25 cents

Vol 22 No. 48 HENDRY AND GLADES COUNTIES, FLORIDA

**SERVING THE SOUTHWESTERN LAKE SHORE AREA** 

SUNDAY, FEB. 25, 2018 8 PAGES



Bigger every year, Youth Livestock auction in Clewiston used to be too pricey for all except top businessmen. Now, everybody goes to support the kids.

## Vocation education in county growing "exponentially," director Mike Swindle reports

LaBELLE, FL (Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018) — Hendry County's new vo- 12:15 pm — Sugar Lime Blue cational education program, director Mike Swindle (below, file photo) 1:00 pm – Hendry County Cattlemen's Youth Rodeo reported to the Board of Education tonight, "with some very forwardthinking leadership, with our principals, Mr. Kelley and Mr. Sanchez, Hendry County Rodeo Grounds and with our superintendent, "is growing exponentially."

1:00 pm – The Dance Company

He said principals have aggressively pursued the vocational ed program, recognizing the benefit of the industry certifications, and putting the right teachers in place that make sense for Hendry County, such as 2:00 pm - 64 to Grayson Gospel Band nursing, computer skills, and in agriculture. The top industry certification teacher was Mr. Lutenhouse at LaBelle Middle School.

The certification curriculum is designed by industry, with the intent 3:15 pm - Tru Country Band

of turning out students who meet industry expectations.

This month, February, Swindle told the board, a certified nursing assistant program for adults would begin, expecting 42 people who've re- Park Entertainment ends 4pm served spots to fill the first 15 openings.

The state program under which Swindle functions "has't been around very long, maybe six years, maximum," he notes.

"Our number of industry-certified students in the district the previous

year was about 120," Swindle reported. By the end of last year, the number of industry certifications of Hendry county students had swollen to more than 380.

Their certifications are responsible for about \$75,000 in revenue to the district from the industry funders. He said \$149,000 has been received. The income has to be reinvested into the program "so that students can continue to learn the skills for industry certification.

Swindle went on, "Some phenomenal things are happening, and both principals are aware of them.

"All principals are looking at it, realizing the benefit, and continuing

to position themselves for growth." We've expanded our class for welding opportunities, and enlarged the class for adults, and allowed high school students to enroll with them,





## Remaining Swamp Cabbage festival event schedule

Sunday, February 25th

8:30 am - River Cruise Heritage Museum, Barron Park Riverfront

9:00 am - Park opens to visitors

10:00 am - Press On

10:30 am - Roger Jokela

11:00 am - River Cruise Heritage Museum, Barron Park Riverfront

11:15 am - 2018 Queen and Princess Intro & Performances

11:30 am – Ayla Lynn

1:00 pm - The Dance Company

1:30 pm - River Cruise Heritage Museum, Barron Park Riverfront

2:45 pm - Athletic Ambitions

4:00 pm - River Cruise Heritage Museum, Barron Park Riverfront





Presents

A TWO HOUR CRUISE

M/V RIVER QUEEN





Choices include: Manatee Cruise [by March 15], Eco River Tour, Sunset Cruise, Birthday and Anniversary, or Your Special Event for Up to 30 Passengers.

WINNER RESPONSIBLE FOR OWN REFRESHMENTS

BENEFIT

HANDICAP RAMP & ADA ACCESS TO MUSEUM'S AIKEN/RIDER HOUSE & JUDGE H. A. RIDER LAW OFFICE

TICKETS: \$5.00 each [\$4.20 is a Donation]

500 Tickets

DRAWING at LaBelle's Barron Park at 52nd ANNUAL SWAMP CABBAGE FESTIVAL [Winner Will Be Contacted if Not Present] Sunday, 25 February 2018, at 2:00 p.m.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MUSEUM NOW or FROM MEMBERS

CONTACT info@labelleheritagemuseum.org or CALL (863)674-0034

LaBelle Heritage Museum, Inc., is an IRS Code, Section 501(c)(3)non-profit corporation