

Edward Carter Publisher / Russ Dennis Editor

# Editor's Viewpoint

by Russ Dennis

Sometimes it seems like there just isn't any sense in trying anymore. Last week, I related to you a story concerning my lack of talent in the fix-it-yourself category. This week, I have a plea to make. How, aside from using barbed-wire, daymores mines and a 50 caliber machinegun, can you keep dogs out of the garbage?

I'll admit, this isn't a question that will bring forth fiery letters to the editor, however, I am just about at my wits end in coping with the problem.

There are two dogs living high on the hog out where we live and most of the hog is coming from my garbage. I wonder how many of you have looked out the window, only to discover an acre of trash strewn about the back yard. There is something about that particularly sight that seems to upset me, somewhat.

Since we quickly grew tired of collecting litter two or three times per day, I decided to outfox those dang dogs — a noble idea, but one that alas, failed.

We were just settling down to a quiet evening of television one night last week, when I heard a by now familiar sound. Clunk, clank, rattle. The dogs were at their repeat again. After several minutes of frantic searching, I discovered my trusty old B.B. pistol and trusty armed, I set about the task of creeping up on the unsuspecting feasters. Ha! Did you ever try to sneak up on a dog that knows it's doing something it shouldn't? No chance. No sooner had I opened the kitchen door, than those dogs took off like small, black rockships. Try to ring a mutt in full flight in the middle of the night — especially a dog that is jet black to start with. After having this happen twice, the dogs didn't even bother to run out of the yard. They just ducked into the darkest corners of the back — 40 and sort of laughed at me. You all know what kind of laugh I mean. Those dogs ran their tongues out and sneered at my futile attempts to keep them from their just rewards.

"I've got to outthink them critters," I mumbled to the wife, (who was torn between righteous anger at the trashy mess left in the yard and full-blown mirth at the undignified sight of her

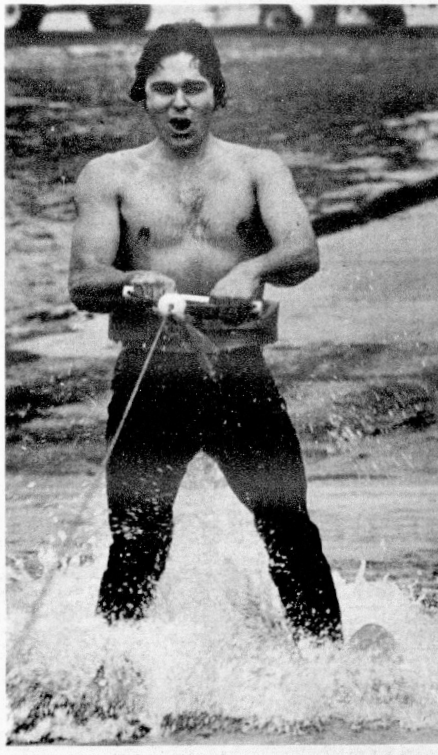
husband flailing about with a B.B. gun). Thinking fast (for me) I grabbed a box of white pepper and a spray can of the horrible smelling dog repellent that mail carriers use when attacked by hungry mutts. Now, white pepper is one of the sneeze-makingest substances known to man-coups that with the teargas properties of the dog repellent and you have a powerful concoction. I know, as most of the gunk came blowing back into my face. The dogs liked that one, I heard them giggle as I stumbled back into the house, blinded and gasping. Within ten minutes, those blankety-blank animals were back at the trough, enjoying their highly seasoned repeat.

The next day, I purchased a large trash container with a tight fitting lid. That will fix 'em," I gloated. That evening, we were disturbed from our sleep by the sound of a trash container with a tight fitting lid being overturned. By the time I reached the door, garbage was strewn about and I swear this is true—those dogs were in such a fit—that our next door neighbor opened up his bedroom window and asked me why those dogs were laughing.

Thoughts of murder were running through my head, as I made my way back to bed. When the clanking and rattling sound started a few minutes later, I was further annoyed; especially by the muffled giggles coming from the general location of my wife's pillow.

The next morning, I gave in and called the county dog catcher, who cruised through the area several times, but never saw the first sign of the dogs that were tormenting me. I knew, however, that those animals would be back at the trash as soon as the dog catcher was gone. I was, unfortunately, right—they even had the nerve to invite a few friends.

There must be someone reading this who can come up with a solution to my problem—a solution that won't get me involved in a lawsuit for injuring someone's prized pet or send me to jail for violating some local law. I would appreciate a rapid reply, before those dogs start leaving me notes requesting more and better garbage.



How cold was it? Well, not cold enough to stop some people from spending an afternoon water skiing. Gary Simmons of Avon Park, along with his partner, Tommy Wester (who was driving the boat), decided to put some snap into their lives last Friday. The pair took a few turns around Lake Lotela in 40 degree weather. As you can see from the expression on Simmons' face, the water was a little chilly. Sunphoto by Russ Dennis.

## Not One Cent Until Case Closed

The long running case of the Police Department of Avon Park vs one of its officers, acting Lt. Frank Weems has, apparently come to an end...we say apparently, because of certain aspects of the case which leave us, and others, with an unsettled feeling.

It seems to us, that accepting Weems' resignation with a sigh of relief is an unsatisfactory way of ending the matter. As one unidentified member of the audience attending last Monday night's special council meeting on the case stated, "If the man is innocent, then he should be re-instated with full pay, but if he is guilty, he shouldn't get a cent." We agree.

We are not taking a stand on Weems' guilt or innocence, but we do feel that the matter should be followed to its logical conclusion...there are currently too many unanswered questions. Was the Civil Service Board biased, was their split decision contrary to presented evidence, is the decision contrary to the law and the civil service rules and regulations of the city, was there a lack of proper legal procedure and, was there a violation of the Sunshine Law?

These questions are far too disturbing to be swept under the rug. The charges were made, either officially or unofficially and the questions need to be answered. If any of these charges are true, then Weems does not deserve one cent of accumulated back pay, if, however, the man was the victim of harassment and political misdeeds, then he should be totally cleared, re-instated

and apologized to. It is almost beyond comprehension that a matter of this magnitude was decided by a group of men who had no legal counsel. It was obvious from the onset of the last hearing, that certain legal irregularities were taking place. Whether those irregularities resulted from simple ignorance of a complicated system or through malice and bias is up to a duly authorized body to decide—but such a decision must be made to put an end to this matter once and for all. To simply let the case rest with Weems' resignation will not still the voices who are claiming bias. The only way to do that is to investigate the entire matter through proper channels. If such an investigation substantiates any of the already mentioned claims, then the city council must give due consideration to removing any or all members of the Civil Service Board deemed guilty of unbearably conduct. If, on the other hand, such an investigation turns up no intent to violate laws and regulations, then such findings should be made public and quickly. Unsubstantiated charges, rumors and innuendos will ruin a man's reputation as rapidly and with far more devastating results than being found guilty of the actual charges.

We feel that not one dime of taxpayer's money should be paid to Weems until the case has been decided with finality. To do otherwise is a misuse of the faith placed in public officials by the very people who elected them to office. Let us end this matter for once and for all.

## Gadabout Alice

By Alice Smith

Last week, all over the country, people were writing about and talking about an eight hour television production aired by the ABC Television Network during the previous week.

Several friends asked me, "Did you like 'Roots'?"

This is the kind of question which I find impossible to answer with a court room yes or no. Ask me if I like steak, polished wood or tailored clothes and you'll get a resounding "yes". Ask me if I like cards, anything plastic, or raffles and the answer is an equally loud "No", delivered, in either case, without thought or reason why. With books, or theater, not so. You'll get a speech.

About "Roots", certainly no one could fault the production or the quality of acting. The cast was superb and I honestly believe Ben Vereen (Chicken George) is one of the greatest talents to come along in our time.

In the dozens of letters written by private citizens, the dissenting voices had two complaints. They objected to the violence depicted or believed that the story line could only produce more interracial disharmony. These may be valid complaints. But violence is on our TV screens and in our newspapers every day in the week. We may dislike it but we can hardly pretend to be shocked. As for furthering racial discord, I doubt it.

One viewer commented decisively that "the South was not like that". I can neither affirm nor deny that statement. I wasn't around one hundred years ago and all my forebears were in

Pennsylvania or New York State. But it does seem significant that a Florida University is using the production as a study course for college credits.

What Alex Haley, author of "Roots", hopes for, I think, is an upsurge of interest in their beginnings. On the part of all Americans black and white. I'm interested in my own ancestors, but a little nervous. I suspect some of them were slightly less than noble.

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Avon Park Sun, Box 1117, Avon Park, FL 33825

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## Interviewpoint

The recent controversy which has been sparked by President Jimmy Carter's recent pardon of some of the Vietnam draft evaders proved to be a weighty question for some Avon Park residents. A sampling of their opinions on the issue follows.

This week's question: President Jimmy Carter has recently seen fit to pardon some of the Vietnam draft evaders. Do you feel he made the right decision?



A.E. Clark, 1819 Hollyhurst. "No, I don't think President Carter made the right choice. If he can restore to life all of the men killed in Vietnam and grant them back their citizenships, then he can pardon the draft dodgers. Because of (pardon), he has made it difficult to get men in the future to serve in the armed forces. Why should they?"

Glenda Long, Lotela Park Apts. "I've tried to come up with an answer to this question. As a mother I see it one way and as a young person, I see it another. I'm just glad that I didn't have to make that decision because I am really torn up on the question."



R.B. Wright, 1203 West Bell. "I guess that was a hard decision for Carter to make. When you consider all of the young men who went and remember all those who we still know are listed as missing, I guess he shouldn't issue a blanket pardon."

Ethel Branc, 1213 W. Church. "Yes, I think the president did the right thing. I don't hold any hard feelings against most of the draft evaders. I hope this puts an end to the Vietnam war, once and for all."

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

As a genuinely concerned citizen of Avon Park I would like the privilege of answering last week's anonymous concerned citizen. Evidently this so called concerned citizen has been presented with and has evidence of more information than what the so called "Joke of a Civil Service Board" has. If so, by all means let them come forward and present it for fair judgement. I also request each and every citizen to come to all open Civil Service Board meetings. To stay for the full meeting and to hear all the facts. Not just the ones they choose to hear.

The Frank Weems case has caused a lot of controversy and I would just like to say that "anything no matter how thin" has two sides. As a board member I state that we have been presented "both sides" of this issue and have tried to be fair in our judgement of what has been presented to us.

The Civil Service Board is a group of concerned citizens with nothing to gain and a lot to lose by their donated time and service to this city. The fact they have accepted this responsibility should speak for their "concern" for Avon Park and its citizens.

In closing "with tongue in cheek" allow me to comment to last week's anonymous concerned citizen. Dear Citizen, out of concern for you, may I suggest that if you have attended all meetings for their entirety and have made your judgement of quote "Clearly proven facts against Frank Weems," on what you have heard. May I suggest you might possibly need a hearing aid. Come forward and let's talk about it.

Melvin Beane  
Member of the Civil Service Board

Dear Editor:

In these recent days we and the whole world witnessed so clearly the greatness of America, crowned with invaluable, most wonderful and matchless human freedoms.

The freedom of speech, freedom of the

press, the freedom of assembly and the freedom of religion. "Which is the foundation of all freedoms" and numerous other precious human freedoms.

About a dozen candidates for presidency taking advantage of these matchless freedoms of our great republic were running up and down, all over the land, from city to city, from village to village and from state to state preaching their philosophy of life, their ideologies, their views, opinions and their promises for upbuilding and uplifting our social, financial, economical, ethical and political conditions and create a true faith, trust and confidence in the hearts and minds of the citizens of the United States of America, to their country and to their democracy.

The echoes of the sound of freedom were heard in every corner of the world and aroused an indyng craving and longing in the hearts of the oppressed peoples of the world to cast their lots to the shores of this blessed land. Also the echoes of the sound of freedom resolute transfer of the power of the American presidency from one person to another." Gerald Ford departed with the thanks and the affection of his countrymen."

The greatness of America and her system and her democracy were manifested to the world in the magnificent and solemn ceremony of the inauguration, the splendor and beauty of the ceremony of inauguration. The splendor and beauty of the ceremony dazzled the minds of the leaders of foreign nations of the world. The columnist Jerald Fer Host rightly and justly wrote, "In all of the modern world, there surely can be no grander moment more eloquent testimonial to freedom's strength than the quiet resolute transfer of the power of the American presidency from one person to another." Gerald Ford departed with the thanks and the affection of his countrymen."

The inauguration ceremony declared to the unbelieving world and its leaders that God is not dead for America that He is the Creator of all nations and the Supreme Ruler of the Universe and the world. And that He controls the destiny of the nations as well as the destiny of individuals and that the American System and the American Freedom are founded on the Holy Bible and the government "under God."

"Dear Americans, our freedoms are matchless. Let us hold them fast and firm. Keep them sacred. Let us not let them fly from our hands, because when we let them go away they will never come back to us — to our eternal sorrow."

Bedros M. Sharian

## Business Briefs

A new retail sales record for a single season of 521 million reconstituted gallons of frozen concentrated orange juice was established in the marketing year that ended with the final week of Nov., reports the Florida Dept. of Citrus. The new record is 16 per cent greater than the 1975 season.

The Florida Citrus Association has reported that its members packed and shipped an all-time record volume of frozen concentrated orange juice for the week ending Jan. 29. The record was 9,965,482 net gallons.

About 85 percent of Florida's winter crop of vegetables was wiped out by five consecutive nights of sub-freezing temperatures. Hardest hit were tomatoes, peppers, squash, cucumbers, pole beans and sweet corn.

The celery, cabbage and carrot crops came through relatively unscathed and shipments to market, while reduced, will continue. Look for dramatic consumer price increases for fresh vegetables hardest hit by the freeze.

The State House Extractor Advisory Committee last week voted unanimously to lower the squeeze factor on fruit for frozen concentrated orange juice to 86 per cent and to meet again this Friday, to review the situation created by the January freeze.

The squeeze factor has been 87 percent, but moved to the new 86 percent level on Monday.

Florida citrus growers face a deadline of 60 days to salvage juice from freeze-damaged orange crops. Fruit processed beyond that point can be used only for cattle feed.

## \$2700 Pledged By Sponsors Of Skate-A-Thon For MD Research

Sponsors of the 46 skaters, starting the 12 hour Muscular Dystrophy Skate-A-Thon, pledged over \$2700 for the foundations use in education and research.

Of the skaters, 42 finished the 12-hour hours of skating and set out to collect the money pledged by their sponsors.

The winners of the skate-a-thon pledge contest were announced this week by Whitley and Marie Skating rink.

Turning in \$294 of pledged money, skater Ricky Norris received the top prize of a CB radio, but Ricky actually wanted the roller skates. His parents came to the rescue when he gave them the CB radio, they brought Ricky a pair of roller skates.

Second place winner Glena Tomlin received a pair of roller skates after turning in \$294 in pledges. Winning a camera, Faye Hodge turned in \$116 in pledges for third place. Coming in fourth in the amount of pledges turned in (\$131.20), Scott Swanton received a basketball for his work while Tammy Gilliard turned in \$115 in pledges and received as fifth prize a \$10 gift certificate.

## Civil Service Board Meeting For Feb. 10

A special meeting of the Avon Park Civil Service Board has been called by secretary Melvin Beane for 6 p.m. Thursday Feb. 10 at the City Hall.

The meeting was called to consider the proposed resignation of Frank Weems from the Avon Park Police Department.

At a special election of the Avon Park city employees on Monday Feb. 7, Patrolman Charles "Chuck" Campbell was elected to serve out the remainder of Virginia Henderson's term on the Civil Service Board.

Mrs. Henderson resigned from the Civil Service Board on Jan. 20 because of the pressure of her other duties. Another member James Fountain has also resigned and has been replaced by Ora Mitchell, who is employed by United Telephone Company.

## Services Held For William S. Benson

William S. Benson of Avon Park, died Feb. 3, 1977, at Walker Memorial Hospital. He was a resident of Avon Park for 21 years and a former employee of Hood Pests. He was of the Baptist faith.

Survivors are: his wife; Doris Benson, Avon Park; daughter, Terri Lynn Stone, Charlotte, N.C.; son, William R. Benson, Avon Park; one brother; one sister; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Feb. 5, at Dowden Funeral Home Chapel, Sebring, Rev. John W. Walters officiated. Pallbearers were: Kelly Phillips, Hardy Phillips, John Perce, Carroll Pollard, Frank Stone, and Lex Helms.

## Brantley Sentenced To Jail, Fined, On Probation

An Orlando man arrested in Highlands County on three criminal charges, has been fined, placed on a long probation and ordered to jail for a short term.

James Bruce Brantley Jr. was charged with receiving stolen property after some auto tools reported stolen in Fort Meigs, were found in his car. Drugs were also found in the car and in connection with that he was charged with possession of a controlled substance. A third charge was dropped.

Judge Clifton M. Kelly sentenced Brantley to 17 days in county jail, fined him \$1,000 and placed him on probation for five years.

Swans communicate with a loud, trumpet-like sound.

## State Declares DeSoto City Landfill Unsafe

The county is having some problems with its new policy of charging dump fees at county landfills. The state has declared the brand new weigh scales at the DeSoto City landfill unsafe, and has placed them under lock and key.

County Administrative Assistant Charles Cullen said that when officials from the state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services inspected the scales Tuesday afternoon, they were discovered to be "structurally unsafe."

The state inspects all new scale systems, and periodically checks them to ensure their accuracy.

The scale system at DeSoto City consists of a concrete platform which dump trucks drive onto, and a large underground scale that tells the operator in an adjacent scale house the weight of the vehicle.

Under the county's new policy, dump trucks are charged by the tonnage of garbage to be dumped.

Cullen said the main weighing platform was found to be unsafe, and the scales have been locked so they cannot be used until the problems are rectified.

Engineers from the Tampa company which installed the scales were to arrive on the site Wednesday and attempt to determine what was "structurally unsafe" with the system.

Cullen said there was no way of telling at the moment how long the scales would be out of commission. "It could be

something they can fix today, but if they have to rip up the whole thing, that would take some time."

The landfill scales went into operation on Feb. 1 and since that time, Cullen said the DeSoto City collectors have been to date.

Residents hauling personal trash to the dump need not worry, cars and pick-up trucks are assessed by the vehicle, not the load.

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JOHN WESLEY OSBORNE III

JOHN AND DIANE Osborne were especially happy that John Wesley Osborne III was a boy, as predicted by a

blood test. John Jr. was quoted as being in seventh heaven when holding his newborn son. (Sunphoto by Lew Miller).

## Baby Boy Born To Osbornes' As Predicted By Blood Test

John Wesley Osborne III was born as predicted, a boy, but he arrived five days late for his expected birth date of Jan. 25. The "Third" as his proud grandfather calls him, arrived at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 30, 1977, weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz. and stretching out to 20 1/2 inches long.

The attending physician? Naturally, it was grandfather, Dr. John Wesley Osborne Sr., who had also delivered his own son, John Jr., a few years earlier.

In speaking about her first child, Diane said she liked the idea of knowing that her baby would be a boy because they could get everything ready and they were primed for a boy. If their baby had been a girl, they would have had to exchange a lot of things.

Judy Crabtree, R.N. who had taken Diane's blood for the test, told that the tests were not as accurate as the 90 per

cent they had been told; thus the tests were not being released from the research phase.

At the time that Diane had her test, blood was being taken from the seventh month of pregnancy until shortly before delivery. Recently this has been changed to drawing blood for the sex determination test at the seventh month. Judy said it would take about two months to determine the accuracy of the tests. In the meantime she tells her father's expecting patients, "Listen girls, this is just a research thing."

However, when Diane was given a baby shower and received all boys things, Judy was a bit scared because shortly before the test had been wrong for three mothers.

When Diane told of the birth of John

III, husband John was in the delivery room with her. To Diane, "It was more comforting to have someone there, than the doctor, nurse and other help."

Judy also stated that the breaking of the "father stay out of the delivery room barrier" was the greatest thing that has happened. The father by being involved in the birth process in the delivery room learns to love the child like the mother does.

However many doctors dread to have the father in the delivery room because as they watch the baby being born the father may do unexpected things. But now with the prepared childbirth classes which both the mother and father attend one night a week for six weeks the father is given a certificate which serves as his ticket of admission to the delivery room when their child is born.

## FHA Now Making Emergency Loans In 35 Florida Counties

The Farmers Home Administration is now making emergency loans in 35 counties in Central and South Florida. FmHA State Director Claude L. Greene Jr. said. These counties have been designated by President Carter as a result of severe winter weather. Farmers and ranchers in

Highlands County, who sustained production or physical losses as a result of the severe winter weather which struck during January, may be eligible to receive an emergency loan from FmHA. Those who have not received an emergency loan to assist in recovering from their loss may apply for such a loan at the Farmers Home Administration county office at 303 NW 2nd St. Okeechobee, before close of business April 1, for physical losses and Oct. 31, for production losses.

Individual examination will be made of each application to determine type of emergency loan benefits for which the applicant is eligible. Farm emergency loans may include funds to repair or restore damaged farm property as well as reimburse applicants for expenses already incurred for such purposes.

Loans based on qualifying production losses may include funds to reimburse applicants for production expenses which went into damaged or destroyed crop and livestock enterprises, and to produce new crops. Payment terms depend on the purposes for which the loan is used and the applicant's payment ability.

## Marriage Dissolutions

Harold Eugene Tomlinson, Lorinda, and Simons Tomlinson, Lorinda, petitioner, married July, 1961.  
Peter Arnold Canfield, Avon Park, and Barbara Ambler Canfield, Sebring, petitioner, married Feb. 1973.  
William F. Miller, Sebring, petitioner, and Barbara A. Miller, Indiana, married July, 1968.  
Charles Robert Redmon, unknown, petitioner, and Lida G. Redmon, Tennessee, married Feb. 1973.  
Albert Thomas, Avon Park, and Kathleen Thomas, Avon Park, petitioner, married Sept. 1967.  
Warren Frye, Avon Park, and Elaine McAllister Frye, Avon Park, petitioner, married March, 1971.  
Walter C. Guthrie, Orlando, and Irene M. Guthrie, unknown, petitioner, married Feb. 1978.  
Jerry Mah Fodge, Avon Park, petitioner, and Marie Fodge, Avon Park, married July, 1974.  
Robert E. Hanchey, Green Acres, and Lois L. Hanchey, unknown, petitioner, married Aug. 1974.

Warren Dale Vance, Okeechobee, and Rhonda Jean Vance, unknown, petitioner, married Nov. 1975.  
Richard Edward Haley, Pompano Beach, and Madeline Marie Haley, Sebring, petitioner, married Feb. 1965.  
James Sherman Medley, unknown, and Pamela Jean Medley, unknown, petitioner, married March, 1978.  
Rene Dorman, Tallahassee, and Kathleen C. Dorman, unknown, petitioner, married Aug. 1974.  
Julian H. Bradberry, Sebring, and Regina Mae Bradberry, unknown, petitioner, married March, 1965.  
John M. Darragh, unknown, petitioner, and Veronica Helen Darragh, Connecticut, married Aug. 1964.  
Delbert B. Hamilton, unknown, and Myrtice Collins Hamilton, unknown, petitioner, married Oct. 1963.  
Harold J. Fisher, Lake Placid, and Ebel Jones Fisher, Lake Placid, petitioner, married Dec. 1970.  
James Levy Francis, Highlands City, and Carol Frances Francis, Lake Placid, petitioner, married June 1966.  
Rene Dehols, unknown, petitioner, and Beatrice Dehols, Rhode Island, married Dec. 1974.  
Dudley Abijah Davis, unknown, petitioner, and Jeannette Washington Davis, South Carolina, married March, 1974.  
William Tschuch, Sebring, petitioner, and Carol Tschuch, Sebring, petitioner, married Nov. 1964.  
Bredy L. Hopen, Lake Placid, and Barbara G. Hopen, Lake Placid, petitioner, married April, 1965.



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Boston was once known as Beantown because it was famous for its baked beans.





Mrs. Paul Keith Maynor

## Sara And Keith Unite In Double-Ring Ceremony

The Union Congregational Church was the setting that united Sara Nunnallee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hue Nunnallee, and Paul Keith Maynor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Maynor of Canal Point, Fla., in holy matrimony on February 5, 1977, at 4:30 P.M.

The Rev. Talmadge Maynor and the Rev. William Ziegenfuss officiated over the double ring ceremony that joined the couple amidst decorations of mixed flowers and greenery.

Mrs. Clayton Rhoades was the organist. Special music was provided by the sister of the bride, Sue Nunnallee. She played three piano selections.

The bride, Sue Nunnallee, daughter of the bride, was escorted by her father, the groom, Paul Keith Maynor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Maynor of Canal Point, Fla., in holy matrimony on February 5, 1977, at 4:30 P.M.

The bride's mother, Mrs. Sue Nunnallee, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids were: Jane Blankenship, sister of the bride, Ocean Springs, Miss.; Sabrina Morris DeCoka, Tallahassee; and Debbie Malcolm, Ruskin, Fla. All of the bride's attendants wore green jersey knit gowns with cape sleeves that were edged with lace.

The bride's mother, Mrs. Sue Nunnallee, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids were: Jane Blankenship, sister of the bride, Ocean Springs, Miss.; Sabrina Morris DeCoka, Tallahassee; and Debbie Malcolm, Ruskin, Fla. All of the bride's attendants wore green jersey knit gowns with cape sleeves that were edged with lace.

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## Marshall Albritton Marries Linda Marie In Colorado Ceremony

Mr. and Mrs. John G. Moore of Oak Creek, Colorado, are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Linda Marie, to Marshall Gene Albritton, of Avon Park.

The double-ring ceremony was solemnized by the Rev. Joe Peterson in the First Baptist Church, Yampa, Colorado, Saturday, January 29, 1977, at 3 P.M.

Judy Connor of Craig, Colorado, served as matron of honor.

Maurice Albritton, served his son as best man.

A wedding dinner followed the ceremony at the Holiday Inn, at Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

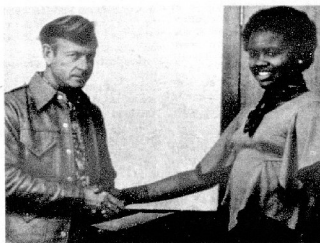
After a month's visit with their two year old daughter, Jeanie Lee, in Avon Park, at the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice

Albritton of Avon Park, they will return to Colorado Springs. The groom is presently in the U.S. Army, stationed at Ft. Carson.

## Adelines To Visit Manatee

The Avon Park Heart of Highlands Chapter of the Sweet Adelines will visit with the Manatee chapter of the Sweet Adelines on February 1.

The Avon Park Sweet Adelines will be entertained by the Manatee Chapter at their meeting.



DAN DAVIS, SCHOOL Superintendent, commends Brenda Shipman for her fine essay which she presented as a finalist in the Miss Fla. National Teenage Competition in January. Sunphoto by Vi.

## Student Presents Moving Essay In Beauty Contest

Brenda Shipman, a recent competitor as a finalist in the Miss Fla. National Teenage Competition in January, was among 12 finalists.

Each contestant was judged on scholastic achievement, leadership, poise-personality, and beauty. The delivery of a 100 word essay, "What's Right About America," was another requirement.

After returning to Avon Park Middle School she was commended by school superintendent, Dan Davis.

Brenda's essay, "What's Right About America," stated: "America is a country without bounds and free, made for people like you and me. Our forefathers worked the field of strife to make in America a better life. America is a land of people who care, people who thrive on love and are willing to

share. It is a country with backbone willing to fight for justice and freedom, a true citizen's right. No where else on earth can I find a single human mind. Truly, no other country has the qualities to measure up in answering "What's right about America?"

Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Cecil Barwick of Lake Placid, are delighted over Chard Diane Barwick, born on January 28, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 11 lbs., 3 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Sylvester Rollins of Zolfo Springs, are ecstatic over Daniel Sylvester Rollins, Jr., born on January 30, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 lbs.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wesley Osborne, Jr. of Avon Park are thrilled over John Wesley Osborne III, born on January 30, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 8 lbs., 3 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee McGahee of Lake Placid, are happy over Kathleen Tortwase McGahee, born on January 31, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 9 lbs., 3 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew William Tobias of Avon Park are elated over Jason Lyle Tobias, born on February 1, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 9 lbs., 3 oz.

E.S.A.A. instructor, Robert L. Brown, screens student record. His main goal is to supervise and administer individual attention to students. Sunphoto by Vi.

## E.S.A.A. Program Helps Students

There is a program being implemented at the Avon Park High School and Middle School of which parents need to be informed. It is the E.S.A.A. Time-Out Program. This program has been developed basically for three reasons. If a student has had school problems, it serves as an alternative to suspension. Secondly, it may serve as a positive experience for a student who has had minor problems. In this way, the school helps a student before he or she reaches the point of suspension. Thirdly, the

program reaches any student who has been absent "excessively" because of illness and needs assistance in assignments.

Students are referred to the program by teachers, administrators, parents, or even the students themselves.

Teachers in the program attempt to show consideration for each student. A quiet atmosphere with no more than ten students enables the teachers to administer individual attention to students who really need something extra.



Mr. and Mrs. Delton Delaney

## Vows Exchanged At Church Of God

A candlelight ceremony at the Church of God in Sebring on Dec. 11, united in marriage Miss Sharon Marie Brown and Delton Eugene DeLaney.

The Rev. D. I. Phillips of Bronson performed the double-ring rites. Bobby Alexander was organist.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hill Brown of Sebring, and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. DeLaney Jr. of Avon Park.

Traditional gown When the bride was given in marriage by her father, she was wearing a floor length gown of silk organza and Venice lace with a fitted bodice and full sleeves accented in Venice lace. The high neckline was edged in lace scallops.

Mrs. Diana Cobb, sister of the bride, was matron of honor. Her green frock was floor-length with an A-line skirt, and the bodice was gathered with a bow. The sleeves were layered, and the gown featured a V-neckline.

Bridesmaid was Mrs. Lottie Brown, sister-in-law of the bride. Her gown was the same as the matron of honor's.

Herb Bryant, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Groomsman was Kris DeLaney, brother of the bridegroom. Ushers were Wayne Brown, brother of the bride, and James Cobb, brother-in-law.

The wedding reception was held after the ceremony, and it took place in the dining room of the church. Mrs. Christine Wiggins assisted in registering the guests. Helping with serving cake and punch were

Mrs. Christine Wiggins, Mrs. Margie Baker, and Mrs. Mary Kristen.

Mr. and Mrs. DeLaney are making their home in Orlando.

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Feb. 11 - Mrs. T. Hayes Maxwell, Mrs. Bertha Pabor, Dr. Curtis Sears, Abbie L. Conrad, Kenneth R. Long, Paul A. McFarland, Mrs. Marian Turner, Saucier, Cedric Weirman, George Mills.

Feb. 12 - Denis Grews, Elizabeth Adams, Grant Stallard, Dorothy Amick, W.M. Tally.

Feb. 13 - Julie Griffin, Larry Reibman, Raymond Long, Forrest Johnson, Martha Ann Moseley, Jeanette Gordon, Thomas Mack Breeding, Lezanne Watson.

Feb. 14 - Craig Fout, Minnie Wesley, John Acri, Cecilian Marrs, Catherine Curry, Louise Cupepper, Linda Sue Batts, Cliff Bryant, Ricky Smith.

Feb. 15 - Mrs. H. C. Hemphill, Helen Field, Joe Johnson, Carol Spurluck, A. Sheridan.

Feb. 16 - Gusie Massey, Ann Dow, Milford Dilly, Regina Bryant, Mrs. Leahy Batts, R.S. Reeves.

MISS HOLLY GREEN is shown with her hostesses last Friday night at the Variety Shower in her honor. Shown left to right:

Miss Holly Green, bride elect of Ed McNally was honored at a variety shower, Friday evening, Feb. 4, at the Florida Power Lounge.

The brides colors, blue and

## Community Events

**GRANGE MEETING**  
Ridge Pomona Grange will meet Saturday evening February 12 at 8 o'clock at the Woman's Club hall, corner of Verona and Pine in Avon Park.  
Hosts for the meeting will be members of the Hardee Grange.

**SCHOOL LAY ADVISORY COMM. MEETS FEB. 14**  
The General Lay Advisory Committee will meet at the Avon Park High School library, Feb. 14, 8 P.M. The elementary, middle school advisory committee will meet prior at 7 p.m.

Anyone with a child in public school is urged to be active. Come and see what's going on.

**AMERICAN LEGION BINGO**  
Don't forget Bingo each Thursday night at the American Legion Hall, W. Bell St., 7:30 P.M. You could win the \$200 jackpot that's given away each week.

**SWEET ADELINES**  
The Sweet Adelines will meet each Thursday, 7:30 P.M. at the Avon Park First Methodist Social Hall.

**BINGO NEXT TO OUR LADY OF GRACE**  
There will be Bingo every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. next to Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 550 E. Main St., Avon Park. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

**ODD FELLOW BINGO**  
Come play Odd Fellow Bingo each Saturday night, 7:30 P.M. at 104 S. Forest Ave.

**CHARLES SWAN MEMORIAL TOASTMASTERS CLUB**  
Charles Swan Memorial Toastmasters Club of Highlands County will meet at the banquet room of Howard Johnson's on Thursday, Feb. 10. Dinner will be served between 6:15-7 p.m., and the meeting will begin promptly at 7 p.m.

Ben Eastman will serve as toastmaster of the evening. Table topics master will be Marge Runniger. The meeting will feature a Valentine's theme.

**LAKE BONNET VILLAGE CRAFT SHOW, FLEA MARKET**  
Lake Bonnet Village, located on State Road 17 between Sebring and Avon Park, is sponsoring a craft show and flea market from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 24. The public is invited to attend.

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY COWBELLES**  
The Highlands County Cowbells will meet at 9 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 11 at their booth at the fairgrounds. The Feb. 15 meeting has been cancelled because of the Highlands County Fair.

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY FAIR**  
The annual Highlands County Fair will be held at the fairgrounds at Firemen's Field Feb. 14-19. The Fair officially opens at 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 14.

**Birth Anniversaries**  
Feb. 10 - Howard Godwin, Milford Collier, Mrs. Dan Antley, Mrs. Jewel Smith, Linda Heiring, Madu Foote.

Feb. 11 - Mrs. T. Hayes Maxwell, Mrs. Bertha Pabor, Dr. Curtis Sears, Abbie L. Conrad, Kenneth R. Long, Paul A. McFarland, Mrs. Marian Turner, Saucier, Cedric Weirman, George Mills.

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Feb. 16 - Gusie Massey, Ann Dow, Milford Dilly, Regina Bryant, Mrs. Leahy Batts, R.S. Reeves.

Mrs. Gene (Renee) Haywood was surprised with a miscellaneous baby shower, Feb. 1, in the Florida Power Lounge, Florida Power Company building.

Mrs. Haywood's corsage was made of fern surrounding a small babydoll, holding its bottle.

Mints, nuts and punch were served to 25 guests. The focal point of the serving table was a cake made in the shape of building blocks. It was topped with baby booties, surrounded by sugar animals.

A bassinet trimmed with a skirt in pastel patchwork neopoint, made by Barbara

Monk, held all the small gifts for baby. Larger gifts were placed in a playpen, which was given to Mrs. Haywood by her grandmother, Mrs. Ann Pollard.

The hostesses Barbara Monk, Cindy Stewart, Mrs. Connie Cloud, Diane Cox and Mrs. Barbara Cornell presented Mrs. Haywood with a diaper pail filled with necessities for baby-to-be.

The guests filled out small pieces of papers saying, "My advice to Gene and Renee about their baby is," and about the best advice given was by Sara Ferguson, "Not to listen to other people's advice."

The Zura group of the Baptist Church Tuesday after 3 p.m. at the All ladies of invited and urged plans will coming year.

Hostesses for the occasion were: Wanda Kopta, Betty Chestnut, Madie Landress, Eric Lewis, Billy Kangerter, Martha Williams, Martha

Howze, JoAnn Cooper, Grace Pickett and Betty Chestnut. (Not shown JoAnn Cooper.) Sunphoto by Lew Miller.

## Miss Green Feted With Bridal Shower

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Mary Ellen Ward

Avon Park can thank Pontiac, Michigan for Mary Ellen Ward who came to our town in 1940.

Having an academic background in Planning, she made her contributions first to city zoning and more recently in county zoning. Presently she is involved in trying to meet a State mandate which will create a comprehensive plan for individual communities.

Yet is in the field of mental retardation that she has made her greatest contribution. Being the mother of a son, born with mental handicaps, she set out to provide the best services that were available in the area.

With the help of the community, the Jr. Woman's Club, and the Jaycees, the first Ridge Area Day School for developmentally slow learners, and mentally handicapped was created. Children from Hardee, DeSoto and Highlands County had a place to attend.

Mary Ellen and her family are proud of the strides her son has made. She says, "He is a community product. He's had the benefit of the best we could set up in the way of community services. It provided him opportunities that no institution can provide, and children with handicaps have become integrated into the public system."

On the State level she works on the Prevention Health Committee firmly believing that preventive measures are the best protection against retardation.

She also continues to serve the Ridge Area Assoc. for Retarded Citizens on such committees as the Residential Services Committee, Special Olympics, and the group, Happy Times.

When she does have spare time she enjoys canoeing on the Fla. rivers, and flying her plane.

## Baptist Prayer Group Meets February 15

The Zura Martin prayer group of the Florida Ave. Baptist Church will meet on Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 15th, at 3 p.m. at the church.

All ladies of the church are invited and urged to be present as plans will be made for the coming year.

## Rules For Art Entries In The Highlands Fair

Highlands Art League, sponsoring group for the art show at the Highlands County Fair of Feb. 14-19, urges amateur and professional artists to submit entries. Ribbons only will be awarded as prizes.

Entries in all media will be judged separately in the categories of Adult amateurs, Professional, and Junior exhibitors. Media categories include landscape-seascape, still life, miscellaneous subjects, three-dimensional art (hanging crafts, macrame, decoupage, etc.), and photography.

Junior exhibitors will be judged by age groupings of grades 1-3, 7-9, and 9-12. Entries must have been completed within the last two years and cannot have been shown at any other Highlands County Fair. The limit for adult artists is four entries per person, and two per person for junior artists.

Works of art must be suitable for hanging, and persons showing non-hanging art work must supply their own small pedestal tables. Card tables cannot be used as they are too large for the Fair display area.

Art entries are to be brought to the educational building at Freeman's Field in Sebring on Monday, Feb. 14, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Artists are responsible for picking up entries at 10 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 19. An Art League attendant will be on duty at all times during open hours at the fairgrounds.

Anyone having any further questions regarding entering art at the Fair, may call the Highlands Art League at 385-5312.

## Date Correction For Ewell

The wedding date for Miss Rebecca Ann Ewell of Avon Park to Gordon R. Marchant of Sebring, has been set for March 12, not the 23rd as reported in last week's edition of the paper.



ENTRIES FOR THE CREATIVE Fashion Sewing Contest, sponsored by the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs were: Halie Penney, winner; Viola O'Hern, runner-up; Mildred Tissot; and Miriam Debo. Halie Penney will compete with her winning selection at the District contest in Bartow, Feb. 17. Sunphoto by Vi.

## FashionsInShow Are Super

The Woman's Club of Avon Park met at the clubhouse on Friday afternoon, February 4. The Style Show and Sewing Competition is the annual feature of the February meeting. Under the direction of Helen Griffith, the club members modeled garments which they had made.

The group included Pauline Balding, Erce Bennett, Miriam Debo, Helen Griffith, Dee Keyes, Halie Penney, Katie Rehner, Mildred Tissot, Viola O'Hern and Margery Rimmer.

In the Creative Fashion Sewing Contest, sponsored by the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, the first place winner was Halie Penney. Her winning costume was a white, floor-length, halter gown of double knit polyester, designed for after-five wear. She wore a matching, long-sleeved jacket with white marabou trim and silver accessories.

Viola O'Hern, runner-up, modeled a street length dress for all occasions. The fabric was polyester in a soft green with delicate pink flowers.

The first-place winner, Mrs. Penney, will model her gown in competition at the District 9 Fine Arts Conference in Bartow on February 17.

Dorothy Masters Green, talented musician and composer, a visitor from Pennsylvania, played several piano selections during intermission. Velda Hisey provided background piano music for the style show.

Erce Bennett was in charge of the devotional period and presented a chorus of charming youngsters from the kindergarten class of the Gingerbread Man Day School. They were accompanied by John Osborne, Jr. with his guitar.

The contest was sponsored by the DeSoto Soil and Water Conservation District and some 65 boys and girls participated from Highlands, Hardee and DeSoto Counties.



FFA Advisor Bill Rarden, of Avon Park High School and his team of Vo-Ag boys from Avon Park who won second place in the Tri-County Land Judging Contest in Arcadia on February 3, 1977.

Subjects, three-dimensional art (hanging crafts, macrame, decoupage, etc.), and photography.

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LET'S GET TOGETHER and decorate a cake. These ladies seemed to be having quite a time learning the ins and outs of cake decorating last Thursday evening at the home of Carolyn Adcock, Avon Park. From left: Ramona Woodcock, Sebring; Shirley Hiltson, Avon Park; Jeanne Swank, Sebring; Roxy Martin, Avon Park; Linda Walker, Sebring; and Bonnie Huffman, Sebring. Sunphoto by Vi.

Woodcock, Sebring; Shirley Hiltson, Avon Park; Jeanne Swank, Sebring; Roxy Martin, Avon Park; Linda Walker, Sebring; and Bonnie Huffman, Sebring. Sunphoto by Vi.

### Our Town

453-4355

**NOLIN'S HAVE VISITORS**  
Mr. and Mrs. John A. "Tony" Peebles are proud to announce the birth of twin boys. John Michael, weighing 6 lbs., 3 oz. and Bryan Anthony, weighing 6 lbs., 7 oz. They were born Feb. 8, at Winter Haven Hospital, Winter Haven, Fla.

**PEEBLES HAVE TWINS**  
Mr. and Mrs. John A. "Tony" Peebles are proud to announce the birth of twin boys. John Michael, weighing 6 lbs., 3 oz. and Bryan Anthony, weighing 6 lbs., 7 oz. They were born Feb. 8, at Winter Haven Hospital, Winter Haven, Fla.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. C. C. "Sonny" Peebles, Winter Haven, and maternal grandmother is Mrs. Mary Lou Tomlinson, all of Winter Haven.

**SHERMAN'S RETURN FROM N.Y.**  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sherman, 1209 W. Bell Street, have returned from New York City. The Sherman's reported they were glad to be back in Avon Park, while in the North they encountered heavy snow storms and blizzards.

**SCOTT'S HAVE NEW ADDITION**  
Weighing in at 7 lbs. 1/2 oz. and 20 inches long, George Norman Scott infant son of Cheryl Ann and George Leonard Scott was born at the Lake Wales Hospital at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, February 5, 1977. Mother and son were reported doing well and will be home at 119 E. Winthrop Street, Avon Park.

Maternal Grandparents are: Mr. and Mrs. Carter Van Hildt, Hialeah, Fla., while paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George F. Scott reside at Sunray Homes. Young George's Great Grandmother Mrs. Vera Quates also lives at Sun Ray Homes.

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### Hi-Dee Campers Will Meet 11th

The Hi-Dee Chapter of the Good Sam Travel Club will join with five other chapters in a joint meeting on Feb. 11 through the 12. The event will be held at the Lakewood East Travel Park on U.S. 19, three miles east of the main entrance to Disney World. All members are urged to attend.

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### 73 FORD power, air, 4-door \$1488

### 73 OLDSMOBILE Delta Royal 4-door, power, air \$2188

### 73 FORD TORINO Wagon power, air \$1988

### 72 MAVERICK clean \$1488

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### 71 CHRYSLER air, power \$1288

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Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Bagwell

## Stevens-Bagwell Wed In Methodist Ceremony

The marriage of Miss Betsy Stevens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Stevens of Sebring, to Gary L. Bagwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bagwell of Avon Park, was solemnized Jan. 15 at the First United Methodist Church in Sebring.

The Rev. Barry W. Lane performed the double-ring ceremony. Organist was Dot Overbey, and vocalist was Vic McKunas.

Organza gown

When the bride was given in marriage by her father, she was wearing a floor-length white gown of dacon organza, that featured a high neckline, full, long sleeves with crystal pleating at the hands, a slight empire bodice trimmed with an imported Chantilly lace yoke, and a full skirt with a crystal pleating hem flounce. The bride carried her great-grandmother's Bible. Mrs. Donna Howerton, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and she wore yellow gown flocked with daisies. Bridesmaids were Miss Debbie Stevens and Miss Beverly Stevens, sisters of the

bride. They wore identical dresses of yellow, flocked with daisies. Flower girls were Beth Beason of Gadsden, Ala., and Mandi Allen of Jonesboro, Ga., both cousins of the bride. Ringbearer was Bo Beason of Gadsden, Ala.

Mike Bagwell attended his brother and served as best man. Ushers were Keith Bagwell, brother of the bridegroom, and Tommy Bean.

Robbie Stevens, brother of the bride, and Mike Gilliam served as acolytes.

Reception  
The wedding reception was held in Layton Hall. Miss Tessie Adams assisted at the guest book. Mrs. Ken Phipps, Kay Smith and Mrs. Joe Murphy served the cake, prepared by Mrs. Robert Lineback and Mrs. Joe Adcock. Serving the punch were Mrs. Ruth Miner, Mrs. Johnny Todd, Mrs. Wayne Todd and Renee Marquart.

Following the reception, the bride couple left for a wedding trip to Nassau. They will make their home in Avon Park.

## Marriage Licences

John Joseph Ulrich, 24, of Sebring, and Jewell Ellen Wade, 19, of Lake Placid.  
Lawrence Eugene Foster III, 21, of Sebring, and Susanne Mary Bauer, 18, of Sebring.  
Harold Earl Lewis, 32, of Lake Placid, and Patsy Endicott Tomlinson, 32, of Lake Placid.  
Charles Edward Mulkey, 18, of Avon Park, and Evelyn Florence Tucker, 18, of Avon Park.  
Raymond Wooten, 31, of Sebring, and Eugenia Moore, 27, of Sebring.  
Carlton Howard Brockwell Jr., 19, of Avon Park, and Lori Lynn Lasky, 15, of Avon Park.  
Neville White, 27, of Lake Placid, and Debra Anne Dewberry, 21, of Lake Placid.  
Dwight Junior Gosard, 46, of Florida, and Debbie Maher Richards, 27, of Florida.  
Andrew A. Dunbar, 80, of Illinois, and Dorothy L. Abbott, 74, of Illinois.  
Paul Keith Maynor, 21, of Avon Park, and Sara Nussle, 21, of Avon Park.  
Lester Claude Barnhardt, 30, of Vena, and Shirley Ann Davis, 16, of Vena.  
Earl Ricardo Redding, 34, of Avon Park, and Cheryl Ann Hamilton, 18, of Avon Park.

YES, IT'S Gary and Betsy Bagwell aboard the luxurious Emerald Seas sailing from downtown Miami to Nassau

and Freeport. Besides lots of activities on board they enjoyed shopping, sightseeing, and beautiful beaches.

Longshore makes Deans List

Sixty-seven students at Bethel College earned at least 3.5 grade point averages during the first semester of the 1976-77 school year, to qualify for the Dean's List according to

Dr. Wayne J. Gerber, academic dean. Each student must be carrying at least 12 semester hours.

Included on the Dean's List is Miss Loretta Longshore,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Longshore, R. 2, Box 315, Avon Park. Miss Longshore is a junior, majoring in Human

communications.

Blue Cross, Blue Shield Agent To Speak

A representative of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida will discuss claim filing under Medicare B at a meeting to be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, in the Sebring City Council Chamber.

Residents of Highlands County are invited to attend this meeting in the City Administration Building at 360 South Commerce Avenue. There will be a question and answer period following the presentation, and an informational packet will be distributed to each member of the audience.

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## Growing Pains

Courtesy, Washington Nursery

by Edna Washington

Tis' a bright, beautiful sunny day today, but it did get a bit cold last night again. Even though we here in Florida suffered quite a bit with the cold spells in January, and so far in February, we can take one look at the pictures of the snow farther North, and we can thank God that we do not have to endure weather such as has been in New York State and around. And we can also be thankful for the short duration of the cold.

Still watering your freeze damaged plants? Good, for they still need water, though not as much as before.

Probably a lot of you folks will be planting around the middle or last of March—shrubs to replace the frozen ones. Consider, if you will, the beautiful holly, which is not damaged by the cold. There are so very many different species of the holly, most of which have the berries which turn red in winter. To name a few, they are Dwarf Burfordi, Burfordi, Cornuta Rotunda, the Schilling, Nellie R. Stephens and the Dwarf Palatka. The Burfordi, Dwarf, and the Burfordi, are dense, and bear red berries profusely. The Rotunda is a spiny, twisted, close-leaved, dwarf, sub-globe growing shrub which is used as a ground cover, for low, dense hedges, and in borders. The Schilling is beautiful small shrub which can be trimmed to any shape, but does not grow berries. It

does, however, have a tiny enchanting bloom. The Nellie R. Stephens grows into a tree, 30 to 40 feet tall, given time, and is quite a striking tree. The



Nellie Stephens Holly

East Palatka is an upright dense grower with spine tipped, flat leaves. It fruits freely, grows quickly and shears well. All are appropriate for this country.

## Business Women

Will Have Card

Party Feb. 21

Don't forget the Business Women's Annual Card party to be held February 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Women's Club house on the corner of Verona and Pine Street.

Committee Chairman, Gladys Smith reports that tickets are limited, so if you plan to attend, make arrangements to get your ticket from Avon Citrus Bank for \$1.00.

Hostesses for the evening will be Gladys Smith, Mary Lee King, Winnie Shay, Doris Whitte and Emily Biggs. Refreshments will be served.



AN INITIATION CEREMONY of new members was held Feb. 1, by the Junior Woman's Club. As a token Ellen

Jordan presented each of the ladies with a fresh rose. From left: Phyllis Williams, Sara Brown, Judy Angelo, Janet

Bell, Mary Wells, Pat Smith, Sara Kirby, and Ellen Jordan. Not present in the picture were Ann McDaniel, and Margaret Campbell. Sunphoto by Vi.

## Care Of Orchids Will Be Subject Of Garden Club

The Hibiscus Garden Club will meet on Feb. 10, 2:30 P.M. at the Florida Power Lounge, at the Fla. Power Building.

Hostesses for the occasion will be Mrs. Ben Stewart, Mrs. Laura Neubauber and Mrs. Gladys Smith.

Mrs. Emma Bussard will furnish a plant for the door prize.

An outstanding program is planned, starting with Mrs. Marshall Davis making a floral arrangement using the fan pattern. Later in the program Mr. Lewis Ballentine will talk

about the care and procedure of potting over-sized orchids.

Ballentine is the Classification Supervisor at A.P.C.I. and has held this same position since 1960, having taken 5 years leave of absence to spend in Ecuador, returning

back to A.P.C.I. in 1968. Club members should not miss this important and interesting meeting.

Ballentine will give orchid away following his demonstration. Maybe you will be lucky one. So please come.

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| <p><b>SAVE 2.00</b><br/><b>5.88</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 3.88<br/><b>SNOW-STOPPER SLICES OF EAST CARBONITE</b><br/>SOLD NATIONALLY AT \$11.94<br/>Here's what today's well-deserved sale is worth! 100% protection in lanes, grades and patches. In sizes 29-42.</p> | <p><b>SAVE 21%</b><br/><b>2.94</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 3.74<br/><b>NYLON MESH CASUALS THAT FILL THE COMFORT HOLE!</b><br/>Slip your feet into these in black or brown. Men's 7-12.</p> | <p><b>SAVE 1.00</b><br/><b>2.96</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 3.96<br/><b>15-GALLON BARRAGE CAN</b><br/>Save on plastic mulch. No more in 14 different colors. Green with black tie.</p> | <p><b>SAVE 4.00</b><br/><b>29.88</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 33.88<br/><b>POOL-CLEANING'S BEST WITH HTH CHLORINE</b><br/>50% greater chlorine. Removes algae and water stain. No bacteria, algae, rust, or organic matter — even odors. It's effective, convenient &amp; economical. 25 lb. pail.</p> |
| <p><b>SAVE 1.00</b><br/><b>2.96</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 3.96<br/><b>GOOD-LOOKING, 40-NOON LONG-SLEEVE DRESS SHIRTS</b><br/>Specially tailored in polyester-cotton. Best colors. S.M.L. 31.</p>                                                                      | <p><b>SAVE 21%</b><br/><b>2.94</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 3.74<br/><b>NYLON MESH CASUALS THAT FILL THE COMFORT HOLE!</b><br/>Slip your feet into these in black or brown. Men's 7-12.</p> | <p><b>SAVE 1.00</b><br/><b>2.96</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 3.96<br/><b>15-GALLON BARRAGE CAN</b><br/>Save on plastic mulch. No more in 14 different colors. Green with black tie.</p> | <p><b>SAVE 15%</b><br/><b>48c</b><br/>DISCOUNT PRICE WAS 57c<br/><b>EAGLE H.D. 30 MOTOR OIL</b><br/>100% pure virgin crude oil. 4-POSITION CONTROL. For the modern engine. 1 qt.</p>                                                                                                                 |
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## Gonzalez Participates In Navy Exercise

Navy Airman Apprentice Greg Gonzalez, son of Winnie C. Brewer of 1206 N. Circle, Avon Park, recently participated in Exercise "Readex 1-77" in the South China and Philippine Seas. He is serving as a crewmember aboard the

nuclear aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, homeported in Alameda, Calif. Vice Admiral Robert B. Baldwin, the commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, exercised overall control of the maneuvers from his flagship, the guided missile cruiser USS Oklahoma City.

"Readex 1-77", which involved 22 ships and nearly 200 aircraft, was designed to test and enhance the antiaircraft and anti-air warfare preparedness of participating seventh fleet units. Gonzalez joined the Navy in January 1976.

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## Burglars Have Clean Thoughts

Burglars apparently broke into the Avon Park mobile home of Richard Royce last Saturday, but were thinking clean thoughts.

Royce told deputies that while they were inside, the burglars used his washing machine. The only item reported missing was a bullet clip for a 22 caliber rifle. Entry was gained by breaking a rear window.

left: Brents Durrance, Hurner, Willie Williams and Gene Swearingen. Sunphoto by Lew Miller.



HIGHLANDS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL Extension Agent, Tim Hurner (second from left) packed up his audio-visual equipment as applicants for

private pesticide applicators permit returned their completed test papers to the table last Monday night. From the

## Residents Take Insecticide Course

In accordance with the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) passed by Congress in 1972, 55 residents of the Avon Park area completed a five nights training program for a private applicators permit for the application of restricted pesticides to agricultural lands.

Originally set up with training sessions at Avon Park and Lake Placid, the demand for the training necessitated the addition of a third weekly session at Sebring. About 190 Highlands County residents are expected to complete the training this week, stated Tim Hurner, Highlands County Agricultural Extension Agent. Many additional persons have inquired about the private applicators training sessions this second series of lessons is being planned for late March or April, according to Hurner. However, applications for a permit and study materials can be secured from Doyle Conner, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture by writing or calling his office.

The purpose of the training sessions prepared by the Cooperative Extension Services and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida Gainesville, was to prepare agricultural users in the application of restricted pesticides. The one night a week sessions covered the course introduction and common pests; pest control, labels and labelling; using pesticides, protecting selves and the environment; types of equipment and calibration and concluding with laws and regulations.

The course started with a pre-test for permit applicants to determine the materials and work that needed the most work. Each session of the work was followed by another quiz on the materials presented. The final test papers are to be sent to the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture's office for grading and the issuing of the private pesticide applicator permit, which may take six to eight weeks.

On the training sessions for the commercial pesticide applicators, Hurner stated that no work has been received as to when their course will be completed.

However, the course will be given by the State Extension Office, probably on the University of Florida Campus.

The FIFRA law makes it illegal for any person trained to use the restricted pesticides to release or sell these pesticides to persons who are untrained in their use. The permit holder may lose his permit for the misuse and both parties may be fined, jailed or both according to the 1972 law.

The homeowner with his small garden plot also comes under the FIFRA law. However there are certain pesticides that are still available and are considered the least toxic of the pesticides. Hurner said the homeowner like the permit holders, is advised to read the label on the pesticide containers and abide by the instructions on the label. A quirk of the law makes it illegal to use a pesticide for any pest not listed on the label, even though it does a good job of killing that unlisted pest.

The reason for the law as explained by Hurner, was that the environment must be protected and it is the meshing of FIFRA and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that seeks to bring about the protection of the environment and the individuals who use pesticides.

## Valentine Golf Tourney

A 9 a.m. tee-off time marks the beginning of the ladies first round of golf in the Sweet Valentine Golf Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 12-13, sponsored by the Pinescent Men's Golf Association. Tee-off time for the men will be 10:30 a.m.

Entries for the best ball with handicap Valentine tourney, for club members, will close at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9. The team drawing takes place at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10 with three ladies per team and 2 men per team. On Friday evening a team auction and party is scheduled with the first 18 hole round of golf set for Saturday. The final 18 hole round of golf on Sunday, Feb. 13 starts at 9 a.m. for the ladies and 10:30 a.m. for the men. A closest to the pin contest each day will be won by the lady and man who shot in the pin with their second shot on No. 4 green and their first shot on No. 13 green.

DR. GLENN TRENT  
Chiropractor

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**ARRID EXTRA DRY** 79¢  
Scrubbed and Light Powder. Limit 1

**VO-5 HAIR SPRAY** 1.09  
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**DESITIN LOTION** 79¢  
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**FACIAL TISSUE** 2/ 69¢  
Box of 200. Eckerd Brand. White or assorted colors. Reg. 47¢. Box Limit 2

**DAWN DISH DETERGENT** 89¢  
32-ounce size. Reg. 1.35. Limit 1

**FABERGE ORGANICS SHAMPOO** 89¢  
16-oz. bottle. Pure Wheat Germ Oil and Honey. Reg. 1.58. Limit 1

**NICE 'N EASY HAIR COLOR** 1.39  
1/4 ounce. Give a hair color you want. Reg. 1.97. Limit 1

**SACCHARIN 1/4 GRAIN TABLETS** 59¢  
Bottle of 100. Limit 1

**STAY FREE MAXI PADS** 1.39  
Box of 30. Bestselling tampon. 100% cotton. Limit 1 box

**FLICKER SHAVER** 88¢  
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**ASSORTED FLORAL DESIGNED JEWELRY** 88¢  
Color toothbrush, toothbrush, necklaces, bracelets and earrings. Reg. 1.37

**RANCOE PANTY HOSE** 49¢  
Sheer, stretch panty hose in assorted shades. One size fits all. No. 300. Reg. 79¢

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Cushion seating on lightweight aluminum frame. Chair has multi-position back. 30-in. foot for storage. 644 CHAIR 7.99

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Choice of colors in pen ink & a trimmer. 2/ 88¢

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Flexible, durable. To assemble. Reg. 3.99. Limit 1

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Assorted chocolates & confections. Reg. 1.60

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2-ounce each of Hai Karate. Used Hai Karate and Lim. After Shave. Reg. 1.99

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7-ounce each of four bags of Jolly Hearts, Jelly Hearts or Mello Creams. Reg. to 53¢ bag

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Electronic digital watch button command gives hour, minutes, seconds and day. Reg. 59.95

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## School Board

county's administration system.

Dr. Dan Davis had been planning to have the State Department send a group to do the work at no cost to the local board. Tuesday, Mrs. Turnbull suggested that a local group might be able to have more insight into local problems.

Ken Grady agreed with Turnbull, saying there should be a group doing the study which is directly responsible to the school board. "I think we need to do something along this line. In the last election everybody, winners and losers, were promising to make this type of study. I'm committed to it."

Dr. Davis said that if the county pays a private organization instead of letting the state do the analysis, "I don't know if we would be saving any money."

Grady replied, "If we find we can consolidate one job, we might be able to save as much as \$30,000." He also suggested that a local committee go over a list of firms "who do this type of thing professionally."

Steve Roberts said the board should go ahead and contact the state to do the study, since it would cost nothing, and "look into the feasibility of having a firm do it too. I don't think there is enough local expertise in this to appoint a committee from the county, but at least we could see how much a professional firm would cost."

The board agreed, and asked Turnbull, Grady, and Davis to investigate and report back at next month's meeting.

Eric Annett, a teacher at the Selving Middle School and operator of a local charter bus service, lost his bid to become the school district's extra-curricular bus trip transportation.

Annett said that state figures for 1974-75 revealed the average cost for the school board to make extra-curricular trips is 86 cents per mile, and Annett proposed to do it for 80 cents a mile.

"This will not affect the funds you receive from the state," said Annett, "because you do receive any funds from the state for extra-curricular trips." He agreed that he has currently done \$1,000 worth of business for the Hardee schools, and has bids in for \$1,000 more.

Several school officials immediately disagreed with Annett's cost figures.

Roberts said the 86 cents included the cost of the shop and maintenance equipment, which "we would have to save anyway to maintain the rest of our buses."

Ferrel Smith, assistant superintendent, said Annett was apparently under the impression that the board has buses reserved for extra-curricular use. "We only have six buses in reserve, and these are in for repair."

Smith added that the 86 cents was not a "real cost," as a number of the cost factors figured in would be required to maintain any number of buses.

A school board member pointed out that any school group is free to choose its own transportation. "We charge 30 cents a mile plus the driver's wages. If they feel they would rather travel with you, that's up to them."

Annett insisted that, "According to your own figures, which are two years old, I can do the job for less money, and the board can still charge activity whatever it chooses."

Bill Van Baalen, of the Highlands County Property Owner's Association, said that no matter what the cost per mile, "If you pay for a car, you're being silly to let it sit in the driveway and not get any use out of it."

Over Annett's insistence that the board would not have to pay as much as he had, some of the driving members approved Annett as a recognized carrier for the board, but would not require any business to go his way.

The board also voted \$15,256 to improve the county schools' fire alarm systems, as recently mandated by the state.

The bid went to Custom Security Services, Inc. of Selving, one of only two firms which bid. The other bid was \$2,000 higher.

Jim Taverniere learned that the cost for repairing the fire system at Selving High School would be approximately \$3,000.

"That system has never worked since we've been in there," said Taverniere, "It seems a shame to put \$3,000 into something we already paid for once."

Purchasing Director Gerald Boggs said the SHS system was approved by the architect and the state before the building was accepted, but Principal Dr. Billy Cason said "I have reported that system to be inoperative almost since we first moved in. There are numerous letters from me on file."

Ferrel Smith said the \$3,000 also includes smoke detectors and expansion of the system which "was never put in the building in the first place."

Cason replied that the smoke detectors have always been in the school, but they have never worked since the initial test.

Cason said that there were to be a number of horns placed outside the school building, because as the system is now designed students outside cannot hear either the fire alert nor the all-clear signal.

Mrs. Turnbull asked if there were any operative fire system at all in the school, and Cason said that there is an alarm on the master intercom console that works, but "We don't have any type of thing where you pull a lever, and the alarm goes off."



A pocketwatch gives the reader a good idea of the intricacy of its parts. Keeping

this compact mass of moving parts in good working order is all in a day's work

for Jordan. Sunphoto by Russ Dennis.

## A Watchmakers Hands

by Russ Dennis.



Although his workspace appears to be

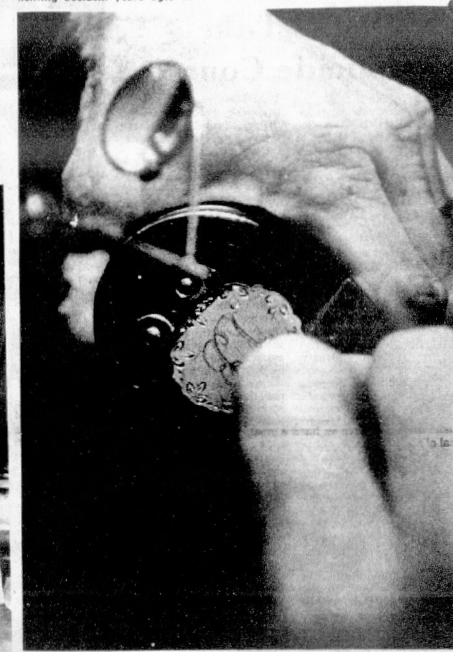
cluttered with tiny parts, Jordan seemed

to know where each small piece was



Even though he lost his right eye in a hunting accident years ago, Jordan is

still a master at his craft. Sunphoto by Russ Dennis.



Jordan still does hand engraving at his shop-one of the few persons left in the country to do so. Sunphoto by Russ Dennis.

## County Commission

group. Besides, the Ridge Association is already partially subsidized by the state and federal government anyway."

The board then unanimously agreed to approve the fee waiver for the association, and notify the camp that similar action in its case was impossible.

The commission also declined to erect several track and field facilities at the Selving High School.

The school, through the superintendent's office, had requested that the county provide the material and labor to build a pole vault pit, a discus circle, and other items.

Gordon Hays said the materials involved would not amount to much, but that, "Digging out these type of things involves a lot of hand labor. You can finish it with a machine, but most of the work has to be done by hand."

Robert Skipper said, "I see no reason

for the county commission to provide the services that the school board is supposed to provide. They're a taxing body just like we are, and we always get criticized for spending too much money. I have no use for it."

"Jug" Heston asked, "If we don't do it, will it get done?", but Carl Arant said, "You know they're not going to bend their budget one bit. Why should they expect us to bend ours for them?"

A motion to categorically deny the school board's request failed, but a second motion to deny the request, but supply whatever building materials the county has on hand, passed.

In other concerns, the county: Asked assistant state's attorney David Langford to do whatever he could to initiate prosecution of grove owners responsible for continually rendering Bloomberg Road, south of Lake Placid, impassable.

—Tabled consideration of the Community Mental Health Plan, which would require the county to contribute \$18,000 more than was budgeted for the project.

—Approved the printing of \$50 books of tickets to be used at the county landfills by regular dumpers.

## Way Clear For Trial Of Ross For Murder

A hearing held in circuit court Feb. 7 cleared the way for the trial of Frank Ross. The 16-year-old DeSoto City resident was indicted, by a grand jury, for the robbery-murder of Helen Dixon.

The elderly Avon Park woman was killed at her home Nov. 15. Ross and a 17-year-old friend, James E. Wells of Avon Park, were arrested Nov. 20, two days after Mrs. Dixon's body was found.

Wells has pleaded guilty to second degree murder and robbery and is being held in Highlands County jail while a presentence investigation is being made.

The public defender who represents

presented testimony about that evaluation. Judge Clifton M. Kelly, who will preside for the trial, ruled that Ross is competent to stand trial.

If convicted, Ross could be facing a death sentence.

A motion to suppress some evidence in the murder case is to be heard in court Friday, but attorneys say outcome of that hearing is not likely to delay the trial now scheduled for Monday.

**Be Sure To Attend  
The County Fair  
Next Week**

Ross had requested a psychological evaluation of the younger boy. At the hearing Monday Dr. Brian Jordan of Highlands Psychological Center

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| Sirloin Steaks     | Lb. \$1.69 |
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| Rib Steaks         | Lb. \$1.49 |
| Cube Steaks        | Lb. \$1.59 |
| Ground Beef        | Lb. 89¢    |
| Chuck Roast        | Lb. 89¢    |
| Shoulder Roasts    | Lb. \$1.09 |
| All Meat Stew      | Lb. \$1.29 |
| Brisket & Rib Stew | Lb. 69¢    |
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10 lbs. Rib Steaks  
15 lbs. Short Rib Stew  
10 lbs. All Meat Stew

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## OUT Local Ta Puts

By Harvey  
Many of us have heard the almost shouted, "Whoo! sunset!" Or, how cute ducklings are—or Hey, was, I caught a couple stories—and lies say, That gorgeous all

photographed, or oil the bass or the big rack and any other trophies. That oil painting up a thing of delight for a talking piece. The price could range from 50 to more. For someone who to spend for luxuries, the painting, let's say, well spent—and not mis-

To get this bass picture on the wall, certain sportsman, 50, 75 or 100, as, the fish picture would be someone else

Now how about your the wall? Not a picture thing! A memorial to patience. Then too, feasting on this whopper time you can eat your it!

Yes, we are thinking your very own big trophy, that for a feast have it, for you, to rest of your days.

The art, of course is and it is as much as a picture or making a clock. The wonderful that the good taxidermists back every bit of the your mount, for you.

Chances are, that graduated from a school subject. I know of two good job of tutoring in learning at a school, cheap, and in turn, workman, along this a couple or more years.

A taxidermist's factory, with benches storage shelves, in studio must also, keep deal of stock, thousands birds and animals.

machinery for m plaques, a shipping freezer for keeping artizan can start work

Many taxidermists year behind, in getting figure it out for you, above 40 degrees, the out for yourself, in as degrees, the to be a bird or fish, must freezing point. Feat will fall out of the sk properly taken, carv

A word to the wi getting your future i get it to a studio at on possible in the sheets of newspaper breaking, or to be intact. Small game also, to keep the fun

Warm weather as are the best-looking. Once the taxidermists the animal, bird or

spoilage are a rarity. Herewith, we do into detail on the say every good tax dexterity and patie they put in on one from overpaid and owner will have a bragging, exagger sports masterpiece.

I became acqu Yudeik just by ch roadside sign as I do a little Satur Bombing Range, M. R. 64, just before gets to the high ca

Mark is a young really loves the Fla good sportsman's hunter.

I was sure glad to

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## Local Taxidermist

# Puts Touch Of Realism To Trophies

By Harve K

Many of us have heard it said — or almost shouted, "What a beautiful sunset!" Or, how cute those swimming ducklings are — or Hey, What a bass that was, I caught a couple of years ago. The stories — and lies go on-and-on.

That gorgeous sunset, could be photographed, or oil painted, so could the bass or the big rack from a buck deer and any other trophies.

That oil painting up on the wall is a thing of delight for a life time. A real talking piece. The price of the painting could range from \$10 to \$500 dollars and more. For someone who has extra bucks to spend for luxuries, the \$500 dollars for the painting, let's say, could be a very well spent and not missed, too much.

To get this bass picture, painted, and up on the wall, certainly would cost a sportsman, \$5, 75 or 100 bucks or more. Unless you hired an artist to "do your" bass, the fish picture up on your wall, would be someone else's catch.

taxidermist right here in the Highlands. It was a shame, that when a guy got a nice fish, or anything else in a trophy category, that he couldn't get a good mount done on it, close, to home-and at a reasonable price. Well that problem is now answered, with a phone call to Mark.

Years ago we had a beautiful, pet cat. He had a wonderful life, declared, so he couldn't be much of a hunter. Always kept on a long yard line. Spent a few bucks and had him neutered, too. He lived a long useful life, kept the mice and cockroaches-down to an almost zero population. Anyway on his sleeping away death, he lived to be 22 years old. I looked up a taxidermist, who did a great, lifelike job on him and for another 20 years, kept him around as a companion.

A few months ago, I found a fox on the highway-it had been hit by a car. A little later someone hit Postum, almost in front of my home. Mark did a good job on

both these animals for me, and they make quite a conversation piece resting on a shelf, on both sides of my Franklin Fireplace.

Many birds and animals are very much on the protected list now, especially eagles, hawks, owls and foxes, so be very careful what you take a shot at. Even shooting at one of the above species, could get you a \$5000 fine and incarceration in the pokey. You can get a mounting permit from the federal or state government, if you should find one dead along the highway. Mark or no other taxidermist would touch a protected bird or animal, with a 60 foot pole, without that O.K'd permit.

So the next time you catch that Big bass — or croppie or any other fish, or if you've come back with a nice buck, turkey, even a few quail — you may want to have some boasting around your home

and almost a living proof of your Dan Boone acumen.

You've never been lucky enough to catch a big fish-to have it mounted? So what does it cost? A croppie or catfish or one of the smaller panfish say up to 13 or 14 inches, weighs in at about 30 bucks on the taxidermist's scale. Little Larger fish, a bit more; it does take more painting, skinning and generally quite a bit more time to pull it all together.

Whatever the cost, Mark or any other taxidermist will give it to you straight.

Don't be ashamed to talk over the particulars with this naturalist-artisan.

One thing I'm sure of, when you finally have it handed over to you, by this Florida "mounty," you'll be a thrilled sports guy or gal, and it won't cost you near as much as that oil painting up on your wall-Moon over Miami, or "On the Banks of the Wabash."



Mark Yudeik Is New Taxidermist Here

# White Amur Vs Bass To Highlands County

## Both Good To Eat

Much has been written and said about black bass and white amur. A great deal has been said lately about the amur. For several years, the Florida Fish and Game Commission has been evaluating the fish, relative to using it as a game fish in Florida waters, and as a weed eating fish, that might be used in the control of vegetation, especially in our more shallow lakes.

There is some thought that the propagation of this fish, could be

detrimental to the welfare of bass and other native fish.

Experimentation with this fish is now going on, in Wales Lake, at Lake Wales. I suggest though that you do not try to catch one, and take it home with you, for it is prohibited to have this fish in possession.

On many occasions I have eaten fish of this species and found the flavor of it OK. It is a member of the carp family and it does have an abundance of bones,

but these can be taken care of with a good filleting job and then the whole fish, or steaks of it, can be pressure cooked for tenderizing both the meat and softening the bones.

I do not think that the amur comes anywhere near the flavor of our black bass, but they grow faster and have possibly, a maturity weight of 2 to 3 times that of the bass. In fishing for carp, I have never hooked one that came out of the water like a cat fish on the end of a line.

Organization of a unit of the nationally known bass club is now in the forming stage. Meetings have been held the past two weeks, to work out a charter and set of by-laws.

Well known outdoorsmen have been sitting in to work out the plans to get the club off to a good start.

As soon as the present steering committee finalizes rules and by-laws, the club will be looking forward to including all good sportsmen in its memberships.

The main objective is for its members to band together, for greater appreciation of the out-of-doors. To help

in the preservation of all wildlife, not necessarily just fish, in fact, most members of these clubs put back into the water most of their catch. The clubs are interested in helping both the Florida State Conservation units and the national departments, in all wildlife protection.

Within the next week or two, all sportsmen and particularly fishermen, should consider affiliating with this new local group. More information will be coming, in these columns, or can be had at the new tackle shop, just opened on U.S. 27 and Grand Prix Drive - next to Highlands Cable T.V.

## Honest Harve's Hours For Best Fishing, Hunting Birdwatching

Needless to say water temperatures are still very cold for both fish and fishermen. Fishing will be slow until "Old Sol" warms up the water for the fish — as well as warming up the air for the fishermen.

Average lake temperature in the Highlands measures about 32 degrees. Bass that will be caught, will generally be the yearlings. The younger fish like younger kids, have more ambition and body activity. They will be striking and on the move. Best fishing times, these darker, windier days will be the darker

colored, slower moving baits.

One thing in the smaller fish's favor is that this one or two pounder is by far the best-tasting size. Keep fishing, but when you have enough for a meal, start putting them back into the water.

Thursday, Feb. 10 5 P.M.  
Friday, Feb. 11 4:45 P.M.  
Saturday, Feb. 12 7 A.M.  
Sunday, Feb. 13 7:30 A.M.  
Monday, Feb. 14 8:30 A.M.  
Tuesday, Feb. 15 9:30 A.M.  
Wednesday, Feb. 16 10:15 A.M.  
Monday, Feb. 14 8:30 A.M.

## They Littered His Lawn With Garbage



Not in the Slums-right here on 17A

Bill Lutz got up last Monday morning to find that some unthinking and irresponsible person, had dumped his trash on Bill's front lawn. Becoming detectives we both decided it could not have come from a carelessly driven truck, because the wind was blowing in the opposite direction.

Mr. Bill — Mrs. Bill, are both swell neighbors, and we hate to have a thing like this happen to such nice people. I for one, hope that by now, that the guy who did the dumping has come up at sundown, when a bang hit us both, in the nose. We moved over to the far side of a pine tree and there at the foot of the tree, away from Maxy's road, was the reason for the stench.

Some human, anti-sportsman and litter dumper had dumped off at that pine tree base, two dozen or more, once fine fish, that anyone, outside of a waster, would have been glad to dress and use for future food.

It's hard to believe that now-a-days, with food shortages, and the cost of food, anyone would have possibly left these fish spoil, probably because they were to lazy to clean them. To me they looked like striped bass, a good eating fish. It looked like they averaged out at about a pound apiece.

From a sportsman's viewpoint, that many fish being wasted, could have been a "bigger eye than stomach" action. With the fisherman catching more fish, than later he would clean. Maybe giving them away, to solve his

## Marquettes Boards Lykes Freightier

Mr. and Mrs. Verne Marquette one of the better known activist couples "outdoorwise" around town, have been conspicuous, because of their absence, the last 1 1/2 months. Verne and Marquette, who are enthusiastic hikers and bikers are often seen around downtown, early in the morning doing their grocery buying, letter mailing, bill paying, etc. peddling their bikes and going about their

business, without, their camper truck as a locomotion implement.

Both are pretty good fishers, but it looks like this winter and spring, if they are going to do any fishing, it will have to be done from the poop deck of one of the Lykes freighters, whose primary business is the picking up and discharging of cargo, world wide.

In Mid-December the Verners left for New Orleans to be picked up there, for the start

of their multi-month trip. By Christmas time they were supposed to be anywhere in the world, except New Orleans, maybe Manilla-possibly Montreal.

On getting a picture post card from them, where do you suppose they were? Yes, still in New Orleans. Because of the rough seas, cold and windy weather, all over this part of the world, sailings were postponed, and pending their next postal card, we'll just

## Maxcey Road Good Place To Hike

By Harve K

One of the nicest roadways to take a hike on is Maxcey Road. Especially between 27 and S. R. 17A.

Too cool, these late evenings to do good hiking, so many of us go for a hike. Kelly and I were having that leisure, enjoyable walk last Tuesday at sundown, when a bang hit us both, in the nose. We moved over to the far side of a pine tree and there at the foot of the tree, away from Maxy's road, was the reason for the stench.

hoggishness, and then the recipient, throwing them away, because he didn't want to dress them either.

Years ago, I learned not to give fish away. Most of the fish I catch now-a-days go right back into the water, as soon as I can get the hook out of them. Many other fishermen do the

same thing. We know that if we don't follow such a sporting policy, the day will soon come when there could be no fish or fishing.

Remember the buffalo and the passenger pigeon, that once inhabited this country by the billions? So, I used to give a fish or two away — to someone who,

## New Environment Rules

Your health may be protected better in the future because of steps being taken by government and industry, to "toxic substances" act.

Recently, Congress passed a complex new act giving the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency the added responsibility of requiring that substances potentially toxic to people or to the environment be tested, regulated and, where necessary, banned.

The usual assumption is that the "toxic substances" act refers only to chemical operations. However, it covers all potentially toxic substances in manufacturing, distribution, processing, use and disposal.

One company that supports the new legislation is Union Carbide. It was among industry leaders active in contributing experience and judgment to lawmakers and their staffs during the act's formative stages. In fact, Union Carbide was one of the first in industry to do something about potential health or health hazards of chem-

icals. Going back to 1937 when it first established Union Carbide has supported a chemical hygiene fellowship at Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh, where the safety of some 3,000 chemicals has been evaluated. Many of the test procedures pioneered at

Mellon are today important instruments for the increased level of testing foreseen under the new act.

Continued cooperation between government and industry is a step in the right direction toward protecting the nation's health.

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Groceries - Picnic supplies



by Lucy Derkman

## Red Devils

# Chalk Up Three Wins

Three wins by the Avon Park Red Devil varsity basketball team upped the record of the local team to 11-8 last week. The Devils outscored Fort Meade 68-57 Tuesday night, Feb. 1 defeated Hardee 67-51 last Thursday afternoon and trounced Frostproof 84-66 last Friday night in the three home games. The wins over Fort Meade and Frostproof set Avon Park's district record at 5-1 with two district games left on the schedule.

Last Tuesday night, Feb. 8, the Avon Park varsity was to have hosted the Lake Placid Green Dragons in a key district match-up as the two Highlands County teams met for the third time this season. The Dragons won both previous games by scores of 96-84 and 62-60.

This Saturday night, Feb. 12, the Palmetto Tigers will come to Avon Park for a rematch with the Devils. The Tigers slipped by Avon Park by a score of 68-65 in a pre-holiday game in Palmetto. Next Tuesday night, Feb. 15, the Red Devils are scheduled to travel to Okeechobee for a Heartland Conference game with the Brahmins.

Avon Park 68 Fort Meade 57  
The Red Devils jumped in with a hot hand in the first quarter Tuesday night of last week to take an early 22-4 lead over the Fort Meade Miners here at the Avon Park gym in the last game of a tripe-header. Avon Park went on to a 35-24 halftime advantage, lost some ground but held a 49-42 lead after three quarters and went on to the 68-57 victory.

Mevin Collins and Anthony Conner led the Devil scoring with 17 and 13 points respectively and Kenneth Burley had a good night scoring 10 points. Dale Sisemore pumped in 9 counters, Freddy Williams and Larry Pough hit for 7 points each and Freddie Moore contributed 5 points to the big 68 point total. The Devils hit 12 of 21 at the line while Fort Meade

managed only 5 of 12 free shots.

Avon Park 67 Hardee 51

In an early afternoon game played before the Avon Park student body last Thursday, the Red Devils were hot and cold throughout the game but managed a 67-51 win over the Wauchula Wildcats. Anthony Conner was high scorer for the Red Devils making 14 points followed by Dale Sisemore and Freddy Williams with 12 points each.

Larry Pough and Melvin Collins added 10 points apiece and David Williams sank 9 points for the winning Avon Park five. The Avon Park students were treated to one of Anthony Conner's "dunks" during the conference tilt.

Wauchula's Zeke Mowatt was high scorer for the game with 22 points. The Red Devils sank 11 of 20 free shots and Hardee made 5 of 12 at the foul line.

Avon Park 84 Frostproof 66

Avon Park held Frostproof to only three points in the third quarter last Friday night at the Red Devil's home gym and posted an 84-66 victory over the Bulldogs in a district game. The Red Devils, now 11-8, led only 43-41 at the half before outscoring the Bulldogs 23-3 in the third period to turn the game into a rout.

Melvin Collins had 19 points, Anthony Conner 18 and Dale Sisemore 17 to pace the Avon Park scoring attack. James Harper took game high scoring honors with 25 points for Frostproof and Bulldog James Hart scored 17 points.

Avon Park's Larry Pough hit for 10 points, Freddy Moore scored 8 points, Freddy Williams and David Williams had 4 points each and Kenneth Burley and Charlie Pough added 2 points apiece for Avon Park's 84 point total.

At the foul line Avon Park hit 8 of 15 shots and Frostproof made 20 of 32 free shots as the Devils drew 22 fouls to 14 for the Bulldogs.



AVON PARK HIGH School's Red Devil varsity basketball team had an 11-4 record going into last Tuesday night's home game with Lake Placid. Kneeling: left to right, Jeffery Adams and David Sisemore. Standing from left: Todd

Packer, Decaris Jones, Casey Stukes, Eric Wilson, Coach Allan Duhn, Pernel Gibbs, Otis Ford, George Loyd and Anthony Stevens. Not pictured: Horace Moore.

## Panther Players



BILL McMENAMIN

Blaine McDonald

Bill McMenamin, 5'8", 160 lb., freshman will be the Panthers regular third baseman this spring.

Bill, from Jefferson High School in Springfield, was named to All-District, All-Region, and All-Metropolitan Washington, D.C. teams as a high schooler and played in the high school state all-star game. His most prestigious honor was being inducted into Jefferson High School Hall of Fame.

Bill is also an excellent student as he maintained a solid "B" average last semester.

Blaine McDonald, 6'1", 200 lb., sophomore catcher returns to the Panthers this spring.

Blaine batted .307 and led Division III in runs batted in with 29 last year as a freshman. He was named to the All-Division and All-State teams and was the starting catcher in last year's JUCO All-Star Game.

In January, Blaine was selected by the Chicago Cubs as their No. 1 pick in the Winter Player Draft of the Major League Teams.

Blaine also excels in the classroom. Last semester he made the Dean's List on the merit of his 3.4 scholastic average.



JAYVEES CAGER JEFF Adams, guard, had a clear shot for the hoop during the Fort Meade game last week with the Red Devils. Final score, Avon Park 67 - Fort Meade 47. Sunphoto by Lew Miller.



DRIVING ALONG THE base line Larry Pough, Avon Park forward gets off one of his favorite shots during the Fort Meade game last week. Sunphoto by Lew Miller.

## PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

(Feb. 10 - Feb. 17)

Thursday, Feb. 10  
Girls Basketball - Sebring - home - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 12  
Boys Basketball - Palmetto - home - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 14  
Boys Golf in Arcadia 3 p.m.  
Girls basketball in Lake Wales - 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 15  
Boys basketball in Okeechobee - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 17  
Boys basketball in Mulberry - 1:30 p.m.

Girls basketball District tourney in Frostproof

Boys golf - Lake Placid and Winter Haven at home - 3:15 p.m.

# Red Devil Bees Chalk Up 11-4 Record

A loss to the Hardee High Wildcat Jayvees last Thursday afternoon here at the Avon Park high school gym dropped the Red Devil "Bees" to an 11-4 record going into last Tuesday night's encounter with the Lake Placid Green Dragons. The Avon Park junior varsity won over Fort Meade 67-47 on Tuesday of last week and defeated the Frostproof Jayvees 61-54 last Friday night to chalk up the 11-4 mark.

Tomorrow night (Friday) the Devil Jayvee cagers will be idle but will have a home game against the Palmetto Tigers Saturday night, Feb. 12, and will travel to Okeechobee to go against the Baby Brahmins next Tuesday night, Feb. 15. Both Palmetto and Okeechobee beat the Devil Jayvees in earlier games.

It took the Hardee High Junior varsity five periods to defeat the Avon Park Jayvees last Thursday afternoon in a home game for the Devils. Coach Allan Duhn's Red Devils scored only 4 points in the third period but came back to tie the game up at 44-44 with a 14 point effort in the fourth quarter.

However, in the overtime period, the Devils went cold again hitting only 4 points while Hardee scored 15 to take the 59-48 victory. Both teams hit 21 field goals each but Hardee made 17 of 36 free throws while Avon managed only 8 of 15 from the free shot line.

Jeff Adams with 14 and George Loyd with 13 points led the Devil scoring. Horace Moore hit for 7, Decaris Jones made 4 points, Todd Packer and Pernel Gibbs scored 3 each, and Casey Stukes and Eric Wilson pumped in 2 points apiece in the losing effort. The Red Devils drew 22 fouls. Hardee had only 13 called on its players.

Otis Ford swished 10 points through the nets in the second quarter and the Red Devil fallcourt press proved effective last Friday night against the Frostproof Bulldogs, as Avon Park's Jayvees took a 61-54 win at the local high school gym.

At half time the Avon Park team held a 31-29 lead after trailing 15-11 at the end of the first period. The Devils hit for 17 and held the Bulldogs to 9 points in the

## Cagerettes

# Have Never Quit Trying

Tonight, Thursday, Feb. 10, the Avon Park girls basketball team will play its last home game at the high school gym starting at 7:30 p.m. with the Sebring Blue Streak girls the opposition. The Devilettes defeated Sebring in an earlier match-up in Sebring by a score of 29-16 for their only win of the season.

Next Monday, Feb. 14, the Avon Park lady cagers will close out the season in Lake Wales against the Highlander girls in a 2 p.m. game. The pairings for the girls district meet to be held in Frostproof starting Thursday, Feb. 17 will be announced later this week. Avon Park will participate in the tourney against Lake Placid, Frostproof, Santa Fe and Fort Meade.

The Avon Park team dropped games to Fort Meade and Wauchula in the past week to set a dismal 1-9 record for the first season of girls basketball at the school since 1964. The Fort Meade girls handed Avon Park its worst beating taking a 58-19 victory from the Devilettes here at the high school gym Tuesday night a week ago. Then last Monday night the girls traveled to Wauchula and lost to the Hardee High ladies by a score of 38-12.

The Avon Park team is down to eight healthy players but the girls have never quit trying. Against Fort Meade the shooting was off the mark for the Red Devils who managed to score only 19 points against the aggressive Minnerettes. Tammy Ostling hit for 8 points, Tammy Welch and Thelma Wessel scored 4 each and Patty Barben hit two free throws to score 2 points.

Debra Cox added 1 point to close out the scoring for Avon Park. The local girls hit only 7 of 20 at the foul line but Fort Meade was just 4 for 22 in free shot shooting.

In Wauchula last Monday night only three Avon Park girls were able to put the ball through the hoop. Thelma Wessels scored 8 points Tammy Ostling hit for 4 counters and Ellen Macklin contributed 2 points to the 12 point total.

The Avon Park girls held down the Hardee ladies in the first quarter as each team managed only 4 points. At halftime Wauchula led 14-8 but in the third quarter the Wildcat girls broke loose and scored 15 points while Avon Park hit only 2 counters. In the final period it was Hardee 9 and Avon Park 2 to set the final score at 38-12.



RED DEVIL FORWARD, Tammy Ostling hit the bucket with four counters to lead the Devilettes in scoring during the Fort Meade game last week, when the Fort Meade, Sunphoto by Lew Miller.



CENTER THELMA WESSELS hustles towards the basket to get a possible rebound during the Fort Meade game last week. Sunphoto by Lew Miller.

## Racketball Tourney To Start

The Avon Park Recreation Department, The Highlands County Bank of Avon Park and The Avon Citrus Bank are sponsoring a Racketball Tournament to be held Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 19 and 20. The two-day event, which will be held at the racketball courts directly behind the Recreation Center, is open to any racketball enthusiasts, male or female, in the area.

There will be four different divisions played in the tournament; Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Singles and Women's Doubles. Trophies will be awarded to the top three finishers in each division.

The entry fees and starting times for the four divisions are as follows:  
Men's Singles - \$2.50 - Saturday morning - 8 a.m.

Men's Doubles - \$5.00 per team - Saturday afternoon - 1:15

Women's Singles - \$2.50 - Saturday morning - 8 a.m.

Women's Doubles - \$5 per team - Saturday afternoon - 1:15

All finals will be played on Sunday, starting at 1 p.m., for the doubles and 2:30 p.m., for the singles. Match draws will be posted at the Rec. Center Friday Feb. 18.

All matches will be refereed, using the International Racketball Association rules. There will be a new ball furnished for each match, by the Rec. Dep. These balls will be given to the contestants for a donation of \$1. All proceeds from the entry fees and donations for balls, will be used to improve the courts with paint and screen tops.

If you are interested in playing some good racketball, whether you are a novice or advanced player, sign up for this tournament. It should be lots of fun. Also, anyone interested in forming a county-wide Racketball association, may sign up at this tournament.

## GENERAL REVENUE SHARING

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SOUTH FLORIDA JUNIOR COLLEGE baseball coach Tim Hill (driving tractor) and ball players keep the SFJC diamond in good playing condition by repairing

the clay surfaces after practice sessions. (Sunphoto by Lew Miller).

the clay surfaces after practice sessions. (Sunphoto by Lew Miller).

## Baseball Season To Get Underway

# Panthers Open Ft. Myers

South Florida Junior College baseball team opens their spring schedule Thursday in Fort Myers against a non-conference opponent, Edison Community College. Saturday the team travels to Lakeland for a double header with Florida Southern College JV squad.

The Panthers then have a 4-game home stand beginning with the home opener on Tuesday, Feb. 15, against Indian River CC followed by Valencia CC on the 16th. The action will take place on the newly constructed baseball park on campus at 3 p.m.

The Panthers return four key performers from last year's team that recorded 20 wins and was named out of the State Tournament on the last day of the season with a 4-3, 12 inning, loss to Brevard.

All-State Catcher, Blane McDonald, recently the No. 1 pick of the Chicago Cubs in the Major League Winter Draft, heads the list of experienced veterans.

All-Division and State All-Star Game pitcher, Rick Harrison, leads the

pitching staff.

The top-notch doubleplay combination of shortstop and team captain, Danie Walstad, and hard hitting second baseman, Larry Glass, give the Panthers a strong defense up the middle.

A talented group of freshmen have been recruited to fill the remaining positions. Bill McMenamin, All-Washington D.C. Metropolitan infielder, will be at third base while college transfer, John Sedlock, holds down first base.

The outfield features speed and good hitters. High School All-American, Randy Schlosser from Saucertown, Pa., will be in left field with Virginia Tom Davis patrolling center field and Charlie Faulconer in right. Jimmy Higdon of Lakeland will be the designated hitter.

Sophomores, Mike Vermillion (4-3 last year), lefty Mike Phillips, and reliever, Phil Mattair, add experience to the pitching staff while freshman, Kirk Scheerhorn, a curveballer from Michigan, and hard-throwing, Rick

Minnick from Virginia, have been impressive.

The 1977 Panthers are looking to better last year's 20 victories and appear to have the talent to do so. After eleven non-conference games, the Panthers open the important conference season at home on March 7 against Polk CC. The No. 1 and No. 2 teams at the conclusion of the 24-game conference schedule end up in the State Tournament in May.

## Game Rescheduled

Due to the rescheduling of the Highlands County Fair, the benefit baseball game between the South Florida Junior College Panthers and Florida Southern Moccasins will be played at 3:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18, at Firemen's Field instead of 7:30 p.m. as previously announced.

Proceeds from the game will benefit the Sebring Lions Sight Fund.

## Southland Mobile Court News

By Louise Carson.

Monday evening Jan. 31, sixteen came to play Euchre and five hundred.

Bill Mott and Alvia Trompicks won at Euchre, Gertrude Culver won the boogie prize. Goldia Daun won at five hundred.

Tuesday morning Feb. 1, coffee hour had thirty-six out to enjoy fellowship with their neighbors. Due to the price of coffee, it was voted on majority, that the coffee hour will be raised to 35 cents for coffee and buns.

Tuesday afternoon Feb. 1, the ladies met at the recreation hall for arts and crafts.

Tuesday evening Feb. 1, aggravation was played with fourteen in attendance.

Thursday afternoon Feb. 3, the ladies shuffle teams of Martha Long and Laura Poolley two games, also Florence Stephens and Bea White.

Friday afternoon, Feb. 4, three game winners of the mens shuffle teams were Marvin Tebo, and Gilbert Longbons.

Friday evening Feb. 4, twenty eight came out for Bingo. Ellen Ernberger won the coverall.

## Pleads Guilty

Carlos Y. Camachio, charged with aggravated battery, was released from jail here after pleading guilty to a lesser charge of battery.

The public defender Nick Schomer who represented Camachio, said the defendant wished to return to his family in another part of the country upon his release from jail here.

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Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Tebo, Mr. and Mrs. Horton Rowsome, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Phillips visited the Pineapple Farm at Lake Placid, then enjoyed dinner at the Tower Restaurant in celebration of Grace Rowsome's birthday.

Recent guests at the Marvin Tebo home were Mrs. Frances Partle of Mesa, Ariz., Mrs. Laura Cease of Troy, Pa.; Mr.

and Mrs. Clyde Schrist of Canton, Pa.

Goldia Daun and Mildred Hindsley went to Santa Gorda to visit friends on Wednesday. Clara and Eunor Engard went to visit the Carlsons in Del Ray, then to Duffs for dinner on Sunday.

Goldia Daun and Mildred Hindsley went to P. J. Restaurant below Sebring to have dinner and celebrate

Goldia's birthday.

Don't forget the Valentine party on Monday, Feb. 14, 7:15 p.m., at the recreation hall. Our pot Luck dinner will be held at noon on Thursday Feb. 17 All are urged to attend.

Dot and Jack Lavery, Louise and Al. Carson attended the Florida State Fair in Tampa on Friday.

All for now. Bless you all with health and happiness.



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## Season Ends

The two Avon Park Middle School basketball teams closed out the 1977 season with two wins each last week. The Middle varsity finished with a 6-1 record and the Middle jayvees were undefeated with a 7-0 mark.

On Wednesday, Feb. 2, the Avon Park Middle School varsity knocked off the Hardee Middle Schoolers by a score of 45-23 to rack up their third win out of four encounters with the Wildcats from Wauchula. The only varsity loss came at the hands of the Hardee team in Wauchula on Jan. 28.

It was a total team effort for the Avon Park boys as all thirteen players saw action in the fast moving game. Alvin Conner and Gerald Jones hit for 17 and 14 points respectively and Kevin Caldwell contributed 6 points to the total effort.

Also scoring for the local eighth graders were Chris Collins, Ricky Oates and Dwayne Council with 2 points each and Jeff Caldwell with 4 counters. Ricky Derkman, Larry Jackson, Billy Bolden, Henry Taylor, Carl Wingate, and Eddie Loyd.

Last Friday afternoon, Feb. 4, the Middle School varsity chalked up its final win of the season with a 38-24 win over the Sebring varsity eighth graders.

Seven Avon Park players got in on the scoring as all thirteen again contributed to the victory. Alvin Conner pumped in 17 points and Gerald Jones added 10 counters. Kevin Caldwell hit three free shots for 3 points. Jeff Caldwell, Larry Jackson, Dwayne Council and Henry Taylor all scored 2 points each.

Chris Collins, Ricky Derkman, Eddie Loyd, Ricky Oates, Billy Bolden, and Carl Wingate saw action in the final game of the season.

The jayvees of the Middle School again used a half-court press to rattle the Hardee seventh graders and twelve Avon Park players scored to take the 47-18 win here at home on Wed. Feb. 2. Jody Johnston and Curtis Taylor led the Avon Park scoring with 7 points each.

Thomas McAfee, Terry Kelley, and Doug Cook hit for 6 points each and Warren Moreland had 4 points. Ricky Johnson, Bart Murphy, Walton Touchton, Chester Daniels and Jeff Henley all scored 2 points apiece in the well-balanced scoring attack. Gary Smith also scored 1 point. Hardee scored only 3 points in the first half.

Warren Moreland with 12 points and Terry Kelley with 10 points led the Avon Park team to the final win. Curtis Taylor hit 2 field goals and 5 of 11 shots for a 9 point total. Ricky Johnson scored 4 points and Doug Cook added 2 counters for the 37 point total.

Avon Park led 12-4 after one quarter, trailed 16-14 at halftime, had a 22-16 advantage after three quarters and finished up with the 37-30 win.

## WINTER

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Savage Murder Brings

# Wave Of Fear To County

By ALBERTA JONES

The savage murder of an elderly resident has sent a wave of fear through the DeSoto City area and appeals from law officers for citizens to "take precautions" and "secure their homes."

Sheriff Joe Sheppard issued these warnings after the battered body of Gertrude A. Ayers, 85, was discovered in a bedroom of her home on Red Beach Lane.

A neighbor, Herman Zachgo, discovered the body a little after 11 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 7. He went to the house to check on Mrs. Ayers when he noticed that her newspaper was still on the lawn. She was an avid reader who usually took her paper in early, the neighbor later explained.

The neighbor notified the sheriff's department and deputies moved quickly to seal off the house and grounds to preserve any clues which might identify the killer (s).

The body was taken to Lakeland where the medical examiner is preparing a report. Sheriff Sheppard said Mrs. Ayers had been beaten "obviously by a strong person" — while she lay in bed. Time of death has been set as Friday night, Feb. 4.

The sheriff said Mrs. Ayers was last seen by friends Friday morning. She

was outside her home, picking oranges.

In a speech at Florida Lions Club Monday night Sheriff Sheppard reported the slaying. "It was a brutal murder. I should urge people to take precautions. I don't want to alarm people, but we must warn them," he said.

By midday Tuesday the elderly clients of Services Over Sixty and state welfare were calling those offices, asking if the murder stories were true.

nervously asking whether any arrests had been made.

Sheriff Sheppard anticipated one line of questions and quickly pointed out that the DeSoto City youth currently charged with murder is in jail.

Frank Ross 16-year-old DeSoto City resident, has been indicted in the slaying of an elderly woman at Avon Park. Investigators acknowledge that surface circumstances in the murder of Helen Dixon of Avon Park and Gertrude Ayers

of DeSoto City are similar. Arrests of the suspects in the Dixon case were made within two days after the murder was discovered. One suspect has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing; the other is scheduled to go to trial Monday, and both are in Highlands County jail.

The sheriff said Mrs. Ayers' pocketbook had been rifled, but his staff declined to speculate whether theft had been the motive for the illegal entry at the Ayers home.

## Mrs. Gary Dressel Is New Cancer Society President

Dr. Michael Wesson, of Lake Placid, has resigned the presidency of Highlands County Unit, American Cancer Society. He is succeeded by Mrs. Gary Dressel, Avon Park, who had been serving as first vice president. The term expires in June.

Dr. Wesson, who was elected to the post in 1974, said the reason he stepped

down was to retain the Florida Area 2 education chairmanship. He is director of education for 14 units in 13 Florida counties.

He said that Area 2 is rated first in public education in the state, and he feels

that he must devote his full energies to retaining that standing in the cancer field.

Mrs. Dressel assumed the presidency of the Highlands Unit at a board meeting last week at Highlands General Hospital. She also serves as one of the two service directors in the county. The other is Mrs. Malcolm Watters Jr., of Lake Placid.

Mrs. Dressel said that there are many loan closet items available for cancer patients ranging from dressings to hospital beds. Anyone needing this service, as well as transportation to and from hospitals or doctors' offices, can call her at 433-5622 before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m., or Mrs. Watters at 5-2768.

The new president announced that the goal of the 1977 Cancer Crusade in Highlands County has been set at \$16,400. The drive will be conducted next month and volunteers are now being sought.

The annual nursing conference sponsored at South Florida Junior College by the American Cancer Society last week was attended by more than 150 nurses.

Both a daytime and evening program were conducted, with Betty Upchurch, R.N., president of District 27, Florida Nurses Association, as the first speaker.

Members of a review panel were Cosmo Martinette, Lost Chord Club; Dawn Daigneau, Reach to Recovery; Bob McClaren, Ostomy Club; Joan Endicott, R.N., Public Health; Rosemary Deck, Hope of Highlands County, and Mrs. Dressel.

## Forest Service To Initiate Prosecution In Fire Cases

Rapid increases in the number of wild fires in the county has spurred Florida Forest Service to initiate prosecution of persons suspected of setting unlawful burns.

Forest Supervisor Phil Conrad said today his department had filed criminal complaints in 23 cases, including nine felony charges from illegal burns in January.

"We'll continue making cases on unlawful burns to help reduce the menace of fires in the county," Conrad said.

He said the fire situation has steadily become worse since the cold front in January "left everything so very dry." He pointed out that Florida law requires that everyone seek permits for any and all fires to be started out of doors. If conditions are considered too dry or too windy, the Forest Service may deny a permit.

Forest Service staff said some persons who have obtained proper permits have not tended the fires carefully and the flames have blown out of control. In such cases, a criminal charge of unlawful burning may be made even though a permit had been obtained. The person building the fire is responsible for it, the Forest Service staff explained.

The fire reports for this past week confirm the supervisor's comments, as all of the area fire departments barely had time to sit down between calls.



Mrs. Gary Dressel

## Procedures For Obtaining Water Permit Explained

Procedures for obtaining permits for water use above and beyond normal household use will be explained at a meeting in Lake Wales Friday, Feb. 11.

The meeting called by Southwest Water Management District (SWMD) is set for 1 p.m. in the Florida Power and Light meeting room.

Most of Highlands County north of Lake Placid is included in the jurisdiction of SWMD and will, therefore, be governed by the procedures to be explained at Friday's meeting. The city water systems for the cities of Sebring and Avon Park, operators of private

water systems, agribusinessmen who irrigate crops are covered by SWMD regulations.

A staff member outlined three broad categories of water users who must obtain permits.

Wells and water systems whose use on an annual basis would average out to 100,000 or more gallons of water per day.

Any consumer whose pumping facilities have the capacity for pumping over 1 million gallons per day.

Any well with an inside diameter of 6 inches or more.

Water users in the Lake Placid area obtain permits through another district.

Struggles between urban and agricultural needs have forced some changes in procedures in that district. Presumably these changes will be reflected in procedures explained at Friday's meeting in Lake Wales.



Avon Park Mayor Marshall Davis Friday signed a proclamation which designated Feb. 27 as Heart Sunday in this city. The event was been set to further attempts by the Highlands County chapter of

America Heart Association to raise funds to combat heart disease. Shown with Mayor Davis is Mrs. Frances Dennis, Treasurer of the county Heart Assoc. chapter. Sunphoto by Russ Dennis.

## Local Band To Escort Florida Citrus Queen

It was announced by the Florida Citrus Parade Committee that the Avon Park High School Grenadier Marching Band had been selected to be the escort band for the Florida Citrus Queen and her Float during the annual Florida Citrus Parade in Winter Haven at 10 a.m., on Saturday, Feb. 12.

The Citrus Parade of Floats, 25 or more high school bands and plus other units will start at the Winter Haven City Hall on Ave. D N.W., marching to U.S. 17 (3rd. Ave.) thence south on U.S. 17 past the Winter Haven Mall turning east on the Cypress Gardens road to the Florida Citrus Showcase. The route of march is approximately two miles long.

Saturday night, Feb. 12 the Avon Park Band will take part in the Florida Citrus Marching Contest to be held at the Auburndale High School football stadium, starting at 7 p.m.

According to Vic McKunas the band has been allotted a 45 minute practice session at the stadium starting at 12 noon.

The contest winner will receive \$1,000, second prize \$500 and third prize \$250. In addition there will be trophies for the best drum major, use of brass, use of woodwinds, best parade appearance and

best auxiliary unit. Contest scoring includes: inspection, 10 points; general effects, 30 points; marching, 30 points and playing 30 points.

## 4-H Dairy Club Place In Judging Competition

Four members of the Highlands 4-H Dairy Club placed in the top 15 individual winners in dairy judging competition at the Florida State Fair at Tampa.

The Tampa Fair does not have competition for judging teams. The Highlands students who won honors were Rhonda Taylor, who placed fourth; Linda Payne, 11th; Diane Campbell, 12th and Chris Metzger, 15th.

Rhonda's score was only five points behind the 302 mark for the first place winner.

The Highlands Club's judging team will have its greatest challenge so far in the state dairy show at Orlando soon.

## Donaldson Sentenced To 3 Years

A labor contractor convicted of aggravated assault has been sentenced to three years in state prison. Henry Earl Donaldson, several times accused of assaults on his crew members, was convicted in a jury trial several weeks ago.

Donaldson was sentenced under the Florida law which requires prison time for crimes committed with a gun. In court Monday Donaldson's attorney said he is filing an appeal. He asked that Donaldson be granted bond while the appeal is pending.

Judge Clifton Kelly set bond at \$2,000 and stipulated that Donaldson is not to carry firearms. He granted Donaldson permission to leave the state, but for business purposes only.

Donaldson said he had a crew working in the apple harvest in Michigan at the time he came here for trial. During the time he has been in jail his licenses as a labor contractor have expired.

He had been licensed by both the Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce as a labor contractor and a contractor who transports crews across state lines.

Court sources said they do not know whether Donaldson's conviction will bar his being able to regain his licenses.

## She Was A Gentle Lady

Gertrude A. Ayers was a tiny, gentle lady, locked in the silent world of the deaf. She lived 85 years, a long life that had known some trauma and sorrow.

A peaceful death could have been welcomed as release. But her fragility, her defenselessness added new dimensions of grief to her murder.

Mrs. Ayers was born in England. Friends here do not know when she came to America, when or where she met Howard Ayers. They do recall that he had five children which she helped him rear.

Friends remember that she had been deeply shocked and grieved by the death of a daughter.

"She died in an asthma attack, just like her father did," a neighbor recalls. Ayers died in 1956, three years after he and his wife had come to the DeSoto City area. Mrs. Ayers' silent world became still more lonely.

She had no radio or television, but she sometimes visited with neighbors to watch television. "She enjoyed watching and we'd write notes to tell her what was happening," Mrs. Zachgo recalls. "And she just enjoyed being with people," she adds.

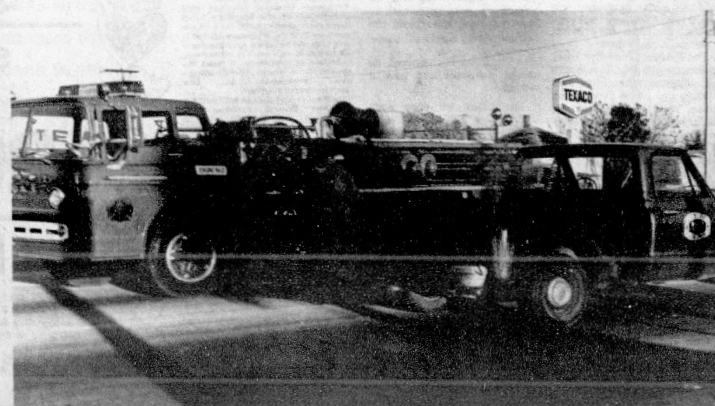
Friends shopped for her and since she could not hear someone at the door, most of the time shopping appointments were made well in advance. Sometimes friends would circle the house, going from window to window to try to attract her attention.

She also loved to read. She could follow a conversation fairly well by watching expressions and reading lips, but most of her communication was by written word. She pounced on magazines, newspapers and books. So it was an unread newspaper lying on her neat front lawn that first aroused suspicions.



CLEANING UP, Wayne McCall, Avon Park, a five year member of the Florida National Guard gets ready to apply the finishing touches on the masonry sign for

Battery B 2nd Battalion, 116th Artillery at the Florida National Guard Armory on U. S. 27 S. (Sunphoto by Lew Miller.)



MONDAY MORNING a 1957 Chevy city water department pickup truck driven by Bill Lamberis backfired as it turned the

corner of U.S. 27 and Main St. Gasoline that had escaped when the truck was refueled, ignited. The resultant fire was

extinguished by the Avon Park Fire Department with U.S. 27 traffic being rerouted off the north bound lane.