

# The Beacon

Shedding Light on the  
News and Events of Titusville,  
Mims, Scottsmeer, Port St. John,  
and now Merritt Island & Cocoa

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www.NorthBrevardBeacon.com

## Schools get 'A' on FCAT

Highest performance in history lands  
county with second place in state

By D.D. Remini

This year's FCAT scores are in and the county school system is excited.

The schools earned the highest performance in the history of Brevard Public Schools with 83 out of 84, or 99 percent, receiving an A or B. Seventy-seven schools received an A – an increase of three from last year.

"This is a great 'grade day' for Brevard Public Schools, said Superintendent Dr. Richard DiPatri July 8.

Florida Department of Education ranked Brevard County second in the state along with a grade of A. The county is tied with Okaloosa County on the panhandle. First-ranked Gilchrist County, with four schools in its district, is just eight points ahead of Brevard.

"I commend all of our students, teachers, parents and administrators for their outstanding work," he said. "We are extremely pleased with these results while continuing to focus on improving student performance."

No schools received a D or F.

In the 57 elementary schools, 54 earned an A and three received a B. The 27 middle and high schools also fared well with 23 receiving an A, three a B and one a C.

For the third straight year, all middle schools earned an A.

Five schools were penalized due to struggling students who didn't show sufficient improvement as assessed by the state's standards. The state assesses a penalty of one letter grade if a school does not show at least half of its lowest 25 percent of struggling students as making learning gains in reading or math.

Astronaut High, Bayside High, Mims Elementary and Rockledge High earned As but received Bs due to the penalty. Cocoa High earned a B but received a C due to the penalty.

Here are the grades in the *Beacon* readership area:

Andrew Jackson Middle: A, 2007 A

See FCAT, Page 7



Walter Kiely

### What a drag

Oh, the high heels ... and the girdle! Michael Renninger, left, plays Paddy McMutton, a wanted jail breaker who disguises himself as a woman, and Richard Jones plays his partner, Tony Pinella, during "The Senator Wore Pantyhose," a comedy at Emma Parrish Theater, which runs through July 19. A quote from the playbook states, "They made me wear the dress! I swear!" says Renninger. See more community photos, Page 6.

## 7 vie for commissioner

By Susan Walden

Whether it's bringing more jobs to the area, concern for escalating property taxes or wanting a better quality of life, seven candidates are in the race for County Commissioner District 1.

Republicans Jeff Rainey, J. Roger Shealy and Meredith Eberhart; Democrats Robin Fisher, Maureen Rupe and Al Yorston and Independent Ilene Davis are running. The primary is Aug. 26 and the general election, in which Davis will go against the remaining Republican and Democrat, is Nov. 4.

Eberhart declined to answer these questions.

### Why are you running for commissioner?

**Rupe:** "To build upon my experience in community service. I will be a full-time county commissioner whose only interest is the people of Brevard."

**Yorston:** "To take that experience and dedication to

my community and put it to work for the citizens of Brevard. ... I believe it is vitally important that we have someone who can represent the best interest of the people and knows the responsibilities of serving as county commissioner. I will be a full-time Commissioner that works every day to try and make it a little easier for people to live, work, raise a family or retire in Brevard County."

**Fisher:** "Create and keep good jobs. Brevard County is unique in its heavy reliance of government-related jobs. We may be facing unprecedented economic challenges as funding for the space program shifts. There will be many contractors reevaluating their investment and commitment to our community. Strong leadership will be required to ensure stability as the space coast evolves with new programmatic priorities. North Brevard

See COMMISSIONERS, Page 3

**The Beacon will take a vacation break for a week. NEXT ISSUE: Aug. 7**



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# Downtown Titusville



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By Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore

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**COMMISSIONERS, from Page 1**

needs a strong voice to make sure taxpayers get their fair share.”

**Davis:** “Because I am sick and tired of politicians who want to give money I earned to someone else just because they have less, and who make campaign promises that they don’t keep, and who seem to care more about their political party than the taxpayers who pay their salary.”

**Rainey:** “To continue to serve my community. I have the leadership and experience to start on day one to protect the unique communities that make up District 1, and to bring jobs to Brevard to offset the planned layoffs at KSC. By bringing these jobs, we broaden our tax base, replace lost jobs with new jobs and keep jobs and associated businesses healthy.”



**Rainey**

**Shealy:** “Property tax revenues to Brevard County have increased more than a 140 percent over the past 10 years, while over the same period our population has grown 16 percent and per capita income (our ability to pay) has increased 55 percent (see [www.Shealy2008.com](http://www.Shealy2008.com) for data and charts). This has created a heavy burden for tax payers, especially those on fixed incomes as property taxes and assessments take a greater portion of our income. I am running this race to restore fiscal conservatism and fiscal restraint to the Board of County Commissioners.”

**What do you bring to the office that will make a difference?**

**Rupe:** “I have been a dedicated community volunteer and activist working in the county government arena for over 20 years. I have fought hard for quality of life issues that impact our neighborhoods, our community and our county. My record shows hundreds of examples of my effective results in working with homeowner groups, the county commission, city councils, and state agencies to actually change policy. The recent agreements with FPL for a new \$10 million plant and cleaner air for all in North Brevard are only one example of how my efforts have been successful. (Another example is) connecting Titusville’s southern commercial district with communities to the south through the opening of Grissom Parkway, and the creation of our new Parrish Health Care Center in Port St. John.”

**Yorston:** “(In addition to serving in many volunteer positions) for the past 15 years, I’ve worked as a public servant for Brevard County Parks and Recreation,

the Brevard County Clerk of Courts and the Brevard County Housing and Human Services Department. Over the past decade, I have served as assistant to three of five County Commissioners in Brevard. From 1997-2000 - served as assistant to County Commissioner Nancy Higgs (District 3), from 2000-2002 - Commissioner Jackie Colon’s assistant (District 5), and most recently assistant to County Commissioner Chuck Nelson (District 2) beginning in 2006.

**Fisher:** “I have owned my own business for 20 years; I know the issues facing business owners. In my previous city council experiences, I have had to take on tough issues that needed to be addressed. I have a proven track record of bringing people together to improve our community. Politically, former councilman in Palm Bay and Titusville. Professionally, I have run a successful small business for the past 20 years. I have served on the United Way and Chamber Board of Directors, BCC Board of Trustees and Board Chair for Central Florida YMCA, where I led the way to raise over \$2 million for the Titusville YMCA.”

**Davis:** “A public track record of standing up for what I believe to be fair to all, honoring campaign promises even under pressure to back off, 40 years of reading financial statements, 30 years of helping others manage their business or personal finances, a degree in math, accounting, and soon an MBA, and an extensive understanding of how factors outside Brevard, and our dependence on state, federal or local tax dollars to provide much of the income in Brevard, could be affected by those factors. I have been a city council member, but frankly, I find too often those with lots of political experience care more about getting reelected than doing what is right for the people whose money they are spending. I believe my business experience, my extensive reading, my understanding of how social security cash flow, the world economy, new accounting rules, and more will dramatically affect the ability of ‘government’ to do much of anything.”



**Davis**

**Rainey:** “My political experience serving on the Titusville City Council and as vice mayor for two terms (six years), has prepared me to effectively serve as your county commissioner. During this time I served on the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Space Coast Economic Development Commission, Brevard County Economic Development Commission, and Delegate to the Space Coast League of Cities, Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce, Taylor Creek

Reservoir Committee, North Brevard Hospital District Board, Community Redevelopment Agency and Spaceport Florida Commerce Park Authority. I worked with state and federal governments to keep much of the space program at Kennedy Space Center. I was also invited to speak at President Bush’s 2004 “Moon, Mars and Beyond” Hearings. My volunteer service with the Sheriff’s Department has given me hands on experience and the understanding to recognize our uniqueness, and the importance of public safety. This would be the very last area on the table for me to even consider cutting due to the passing of Amendment 1. My political experience gives me the ability to understand the process and trim the process whether it is through an easier permitting process, prioritizing services, and/or recognizing the need and ability to pay for services/expansions.”

**Shealy:** “I earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting from Liberty University in 1990 and for the past 17 years I have worked in financial industry. Five of those years I was employed as an internal auditor for Brevard County where I conducted financial and performance audits of county departments and programs. This experience gave me a very broad and thorough understanding of county operations, as well as a detailed knowledge of county budget issues and processes. Currently, along with my business partner, I own and operate the independent investment advisory firm SKadvisors located in Titusville. I am a Certified Public Accountant, a Certified Internal Auditor, and a Certified Information Technology Professional. As property values are now falling, it will be vitally important we have commissioners on the board that possess the qualification and experience to deal with difficult financial issues. My qualification and experience has prepared me for this task.”

**What are your goals as commissioner?**

**Rupe:** “Work to improve trust in government, and encourage more citizen participation. Attract clean, secure employment opportunities to Brevard County. In a climate of climbing fuel and food costs, adequate paying jobs are a critical component of our county’s future. We must accept the fact that our resources are reduced and prioritize the basic elements that are needed to support our residents today. Proactive, creative and critical thinking are mandatory.

Work to our growth remains sustainable and our quality of life is not compromised ... (and to) make sure we do not allow overdevelopment to exceed the ca-

capacity of the area’s economic or natural resource support systems. Ensure the burden of infrastructure for new development to be on the financial backs of current residents; nor is there any rational argument for overextending our transportation capacity to the point of gridlock.

- Foster an improved quality of life for our community.”

**Yorston:** “Property taxes and insurance rates are driving people out of their homes and must be reduced. Brevard needs to be a diverse and affordable community. We have a highly skilled workforce and a quality of life and natural environment that is the envy of many throughout the country. We need to provide for the basic services that are required to meet the demands of today while planning and preparing for the opportunities available to us in the future.”



**Yorston**

**Fisher:** “Good government: I will support open and responsive government.

- Strong voice for North Brevard: I will make sure that the north has a fair shot at new business and investment, while representing the entire county.



**Fisher**

- Create and keep good jobs.”

**Davis:** “To return government to a government of, by and for the people, instead of a government of, by and for the politicians. To limit the use of tax dollars to services that truly serve to provide for or protect the public safety of the community as a whole, to reduce the cost of government, and make Brevard a place that successful, creative business owners want to locate or expand to, and where talented local students want to stay and build businesses.”

**Rainey:** “As we lose jobs at KSC, we must diversify our economy. We must bring good paying jobs to our area. Without good employment for our residents, we will continue to see our children move elsewhere for employment, continue to have foreclosures and vacant houses. I will work with all parties to accomplish this task. I also want to look into duplication of county services, so that we can do the job cleaner, quicker and more cost effective for our residents and businesses. You are the backbone of our county.

My goal is to have an open door policy to listen to the concerns of the citizens of North Brevard. And I must listen and understand the concerns of the rest of the county as well. My first allegiance will al-

**See VOTE, Page 5**

## Opinions

# Let's weed out the kooks running for office

### My View

By  
Susan  
Walden



Since I received such a fanfare from my last column about stopping stupid rumors, and let's have sane people running for office, I'm on to Round Two.

I just can't help myself.

As I talk to people running for various offices in the county, I've run across even more kooks. Sorry, that sounds horrible, but I think someone unlocked the key to the nuthouse.

There's more than one running around, too. Lock your doors, hide the

children and don't vote for them, please.

By the words nuts and crazy, I mean those who really don't care about us – you and me. Let's not get suckered into voting for them.

They have their own agendas and you and I are not on them. Oh, they say they are, but they're not. This person has a personal vendetta, that person thinks everyone is after him, this person is so high and mighty he doesn't grant interviews or attend functions.

One person I interviewed had a reason to run for office and it wasn't nice. When I asked if I could print it, of course he said no. "What do you think I should say?" he asked me.

Heeellooooo? I'm not the one running for office; you are, knucklehead.

My fervent hope is that every voter makes an educated choice. It isn't easy when the person is lying about why he's running for office. So, to this I say to all candidates: if you want to be in office because of a vendetta, or because your

bilingual lizard or monkey you hide in the closet told you so, please spare us.

Secondly, if you can't even "grant" an interview or show up for forums with the other candidates, take your name off the ballot. If you don't come to these luncheons and meetings, which are free for you to tell voters who you are, you are nuts. You are also arrogant and it's a slap in the face to the other candidates, the voters and the ones who set up these events. Do you have something to hide? Don't you think the voters wonder why you are never there? Why would they vote for you?

Don't call or stomp into people's offices and demand they plant your sign in their yard or tell them, "How dare you endorse someone else." If you want to know why they're endorsing another candidate and not you, look in the mirror.

Voters: please don't cast your ballot for someone who doesn't want to talk to you, especially in a campaign such as county commissioner.

Our county commissioner needs to be accessible to everyone because he or she will go to bat for us. If a candidate is arrogant, do you honestly want a person like that representing you for four years? If they don't have time for you now, how will they have time for you in office?

Please don't go to the voting booth and choose a candidate because you saw this person's signs everywhere. Name recognition is a good thing – it's key to marketing. However, the sign doesn't make the person. I want to see the person. I want to read about this person. I want to hear this person say to me what he or she will do for our community and me.

We're at a critical juncture. We need intelligence – intelligence from voters and from candidates. Everyone else, step aside or go back to the nuthouse ... or the closet your monkey is in – he's calling you and we're not.

Do I hear another amen?

## Debt reduction must be at the center of economic recovery



The economy in America today is exactly as it has been for the entire history of our nation: tightly bound and woven to small business and banking.

The skillful building of America in the latter half of the last century has much to do with the financial ingenuity of the Federal Reserve, the U.S. banking systems, and U.S. businesses nationwide.

It is my belief that the Federal Reserve is one of the best run corporations in the world. If we are to successfully restore economic balance and national prosperity, it will require the skilled handiwork and complete dedication of this vitally important American institution.

While I am certain that the government economic stimulus check was issued with the intent and greatest hopes of kick starting an ever slowing economy, I do believe it has fallen short of achieving that goal. The failure

of the current economic recovery plans lie in their inability to deal with the debt that has been created in the pockets of America's small businesses.

Over the last several years small businesses across this nation have struggled terribly to downsize their operations while at the same time trying to preserve jobs. If there is any relief to come for this nation's economy, it must arrive through a plan that involves debt reduction to small businesses in every city across America.

A proposal: The Federal Reserve could work in tandem with U.S. Banks and offer zero interest debt reduction loans to pay off reasonable percentages of the debt that has been incurred to each stable small business over the last three years of economic woes, while offering a two year payment deferment, with a four year pay-off period to allow those small businesses the time they need to regain financial stability. Then allow all of the participating U.S. banks a period of six full years to pay these monies back to the Federal Reserve. This would bring a flood of working capital into the banks, which they could then use specifically for debt consolidation loans to the general public at a one time only sub prime interest rate for all qualifying U.S. citizens.

This type of stimulus plan would free up both small business and the general public to start spending again. The housing market would naturally recover as debts are reduced, and a positive cash flow is restored on a grass roots level across America.

Obviously, this offer would be limited to those small businesses and individuals that have a record of stability and accountability. This is not an act of charity nor a government endowment, but a tri-lateral business venture to restore strong national economic growth and commerce without the direct aid of the U.S. government.

It is impossible to restore the economy and increase personal and business bank loans when small businesses and the vast majority of low and middle income America are financially enslaved by an unfavorable income to debt ratio.

I realize this type of move is far from the status quo, extremely aggressive, and sounds more than a little crazy at first glance, but history has clearly shown that when America is at its greatest hour of need, such as times of war, economic trials and depression: Concessions have always been made in our banking systems through well calculated acts of financial intervention.

This plan is an opportunity for America to celebrate her liberty and economic ideals in a language everyone can understand. By raising a standard of honest measure, extending an arm for those in need, and proclaiming through an upright form of cooperative capitalism that the heart of this nation beats strongest when it's voice speaks freedom, opportunity, and prosperity for all who live within her borders.

# Talk of the town

## How important is it to you for political candidates to attend forums and talk to voters?

*"It's very important. If they don't have the time to talk to us, we don't have the time to vote for them. How do we know their stance or political views if they don't take the time to be at the forums and talk to the public?"*

Bob Clark  
Melbourne



*"To me, it's not that important. I like to hear what others think about the candidates, discuss it and then make my decision."*

Christian Allen  
Titusville

*"It's important because they're answering specific questions and we have the opportunity to see how sincere they are and how they relate to us."*

Mark Porwet  
Titusville



*"It's not real important to me. I base my opinions on what others think about a candidate. As a hairdresser, I talk to a lot of people. So, I gather information through others."*

Cinnamon Baldwin  
Titusville

### VOTE, from Page 3

ways be to the citizens of north Brevard to maintain their unique lifestyles and communities. Next we must provide a safe and affordable supply for our drinking water. We currently see cities battling each other over water rights. We must make this a priority to have a constant water supply. I have a plan for a multi-county solution to this situation."

**Shealy:** "Decrease government taxes and spending to levels that are: a) reasonable, based on current economic conditions, i.e. the tax base, b) justifiable, based on the actual demand for public services, and c) sustainable, based on the taxpayer's ability to pay."



Shealy

— Reduce regulation by eliminating numerous County Codes that add significant cost to housing and businesses.

— Increase transparency and accountability by making board meeting agendas and agenda item packages available online well in advance of the meetings. Change County Policy and Procedures to: a) eliminate the abuse of last minute add-ons to the meeting agenda, and b) link completed meeting minutes and video with a record of each vote by commissioner for each agenda item."

### What do you think are the most important issues facing Brevard County, namely our district?

**Rupe:** "The ending of the shuttle program. ... We must attract clean, secure employment opportunities and work with all agencies to try to lessen the impact of the end of the shuttle program. ... Budget reductions can be accomplished but must be done wisely. ... I would like to explore the recommendations from the Brevard County Industry Budget Review Report. ... Projected changing demographics — I would reexamine our services to see how to better serve and involve seniors."



Rupe

**Yorston:** Eliminating waste, inefficiency and duplication of services with the county. Work with state and local officials to ensure available, affordable insurance. Support changes to state law requiring insurance companies return premiums to policy holders that are cancelled without making any insurance claims.

Solidify the county as a key player in the next generation space vehicle programs. Recruit new businesses and support programs that retain and continually educate Brevard's workforce. Create and support a Citizen Advisory Panel to review and make recommendations on the Brevard County Comprehensive Plan. And support small Area Studies and joint planning agreements to determine future annexations and growth.

Support innovative energy efficient green

building technologies, Promote the conservation and preservation of native habitat and support Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program and encourage conservation of limited natural resources and protection of available clean air and water."

**Fisher:** "The decline of the shuttle program and the potential loss of 6,000 jobs."

**Davis:** "The almost total dependence of north Brevard on incomes that depend on government (ie, tax-funded or borrowed) spending. Not just KSC, but Medicare, Medicaid, social security, military retirement, other state/federal government contracts. America already borrows \$2 billion a day to keep the government afloat. Twenty percent of that is from China. China is already talking about investing in U.S. stocks instead of government bonds. Social security (currently with a \$92 billion excess cash flow) is projected to go into negative cash flow in 2018."

And many baby boomers heading to retirement have little saved. Add in rising home insurance, likely cutbacks in federal or state subsidies, declining housing values as more homes go into foreclosure, and the list goes on."

**Rainey:** "The most immediate is the challenges of our unique economic environment and the challenges we face as the shuttle program closes down. We must bring new jobs to Brevard County to maintain our quality of life. Also to be addressed is the budget process and how Amendment 1 will impact this process. We must make smart decisions on the spending of your money. We will need to prioritize our spending, not cut public safety issues, but spend our money wisely to provide the best services to our citizens and tax payers. The long-term important issue will be drinking water. I have a plan that will form a multi-area coalition to develop a solution in part through desalinization, protection of our current reserves, education of water conservation and cost sharing in the development of solutions."

**Shealy:** "Our local economy. Home prices have fallen 35 percent since August 2005 while foreclosure filings are occurring at record levels. Retail sales in our county are at levels not seen since 2004 and unemployment is currently over 5 percent. Our local economy is hurting, and with the potential layoffs at KSC, we are facing real economic problems in North Brevard County — we need jobs. To address these issues and encourage new and existing business expansion, we need to:

1. Reduce property taxes and assessments providing relief not only to employers, but also to employees and all who pay property taxes.
2. Streamline the permitting process across all permitting agencies and establish a deadline for decision making.
3. Abolish commercial impact fees."



# OUT AND ABOUT



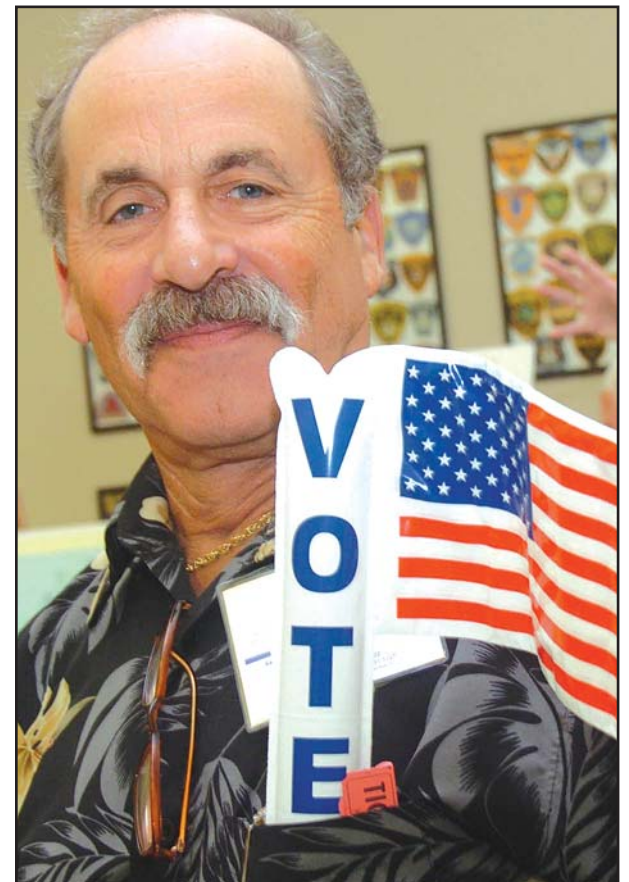
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*Promoting Teamwork within our Community to solve problems*



Photos by Walter Kiely

**Michael and Christopher Squires, 6-year-old twins, duke it out without mom getting upset at the Red, White and Boom fireworks at Space Coast Regional Airport July 4.**



**Enough said. Bob Socks, Titusville resident and former city councilman, gets patriotic during the meeting of the candidates for county commissioners at the Titusville Chamber Luncheon held at American Police Hall of Fame on July 9.**

**Chauncy Quince, inn keeper played by Randall Franz, and Tom Gordon, senator's campaign manager, played by J.J. Curtis, envision the future during "The Senator Wore Pantyhose," a comedy at Emma Parrish Theater, that runs through July 19.**



**It's not easy being cute. Luke Ginn, 2 years old, from Port St John, can't wait for the fireworks to begin at Red, White and Boom.**



**FCAT, from Page 1**

- Apollo Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Astronaut High: B, 2007 B
- Atlantis Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Audubon Elementary: A, 2007A
- Cambridge Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Challenger 7 Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Clearlake Middle: A, 2007 A
- Cocoa High: C, 2007 D
- Coquina Elementary A, 2007 A
- Edgewood Jr/Sr High: A, 2007 A
- Endeavour Elementary: B, 2007 C
- Enterprise Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Fairglen Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Gardendale Elementary A, 2007 A
- Imperial Estates: A, 2007 A
- James Madison Middle: A, 2007 A
- Lewis Carroll Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Merritt Island High: A, 2007 A
- Mila Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Mims Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Mims Elementary: B, 2007 A
- Oak Park Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Pinewood Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Riverview Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Robert Stevenson Elementary: A, 2007 A
- South Lake Elementary: A, 2007 A
- Space Coast Jr/Sr High: A, 2007 A
- Thomas Jefferson Middle: A, 2007 A
- Titusville High: A, 2007 A
- Tropical Elementary: A, 2007 A

# Police raid local bar

*By Susan Walden*

People who go to bars usually order a drink.

Patrons of MJ's Saloon on Hopkins Avenue in Titusville could also order marijuana, cocaine and ecstasy.

The bar's owner, Meredith Rhodes, now faces permanent revocation of her liquor license.

Titusville Police Department's Special Investigation Division along with the Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Division of the Florida Department of Professional Regulation raided MJ's just after midnight July 9.

The raid was a result of a seven-month investigation and a continuous string of complaints about the business. In addition, TPD was called 290 times to the bar in the past year for shootings, fights, drugs and crowd issues.

"Since November, undercover agents conducted covert, detailed surveillance operations and controlled purchases of illegal narcotics, on as many as two days per week," said TPD Cmdr. Stuart Otto. "Purchases of the narcotics were made by both patrons and employees."

Undercover agents were positioned inside MJ's Saloon to prevent anyone from leaving or any destruction of evidence just before the raid.

Michelle Gainer-Elmore, 35, was arrested during the raid and five more are pending, according to Otto.

MJ's Saloon as been a problem child of the police department since 2001. Nine people were arrested as a result of another investigation of the business in 2003-2004.



Susan Walden

***MJ's Saloon's owner Meredith Rhodes faces permanent revocation of her liquor license after a raid on her business by police.***

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# Police nab burglars

By Susan Walden

Three young males were arrested by Titusville police July 10 for eight business burglaries in a two-month period around the city.

According to police, Kelvin Lamar Dublin, 18, Robert Lee Britton, 17, and Robert Perry, 15, confessed to burglarizing Portofino's Italian Grill on U.S. 1 twice, Ice House Submarine Sandwich Shop on Hopkins Avenue two times, SPCA Thrift Shop on Garden Street twice, Dogs R' Us Restaurant on U.S. 1 once and Lazy Gator Bar one time.

"I'm glad they found and arrested them," said Krupal Patel, owner of Ice House, who said the young men

stole \$500 and her cash register the first time.

"They were bold; they just ripped the door open both times even though I have an alarm and it was going off."

A .45 caliber pistol was stole in the Lazy Gator Bar burglary but was recovered.

A woman tipped off police, providing information concerning the break-ins, which led police to the three suspects.

Britton has also been charged with a residential burglary and arson. He allegedly entered a vacant house to commit theft but when no property was there to steal, Britton attempted to set fire to the building and was successful in torching a vehicle in the driveway.

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My name is *Sasha*. I am a 10 year old terrier mix. I was brought to the SPCA because my owners landlord would not allow me to move in with them. I am great with kids and all other animals. I may look older but there is still some youth in me. I like to play with balls and stuffed toys. Please come in and give me a home where I can spend the rest of my dog years..

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# Local author plants seeds in book, growing ministry

By D.D. Remini

In these times of troubles, laughter is a commodity.

That's why Lila Jane Tibbitts has just published some tidbits of her childhood in a book called "Through the Eyes of a Child."

It's about Christian values, family situations, a dose of humor and a large helping of faith.

"I used to tell these stories to my children and grandchildren and they got such a kick out of them, so I thought I'd write them in a book," she said.

"I always thought my mom had a lot of faith because she used to clench her teeth and say, 'God give me strength.'"

It's that kind of humor that flows through her book. Tibbitts says God has also given her a lot of strength and energy, so much so that she and her husband, Frank, have been in ministry 40 years and have started 37 interdenominational churches in the Philippines, Ghana, Togo (West Africa), India and Pakistan.

"I'll be going to the Philippines in September and then on to Pakistan and



Tibbitts

India visiting the churches, conventions and ministering," she said.

Called Bridge Ministries, the Tibbitts have started a church in Titusville and would like to see it grow like so many other seeds they've planted.

"We began a bible study group on Thursday nights which evolved into a church," she said.

"We're small in number but invite more to come."

Tibbitts says she and her husband have done all types of ministries – from prison to alcohol/drug abuse, big churches to small ones.

"Since we are interdenominational, our ministry is about mutual respect for other religions and Christian works."

The congregation meets at 1219 South Street on Sundays at 6 p.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. share a space at that location with New Beginnings Ministry.

For more information about their ministry or "Through the Eyes of a Child," call her at 747-0116.

The book was published by Outskirts Press in February. It can be purchased on Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, Thee Kings and by calling Tibbitts.

# Good samaritans still left in this world

By Susan Walden

Rosalyn Kinsella believes in earthly angels.

The Titusville resident decided to go to Fred's in the Searstown Mall a few weeks ago because she'd never shopped there before.

She purchased a few items, went home and because she became ill, didn't go out for over a week.

Kinsella didn't know her wallet had fallen out of her purse until she received a call from Tamara Walker, the assistant manager of Fred's.

"She told me they had my wallet. I didn't even know it was missing at the time," said Kinsella, who hurried to the store and found her wallet intact and untouched – credit cards and money still there. She tried to give Walker a reward for being honest but Walker declined and said it was all in a day's work.

For Walker, it wasn't the easiest thing in the world to contact Kinsella because there wasn't an address or

phone number in the wallet. Walker said it isn't a good idea to look up a name and phone number in the phone book because it could be the wrong person and the last thing she would want is to hand a missing wallet to a stranger.

Walker spied Kinsella's Moose lodge card in the wallet and knew it was the lead she needed.

"I'm a member of the Moose Lodge too," said Walker. "So I called them and asked for (Kinsella's) phone number."

Walker said in the past three weeks there have been three incidents in which people left their wallet or purse in or near the store. "I guess people are distracted lately," she said. Walker was quick to point out that the good Samaritans aren't just Fred's employees. Some have been customers who turn in the missing items.

"I'm so happy that there are decent people around here still," said Kinsella. "We hear of bad things happening, people getting ripped off, and then this happens to restore our faith in people."

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## County issues rabies warning

The Brevard County Health Department issued a warning of a confirmed case of rabies found in a bat in Melbourne.

Rabies is fatal in humans if not treated in time. Anyone exposed to a stray animal or those with pets who have been exposed, should call Animal Services and Enforcement at 633-20204. For medical recommendations and questions regarding rabies, call Dr. Olga Emgushov at the health department – (321) 454-7101.

- ✓ Report any strange behavior of all animals observed.
- ✓ Avoid direct contact with wild ani-

mals, such as raccoons, bats, etc.

- ✓ Have all cats and dogs immunized against rabies.
- ✓ Immediately report any animals running at large.
- ✓ Be prompt and completely report all animal bites.
- ✓ Only qualified personnel, such as health department officials and animal services enforcement officers are advised to handle these animals. Also, remember to keep your pet on a leash, keep animal rabies shots up-to-date and report any sickness in animals to the health department.



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### Get wild at the Enchanted Forest

Come see the Florida Animals at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary July 20, 2 p.m.. This Forest Funday Program focuses on the state's wildlife. The Wildlife Care Center features birds, reptiles and small mammals. The event is free. For more information, call 264-5185. The Enchanted Forest is at 444 Columbia Blvd, (SR 405) in Titusville.

### Republicans meet

The North Brevard Republican Club's next meeting is July 28, 7 p.m. at the San Mateo Clubhouse, 5205 Sisson Rd.

Speakers will be Republican candidates for property appraiser and tax collector. All republicans are invited.

Call Shirley at 264-2634 for details.

### Come to the birthday party

The North Brevard Lions Club celebrates its one-year anniversary Aug. 9 and hosts a Birthday Bash at Driftwoods at Royal Oak Country Club.

Dinner buffet is 6-10 p.m. Cost is \$15. Dinner includes a piece of birthday cake.

In one year, the club has helped a man get a prosthetic eye, given two dozen eye glasses to those less fortunate and hearing aids to two people. The club continues to collect used eye glasses for recycling, as well as hearing aids and old cell phones.

To RSVP for the event, contact Karen Johnson at 890-9354. To become a member of Lions Club or to learn more, call Ed Kindle at 514-0096.

### Library has fun

The Scotts Moor/Mims Library holds the following July events:

- "Wild Treasures of Brevard County – the imperiled species discovery series" July 24, 6:30 p.m. Paula Bernston, an environmental specialist with the Brevard County National Resources Management Department presents the program on Brevard County's coastal habitat, sea turtle conservation efforts and local opportunities for residents to learn about and help protect sea turtles. The event is free.
- Sally Scalera from Brevard County Extension presents a program on attracting butterflies to your garden July 24, 10 a.m. The fee is \$5. Call the library at 264-5080 to register.
- Try the library's new Wii games: bowling, pool, baseball to name a few. Play alone or with a friend. The games are available during the summer Monday – Friday, 2-4 p.m. Cost is 50 cents per person for 20 minutes of game time.

For information on these programs, call the library at 264-5080.

### Farmers Market closed

rescheduled its Aug. 26 meeting at 5:30 p.m. The meeting is now set for Aug. 25, at 9 a.m. The location remains the same: the Board Room at the Educational Services Facility, 2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.

### IRS moves

The Internal Revenue Service Melbourne office located at 129 West Hibiscus Boulevard has moved to 8249 Devereux Drive. The office provides taxpayer assistance as well as compliance support for nearly 40 employees. The office is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For additional tax information, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or call 1-800-829-1040.

### Representative meets constituents

State Rep. Sasso, D-Cocoa Beach, hosts an Open House at his Cocoa Beach Office on the last Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. – noon at 32 North Orlando Avenue, Cocoa Beach, next to Roberto's. All constituents are welcome.

State Rep. Sasso, D-Cocoa Beach, has scheduled a series of town hall meetings for his constituents. Wedgefield/East Orange County: Aug. 6, 7-9 p.m. at the Country Club at Wedgefield; Titusville/Mims: Aug. 20, 6-8 p.m. at the Harry T. and Harriet V. Moore Center; Cocoa/Rockledge: Aug. 21, 6-8 p.m. at the Central Brevard Public Library; Merritt Island: Aug. 28, 6-8 p.m. at the Merritt Island Public Library

Sasso wants to meet with residents to hear about their concerns and suggestions for improving the community.

If residents have a specific concern, call his office at (321) 449-5111.

### Computer enthusiasts get together

The Titusville Computer Club will have a nurse from Parrish Medical Center present a Power Point show on "Senior Cardio" (rescheduled from June 26) on July 24 at 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 414 Pine St., Titusville, in the Fellowship Hall on

Palm Ave. Everyone is welcome. For further information call 267-3746.

### Farmers Market closed

The Titusville Farmers Market is closed until Sept. 26. Visit [www.brevardfarmersmarket.com](http://www.brevardfarmersmarket.com) for details on other farmers markets in Brevard County.

Park Avenue Baptist Church is excited about offering Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered program to help people overcome hurts, hang-ups and habits. Meetings are held every Thursday night at the House of Ashkelon, 1651 S. Park Avenue from 6:30-8:30 with childcare available from 6:15-8:45 p.m.

For more information call 269-6702.

### School board reschedules meeting

The Brevard County School Board has

**Support group meets**

Overeaters Anonymous (struggling with food addiction) weekly meetings are Monday, 7 p.m. at Hope Community Fellowship Church, 29029 Cheney Hwy, Titusville (Big Book meeting) and Saturdays, 9:15 a.m., Port St John Public Library, 6500 Carole Ave., Port St John (Beginner's/Discussion meeting). No dues, fees or weigh-ins. Call Diane at 266-1910.

**Come to seminar**

Learn about government-backed reverse mortgages by attending a free seminar July 24, 10 a.m. at the Clarion Hotel at 495 S. Washington Ave., Titusville. This seminar, for 62 and older Florida homeowners. Other seminar dates are July 23, 10 a.m. at Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach, 1300 N. Atlantic Ave., and July 22, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Melbourne's Doubletree Guests Suites, 1665 N. A1A in Indialantic.

**Are you reading?**

The Titusville Public Library holds a summer reading program called the Whole Wide World @ My Public Library with activities that will take children on a round the world tour.

The following are the main events held Thursday afternoons. These programs are for ages 3-12.

July 24 at 2:30 pm. Juggler Ron Anglin, will present his "Quite a Catch" program.

July 31 at 2:30 pm. "Finale Party" features the Kaleidoscope Storytellers, Terry Deer and Suzie Shaeffer. We'll go on an around the world story cruise on the S. S. Kaleidoscope. Reading certificates and free books will be handed out. Refreshments will be served.

Craft programs will be offered on

Tuesday afternoons as follows.

July 22 will feature European crafts; 1 p.m. Gingerbread House (ages 3-6); 2 p.m. Cork Trolls (ages 7-9); 3 p.m. Green Knight Helmet/Chainmail (ages 10 & up); July 29 will feature North American crafts.; 1 p.m. Navajo Sand Painting (ages 3-6); 2 p.m. North American Totem Pole (ages 7-9); 3 p.m. Mayan Worry Doll (ages 10 & up)

The programs are free. Space is limited, registration is required. Call 264-5026.

**Merritt Island Library has fun**

Merritt Island Public Library offers the following August programs:

Zumba Fitness Dance – You don't have to know how to dance. It's fun exercise and the way to get you moving. Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 10-10:30 a.m.

Friday Fitness – Muscle toning with quick results, all levels, 9-9:30 a.m., lite aerobic dance 9:30-10 a.m.

Go to all three of the above fitness classes for \$5, no special clothing or shoes needed.

On Friday, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. join Pearl Ollie for a Watercolor Art Workshop. The charge is \$5 for instruction and \$5 for supplies.

Aug. 21, 1-3 p.m. Learn how to can your veggies and fruits. The charge is \$5.

The Merritt Island Library is at 1195 Courtenay Pkwy. To register for classes or for more information, call them at 455-1369.

**Members support each other**

Al-Anon meetings in Titusville are Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m. at St. Gabriel's Youth Club, 490 Crofton in Titusville; Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. at St. Luke's Presbyterian, 125 Knox McRae Dr. and Fridays 10-11:30 a.m. at Good

Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2073 Garden St.

**Have fun at museum**

Celebrate National Picnic Month at the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science in Cocoa July 19, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Gates open at 9:30. Enjoy musicians, puppet shows, food and admission to the museum.

Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5.50 for seniors and military, \$4.50 for children 5-17 and children ages 4 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. The admission prices includes entrance to the museum, a ticket for a free hot dog and side of baked beans (from an old family recipe, while supplies last). Entertainment by One Street Over, Chris Kahl and Austin Church. For more info at (321) 632-1830.

**Learn boating**

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 49 offers a boating safety course July 26, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the flotilla in the Upland Building Titusville, SR 402 just north of Garden street and the bridge.

The course teaches federal and state boating requirements. Participants also receive a boater education ID card and quality for boating education discounts and membership in the auxiliary.

Those 21 and older, this program is approved for a Florida State Boater ID card.

Cost is \$40 and includes all materials and lunch. Free boat inspections are available. To register, send check to USCG AUX Flotilla 49, Care of Pam Wood, 3855 S. Ridge Circle, Titusville.

Call 267-6737 or 268-8856 for more details.



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www.BrevardPodiatryGroup.com

Risa L. Vinarub, DPM, FACFAS, FACFAOM  
Robert G. Rosen, DPM, FACFAS, FCCWS

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## DEATH NOTICES

ADAMS Charlotte, 87, of Titusville, died July 9. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

BAIRD-BIDDINGTON Jeanette, 88, of Merritt Island, died June 18. Arrangements by Florida Memorial Funeral Home in Rockledge.

BOZMAN Glendon, 78, of Merritt Island, died July 6. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Merritt island Funeral Home.

BRENDEL Frank, 88, of Port St. John, died July 9. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home.

BRIGHT William, 89, of Cocoa, died July 7. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Rockledge Funeral Home.

CARTER Stafford Sr., 86, of Titusville, died July 8. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home in Cocoa.

CLOUGH Sr. Lloyd, 80, of Mims, died July 5. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

COLE Curtis, 65, of Merritt Island, died July 1. Arrangements by Wylie-Baxley Funeral Home in Merritt Island.

CONLEY James, 57, of Titusville, died July 6. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

COWELL Reid, 59, of Merritt Island, died July 1. Arrangements by Wylie-Baxley Funeral Home in Merritt Island.

EDWARDS Raymond, 61, of Titusville, died July 10. Arrangements by Beckman Williamson Funeral Home in Rockledge/Viera.

FAHEY Joseph, 83, of Merritt island, died July 2. Arrangements by Beckman-Williamson Funeral Home in Cocoa Beach.

FERRIS Ronald, 72, of Cocoa, died July 4. Arrangements by Funeral Solutions in Cocoa.

FUNKHOUSER Doris, 78, of Titusville, died July 6. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial in Cocoa.

GAMBER David, 77, of Titusville, died July 7. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

GONZALEZ Amalia, 86, of Titusville, died July 3. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Rockledge Funeral Home.

GREEN Marvin, 73, of Cocoa, died July 8. Arrangements by Brevard Memorial Funeral Home.

HOUHA Bob, 79, of Merritt Island, died July 10. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Rockledge Funeral Home.

HUDGINS Thomas, 77, of Cocoa, died July 7. Arrangements by Florida Memorial Funeral Home in Rockledge.

HUDSON Coty, 13, of Mims, died July 4. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

KEYES Linda Ann, 66, of Cocoa, died July 4. Arrangements by East Coast Cremation of Rockledge.

KIPLING Rudyard, 84, of Merritt Island, died July 2. Arrangements by East Coast Cremation in Rockledge.

KROFLICH Marguerite, 69, of Merritt Island, died July 4. Arrangements by Florida Memorial Funeral Home in Rockledge.

MAURO Mario, 92, of Merritt Island, died July 2. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Funeral Home.

MUELLER Dorothy, 94, of Merritt Island, died July 9. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Merritt island Funeral Home.

MULDOWNEY John, 94, of Mims, died July 10. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

OSWALD Carmen, 83, of Titusville, died July 4. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

OSBURN Danby, 76, of Merritt Island, died July 8. Arrangements by East Coast Cremation in Rockledge.

PEACOCK Mary, 72, of Merritt Island, died July 4. Arrangements by South Brevard Funeral Home in Melbourne.

PERRONE Sr. Charles, 84, of Cocoa, died July 7. Arrangements by Atlantic Mortuary in Rockledge.

SCHAEFFNER Beatrice, 92, of Merritt Island, died July 8. Arrangements by Wylie Baxley Merritt Island Funeral Home.

SPICUZZA Lewis, 68, of Mims, died July 4. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

SPROWL Alvin, 59, of Titusville, died July 6. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

STRONG Mary, 85, of Cocoa, died July 7. Arrangements by Atlantic Mortuary in Rockledge.

SYLVESTER James, 79, of Titusville, died July 8. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

THOMAS Wayne, 72, of Titusville, died July 3. Arrangements by North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

TORGLER Sr., Charles, 75, of Merritt Island, died July 8. Arrangements by Wylie-Baxley Merritt island Funeral Home.

TREMBLAY Wilfred, 77, of Cocoa, died July 4. Arrangements by Atlantic Mortuary in Rockledge.

Georgia G. Hacker, 75, of Somerset, Ky., passed away on July 13 at the Sunrise Manor Nursing Home.

She was born Feb. 10, 1933 in Bedford, Ind., to the late Benton and Geneva Carter McMillan. She was a homemaker and member of the Park Avenue Baptist church, Titusville. She enjoyed sewing and spending time with her grandchildren. Mrs. Hacker is survived by her husband, Ford Hacker, whom she married on April 15, 1952 in Springville, Ind.; two sons, Larry (and Beverly) Hacker of Orlando and Timothy Hacker of Titusville; a daughter, Kimberly Hacker of Titusville; two brothers, Wendell McMillan and Gerald (and Janet) McMillan both of Bedford, Ind.; two grandchildren, Jason Hacker and Brian (and Sherry) Hacker; and a special friend and caregiver, Mindy Miller of Somerset.

Preceding her in death were her parents and a sister, Betty East.

Visitation for Mrs. Hacker was July 16 at the Lake Cumberland Funeral Home, then July 18 from 1-3 p.m. at the Day & Carter Mortuary in Bedford, Ind. Graaveside service will follow at the Lowder Cemetery in Bedford, Ind.

Robert P. Yannes passed away at his residence in Blakeslee, Penn., June 26. He was born on Dec. 4, 1928 in Hazleton, Penn. He graduated from Hazleton Vocational High School in 1946 and served honorably in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1946-1949. Mr. Yannes was a career employee of the Niagara Falls, NY School District until retirement in 1984, after which time he split his residence between Blakeslee and Titusville.

An avid golfer, he was also active with youth activities in the Niagara Falls area and also devoted his time in volunteer service to the football and swim teams at the Trott Vocational High School. He was also a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eaagles.

He was preceded in death by his parents Peter Yannes and Mary (Enama) of Hazleton and his brothers Peter Yananes (Beverly, NJ) and Emil Yannes (Hazleton).

He is survived by his sister Josephine Mylet (Lansdale, Penn.), John Yannes (Semour, Conn.), Joseph Yannes (St. Claire, Penn.) and Mary Ellen Davison (Kentucky) and many nieces and nephews.

Contributions in his memory can be made to the American Cancer Society. Service and interment are private.

# CLASSIFIED

**GARAGE SALE**

Sat. Aug. 9, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. to benefit Mission trip to Pakistan and India. Bridge Ministries, 1219 South St., Titusville. Contact Lila Jane for items to donate at 321 747-0116.

**LOST PET**

Reward for lost cat. May is a Russian blue with gray fur and golden eyes. Lost 6/29 on I-95 near Exit 215 in Titusville. Call (772) 562-8142 or (772) 321-5068.

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

Get it for less! The PAL resale store is refurbished and opens July 25, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Hydraulic floor jack. Portable 2 1/2 ton (5,000 lb.) capacity floor jack. GM brand. Lifts to 14 3/4 inches. With carrying case and two jack stands. \$30. Call 264-2208 and leave message.

All new, solid wood, cherry sleigh bed with mattress & a box spring. Still in box. With mattress warranty. Can deliver. (321) 525-6534.

15,000 watt Generac gas generator, like new (approx. 30 hrs run time), manuals and extras \$1,200. Call 321-267-7172.

5-piece living room set. Microfiber sofa, love seat, coffee table & 2 end tables. All new - still in

boxes. Can deliver. (321) 255-3415.

7-piece mission-style queen size bedroom set. Assembled, still in box. Quality dovetail construction. Retail, \$3,700. Must sell. \$1,150. Can deliver. Call 255-3415.

MATTRESS all new king set (pillowtop). Left in package. Will take \$225. (321) 525-6534.

Lift chair 3- position, brown, new, never used. \$495. Call 863-0151.

Motex Pricing Gun MX6600 L Plus, 2 lines each with 10 digits. 5 extra in cartridges and 7 rolls of tickets. Ex. Cond. \$45. Call Pam at 269-1070 Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30 p.m.

5-PIECE BEDROOM SET still boxed. Worth \$1,300, take \$550. Can deliver. Mattress available. 321 255-3415.

Stair stepper exercise machine: Schwinn HT310 electric motorized stair stepper. Has timer, speed control, different workout settings. Practically new. \$50. 264-2208, leave message.

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VW Beetle 2001, blk, 5 speed, sun roof, turbo, tan leather interior. 89,000 miles, new brakes, new A/C and new tires. \$6,500 OBO. Call 321-223-7060.

Grand Caravan 1998 wheelchair accessible, camp van. Ex. cond. Green with gray interior. \$10,000. Call 863-0151.

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### How do you set a good asking price? Put yourself in the buyer's shoes

Our first priority is to help you set a realistic price on your property. But like most of us who have invested untold hours of time and energy into our property it may be difficult to remain objective when it's time to price it and put it up for resale. There's a good reason for this. Usually property owners have much more than dollars and cents tied up in a home – an individual commitment that makes it a highly valued personal statement. But value becomes a reflection of the buyer's perspective when that property is put up for sale... and pride of ownership may not translate to market value.

Put yourself in the buyer's shoes when setting your price. When house hunting, you will shop the market, compare available homes, and try to find the very best value. Consequently, when you are ready

to list your home, step back and sharpen your focus. Look at the home objectively and price it competitively.

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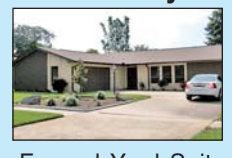
#### 4227 Fritzroy Reef Dr. Mims



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