

Massachusetts family trust buys 3,280-acre ranch in Lake County

By Jack Snyder

OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

The Sulphur Springs Ranch, 3,280 acres off State Road 44 in east Lake County, has been purchased by a Massachusetts family trust for \$4.428 million.

This was the second major land purchase by the trust. Last year, the trust purchased 2,037 acres to the southeast of the ranch for \$5 million. This acreage has a mile of frontage on State Road 46 and the Wekiva River.

Maury Carter, of Maury L. Carter & Associates, an Orlando commercial real estate office, said both tracts were purchased as long-term investments and for cattle and timber production.

Carter and Robert O'Brien, both brokers with the Carter firm, han-

dled the transactions.

The ranch, with six miles of frontage on Black Water Creek and three miles of frontage on Sulphur Run Creek, had been owned by local investors holding the property at Sulphur Springs Ranch Ltd.

The purchase price was \$1,350 an acre.

Carter's firm also handled two recent major land deals in Osceola County. Late last year, foreign and domestic investors bought the 10,084-acre Triple E Ranch for \$8.5 million.

Earlier this month, Appleby Corp., N.V., an offshore corporation, purchased 10,337 acres to the southeast of the Triple E Ranch for \$6 million.

Both purchases were made for long-term investment, Carter said.

