

SPORTS | B1

FLORIDA STATE PICKS TAGGART AS FOOTBALL HEAD COACH



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SPURRIER, MANNING IN COLLEGE HALL OF FAME

Conyers resigns amid harassment allegations

By Corey Williams and Richard Lardner
The Associated Press

DETROIT — Democratic Rep. John Conyers resigned from Congress on Tuesday after a nearly 53-year career, becoming the first Capitol Hill politician to lose his job in the torrent of sexual misconduct allegations sweeping through the nation's workplaces.

The 88-year-old civil rights leader and longest-serving member of the House announced what he referred to as his "retirement" on Detroit talk radio, while continuing to deny he groped or sexually harassed women who worked for him.

"My legacy can't be compromised or diminished in any way by what we're going

through now," said the congressman, who called into the radio show from the hospital where he was taken last week after complaining of light-headedness. "This, too, shall pass. My legacy will continue through my children."

He endorsed his son John Conyers III to succeed him.

Conyers, who was first elected in 1964 and went on to become a founding member in 1971 of the Congressional Black Caucus, easily won reelection last year to his 27th term in his heavily Democratic district in and around Detroit.

But after being publicly accused by one woman after another in recent weeks, he faced growing calls to resign

See CONYERS, A6



LOCAL & STATE | A3

HURRICANE WAS BIG CHALLENGE FOR COUNTY

IOC: Russians can compete at Olympics, but without flag

By Graham Dunbar
The Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — Russian athletes will be allowed to stand on the medal podium at the Winter Olympics — just not with their anthem playing or their nation's flag rising above them.

The International Olympic Committee barred Russia and its sports leaders from the upcoming games in South Korea after its lead investigator concluded members of the Russian government concocted a doping scheme at the 2014 Sochi Games that "caused unprecedented damage to Olympism and to sports."

Not welcome in Pyeongchang next year

will be any sign of the Russian Olympic Committee or any member of its sports ministry, which was responsible for what investigators concluded was a top-to-bottom scheme of "manipulation and cheating" to ensure Russians could dope at the Olympics on their home turf and not get caught.

The IOC punishment did leave room for many Russians to compete under the name "Olympic Athlete from Russia" or OAR. They would have to pass drug tests to prove they were clean and also did not benefit from the Sochi scheme.

If they win, the Olympic flag would be raised and the

See IOC, A7

Trump will deem Jerusalem capital

Decision comes despite vociferous international warnings, will upend decades of US foreign policy

By Matthew Lee and Josef Federman
The Associated Press

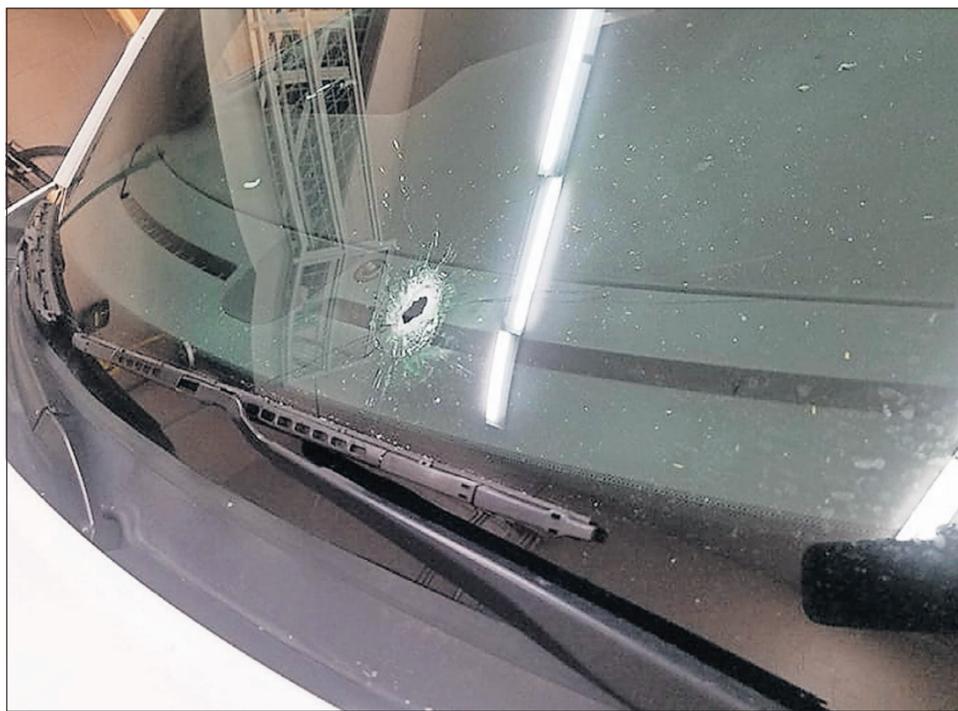
WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump forged ahead Tuesday with plans to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital despite intense Arab, Muslim and European opposition to a move that would upend decades of U.S.

See TRUMP, A7



Palestinians burn a poster of the U.S. President Donald Trump during a protest Tuesday in Bethlehem, West Bank. (MAHMOUD ILLEAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

Shots fired



A Leesburg Police patrol car has a bullet hole in the windshield after a man reportedly shot at an officer Monday night. (LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT)

Police hunt for gunman who shot at Leesburg officer

By Frank Stanfield
frankstanfield@dailycommercial.com

LEESBURG — Police are looking for a man who shot at an officer Monday night.

The incident happened at 10:37 p.m. when Officer Travonte Kitchen, 25, stopped a man on a bicycle going north on U.S. Highway 441 because he did not have lights on his bike. The area is near Herlong Park and the Cutrale citrus plant.

Silent dash cam video shows the patrol car coming up behind the bicyclist, who was wearing a light-colored hooded sweatshirt. The man pulls his hand out of his pocket and holds up his left arm as if trying to motion the car around him. He then puts his left hand on his left leg and keeps pedaling. He holds up his left arm again as he passes

a blue hospital sign. Finally, he pulls off onto the shoulder and straddles the bike briefly before letting it fall to the ground.

The police report says Kitchen kept telling him to show his hands.

The bicyclist holds both hands up, then reaches behind him with both hands to pull up his drooping pants. He raises his left arm again, all the while fumbling around with right hand in his right pocket. Suddenly, he sprints across the front of the police car, just a few feet away.

The video shows the man raising his right hand and firing his weapon. The video shows a spray of dust at his feet, apparently where a bullet from Kitchen's gun hits the ground.

The radio traffic, which starts out as crisp and routine, is especially dramatic.

Kitchen almost immediately asks for backup, and there is some back and forth about where he is located.

Within seconds Kitchen shouts: "Shots fired, Leesburg!" There is some garble but it sounds like, "...looks like he's got a gun!"

The dispatcher asks for his location.

"He's at lake by Cutrale. He's taking off."

"Description?" the dispatcher asks.

"Black pants, gray shirt, sweatshirt."

Kitchen then explains that the suspect crossed the highway on foot toward Lake Street and was headed toward Main Street. He gave chase in his patrol car.

Police have released photos

See SHOTS, A6

NATION & WORLD

IN BRIEF

MADRID Spain seizes cocaine with street value of \$250 million

Spain has announced its second-biggest cocaine seizure ever, a near six metric-ton haul with a street value estimated at 210 million euros (\$250 million).

Spanish Interior Minister Juan Ignacio Zoido said Tuesday the highly pure cocaine was found in a container on a ship that docked in the Mediterranean port of Algeciras, about 400 miles south of Madrid.

In a statement, the Interior Ministry said the drug was concealed inside boxes of bananas in a ship from Colombia heading to Barcelona.

Authorities have arrested three men — the alleged Spanish ringleader and his suspected Portuguese and Honduran accomplices.

BEIRUT Syria says it shot down three Israeli missiles

Syrian air defense units shot down three Israeli missiles that were targeting a military post near the capital, Damascus, only days after the Jewish state hit a military position nearby, Syria's state news agency SANA reported on Tuesday.

SANA did not say whether some of the missiles hit the target and did not give any word on casualties. It said the attack occurred around midnight on Monday. There was no immediate Israeli comment.

Elsewhere in Syria, an explosion ripped through a van near the central city of Homs, killing at least eight people. The Islamic State group claimed Tuesday's attack in Akarma, a government stronghold south of the city.

NEW YORK Netflix writes accused actor Masterson out of comedy

Netflix said Tuesday that it has written actor Danny Masterson out of the comedy "The Ranch" with Los Angeles police investigating sexual assault claims against him that date back to the 2000s.

Masterson responded that he was disappointed with the decision, saying that in the current climate people are presumed guilty when they are accused.

He has denied the allegations by three women that they were assaulted by him. Masterson is best known for his role on "That '70s Show," and he has worked with actor Ashton Kutcher and Debra Winger on the Netflix series.

The Associated Press

LOTTERY

Monday, Dec. 4
Fantasy 5: 2-6-18-31-32

Tuesday, Dec. 5
Pick 4
Afternoon: 5-6-5-6
Evening: 0-2-6-1

Pick 3
Afternoon: 5-9-3
Evening: 9-3-7

Deportations rise, border arrests fall

Data from Trump's first year shows results of anti-immigration rhetoric, policies

By Elliot Spagat and Jill Colvin
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown has produced a spike in detentions by deportation officers across the country during his first months in office. At the same time, arrests along the Mexican border have fallen sharply, apparently as fewer people have tried to sneak into the U.S.

Figures released by the Department of Homeland Security on Tuesday show Trump is delivering on his pledge to more strictly control immigration and suggest that would-be immigrants are getting the message to not even think about crossing the border illegally.

Even as border crossings decline, however, Trump continues to push for his promised wall along the border — a wall that critics say is unnecessary and a waste of cash.

The new numbers, which offer the most complete snapshot yet of immigration enforcement under Trump, show that Border Patrol arrests plunged to a 45-year low in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, with far fewer people being apprehended between official border crossings.

In all, the Border Patrol made 310,531 arrests in fiscal 2016, down 25 percent from a year earlier and the lowest level since 1971.

Officials have credited that drop to Trump's harsh anti-immigration rhetoric and policies, including widely publicized arrests of immigrants living in the U.S. illegally.

"There's a new recognition by would-be immigrants that the U.S. is not hanging up a welcome sign," said Michelle Mittelstadt, of the non-partisan Migration Policy Institute think tank. She pointed to Trump's rhetoric, as well as his policies. "I think there's a sense that the U.S. is less hospitable."

But Mittelstadt also stressed



A woman holds up a sign outside the Capitol in support of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program Tuesday on Capitol Hill in Washington. [JACQUELYN MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

that the numbers are part of a larger trend that began well before Trump's inauguration: Mexico's improving economy and more opportunities at home have stemmed the tide of people flowing across the border for work.

"You've really had a realignment in migration from Mexico," she said, noting that the numbers of Mexicans apprehended in 2017 fell by 34 percent from the previous year.

The decline in border crossings continues a trend that began during the Obama administration, and marks a dramatic drop from 2000, when more than 1.6 million people were apprehended crossing the southwest border alone.

Overall, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said, deportations over the last year dropped about 6 percent from the previous year — a number tied to the sharp decline in border crossings as well as a backlog in the immigration courts that process deportations.

But that number masks a striking uptick in arrests away from the border. Those arrests have sparked fear and anger in immigrant communities, where many worry the government is now targeting them.

ICE said the number of "interior removals" — people who are apprehended away

from the border — jumped 25 percent this year to 81,603. And the increase is 37 percent after Trump's inauguration compared to the same period the year before.

"The president made it clear in his executive orders: There's no population off the table," Thomas Homan, ICE's acting director, told reporters in Washington on Tuesday. "If you're in this country illegally, we're looking for you and we're going to look to apprehend you."

In February, former Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, who now serves as Trump's chief of staff, scrapped the Obama administration's policy of limiting deportations to people who pose a public safety threat, convicted criminals and those who have crossed the border recently, effectively making anyone in the country illegally vulnerable to apprehension.

Trump campaigned as an immigration hard-liner, accusing Mexico of sending rapists and other criminals to the U.S. and promising to build "a great wall on our southern border." As president, he has signed a series of travel bans aimed at curtailing who can enter the country, pushed to overhaul the legal immigration system and tried to crack down on so-called sanctuary cities that refuse to share information about illegal immigrants with federal

authorities.

He has also pushed for funding for his border wall.

The new numbers, which include the last months of the Obama administration, provide new ammunition to Trump critics who question the need to spend billions of dollars on a border wall if crossings are already dropping. But officials insisted the wall was still needed.

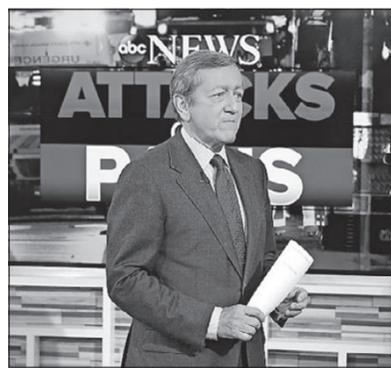
"Yeah, the traffic is down. That's a good thing," said Ronald Vitiello, the acting deputy commissioner of Customs and Border Protection. But, "to take the 1,000 arrests a day to say that we're finished, it's not stating what the facts are. We're still arresting nearly 1,000 people a day coming across the border," he said.

Democratic Rep. Bennie Thompson of Mississippi saw it differently.

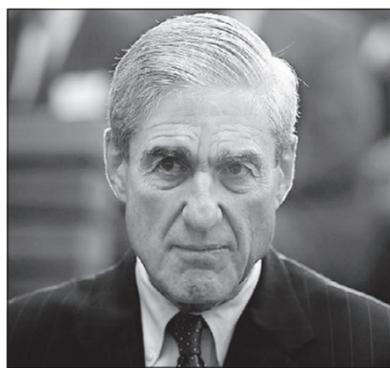
"The administration can try to twist these numbers into whatever they please," he said. "But the fact remains that after unprecedented investments in border security over the last decade, the border has become harder to cross and fewer people are trying."

Despite the overall decline in border arrests, the numbers have increased every month since May and many of those apprehended have been families and unaccompanied children.

DATELINES



Correspondent Brian Ross speaks on "Good Morning America," which airs on the ABC Television Network, on Nov. 16, 2015, in New York. Ross will no longer cover stories involving President Donald Trump following his erroneous report last Friday on former national security adviser Michael Flynn. Ross was suspended for four weeks without pay over the weekend. [FRED LEE/ABC VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]



Former FBI Director Robert Mueller is shown at FBI Headquarters on Oct. 28, 2013, in Washington. The special counsel investigation into possible coordination between President Donald Trump's campaign and Russia during the 2016 presidential election has cost more than \$6.7 million so far, according to a financial report released Tuesday. [ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]



President Gerhart Holzingger meets with the Austrian Constitutional Court June 13, 2008, in Vienna, Austria. Austria's Constitutional Court has ruled that same-sex couples will be allowed to marry by the beginning of 2019, bringing the country in line with more than a dozen other western European nations. [ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]

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LOCAL & STATE

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NEWS BRIEFS

TAVARES Sullivan, Campione staying in top spots

It was an easy choice for the Lake County Commission when deciding their 2018 leadership positions. They stood pat with the current officers.

The board voted unanimously to keep Tim Sullivan as chairman and Leslie Campione as vice chairwoman. Both were first selected for their posts last year.

Sullivan represents portions of west Lake County including west Leesburg, Groveland and Mascotte. He has been commissioner since 2012.

Campione represents the areas of Mount Dora and Eustis and first joined the commission in 2010. She served as chairwoman of the commission in 2012 and 2013.

TALLAHASSEE Grand jury to investigate FSU pledge's death

Leon County's grand jury will meet later this month to consider charges in the death of a Florida State University fraternity pledge.

State attorney Jack Campbell said Tuesday the grand jury decided last week that it would investigate Andrew Coffey's death. Florida State and Tallahassee police are also investigating the death.

Coffey was a 20-year old junior and a pledge at Pi Kappa Phi. He died on Nov. 4 after he was found unresponsive after a party. Florida State quickly responded by indefinitely suspending its fraternities and sororities.

Campbell said people who attended the party have been subpoenaed to testify before the grand jury, which will meet in secret Dec. 18-19.

Tallahassee Police said indications showed alcohol was involved in Coffey's death. The state Medical Examiner hasn't released its report.

PENSACOLA Deputies: Couple left boy alone in trailer 2 months

A Florida couple who authorities say left a minor living alone in a trailer without furniture and often without food is charged with child neglect.

The Pensacola News Journal reports 34-year-old Jennifer Nichols and 32-year-old Joshua Sanders were arrested Nov. 30.

A witness told Escambia County sheriff's deputies that the couple began renting the trailer in September and she realized at some point that the child was living alone.

A police report didn't list the boy's age. He told investigators he was occasionally able to contact the couple and they would bring a small amount of money and a meal or two, but he said he often couldn't reach them.

The couple was being held in jail Tuesday and jail records didn't indicate if they have a lawyer.

GULFPORT Skydiving Santa crashes on beach with Elf on a Shelf

A skydiving Santa looking to make a grand entrance while taking an Elf on the Shelf to a 9-year-old girl crashed into a tree and light pole before hitting a Florida beach and breaking his leg.

News outlets say George Krokus was dressed as Santa Claus during a Saturday skydive to deliver toys to the Tampa Bay Beach Bums Operation Santa Charity Volleyball Tournament.

Madison Spiers saw the crash and later found a note from the "elf" named Kristoff who visits her house during the holidays. It said, "As we were about to land this big tree jumped right out in front of us!"

She tells Bay News 9 that Kristoff is no stranger to adventure.

See BRIEFS, A4

County weathers challenges in 2017

By Carlos E. Medina
cmedina@dailyccommercial.com

TAVARES — As the year nears its end, we tend to reflect on the highs and lows and prepare for the next year and the challenges it may bring.

Lake County was no different as it reviewed 2017 and looked forward to 2018 during the annual "State of the County" presentation at Tuesday's County Commission meeting.

The biggest impact to the county was Hurricane Irma and the damage the storm wrought throughout the county in September. The

storm caused more than \$41 million in damage to residential and commercial property. The Astor area stayed flooded for weeks due to Irma and subsequent rain. Debris piles littered almost every front yard as crews struggled to haul them away. Pushed to their limits by the widespread disaster, county departments responded to the challenge.

"When a county or a community is put under stress, how they react is a reflection of the county. I think we as a community really came together to overcome the

See WEATHER, A4



Flooding from Hurricane Irma covers Claire Street in Astor on Oct. 20. The storm was one of the biggest challenges faced by the county in 2017. [WHITNEY LEHNECKER / DAILY COMMERCIAL]

Feeling the love



Longtime south Lake County resident, historian and author Doris Bloodsworth was inducted into the Lake County Women's Hall of Fame during a ceremony on Tuesday at the Lake County Board of County Commission Chambers in Tavares. [ROXANNE BROWN / DAILYCOMMERCIAL]

Bloodsworth inducted into Lake County Women's Hall of Fame

By Roxanne Brown
roxanne.brown@dailyccommercial.com

TAVARES — Doris Bloodsworth has a love for Lake County, even compiling a top 10 list with her reasons.

Among her highlights are the hills, history rich downtown districts, recreation and entertainment opportunities, schools and family friendly communities.

There are other more personal reasons, such as that she and her sisters grew up, went to school, worshipped, said goodbye to their parents, fell in love and got married in Lake County.

See FAME, A4



Doris Bloodsworth, center, was joined Tuesday by husband, John Bloodsworth, right, daughter Jennifer Bloodsworth, left, and many other family members, friends and business colleagues at a ceremony inducting her into the Lake County Women's Hall of Fame.

Leesburg man gets probation for threats

By Katie Pohlman
Gatehouse Media

OCALA — A Leesburg man pleaded guilty Tuesday to sending a woman text messages saying he would kill her and anyone she was with.

George Livingston Van Noy, 40, who was arrested May 7 in southeast Marion County, was sentenced to three years of probation. He must complete 150 community service



Livingston Van Noy

hours, complete an anger management course and have no contact with the victim.

Van Noy was arrested after he left the woman in fear for her life, according to a Marion County Sheriff's Office report. The woman told deputies that if she had not called them, she believed she and her child would have been seriously injured. She said Van Noy had a history of being verbally abusive toward her.

When police read the messages out loud to Van Noy he "by excited utterance" said he did send the messages. Van Noy told police they were taking the phrase "kill you tonight" too seriously, though, according to the report.

He said he made the threats to the victim because she was not responding to his text messages or phone calls.

The child told police he also believed Van Noy would hurt the woman and him.

Creation of slavery memorial gets boost in Senate

By Lloyd Dunkelberger
The News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — A bill that would lead to the creation of a slavery memorial at the Florida Capitol began moving Tuesday in the state Senate.

The Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee unanimously approved the bill (SB 286), sponsored by Sen. Darryl Rouson, a St. Petersburg Democrat who said the memorial would recognize "the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality and inhumanity of slavery" in Florida and rest of the nation.

He said the memorial would "honor the nameless and forgotten men and women and children who have gone unrecognized for their undeniable and weighty contributions to this state and country."

The vote was significant because the House voted 118-0 during the 2017 legislative session to authorize a slavery memorial, but the proposal never received a hearing in the Senate. The bill approved by the committee Tuesday is filed for the 2018 session, which starts Jan. 9.

Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Chairman Dennis Baxley, R-Ocala, opposed the previous slavery-memorial legislation, raising questions about its intent and design.

But Baxley said working with Rouson has helped resolve his concerns.

"For the record, I would say he and I have been on the same page," Baxley said. "I never opposed the monument. We should all recognize those who came before us and paid a great price for what we have

received."

Baxley said he wanted to make sure the memorial focused "on the people who endured slavery rather than the institution itself."

He also said he was concerned about giving "a free hand" to state agencies involved in the design of the memorial. "If we're going to do it, let's do it right," he said.

In his discussions with Rouson, Baxley said he is more comfortable with the intent and the process for designing the slavery memorial and finding a place for it on the state Capitol grounds.

Under the bill, the Department of Management Services would be the lead agency in designing the memorial and designating a place for it. The agency would work in conjunction with the Florida Historical Commission and the

Division of Historical Resources, which is part of the Florida Department of State.

The Department of Management Services, which oversees state facilities, would be required to deliver a report on the slavery memorial to Gov. Rick Scott and legislative leaders by Nov. 1, with the 2019 Legislature reviewing the proposal and providing funding for the project.

In supporting Rouson's bill, Baxley, who is the descendant of a Confederate soldier and who has defended the Confederate flag and memorials, said he voted for the legislation "with an expectation of permanency" for all historical memorials and monuments.

"And I hope that we can keep growing mutual respect

See SENATE, A4

INMEMORY

Funeral Services Funeral Services

Michael Carroll



Michael Carroll, age 29, passed away December 1, 2017 after losing his personal battle with his addictions. Mike had spent many years fighting his demons before he lost the battle. Michael had worked as a cook, a server and a bartender for several years. Michael was a kind and generous person who loved life and his family. He was a beautiful soul with a big heart who touched the lives of everyone he met. Mike leaves behind a broken-hearted family,

his father Steven Carroll and his stepmom Chasi Carroll of Fruitland Park, His sister Jackie Carroll of Eustis, His sister Meghan Kruppenbacher of Fruitland Park and five nephews, Dexter, Logan, Hayden, Damien and Preston. He is preceded in death by his mother Catherine Carroll and his Grandfather Jerry Hollenbeck. There will be a memorial service at 1:00 PM on Friday, December 8, 2017 at Lake Christian Church in Eustis. In lieu of flowers the family suggests you make a donation to your local drug treatment facility or to the Christian Care Center. <http://www.christiancarecenter.org>

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Barbara Ann Tyson

Barbara Ann Tyson, life time resident of Groveland, Florida, born October 25, 1941, passed away December 1, 2017. She is survived by two younger sisters. Kathy Wells, Hawkinsville, GA, Charlene McKay, Osteen,

FL, her daughter, Cheryl "Lynn" Gilbert married to Robert of Groveland, her grandson, Timothy Gilbert married to Adri and her great grand daughter River Gail Gilbert all of Groveland.

Today's Services

DAVIS - Charles Ernest Davis, A Masonic Service will be held today, 1:30 PM at Beyers Funeral Home, Leesburg.
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BRIEFS

From Page A3

The elf sported a bandaged leg while staying with the recovering Krokus.

MIAMI Illegal landfill leads to charges for Florida man

An illegal Florida landfill piled with trash 40 feet high has led to criminal charges against the property owner.

The Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office said in a

news release Tuesday that 55-year-old Gelio Justino Hernandez is charged with operating an illegal landfill and failing to obtain proper permits.

Authorities say the site covering more than 3 acres is piled with wood, concrete, oil buckets, roofing materials, tires, metal, carpet and plant debris that is in danger of catching fire.

In December 2016 the landfill burned for two weeks, forcing some neighbors to temporarily abandon their homes because of the smoke.

Court records Tuesday did not list an attorney for Hernandez.

SENATE

From Page A3

for all of us honoring the permanency of those who came before us," Baxley said.

A similar bill (HB 67), sponsored by Rep. Kionne McGhee, D-Miami, has cleared three House committees and is ready for a floor vote after the 2018 session starts.

Last month, Baxley voted against a separate proposal (SB 472 and SCR 184) that would replace a statue of Confederate Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith in the National Statuary Hall in Washington. Statues of Smith and John Gorrie, widely considered the father of air conditioning, have long represented Florida at the National Statuary Hall.

Baxley said he voted against that proposal, which would replace Smith with a statue honoring civil-rights leader and educator Mary McLeod Bethune, because he saw it as "a continuation of cultural purging and dishonoring those who came before us."

WEATHER

From Page A3

obstacles Irma threw at us. It was truly a community effort from sheriff's office and fire/rescue to the municipalities, it was a great effort," said Tim Sullivan, chairman of the County Commission.

The year also included new faces including commissioners Wendy Breeden and Josh Blake who both won their seats in 2016. The county also hired a new county manager about six months ago. Jeff Cole had little time to settle into his new post as Irma hit three months into his tenure.

"It's been an exciting challenge with a hurricane thrown in the middle of it. There is tremendous staff here. Everybody works so well together. They make it look so easy, but there is a lot they are doing behind the scene," Cole said.

Before the hurricane, Cole led a review of the county budget and found more than \$400,000 to

cut. The county also added three new fire trucks to the fleet and opened a new fire station north of Umatilla. The county also took over control of the animal shelter and turned it into a no-kill facility.

Two of the biggest hangers of Lake County's future was the opening of the Florida Turnpike interchange near Minneola in June and the continued work on the Wekiva Parkway. The new interchange opens up south Lake to easier commutes into Orlando and will increase growth. Once completed, the Wekiva Parkway will stretch for more than 25 miles from Orange County through east Lake and into Seminole County. The parkway will complete a beltway around Orlando and should serve as an engine to spur even more growth in the county.

The prospect of growth brings its own challenges to county administrators.

"We are poised for significant development in the future and we want to make sure that is done in the right way," Cole said.

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FAME

From Page A3

On Tuesday she shared her list with dozens of people gathered at the Lake County Commission Chambers.

But it is what Bloodsworth has given back to Lake County that makes plenty of other people's top 10 list and at Tuesday's meeting she was recognized for those efforts by being inducted into the Lake County Women's Hall of Fame.

"There is no one I can think of that is more deserving of this honor," said Clermont City Manager Darren Gray, Bloodsworth's former

boss, after the ceremony. "She has done great work preserving the history of Lake County, she continues to work and touch lives in the present and she's always looking with positivity and greatness to the future."

"Most of all, her heart is in Lake County."

Bloodsworth said she was honored and humbled. "It's really exciting. It's probably one of the most memorable days of my life," Bloodsworth said. "And to be able to share it with family, friends and business colleagues was the icing on the cake."

Bloodsworth is a Pulitzer-nominated writer and nationally-certified public relations professional previously named Lake County Historian of the Year and Lake County Writer of the Year by the Lake County Historical Society.

She spent years researching and memorializing the county's history through a series of three books for Arcadia Publishing, the largest regional history book publisher in America. The books are titled "Legendary Locals of Lake County," which she co-authored, "Images of America: Clermont" and "Images of America: Groveland," both of which she was the sole researcher and author. In 2007, Bloodsworth co-founded the Groveland Historical Museum to fulfill the dying wish of a schoolmate and is a past recipient of the Chamber's Gem of the Hills award for her service to the South Lake community.

Her career in marketing helped jump-start the fastest growing and largest private public relations and marketing company in the state and landed her positions as director of marketing for the South Lake Chamber and as communications director and first public information officer for Clermont.

Bloodsworth's Lake County history goes back

to 1959, when her family (the Woolums) moved from Huntington, West Virginia, to south Lake County. She graduated from Groveland High School in 1968 and married her high school sweetheart, John, in 1971. The couple, who live in Clermont, have a son and daughter. At age 42, Bloodsworth pursued a lifelong dream to attend college to become a journalist. She started at the University of Central Florida and transferred to the University of Florida, where she graduated with highest honors and went on to report for The Gainesville Sun, Orlando Sentinel and Wall Street Journal. At one time, she covered the Florida federal courts for Bloomberg.

Bloodsworth's adult volunteer service includes having been a member of several historical societies around the county. She served as a member of the Friends of the Cooper Memorial Library and helped fundraise for the Friends of the Marion Baysinger Memorial Library. Since 2009, she has been a member of the Cooper Memorial Library Association Board and in 2016, was inducted into the inaugural class of the Lake County Schools Alumni Hall of Fame.

Bloodsworth was nominated for the Women's Hall of Fame by the South Lake Chamber of Commerce, Clermont Mayor Gail Ash and many others who wrote letters to the committee on her behalf.

On Tuesday, she was given a plaque by the County Commission. Her picture was placed on a wall with dozens of other women honored since 1995, when the award was established.

Ash said Bloodsworth's knowledge and passion about Lake County have inspired her over the years.

"She's not just well-read, she really gets involved in the community," Ash said.

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IF-0038239

Science job nominees missing advanced science degrees

By Seth Borenstein
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When it comes to filling jobs dealing with complex science, environment and health issues, the Trump administration is nominating people with fewer science academic credentials than their Obama predecessors. And it's moving slower as well.

Of 43 Trump administration nominees in science-related positions — including two for Health and Human Services secretary — almost 60 percent did not have a master's degree or a doctorate in a science or health field, according to an Associated Press analysis. For their immediate predecessors in the Obama administration, it was almost the opposite: more than 60 percent had advanced science degrees.

The AP analyzed 65 Senate-confirmable positions that deal with science and environment, many of which haven't been filled yet after 10 months. The analysis focused on earned degrees, not life experience.

"This is just reflective of the disdain that the administration has shown for science," said Christie Todd Whitman, a former Republican New Jersey governor and Environmental Protection Agency chief.

"When you're talking about science, issues about protecting human health... it's very, very complicated and sophisticated work," said Whitman, who was appointed by George W. Bush and does not have an advanced degree herself but surrounded herself with people who did. "You need the background and experience to handle these things."

Including now-resigned Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, a medical doctor, the number of political appointees with a doctorate in science or a medical

degree dropped 21 percent from Obama's 19 to Trump's 15 in those equivalent positions. And when it comes to master's degrees, the number decreased one-third from 27 in Obama to 18 in Trump.

Public health researcher Dr. Caroline Weinberg, who helped organize last spring's protest March for Science, said in an email, "I knew the dire straits we were in but seeing it laid out with percentages really amplifies the horror."

Trump administration officials did not respond to repeated requests for comment.

It is especially noticeable in the Energy Department, which oversees the nation's nuclear stockpile.

None of the seven Trump energy science-oriented nominees — including the undersecretary for science, who did research while in the U.S. Navy — has even a master's degree in a science field, although some are lawyers and have MBAs. Five of their Obama predecessor's had master's degrees in science field and four had science doctorates — not including the Obama deputy Energy secretary, who had a doctorate in international relations. The two Obama Energy secretaries both had doctorates in physics, and Steven Chu was a Nobel prize winner in physics. Trump Energy Secretary Rick Perry has a bachelor's degree in animal science and was a former governor.

"This is just hollowing out of expertise in these posts," said Max Boykoff, director of Center for Science and Technology Policy Research at the University of Colorado. "It's a really worrisome trend."

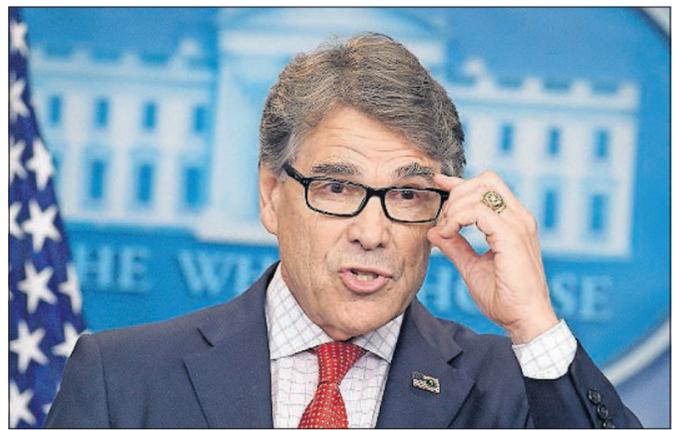
This isn't about making jobs for science, but providing the best advice for government leaders who have to make tough decisions, said Rush Holt, CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world's largest general scientific

society.

"It's the policy-makers themselves who need it. If they want to develop policies that are most likely to succeed, they should make those policies with the understanding available of how things are," said Holt, a former physicist and Democratic congressman from New Jersey. "We do this with the age-old, time-tested procedure of determining how things are. We call that science."

The now-withdrawn undersecretary for research in the Agriculture Department told the Senate in a confirmation questionnaire that while he had an economics degree, he took no science classes in graduate school, according to his letter obtained by The Washington Post.

Many of the Trump nominees who do have advanced science degrees, especially those in the EPA, come from working in or with the industries that they are now supposed to regulate, with even some Republicans raising questions among the independence of their scientific advice. EPA chief Scott Pruitt also has raised eyebrows by purging academic scientists from the agency's science advisory board because they received EPA grants and replacing them with industry-connected experts.



Energy Secretary Rick Perry speaks during the daily briefing June 27 at the White House. [ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]

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CONYERS

From Page A1

from colleagues in the House, including Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi.

As the furor grew, he stepped down as the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, and the Ethics Committee began investigating him.

Democratic Rep. Jerrold Nadler of New York said he was saddened by the resignation of his "friend and mentor" but added: "There can be no tolerance for behavior that subjects women to the kind of conduct that has been alleged."

It will be up to Republican Gov. Rick Snyder to set a date for a special election to pick someone to serve out the remaining year in Conyers' two-year term. State Sen. Ian Conyers, a grandson of Conyers' brother, said he plans to run for the seat.

On Monday, another allegation was lodged against Conyers, when a woman who said she worked for him for more



Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., speaks May 24, 2016, on Capitol Hill in Washington. Conyers said he is stepping aside as the top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee amid a congressional investigation into allegations he sexually harassed female staff members.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]

than a decade, Elisa Grubbs, said he slid his hand up her skirt and rubbed her thighs while she was sitting next to him in a church.

Grubbs also said she repeatedly saw Conyers touching and stroking the legs and buttocks of other female staffers. Such behavior "was a regular part of life while working in the office of Rep. Conyers," she said.

Grubbs is the cousin of another accuser, Marion Brown, who reached a confidential, taxpayer-funded

settlement of more than \$27,000 over allegations Conyers sexually harassed her. That settlement came to light in mid-November, setting off the cascade of allegations against the congressman.

At least two other women who worked for him have accused him of sexual misconduct.

"This is about much more than one congressman," Grubbs' attorney, Lisa Bloom, said in an email after Conyers resigned. "Systemic change is urgently needed

so no other women have to endure the retaliation, secrecy and delays my client Marion Brown and others experienced."

While Hollywood and media titans accused of sexual misconduct have been swiftly fired in recent weeks, including studio boss Harvey Weinstein and TV news hosts Matt Lauer and Charlie Rose, that has not been the case in Congress, where lawmakers have spoken of due process and clung to the argument that the voters have the final say.

Democratic Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota, Republican Rep. Blake Farenthold of Texas and Democratic Rep. Ruben Kihuen of Nevada have all rebuffed calls to step down, though Barton has said he won't seek reelection next year.

Conyers said in a statement read Tuesday on the floor of the House that he was resigning "to preserve my legacy and good name."

He also complained that he was not being afforded due process to defend himself, and cited his health problems as another

factor in his decision. He added that he hopes his retirement will be viewed in the "larger perspective" of his more than 50 years as a lawmaker.

Conyers regularly won elections with more than 80 percent of the vote.

He co-sponsored a 1972 resolution recommending President Richard Nixon's impeachment for his conduct of the Vietnam War and regularly introduced a bill from 1989 onward to study the harm caused by slavery and the possibility of reparations to the descendants of slaves.

After a 15-year struggle, Conyers succeeded in establishing the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as a federal holiday in 1986. He employed civil rights legend Rosa Parks at his Detroit district office for more than two decades.

Word of Conyers' resignation was met with sadness among House Democrats. The uproar had divided members of his party, especially those in the Congressional Black Caucus. Pelosi, too, had struggled, calling Conyers an "icon" before pressing

days later for him to go.

"Congressman Conyers has served in the Congress for more than five decades, and shaped some of the most consequential legislation of the last half century," Pelosi said following his retirement. "But no matter how great the legacy, it is no license to harass or discriminate. The brave women who came forward ... were owed the justice of this announcement."

The furor over Conyers unfolded as the sexual misconduct allegations against Franken and Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore sent members of both parties rushing to choose sides.

"I think that we lose our moral authority if we also don't call out those we love who have done things that are bad," said Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash. "I think we have to recognize and be able to hold the dueling possibilities that somebody can be a great man and have done great things for our country and for civil rights but also have done terrible things that require accountability."

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SHOTS

From Page A1

that show at least one round going through the patrol car's windshield.

"The officer immediately returned fire, however it is currently

unknown if the suspect was struck," the department said in a press release.

Police did not find blood or any other sign that the man had been hit.

Kitchen fired more than once. The suspect fired either one or two times.

The man took off on foot, crossing U.S. 441 and going south to Lake Street toward Main Street. Kitchen gave chase in his patrol car but could not catch him.

Law enforcement officers from several agencies showed up to assist. K-9 units from the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the Leesburg Police Department joined the search, along with the sheriff's helicopter and crime scene unit.



The man who shot at a Leesburg police officer Monday night abandoned his bicycle and fled on foot. Anyone who recognizes this bike is asked to call Leesburg police with information. [LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT]

The bicycle was recovered at the scene. The bullet that hit the patrol car struck the driver's side near the windshield wiper, then ricocheted onto the floorboard.

Police say the search is continuing. "We've got some pretty good leads," said Leesburg Police Lt. Joe

Iozzi. Police had Leesburg Regional Medical Center lock its doors from about 10:45 p.m. to 1 a.m., according to hospital officials.

Investigators are asking anyone with information to call police at 728-9862 or CrimeLine at 1-800-423-TIPS.

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IOC

From Page A1

Olympic anthem played to honor their victories. That is, if Russian President Vladimir Putin allows them to go to the Feb. 9-25 games. He previously has said it would be humiliating for Russia to compete without its national symbols.

"An Olympic boycott has never achieved anything," IOC President Thomas Bach said at a news conference. "Secondly, I don't see any reason for a boycott by the Russian athletes because we allow the clean athletes there to participate."

Alexander Zhukov, the Russian Olympic Committee president who also was suspended from his IOC membership, told TV reporters in Lausanne that one key was preserving the name "Russia" in the team name.

"They'll be called Russian athletes and not some kind of neutrals ... that's very important," Zhukov said.

If it was a victory to have the word "Russia" in



International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach from Germany, left, and Samuel Schmid, President of the IOC Inquiry Commission and former President of Switzerland, right, comment during a press conference after an Executive Board meeting Tuesday in Lausanne, Switzerland. [JEAN-CHRISTOPHE BOTT/KEystone VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

the team name and invite some Russian athletes to compete, it came at a cost.

The IOC also suspended the Russian Olympic Committee until at least the start of the closing ceremony in South Korea.

In an embarrassment for Russia's hosting of the 2018 World Cup, the IOC also banned Russian Deputy Prime Minister Vitaly Mutko from the Olympics for life.

Mutko heads the organizing committee of soccer's next World Cup. As sports minister in 2014, he was deeply implicated in the Sochi doping plot

by two IOC commissions and a World Anti-Doping Agency investigation.

"The IOC executive board has made its position to the responsibility of Mr. Mutko very clear," said Bach, who would not comment if it was appropriate for soccer's governing body FIFA to continue working with an official who is also president of Russia's soccer federation.

At the State Kremlin Palace on Dec. 1, FIFA President Gianni Infantino said at a joint news conference with Mutko that the IOC's decision would not affect the World Cup.

TRUMP

From Page A1

policy and risk potentially violent protests.

Trump also told the leaders of the Palestinian Authority and Jordan in phone calls that he intends to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. It remains unclear, however, when he might take that physical step, which is required by U.S. law but has been waived on national security grounds for more than two decades.

Trump is to publicly address the question of Jerusalem on Wednesday.

U.S. officials familiar with his planning said he would declare Jerusalem as Israel's capital, a rhetorical volley that could have its own dangerous consequences. The United States has never endorsed the Jewish state's claim of sovereignty over any part of Jerusalem and has insisted its status be resolved through Israeli-Palestinian negotiation.

The mere consideration of Trump changing the status quo sparked

a renewed U.S. security warning on Tuesday. America's consulate in Jerusalem ordered U.S. personnel and their families to avoid visiting Jerusalem's Old City or the West Bank, and urged American citizens in general to avoid places with increased police or military presence.

Trump, as a presidential candidate, repeatedly promised to move the U.S. embassy. However, U.S. leaders have routinely and unceremoniously delayed such a move since President Bill Clinton signed a law in 1995 stipulating that the United States must relocate its diplomatic presence to Jerusalem unless the commander in chief issues a waiver on national security grounds.

Trump is likely to do the same, U.S. officials said, though less quietly. That's why he plans to couple the waiver with the declaration of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, according to the officials who weren't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity. Key national security advisers including Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Defense

Secretary Jim Mattis have urged caution, according to the officials, who said Trump has been receptive to some of their concerns.

The concerns are real: Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital could be viewed as America discarding its longstanding neutrality and siding with Israel at a time that the president's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, has been trying to midwife a new peace process into existence. Trump, too, has spoken of his desire for a "deal of the century" that would end Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

U.S. officials, along with an outside adviser to the administration, said they expected a broad statement from Trump about Jerusalem's status as the "capital of Israel." The president isn't planning to use the phrase "undivided capital," according to the officials. Such terminology is favored by Israeli officials including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and would imply Israel's sovereignty over east Jerusalem, which the Palestinians seek for their own future capital.

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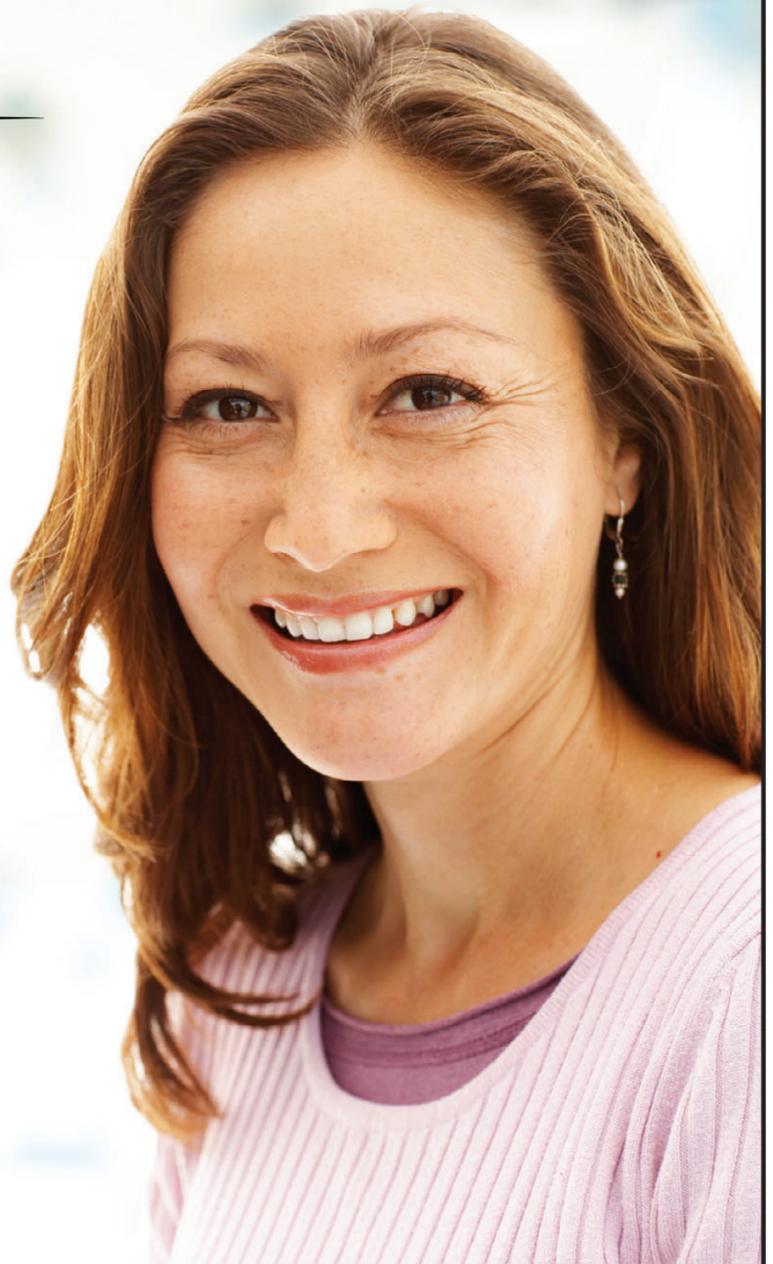
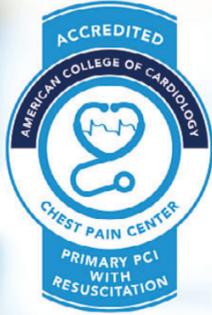


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Kennedy seems conflicted in wedding cake case

By Mark Sherman
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On a sharply divided Supreme Court, the justice in the middle seemed conflicted Tuesday in the court's high-stakes consideration of a baker who refused to make a wedding case for a same-sex couple in 2012.

The court's fault lines were laid bare in a riveting argument that focused equally on baker Jack Phillips' right to refuse to put his artistic talents to use in support of something in which he disagrees and the Colorado couple's right to be treated like any other two people who wanted a cake to celebrate their marriage.

Both views were reflected in the questions and comments of Justice Anthony Kennedy, the author of all the court's major gay-rights decisions and a fierce defender of free speech. The outcome of the case seemed to rest with the 81-year-old justice, who often finds himself with the decisive vote in cases that otherwise divide the court's

conservatives and liberals.

Phillips and the couple, Charlie Craig and David Mullins, were in the courtroom for arguments in the closely watched case that could affect other situations where there's a clash between social conservatives' claim of religious freedom and the LGBT community's fight to preserve hard-won rights.

President Donald Trump's administration is supporting Phillips in his argument that he can't be forced to create a cake that violates his religious beliefs. It appears to be the first time the federal government has asked the justices to carve out an exception from an anti-discrimination law.

On the one hand, Kennedy pointed to photographers, florists, graphic designers and even jewelers who might likewise be able to refuse working on a same-sex wedding if the court rules for Phillips.

"It means that there's basically an ability to boycott gay marriages," said the author of the 2015 opinion extending same-sex marriage nationwide.

If you win, Kennedy asked Solicitor General Noel Francisco, could the baker put a sign in his window: "We do not bake cakes for gay weddings?"

When Francisco said that would be permissible, Kennedy said, "And you would not think that an affront to the gay community?"

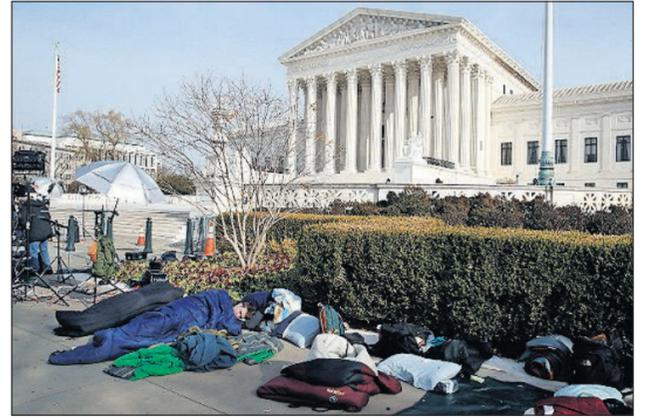
Francisco replied that there "are dignity interests on the other side here, too."

On the other hand, Kennedy criticized the Colorado Civil Rights Commission that found Phillips violated the state's anti-discrimination law.

"It seems to me that the state in its position here has been neither tolerant nor respectful of Mr. Phillips' religious beliefs," Kennedy said. Craig and Mullins, he noted, could have been served by "other good bakery shops that were available" in the Denver suburbs.

Protesters on both sides filled the sidewalk in front of the court shortly before the start of the argument.

"We got Jack's back," Phillips' supporters said. Backers



People sleep outside of the Supreme Court to save places in line for Tuesday's arguments in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, Monday outside of the Supreme Court in Washington. [JACQUELYN MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

of Craig and Mullins countered: "Love wins."

Inside the packed courtroom, the liberal justices peppered Kristen Waggoner, Phillips' lawyer, and Francisco with questions about how to draw a line to accommodate Phillips without eviscerating laws that require businesses that are open to the public to serve all customers.

Justices Ruth Bader

Ginsburg and Elena Kagan ticked off other categories of people who are involved in weddings to ask if they, too, might be able to refuse a same-sex couple.

A hair stylist? A makeup artist?

No, Waggoner said, "because it is not speech."

Kagan replied: "Some people might say that about cakes, you know?"

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ANOTHER OPINION

Tax deal will make America more prosperous

Congress is now in the final wrestling match stage of creating a \$1.5 trillion tax reform package. House and Senate Republicans must resolve differences in their bills in order to hand completed legislation to President Donald Trump.

You know Republicans want to get the deal done, and you know Trump will sign what Congress delivers. This has been a weird, ugly year — long on political drama and short on legislative accomplishments. The GOP needs to prove it can govern. If a Republican-controlled Congress and Republican president can't fulfill a promise to cut taxes, what can they accomplish?

The rest of us care about outcomes, not crowing. Good tax reform should make a complex economy more efficient and ultimately put money in people's pockets. Some tax deals go heavy on benefiting individuals. This legislation does some of that. But the larger opportunity is on the business side, providing relief and investment incentives to employers. Therefore, our focus is on whether this bill reshapes tax policy in a way that helps Americans become more prosperous by spurring job and wage growth. We believe this tax reform bill will strengthen the American economy and create wealth, so we support passage.

These massive tax reform packages don't come around often. They are too difficult. The last big change came in 1986 under President Ronald Reagan, back when it was practically fashionable for lawmakers to do big deals across the aisle. This time Democrats stand in opposition as, for example, Republicans stood against Obamacare. Still, the country is weighing an epochal change to the economy, making this "an incredibly significant time in our public life," U.S. Rep. Peter Roskam, one of the Republican tax reform leaders, tells us.

Any vote against this bill is a vote to maintain America as it looks today. Are you happy with the state of the economy since the end of the Great Recession eight years ago? You shouldn't be. First, discard the impact of the stock market boom fattening your 401(k) since Trump's election, because that's due in part to anticipation of tax reform. Kill tax reform and you lose market momentum.

What you're left with is what this nation has had: growth around 2 percent or less a year. That's not fast enough to boost stagnant wages, increase the job participation rate or improve U.S. competitiveness vs. other countries. Passing this tax reform should get the economy to steady 3 percent growth. At that rate, the country generates trillions of dollars of new economic activity, creates jobs and increases household income — money to be spent or saved.

The tax bill helps employers by lowering the top U.S. corporate tax rate from 35 percent to about 20 percent. The final rate hasn't been set, but it will be more in line with those of other nations. The bill also takes a big step to encourage companies to repatriate more than \$2 trillion in profits that are parked overseas to avoid that 35 percent rate. Companies would get a chance to bring cash home at a one-time rate of about 14 percent. With those changes, companies will invest to grow. Without those changes, U.S. companies are more likely to move out of the country or be acquired by foreign entities.

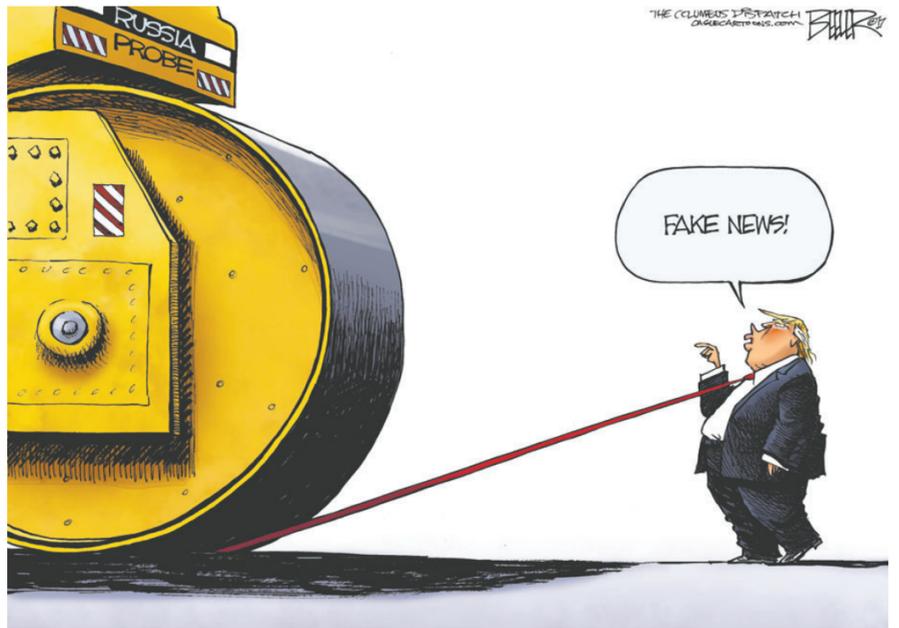
Another provision of the tax bill encourages companies to buy more equipment by allowing them to immediately and fully expense the cost. Business investment is a big deal because, with a lower marginal tax rate, businesses can spend big to improve or expand their operations. And if XYZ Co. buys more trucks, it needs more drivers.

Our major concern with this bill is the cost. This plan may cost the government \$1.5 trillion over a decade in which the Congressional Budget Office expects Washington to collect \$43 trillion in revenue if the economy continues on its current, slow-growth trajectory. If economic growth rises to about 2.5 percent annually, this package could pay for itself. If it doesn't, the nation's \$20 trillion debt would rise accordingly. Tax reform, then, is an investment in the economy. As Roskam puts it, "We're buying an updated tax code and faster growth."

One thing we hope that faster growth buys us all is a new national discussion about how to curtail spending and reduce the debt. The country can't live by one side of the ledger. Eventually, revenue and expenditure need to come into alignment.

An editorial from the Chicago Tribune

ANOTHER OPINION



ANOTHER OPINION

Even if Moore wins, it's a loss for GOP

Dilemma? Catch-22? Hobson's choice? They're all good ways to say why Republicans are so anguished over next week's special Senate election in Alabama.

Is it better for their candidate, Roy Moore, who has been credibly accused of sexually abusing underage girls, to win and keep the party's slim Senate majority? Or would he be such an albatross, causing bitter intra-party schisms, that it's actually better for Republicans if the Democrat, Doug Jones, wins?

"We don't need a liberal person in there, a Democrat," President Donald Trump said in embracing Moore. Sen. Cory Gardner of Colorado, chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, offers the other view: If Moore wins, Gardner has said, "The Senate should vote to expel him, because he does not meet the ethical and moral requirements of the United States Senate."

Moore is slightly ahead, according to a recent CBS poll. The seat is held by Luther Strange, who was defeated by Moore in a September primary after being appointed when Jeff Sessions stepped down to become attorney general. The winner of the Dec. 12 election is slated to take Strange's place immediately.

A few Republicans have come out against seating Moore, demanding a new election. That might present legal challenges. The political problems would be worse.

Count on Trump to demand that Moore be seated because Republicans need the vote in a Senate where they now hold only

a two-vote majority. He'll certainly gin up his base and the religious right, the core of Moore's support despite the charges of depravity. They would rise up in fury against the anti-Moore Republicans.

It would be ugly, exacerbating tensions between Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

An alternative if Moore wins is to send the issue to the Senate Ethics Committee. It's already looking into the sexually inappropriate behavior of Democratic Senator Al Franken of Minnesota, who has apologized after four women accused him of unwanted kissing and touching.

Moore, 70, is an ultra-right former chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, who was kicked off the bench twice for disobeying the law. He denies all the charges against him, claiming they were ginned up by lesbians, socialists and other leftist anti-Trump factions.

But eight women have come forth to describe similar conduct by Moore decades ago, and their accounts have been supported by reporting in the Washington Post and Alabama outlets. One woman said she was sexually assaulted by Moore when she was 14.

If it's really a left-wing plot, it's been joined by some unusual co-conspirators, including McConnell, who declared last month, "I believe the women." Alabama's conservative Republican governor, Kay Ivey, said there is no reason to doubt the women's accounts, and the conservative Republican senator, Richard Shelby, said he couldn't vote for Moore

and would write in another candidate on his ballot.

Some Republicans hope that the sexual harassment charges against Democrats like Franken will limit the damage if Moore wins and is seated. But the specific charges, preying on underage girls, make that unlikely. Democrats would hang the judge around Republican candidates next year.

For moral and political reasons, some Republicans conclude that it would be better if the Democrat Jones, a moderate former prosecutor, wins.

That would be a nightmare for McConnell. It would reduce his Senate margin so he could only afford to lose two Republicans instead of three on most votes. That's a big difference, especially given the panic likely to set in among elements of the party if they lose in deep red Alabama after Democratic gains in elections around the country four weeks ago.

Moreover, it threatens their majority after next year's elections, which once seemed secure because the vast majority of contested seats are held by Democrats, some in strong Republican states. But with the unpopularity of Trump, these dynamics have changed.

Whatever the outcome, there will be no joy among Republicans as they watch the returns from down South next Tuesday.

Albert R. Hunt is a Bloomberg View columnist. He was the executive editor of Bloomberg News, before which he was a reporter, bureau chief and executive Washington editor at the Wall Street Journal. Readers may email him at ahunt1@bloomberg.net.

ANOTHER OPINION

The dangerous key to our political universe

By **John M. Crisp**

Our political universe presents us with the same problem that physicists face when they contemplate the material cosmos: Should we pay more attention to the things that are very, very big or the things that are very, very small?

The Holy Grail for physicists is a unified theory that makes the physics of big things (stars, galaxies) mesh with the physics of small things (quarks, bosons).

The unified theory of our politics, of course, is Donald Trump, and few elements, whether large or small, of our political universe can escape his psychological and emotional gravity.

This somewhat overwrought metaphor occurs to me as I

consider the comparative consequence of the range of issues that anyone who thinks about the current state of our nation has to take into account.

At one end, there are profoundly serious issues that could actually kill us. The persistent background static of our world is climate change; our response to this crisis continues to be woefully inadequate. At the same time, the slope toward a nuclear exchange with North Korea seems increasingly slippery; the consequences would be unimaginably devastating.

If we didn't have issues like these to think about, we'd be more concerned about a president who is unable to make his way through a ceremony honoring the Navajo code talkers, genuine heroes of World War II, without

succumbing to the temptation to attack a political opponent.

Or a president who can't let go of obviously false and consistently debunked conspiracy theories, such as ones concerning the birthplace of President Obama.

Somewhere between these two extremes are issues of staggering importance, such as Russian interference in American elections and highly placed officials who lied about it, bad tax reform and the elimination of consumer financial protections, matters that won't destroy our republic (probably) but which don't do private citizens or our democracy much good.

It's hard to remember a time when the nation faced a comparable array of dangerous circumstances or had in place leadership so

ill-suited to cope with them.

But thinking about Donald Trump as the cause or aggravating element of most of these issues helps explain a lot. For example, the mean-spirited tendency toward name-calling that provokes Trump to demean a ceremony honoring Indian war heroes by pausing to call a detested political opponent "Pocahontas" is the same tendency that leads him to call North Korea's dictator "Little Rocket Man."

Unfortunately we have little evidence that Trump is able to distinguish between the first instance — the unseemly besmirching of a ceremony meant to honor war heroes — and the second — the dangerous taunting of an unstable, unpredictable dictator with nuclear weapons.

Of course, it's not always

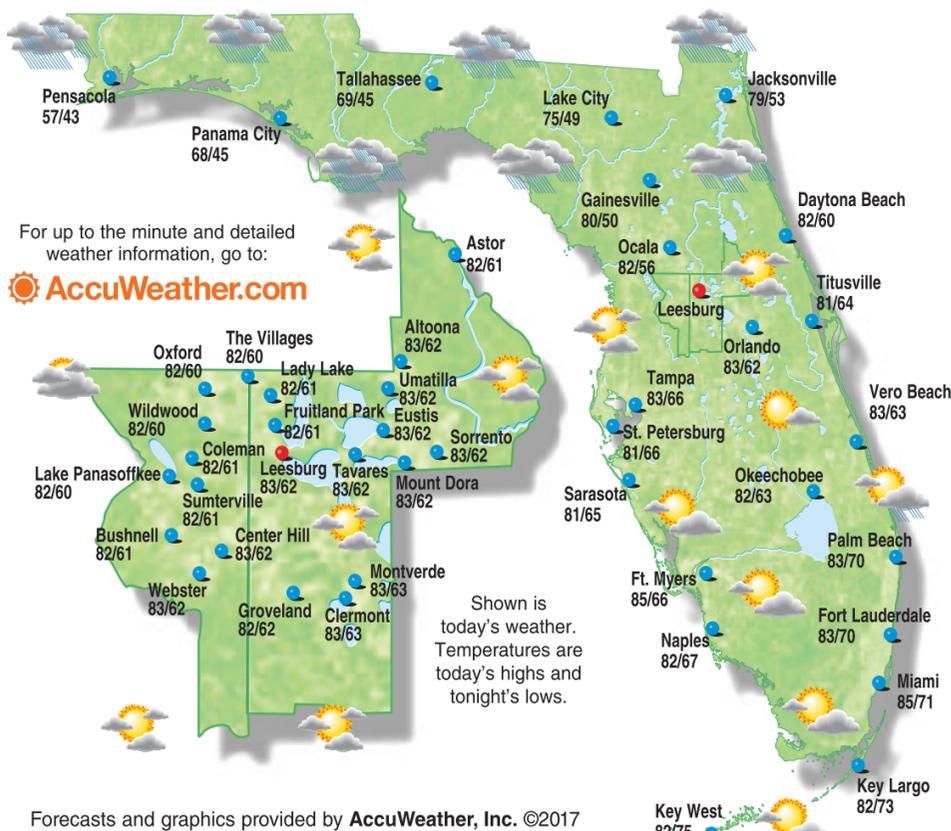
possible to separate the big issues from the small ones. At best, name-calling is tacky and undignified, but it doesn't threaten our nation until it begins to stand in the way of a peaceful resolution of the North Korea dilemma.

But Trump is the force that binds together a good deal of the current chaos, and not in a good way. At some point his volatility, unpredictability, lack of self-control and, indeed, mental instability will reach critical mass, and force us to cope with the fact that we've made a very poor choice to lead the free world. And then what?

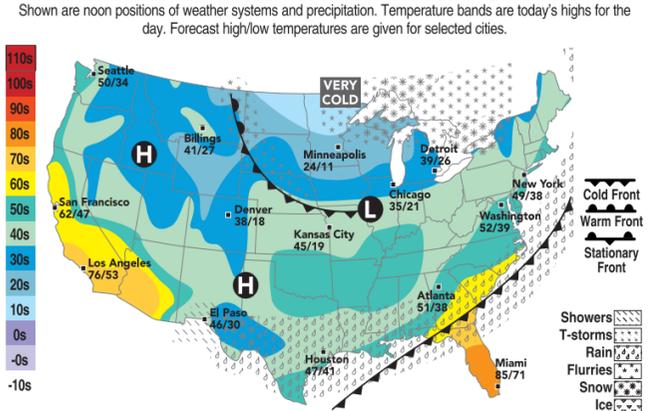
John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR LEEBSBURG

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Times of clouds and sun	Cloudy and cooler with a passing shower	Cooler with periods of rain	Cool with decreasing clouds	Mostly sunny and cool
HIGH 83° LOW 62°	HIGH 67° LOW 51°	HIGH 57° LOW 41°	HIGH 58° LOW 42°	HIGH 60° LOW 37°



NATIONAL WEATHER FOR DECEMBER 6, 2017



Yesterday's National High/Low: (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High 87° in Haringen, TX Low -5° in Stanley, ID

UV INDEX TODAY



SOLUNAR TABLE

The solunar period schedule allows planning days so you will be fishing in good territory or hunting in good cover during those times. Major periods begin at the times shown and last for 1.5 to 2 hours. The minor periods are shorter.

Today	Minor	Major	Minor
1:38 a.m.	7:53 a.m.	2:08 p.m.	8:24 p.m.
Thu. 2:45 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	3:15 p.m.	9:29 p.m.

THE SUN AND MOON

	Today	Thursday
Sunrise	7:07 a.m.	7:08 a.m.
Sunset	5:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
Moonrise	9:03 p.m.	10:08 p.m.
Moonset	10:01 a.m.	10:54 a.m.



TIDES

Homosassa				Daytona Beach					
Day	High	Feet	Low	Feet	Day	High	Feet	Low	Feet
Today	6:06 am	1.7	7:47 pm	0.6	Thu.	6:55 am	1.6	8:37 pm	0.7

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi Lo W	Thursday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Thursday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Thursday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Thursday Hi Lo W
Albany	43 29 pc	40 24 pc	Cheyenne	31 15 s	36 26 c	Great Falls	38 26 pc	45 29 s	Norfolk, VA	57 39 r	53 39 c
Albuquerque	47 24 s	41 22 s	Chicago	35 21 s	31 18 pc	Greensboro, NC	52 38 c	51 33 pc	Oklahoma City	54 26 s	44 23 s
Anchorage	33 23 sn	35 29 sn	Cincinnati	47 23 s	35 18 pc	Hartford	47 29 pc	44 23 s	Omaha	38 15 pc	32 17 pc
Asheville	49 35 c	47 32 c	Cleveland	43 26 pc	34 20 c	Honolulu	81 65 pc	82 67 s	Philadelphia	49 36 pc	47 30 s
Atlanta	51 38 r	51 36 c	Columbia, SC	60 42 r	52 37 c	Houston	47 41 r	53 38 r	Phoenix	75 49 pc	68 44 s
Atlantic City	49 32 pc	50 28 s	Concord, NH	45 24 pc	42 22 s	Indianapolis	44 21 s	31 18 pc	Pittsburgh	44 26 s	36 19 pc
Baltimore	50 32 pc	47 28 s	Dallas	53 39 c	54 32 s	Jackson, MS	49 38 r	53 32 c	Portland, ME	47 26 pc	43 24 s
Billings	41 27 c	48 37 pc	Dayton	43 22 s	31 19 pc	Kansas City	45 19 pc	33 20 pc	Portland, OR	47 34 c	48 32 pc
Birmingham	46 37 r	51 31 c	Denver	38 18 pc	40 26 c	Las Vegas	62 42 s	62 42 s	Providence	53 33 pc	47 29 s
Bismarck	26 10 sn	38 23 c	Des Moines	36 16 pc	30 18 pc	Little Rock	55 31 s	49 21 pc	Raleigh	52 37 c	51 34 c
Boise	36 20 s	35 22 s	Detroit	39 26 pc	36 21 c	Louisville	52 29 s	40 21 pc	Reno	45 17 s	48 18 s
Boston	51 33 r	45 30 s	Duluth	19 4 c	16 10 pc	Memphis	53 33 pc	47 22 pc	Richmond	53 38 pc	53 35 c
Buffalo	40 28 sn	34 26 sf	El Paso	46 30 sh	46 24 s	Milwaukee	32 20 pc	30 17 c	Sacramento	61 33 s	63 34 s
Burlington, VT	41 30 pc	38 27 sf	Fargo	19 4 pc	25 15 pc	Minneapolis	24 11 pc	23 15 pc	St. Louis	49 24 pc	36 21 pc
Charleston, SC	69 43 r	51 39 r	Fairbanks	24 14 sn	29 17 i	Nashville	52 31 pc	46 21 pc	Salt Lake City	35 18 s	38 22 s
Charleston, WV	48 27 s	42 20 pc	Flagstaff	44 16 s	39 21 s	New Orleans	53 40 r	50 38 r	San Antonio	44 40 r	47 37 r
Charlotte, NC	55 38 c	53 38 c	Grand Rapids	36 24 c	33 22 sf	New York City	49 38 pc	47 32 s	San Diego	73 51 s	75 53 s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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SPORTS

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FSU picks Taggart as new coach

By Joe Reedy
The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Willie Taggart is returning to the Sunshine State, this time as head football coach at Florida State.

Taggart has agreed to become Florida State's next coach, replacing Jimbo Fisher. Taggart told his Oregon

players during a team meeting on Tuesday that he is leaving.

Florida State has called a news conference for this morning to introduce Taggart.

The 41-year old Bradenton native coached at South Florida for four seasons before going to Oregon. Fisher resigned Friday to accept the opening at Texas A&M.

Taggart has a 47-50 career

record, including 7-5 this season, but is known as a rebuild. He arrived in Eugene after four years at South Florida, where he guided the Bulls from a 2-10 record his first year to a 10-2 mark last year and a spot in the Birmingham Bowl.

Before that he spent three

See TAGGERT, B3



Willie Taggart looks on from the sideline during the second half of a game against UCLA on Oct. 21 in Pasadena, Calif. Taggart will be the next coach at Florida State.

[AP PHOTO / MARK J. TERRILL, FILE]

Already a winner

Deaf South Lake wrestler an inspiration to many

By Frank Jolley
frank.jolley@dailycommercial.com

GROVELAND — Itzel Vega-Acevedo has never heard a sound.

The South Lake High School freshman has been deaf since birth, but doesn't use that as crutch or an avenue to generate sympathy from those around her.

In fact, Vega-Acevedo has transformed her lack of hearing into an advantage — an opportunity to eliminate outside distractions. Because she is unable to hear the outside world, Vega-Acevedo can focus solely on accomplishing whatever goals she sets for herself.

Her current goal is picking up her first win as a member of the Eagles wrestling team ... and proving to others that a disability is just an obstacle to overcome.

Just three weeks into her wrestling career, Vega-Acevedo has become an inspiration to those who watch her compete. She works as hard as her more-experienced teammates, even watching videos of amateur wrestling in an effort to pick up a few pointers.

"I learned about the wrestling team here at an Open House during the spring for clubs and activities," said Vega-Acevedo on Tuesday before a quad-match between South Lake, Leesburg, The Villages and Orlando First Academy. "I wanted to take part in some club or sport and I remembered the wrestling team was very friendly and encouraging to me at the Open House. I was very curious when it was time try out for the team and wanted to join."

"It looked like a lot of fun." Vega-Acevedo speaks using sign language. Heather Jilao, appointed by the school district to work with Vega-Acevedo, acts as her interpreter.

When Jilao is not available, Vega-Acevedo communicates with her teammates through text messages and hand gestures.

Vega-Acevedo feels that



South Lake's Itzel Vega-Acevedo runs into trouble against The Villages' Brandon Terry at a wrestling tournament at South Lake High School in Groveland on Tuesday. [PAUL RYAN / CORRESPONDENT]

being part of the team has helped her become more confident in herself and made her more comfortable around others. She's also gained experience that should eventually begin to pay dividends.

"Itzel grasps things very quickly," said Brant Pawlowski, who has been involved with the Eagles wrestling program since it was restarted four years ago. "Because she can't hear, she is more kinesthetic than auditory and tends to pick up little details very quickly. Sometimes, we have to remind ourselves that Itzel has been doing this

See WRESTLER, B3



South Lake's Itzel Vega-Acevedo finds herself in a tough spot against The Villages' Brandon Terry at a wrestling tournament at South Lake High School in Groveland on Tuesday. [PAUL RYAN / CORRESPONDENT]



Jason Robinson is shown in 2013 when he was the head coach of Lake Weir. Robinson had the interim tag removed from his head coaching title at East Ridge High School on Tuesday. [DOUG ENGLE / GATEHOUSE MEDIA]

Robinson officially East Ridge head coach

By Paul Jenkins
paul.jenkins@dailycommercial.com

If there was ever really a decision to make, Jason Robinson made it pretty easy for East Ridge High School administrators.

Robinson took over the Knights' football program on an interim basis nine days before the start of the season when Ashour Peera resigned while being investigated for recruiting violations.

A season that could have unraveled quickly instead turned into a playoff year for East Ridge under Robinson's leadership.

On Tuesday, Robinson was rewarded by having the interim tag removed from his head coaching title.

"It feels good, obviously," Robinson said. "I've been a Knight for three years now and it feels good to get that vote of confidence and that people believe I can continue to lead this program upwards."

"It was really more or less a

See ROBINSON, B3



RECREATION B4

CLERMONT SWIMMER HAS RECORD WEEKEND

FOOTBALL B3

UCF HIRES MISSOURI ASSISTANT HEUPEL

Rivals Manning, Spurrier enter College Hall of Fame together

By Ralph D. Russo
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — After the class picture of the latest Hall of Fame inductees was taken, Peyton Manning made his way over to Steve Spurrier for another handshake and some chit-chat before heading off in opposite directions to do media interviews.

The former Tennessee quarterback and former Florida coach had a one-sided rivalry that helped define an era of Southeastern Conference football. Manning set records in Knoxville, Tennessee, and won just about every award short of the Heisman Trophy,

but his teams never beat Spurrier's mighty Gators.

Famous for his zingers, Spurrier said on the rare occasion he runs into Manning these days, there is no trash talk. There's just mutual admiration and the chance to talk ball with one of the best quarterbacks the coach has ever seen. The secret to beating Manning was really no secret at all, Spurrier said.

"We just got ready to play the best we could," Spurrier said. "Offense. Defense. Just seemed to work out. They didn't have their best game a lot and it seemed like we

See HOF, B3



Former University of Tennessee football quarterback Peyton Manning, left, and former University of Florida coach Steve Spurrier get together after a news conference in New York on Tuesday. [AP PHOTO / RICHARD DREW]

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SPORTS ON TV

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

7 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Siena at Louisville
 ESPN — Wisconsin at Temple
 FS1 — Kent St. at Xavier
 FS2 — Brown at Providence
 8 p.m.
 BTN — Austin Peay at Illinois
 SEC — Loyola of Chicago at Florida
 9 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Washington vs. Kansas, at Kansas City, Mo.
 FS1 — Cent. Connecticut St. at DePaul
GOLF
 4:30 a.m. (Thursday)
 GOLF — Ladies European Tour, Omega Dubai Masters, second round, at Dubai, United Arab Emirates

NBA BASKETBALL

7 p.m.
 FS-Florida — Atlanta at Orlando
 8 p.m.
 ESPN — Golden State at Charlotte
 10:30 p.m.
 ESPN — Minnesota at L.A. Clippers

NHL HOCKEY

8 p.m.
 NBCSN — Chicago at Washington
SOCCER
 2:30 p.m.
 FS1 — UEFA Champions League, Real Madrid vs. Borussia Dortmund
 FS2 — UEFA Champions League, Liverpool vs. Spartak Moscow
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
 Noon
 SEC — TCU at Texas A&M
 6 p.m.
 BTN — Fordham at Penn St.

Florida State's James skipping bowl game, entering draft

The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Florida State's Derwin James will not play in the Seminoles' bowl game, saying he is leaving school and will enter the NFL draft. The redshirt sophomore safety made his announcement via Instagram on Tuesday. He said that he will not play in the Dec. 27 Independence Bowl game against Southern Mississippi. James said last week that he planned on playing in the bowl game, but that was before coach Jimbo Fisher resigned to take the Texas A&M coaching job. James was also limited to two games in 2016 due to a knee injury, which might have also played a factor into his decision.

He isn't the first player to announce that he wouldn't participate in a bowl game this season. Texas cornerback Holton Hill, safety

DeShon Elliott and left tackle Connor Williams have all opted to skip the Longhorns' Dec. 27 Texas Bowl game against Missouri to enter the draft. All are following the lead of running backs Christian McCaffrey (Stanford) and Leonard Fournette (LSU), who did not play last year and were selected in the first round of the NFL draft. "I feel extremely grateful that every person I spoke to supported my decision to begin my training immediately. They all know how much this program means to me and they saw firsthand how much it killed me to be away from the field when I injured my knee last year," James wrote in a post on The Players' Tribune. "It's hard to really believe I'll never wear that garnet and gold uniform again, but everyone I've reached out to has agreed that this is the best decision for me and my family."

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Eustis 55, Umatilla 20
 Nyla Brown scored a game-high 30 points Monday to lead Eustis to a 55-20 win against Umatilla.
 Megan Matheny scored 13 points for Umatilla. Eustis improved to 2-2 with the win, while Umatilla fell to 1-3.

Dr. Phillips 38, East Ridge 33

Jaeda Logan had six points and five rebounds and Katrina Morales had nine points as East Ridge fell 38-33 to Dr. Phillips on Monday. East Ridge was coming off a 49-46 win over Lake Wales on Friday. In that game Morales had 12 points and two rebounds, Lateisha Edwards had 10

points, five rebounds and three steals and Nicole Workman had 11 points, four assists and two steals. East Ridge (2-2) hosts Orlando Edgewater on Thursday.
BOYS BASKETBALL
Eustis 65, Umatilla 24
 Ricardo Wright dropped in 21 points Monday to power Eustis to a 65-24 win against Umatilla. Wright also paced the Panthers with seven rebounds. Keenon Benn scored 13 points and had three steals, and Jonathan Cannon had nine points and four rebounds. Alex Cruz led Umatilla with 10 points. Eustis improved to 2-1 on the season. Umatilla dropped to 0-3.

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL						
All times Eastern						
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	2	0	.833	348	223
Buffalo	6	6	0	.500	227	283
N.Y. Jets	5	7	0	.417	266	288
Miami	5	7	0	.417	209	298
SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	8	4	0	.667	266	282
Jacksonville	8	4	0	.667	299	178
Houston	4	8	0	.333	293	309
Indianapolis	3	9	0	.250	205	330
NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	10	2	0	.833	281	213
Baltimore	7	5	0	.583	280	207
Cincinnati	5	7	0	.417	219	238
Cleveland	0	12	0	.000	176	308
WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	6	6	0	.500	303	274
L.A. Chargers	6	6	0	.500	268	212
Oakland	6	6	0	.500	249	278
Denver	3	9	0	.250	206	315

NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	10	2	0	.833	361	215
Dallas	6	6	0	.500	286	284
Washington	5	7	0	.417	272	314
N.Y. Giants	2	10	0	.167	189	291
SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	9	3	0	.750	353	243
Carolina	8	4	0	.667	269	238
Atlanta	7	5	0	.583	274	244
Tampa Bay	4	8	0	.333	243	288
NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	10	2	0	.833	285	204
Detroit	6	6	0	.500	314	308
Green Bay	6	6	0	.500	258	281
Chicago	3	9	0	.250	191	267
WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
L.A. Rams	9	3	0	.750	361	222
Seattle	8	4	0	.667	290	222
Arizona	5	7	0	.417	219	310
San Francisco	2	10	0	.167	202	298

WEEK 13	
Thursday's Game	
Dallas 38, Washington 14	
Sunday's Games	
Minnesota 14, Atlanta 9	
San Francisco 15, Chicago 14	
New England 23, Buffalo 3	
Green Bay 26, Tampa Bay 20, OT	
Jacksonville 30, Indianapolis 10	
Baltimore 44, Detroit 20	
N.Y. Jets 38, Kansas City 31	
Miami 35, Denver 9	
Tennessee 24, Houston 13	
L.A. Chargers 19, Cleveland 10	
New Orleans 31, Carolina 21	
Oakland 24, N.Y. Giants 17	
L.A. Rams 32, Arizona 16	
Seattle 24, Philadelphia 10	
Monday's Game	
Pittsburgh 23, Cincinnati 20	

WEEK 14	
Thursday, Dec. 7	
New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:25 p.m.	
Sunday, Dec. 10	
Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.	
San Francisco at Houston, 1 p.m.	
Minnesota at Carolina, 1 p.m.	
Chicago at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.	
Green Bay at Cleveland, 1 p.m.	
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.	
Indianapolis at Buffalo, 1 p.m.	
Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.	
Washington at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.	
Tennessee at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.	
N.Y. Jets at Denver, 4:05 p.m.	
Seattle at Jacksonville, 4:25 p.m.	
Philadelphia at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m.	
Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 8:30 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 11	
New England at Miami, 8:30 p.m.	

LATE MONDAY	
STEELERS 23, BENGALS 20	
PITTSBURGH	0 3 7 13 — 23
CINCINNATI	10 7 3 0 — 20
First Quarter	
Cin—FG Bullock 35, 10:48.	
Cin—Green 8 pass from Dalton (Bullock kick), :41.	
Second Quarter	
Cin—Green 15 pass from Dalton (Bullock kick), :31.	
Pit—FG Boswell 30, :00.	
Third Quarter	
Pit—Bell 35 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 8:58.	
Cin—FG Bullock 41, 3:33.	
Fourth Quarter	
Pit—FG Boswell 37, 10:07.	
Pit—Brown 6 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 3:51.	
Pit—FG Boswell 38, :00.	
A—56, 0:29.	
PIT CIN	
First downs	24 19
Total Net Yards	374 353
Rushes-yards	22-922 22-130
Passing	28 22 23
Punt Returns	2-72-9
Kickoff Returns	2-382-29
Interceptions Ret.	0-0 1-0
Comp-Att-Int	24-40-121-36-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-82-11
Punts	4-44-55-49-2
Fumbles-Lost	0-0 0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-66 13-173
Time of Possession	29:49 30:11

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
RUSHING—Pittsburgh, Bell 18-76, Conner 3-12, Roethlisberger 1-4, Cincinnati, Bernard 13-77, Mixon 7-34, Dalton 2-19.	
PASSING—Pittsburgh, Roethlisberger 24-40-1-290, Cincinnati, Dalton 21-36-0-234.	
RECEIVING—Pittsburgh, Brown 8-101, Bell 5-106, Bryant 4-40, Smith-Schuster 4-17, James 1-13, Grimsble 1-9, Rogers 1-4, Cincinnati, Green 7-77, LaFell 4-55, Kroft 2-30, Bernard 2-19, Boyd 2-15, Malone 2-9, Uzomah 1-21, Mixon 1-8.	
MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.	

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA			
All times Eastern			
EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Atlantic Division	W	L	PCT. GB
Boston	21	4	.840 —
Toronto	14	7	.667 5
Philadelphia	13	10	.565 7
New York	11	12	.478 9
Brooklyn	9	14	.391 11
Southwest Division	W	L	PCT. GB
Washington	12	11	.522 —
Miami	11	12	.478 1
Charlotte	9	13	.409 2½
Orlando	10	15	.400 3
Atlanta	5	18	.217 7
Central Division	W	L	PCT. GB
Cleveland	17	7	.708 —
Detroit	14	9	.609 2½
Milwaukee	12	10	.545 4
Indiana	13	11	.542 4

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Southwest Division			
Chicago	3	19	.136 13
Houston	18	4	.818 —
San Antonio	16	8	.667 3
New Orleans	12	12	.500 7
Memphis	8	15	.348 10½
Dallas	7	17	.292 12
Northwest Division	W	L	PCT. GB
Portland	13	10	.565 —
Denver	13	10	.565 —
Minnesota	14	11	.560 —
Utah	13	11	.542 ½
Oklahoma City	10	12	.455 2½
Pacific Division	W	L	PCT. GB
Golden State	19	6	.760 —
L.A. Clippers	8	14	.364 9½
Phoenix	9	16	.360 10
L.A. Lakers	8	15	.348 10
Sacramento	7	16	.304 11

Monday's Games	
Indiana 115, New York 97	
Charlotte 104, Orlando 94	
Phoenix 115, Philadelphia 101	
Brooklyn 110, Atlanta 90	
Boston 111, Milwaukee 100	
Cleveland 113, Chicago 91	
Golden State 125, New Orleans 115	
Memphis 95, Minnesota 92	
Dallas 122, Denver 105	
San Antonio 96, Detroit 93	
Utah 116, Washington 69	
Tuesday's Games	
Phoenix at Toronto, late	
Utah at Oklahoma City, late	
Washington at Portland, late	
Today's Games	
Atlanta at Orlando, 7 p.m.	
Chicago at Indiana, 7 p.m.	
Sacramento at Cleveland, 7 p.m.	
Dallas at Boston, 7:30 p.m.	
Memphis at New York, 7:30 p.m.	
Denver at New Orleans, 8 p.m.	
Detroit at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.	
Golden State at Charlotte, 8 p.m.	
Miami at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.	
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.	
Thursday's Games	
L.A. Lakers at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.	
Washington at Phoenix, 9 p.m.	
Oklahoma City vs. Brooklyn at Mexico City, 10 p.m.	
Houston at Utah, 10:30 p.m.	
Friday's Games	
Chicago at Charlotte, 7 p.m.	
Cleveland at Indiana, 7 p.m.	
Denver at Orlando, 7 p.m.	
Golden State at Detroit, 7 p.m.	
Dallas at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.	
Sacramento at New Orleans, 8 p.m.	
Toronto at Memphis, 8 p.m.	
Boston at San Antonio, 9:30 p.m.	

WEEK 13	
Thursday's Game	
Dallas 38, Washington 14	
Sunday's Games	
Minnesota 14, Atlanta 9	
San Francisco 15, Chicago 14	
New England 23, Buffalo 3	
Green Bay 26, Tampa Bay 20, OT	
Jacksonville 30, Indianapolis 10	
Baltimore 44, Detroit 20	
N.Y. Jets 38, Kansas City 31	
Miami 35, Denver 9	
Tennessee 24, Houston 13	
L.A. Chargers 19, Cleveland 10	
New Orleans 31, Carolina 21	
Oakland 24, N.Y. Giants 17	
L.A. Rams 32, Arizona 16	
Seattle 24, Philadelphia 10	
Monday's Game	
Pittsburgh 23, Cincinnati 20	

ODDS

PREGAME.COM LINE			
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION			
Today			
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Orlando	6	217	Atlanta
at Indiana	9½	209	Chicago
at Cleveland	12½	210½	Sacramento
at New York	Off	Off	Memphis
at Boston	8½	203	Dallas
at New Orleans	Off	Off	Denver
Golden State	5	219½	at Charlotte
at Milwaukee	3	205	Detroit
at San Antonio	7½	197½	Miami
Minnesota	5½	213½	at LA Clippers

COLLEGE BASKETBALL			
Today			
FAVORITE	OPEN	UNDERDOG	
at Providence	21	Brown	
at Old Dominion	11	Richmond	
at Temple	3	Wisconsin	
Oakland	1½	at E. Michigan	
at George Wash.	2½	Princeton	
at W Michigan	12½	Cleveland State	
at George Mason	5	William & Mary	
Harvard	1½	at Fordham	
at South Carolina	9	Wyoming	
Buffalo	4	at Delaware	
Toledo	5	at Detroit	
at Xavier	22	Kent State	
at Saint Louis	Pk	S. Illinois	
at BYU	8½	Illinois State	
Indiana State	2	at North Texas	
at Vanderbilt	2	Middle Tennessee	
at Alabama	4½	Rhode Island	
at Utah State	6	UC Irvine	
at Kansas	22	Washington	
at Florida	15½	Loyola of Chicago	
at Colorado	7½	New Mexico	
at Portland	Pk	Cal State-Fullerton	
at UC Davis	7	Pacific	
Portland State	1	at Loyola Marymount	

UCF picks Josh Heupel to be Knights' next football coach

The Associated Press

ORLANDO — UCF didn't take long to hire someone to lead its rejuvenated football program.

The university announced Tuesday that Josh Heupel will be the Knights' next football coach. The move comes about 72 hours after Scott Frost announced Saturday he was leaving UCF to become the coach at Nebraska.

"Coach Frost did an outstanding job," Heupel said Tuesday at his introductory news conference. "My job to continue to develop those relationships and continuity. I look forward to that. We need to play smart football but we also have to be physical."

Heupel, who has been the offensive coordinator at Missouri the past two seasons, inherits a Knights program that just finished 12-0 to win the American Athletic Conference title. The Knights will play Auburn in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl in Atlanta on Jan. 1.

He will not coach the Knights in the bowl game, but will watch in from a booth at Mercedes-Benz



Missouri offensive coordinator Josh Heupel watches his team play during a spring football game last year in Columbia, Mo. Heupel, who has been the offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Missouri the past two seasons, was hired Tuesday as UCF's new football coach. [AP PHOTO / L.G. PATTERSON, FILE]

stadium. UCF is working on logistics that would allow Frost to coach that game.

Heupel said he was able to catch "bits and pieces" of UCF's play this season.

"There are special players coming back when you look at the roster. For the most part the nucleus on both sides of the ball are coming back," Heupel said. "There is a great quarterback coming back who made plays with both his arms and legs. Always great to have that piece

coming back."

Heupel said in a statement before the news conference that he is excited to get a staff together and get to work. He didn't take long to start assembling his assistants.

Shortly after Heupel was named coach, he announced that he was bringing in Randy Shannon as his defensive coordinator. The former Miami coach finished the season as Florida's interim coach.

"When I was first contacted I poured over some guys who I wanted," Heupel said. "Me being an offensive guy, getting the right hire on defense was critical. I have competed and coached against Randy. He plays a 3-4 scheme and believes in multiple coverages. Has a rich history in Florida and recruiting and that's the life blood of our program."

Athletic director Danny White believes UCF has "identified one of the brightest minds in college football" in Heupel.

"You could see his knowledge," White said. "He is one of brightest offensive minds in the game. It puts us in a great position moving ahead.

I'm confident we can continue the momentum."

Heupel, indeed, arrives with an impressive resume, having helped Sam Bradford win a Heisman Trophy winner as offensive coordinator at Oklahoma and getting Missouri's offense on track over the past two seasons.

Heupel said he runs a no huddle and fast paced style of offense.

"That's the style they want and that's what's important to me," he said. "That's why I want an aggressive style on defense as well."

Missouri's Drew Lock led the Southeastern Conference in passing this season, throwing for 3,695 yards and 43 touchdowns vs. 12 interceptions. The Tigers improved from four wins in 2016 to 7-5 and will face Texas in the Texas Bowl later this month.

Frost led a stunning turnaround at UCF, which finished 0-12 just two years ago.

Like Frost, Heupel is a former college quarterback who won a national championship as a player.

With Heupel leading the way, Oklahoma won in 2000.

TAGGERT

From Page B1

seasons as head coach at his alma mater, Western Kentucky, inheriting a winless program that he turned around with back-to-back winning seasons.

The Seminoles have entered new territory following Fisher's departure.

Taggart, and Odell Haggins — Fisher's replacement on an interim basis — are the first black head football coaches at Florida State. Haggins will hold the position for two games before turning over the reins to Taggart.

Haggins led the Seminoles (6-6) to a 42-10 win over Louisiana-Monroe in Saturday's regular-season finale. He will coach the Seminoles in

the Dec. 27 Independence Bowl against Southern Mississippi.

This was the first time Florida State had to conduct a coaching search since 1975.

Bobby Bowden was the Seminoles' coach for 34 seasons and put the program on the map with two national championships. Fisher was hired as offensive coordinator in 2007 and was also named as the head-coach-in-waiting. He took over in 2010 following Bowden's retirement.

When Taggart was hired by Oregon, he said he had three basic tenets: "Make no excuses, blame no one, do something." "Do Something" became his tagline for his first season with the Ducks.

Oregon started this past season 4-1 and even

briefly popped into the AP rankings, but starting quarterback Justin Herbert broke his collarbone and the Ducks floundered, going 1-4 without him.

Herbert returned for the final two games of the season, both wins that got the Ducks into a bowl game in Taggart's lone season. Co-offensive coordinator and offensive line coach Mario Cristobal will be the interim head coach when Oregon faces Boise State in the Las Vegas Bowl on Dec. 16.

Taggart will be tasked with restoring a Florida State program that has failed to live up to expectations the past two seasons.

Since winning 33 of 34 games between 2013 and '15, including a national championship, The Seminoles are 20-12, including 10-10 in the ACC. Florida

State was ranked third in the Top 25 preseason poll but lost quarterback Deondre Francois in the opener against Alabama and was beset by other injuries.

They won their final three games to finish 6-6 and extend their bowl streak to 36 consecutive seasons.

Taggart's contract with Oregon was for \$16 million over five years that includes a \$3 million buyout if he left before Jan. 31, 2018. He was offered a four year, \$20 million extension a week ago when it appeared that the Florida State job would be open.

His first job at Florida State will be salvaging a recruiting class that saw six prospects over the past week announce that they were reopening their searches of where to attend college.

ROBINSON

From Page B1

formality. Given what happened at the beginning of the season, we agreed we would get together at the end of the year and see if we had the same vision moving forward."

Robinson, who was East Ridge's offensive coordinator before Peera resigned, coached at three schools prior to arriving at East Ridge — Orlando Olympia, Ocala Lake Weir and Jacksonville Mandarin.

At Olympia, Robinson coached quarterback Trevor Siemian, who threw for 6,144 yards and

53 touchdowns in three seasons with the Titans.

Siemian went on to play at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and is currently playing with the Denver Broncos.

Robinson also coached at the professional level, working as an assistant in 2010 with the Jacksonville Sharks of the Arena Football League. The Sharks posted a 12-4 record that season.

This season at East Ridge, Robinson led the Knights to a 7-3 record during the regular season and a berth in the FHSAA state playoffs.

It was a big turnaround from when Robinson started with East Ridge and the team went 0-10 in 2014.

From the opening game of the season, a 30-7 win at Orlando Colonial, it was clear Robinson wasn't going to let the Knights use outside distractions as an excuse.

"That's really a credit to the other guys on the staff," Robinson said. "It would have been easy to go the other direction and use all the stuff that was going on as a reason not to be successful. But in life you have to find a way to be successful no matter what challenges you face."

Robinson shedding

the interim title may not mean much inside the East Ridge program, where people in the program expected him to be named the head coach, but it does provide stability for the Knights and send a message around the area.

"It put to rest all the scuttlebutt outside the program about what's going to happen," Robinson said. "Around the program everyone anticipated that I was going to be the guy. But it's good to have that security and know the direction we are going."

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HOF

From Page B1

always played well."

Spurrier and Manning were inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame on Tuesday night at the National Football Foundation's awards banquet in Manhattan.

The rest of the players in Hall of Fame class included Marshall Faulk of San Diego State; 2004 Heisman Trophy winner Matt Leinart of Southern California; Bob Crable of Notre Dame; Kirk Gibson, the National League MVP in 1988 and former Michigan State receiver; Bob McKay of Texas; Dat Nguyen of Texas A&M; Mike Ruth of Boston College; Brian Urlacher of New Mexico; and Adrian Peterson of Georgia Southern.

"He's the real Adrian Peterson," Urlacher said of his old Chicago Bears teammate.

Peterson's college career ended in 2001, a few years before that other Adrian Peterson became a star at Oklahoma and went on to a brilliant career in the NFL. This Peterson still holds the Division I career rushing record with 6,559 yards.

Peterson said he always remembered what his first football coach told him when he was growing up in Alachua, Florida.

"You should never let one person bring you down. From the age of 6, that kind of stuck with me," he said.

The other coaches inducted into the Hall of Fame were Larry Kehres, who led Division III Mount Union to 11 national titles and a .930 winning percentage in 27 seasons, and Danny Ford, who coached Clemson to its first national championship at the age of 33.

Spurrier became the fourth person to be inducted into the hall as both a player and a coach. Spurrier started his head coaching career at Duke from 1987-89 and credited his time there with

allowing him to understand what it took to have a winning team.

"The offense had to play close to perfect just about every game. We couldn't play stupid and have touchdowns called back to have any chance to win. We had outstanding offensive guys. Defense was a little light, but they played their hearts out. So whatever kind of coach I became, I think I learned it at Duke University," Spurrier said.

He went on to coach at Florida, where he also won the Heisman in 1966, and went 122-27-1 with the Gators, including a national title in 1996. After a brief stint with the Washington Redskins, he returned to college with South Carolina and became its winningest coach, too.

Manning played four years at Tennessee, passing up a chance to leave early and be a high draft pick. He finished with 11,201 yards passing and 89 touchdown passes and was second in the Heisman Trophy voting in 1997.

He follows in father Archie Manning's footsteps to the Hall of Fame. They are first father-son duo to be inducted into the College Football hall. Archie Manning was a star at Mississippi before going on to a long and successful NFL career, mostly with the New Orleans Saints. Peyton Manning said he was 13 when his father was inducted and recalled being allowed to skip school with his brothers, Eli and Cooper, to attend the ceremony.

"First time wearing a tuxedo; first time being in New York. So that was a big deal," Peyton Manning said. "But I can remember what a big deal it was to my dad, that honor. A lot of Ole Miss people were here."

Manning said he allowed his kids to skip school to be at the ceremony, too.

"So it's kind of surreal thinking I'm going to experience that same moment tonight," Manning said.

WRESTLER

From Page B1

for just three weeks and by the end of the season, she's going to be a totally different wrestler than she is now."

And so will her teammates.

To help them better understand the obstacles Vega-Acevedo must overcome in her daily life, South Lake coach Jamie Boval had his team spend a portion of a recent practice wearing ear plugs.

"It was a very quiet practice," Boval said. "It gave everyone some insight into Itzel's world. They identified with her.

Even though they always accepted her and made her feel like a part of the team, that experience really brought them all together."

For now, Vega-Acevedo continues to work with the goal of having her arm raised in victory. She came close to cracking the win column over the weekend, but was pinned after controlling the early portion of a co-ed match.

Likewise, she was unable to pick up a win during Tuesday's competition at South Lake.

"I love being on this team," Vega-Acevedo said. "Everyone has been so great and helpful. I'm going to keep working at it and trying to get a win."

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RECREATION

Clermont swimmer makes a record haul

Charlie Weatherbee earns 4 golds and 2 state records at Senior Games

Staff Report

Clermont swimmer Charlie Weatherbee made his debut in the 85-89 age group over the weekend at the Florida Senior Games in Clearwater just two months after suffering a heart attack.

All in all, Weatherbee felt he could have done a lot better. It's hard to see how. Weatherbee only finished with four gold medals, a silver medal and two state records in his age group.

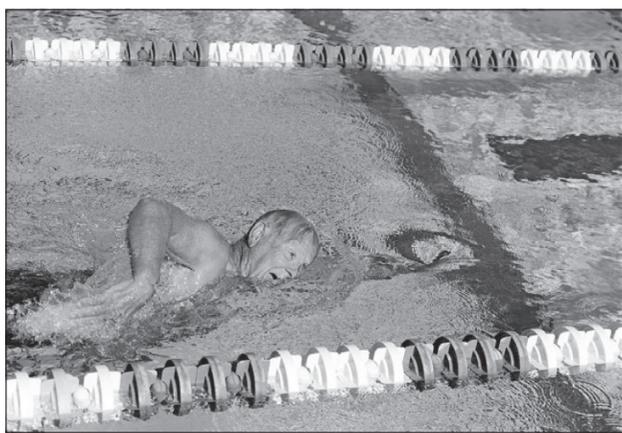
"My swims were really nothing to write home about by my standards," Weatherbee said. "But the best part is I realized that I have a shot to break my own records next year."

Weatherbee picked up a gold medal in the 200 Individual Medley, setting a Florida Senior Games record with a time of 4:29.60. That broke Howard Hall's 12-year-old record in the age group by more than 1:35.

He also won gold and set a state record in the 100 free and added gold medals in the 100 IM and 100 back. He picked up a silver medal in the 100 breaststroke.

"The results were good, but there's a lot of room for improvement," Weatherbee said. "I don't like to be too critical of myself because I don't know what the heart attack has taken out of me. But it's not that I'd like to do better, I know I can do better."

Weatherbee wasn't alone in



Charlie Weatherbee practices at the National Training Center recently. Weatherbee won four gold medals and a silver medal and set two state records in the Florida Senior Games over the weekend.

[PAUL RYAN / CORRESPONDENT]

his record-breaking performance with John Cornell of Lady Lake setting five records in the 90-94 age group. On Sunday, he became the age group record holder for the 50 and 100 yard freestyle and 50 backstroke.

In other sports at the Games, Carol Teel, of The Villages, teamed with Cristy Morawski, of Milton, to win a women's doubles gold with record-setting score in the 60-64 age group. Winning a pair of shuffleboard gold medals over the weekend was Dave Dean, of The Villages, whose last Florida Senior Games appearance came on the tennis and pickleball courts. Dean won the men's singles gold in the 80-84 age group on Saturday and teamed with Robert Brandt on Sunday to win a doubles gold medal.

Dean won Florida Senior Games tennis and pickleball

gold medals in 75-79 age group in 2012. He turned to shuffleboard to keep his competitive juices flowing after major surgery on his foot and ankle two years ago.

"I can't run well so I had to give up racquet sports," Dean said. "I took up shuffleboard and have been doing very well with it, especially with my partner in doubles."

In the 60-64 age group, the Vintage Volleys volleyball team, from The Villages, defeated the Vintage Volleys Senior Team in three games for the gold medal. After dropping game one 25-13, the Junior Volleys won the next two games 25-22 and 15-5. The gold medal winning Vintage Volleys team is made up of Terry Thomas, Heath Davenport, Mimi Morrill, Nanc Dumonz, Barbie Strome, Chris Pusch, Suzanne Vallario and Renie Curry.

NEWS & NOTES

To submit news or notes for the weekly recreation page, contact Sports Editor Paul Jenkins at paul.jenkins@dailycommercial.com or 352-365-8204.

YMCA opens registration for winter youth leagues

The Golden Triangle YMCA has early registration open for youth winter leagues in basketball (ages 3-high school) flag football (fourth-grade to high school and 3v3 soccer (K-middle school). The YMCA also has 40+ basketball for members only.

Registration can be done at the facility, 1465 David Walker Drive, Tavares.

For more information, contact the YMCA at 352-343-1144.

Eustis holding Simply Gentle Yoga classes

The city of Eustis Parks and Recreation Department is offering Simply Gentle Yoga classes twice a week. The classes will be held on Mondays at 5:15 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. and the cost is \$7 per session.

The classes will be held in the Lakeview Room at the Eustis Community Center, 601 Northshore Drive.

Certified yoga instructor Nancy LaPointe will lead the classes that will combine chair, standing and floor work. Participants will learn techniques for healthy self-care; ways to move to keep your body strong and flexible; how to strengthen your balance

muscles and healthy breathing techniques to manage stress and anxiety and to help you sleep.

Contact the Eustis Recreation Department at 352-357-8510 or LaPointe at 352-383-1923 for more information.

Golf tournament benefits Eustis baseball team

The Eustis High School baseball team will host a golf tournament on Dec. 16 at Black Bear Golf & Country Club to raise money for the program. The tournament will start at 8:30 a.m. with registration starting at 7 a.m.

Cost is \$75 per player or \$260 for a foursome. Call David Lee at 352-602-3295 for more information.

Eustis holding annual Winter Break camp for kids

The Eustis Parks and Recreation Department will hold its annual Winter Break camp for boys and girls in grades K-5.

The camp will run Dec. 27-29 and Jan. 2-3 from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will be held at Carver Park, 2214 E. Bates Ave.

Cost is \$125 per child for all five dates or \$40 daily and includes all field trips.

Activities will include, organized games, crafts, movies, video games, making a gingerbread house, bowling, roller skating and more.

Registration and fees are due by Dec. 15.

For more information, call 352-357-8510.

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DINE

Tom McNiff, editor
352-365-8250
tom.mcniff@dailycommercial.com



TIP OF THE WEEK

DRESS UP YOUR BOWL OF RAMEN

Try adding one of these add-ins to ramen noodles, courtesy of the Wise Bread blog.

- One beaten egg (stir it right into the soup)
- A spoonful or two of kimchi.
- Leftover shredded chicken.
- Canned soup (just skip the sauce packet).
- Baby spinach.
- Asian condiments, like sriracha, soy and mirin sauce.
- Frozen peas or edamame.
- Frozen dumplings or frozen shrimp.

HOLIDAY EATING

TRY THIS 'FRUITCAKE'

Don't like fruitcake? You might change your mind after eating Midwest Living's bark candy version:

Buy the best-quality chocolate — approximately a pound's worth — you can afford. Chop the chocolate and melt it in a microwave or double-boiler. Spread chocolate on parchment paper or waxed paper and top with walnuts and mixed dried fruit, such as apricots, cherries and raisins.

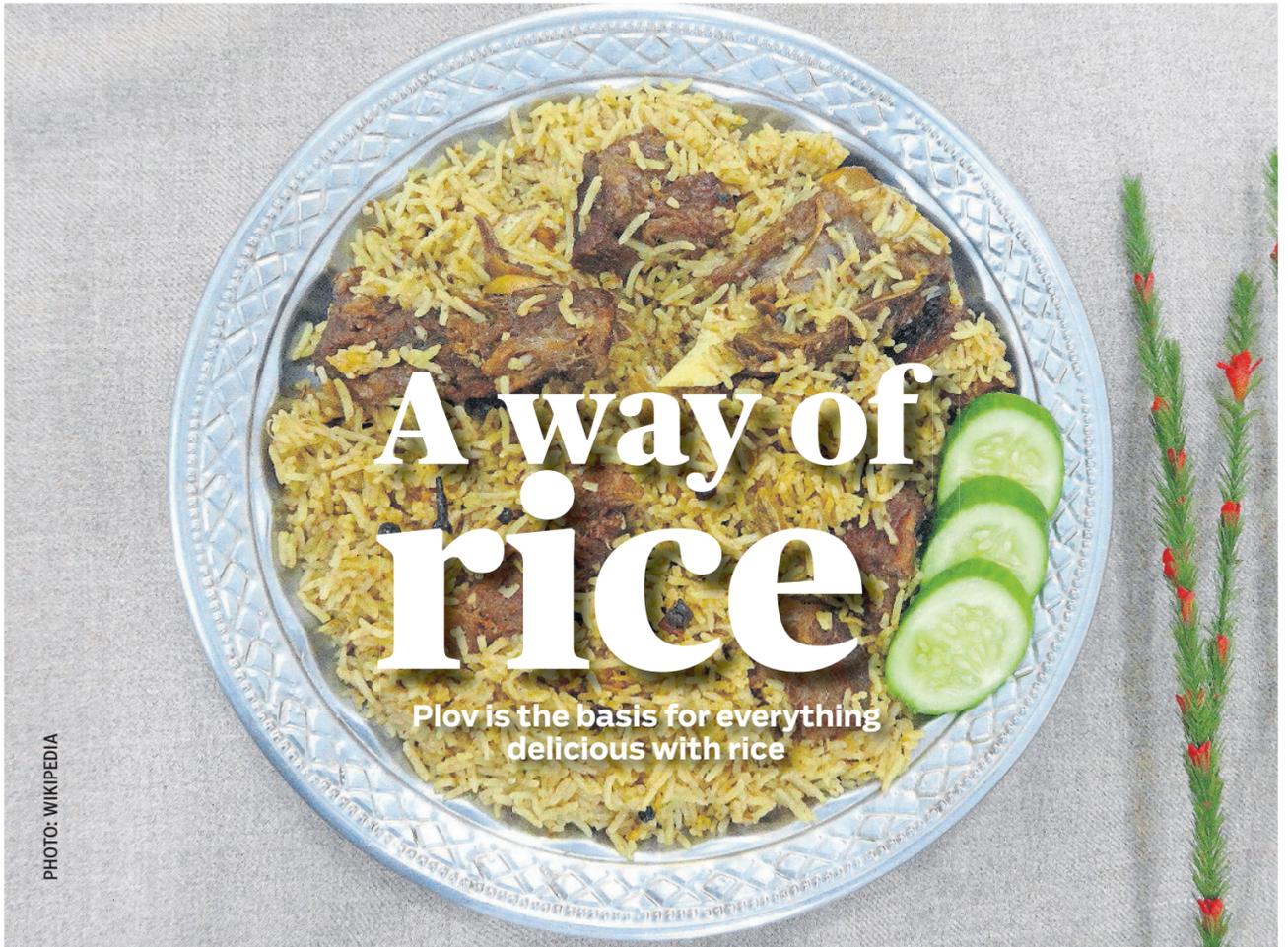
Let bark cool, then chop into bite-size pieces and serve.

EASY RECIPE

PARTY SHRIMP

Ingredients: 1 9-ounce package Jumbo Butterfly Shrimp; 12 1-inch pieces of roasted red pepper; 12 1-inch-by-4-inch strips of prosciutto; 12 small basil leaves.

Preheat oven to 425 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. While shrimp is still frozen, place one piece of roasted red pepper on the shrimp. Wrap prosciutto strip around the pepper and shrimp and place on the prepared baking sheet (ends to the underside). Bake according to package directions for 14 to 17 minutes or until shrimp is cooked through.



A way of rice

Plov is the basis for everything delicious with rice

Most historians and linguists trace the origins of plov to an Indian dish similar to what is now called pulao, based on the Sanskrit "pulaka." Thanks to mother Russia acting as a culinary conduit, the popularity of plov has spread throughout the former USSR.

By Ari LeVaux
More Content Now

Years ago, I was initiated into the ways of plov by a group of Uzbek businessmen. Plov is a Central Asian dish of rice, meat and vegetables. It is the father of rice pilaf, they told me, along with many other related dishes, such as paella.

The Uzbek businessmen were in town for a conference at the University of Montana, and by night they made plov at the campus International House. And I was eating it up.

The underlying techniques involved in plov can be found anywhere in the world that rice is grown and consumed, from Guyanese Cook-Up Rice to that San Francisco treat Rice-a-Roni.

The recipe

The basic idea is to fry the meat, onions, garlic, carrots and spices into a browned, greasy mix, add rice and water or stock, and let it cook until the rice has absorbed all of the water and is perfectly done. If you have a piece of lamb or mutton fat, use a potato masher to squeeze out the oil, and don't let the heat above medium, so it won't burn. When the pan has sufficient oil to cover the bottom, add chunks of meat.

The gaminess of old sheep, aka mutton, is the perfect counterbalance to the cumin, coriander and other spices that are used. But mutton can be

hard to get. Goat plov is good, too, although fat would have to be added because those gamey critters don't pack much. As it is, lamb is the most authentic and most widely available option, though making plov from lamb is kind of like making stew out of ribeye.

My plov recipe has evolved with wild game, as that is what I have on hand. And as it happens wild game has some flavor, and can stand a good cooking.

But since deer and elk are lean, and what fat they have congeals way too easily for comfort, I go with the extra virgin olive oil. Butter or bacon can also be used.

When the meat is nicely browned, add an onion, sliced in half and then thinly from end to end. When the onions are soft and light brown, add the cloves of a head of garlic, chopped, and a tablespoon each of cumin and coriander, ideally freshly ground, and a teaspoon each of salt and ground black pepper. Add carrots, grated or sliced — about 2 to 5 carrots, depending on size; enough to completely cover the onions and meat — and stir it all together. Somewhere in there, I add a glass or two of red wine.

Add 2 cups of rice, and about five cups of water or stock. If using starchy rice like jasmine, rinse it several times first.

Cover, and simmer over medium heat until the rice is done. Stay in touch with the rice as it cooks. Depending on the variety you use, it may be

necessary to add more water until the rice is fully cooked.

Let the plov rest for about 15 minutes with the lid on before serving. This lets the flavors settle and come to terms with one another, and for the moisture to distribute itself evenly. Then, fluff the plov with a wooden spoon or spatula, and serve. All of the water should be absorbed, and the rice should be light and perfect.

The flavor

That shot of wine is not authentic, but it adds a nice base of umami, as if soy sauce were used. I don't know what they would have to say about this in the "-stans," but it works for me. Along similar acidic, umami lines, I don't think a tomato, or a dab of tomato product — ketchup even — hurts the plov.

My version may not be authentic, but it is rooted in deep authenticity. It has changed with the times and the places and the ingredients, and ultimately my im-plov-isations. It can even be made without meat. And it's delicious.

Plov, and related techniques, are just a good way to cook rice.

— Ari LeVaux writes *Flash in the Pan*, a syndicated weekly food column that's appeared in more than 50 newspapers in 25 states. Ari lives in Montana and New Mexico and can be reached at flash@flashinthepan.net. Follow him on Twitter at @arilevaux

ROAMING GOURMET

Gingerbread brings out the holiday spirit



Ze Carter

The fall season reminds me of the aroma of pumpkin and cinnamon. Then, when winter finally rolls around, the smell turns to peppermint and gingerbread. I think a Christmas celebration is not official without a gingerbread item.

My non-profit organization is having a bake sale fundraiser in the Sears wing of Via Port Florida mall, and we are asked all the time for gingerbread anything. I guess I am not the only one who feels that the holiday is not complete without the smell of gingerbread in the air.

We were so excited when the new owners of the mall called and invited us to help

them celebrate the season and donated a space for us to have a bake sale. It was their way of showing their commitment to the community. I think it is a good start. We have been in the mall daily, and there are signs of at least three new stores coming soon. I am happy to see that there are positive changes happening.

Many of our items for the bake sale are donated, and we are always happy to receive gingerbread cookies from my daughter, Joy. Her whimsical decorations remind me to keep the season merry and bright. I wanted to spread the love and share a gingerbread cookie recipe with you. If you don't have a gingerbread man cookie cutter, don't sweat it. The round cookies taste just as good.

ZE'S GINGERBREAD COOKIES

Ingredients

¾ cup butter-flavored



Daily Commercial columnist Ze Carter says a Christmas celebration is not official without a gingerbread item. [GATEHOUSE MEDIA FILE]

shortening (I use Crisco)
¾ cup molasses
¾ cup dark brown sugar
1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
2 teaspoons ground ginger
¼ teaspoon allspice
1 large egg
1 teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon baking soda
3 ½ cups all-purpose flour

Directions

1. In a large mixing bowl, cream together dark brown sugar, molasses, salt and spices. Add egg and mix until just combined.

2. In a separate bowl, mix together flour, baking soda, baking powder, then add dry ingredients

See CARTER, C3

Breakfast options for holiday guests



Prudence Hilburn

During the holidays, we sometimes have unexpected guests drop by, and that could mean having to prepare something interesting for breakfast or brunch. It is always good to have a breakfast casserole such as the following Good Morning Casserole ready to pop into the oven. These also freeze well, which is a bonus.

This is a great “do your own thing” type casserole. You can use just about anything you have on hand in this delicious breakfast treat.

I recently wrote a column about quick

breads in which I mentioned one of my favorites, but I failed to include this Sweet Potato and Apple Butter Bread recipe. I have had several requests for this recipe, and since it would be great to have on hand for a quick breakfast, I decided to include it today.

A caramel-flavored butter would be great to spread on this bread.

Good Morning Casserole

- 2 cups seasoned croutons
- 1 cup shredded Colby Jack cheese
- 4 oz. jar mushroom pieces (do not drain)
- 1 ½ lb. pork sausage
- ½ cup chopped onions
- 2 ½ cups milk divided
- 6 eggs
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 can (10 ¾ oz.) cream of mushroom soup

Pour croutons in lightly greased 9x13x2-inch baking pan. Put cheese and mushrooms over the croutons. Cook sausage and onions until sausage is browned. Drain well. Spread over the cheese/mushrooms. Combine 2 cups milk, eggs, salt, black pepper and dry mustard. Whisk to blend. Pour over sausage. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight. Remove from refrigerator the next morning. Beat together the remaining ½ cup milk with the soup. Pour over top of casserole. Bake at 350 degrees 50 to 60 minutes.

Sweet potato and apple butter bread

- 1/3 cup softened butter
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup packed light brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2/3 cup cooked and mashed sweet potato

• ½ cup apple butter
• 2 cups self-rising flour (see note below)
• ½ cup chopped pecans (or walnuts)
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and lightly flour a 9x5-inch loaf pan. In large bowl, combine butter, sugar, brown sugar, eggs, vanilla, sweet potatoes and apple butter.

Beat until well mixed. Gradually add flour and mix well. Stir in pecans. Spoon into loaf pan and bake for about 55 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean when inserted into center of loaf. Turn out of pan immediately onto rack.

NOTE: If using all-purpose flour, add 3 teaspoons baking powder and ¾ teaspoon salt.

— Prudence Hilburn has won more than 30 national cooking awards and written several cookbooks. Write her at prudencehilburn@aol.com.

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Labeling processed foods as ‘clean’ make us feel safe – that’s a problem

By Tamar Haspel
The Washington Post

What happens when you take the artificial colors, flavors and preservatives out of Pillsbury slice-and-bake chocolate chip cookies?

You have a revolt on your hands, that’s what. From the moderate, “definitely not a huge fan of the new recipe” to the immoderate, “Horrible ughhhh I’m soooooo disappointed,” the reviews on Pillsbury’s website gave new meaning to “cookie pan.”

Read through them, though, and you’ll find another thread. Consumers weren’t objecting just to flavor (or texture, or how the cookies baked up, or the number of chocolate chips); they were objecting to the idea that Pillsbury

wanted to make the cookies more healthful.

“People do NOT bake Pillsbury cookies because they’re ‘natural’ or ‘healthy’ or ‘good for us’ or environmentally sound or any of the other nonsense that’s being shoved down our throats in the name of . . . what? . . . ‘gastronomical correctness?’” said commenter LadyMidnight. It was an attitude that ran through many of the comments, summed up succinctly by Lfsuave: “If I wanted a healthy snack I would eat spinach.”

I asked Pillsbury about the cookies. Tammy Swanson, of General Mills’ public relations department, sent me the company’s statement on the reformulation, which said the decision to “remove artificial flavors, colors, preservatives, and

high fructose corn syrup” was something “many consumers were asking for.” I also asked about sales, to no avail. “There is nothing of note to share with you,” Swanson said.

In reformulating the cookie dough recipe, Pillsbury was on trend. “Clean eating” is the new black, the new kale, the new, new thing. A recent survey from the International Food Information Council (IFIC), an industry group that researches buying habits, found that 61 percent of consumers say recognizing ingredients on packaged foods is important to their purchase decision.

Born of fear of things artificial, that impulse has consumers clamoring for foods that fit that description, and the clamor is driving food companies, restaurants and supermarkets to reformulate products to suit — all the while protecting that segment of their customer base that hates the idea.

The key question is whether those reformulated foods are really any better for you. In the main, they are not.

That doesn’t mean all additives are guaranteed to be safe or that the evaluation process is as robust and transparent as it should be. It just means that focusing on “naturalness” is a lousy way to reduce risk, because plenty of artificial ingredients are harmless, and plenty of natural ones aren’t.

A report issued earlier this year by the Center for Science in the Public

Interest identifies some artificial ingredients that pose risks (among them some artificial colors and preservatives), and report author Lisa Lefferts told me, “We’re glad to see companies get rid of some additives that have a questionable safety record.” But the report concludes that most additives are safe, and “the biggest risks are from the foods themselves, not the additives,” according to Lefferts, who lists salt, sugar, saturated fat and a lack of fiber and nutrients as larger problems.

Let’s be clear: People disagree about additives. It’s easy to find experts who think they’re either more or less dangerous than CSPI says. But in my two decades of reporting on nutrition, I have found a lot of support for the idea that, on the list of food-related risks, additives rank pretty low.

Okay, so clean labels may not be doing any good. But are they doing harm?

They very well might be. Several things happen as a result of clean labels, and none are any good.

First is the danger that the clean versions of foods that aren’t any more healthful than their originals are nevertheless viewed as better for you. There’s a large body of research on what consumers do with foods that have a health halo: They eat more of them. “There is a concern that consumers will mistake a ‘clean’ label for ‘healthful’ and consume foods that are ‘clean’ but not healthful,” Lefferts says.

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PRACTICAL POT WATCHER

Simple things can make great Christmas surprises for cooks



Mary Ryder

Not everyone among us can be considered a cook, but even those whose culinary effort is limited to turning on the coffee maker or scrambling the occasional egg can find time in the kitchen made easier, more amusing, more adventurous and even more productive by a well thought-out kitchen gift.

I learned this lesson in my bachelorette days when my idea of major cookery was making tuna salad sandwich spread, baking a potato or melting cheese into scrambled eggs and calling the result an omelette.

I still remember opening a Christmas gift from a close friend and trying hard not to look shocked when the wrappings fell away to reveal a pair of tongs for retrieving sterilized baby bottles from boiling water.

My friend Catherine chuckled. "I know you don't need a pair of baby tongs," she said. "But you won't believe what a useful kitchen tool this can be." Six months later I wondered how I had ever lived without them. They were much better than a spoon for fishing out boiled eggs, perfect for taking baked potatoes from the oven or for getting that one bit of pasta or a single green bean from the pot to test for doneness ... and the list continued to grow.

After all these years, I still discover new uses for them, but now, when they need replacing, I look for the new pair of tongs among the store's kitchen tools rather than in the baby department.

Kitchen timers are also among the indispensable luxuries of a cook's life. True, your stove and your microwave oven have their own built-in timers, but all too often

the timer display is not easily read. Besides, it's nice to be able to take your timer along when you're doing something in another room. I've seen some whimsical timers in the shape of animals — just perfect for dropping in your pocket while you work in the garden or tidy up the bedroom.

Less portable, but great for the cook who now wants large-print cookbooks, is a simple timer about 6 inches in diameter, with oversized numbers and magnets for mounting it on the refrigerator.

On the \$5 table at one of my favorite kitchen stores I recently found a neat little gadget. The label calls it a frother, and while I can see its value for turning out a cup of fancy, frothy coffee or a mug of hot chocolate, it's also great for beating a single egg, or whipping two or three egg whites.

It operates on two AA batteries, not included, so you might want to grab a package of them while you're in the store. And if the recipient is an arthritic grandmother or aunt, it's even kinder to go ahead and fight your way through the plastic covering, open up the battery compartment and install the batteries yourself.

Admittedly, no one really needs a spoon rest. You can always set a saucer on the stove and use that to hold

your cooking spoons. But a spoon rest can add a bright note to the kitchen, and there are designs and colors to fit almost anyone's kitchen décor.

Bag clips are also unnecessary but nice. I think the original idea was to keep chips from losing their crispness by resealing the bag, but they also help protect the flour or sugar left in the bag because it wouldn't fit in your canister.

Again, this is something you don't really have to buy. It's easy enough to improvise with clothespins or giant paper clips. Or you can keep an eye peeled for those given away as advertising.

But for something bright and cheerful and useful, for you or a friend, why not splurge on a batch of clips in a favorite color? Or find a set decorated with a popular motif. I've seen them adorned with mustaches and with various animals.

There's even one shaped like a cat's head, and when you open the clip it yowls. That just might be the perfect solution for the young mother who has trouble keeping Johnny and Susie from raiding the Oreos between meals.

Mary Ryder is a food columnist for the Daily Commercial. Email her at practicalpot-watcher@cfl.rr.com.



Mary Ryder writes, "I still remember opening a Christmas gift from a close friend and trying hard not to look shocked when the wrappings fell away to reveal a pair of tongs for retrieving sterilized baby bottles from boiling water."

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CARTER

From Page C1

to the wet ingredients. Mix until combined.

3. Divide dough into four equal parts. Wrap each section in plastic wrap and place in fridge for 1 hour.

4. Once dough is chilled, preheat oven to 350 degrees, take one ball out at a time and place on a clean, floured surface. You can roll dough 1/4 of an inch thick for softer cookies, the thinner you roll them the crispier they will be.

5. Place flour on top and bottom of cookie before you begin to roll out and cut to desired shapes. If you don't wish to cut shapes, then roll your dough into 1/4 inch round logs and make 1/4 inch slices.

6. Bake on ungreased, parchment-lined cookie sheet, 7 to 12 minutes. This will vary upon the thickness of your cookies. Remove from oven, let cool for 5 minutes then transfer to cooling rack to continue cooling. Once cool, decorate as desired.

Ze Carter is a food columnist for the Daily Commercial. Email her at zecarter12@gmail.com.

A go-for-broke cold-weather salad to roast up now

By Joe Yonan
The Washington Post

In spring and summer, salads can be easily thrown together with a few — or many — fresh, seasonal raw ingredients.

In fall and winter, they take a little more thought, because usually at least some of those elements

need to be cooked. But the same principles of salad making apply, especially the primary one: Think about texture. When you do — combining, say, some roasted vegetables with some raw ones, and making sure to include something creamy and something crunchy — magic can happen.

The latest cold-weather

salad to seek entry into my repertoire comes from “Cooking, Blokes & Artichokes: A Modern Man’s Kitchen Handbook” by Brendan Collins (Kyle, 2016). Collins, a Los Angeles chef who hails from England, brings a dude-food sensibility to his book, and he approaches salad making with the same go-for-broke approach as, say, a grilled skirt steak and horseradish sandwich.

This salad combines roasted root vegetables and shallots with raw endive (or, because I couldn’t find those, radicchio) leaves, in a classic sherry vinaigrette.



Roasted Winter Vegetable and Burrata Salad.
[DEB LINDSEY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST]

Straightforward enough. But the killer touch is burrata cheese, which you tear and scatter on the salad along with a raft of crushed hazelnuts.

If burrata is not available nearby, fresh ricotta (a nondairy one if you’re vegan) would be a fine substitute. Either way, you’ll end

up with a salad you don’t want to stop eating. If the idea of a crave-worthy salad is news to you, that’s all the more reason to make this one.

Roasted Winter Vegetable and Burrata Salad 4 to 6 servings

MAKE AHEAD: You will have vinaigrette left over, which can be refrigerated for up to 1 week. Whisk again before using. Adapted from “Cooking, Blokes & Artichokes: A Modern Man’s Kitchen Handbook” by Brendan Collins (Kyle, 2016).

Ingredients:
4 ounces hazelnuts (skinned or skin-on)
2 small parsnips (5 ounces total)
2 small carrots (5 ounces total)
2 small turnips (8 ounces total)
4 small shallots
Sea salt
Freshly ground black pepper

½ cup plus 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
¼ cup honey
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
¼ cup aged sherry vinegar
½ medium head radicchio (about 4 ounces; may substitute red and/or white endive)
Two 4-ounce balls burrata cheese (may substitute 8 ounces ricotta cheese)

Steps:
Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Spread the hazelnuts evenly on a baking sheet and toast them (middle rack) until golden brown and extremely fragrant, about 10 minutes. Cool, then crush them up a bit. Increase the oven temperature to 350 degrees. Scrub and trim the parsnips, carrot and turnips.

(Remove the tough cores from the parsnips, as needed.) Cut them and the shallots into bite-size, mostly uniform pieces. Toss them on a rimmed baking sheet with salt, pepper (a two-fingered pinch of each) and the 2 tablespoons of the oil, then spread in a single layer. Roast (middle rack) until just tender and lightly caramelized, about 25 minutes. Cool slightly. While the vegetables are in the oven, whisk together the honey, mustard and vinegar in a medium bowl. Add ½ teaspoon of salt and 1/8 teaspoon pepper. Slowly whisk in the remaining ½ cup of oil to form an emulsified vinaigrette. The yield is 1 cup. Separate the radicchio leaves, tear them into

bite-size pieces and place in a mixing bowl, discarding the cores. Add the roasted vegetables and half the hazelnuts. Drizzle on as much vinaigrette as you like (we used ¼ cup) and toss to coat evenly. Divide the salad among individual plates or arrange it on a large platter. Break up the balls of burrata and distribute the cheese across the top of the salad. Scatter the remaining hazelnuts on top and serve.

Nutrition:
Per serving (based on 6, using ¼ cup vinaigrette): 360 calories, 11 g protein, 19 g carbohydrates, 29 g fat, 8 g saturated fat, 25 mg cholesterol, 220 mg sodium, 5 g dietary fiber, 8 g sugar

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Ants in a Tree is a crowd-pleaser

By Sara Moulton
The Associated Press

"Ants in a Tree" is the English translation of the Chinese name for this classic recipe. Built of spicy pork, bean thread noodles (aka cellophane noodles) and scallions, it earned its name because it's not so far-fetched for the finished dish to call that image to mind — the noodles look like tree branches, the scallions like tree leaves and the little bits of ground pork like ants. Admittedly, it's not a very appetizing image, but the dish itself happens to be a crowd-pleaser. Indeed, it's a refreshing break from the usual holiday fare.

Cellophane noodles can be tough to find in your supermarket, which is why I've listed capellini (very thin strands of



"Ants in a Tree" is shown in New York, which is the English translation of the Chinese name of a classic recipe. Built of spicy pork, bean thread noodles (aka cellophane noodles) and scallions, it earned its name because it's not so far-fetched for the finished dish to call that image to mind, the noodles look like tree branches, the scallions like tree leaves and the little bits of ground pork like ants.

[SARA MOULTON VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

pasta). If you're not a fan of pork, you're welcome to swap in beef, turkey, or chicken. And if you can't source Asian chile paste (made of chiles mixed with oil or vinegar

and salt), use your favorite brand of hot sauce. Of course, if you'd prefer the dish to be mild, leave the hot stuff out of it.

Make sure you prepare every ingredient before

you begin cooking. Many of them cook very quickly and are added to the pan in rapid succession. If at any stage the next round of ingredients isn't ready to go, the ones in the pan will overcook.

As a way to help the noodles absorb the myriad flavors of the sauce, par-cook the noodles and finish them in the sauce. If, in the end, you're more in the mood for a bowl of soup than a plate of pasta, add more chicken broth.

— Sara Moulton is host of public television's "Sara's Weeknight Meals." She was executive chef at *Gourmet* magazine for nearly 25 years and spent a decade hosting several *Food Network* shows, including "Cooking Live." Her latest cookbook is "HomeCooking 101."

Ants in a tree

Start to finish: 50 minutes

Servings: 6

- Kosher salt
- 1 pound ground pork
- ¼ cup low-sodium soy sauce, divided
- 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- ½ cup thinly sliced white and light green part of scallion, plus ½ cup thinly sliced dark green part of scallion for garnish
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger

- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 to 1 ½ tablespoons Asian chile paste (or to taste)
- 3 cups shredded Napa cabbage
- 6 ounces capellini
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds for garnish

Put on a large pot of salted water to boil for the pasta. In a medium bowl combine well the pork, 2 tablespoons of the soy sauce, the sesame oil, the cornstarch and the ½ cup white and

light green sliced scallions. In a wok or large skillet heat the oil over high heat until it is almost smoking. Add the ginger, garlic and chile paste; cook, stirring, for 30 seconds or until the mixture smells fragrant. Add the pork, breaking it up, and cook, stirring until most of the pink has disappeared. Stir in the cabbage and the remaining 2 tablespoons soy sauce and cook, stirring, until the cabbage is slightly wilted, 1 to 2 minutes. When the pot of water has

come to a boil, add the pasta, stir, and boil it for 2 minutes. Drain the noodles and add them to the skillet along with the chicken broth. Bring to a boil and simmer for 2 minutes, stirring occasionally (the mixture will be soupy at first and then become less saucy as the pasta absorbs the broth). Divide the pasta and pork evenly among 6 bowls, pouring any liquid over it, and garnish with the scallion greens and toasted sesame seeds.

Fishing for something lighter for the holidays?

By Ellie Krieger
The Washington Post

With the overwhelming bustle and indulgent feasting this season brings, having a tasty,

healthful dinner recipe that can be made on a single sheet pan in 20 minutes is like taking a deep, calming breath.

The idea for this one began with my

adoration of roasted broccoli and the way, when it is cooked in a hot oven with a light coating of oil, its florets crisp up and take on a lovely char.

The result is this sumptuous but simple one-pan dinner. I used broccolini for a change of pace, but you could substitute regular broccoli.

Arctic char, broccolini and edamame with soy-ginger sauce

4 servings

- 2 heads broccolini, (12 ounces total) trimmed
- 3 tablespoons canola oil
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- Four 5- to 6-ounce, skin-on arctic char fillets
- 1 cup frozen, shelled edamame
- 2 tablespoons fresh orange juice
- 2 tablespoons low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons unseasoned rice vinegar
- 1 ½ teaspoons peeled, grated fresh ginger root
- 2 cloves garlic, minced

1/8 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Toss the edamame in a medium bowl with the remaining ½ tablespoon of oil.

Remove the baking sheet from the oven; use a spatula to toss and rearrange the broccolini so that there is room at the center of the baking sheet for the fish. Scatter the edamame on top of the broccolini. Place the fillets, skin sides down, in the center of the baking sheet. Return to the oven and roast (upper rack) for 8 to 10 minutes, until the arctic char is no longer translucent and the broccolini is crisp-tender and charred a bit.

While the fish is cooking, combine the orange juice, soy sauce, rice vinegar, ginger and garlic in a small saucepan over medium-high heat. Bring to a boil and cook for about 2 minutes, or until the mixture has slightly reduced. Drizzle the fish and vegetables with the sauce, and serve.

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Toss the broccolini with 1 ½ tablespoons of the oil and season with 1/8 teaspoon each salt and pepper, right on a rimmed baking sheet. Roast (upper rack) for 5 minutes. Meanwhile, pat the fillets dry, then brush them with 1 tablespoon of the oil and season with the remaining

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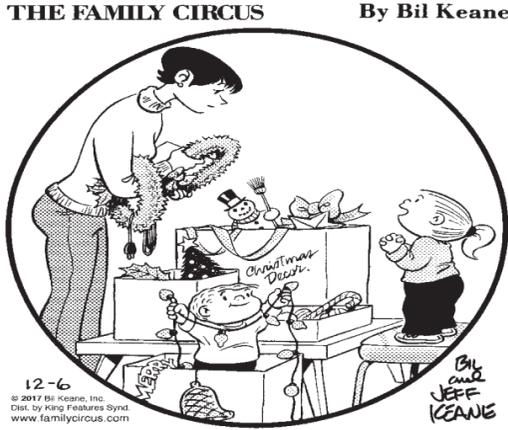
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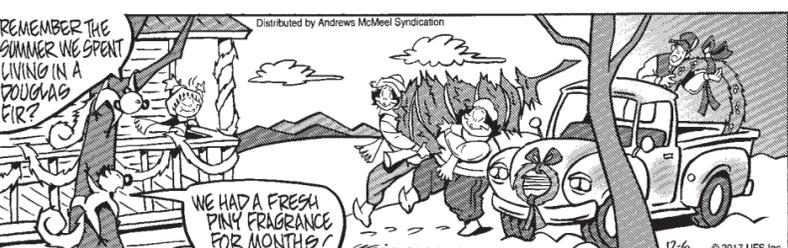
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Teen girl feels pressure from society to have sex

DEAR ABBY: I'm a teenage girl who has always heard and seen on TV and in movies that there's pressure from guys to have sex. That may be true, but I feel there is also pressure from society. I never thought I would feel like that when I got to high school, but now I do. It hurts, and I am writing this for all the girls who feel the same way I do about it. I have been struggling with it for a few days, and it is messing with me a lot.

I know I don't want to have sex yet, but I still feel like I have to. "Tom" really wants to, but he isn't a virgin. It scares me, and while he isn't pressuring me, I feel like there is a boulder on my shoulders. If you know how I can stop feeling like this, please let me know. -- **PRESSURE FROM SOCIETY**

DEAR PRESSURE: A surefire way to feel less pressured into doing something you're not ready for would be to

JEANNE PHILLIPS

DEAR ABBY



stop assuming Tom's sex drive is YOUR responsibility.

Remember that although many teenage girls have been pressured into having sex, a sizable number have not. If you choose to wait until you are older, that's your privilege, because regardless of what you're seeing on TV and in the movies, "everyone else" ISN'T doing it.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have two amazing children, and while they do require a lot of attention, I feel like I'm getting the short end of the stick. My wife works third shift, while I work 8 to 5. She's off two days out of two weeks, but even then, she's on call it seems like all the time. When I try to make time for us, things

come up more often than not and it gets pushed aside.

We used to have time for each other, and we are talking about having another child. How do I find the time for one more child when we don't have enough time for each other? I'm beginning to think she doesn't want to be around me anymore, or she's no longer in love with me or that she's cheating on me. I don't want to believe it, but I don't know what else to think. What should I do?

-- **NEEDS TIME TOGETHER**

DEAR NEEDS TIME: Have you told your wife all the things you are telling me? If you haven't, place it at the top of your agenda. Feeling the way you do, you should be talking about improving your marriage before enlarging your family and the responsibilities that go along with it. Not only should you and your wife be scheduling alone time together, you should also consult a licensed family

therapist to reopen the lines of communication between the two of you.

DEAR ABBY: Could you please tell me what's proper in a situation like this? My husband and I are always invited to his family's holiday celebrations. When we accept, the invitation is also extended to my mother and sister. If my husband and I are unable to attend, should my mother and sister still go or consider their invitation canceled? -- **JAN IN SAN CLEMENTE, CALIF.**

DEAR JAN: If the invitations that were extended were accepted by your mother and sister, and they are expected, they should attend.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

» BRIDGE

Solution to a dilemma

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 6 3	♠ Q J 10 9 8 4	♥ 9 5 4	♥ J 8 3
♦ J 4	♦ 5	♣ J 10 8 5 3 2	♣ A Q 6
WEST		SOUTH	
♠ 2	♠ A K 7 5	♥ A K	♥ A K Q 10 8 7 3
♥ Q 10 7 6 2	♦ 9 6 2	♣ K 9 7 4	♣ —

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 2♠ 6♦
Opening lead — two of spades.

One of the greatest thrills you can experience at the bridge table is to bring home a seemingly unmakeable contract through your own ingenuity. And if the contract also happens to be a slam — well, that's just the icing on the cake.

Consider this deal where South leaped directly to six diamonds after East's weak two-spade opening. The jump to six was certainly a reasonable choice for South, who had no way to find out what his partner's

hand looked like. Depending on what North held, the combined hands could have been laydown for a grand slam or, on a really bad day, might not even have produced 11 tricks. So South chose the middle road.

West led what was obviously a singleton spade, and, after taking the ace, declarer was left to ponder what to do with his two spade losers. Ordinarily, he would next have played the king of spades and then tried to ruff one or both low spades in dummy. But in the actual case, West was virtually sure to trump the king of spades and return a trump, leaving South with only one trump in dummy to ruff his two spade losers.

After giving the matter due thought, the solution — a rather unusual one — came to him. At trick two, instead of playing the king of spades, he led a low spade!

East won with the nine and returned a trump, but he was fighting a losing battle. South went up with the ace and trumped his seven of spades with dummy's jack of diamonds. He then ruffed a club, drew trumps and claimed the rest of the tricks to make the slam.

The solution was easy enough to find once South made the effort to look for it. Necessity, it would seem, is still the mother of invention.

Tomorrow: Three chances are better than one.

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» HOROSCOPES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6, 2017:

This year you open up to many new ideas. You often want to debate your point with others. Relating on a one-on-one level becomes even more important. You and a close loved one are often seen out and about together. If you are single, you will not be content that way for long, as you want a close relationship. Take your time before committing to any one person. If you are attached, look at planning an important, often-discussed vacation together. You both will have a great time choosing what you want to do. LEO energizes you and makes you laugh.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19) You might keep trying to resolve a domestic matter, to no avail. Create more space for yourself and the other party involved. Curb a tendency to be argumentative at times. Others could be highly combative and volatile right now.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20) You have the ability to keep a conversation open and easy. Nevertheless,

some sharp comments could come out. Be gracious, and ignore any harsh remarks; focusing on them will just create an even bigger problem. A partner has a way of energizing you.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20) Note a tendency to become possessive and touchy. These feelings will pass as soon as you feel better about yourself. Open up a conversation later in the day. You have abundant energy, which allows you to complete a lot of errands.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22) Tension easily could build as the day goes on. Detach from difficult associates who often annoy you. Your creativity flows, and you seem to have the right response no matter what goes on. A family member tries to break past an important boundary.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22) You might want to try a new approach. Fatigue could get the best of you in the morning. By the afternoon, you'll start feeling more like yourself. Note that others seem to respond to you differently. A matter involving real estate is resolvable.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22) Use the daytime hours

JACQUELINE BIGAR

BIGAR'S STARS



to the max. You will have more energy and can accomplish a lot more. As a result, you'll feel better than you have in a while. Others remain highly responsive to you, especially if you let go of being so critical.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22) You could have a lot on your plate; in fact, you might consider lightening the load. A partner is likely to take your request for fewer responsibilities as a complaint or lack of appreciation. Express yourself clearly, and don't back down.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21) Eye the big picture in a situation where a decision seems inevitable. Once you can identify with others, you will come up with an unusual yet effective solution. Do not push an associate, unless you want open rebellion. You feel energized at the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21) One-on-one relating becomes more powerful than it has been in the past. The other party involved seems more willing to express him- or herself. You have a sense of humor and a perspective that will carry you through the worst scenarios.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19) You might be fussy and difficult if others approach you in a way that you don't appreciate. You could be missing out on some good news if you are too fussy. A partner has an issue to share with you that has depth. Listen carefully.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18) Pace yourself and accomplish as much as possible. Your temper could be easily triggered. Opportunities seem to emerge from out of left field. Understand what a higher-up really wants from you. Once you do, you will handle the situation with ease.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20) Your ability to work through a problem emerges. You creatively will find your way to a solution. If you detach, you will find yet another route to a workable outcome. Trust your sixth sense, in any case, as you will only gain as a result.

» TODAY IN HISTORY

TODAY IS WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6, the 340th day of 2017. There are 25 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS IN HISTORY:

On Dec. 6, 1917, some 2,000 people were killed when an explosives-laden French cargo ship, the Mont Blanc, collided with the Norwegian vessel Imo at the harbor in Halifax, Nova Scotia, setting off a blast that devas-

tated the Canadian city. Finland declared its independence from Russia.

ON THIS DATE: In 1947, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman.

In 1957, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed as Vanguard TV3 rose about four feet off a Cape Canaveral launch pad before

crashing down and exploding. In 1967, three days after the first human heart transplant took place in South Africa, a surgical team at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, led by Dr. Adrian Kantrowitz, transplanted the heart of a brain-dead two-day-old baby boy into an 19-day-old infant who died six hours later.

In 1973, House minority leader

Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew.

In 1982, 11 soldiers and six civilians were killed when an Irish National Liberation Army bomb exploded at a pub in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland.

In 1989, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man who then took his own life.

WORD SCRIMMAGE™

BY JUDD HAMBRICK © 2017 UFS / Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

1st DOWN (7 letters) + 40 PTS

2nd DOWN (6 letters)

3rd DOWN (7 letters)

4th DOWN (7 letters) + 7 PTS

FOUR PLAY TOTAL

JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN AVERAGE GAME 185-195 PTS
Directions: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters on each yardline. Add points to each word or letter using scoring directions. Seven-letter words get a 60-point bonus. All words can be found in Webster's New World College Dictionary.

WORD SCRIMMAGE™ SOLUTION BY JUDD HAMBRICK

1st DOWN = 32

2nd DOWN = 17

3rd DOWN = 112

4th DOWN = 87

AVERAGE GAME 155-165 PTS JUDD'S TOTAL = 248

Sudoku ★★★☆☆ 4puz.com

6	5		1	7	4			
	9		5		8			
7								2
	5		1	2	7			
4	7						2	3
	2		4					
2								9
	1			9			5	
5	9		2		6			1

Fill in the squares so that each row, column, and 3-by-3 box contain the numbers 1 through 9.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

1	9	5	3	8	7	6	2	4
7	4	2	5	6	1	9	3	8
6	3	8	4	9	2	5	1	7
3	8	6	2	1	4	7	9	5
9	7	4	8	5	3	2	6	1
5	2	1	6	7	9	8	4	3
2	1	7	9	4	8	3	5	6
4	6	9	7	3	5	1	8	2
8	5	3	1	2	6	4	7	9

How to play: Fill in the blank squares with the numbers 1 through 9 so that each horizontal row, vertical column and nine-square sub-grid contains no repeated numbers.

Puzzles range in difficulty from one to six stars.

The solution to today's puzzle will be in tomorrow's paper.

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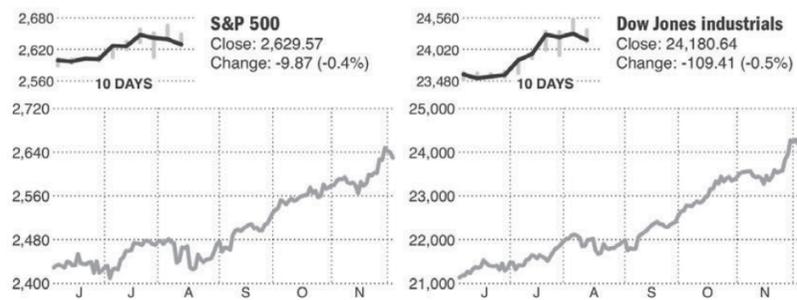
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DAILY COMMERCIAL

BUSINESS



StocksRecap

	NYSE	NASD
Vol. (in mil.)	3,382	1,994
Pvs. Volume	3,858	2,305
Advanced	1053	1030
Declined	1875	1873
New Highs	84	74
New Lows	38	64

	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD
DOW	24349.74	24155.28	24180.64	-109.41	-0.45%	+22.36%
DOW Trans.	10382.44	10227.13	10229.03	-139.55	-1.35%	+13.10%
DOW Util.	763.20	746.86	750.62	-12.10	-1.59%	+13.80%
NASDAQ	12840.38	12559.49	12567.16	-67.73	-0.54%	+13.66%
NASDAQ	6836.46	6752.32	6762.21	-13.16	-0.19%	+25.62%
S&P 500	2648.72	2627.73	2629.57	-9.87	-0.37%	+17.45%
S&P 400	1894.14	1878.97	1879.13	-14.94	-0.79%	+13.16%
Wilshire 5000	27497.47	27292.55	27292.55	-114.55	-0.42%	+16.51%
Russell 2000	1534.01	1516.74	1516.76	-15.65	-1.02%	+11.76%

Stocks of Local Interest

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE	LO	HI	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR	YTD %CHG	1YR %RTN	P/E	DIV
AT&T Inc	T	32.55	32.55	43.03	36.55	-.72	-1.9	▲	▲	▼	-14.1	+1.6	14	1.96
Advance Auto Parts	AAP	78.81	78.81	177.50	101.15	-2.87	-2.8	▲	▲	▲	-40.2	-38.7	18	0.24
Amer Express	AXP	73.11	73.11	99.17	98.71	+.12	+0.1	▲	▲	▲	+33.2	+39.0	19	1.40
AutoNation Inc	AN	38.20	38.20	56.71	55.84	-.41	-0.7	▲	▲	▲	+14.8	+25.9	14	...
Brown & Brown	BRO	41.10	41.10	52.42	50.95	-.58	-1.1	▼	▲	▲	+13.6	+20.5	27	0.60f
CocaCola Co	KO	40.22	40.22	47.48	46.26	+.03	+0.1	▲	▲	▲	+11.6	+18.2	28	1.48
Comcast Corp A	CMCSA	34.04	34.04	42.18	39.52	-.80	-2.0	▲	▲	▲	+14.5	+19.0	19	0.63
Darden Rest	DRI	71.02	71.02	95.22	86.14	+.08	+0.1	▲	▲	▲	+18.5	+17.9	21	2.52
Disney	DIS	96.20	96.20	116.10	107.22	-3.01	-2.7	▲	▲	▲	+2.9	+13.5	19	1.68f
Gen Electric	GE	17.46	17.46	32.38	17.76	-.19	-1.1	▼	▼	▼	-43.8	-39.7	15	0.48m
General Mills	GIS	49.65	49.65	64.06	57.25	-.61	-1.1	▲	▲	▲	-7.3	-1.9	19	1.96
Harris Corp	HRS	99.13	99.13	144.94	142.58	+.81	+0.6	▼	▲	▲	+39.1	+37.1	25	2.28
Home Depot	HD	133.05	133.05	186.31	182.85	-2.05	-1.1	▲	▲	▲	+36.4	+45.1	25	3.56
IBM	IBM	139.13	139.13	182.79	155.35	-1.11	-0.7	▲	▲	▲	-6.4	+1.5	12	6.00
Lowes Cos	LOW	70.49	70.49	88.47	86.31	-1.73	-2.0	▲	▲	▲	+21.4	+23.9	19	1.64
NY Times	NYT	13.00	13.00	20.15	18.80	+.10	+0.5	▲	▲	▼	+41.4	+47.3	26	0.16
NextEra Energy	NEE	114.85	114.85	159.28	155.64	-.33	-0.2	▼	▲	▲	+30.3	+39.8	23	3.93
Gen Electric	PEP	101.06	101.06	119.39	117.59	+.13	+0.1	▲	▲	▲	+12.4	+19.9	24	3.22
Suntrust Bks	STI	51.96	51.96	64.61	64.03	-.33	-0.5	▲	▲	▲	+16.7	+26.2	17	1.60
WallMart Strs	WMT	65.28	65.28	100.13	97.83	+.82	+0.8	▲	▲	▲	+41.5	+39.7	22	2.04
Xerox Corp	XRX	22.90	22.90	34.13	29.44	+.07	+0.2	▼	▲	▼	+28.0	+20.8	11	1.00

MARKET WATCH

Dow	24,180.64	▼ 109.41
Nasdaq	6,762.21	▼ 13.16
S&P	2,629.57	▼ 9.87
Russell	1,516.76	▼ 15.65
NYSE	12,567.16	▼ 67.73

COMMODITIES REVIEW

Gold	1,261.60	▼ 12.70
Silver	15.973	▼ .311
Platinum	917.50	▼ 8.50
Copper	2.9205	▼ .1425
Oil	57.62	▲ 0.15

MARKET MOVERS

- **Revanche Therapeutics Inc.:** Up \$8.75 to \$34.75 — The drug developer said its long-lasting anti-wrinkle injection worked in two late-stage studies.
- **Edison International Inc.:** Down \$10.26 to \$70 — A wildfire in Southern California knocked out power for large numbers of Edison customers.

BRIEFCASE

WASHINGTON US trade deficit rises to \$48.7B on record imports

Record imports lifted the U.S. trade deficit to \$48.7 billion in October, highest since January. The Commerce Department said Tuesday that the trade gap rose 8.6 percent in October from \$44.9 billion in September. Imports hit a record \$244.6 billion in October, and exports were unchanged at \$195.9 billion.

A trade deficit means that the United States is buying more goods and services from other countries than it is selling them. A rising trade gap reduces U.S. economic growth.

President Donald Trump views America's massive trade deficits as a sign of economic weakness. He blames them on bad trade deals and abusive practices by China and other trade partners.

GENEVA Nestle to pay \$2.3B for health products co. Atrium

Swiss consumer goods company Nestle says it is buying Atrium Innovations, a privately-held maker of nutritional health products, for \$2.3 billion in cash.

Nestle said Tuesday it will buy the company, which is headquartered in Quebec, Canada, from a group of investors led by Permira Funds.

Atrium has about 1,400 workers and its 2017 sales are forecast to reach almost \$700 million. Its largest brand is the Garden of Life line of supplements.

BLACKSVILLE, W.VA. Coal mine idled in West Virginia; 260 out of work

A union official says a coal mine in northern West Virginia has been idled, with 260 workers losing their jobs, apparently because of adverse geological conditions and market issues.

Phil Smith, spokesman for the United Mine Workers of America, says another 59 people were laid off a few months ago at the Federal No. 2 mine owned by ERP Compliant Fuels, which has no other mine to transfer the workers to.

The Associated Press

ARBOR OUTLOOK

Holiday shopping, health care and Jackson Browne



Margaret McDowell

“Doctor my eyes have seen the years and the slow parade of tears.” — Jackson Browne, “Doctor My Eyes”

No bargains were to be had for the main item on my holiday shopping list. In fact, it was out of stock before Black Friday and Cyber Monday in virtually every store.

What was I looking for at a discount? A big screen television? A new iPhone? A top-of-the-line cappuccino maker? What's at the top of my wish list is affordable health insurance. Admittedly, it's not your typical holiday

item, but revised policies accompanied by higher premiums are hitting the market in January.

Like so many baby boomers, I make too much money to access any ACA programs. But I have not yet reached the age where Medicare can provide any financial relief with my health insurance costs. So my husband called the health insurance companies who serve our area.

He was on hold an average of about 45 minutes per call before he spoke with an actual person. Four times out of five, when he did reach someone, it was the wrong department. Frequently he was transferred, resulting in the call being disconnected or a return to another series of prompts similar to the original ones. If the health care industry desires to prevent individual Americans from connecting with sales personnel who can

actually sell them health insurance, they are succeeding spectacularly.

Two companies are utilized most often in our area. One of them announced recently that it is no longer working with physicians in this region. So you can purchase health insurance with them, but you must see a physician in another part of the state or completely out of state to use your insurance. A representative from the other insurer freely admitted that their premiums are so high that they have effectively priced themselves out of our market.

We constantly see clients fighting this same losing battle. Premiums for many are approaching \$1,000 monthly. The cost of health care accelerates continually. Most times what our clients ultimately purchase is essentially catastrophic illness insurance, since policies rarely

cover many expenses until one reaches their deductible for the year. The problem is ripping at the financial fabric of millions of American families.

We all must constantly revise our estimates upward, lately by as much as 20 percent annually, of what we will pay for health insurance. Of course this estimate does not include the out-of-pocket costs not covered by insurance when we actually need treatment.

Our best and brightest youth recognize the trend and fewer wish to serve as physicians. Until the health care system undergoes significant changes, avoiding illness may be our best and only hope.

Margaret R. McDowell, ChFC, AIF, author of the syndicated economic column “Arbor Outlook”, is the founder of Arbor Wealth Management LLC.

Not like it was: A look at the tax bill then vs. now

Why the 1986 tax bill — popular, bipartisan — was everything 2017's isn't

By Paul Wiseman
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — They don't do tax reform like they used to.

The legislation that House and Senate Republicans have embraced has revived memories of Congress' most recent major tax overhaul three decades ago.

But the similarities tend to end there.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 was everything this year's version isn't. It was the product of a year and a half of spirited deliberations. It won support from both Democrats and Republicans. Its benefits flowed more to ordinary taxpayers than to corporations and wealthy individuals. And it added nothing to the federal deficit.

Assessing the measure on its 20th anniversary, the conservative Tax Foundation said it “stands as a rare example of bipartisan support for fundamentally sound tax policy.”

That was then. The 2017 tax overhaul? It was written on the fly. Congress held no hearings on the key details. The bill drew no Democratic votes. Independent analysts have said most of the gains will flow to corporations and rich individuals.

In the Senate, some provisions were scribbled onto the bill in nearly illegible handwriting in the final hours. Republicans released



The sky over the Capitol was lit up at dawn on Nov. 30 as Senate Republicans worked to pass their sweeping tax bill, in Washington. (J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO)

a 479-page version of the bill just before the vote, leaving senators with scarcely time to absorb what was in it. Democrats complained that their information about the measure was coming mainly from lobbyists.

The Senate bill would permanently slash the corporate tax rate to 20 percent from 35 percent. By contrast, the tax cuts for individuals would expire after 2026. The measure would revamp the estate tax to cover fewer wealthy families.

The bounty from the Senate bill would go increasingly to the wealthy: In 2019, 15 percent of the tax cuts would go to the richest 1 percent of taxpayers. In 2027, their share of the benefits would rise to 62 percent, according to the nonpartisan

Tax Policy Center. By 2027, according to Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation, households that earn under \$75,000 a year would actually face a tax increase.

The House's version contains provisions that could drastically raise taxes on financially fragile Americans, including graduate students and divorced people who pay alimony.

The Senate version would also add at least \$1 trillion to the deficit over a decade — even assuming that its tax cuts rev up economic growth.

The two versions of the measure will be reconciled before a final bill goes to President Donald Trump for his signature, which Republicans hope to achieve by Christmas.

Support for this year's tax overhaul broke down along party lines. When the House approved its version last month, Republicans backed it 227-13; Democrats rejected it 192-0. In the Senate, Republicans approved the bill 51-1; Democrats and independents voted thumbs-down, 48-0.

Thirty-one years ago, the far-reaching tax overhaul that Congress enacted was the opposite: A thoroughly bipartisan production.

In his 1984 State of the Union Message, Republican President Ronald Reagan, responding to widespread complaints that the tax code was unfair, had directed his administration to produce a plan that would make taxes simpler and fairer for everyone.

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0001 LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No.: 2017-CA-001029-AXXX-XX

CORDOVA GROUP AND INVESTMENTS LLC, Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CHARLIE SCURRY and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EDNA MAE SCURRY, Defendants.

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CHARLIE SCURRY and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EDNA MAE SCURRY, 10610 N. 30th Street, Tampa, FL 33612

AND ANY PARTIES UNKNOWN TO Plaintiff, which parties may be interested as heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through, under or against UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CHARLIE SCURRY and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EDNA MAE SCURRY, whose whereabouts is unknown or who is deceased.

NOTICE OF ACTION

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Adverse Possession and Quiet Title on the following property: Lot 32, Lincoln Place Addition to Leesburg, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 23, of the Public Records of Lake County, Florida, Parcel ID Number 25-19-24-100000003200; Address of: 807 Douglas Street, Leesburg, Florida 34748

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to it, if any, on Marc D. Peltzman, Esquire, 118 East Jefferson Street, Suite 204, Orlando, Florida 32801, Plaintiff's attorney, on or before DEC 27, 2017, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on in Plaintiffs attorney, or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in this Complaint to Quiet Tax Title.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on Nov. 15, 2017.

Neil Kelly Clerk of Court

By: /s/ TRISH ROBERTS Deputy Clerk

Ad No: 10070680 November 22, 2017 & November 29, 2017 & December 06, 2017 & December 13, 2017

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No. 2017-CA-001369

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, DOING BUSINESS AS CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR BCAT 2015-148TT,

Plaintiff,

vs.

RANDAL E. HOLLAND, et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: RANDAL E. HOLLAND 710 PLUMOSA AVE FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA 34731

if he/she/they are living and if he/she/they are dead, any unknown Defendants, who may be spouses, heirs, beneficiaries devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all other parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the named Defendant(s), who is/are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property in Lake County, Florida:

LOT(S) 13, OF EDGEWOOD PARK AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 33, ET SEQ., OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on IRA SCOT SILVERSTEIN, ESQUIRE, IRA SCOT SILVERSTEIN, PLLC, Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 2900 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 6, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33309, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on this 20 day of November, 2017.

NEIL KELLY Clerk of Court, Lake County

By: /s/ D. Latourelle As Deputy Clerk

Submitted By: Ira Scot Silverstein, PLLC 2900 W Cypress Creek Road, Suite 6 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 954-773-9911 File No.: 124-906 II Holland

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in or

0001 LEGALS

der to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Nicole Berg, the ADA Coordinator at the Office of the Trial Court Administrator, Lake County Judicial Center, P.O. Box 7800/550 W. Main Street, Tavares, Florida 32778, Telephone (352) 253-0900 ext. 100, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Ad No: 10070695 December 06, 2017 & December 13, 2017

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

Case No. 35-2017-CA-001962-AXXX-XX

James B. Nutter & Compan)

Plaintiff,

vs.

Betty J. Johnson, as surviving Trustee U/A dated May 11, 2000, et al,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: Unknown Beneficiaries of Trust dated May 11, 2000

Last Known Address: Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Lake County, Florida:

LOT 53, LAKE MARY ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 28 PAGE 74 PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA ALONG WITH MOBILE HOME VIN NO. T2367729A AND T2367729B

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Maxine Meltzer, Esquire, Brock & Scott, PLLC, the Plaintiffs attorney, whose address is 1501 N.W. 49th Street, Suite 200, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication on or before and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

DATED on 11/20/17

Neil Kelly As Clerk of the Court

By /s/ SHARI DURHAM As Deputy Clerk

File # 17-F03965

Ad No: 10070873 November 29, 2017 & December 06, 2017

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 2011-CA-001327

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,

vs.

ALEX J. MACDONELL, JR. A/K/A ALEXANDER J. MACDONELL, JR. AND BARBARA S. MACDONELL AND KELLY E. MACDONELL AND JOHN A. MACDONELL AND JEFFREY S. MACDONELL, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 29, 2017, and entered in 2011-CA-001327 of the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in and for Lake County, Florida, wherein PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and ALEX J. MACDONELL, JR. A/K/A ALEXANDER J. MACDONELL; BARBARA S. MACDONELL; KELLY E. MACDONELL; JOHN A. MACDONELL; JEFFREY S. MACDONELL; LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.; PACCAR FINANCIAL CORP. are the Defendant(s). Neil Kelly as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Lake County Courthouse 550 W. Main St. 1st Floor, Near Information Desk, Tavares, FL 32778, at 11:00 AM, on December 19, 2017, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 23 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RUN SOUTH 21.53 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 52°36'40" EAST 1.373.22 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 50°35'20" EAST 1.152.10 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE RUN SOUTH 17°43'40" WEST 232.27 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 29°45'20" EAST 148.63 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 44°44'40" EAST 111.42 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 45°15'20" WEST 53.07 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 51°46'40" EAST 155.06 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 50°13'50" WEST 215.41 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. LESS THE RIGHT OF WAY OF BAY LAKE ROAD. ALSO FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 23 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA,

0001 LEGALS

RUN SOUTH 21.53 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 52°06'30" EAST 2,297.27 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 50°13'50" EAST 225 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE RUN NORTH 39°46'10" EAST 416 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 50°13'50" EAST 369.84 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 33°21'10" WEST 418.59 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 50°13'50" WEST 416.66 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

LESS THE RIGHT OF WAY OF BAY LAKE ROAD.

ORB 1281 PG 0711, PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA (HEREINAFTER, THE "PROPERTY").

Property Address: 6345 LAKE ERIE ROAD, GROVELAND, FL 34736

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 27 day of Nov., 2017.

Neil Kelly As Clerk of the Court

By: /s/ Trish Roberts As Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator for Lake County, Susan Berg, at (352) 253-1602, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Submitted by: Robertson, Anschutz & Schneid, P.L. Attorneys for Plaintiff 6409 Congress Avenue, Suite 100, Boca Raton, FL 33487 Telephone: 561-241-6901 Fax: 561-997-6909 16-035578 - MaM

Ad No: 10070882 November 29, 2017 & December 06, 2017

Notice is hereby given that AGAP MINNEOLA, LLC, owner, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of STORAGE KING USA located at 215 EAST 58TH STREET, #4C, NEW YORK, NY 10022 in Lake County, Florida, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

Ad No: 10071188 December 06, 2017

Public Notice of Found/ Abandoned Property

The following described found/abandoned property will be disposed of pursuant to Florida State Statute 705 on February 28, 2018, unless proof of ownership can be provided.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Location Found. Includes items like Savage 270 caliber rifle serial #118179, Winchester 12ga shotgun serial #447879, Robie Ave, Mt. Dora, Breezy Ultra wheelchair #HB1816HAPFSA, Wedgefield Dr, Grand Island Gray Toyota Tacoma FL Tag #A-RGL98, VIN 5TFJU4GN9DX041600, Cagans Crossing, Clermont 1996 Silver Honda Civic FL Tag #HRD673, VIN 1HGEJ8142TL011699

Dated this 4th day of December, 2017, in Lake County.

Peyton C. Grinnell, Sheriff, Lake County

By: Robert Bedgood, Corporal Crime Scene Investigations

Ad No: 10071139 December 06, 2017 & December 13, 2017

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NOTICES 1000-1999

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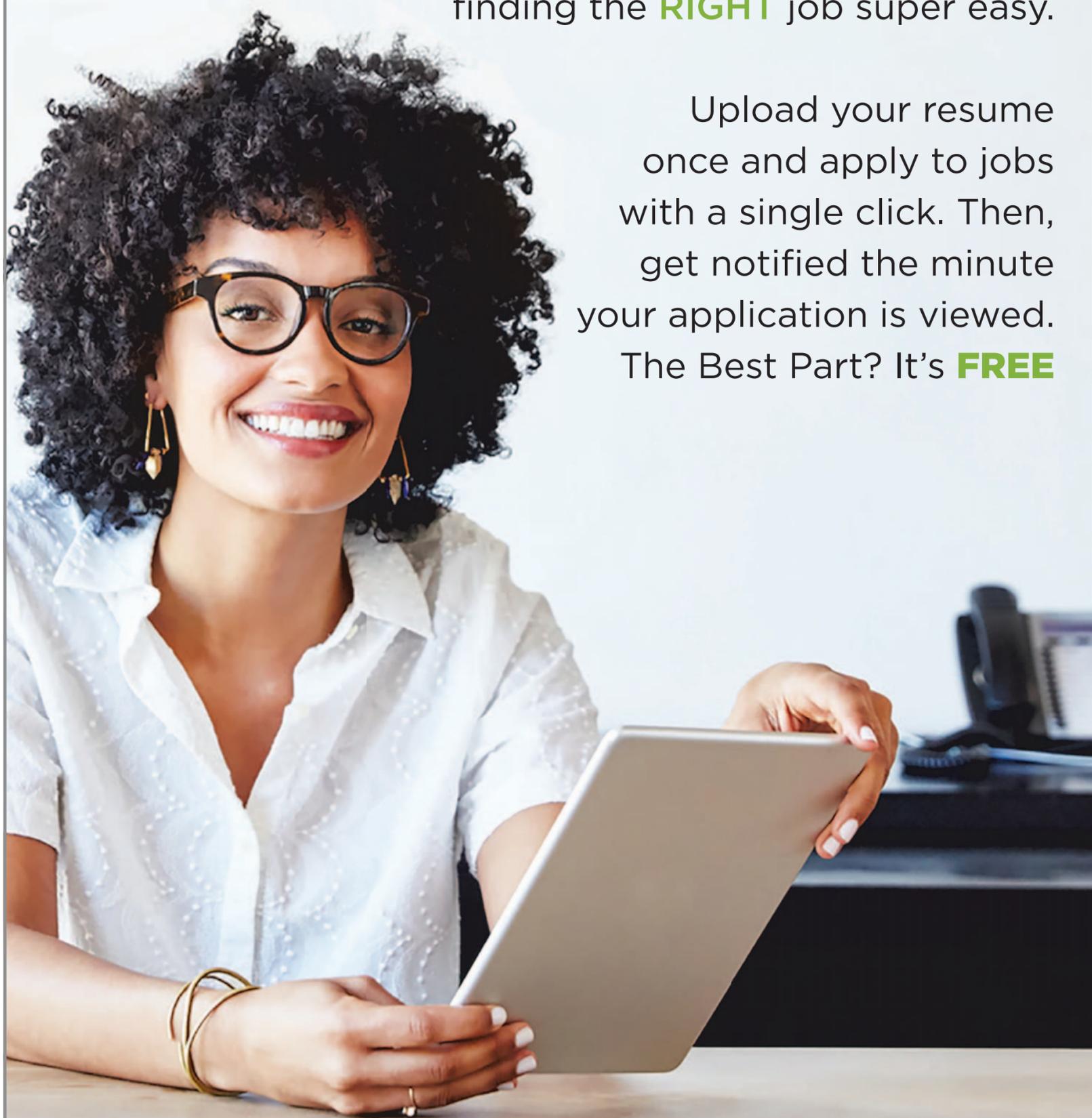
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Notices.....1000
At Your Service.....9000
Employment.....2000
Pets/Animals.....6865

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2950 TRADES

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Offering competitive pay and health insurance. Must have drivers license and reliable transportation and painters whites & tools.
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3400 DUPLEXES

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE W/OWNER FINANCE - CLERMONT HWY. 50 (Before Groveland) 2br/1ba from \$500 down \$400/mo Also Avail. - Handyman Special's 1 & 2br from - \$350/mo. & up

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3550 HOMES UNFURNISHED

MT. DORA, 3/2/2. \$1,400/mo. 352-217-6000

4630 MOBILE HOME PARKS

GRAND ISLAND 3/2 in Sun Lake Estates. Hardwood floors, appl. included, carport & sun porch. Excel. cond. \$18,000. Call (419) 341-6987

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MT. DORA, 2000 yr. beautiful 1br, 50+ park, on lake, \$285/mo. lot rent. Water/lawn/trash/boat docks. \$14,000 obo. 740-274-5508 or 740-215-0592 or 407-704-0942

FINANCIAL 5000-5999

6480 FURNITURE/HOUSEHOLD

BAR STOOLS (4) great cond. all wood. \$100 obo. (352) 633-7047

BED SET, full, satin, red w/red/white spread, new. \$45. (352) 483-5604

CHAIR, Brown Leather, oversized with ottoman. \$100. (352) 753-5941

CHAIRS (pair), Wingback, Ethan Allen, like new. \$300. (352) 742-3413

DINING TABLE 8' w/8 CHAIRS. Beautiful Country style, solid. MUST SEE! \$500. (561) 339-0329

DINING TABLE, 36" ceramic top & 2 chairs. \$100. (352) 454-2208

DRESSER & NIGHT STAND real wood. \$75 obo. (352) 455-4886

FLOOR LAMP gold, swivel, brown base. \$60. Call (352) 406-1475

HASSOCK open to twin bed. Bedding included. \$50 Call (352) 323-0070

RECLINER green tones, good cond. \$65 Call (352) 735-1647

ROLL AWAY BED, twin, wood frame. \$39 Call (574) 595-0787

SLEEP SOFA, Queen, NEW \$350 Call (352) 253-0380

SOFA, 94" bonded leather (peeling) w/recliners. FREE. (570) 956-7399

SOFA, La-Z-Boy, floral design, nearly new. \$300. Call (352) 357-9069

TABLE & 4 CHAIRS, solid oak, 3 leaves. \$75. 352-609-2740

TABLE, 4 chairs, light oak w/extension leaf. \$95. (352) 669-4259

TWIN BED, like new mattress, includes bedding. \$50 (414) 405-0343

RECREATION 7000-7500

7100 BICYCLES

TRIKE Trailmate, w/Shimano, 3 spd. nice cond. \$100. Call 352-483-3029

7170 CAMPERS/TRAVEL TRAILERS

CANOPY 10X10 slant wall. NEW \$35 Call (352) 253-0380

7330 FITNESS EQUIPMENT

TREADMILL like new. \$100, cost over \$1,000. (336) 817-7509

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CLUB CAR '03, 48v, new batteries, high spd., well equipped, \$2650. (352) 978-1352

GOLF CART, E-Z-Go, good batteries, lights and curtains. \$750. Call (352) 326-9160

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FREEZER upright, 14cu.ft. works good. \$100 Firm. SOLD 1ST DAY!

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WASHER Maytag, heavy duty, \$100 Call (352) 406-6712

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INFANT CAR SEATS (2), Unisex, green & beige. \$50 for both obo. 801-8676

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FISH FLOOR LAMP, lures can be hung from shade. \$50. (352) 874-2262

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SCROLL SAW, Sears, good cond. \$50. (352) 751-5737

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WELDING CART Snap-On. Excel. cond. \$70. (352) 589-8828

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SPA Leisure Bay, seats 4, needs pump. FREE Call (352) 530-7720

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EUSTIS HOMES LTD 1, 2 & 3br Patio apt. Laundry facility, Rental Assistance on site. Based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. Accepting applications for waiting list. Call Falon at 352-357-8287

LEESBURG, 2/1, great neighborhood. \$850/mo. +\$850 dep. 352-552-0181

LEESBURG, MONTCLAIR VILLAGE 2000 Park Circle. 2, 3 & 4 BR Apts. Rent starting at \$470/mo. Accepting applications for waiting list. Equal Housing Opportunity. Call Mellisa 352-326-3300

LEESBURG, PEPPER TREE APTS. 2503 South St. Now Avail. 1 & 2BR 62+ Handicapped or disabled. Spacious units, quiet, A/C community rm. Starting at \$450. Accepting applications for waiting list. Equal Housing Opportunity. Call Christina 352-728-1500.

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3750 ROOMMATES WANTED

LEESBURG 55+, furn. br. share home on Lake Griffin. No pets, no smoking inside home. All util. incl. W/D, WIFI. \$350/mo. Call (352) 345-2456

REAL ESTATE 4000-4999

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SOUTHERN PALMS RV COMMUNITY YARD & CRAFT SALE. 1 Avocado Lane, Eustis FL. 32726 Sat., Dec. 9th from 8am-1pm. All are welcome.

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH BUSHNELL - GARAGE SALE FLEA MARKET & BAKE SALE Fri. 8:00 - 3pm. 320 E. Dade Ave. Some new & used furn., as well as usual flea market & bake sale items. Proceeds will be to help furnish the new worship space.

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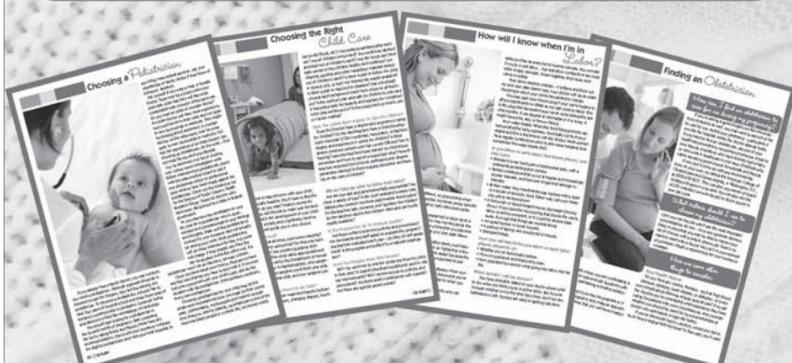
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Parasol offering
 - 6 Prudish person
 - 10 Garden aids
 - 11 Glider, e.g.
 - 12 Building topper
 - 13 Barista's creation
 - 14 Borderline
 - 15 Boutique patrons
 - 16 Fellows
 - 17 Furnish with weapons
 - 18 Stag's mate
 - 19 Stretch out
 - 22 Big gulp
 - 23 Bumblers
 - 26 Signed agreement
 - 29 Sauna site
 - 32 Greek consonants
 - 33 Glass container
 - 34 Mr. Munster
 - 36 Mrs. Munster
 - 37 "Ta-ta!"
 - 38 Trio of myth
 - 39 Bang-up
 - 40 Before, in Paris
 - 41 Auction cry
- DOWN**
- 1 Seafood staple
 - 2 Dancers, in slang
 - 3 Currently
 - 4 Stand up to
 - 5 Twisty turn
 - 6 DVR button
 - 7 Ap-praised
 - 8 Pro-logue
 - 9 Honking birds
 - 11 Hybrid fruits
 - 15 Lingerie buy
 - 17 Follower of Jason
 - 20 Nervous habit
 - 21 Road gunk
 - 24 Sizzling dish
 - 25 Triangle type
 - 27 Convent resident
 - 28 Secret meetings
 - 29 Some carpets
 - 30 Director Almodó-var
 - 31 "The Tempest" sprite
 - 35 Honeyed drink
 - 36 Kilauea flow
 - 38 Like the Beatles

L	A	P	U	P		S	A	V	E	R
I	M	A	G	E		A	B	O	V	E
T	I	G	H	T	F	I	S	T	E	D
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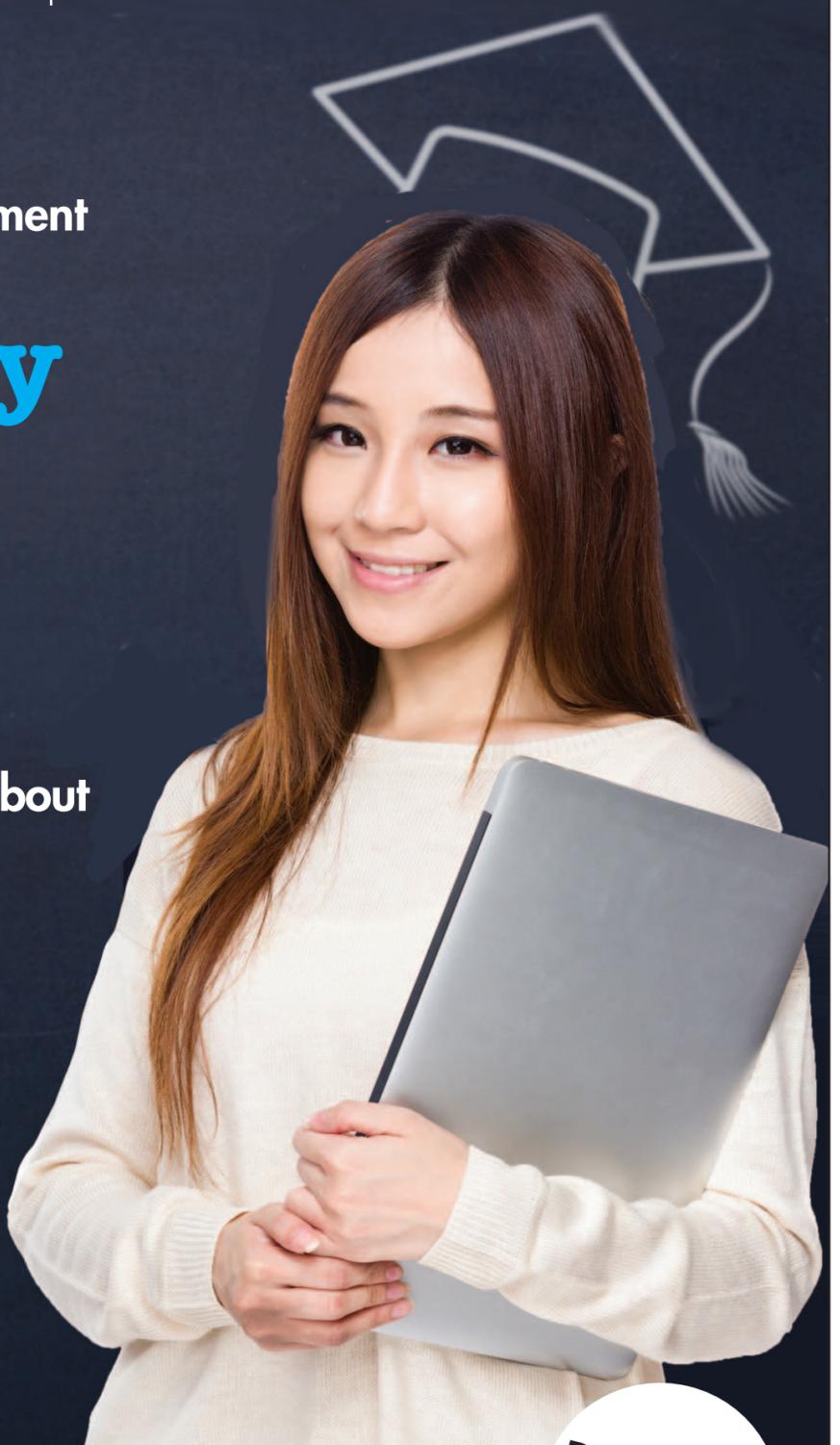
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