

DeLand veteran, 71, dies in Thanksgiving Day accident

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# Local

SECTION C

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Mark Lane



FOOTNOTE

## More than a 1-day holiday

I am working today. No, I don't need your pity. I even kind of like it. Twenty-four percent of the work force — almost one worker in four, is on the job today — up from 21 percent last year — according to this year's BNA Thanksgiving Holiday Practices Survey. The survey does not, however, say how hard any of us outside of the retail industry will be laboring.

I enjoy the fact that Thanksgiving takes place on a day that seems calculated to cause the maximum amount of disruption to the workweek.

Were I designing a holiday, Thursday would be my first pick. If a committee were designing a holiday, it would be a dreary debate between usual supporters of Fridays or Mondays.

I'm thankful that the holiday is always on Thursday. That way, you absolutely must pay attention to it. No way around this. And that's for the better.

In practice, this makes Thanksgiving a three-day, three-phase holiday. These are:

**Day 1, The National Day of Travel or National Day of Prep (check one):** The day before Thanksgiving — or T Minus One — deserves to be a holiday with its own name.

By this day, everyone in the nation is expected to have put on the sorting hat and joined the ranks of either hosts or guests.

Each job has its own demands. Hosts must prepare. Guests must travel. This puts everyone on the move.

As a journalist, I'm sort of a perpetual guest, anyway. I visit places I do not live and expect people to talk with me about what they're doing. This means I am professionally trained for the rigorous demands of being tolerable company.

**Day 2, Thanksgiving:** I am a great defender of Thanksgiving. Which is pretty light duty since everybody likes the holiday. Still, recognition of Thanksgiving is under constant threat from Christmas and nearby holidays.

We must be vigilant. I get grumpy whenever holiday decorations go up before the last bit of pie is consumed. I do not believe in stores putting Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas stuff all together. As though, right after the baseball season ends, there's this holiday called Hallo-thanksmas.

Thanksgiving asks no more than that we eat in the presence of other people. Family would be excellent. But, if that can't happen, with friends, dorm-mates, co-workers, boyfriend/girlfriend's family or everyone who responds to the vegan potluck announcement you posted on Facebook... whatever works.

Bonus: No cards to send, no gifts to give that can't be consumed on the spot. And a newspaper the size of a suitcase arrives. Why aren't more holidays like this?

**Day 3, Black Friday:** I do not believe in Black Friday.

This should be a day dedicated to driving people to airports, eating leftovers and building with the Lego pieces that the kids already have, to prove they don't need any more.

A day for taking unflattering photographs of people you don't often see, bringing deserts into office break rooms and asking young people about the guests they brought by the house for dinner yesterday until you notice they are wishing to dissolve with discomfort. Those kinds of things.

Should people try to prod you into anything more involved, I suggest feigning unconsciousness. Moving yourself in front of a television can lend this believability.

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# Area bucks officer-suit trend

By JAY STAPLETON  
STAFF WRITER

## Wrongful-arrest claims rise elsewhere

**DAYTONA BEACH** — A man who filed a wrongful-arrest lawsuit against the city after he spent 20 days in jail awaiting trial on a theft charge will have to go back to the drawing board if he wants to win in court.

Circuit Judge William Par-

sons last week dismissed the lawsuit Madu Chinello filed back in October, giving Chinello a chance to refile.

Chinello, 50, is seeking an unspecified amount in damages for a traffic stop by Daytona Beach police that a trial-court judge

found was not made legally

"There was no probable cause to stop (my) vehicle," Chinello said in court documents. As a result of "emotional duress, false imprisonment and lost wages," he claims he lost \$2,000 in pay and tools worth \$300.

City and county attorneys say such suits are not automatic wins for plaintiffs, although claims for money damages are sometimes filed after criminal charges are dropped.

In other cities, including New York, lawsuits for wrongful ar-

rests and excessive force have skyrocketed over the last decade.

Experts there have attributed the recession and efforts to settle such suits by insurance carriers as possible reasons. Attorneys for police agencies here have not

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News-Journal file

**TAMPA:** The city sits below Bunnell at No. 3 in land area at 112.07 square miles, but it makes up for the loss in special events, such as Gasparilla, above, and a big population.



Associated Press file

**MIAMI:** The city that's No. 2 in population is famous for international trade and entertainment — a movie is being filmed, above — if not for its square miles.



News-Journal file

**ORLANDO:** The city ranks No. 5 in land area. For example, its Lake Eola Park, above, with its surroundings and activities, draws people downtown.

# Sizing up Bunnell

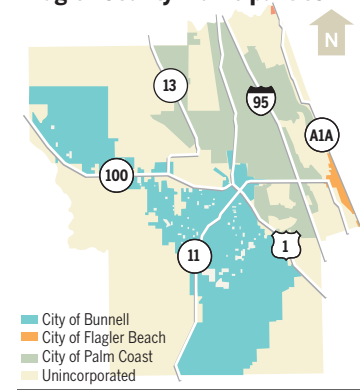


News-Journal/DAVID MASSEY

**BUNNELL:** Quite literally, the crossroads of Flagler County is the intersection of U.S. 1 and State Road 100. Bunnell ranks as Florida's second-largest city in physical size.

## More room in the county seat makes for a good fit

Flagler County municipalities



News-Journal

By AARON LONDON  
STAFF WRITER

**BUNNELL** — Tampa, Miami and Orlando are major cities in Florida and key tourist areas. They also have something else in common: They're all smaller than Bunnell.

After a series of voluntary annexations from 2005 to 2007, Flagler's county seat became the second-largest city in the state in land area, trailing only Jacksonville.

But while Bunnell's 135.9 square miles — compared to around 4 square miles before the annexations — put it near the top of the size list, city leaders are determined to retain the small-town feel for the 2,722 residents.

By comparison, Palm Coast encompasses just under 51 square miles while Daytona Beach comes in at just under 59 square miles in size.

In City Manager Armando Martinez's office at the Government Services Building, a large map of Flagler County dominates one wall, with Bunnell's extensive boundaries highlighted. It's something he likes to show to business owners and developers who might be interested in relocating to Flagler County.

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### Big, Bigger, Biggest

*It might seem strange to see Bunnell on a list of the largest cities in Florida, but some of the other names are more familiar.*

**Top 5 largest cities by land area (square miles):**

1. Jacksonville: 757.68
2. Bunnell: 135.9
3. Tampa: 112.07
4. Cape Coral: 105.19
5. Orlando: 93.5

**Top 5 largest cities by population:**

1. Jacksonville: 735,617
2. Miami: 362,470
3. Tampa: 303,447
4. St. Petersburg: 248,232
5. Hialeah: 226,419

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

■ Bunnell's history predates Flagler County's formation: **INSIDE, PAGE 6C** ■

ON THE SPOT



**Caitlin Imhoff, 17**

**JOB:** Student  
**BORN IN:** Columbia, Mo.  
**NOW LIVES IN:** DeLand, two years  
**IF YOU COULD TRAVEL ANYWHERE, WHERE WOULD IT BE?** France

—Amanda Vandiver

# Community gathers for Thanksgiving meals

By ANNIE MARTIN  
STAFF WRITER

Neta Phillips spent her birthday preparing a gift — a home-cooked Thanksgiving meal, complete with turkey, stuffing, potatoes and pie — for others.

It's the 10th year Phillips has helped organize the annual Thanksgiving feast at First United Methodist Church in New Smyrna Beach. She and hundreds of other volunteers planned to serve about 500 diners Thursday. By early afternoon, the church hall was packed and nearly every seat filled.

A total of 13 different church-

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es pitch in to prepare, serve, set up and fund the dinner, which is open to anyone. Volunteers worked almost all day Tuesday and Wednesday to prepare the meal, which is totally home-cooked, said Cheryl Davis, a coordinator for the feast.

More than a dozen servers stood shoulder-to-shoulder in the kitchen Thursday, scooping food onto plates. Others deliv-

ered the food to people at the tables or waited at the door to greet the diners.

"Everybody is pooped at the end of the day," Davis said. "I just think it's great, the compassion and the love the people who participate have for their community."

The diners included 101-year-old Henry Hoppe, who said he's the oldest living person in New Smyrna Beach. Hoppe ate with his friend Jean Shottling, 86.

"I'm thankful I can walk and

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News-Journal/DAVID MASSEY

James Dampman gets a piece of dessert from Taylor Harrel, 16, a volunteer at the Salvation Army of Daytona Beach on Thursday.

Magenta + Cyan Yellow Black