

MOUNT DORA | W.T. BLAND LIBRARY

Wildflower exhibit opens Tuesday

Special to the Daily Commercial

The opening of the John Moran Wildflower Exhibit will be held at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, at the W.T. Bland Public Library.

Special guest speaker will be Lisa Roberts, executive director of the Florida Wildflower Foundation.

The exhibit includes 15 photos of native Florida wildflowers that will be on display until March 16.

The free event is sponsored in part by the Lake County Library System and the Mount Dora Library Association.

For information, call 352-735-7180, ext. 5, or go to www.mylakelibrary.org.

More than 3,000 species are found in La Florida, "land of flowers" — which was named by Juan Ponce de Leon when he arrived on Easter in 1513.

"John's beautiful work is just a sampling of what's found on Florida's roadsides and in its wild places. The shots are sure to entice more interest in exploring our natural side," Roberts said.

Moran is a highly regarded nature photographer whose work has appeared in *National Geographic*, *Life*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Smithsonian* and *The New York Times Magazine*, as well as on the cover of the

National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida.

He has been the National Press Photographers Association's U.S. Photographer of the Year, and his photo of Paynes Prairie State Park alligators at dusk was the top-placed American photograph in the United Nations Earth Summit photo contest.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching lives with Florida native wildflowers through research, planting and education projects.

For information, go to www.flawildflowers.org.