure to tie a consequence to the actions of those who break the law. Seminole County will deal with these offenders with its Juvenile Alternative Services program.

From 1983 to 1986 there were 4,257 drinking drivers under age 21 involved in crashes in Florida. More than 200 of these drivers were involved in fatal crashes. Of these, 64 crashes occurred in Seminole County and three were fatal crashes.

The Florida Highway Patrol and the various law enforcement agencies in the county will work together to enforce the policy. The State Attorney's Office and Florida Division of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms are involved, also.  
Those who violate the policy will be taken to the Juvenile Assessment Center in Sanford. They'll most likely wind up in a Right Track or Prosecution Alternatives for Youth (P.A.Y.) program.

Jean Jeffcoat, the manager for P.A.Y., said that the county's program has exceeded performance goals and that 65 percent of the youngsters who successfully completed the program did not re-offend in the next year. The Board of County Commissioners is expected to renew the P.A.Y. and Juvenile Alternative Services (JASAP) on Tuesday. It costs \$107,000 annually.

"I believe kids are more likely to get in trouble now than in the past," Ealinger said. "There are too many incidents. We want to stop them from making major mistakes. Zero tolerance is going to help keep kids straight. We've got many agencies involved in our program and the Juvenile Assessment Center is an appropriate place to bring the offenders."

Florida State Statute 322.2616 states that any driver under the age of 21 whose breath control level (BAL) is higher than 0.02 percent can be arrested and charged with unlawful BAL. Ealinger said that this statute will be rigidly enforced during Zero Tolerance.  
It is illegal for persons under 21 to possess alcoholic beverages in each of the 30 states in Florida. It is also illegal for any person to misrepresent his age or another's age for the purpose of obtaining alcoholic beverages and it is illegal for any person to sell, give or serve alcoholic beverages to a person under age 21.

## BRIEFS

**Possession**  
Scott Hoyt, 20, of 165 Exeter Blvd., Longwood, was arrested Saturday, May 16, by Longwood police. Hoyt was charged with possession of a controlled substance and was arrested at the corner of State Road 600 and Dogtrack Road. Hoyt was pulled over by police for having a right headlight out on his car.  
**Grand theft auto**  
Juan Sierra, 18, of 4220 Orlando Dr., Sanford, was arrested Saturday, May 16, by

Seminole County deputies. Sierra was charged with grand theft auto and petit theft. He was arrested in the 160 block of Morning Glory Drive. A friend of Sierra's said that the defendant had driven a motorcycle over that the police found out was stolen.  
**Open container**  
Roland Lee, 43, of 2085 Tall Pine Trail, Geneva, was arrested Friday, May 15, by Sanford police. Lee was charged with possession of an open container and was ar-

rested in the 600 block of East 25th Street.  
**Firearm charge**  
William Mowry Jr., 22, of 1270 Upsala Rd., Sanford, was arrested Saturday, May 16, by Longwood police. Mowry was charged with discharging a firearm within 1000 feet of a person. Mowry was arrested at the corner of State Road 434 and Wilma Street. Officer observed Mowry fire what appeared to be a handgun into the air three times.

rested Friday, May 15, by Sanford police. Taylor was charged with expired tag more than 4 months and arrested at the corner of 13th Street and Shepard. Sanford QUAD unit made the arrest.  
**License suspended**  
Joan Lee, 44, of 2085 Tall Pine Trail, Geneva, was arrested Friday, May 15, by Sanford police. Lee was charged with driving while license is suspended or revoked and attaching vehicle registered plate not assigned. Lee was arrested in the 600 block of East 25th Street.

### Parade

Continued from Page 1A  
Sanford Mayor Larry Dale officiated at the signing of the Memorial Day Proclamation this past Monday.  
Participating units in this year's parade and ceremonies will include: The Florida National Guard, all local veterans organizations and their auxiliaries, VFW State Color Guard, Air Force JROTC from Seminole High School, U.S. Army JROTC from Crooms Academy, U.S. Navy JROTC and Army JROTC from Lyman High

School in Longwood, and the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.  
All military service veterans not affiliated with these organizations are also invited to participate in Monday's program. Family members, ancestors of veterans, and the interested public are also urged to be on hand for the parade as well as the lakefront ceremonies.  
For additional information, contact Sandra Cass, president of the VFW Ladies' Auxiliary at (407) 851-8642.

**Disorderly conduct**  
Azad Khorrarnian, 19, of 524 Stephanie Ct., Lake Mary, was arrested Sunday, May 17, by Seminole County deputies. He was charged with disorderly conduct and was arrested in the 4300 block of West Lake Mary Boulevard.  
**Expired tag**  
Patrick Taylor, 34, of 1405 W. 16th St., Sanford, was ar-

Cynthia Birdsang, 33, of 56 St. Johanna Dr., Oviedo, was arrested Friday, May 16, by Seminole County deputies. Birdsang was charged with driving while license is suspended or revoked. Birdsang was arrested on Redd Road.

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### Rescue

Continued from Page 1A  
vehicles, an idea brought up by one of the firefighters, have been in place for 4 to 6 months. The aids are used on an average of 3 to 4 times a week. It is the quickest response for such emergencies and is used in boats. The two aids were both donated.

**NELLIE M. LERCH**  
Nellie M. Lerch, 76, Chipola Trail, Sorrento, died Tuesday, May 19, 1988. Born in Pidgeon, Mich., she moved to Central Florida in 1973 from Flint, Mich. Mrs. Lerch was a consultant in the Fashion Industry.  
Survivors include husband, Eugene; son, Robert Jones, Flint, Mich.; brother, Don Hunter, Arcadia; 4 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.  
Baldwin-Fairchild Oaklawn Park Cemetery and Funeral Home, Lake Mary, in charge of arrangements.

**EDDIE L. MADISON JR.**  
Eddie L. Madison Jr., 59, Bethune Village, Daytona Beach, died Wednesday, May 20, 1988 at Halifax Medical Center, Daytona Beach. Born Aug. 22, 1938 in Mount Vernon, Ga., he moved to Daytona Beach in 1963 from Sanford. Mr. Madison was a farm laborer. He was a Baptist.  
Survivors include brothers, the Rev. Johnnie M. Madison Sr., the Rev. Roosevelt Madison, both of Sanford, the Rev. Hubert Madison, DeLand; sisters, Rebecca Carr, Orlando, Nancy Marimon, Oviedo.  
Sunrise Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

**JOSEPHINE H. O'NEAL**  
Josephine H. O'Neal, 78, South Oak Avenue, Sanford, died Wednesday, May 20, 1988 at Columbia Medical Center-Sanford. Born Sept. 15, 1919 in Newark, N.Y., she moved to Central Florida in 1975. Mrs. O'Neal was a homemaker. She was a Catholic.  
Survivors include husband, Jenkins; stepsons, William F., San Antonio, Texas; Charles G., Marysville, Calif.  
Gransow Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

**THOMAS DUNBAR VESS**  
Thomas Dunbar Vess, 72, died Wednesday, May 20, 1988 at Columbia Medical Center-Sanford. Born in Newark, N.Y., he moved to Central Florida in 1975. Mr. Vess was a homemaker. He was a Baptist.  
Survivors include wife, Mrs. Vess; children, William F., San Antonio, Texas; Charles G., Marysville, Calif.  
Gransow Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

Tuesday, May 19, 1988. Born in Ramallah, Palestine, he moved to Central Florida in 1969. Mr. Saklich was retired. He was a member of St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church.  
Survivors include wife, Zuhoor; sons, Steve A., Eddie, Muntir A. Jr., all of Orlando; daughters, Irene, Orlando, Mickey Gabriel, Winter Park; mother, Badia, Jordan, Israel; brothers, Samir, Texas, Michael, Bethlehem; sisters, Munira, Kuwait, Damira Barbar, Betraest, Israel, Julia Khader, Jordan; 2 grandchildren.  
Family Funeral Care, Oviedo, in charge of arrangements.

### FUNERAL



**THOMAS DUNBAR VESS**  
Vess, Thomas Dunbar  
December 6, 1915 - May 18, 1988  
Born into a career naval family and eventually marrying a Naval Officer, Thomas was the consummate naval wife and mother to her family. Prior to WW II she and her husband lived in Northern China. It was here that she acquired her interest for oriental art & cuisine. She loved to garden and demonstrated a keen understanding of this craft. Golf was her athletic pursuit. Bridge was her card game. Holy Cross was her church. Classical music was her choice. She endured a long illness with dignity and has gone to join her deeply loved husband. She has 3 surviving children, Marjorie Dunbar Nelson, of Winston Salem, N.C. and James E. Vess III of Lake Mary; 5 grandchildren; sister, Ruth Cain of Novato, Calif.

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Seniors

Continued from Page 5A
sey Murock (one home run, one single, one run scored, two RBI), Andrea Southward (one triple, one single, two runs scored, three RBI) and Billie Cotton (one triple, one single, two runs scored, two RBI).

that was their boorah, as the Queen Bee's took the lead for good with five runs in the bottom of the third inning and then piled it on, scoring five runs in the fourth inning and four runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Men's

Continued from Page 5A
ning as Mike McLohon singled with one out and got all the way to third on an error on the play. Chris Wargo was walked intentionally to set up a double play, but Randy Brown felled the strategy with a game-winning single.

and Wells Construction is 1-3. Next Wednesday, Tire City battles Pebble Junction at 7 p.m. and Wells Construction challenges Nobles Communication at 8 p.m.

IN BRIEF
SYFA coaches needed
Lynman alumni baseball
Palatka Softball Tournament
Women's baseball tryouts

Tim Raines is a Sanford native and Seminole High School graduate now playing for the New York Yankees. His stats for the 1998 season is in the first column, personal-best season totals in the second column and career totals (including 1998 games) in the third column.

People

Battle-Robinson

Mr. and Mrs. James Smith of Haines City, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Renee Battle of Sanford, to Michael Robinson of Sanford, Fla. at 11 p.m.

Good luck on your business venture

Starting and running a small business can be one of the most rewarding endeavors a person can undertake. Starting is like taking a plan, organizing the resources available according to that plan, and monitoring that plan because a reality can be very different.

Zero Renee Battle, Michael Robinson
event of May 30 at 1:00 p.m. at Centennial Park in Sanford.

The following births were recorded at Florida Hospital in Alachua:
April 11 - Elissa and Christopher Pagano, 1000 May, Bay...

Weight Watchers
A local chapter of Weight Watchers is holding their May 1998 Community Meeting...

Free clinic Friday
A free clinic to provide eye exams and eye care services will be held every Friday...

Rel Luck driver
When you are in need of a reliable car, call Rel Luck Driver...

Alison, Alison
ALISON and ALATEEN are holding their 1998 Community Meeting...

Five Green Fishers
Sanford Five Green Fishers meet every Thursday, from 9-10 a.m. at the Greater Sanford Chamber of Commerce...

Pigeon Fanclub
The Sanford Pigeon Fanclub is holding their 1998 Community Meeting...

Seniors meet
LIFE MATR-A center's large group for lunch the second Friday of each month...

Daughters of Consistory
The Sanford Consistory is holding their 1998 Community Meeting...

Center in Sanford:
April 21 - Pamela and Richard Page, Deland, Ore...

April 22 - Deborah and James Smith, Deland, Ore...

April 23 - James and Beth Young, Orlando, Ore...

April 24 - James and Wendy, Alachua, Ore...

April 25 - Thomas and Paul Thomas, Geneva, Ore...

April 26 - Amy and Timothy Thomas, Geneva, Ore...

April 27 - Angela and Bryan Headman, Sanford, Ore...

April 28 - Colleen and Christopher...

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DEAR ARBY: I have reached the point of desperation, and hope that you can help me. I am 40 years old, and after more than 20 years of a troubled marriage, I left my wife for a girl 15 years my age. I am now married to her, but I still have feelings for my ex-wife. I am a therapist, and I am torn between my two wives. I need help to resolve this situation.

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Legal Notices
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Legal Notices
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY

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Legal Notices
NOTICE
The Central Florida Jobs and Education Partnership, Inc.

Legal Notices
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Legal Notices
Notice of Change
The District Board of Trustees of Seminole Community College

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PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON Monday, June 1st, 1998, at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time at the premises of Sunshine

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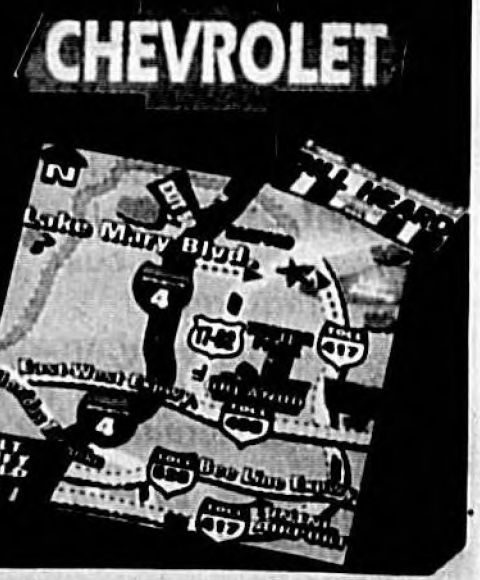
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<p>83 FORD  <b>EXPLORER</b>                  WAS \$24,995  <b>\$12,911</b></p> <p>• LEATHER! • SUNROOF!                  • LOADED! • LOW MILES!                  • XTRA CLEAN!</p> 	<p>86 JEEP LIMITED  <b>GRAND CHEROKEE</b>                  WAS \$24,995  <b>\$19,893</b></p> <p>• PERFECTION • SATIN WHITE PEARL                  • GOLD PACKAGE!                  • POWER EVERYTHING!                  • LEATHER SEATING! • LIKE NEW!</p> 	<p>86 PLYMOUTH  <b>VOYAGER SE</b>                  REDUCED FROM \$23,990  <b>\$9,969</b></p> <p>• 16" • 7 PASSENGER • SUPER SAVER!                  • POWER EVERYTHING • WORLD'S                  MOST POWERFUL MINIVAN</p> 	<p>84 MITSUBISHI  <b>EXPO MINI VAN</b>                  TODAY...  <b>\$7,977</b></p> <p>• UTILITY VEHICLE! • SUPERIOR                  RELIABILITY! • EXCELLENT                  TRANSPORTER!</p> 

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# OUR TOWN SANFORD

A Special Advertising Supplement to Seminole Herald, Thursday, May 21, 1998



Sanford police officers Bull Harris, Robert Curtin, Cpt. Mike Analey, John Evans and Chuck Locher patrol city streets on sophisticated bicycles in a new community-oriented program, C.O.P. For the whole story. See Page 2.

**Gate City of  
South Florida**  
*Page 4*

**A city of kudos**  
*Page 5*

**Mom, daughter  
graduate with a  
passion for  
teaching**  
*Page 7*

**Coloring book  
brings city's-  
past to life**  
*Page 8*

**Ridin'the rails  
in 1912**  
*Page 10*

**Chamber of  
Commerce  
involved in  
community**  
*Page 12*

**Deputies help  
rebuild after  
tragic storm**  
*Page 13*

**Herald Photo by  
Tommy Vincent**

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# Putting the cop in the community

By David Frazier  
 HERALD STAFF WRITER

SANFORD - Presently, the Sanford Police Department is trying to become more involved in the community. They are following a new trend in law enforcement that will hopefully eliminate the traditional method of policing.

## Cover Story

This new trend is called Community Oriented Policing. "We have been a complaint-driven association and it hasn't worked," said Sanford Police Sgt. Darrell Presley. With the traditional method, police would be called to a scene, take a report and that was the last time the officer may be seen in that particular area.

With the C.O.P. program, an officer is assigned to a particular area, but not just to patrol. The officer and department will take a more active role in the community. "The goal is



Sanford Police Chief Joe Dillard with 1 of 2 bicycles donated to the department's bike patrol by Conkin, Porter and Holmes and the Kiwanis Club of Sanford.

to develop a partnership," said Presley. The officer becomes more attentive, listening to the various problems that citizens within their assigned community may

have. These problems do not necessarily have to be about crime, however.

For example, large trucks may be parking up and down a street

causing a safety problem or other situation that needs attention. Residents would then report to their community officer who would then help the residents figure out a way to correct the problem, and then assist the residents in implementing the plan. "We find out what the problems are by asking residents," said Presley. "And then together, we develop a plan."

The first etchings of the Community Oriented Policing program can be seen all over the city. Members of the Sanford Explorers unit escort Bram Tower residents to the downtown area for shopping purposes. The Seminole County Sheriff's Office recently issued cell phones to different communities including the Sanford Housing Authority. The bike patrol can be seen riding through city streets, making officers more readily accessible to citizens. And Goldsboro is the prototype for C.O.P. with Of-

Please See COP, Page 3

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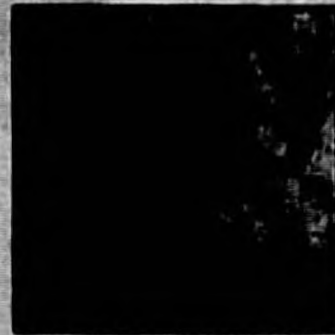
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# COP

Continued from Page 2

Deer Fred Johnson assigned to the area.

Officers with the police department are working in permanent zones as a precursor to the Community Oriented Policing Program. Other areas that will follow Goldsboro are the downtown area, the Sanford Housing Authority and Georgetown. Ideally, C.O.P. will be throughout the city, but it takes a few years to finally come to fruition.

In January, Sanford police went back to school as their training began with the C.O.P. program. It went on for 40 hours but did not stop there. Captain Pittman of the sheriff's office conducts problem solving classes with

area police. And the sheriff's office also holds joint training where several officers from Seminole County cities come together making it more cost effective.

"The goal is to make people feel safe in their homes and community," said Presley. "I think it's going pretty well." With grants from the federal government and a block grant gained through the efforts of Sanford Mayor Larry Dale and Sanford City Council member Velma Williams, the program is being supported and 4 new officers will be signing on with the department. "It typically takes several years," said Presley. "We are at the crawling stage."



Sanford Police Explorers Jonathan Shield and L. Theresa Ryan escort Bram Tower resident Geary Boyett on a shopping trip downtown. The program mentor is Ofc. Mike Taylor, (not shown).

Special Photo by Tommy Vincent

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Photo Courtesy of John O'Brien

Students in Jane Cooper's senior English class at Seminole High School in Sanford enjoy a traditional afternoon tea after completing The Importance of Being Earnest, Oscar Wilde's play about Victorian society. Joining in the 'veddy British' tradition are, (front row) Patrick Palma, Brooke Francis, Lisa Willow, Yolanda

Sumpter, Sarah Luke, Teneha Wells, Tasha Nicks, Jeremy Polochs. (Back row) Ryan Paine, Emily Vandervoort, Brian Long, Mandy Fugate, Mike Richards, Mike Hunting, Jaren Vazquez, April Michels, Amanda Hoffman, and Jenna Frazerbush.



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# Sanford: Gate City of South Florida

By Debra Wood  
HERALD  
CORRESPONDENT

**SANFORD** - Dubbed the "Gate City of South Florida" by founder and namesake Henry Shelton Sanford, the picturesque lakefront community welcomed wealthy northerners arriving by steamboat in search of warmth and recreation. This strategic location opened the rest of Central Florida to development.

In 1870, Sanford purchased 12,548 acres on the shore of Lake Monroe, just west of Mellenville. The United States diplomat and lawyer planned a city complete with a pier, businesses, homes, parks and schools. He lived at Belair, an experimental garden and citrus grove Sanford established outside his new city. Prominent citrus grower Sydney Chase later bought his former employer's 145-acre estate. Sanford's city became a thriving commercial center. Arriving passen-




Herald Photo by Debra Wood

Museum Specialist Serena Fisher, dressed in period costume, uses tools from the early 1900s to teach fourth

graders about Seminole County history at the Student Museum and Center for the Social Studies.


gers often traveled to Altamonte Springs and the busy port. After Orlando by rail or to Lake Mary. Pioneers shipped crops grown in freezes in the mid-springs in Longwood, the new frontier from Please See Gate, Page 6

**DOCTORS YOU KNOW**  
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**Dr. Carol Logan**

Dr. Carol Logan was born in Greenville, South Carolina. She attended the University of South Carolina and received her doctorate of Optometry from Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee. She completed a fellowship in ocular disease following optometry school and served as a clinical optometrist at a surgical facility in Boca Raton, Florida. Dr. Logan joined Bayhead Eye Centre in January 1992. Presently, she is an adjunct professor with Southern College of Optometry and a board director for Lions Club Project Right To Sight. She resides in Lake Mary with her husband, David.



**Dr. Ingrid Peterson**

Dr. Ingrid Peterson was raised in Orlando, completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Florida and graduated from the University of Houston, College of Optometry in 1978. She has practiced in Sanford for the past twenty years with an emphasis on Primary Eye Care and contact lenses. Currently she lives in Mt. Dora with her children, Erin and Axel.

**The Staff Of Bayhead Eye Centre  
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Carol Logan, O.D.**  
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## A city of kudos



Herald Photos by Tommy Vincent

Sanford routinely honors employees who perform their jobs in an exemplary manner. Recent honorees include, top: Kevin Smith, center, from the Finance Department, pictured with Mayor Larry Dale and Donna Watt, director of Finance and Administrative Services. Below: Dan Flonan, a building and code official, center, receives his plaque from Charles Rowe, left, director of Community Development, and City Manager Bill Simmons.



## Goodwill ambassador



Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent

Lakeview Nursing Center in Sanford traditionally honors one woman as Ms. Lakeview, chosen by residents and staff, who will represent the facility as goodwill ambassador throughout the year. Winners this year are: Ida Davis, first runner up; Ruth Wall, Ms. Lakeview; and Roberta Richards, second runner up.

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## Gate

Continued from Page 4

1880s, the area turned to celery and, in the early 20th century, became known as the celery capital of the world.

A century later, the Florida Department of State considers Sanford's revitalized commercial district to be "one of the best-preserved collections of 19th- and 20th-century commercial architecture in Florida." Ninety percent of the buildings constructed between 1890 and 1910 remain. The city's commercial and residential districts are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Sanford Museum, 502 E. First St., and the Chamber of Commerce, 400 E. First St., offer downtown walking-tour maps.

Brass plaques designate the 21 buildings on



Photo by Cuba World

Railroad pioneer Henry Plant built a hotel for travelers, many arriving on his steam-

ers. Today the PICO Building houses law offices.

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the hour-long walk. The DeForest Block, the first stop on the tour, is one of the few buildings that survived a bakery fire that burned down most of the city's wooden structures in 1887. Although alterations mask some early architectural features, many structures closely resemble their 19th century appearance. It's not hard to envision travelers arriving at railroad tycoon Henry D. Plant's Turkish-style PICO (Plant Investment Company) Hotel, or a reporter hustling into the old Sanford Herald Building, on S. Magnolia Ave. Hester and Shepard's commercial block, which housed

a fire station for 84 years, is reported to have been the site of Seminole County's only legal hanging.

South of downtown, in Sanford's Historic Residential District, many of the more than 400 homes have been preserved, other owners are in the process. The residential district encompasses 250 acres, from 3rd to 14th street between Sanford and Elm avenues.

Sanford railroad superintendent James Cochran Higgins built the Higgins House, at 420 S. Oak Ave., in 1894. The two-story, Queen Anne home was restored in 1984. Please See Gate, Page 7

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# Mom, daughter share graduation, passion for teaching children

By Carter Gilmartin  
HERALD  
CORRESPONDENT



Daughter and mom college grads and new teachers. Chanda Wilbur and Cindy Burke Robinson.

SANFORD Forty plus years ago in Huntsville, Alabama, Cindy Burke grew up in a home with out books. While there must have been books at her school, her adult recollection is that "I was not exposed to books as a child."

She married young, had a daughter, Chanda, a year and a half later and in 1972 got around to getting her GED. A decade of working full time and parenting passed. In 1982 when her second child started

Please See Teach, Page 14

## Gate

Continued from Page 6

1989 and is now a bed and breakfast with a gift and antique shop upstairs.

A high school was built in 1902 in the heart of the residential district at 301 W. Seventh St. The two-story brick Romanesque Revival-style structure was converted to a grammar school in 1911 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 after Seminole County School Board members converted the school to a hands-on history museum and classroom.

Fourth graders from throughout the county spend a field day as junior historians at the school, now called the Student Museum and Center for the Social Studies. Known by many as "Sanford Grammar," it is the oldest school in continuous use in Seminole County and the fourth oldest in continuous use in Florida.

The Fernald Laughton Memorial Hospital, later known as the Florida Hotel, 500 S. Oak Ave., across from Centennial Park, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was Seminole County's only hospital from 1919 to 1956.

The St. James A.M.E. Church, 819 Cypress Ave., was built in 1913. The red brick church, with close ties to Sanford's African-American religious and social life, was listed on the National Register of His-

toric Places in 1992.

The former Forrest Lake Hotel, 1000 E. First St., was built in 1925, just prior to a bust cycle in Florida development. The massive project was fraught with problems and is rumored to have contributed to the City of Sanford's bankruptcy.

Exhibits at the Sanford Museum chronicle Sanford's story — the man's and the city's. Additional information about Seminole County's heritage can be

found at the Museum of Seminole County History, off 17-92 across from Flea World, in the former County Old Folks Home. A request to add the structure to the National Register of Historic Places is pending.

The museums and commercial structures give 20th century visitors a feel for the people and the traditions that formed the foundation of our community. Looking out over Lake Monroe one can almost hear the echo of steamship whistles in the distance.



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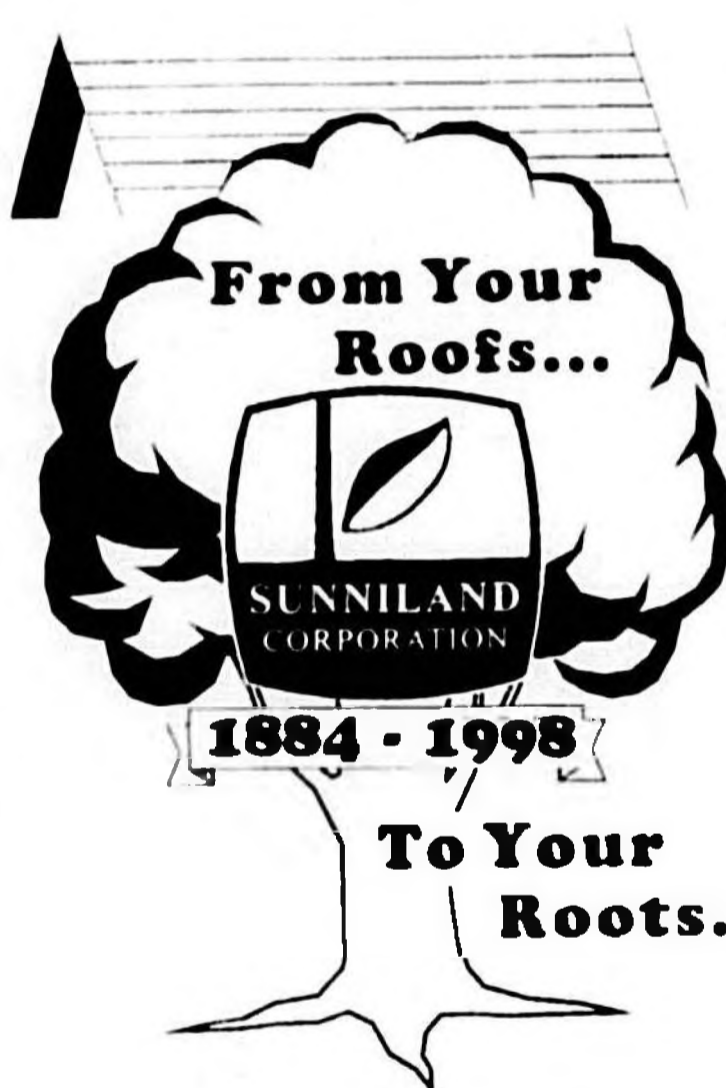
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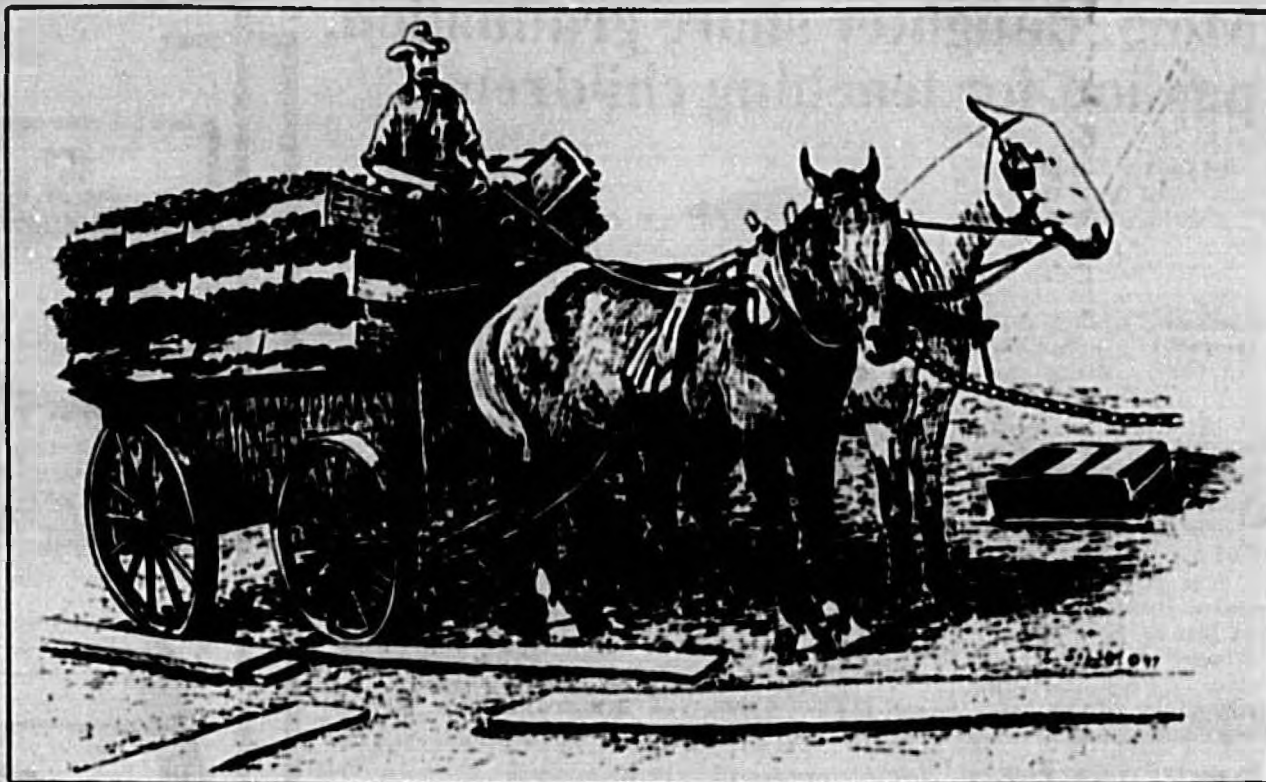
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Early scenes of Sanford such as this one by Linda Silsby Dolgner, depicting a hauler in the celery fields, will

fill the coloring book. Many local artists and writers are taking part. Volunteer opportunities still exist.

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## Coloring book brings past to life

By Joana Hughes  
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD - Some people in Sanford would

like to bring back the colorful history of the city. And what better way than with a coloring book!

The coloring book, a project of the Sanford Historical Society, will chronicle the city's historical development from the Timucuan Indians to the present. The book, *Historic Sanford, Past and Present*, is designed to captivate young and old alike, while providing important and interesting historical data.

The book will help to fill the need for Sanford historical information requested by visitors and potential visitors from across the nation and around the world. The coloring book will be available for sale at the Sanford Museum and selected area businesses.

Present day features of Sanford will also be noted such as the Seminole County Court House and the Central Florida Zoo.

Recognizing the importance of the St. Johns River to the settlement and development of Sanford, the book will be creatively written as a journal from the river's vantage point. The river will be depicted as a wave with eyes. Historical fact pages will be paired with journal pages to create a journey through time.

This is definitely a



Indians including the Timucuan and Seminole tribes settled the Sanford area. They will be featured in the coloring book.

homegrown project and many would say long overdue. As with any good project, it began with one person, Jane Morgan, who had an idea which she shared with others. That idea is now spreading like wildfire, similar to the fire that spread through Sanford in 1887. Only this fire, fueled by imagination, hard work and a love of Sanford will not destroy, but will preserve the rich history of our town.

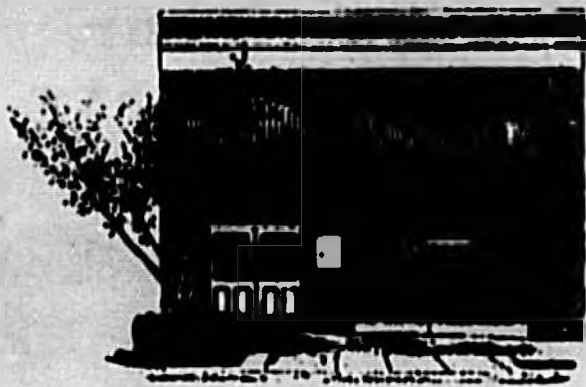
Many hours of volun-

teer time are going into the making of the book. The project will be the product of the Sanford community, as well as about it. Morgan co-chairs the project management team with Harold "Chip" Chapman and Beryle Dyal. Chapman and Dyal are also a part of the writing team.

Local artist involved with the project will include Troy Ray, Linda Silsby Dolgner, Betty Reagan and Faye Siler.

Please See Color, Page 11

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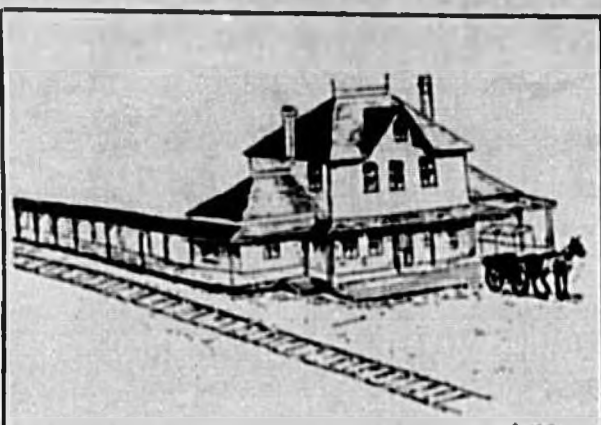
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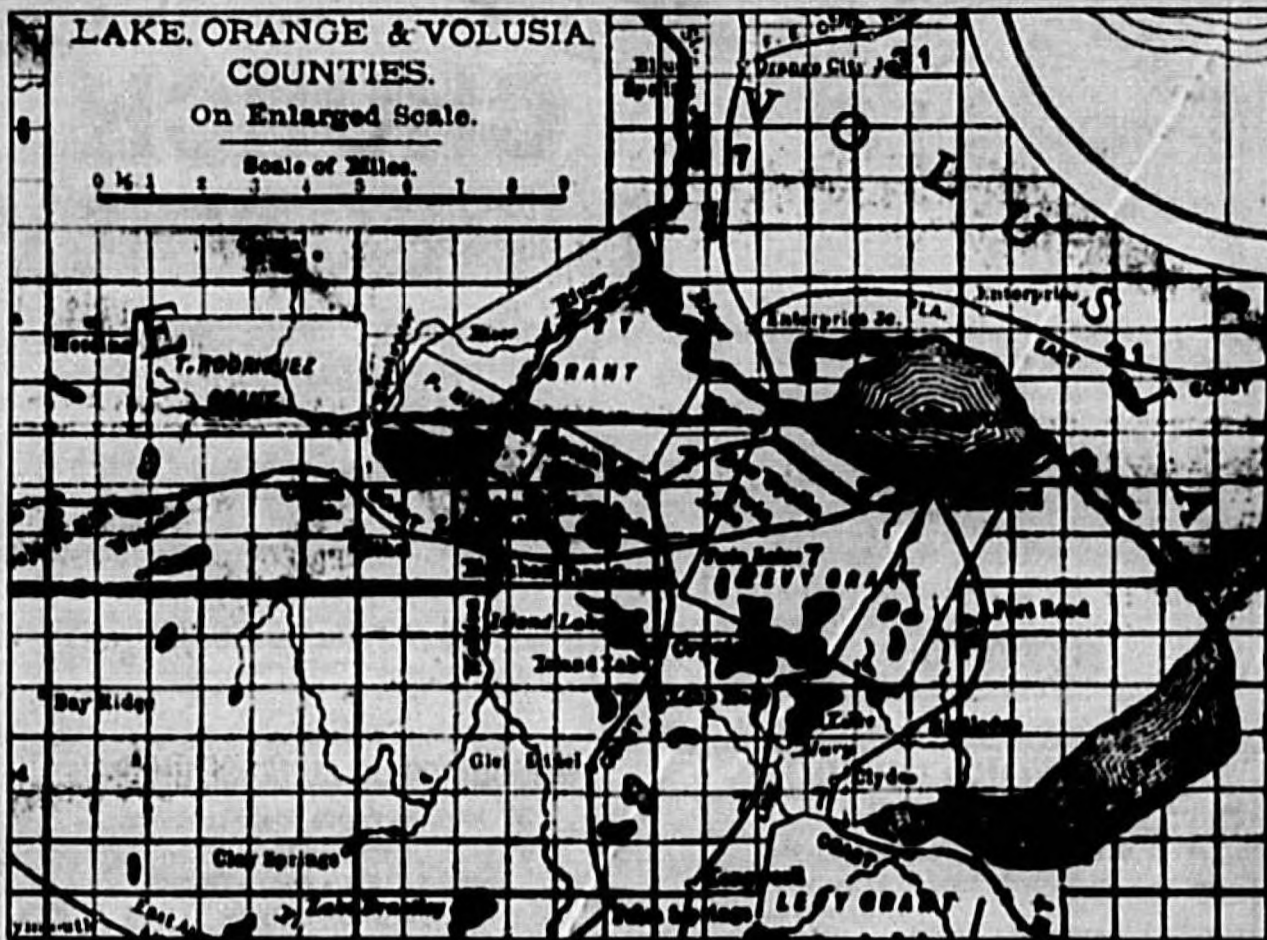
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A portion of the state map enclosed in the back of A Guide to Florida.

## Ridin' the rails in 1912

By Shari Brodie  
HERALD FEATURE  
EDITOR

The story behind this story is a story in itself. The letter from Ted Williams arrived in an envelope hand made from a magazine page. The computer-generated card posed the question "Would You Believe?"

"...that I have acquired a book printed in 1912 entitled A Guide to Florida by Harrison Rhodes and Mary Wolfe Dumont, that lists the scenery along the state's 28 railroads in Florida, at the time," the inside of the card read.

"Lots of interesting tidbits, such as a list of hotels and boarding houses by city, that might also make interesting reading for one of your many articles of the area...Enclosed is a magnified portion of the state map (that is) folded in an envelope in the back of the book. Notice the stops at Twin Lakes, New Upsala, Paola, etc."

The book was a gift to Williams from his daughter, Elizabeth Phillips. Phillips, who was living in New York City, found a man's wallet in a telephone booth. She contacted the owner and arranged to return the wallet.



Ted Williams asks 'Would you believe?'

The man, who was an antique book dealer, was overjoyed at the return of his lost wallet, intact, and rewarded Phillips with her choice of books from the store. She chose the small first edition, which she gave to her father several years later.

Ted Williams lives on the south shore of East Twin Lake, off County Road 46A, not far from where the Twin Lake train stop must have been.

According to Sanford Railroad Historical Data, railroading got its start in Sanford in 1880, when President Ulysses S. Grant broke ground, on First Street, near Myrtle and Oak avenues, for the South Florida Railroad.

The railroad operated until 1886 and incorporated a 12-mile loop around the celery farms east of Sanford. The route made Sanford

Please See Rail, Page 11

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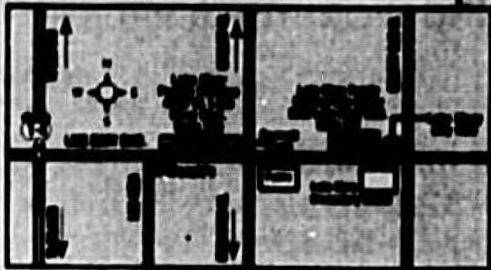
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## Color

Continued from Page 8

Biler, a resident of Sanford since 1954, was pleased to be asked to participate in the project. Siler's forte is wildlife and she looks forward to working on the animal art.

A variety of tasks are required to complete the project such as research, promotion, formatting and communication. Many familiar faces have already joined the project. Bettye Smith, Ken Leffler, Grace Marie Stinecipher, and Alicia Clarke, just to name a few. Longtime residents and new, all sharing a similar interest in the colorful history of Sanford, are coming together to make the project a reality.

The coloring book also will provide an opportunity to teach the vast history of Sanford to the children of Seminole County. The book

will be presented to the Seminole County School Board for integration into their 2nd grade curriculum. It is a goal of the project to provide a coloring book free of charge to each 2nd grade student in Seminole County schools.

"The coloring book will compliment beautifully the curriculum for 2nd graders in Seminole County," said Morgan. The curriculum includes the study of the history of the community, contributions of different ethnic groups, and how the community has changed over time. Journal writing is also an important part of elementary education.

The project has been piloted this year at Pine Crest Elementary School in Mrs. Tina Spillman's 2nd grade class. Morgan talked with the students about the importance of find-

ing a good location to create a town or community.

According to Morgan the students were very curious about General Sanford's appearance and what his life was like. They also wondered what animals were used to settle the area.

The students were excited and readily shared their ideas for the book. Some pictures the students want to see are the Timucuan and Seminole Indians, and the fort (Fort Mellon).

The project committees are hard at work striving to have the coloring book ready to present to the community on the anniversary of General Sanford's birthday in late September. Volunteers are still needed for a variety of tasks. Information about the coloring book project is available from the Sanford Museum.

## Rail

Continued from Page 10

Florida's first city with an integrated rail system.

The name of the rail line change several times until CSX bought the system in 1980.

A branch of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (1902-1967) ran from a pier jutting into Lake Monroe, west to Tavares, in Lake County. The line was also called the Sanford & Lake Eustis Railway.

In *A Guide to Florida*, the line is described as follows: The country is well settled and very prosperous. There are many lakes, much fine pine forest, and many hammocks of fine old trees. *New Upsala* (3 m.), *Twin Lakes* (4 m.), *Paoli* (6 m.), where another branch crosses, *Tufts* (9 m.), *Wekiva Creek* is crossed, *Cassia* (13 m.), *Lowley's Mills* (17 m.), *Berronte* (19 m.), *Mount Dora* (24 m.), *Tavares* (30 m.) also a station on the S.A.L....

The book goes on to describe the landscape from Sanford.

...the railroad passes through the well-known lake country. Though the elevation in Florida is nowhere very great, it is sufficient in this region...There is much thick hammock land, covered with beautiful and valuable timber and near the lakes are very fertile muck lands...Many attractive winter settlements may be found in this section.

The book also contains a listing of hotels and boarding houses:

**New Sanford House.** Harry P. Driver; capacity, 100; rates-per day, \$3.00, per week, \$15.00; American.

**Big Le Hotel.** W. L. Fielding; capacity, 50; rates-per day, \$2.00, per week, \$10.00 to \$12.00.

**Gate City House.** J. D. Parker; capacity, 20; rates-per day, \$1.50, per week, \$7.00.

**Pico Hotel.** Mrs. Tackach; capacity, —; rates-per day, \$2.00, per week, \$10.00 to \$12.00.

**Comfort Cottage.** Mrs. M. Martin; capacity, 50; rates-per day, \$2.50, per week, \$10.00 to \$12.00.

**Chandler House.** Mrs. Chandler; capacity, 10; rates-per day, \$2.00, per week, \$10.00.

**Robins Nest.** E. Robins; capacity, 25; rates-per day, \$2.00 up, per week, \$10.00.

Other branches of Sanford railway took passengers to Jacksonville and Tampa. The Sanford & Indian River Railroad ran through Oviedo. From 1886 to 1899, the line connected Jacksonville to Key West.

The state's largest railroad ice plant was located at Rand Yard and allowed farmers to ship celery and other produce nationwide, making Sanford the "Celery Capital of the World".

Little remains today to indicate the existence of the line that ran near Twin Lakes and Ted Williams' house. The right-of-way can be found at the corner of Upsala Road and Central Park Drive but will soon be incorporated into the Missing Link of Toll Road 417 (the GreeneWay).

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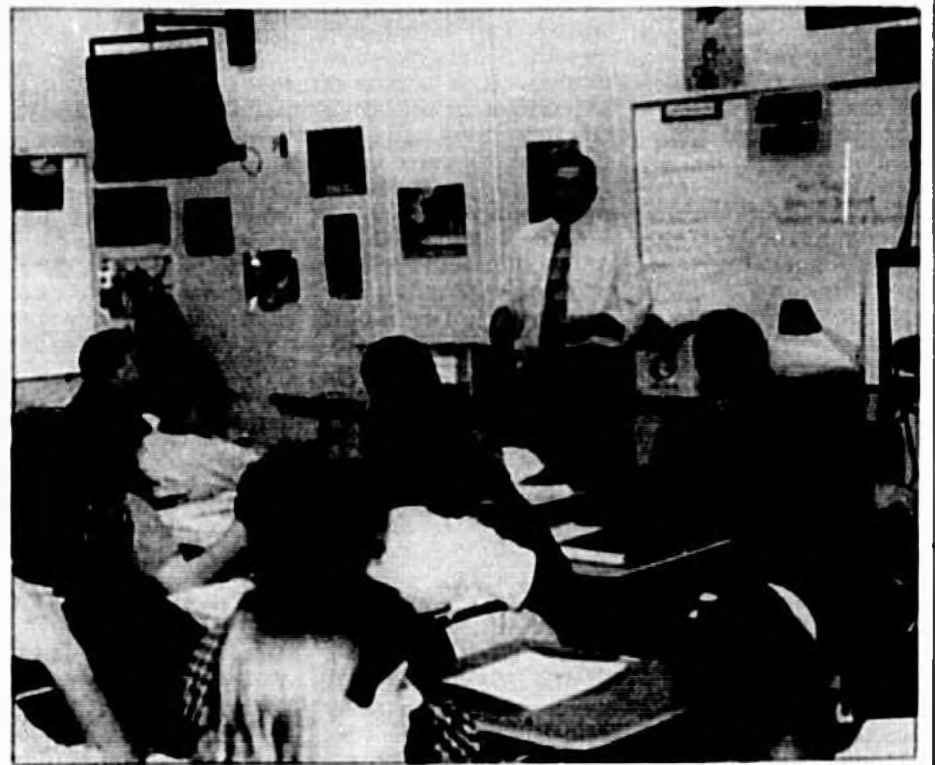
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## Chamber involved in community



Special Photos by Tommy Vincent

Top: Ron Rose, executive director of the Greater Sanford Chamber of Commerce, addresses Donalyn Knight's Life Management Skills class at Seminole High School this week. Rose spoke of travel and tourism in Sanford and Seminole County, and covered the many opportunities available in the tourism industry for high school graduates. Below: The City of Sanford each month recognizes business loca-

tions that project a positive, pleasant image of the city. The Scenic Improvement Board for May chose the Sanford Chamber office. From left: SIB's Chip Chapman, SIB Co-Chairman Connie Williams, Cathy Bossert, Co-Chairman Betty Akers, Rose Long, Eliza Pringle, Chamber Executive Director Ron Rose, and Chamber Board of Directors member Linda Keeling.



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# Deputies rebuild after tragic storm

By Jeana Hughes  
HERALD STAFF WRITER



Dotti Burkett

SANFORD - In the aftermath of the tornadoes that tore a path through parts of Sanford earlier this year, residents still in shock faced the overwhelming task of piecing their homes and their lives back together. A task they did not have to face alone thanks to the hundreds of volunteers who readily came forward to help.

Let the needs establish what needs to be done, were the instructions given to deputies assigned to the Seminole Neighborhood Policing Adopt-A-Block Program initiated by the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

The deputies were charged with facilitating whatever the residents needed - period, according to Lt. Jack Cash. "The deputies were told 'Don't act as traffic cops, pointing things to resources, bring the resources to the need.'"

Perimeter road blockades were established to provide security for the most severely devastated areas. Incoming and outgoing traffic was controlled to prevent gawkers and looting.

The storm damaged area was divided into segments and a block

deputy was assigned to each. The first order of business was to assess the needs of the residents. Deputies went property by property identifying and prioritizing needs.

Some residents, because of injury or property damage, had not been able to remain in their homes. Other victims, due to pride or fear, initially were hesitant to accept assistance. With persistence and genuine concern, deputies searched out all of the residents to assess their needs, and offer help and reassurance.

Deputies had to overcome the ingrained feelings in so many

## Depth of human spirit

By Jeana Hughes  
HERALD STAFF WRITER

SANFORD - The lives of the victims will never be the same as they were before that dark night in February when tornadoes left a path of destruction in their wake, but the road to recovery began with an outstretched hand and a determination to clean up and rebuild.

The hand came in the form of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office Adopt A Block program which organized and led the efforts of hundreds of volunteers eager to share the burden of the cleanup and reconstruction.

Deputies assigned to the area faced some roadblocks of their own as they tried to assess and meet the needs of the victims. The deputies did not let a little bureaucratic red tape keep them down.

Barriers put up by the residents posed more of a challenge. These barriers, emotional, not physical, were set up by the victims to protect themselves and their families from more harm. Most were in a state of shock and many were not comfortable asking for help.

It took innovative methods by the deputies to coax some residents into opening up. Pizza makes a great icebreaker, deputies found. And many residents just needed a chance to talk, someone to listen. Guilt was a common feeling shared by those who had survived, or whose homes had fared better than a neighbor's.

The residents are happy they opened up now, and want very much to voice their appreciation for the deputies and volunteers who gave so unselfishly of themselves. It is agreed that each

people accustomed to being self-reliant. Residents also felt that if they accepted assistance it might deprive a neighbor who needed it more, recalls Block Deputy Craig Magee. "When you've lost everything, you're not used to asking for help." Please See Heart, Page 15

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# Teachers

Continued from Page 7

school, she enrolled at the local community college in Huntsville. She recalls locals called it U.C.L.A. The University of Calhoun Longside the Airport. "Actually, it was Calhoun Community College, but we all called it U.C.L.A. I attended part time." She attended for one year before life got in the way of formal education.

Another busy decade passed. In 1992, Cindy Burke Robinson saw daughter Chanda graduate from Seminole High School in Sanford. When Chanda enrolled at Seminole Community College soon after, Chanda encouraged Cindy to enroll as well. "One day my daughter came home and announced she wanted to become a teacher and wouldn't it be great if we could graduate together."

In 1993, Cindy enrolled at SCC. The 2 next entered Nova Southeastern University together. Both majored in elementary education.

Being a teacher was each woman's life-long dream, but Cindy had not thought she'd actually do it.

On Sunday, May 3, 1998, mother and daughter received bachelor of science in Elementary Education degrees at Nova's Ft. Lauderdale graduation exercises. Both hold certification in early childhood and grades 1-6. Both were excellent students. Chanda's GPA is 3.7 and Cindy's is 3.6.

Their respective paths to college degrees were very different. Chanda's was direct after a distinguished high school career that included being editor of the yearbook and a member of the Future Teachers of America, she went straight into SCC. She married high school sweetheart, Steven Wilbur, along the way. She worked at Publix, but always knew she would teach.

Cindy's life journey started in Huntsville and took detours along the way. In 1984 she and husband Stephen came to Sanford. Once here, Cindy took a job at Pine

Crest Elementary. That detour turned out to be the best path she could have taken. While Chanda's dream of their graduating together inspired Cindy to return to school, it was Pine Crest that provided the support. Cindy worked as an instructional assistant. Some folks still call the job "teacher's aide." Some just call it a job.

But for Cindy, it was an apprenticeship. She's worked in kindergarten, P.E., the front office, 5th grade, and, for the past 4 years, with 2nd and 3rd graders in computer lab. Cindy says, "I've loved them all." She's worked for 5 principals and 3 assistant principals.

"Coming to Pine Crest was my decision maker about finishing college. Teachers were my guiding light, my mentors. I have said they all deserve a little piece of my diploma."

Cindy recalls that when she made the Dean's list, they posted her grades on the staff refrigerator. "They treated me like proud

parents and I owe them all many, many thanks. I am so proud to be a part of such a giving faculty."

That high regard is reciprocated. Mary Jane Barbour teaches the Title I Computer Reading Lab, where Cindy assists. "We've been together 4 years and from day one her initiative, her common sense approach to things, her sense of humor have been spectacular." Barbour declares Robinson is "a natural" as a teacher.

Robinson's sense of humor and imagination are the stuff of Pine Crest legend. At a recent staff recognition for PCE teacher and assistant of the year (Shirley Gibson and Nancy Flowers, respectively), Robinson appeared as Alfalfa of the Little Rascals fame, cowlick, freckles and all. Coworker and cohort Dawn Ridgeway was Darla. The two were hysterical.

These 2 have been "Frank Lee and Scarlet," "Merdes and Modine," "Jake and Elwood Blues," Robinson says. "What started out as a joke 10 years ago, has turned into a career."

What she most looks forward to teaching is reading. "I look forward to discovering literature with my students. I feel I have a lot of catching up to do." When she does read with children, she says she literally becomes the book. "I have a large array of wigs, hats, puppets and props that I use to tell stories. I have several characters and personalities I use, too."

Is this the end of her journey? Oh, no. Her husband of 26 years will next finish his degree in education, then "we hope to teach overseas."

Robinson's educational philosophy statement reads in part: "It is my belief that every child can learn. As a teacher, it will be my obligation to provide the necessary elements for student success."

It ends on a personal note. One the little girl without books and the woman who teaches has lived...

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Harold Photos by Milton Shadrage

Sanford Main Street sponsored recently An Evening of Flappers, Gangsters and All That Jazz, the second annual dinner dance to raise funds for downtown redevelopment. In the spirit of the evening, top: Vanessa and Ron Lane, Beth Goldstein and Steve Kleinberger. Center: Juanny and John Mercer. Bottom: Wayne and Betty Sonnenberg.

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source: Orlando Business Journal, March '98



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## Adopt

Continued from Page 13

rything, it is overwhelming to figure out what you need," said Magee. The needs of the victims were wide ranging. Some obvious, such as property damage. Some hidden, such as fear and guilt and grief, the emotional scars left by the storms. Whatever the need, deputies and volunteers worked together to make it happen.

Dotti Burkett's experience working with the community as Elder Services Officer was put to good use in the Adopt-A-Block program. She improvised forms with Block Deputy Yvette Saladino's help that made determining the needs of residents easier and more efficient.

Magee, as well as oth-

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# Adopt

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Burkett and Saladino  
era, give credit to "They made the opera-

tion come together," said Magee. "Burkett and Saladino had connections and knew the resources to make it happen."

Organizations and departments worked closely to cut through red tape and get things done. The deputies worked in collaboration with the fire department to evaluate the safety of weather damaged structures. The building department came on site to issue permits and facilitate reconstruction.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) could not come on private property to clean up debris so volunteers moved the debris to the streets to hasten the cleanup and expedite rebuilding.

The Lions' Club, using lists of specific clothing needs compiled by the block deputies, organized and funded personalized shopping for the victims. The Lions' Club also replaced all the eyeglasses lost during the storm.

First aid supplies provided by the Salvation Army were organized by the deputies into first aid kits for the victims and cleanup crews. Gloves for all the workers were also provided by the Salvation Army. "The Salvation Army was 100 percent, without hesitation," commends Magee.

The program offers residents another level of safety. Many residents will only talk to their block deputy. The deputies have acted as a line of defense against fraudulent contractors that might take advantage of the dire needs of the residents. Deputies sworn to protect and serve made special effort to protect the victims from additional harm.

"Generally law enforcement clears roads, lets the people through and they're out of there," said Burkett. "And that's not the way Sheriff Eslinger plays the game."

All agree this was not the standard law enforcement duty. The program had as profound an effect on the deputies as it did on those it was designed to help. The deputies use words like 'amazing', 'rewarding', 'fulfilling' and 'satisfying' to describe the experience. Deputies were pulled

off regular duty for this special assignment. The other officers in their units stepped in to fill the gap. Families also shared the weight of this special program. Deputies worked everyday, 20 plus hours a day in the first weeks following the storm.

Sheriff Don Eslinger did not set a time table for the program. Deputies will remain involved for as long as is necessary. Like the reconstruction, the Adopt-A-Block program will be an ongoing process.

Experience from the Adopt-A-Block program will enable the officers to better serve the everyday needs of the community. "I learned which agencies you can count on, which you can't and which will cut through red tape to get

things done," said Magee.

Adopt-A-Block has proven to be one of the most successful forms of community policing according to sheriff's office

reports. And may well be a first of its kind. "It's a perfect example of what a difference community policing and community partnerships can make," said Burkett.

# Heart

Continued from Page 13

went above and beyond the call of duty.

Ollie Hasty, 92, lost her home that night. Her daughter, Pauline Madden was called to pick her mother up from a fire station where she had been taken. "I can't say enough good about the sheriff's office," remarks Hasty. Her daughter agrees. "We can't say anything but good about the firemen, Salvation Army, police, everyone helped (my mother) so much". The Salvation Army replaced Hasty's wheelchair that was destroyed in the storm.

Madden's sister's home across the street was also destroyed. "We didn't know what to do, where to go." Both women really appreciated the help from everyone. They did not want to forget to thank Wal-Mart and volunteers from AT & T.

Deputies and residents praised Wal-Mart in Sanford for their generous help and sensitivity to the storm victims.

Walter Lee, another resident whose house was destroyed, is "grateful for the pouring out of their hearts". Lee commends the deputies for being very helpful and doing an outstanding job.

Craig Foster's home was severely damaged. His family was put out of their home for about 10 weeks following the storm. Foster, a self described country boy accustomed to taking care of his own family, found the support overwhelming. He admits being a little irritated at the road blockades and other security measures, but realizes the tight security was for the residents' protection. He gives the overall operation an A plus, commending the road department, fire department, sheriff's office and building department. "We may be a small county," remarks Foster, "but other government agencies could certainly learn from us."

Charmaine Frase's brother-in-law lives near the area and she was so moved by the sight of the destruction she could not walk away. Frase went to where she works, Mortah Brandons, a hair salon, and immediately began organizing volunteers and donations. Frase facilitated the donation of food, money, appliances, and even vehicles.

"Just ask and people will give," said Frase. Frase asked and Redken donated 31 cases of shampoo and conditioner.

In the midst of such total destruction the little things meant a lot. Frase became aware that a man was in need of a pair of beard trimmers. A co-worker happily donated a pair. The Block Deputy came to Frase's home at 10 p.m. to pick up the trimmers so the man would have them the next day.

Frase has no intention of discontinuing the help. "You never feel like you've done enough."

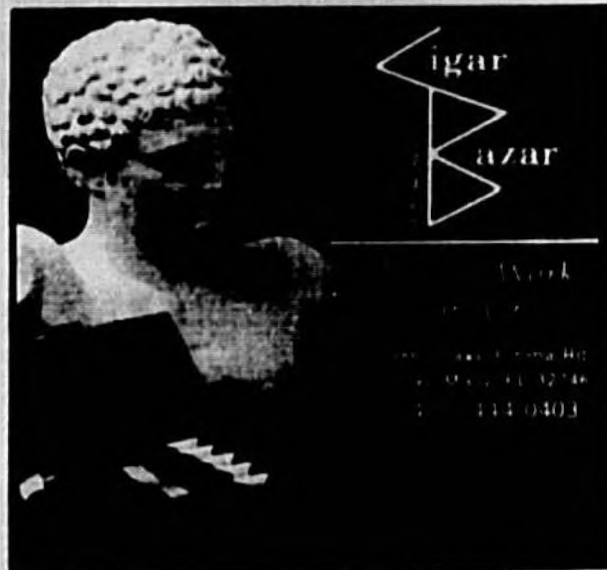
The residents echo the same praise again and again. "If it wasn't for the deputies I don't think anything would have been done," comments Sonya Fauver. "If you needed anything they'd climb mountains to get it!"

The words 'team work' do not do justice to the way in which deputies pulled every resource together to make things happened. Fauver's house was destroyed and along with it the dreams of her daughter's prom night.

Elder Services Officer Dotu Burkett came to the rescue with a prom dress for Shannon and a dress for her sister, Sheryl, for a school dance. The dresses however were in need of alterations. Deputy Yvette Saladino's mother came to the rescue. Leonor Willis-Meyer has been a seamstress/ tailor for over 40 years.

The dresses turned out beautifully. Frase arranged to have the girls' hair done. Dinner and prom tickets were acquired with some work from Burkett and Saladino. "It was like a Cinderella story," says a grateful Fauver.

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