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Dick Jarrett Lauded At Service

He Loved Dade City And Dade City Loved Him

by Joe Potter

Mourners packed the chapel of Hodges Family Funeral Home to capacity on Monday to pay their last respects to William Richard "Dick" Jarrett Sr.

"Mr. Jarrett", as he was known by so many, passed away peacefully at home on March 16 with his wife, Barbara, holding his hand. He was 88.

Jarrett was a businessman and philanthropist and owned Jarrett Ford for 38 years before selling his shares in the dealership to his sons and business partner Cliff Martin.

In 2004, Dade City designated part of the road that is in front of the dealership as Dick Jarrett Way in

recognition of his contributions to the community.

The Rev. Randall Belcher officiated at the memorial service.

"People like Mr. Jarrett make you proud to live where you live. He touched a lot of lives. It was kind of a ripple effect," Belcher said.

One of Jarrett's sons, Brian Jarrett, said he didn't know how many lives his father had touched in Dade City.

"Dad loved Dade City," Brian said.

His father was born on a farm in Rockingham County, N.C., on Jan. 12, 1929 – just 8 ½ months old before the stock market crash that ushered in the Great Depression.

"He grew up following the southbound end of a northbound

mule," Brian said. "There wasn't anything that my father couldn't do."

Dick Jarrett drove a school bus at age 14, a logging truck when he was 15, and joined the U.S. Navy when he was 17.

Brian noted that while in the Navy, his father was a foreman over a crew that painted the ship. He used that "experience" to land a job as a painter at a body shop when the family moved to Clearwater several years later.

"He had never painted an automobile in his life," Brian said, adding that wasn't the first time his father used "alternative facts" to further his career.

Jarrett • Continued on Page 7A

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Paula O'Neil, Pasco County Clerk, left, Jane Castor and Dade City Mayor Camille Hernandez all spoke at the fourth annual Women Celebrating Women luncheon last Friday.

Photo by Joe Potter

Pioneer Museum Hosts Celebration Of Women

Speakers Represented Public Service, Law Enforcement

by Joe Potter

A mayor, a county clerk and a former police chief were the featured speakers during Pasco County's fourth annual Women Celebrating Women luncheon held last Friday.

Nearly 100 women joined Camille Hernandez, Paula O'Neil and Jane Castor during the event held in Mabel Jordan Barn at the Pioneer

Florida Museum & Village. This is the first time the museum has hosted the event, said executive director Stephanie Black.

At the program's start, Hernandez, 57, gave a brief history of Women Celebrating Women before yielding the dais to the other two guests.

Hernandez was elected to the city commission in 2006 and became mayor in 2012. She was reelected mayor again in 2014 and 2016.

She is one of only a few women who have been Dade City's mayor in its long history. Others were Pat

Women • Continued on Page 6A

Power To The People

Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative Marks 70th Year

by Joe Potter

According to Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative the utility offers the most affordable rates in Florida for customers using 2,000 kWh of electricity a month.

On Monday, community relations manager David Lambert said customers using 2,000 kWh pay a monthly bill of \$202.51, which is lower than any of the other 14 member-owned electric cooperatives or any of the investor-owned utility companies in the state.

The cooperative is also the third most affordable in Florida for customers using 1,500 kWh, according to Lambert.

"We fare quite well," he said, in comparison to other utility companies in the Sunshine State.

One of the reasons WREC's rates are so low is because it doesn't charge franchise fees like those charged by Tampa Electric Company (TECO) or Duke Energy.

"We don't put anything else in the bill other than what it costs us to produce energy and provide it to our customers," said Lambert, who has been with Dade City-based WREC for 24 years.

Power • Continued on Page 5A

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Pg. 5A - Trilby Residents Celebrate Pg. 1B - Pirates Outslug Bulldogs Pg. 1B - Crystal River Trims Pirates' Sails

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Marine Musicians To Perform Sunday

The Parris Island Marine Band will perform in Dade City on the steps of the Historic Courthouse on Sunday.

Spectators are encouraged to bring the entire family and lawn chairs for the 3 p.m. performance facing Meridian Avenue, as seating is not guaranteed. Leading up to the performance, a military car show will be set up downtown starting around 2 p.m. for children and adults alike to enjoy. The car show will include about five privately owned military vehicles, which

will be set up by the Marine Corps League on the western side of the courthouse.

Originally established in October of 1915, the band's primary objective is to provide musical support for marine graduations and other military ceremonies. However the band also performs concerts across the country and marches in parades.

Band members will be available after their performance to talk with attendees and answer any questions the public may have.



Photo Provided

The 52-member Parris Island Marine Band will make its first visit to Dade City on Sunday to perform classic military marches in a special performance free and open to the public.

Dade City Arrests

Woman Thought Her License Wasn't Suspended

Roseanne Williams, 52, of 4603 Fifth St., was arrested by Dade City police on March 8 on a charge of driving while license suspended or revoked with knowledge. Police stopped Williams because the Jeep she was driving did not have a tag light. Williams could not provide her driver's license and a computer check disclosed her license had been suspended on April 7, 2016. She was also designated as a habitual traffic offender. Williams told police she thought she had taken care of the suspension. She was released with a notice to appear in court.

Joshua Ryan Bertels, 29, of 35117 Deerfield Oaks Drive, Zephyrhills, was apprehended by Dade City police on March 2 on two Hillsborough County warrants charging him with violation of probation – petit theft/burglary of a structure (two counts) and V.O.P. – false information to secondary metal recycler. He was booked into the Pasco County Jail upon confirmation of the warrants.



Sean David James, 46, of 7808 Berry Road, Zephyrhills, was apprehended by Dade City police on March 6 on a Pasco County warrant charging him with violation of probation – robbery. He was booked into the Pasco County Jail upon confirmation of the warrant.



A 14-year-old Pasco Middle School student was arrested by Dade City police on Feb. 7 on charges of possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia. He told school administrators that he had marijuana on him as they were preparing to search

him. He then turned over a small glass smoking pipe that contained burnt plant material. He was also found to be in possession of a small pill container which had green plant material inside it. The smoking pipe field tested positive for marijuana. He was released to his parent with a notice to appear in court.

A 17-year-old male was arrested by Dade City police on March 6 on a charge of providing false information to law enforcement. He was observed around 4 a.m. riding a bicycle with no lights on it and towing a second bicycle with one of his hands. He reportedly dropped that bicycle and was stopped by police a short time later. The male failed to stop for about 200 yards after the officer had activated his emergency lights on his marked police vehicle. He reportedly gave a name that could not be verified. A backup officer knew the male and was able to identify him. He could not say why he had given the wrong name. He was released to his mother.

The information provided in the Dade City Police report is taken from public record. All parties are considered innocent until proven guilty.

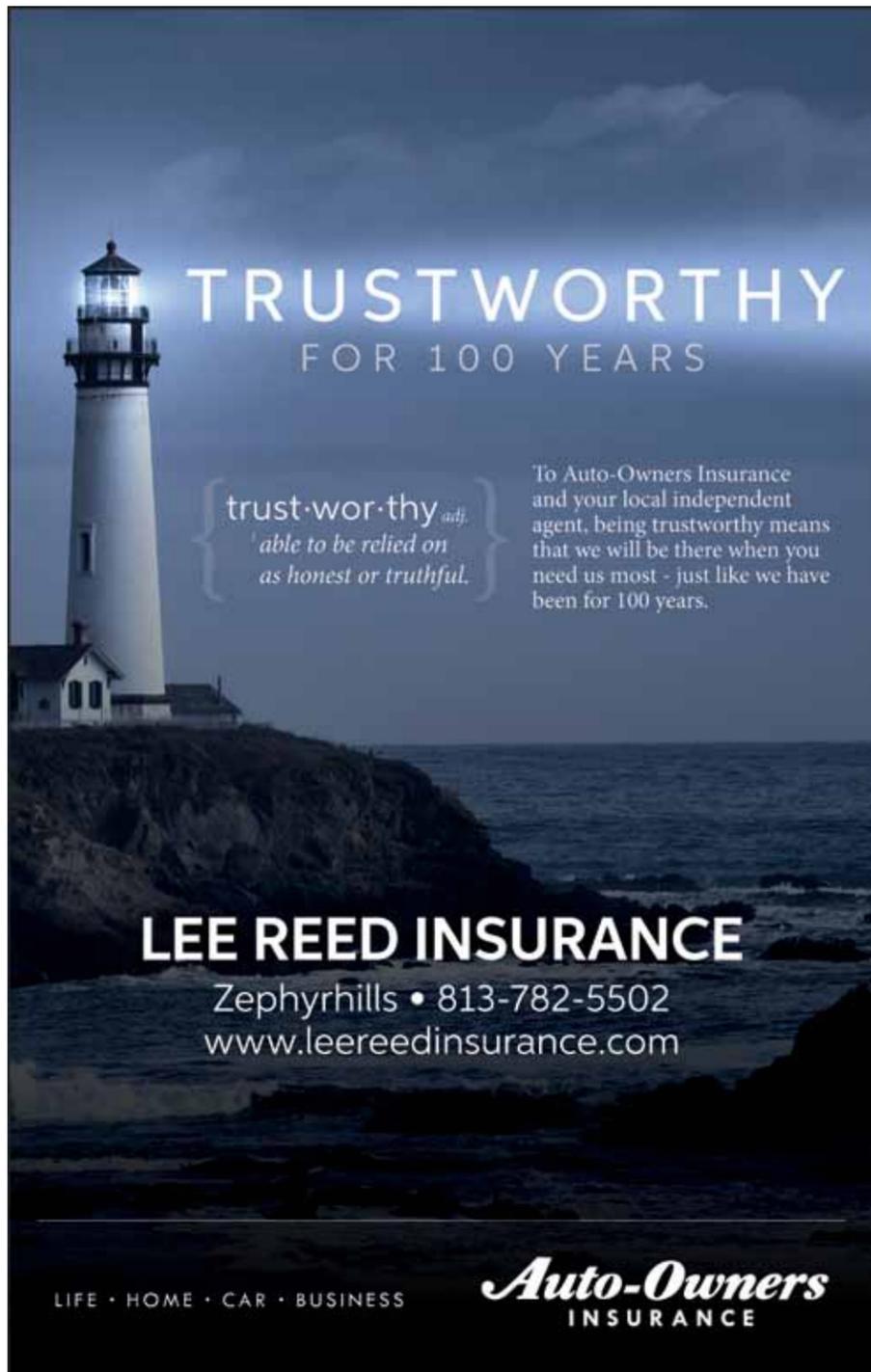


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Dogs Day A Barking Good Time

Police K-9 Fund A Major Benefactor Of Event

by Keri McAlpine

Dogs of all shapes and sizes made tracks to Agnes Lamb Park last weekend for the eighth annual Dogs' Day in Dade City event.

Organizer Lucy Avila said this year's tail-wagger was the biggest and best yet, with what she estimates as many as 300 people strolling in and out as the different activities and contests were held.

Festivities began when dogs were paraded into the downtown park on wagons and other stroller vehicles.



The winner of the talent competition at Dogs' Day in Dade City was a jump roping duo.

Emcee Steve Wright kept the event moving along through costume contests, a K-9 challenge, talent competition and the all-time favorite ice cream and yogurt-eating contest.

During the eating contest, more than 20 teams of owners and their pooches worked together to each finish their serving of a sweet treat, which the dogs had no problem achieving, Avila said.

The costume contest was a real crowd-pleaser.

"It's hard to tell you which one was the best. They came out and some of them really came out big," Avila said of the contests. Prizes and awards were handed out in three categories: owner-dog look-alike, most creative and cutest outfit.

This year's costume winners were judged by three local beauty queens: Katy Sartain, Miss Orlando; Courtney Graham, Miss Gainesville; and Aaliyah Manning, Miss Pasco County.

"It was wonderful. I think it's our best we've ever done... it was just the interaction between the dogs and the humans and the other dogs. We had no dog fights (and no human fights). I'm just in awe of how everything came together so nicely," Avila said.

The K-9 challenge tested the dogs' ability to stay focused and navigate a challenging, and distracting, course that was full of obstacles and littered with treats and toys to see if they could stay sharp. The talent competition welcomed acts of rope jumping, obedience drills and dogs that could count.

Mayor Camille Hernandez attended on behalf of the Dade City Youth Council and was impressed by this year's turnout, especially from out-of-towners.

"Over the eight years I just want to say it's getting better. We continue



Dade City Mayor Camille Hernandez presents Police Chief Ray Velboom with a \$500 check from Dogs' Day for the police department's K-9 fund. Photos by Freeze Frame Photo

to get folks from other parts of Pasco County and outside of Pasco County and encourage them to come back in future days," Hernandez said. "We have a lot of pet friendly restaurants in our community so we want to get them to come back and realize they can bring their pets."

Following the success of Dogs' Day and Price Park's popular dog park which opened in 2013, Hernandez said Monday she is working with the city to open two more dog parks in a different part of the community, one for big dogs and one for smaller breeds. She is currently talking with the city manager and city engineer about several possible sites for the parks and plans will be announced in the "not too distant future."

Amid all of the dog-focused festivities, organizers made time to recognize several organizations in town, all somehow relating to man's best friend.

Hernandez presented a check for \$500 to the Dade City Police Department's K-9 fund to use in any way they see fit, the

mayor said. The money was raised from this and previous Dogs' Day events.

"Having a K-9 on the police force is wonderful and it says a lot," Avila said.

The event also recognized Tranquil Pawz Therapy Dogs, K-9 Partners for Patriots, and a hospice program that takes care of patient's animals while under hospice care. Farmers Feed made donations to a pet pantry set up for Dogs' Day, which helps feed animals of low income families.

The Dade City Animal Clinic, one of the main sponsors also announced plans of incorporating a Round It Off program with the Dade City merchants in May, with proceeds going toward K-9 Partners for Patriots. If merchants agree to participate, shoppers in the month of May will be asked if they want to round up their sales total to the next dollar, with the extra change going toward the foundation that works to partner veterans with a loving and fluffy friend.

"It's all about helping one another," Avila said.

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East Pasco Events

March 23 – Women’s History Month Celebration – Saint Leo University’s School of Arts and Sciences will present guest speaker Shana L. Haines at the university’s Women’s History Month celebration from 5-7:30 p.m. The community is welcome to this free event. Haines will discuss “How to Live Free in This Black Body: African American Women Negotiating Citizenship from Jim Crow to Black Lives Matter.” The celebration will be accessed via Video Teaching and Conferencing (VTT), at TECO Hall, School of Business Building, 33701 S.R. 52 in St. Leo. Contact Dr. Eileen O’Brien at eileen.obrien@saintleo.edu for information.

March 25 – Easter Bunny in Town – Jasper the Easter Bunny from the Pioneer Florida Museum’s ‘Jelly Bean Fling’ will be hopping through downtown Dade City with five special stops: Perks Café, 14249 Seventh St., from 10-11 a.m.; The Book Shack, 14145 Seventh St., from 11:15-11:45 a.m.; Lori Anne’s, 14135 Seventh St., from 12-12:30 p.m.; Church Street Shoppe Toys, Kites & More, 145117 Eighth St., from 12:45-1:15 p.m.; Quilts on Plum Lane, 14215 Seventh St., at 1:30 p.m. Come on down and get some jelly beans, listen to Jasper read a story and get your photo taken with him.

March 25 – Darby Harvest Country Store Community Sale and Market – Come see what our vendors and neighbors have to offer. There are a number of local vendors selling their products and we also have an area for yard sale type items. If you want to have a yard sale and unable to have at your residence, this is for you. Space is free. Held at 31116 Darby Road. Call (813) 526-6631 for information. Event is free and open to the public.

March 26 – United States Marine Corps Band – A performance featuring the United States Marine Corps Band will be held at 3 p.m. in front of the Historic Courthouse in downtown Dade City. Bring a chair or blanket and the whole family to enjoy this unique experience. Call the Dade City Chamber of Commerce at (352) 567-3769 for information.

March 28 – Southfork Entertainment Series – Southfork Mobile Home Park presents Ireland’s Happy Man, Cahal Dunne, for a performance featuring his Irish humor and music. Show starts at 7 p.m. with tickets at \$7.50 each. Call Jim at (352) 206-2754 for information. Southfork is located at 10808 U.S. 98.

March 29 – Presentation from Holocaust Survivor – The public is invited to hear author and Holocaust survivor Pieter Kohnstam present “Narrow Escape: A Flight to Freedom,” at 10:30 a.m. in Saint Leo University’s Student Community Center Greenfelder-Denlinger Boardrooms, located at 33701 S.R. 52. Admission and parking are free. Kohnstam was a childhood friend of Anne Frank. His family and the Frank family were neighbors in Amsterdam before the Franks went into hiding from the Nazis in 1942. Contact Megan Orendorf at (352) 588-8401 or jennifer.orendorf@saintleo.edu for information.

April 1 – Cruise In – Free event featuring DJ Starvin’ Darvin and a hula hoop contest for kids. Come on down with your prized car/truck, or just with the family to check out all the wonderful antique and specialty cars. Enjoy lunch at one of our many exceptional restaurants, and shop in out antique and specialty shops. Held in downtown Dade City from 1:30-

5:30 p.m. Contact the Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce at (352) 567-3769 for information.

April 1 – Market Place – Fresh produce, garden accessories, home decor, soaps, honey, jewelry and so much more. Pet friendly event held in Hibiscus Park from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Contact Lucy Avila at (352) 521-5858 or lucyavila707@gmail.com for information.

April 1 – Races at Academy at the Farm – Academy at the Farm, 9500 Alex Lange Way, is holding a 5K, 1-mile and 200-meter dash set of races. It is a ‘Wonderland’ themed event and costumes are encouraged. The course will go through the school campus and neighboring farm and community. The first 500 participants will receive a t-shirt. There will be a \$5 pancake breakfast following the race. Visit athlinks.com/event/mad-dash-134444 to sign up or call (352) 588-9737 for information.

April 1 – Pasco Master Gardener Plant Sale – The Pasco Master Gardeners will hold a plant show from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in front of the Extension Office at 36702 S.R. 52 in Dade City. A greenhouse inventory clearance will be held with cultural information included with each plant. Educational material and Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening and lawn care questions. A free seminar on “Butterflies and their Blooms” will be held at 9 a.m. in Clayton Hall.

April 2 – Uncorked in Dade City – The Garden Club is proud to present the third Uncorked in Dade City, an adventure in wine, food and music. Held at the club, 13630 Fifth St. from 3-6 p.m. There will be six unique wines to sample, each set up in wine stations in the beautiful gardens, paired with appropriate appetizers. Gift basket raffle tickets and wine will be available for purchase. Contact Debbie at (352) 567-9003 or DeLParks@aol.com for tickets and information.

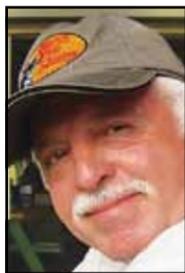
April 5 – PHSC Open House – Pasco Hernando State College’s Dade City campus, located at 36727 Blanton Road, will host an open house from 5-7 p.m. in conference center, A240. The open house is designed for 2017 and 2018 high school graduates who are undecided on college plans and any potential students seeking higher education opportunities. Attendees will learn about certificate, associate, and bachelor degree programs as well as financial aid, scholarships and opportunities for involvement in more than 50 student clubs and organizations. Campus tours will be conducted. Visit phsc.edu/openhouse or call 1 (855) NOW-PHSC for information.

April 5 – All American Youth Art Walk – The second annual event will feature the incredible talents of the county’s K-12 students. Located in the Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center, 38053 Live Oak Ave. in Dade City from 5-6:30 p.m. Presented by the District School Board of Pasco County and the Pasco County Clerk and Comptroller’s Office.

April 7 – Joe Kiefer Golf Tournament – The Dade City Chamber of Commerce presents the 32nd annual golf tournament at Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club, 12900 Lake Jovita Blvd. Registration begins at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Registration deadline is March 31. Visit dadecitychamber.org for a full list of registration and sponsorship opportunities or call the Chamber at (352) 567-3769 for information.

For more events visit www.pasconewspubs.com

Commentary



First Things First

Greg First

Follow The Bouncing Ball

I was at breakfast last Thursday with the gang at the Sugar Shack in Zephyrhills and Jim Pittman, a financial guy and good friend, joined us and asked if we filled out our brackets. That’s when the light came on and I realized I was way behind schedule. I would have thought that Alexa, Siri or one of my cyber friends would have reminded me.

I ended up jumping in on the Capital One NCAA March Madness Bracket Challenge and spent a few hours determining my choices, finishing with 20 minutes before the opening tip-off. Actually if you pick all the favorites you will probably be disappointed; you have got to pick some long shots. So part of the formula is the SWAG formula (Scientific Wild-Ass Guess). I have used that method before and at times it works really well.

I didn’t catch many NCAA basketball games during the season but during March Madness I am pretty much glued to my big screen TV, laptop or iPhone. It all depends on where I am.

It all started last Thursday and

Friday at my store in Zephyrhills and continued in Homosassa on Friday night and Saturday. Saturday was also Shrimpapalooza – Mardi Gras Homosassa Style and I wouldn’t miss that for anything. There was a whole bunch of beads being handed out and I ran into more people I know from east Pasco County than I could have imagined. One thing is for sure – what happens in Homosassa stays in Homosassa.

Anyway back to basketball. I was back home in Dade City when the second round ended late on Sunday. After reviewing my bracket I found out that 11 of my teams made it to the Sweet 16 and I couldn’t be happier. Now I can take a break and start all over today, March 23, and watch as the field narrows. As my friend Terry Linville said, “It starts getting really tough now.” I got to say some of these games have been real nail biters and my heart rate has increased on many of them. Hey, it’s like a cardio exercise program. Isn’t that the goal? I mean to get your heart rate up?

I guess now I can’t complain having all those channels with nothing to watch. I am having a blast and burning up the remote. Now as we get closer to the Final Four and ultimately a champion this might be the time I step out of my comfort zone and head to one of my favorite sports bars. Then I can act like a complete out of control fan with others just like me. Then my wife Jenny and my dog Pooh can settle down and try to get back to normal if that is possible at my house. This only happens once a year and it is contagious. It’s called March Madness. Have you caught it yet?

Artifacts Stolen From Abbey

Staff Report

The Pasco County Sheriff’s Office is searching for the culprit who broke into a display case at Saint Leo Abbey and stole historical items worth about \$15,000.

Stolen were five gold rings and a gold cross containing four medallions depicting religious moments.

The gold cross is more than 75 years old while the rings were worn by previous abbots in the abbey’s 125-year history.

The theft occurred in late January and once an initial suspect was cleared,

Abbott Isaac Camacho contacted the sheriff’s office.

It was not only the shock of the theft that shook the monastery, but the brazen nature of it.

The thief reportedly used a power drill to remove the screws of the cabinet in an elevator lobby and took the time to rearrange the remaining items to disguise the fact that items were missing.

Abbott Isaac’s biggest fear is the items could be cut up for the gold and end up in a pawnshop. Anyone with information regarding the theft should call 1-800-706-2488 or leave a tip on the Pasco County Sheriff’s Office website.

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Trilby Residents Celebrate With Neighbors

Staff Report

Longtime Trilby residents were able to catch up with old friends and connect with new friends at Saturday's 12th annual Trilby Homecoming Picnic. Anyone who no longer lives in the area is always invited back for the picnic to visit their old home and see the changes that have been happening in the community. New Trilby families and residents were also encouraged to attend to meet their neighbors.

Charlotte Tomkow Whittington offered to host the



Brenda and Christine Green of Orlando discuss their grandfather, Alexander Green, who lived in Trilby.



Some of the 75 members of the Trilby Community share home cooked food at Charlotte Tomkow's home during the annual Trilby Homecoming celebration and luncheon.

Photos by Richard K. Riley

picnic again at her Hunter Hill property, just south of Trilby in Dade City. Guests arrived around 10 a.m. with a covered dish and lunch was served at high noon under the shade of giant oak trees amid the cloudless sky.

Whittington and her son, Frank, have been hosting

the picnic since its inception, and are always excited and willing to welcome Trilby residents for the celebration.

The happy crowd was able to share memories through stories and photos and even learn something about the small town of Trilby they call home.

Power • Continued from Page 1A

Now in its 70th year of operation, WREC joined eight other electrical cooperatives across the state in creating Seminole Electric, based in Tampa. Seminole Electric generates the majority of the energy that WREC provides to its customers.

WREC is a nonprofit business and uses proceeds from the sale of electricity to cover employee salaries and benefits, operational costs and other business related expenses.

Whatever is left over at the end of each year is refunded to customers

through revenue reduction and capital credits. To date, WREC has refunded more than \$232 million to its members, Lambert said.

One of the capital projects WREC was recently involved in was helping to construct the community center at Stanley Park in Lacoochee. The building currently houses a Pasco Sheriff's Office substation, a Premier Community Health Care Clinic and the Lewis Abraham Lacoochee Boys & Girls Club.

Customers who return their revenue reductions to WREC see those funds

providing scholarships for high school seniors throughout the service area. As of 2017, WREC had provided 81 scholarships totaling \$470,000 to students at Pasco High School, and Zephyrhills High School has received 85 scholarships totaling \$428,000.

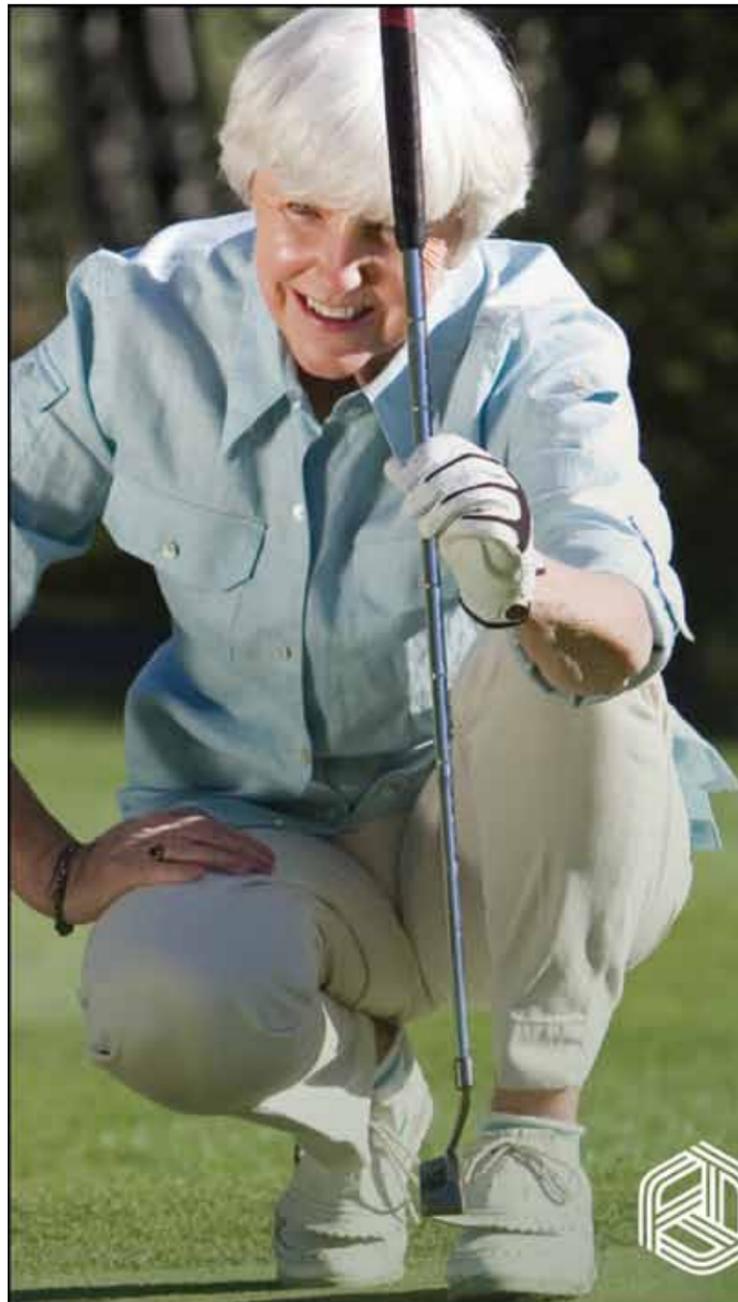
WREC also has an Operation Roundup program that benefits people who have experienced catastrophic losses. As of 2017, WREC has spent nearly \$2 million to help 585 families through Operation Roundup.

"Some of the things that we do to help

families is phenomenal," Lambert said.

One example he cited was WREC paying rent for 12 months for a 38-year-old woman who had been diagnosed with terminal cancer and who had less than six months to live. The woman was in danger of being evicted from where she was living because she was unable to work.

"We try to do a lot of good things within the community," Lambert said. "We're a Main Street community business. We try to strengthen conditions in Dade City and Zephyrhills," he said.



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Women • Continued from Page 1A

Weaver, who served in the early 1990s, and the late Agnes Lamb, who served in the 1970s.

President Jimmy Carter designated March 2-8, 1980, as National Women's History Week. Congress designated the entire month of March as Women's History Month in 1987. A special presidential proclamation is issued annually which honors the achievements of American women.

O'Neil, 60, is currently in her third term as Pasco County's Clerk & Comptroller. She was first elected in 2008 and was reelected in 2012 and 2016.

She is the first woman to serve as Pasco County's Clerk & Comptroller. O'Neil had been a deputy clerk to Jed Pittman, who had been Clerk & Comptroller for 32 years.

People attending the luncheon were encouraged to wear purple pins on



Dade City Mayor Camille Hernandez spoke on the reasons for Women to Celebrate Women's History



Jane Castor spoke of her 31 years as a cop and eventually the chief of police for the City of Tampa.

Photos by Richard K. Riley

their collars.

The purple ribbon is used to increase awareness of and to help overcome domestic violence, O'Neil said.

"The clerk's office has great relationships with Sunrise of Pasco and the Salvation Army," O'Neil said. Sunrise provides shelter for victims of domestic violence in east Pasco while the Salvation Army helps victims in west Pasco.

There is a safe room in the clerk's office where victims of domestic violence can fill out petitions for protective injunctions, O'Neil said.

Purple also stands for justice and integrity, she concluded.

Castor, 56, was the first woman to be named chief of Tampa's police department when then-Mayor Pam Iorio appointed her on March 13, 2013. Her appointment came after she completed 25 years of service with the TPD and rose through the ranks from

patrolwoman to assistant chief.

Before becoming chief, Castor was in command of police operations and oversaw 750 employees and three districts. As chief, she oversaw 1,300 employees, including nearly 1,000 sworn officers.

Castor said she had never considered any other career except law enforcement.

The city's crime rate went down 70% during Castor's tenure and automobile burglaries went down 90%.

She did not face any overt opposition when she became chief but some people did say some things behind the scenes, Castor said.

One of Castor's challenges was bringing institutional change to the department.

Police officers and firefighters are resistant to change, Castor said, adding, "Two things they don't like are the way things are and change."

Castor drew laughter from the audience when she said she was going to let them in on a little secret. "Law enforcement is a male dominated profession," Castor said, cracking a smile.

She offered some sage advice on discrimination and oppression considering the many different organizations that are present today whose members' claim they have been mistreated or victimized.

"Every single human being is going to be discriminated against," Castor said. "The important thing is how you deal with it."

Exercise was her stress reliever during the 31 years she was with TPD, including her six-year stint as chief. "Unfortunately, many people's stress reliever is alcohol," Castor said.

"You make time for what is important to you," Castor said when asked how she found time to continue an exercise regimen despite her many other responsibilities while she was police chief.



Pasco County Clerk Paula O'Neil talked about efforts to curb domestic violence.

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Women Honored For Faith And Education

In honor of National Women's History Month, the African American Heritage Society of East Pasco hosted a Women's Recognition Breakfast at the Lacoochee Boys & Girls Club the morning of March 18. Recipients of awards honoring women of faith and education included, from left, Gloria Roberts, of the Piney Grove MB Church, San Antonio; Reverend Cassie Coleman, director, Lacoochee Boys & Girls Club; Latoya Jordan, principal of Lacoochee Elementary School; Deaconess Janice Wells of Saint John MB Church, Dade City; and Evangelist Voncelia Amos, director at Milton Funeral Home, Dade City.

Photo by Richard K. Riley



Jarrett • Continued from Page 1A

Dick Jarrett once flew an airplane under the Sunshine Skyway Bridge while "dogfighting" with a World War II Navy pilot, Brian said. The men who were painting the bridge reported them and his dad and the other pilot were admonished once they landed their planes.

Jarrett also used to put Buick engines in Model A Fords and race them on Florida's A1A highway, Brian said.

But his dad's greatest adventure began in 1978 when he sold everything, put together \$50,000, and used it as a down payment to start Jarrett Ford Motor Company in Dade City.

"He always wanted a hometown," Brian said, because his father had moved around a great deal when he was younger searching for work.

"He fell in love with Dade City and Dade City fell in love with him," Brian said.

Jarrett supported several charitable efforts in Dade City and the surrounding area and attended numerous hog and steer sales at both the Pasco County Fair and the Florida State Fair.

Martin shared the story of how he had been invited by Dick and Barbara Jarrett to go to the Pasco County Fair with them in 2004. After being softened up with a delicious steak dinner, Martin accompanied the Jarrett's into a barn where a steer auction was being held. Bidding was going at 2.5 then 3 then 4, Martin said. He thought people were paying \$400 for the steer.

"Dick leaned over to me and asked if I thought it was okay to bid 10, and I said okay," Martin said. After the auction was over, Martin had to collect the steer that had sold for more than \$11,000. It was then he realized, Martin said, that the bids were for dollar-per-pound increments and that the steer weighed more than 1,100 pounds.

"Dick told me it didn't cost him a nickel because he had three partners to pay for it. It took me three years to recover," Martin said.

"He told me that if you take care of your community, your community will take care of you," Brian said.

"Everyone was a friend of Dick Jarrett. As a matter of fact, that became quite a joke around the dealership. People were coming in all the time and saying they were a friend of Dick Jarrett's," Brian said.

Jarrett provided food that local high school students ate each year on Principal's Day. Pat Reedy recounted an incident that occurred while he was principal at Pasco Middle School.

Reedy said he had told the students to not have too much to eat. "Then Dick Jarrett comes in and he told the

children 'to order more than they could eat and to eat the ice cream first'," said Reedy, who later became principal of Pasco High School.

"I knew him for many years through Rotary," Bob Hatfield, a retired educator, said of Jarrett. "He reached

out to the community in so many ways behind the scenes without any fanfare," said Hatfield, who now works for U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-FL (12).

Rev. Belcher said Jarrett "made a rather strong impact on the people he met" and was well known for his

generosity. He operated Jarrett Ford Motor Company in a Christian manner and gave back a portion of what he had received. That trait has been passed down to his sons and other business partners, so he will have a lasting legacy, Belcher said.

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'Savages' Tackle Dade City Obstacle Course

Staff Report

The spring Florida Savage Race was held once again at Little Everglades Ranch off of Hamilton Road. Thousands of racers lined up early Saturday and Sunday mornings to compete on the muddy obstacle course, which touts more than 25 obstacles in a six to seven-mile course on swamp-like terrain. Racers came not only from across Florida, but across the country, to participate.

Racing over and under mud pits, walls and barricades kept the Savage Race exciting the entire way through. New obstacles made an appearance this year, including 'Twin Peaks,' a very steep half-pipe racers must traverse. Another new addition was 'On The Fence,' where competitors had to traverse a chain-link fence, a challenge which has a 58 percent success rate. A half-mile Savage Jr. Race was also available for kids 12 and under who wanted to join in the fun.

The Savage Race will come back to Florida for its 2017 Fall event. Visit savagepace.com/event/florida-fall-2017 for information or to register in the upcoming race.



The first of over fifteen heats of Savage Race runners began at 9 a.m. on Sunday at the Little Everglades Ranch just north of Dade City.

Photos by **Richard K. Riley**



Kiernan Revak of Orlando pretends to climb one of the obstacles in the Little Everglades Ranch's Savage Race as his father, Colter, holds on.



Two participants leap 15 feet into a 10-foot deep pool as one of the 28 obstacles during the race.



Pete Cossaboon of Atlanta is blind, but that does not keep him from running in the Savage Race with his colleague, Joey McGlamory, right, who ran and climbed alongside him the entire race.



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