

SPORTS | C1

## EUSTIS SCORES TWO IN THE 7TH TO EARN WIN VS. MOUNT DORA



SALUTE B1

## EUSTIS COACH APPLIES WHAT HE LEARNED IN THE ARMY

# DAILY COMMERCIAL

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# Trump: US, allies attack Syria



President Donald Trump speaks in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House on Friday in Washington about the United States' military response to Syria's chemical weapon attack on April 7. [AP PHOTO / SUSAN WALSH]

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States, France and Britain together launched military strikes in Syria to punish President Bashar Assad for a suspected chemical attack against civilians and to deter him from doing it again, President Donald Trump announced Friday. Explosions lit up the skies over Damascus, the Syrian capital, as Trump announced the airstrikes from the White House.

Syrian television reported that Syrian air defenses have responded to the attack.

Trump said the U.S. is prepared to "sustain" pressure

on Assad until he ends what the president called a criminal pattern of killing his own people with internationally banned chemical weapons. It was not immediately clear whether Trump meant the allied military operation would extend beyond an initial nighttime round of missile strikes.

Trump did not provide details on the joint U.S.-British-French attack, but it was expected to include barrages of cruise missiles launched from outside Syrian airspace. He described the main aim as establishing "a strong deterrent" against chemical weapons use. The Syrian government has repeatedly

denied any use of banned weapons.

The decision to strike, after days of deliberations, marked Trump's second order to attack Syria; he authorized a barrage of Tomahawk cruise missiles to hit a single Syrian airfield in April 2017 in retaliation for Assad's use of sarin gas against civilians.

Trump chastised Syria's two main allies, Russia and Iran, for their roles in supporting "murderous dictators," and noted that Russian President Vladimir Putin had guaranteed a 2013 international agreement for Assad to get rid of all of his chemical weapons.

See SYRIA, A6

## Blockbuster opening?



Construction crews continue work on the Epic Theatres at Mount Dora on Friday. [BOB SNOW / CORRESPONDENT]

### Mount Dora's Epic Theatres aims to open with 'Avengers'

By Roxanne Brown  
roxanne.brown@daily-commercial.com

It's looking like it could be a blockbuster opening for Mount Dora's long-awaited Epic Theatres multiplex on Highway 441.

If all goes according to plan, the theater will open on April 26, which would be just in time for the premier of "Avengers: Infinity War."

"We are extremely happy that the theater is finally here. I am personally thrilled and I know a lot of other people are, too. Every day I get calls from people wondering when the theater is going to open," Mount Dora Mayor Nick Girone said. "We're looking forward to them being successful and being a good partner in the community."

According to Epic's

President Frank DeMarsh, the April 26 date is not a firm opening date, but what the DeMarsh family is aiming for.

"If we're able, if we get all the permitting, we'll be open for evening shows of the new Avengers movie," DeMarsh said.

Plans for the \$10 million complex have been in the works for years. Epic Theatres at Mount Dora broke ground in June 2016 and a year later theater officials pulled the required permits to begin construction.

When completed, the theater will offer 4K digital projection, 14-channel digital 3-D sound and reserved seating.

DeMarsh previously said Epic XL movie screens — which are large-format, 70-foot, curved screens that

some people know as IMAX screens — will also be part of the mix, as will luxury amenities that include theater seating made up of electric leather recliners and an expanded concession area offering beer and wine.

The Mount Dora theater is the second Epic location in Lake County, joining one in Clermont that opened in 2009.

"People are going to love it, especially the reclining seats," he said.

DeMarsh said as of Thursday, seats, projectors and a few other pieces of equipment are being installed. He said there are a few small sections outside still waiting to be paved or landscaped.

He said when all the work has been completed, the city

See THEATRE, A6

## FBI looking into possible Cohen fraud

By Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Federal prosecutors said in a court filing Friday that the criminal probe that led them to raid the offices of President Donald Trump's personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, is focused on the attorney's "personal business dealings" and has been going on for months.

In the filing with a court in New York, prosecutors

blacked out a section describing what laws they believe Cohen has broken, but they said the "crimes being investigated involve acts of concealment" and suspected fraud.

They also made clear that investigators have been gathering extensive evidence for some time as part of an ongoing grand jury investigation. Agents, they wrote, had already searched multiple email

See PROBE, A6



SPORTS | C1

## LIGHTNING WILL OPEN SEASON ON JUNE 1

## Spring storm system threatens in Midwest

By Steve Karnowski  
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — A potent, slow-moving spring storm system that's expected to persist through the weekend began raking the Plains and Midwest on Friday, bringing blizzard conditions to South Dakota and the threat of tornadoes from Texas and Louisiana north all the way to Iowa.

The huge storm, packing enough energy to cause widespread disruption, isn't unprecedented for April, said Jake Beitlich, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Chanhassen, Minnesota.

"We do get pretty powerful systems coming throughout the Midwest, and on the cold side we do get

See STORM, A6

# NATION & WORLD

## DIGEST

**JERUSALEM**  
**Israel says Iran drone downed in Feb was on attack mission**

An unmanned Iranian aircraft shot down in February after infiltrating Israeli airspace was armed with explosives and on a mission to attack the Jewish state, Israel's military said Saturday.

Tensions had heightened between the bitter enemies following an airstrike Monday on a Syrian air base that its allies blamed on Israel.

The army statement was released soon after the leader of Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group said the airstrike that killed seven Iranians was a "historic mistake."

Israel has neither confirmed nor denied carrying out the strike on Syria's T4 air base.

**DENVER**  
**Trump vows to back law to protect marijuana industry**

President Donald Trump has promised to support legislation protecting the marijuana industry in states that have legalized the drug, a move that could lift a threat to the industry made by the U.S. attorney general just three months ago.

Republican Sen. Cory Gardner of Colorado said Friday that Trump made the pledge to him in a Wednesday night conversation.

It marked the latest flip by the president who pledged while he was campaigning to respect states that legalized marijuana but also criticized legalization and implied it should be stopped.

Marijuana has been fully legalized in eight states, and 24 states allow some form of marijuana use.

**BATON ROUGE, LA.**  
**Officer appeals firing in Alton Sterling's fatal shooting**

A white police officer who shot and killed a black man during a struggle outside a Baton Rouge convenience store has appealed his firing over the deadly confrontation nearly two years ago, his attorney said Friday.

The former officer, Blane Salamoni, is asking a civil service board to rescind his firing and reinstate him to the Baton Rouge Police Department, according to his three-page appeal petition.

Police Chief Murphy Paul fired Salamoni on March 30, less than a week after Louisiana's attorney general ruled out state criminal charges in Alton Sterling's July 2016 shooting death.

Salamoni's petition claims his firing "was not made in good faith or for cause."

## LOTTERY

Thursday, April 12  
**Fantasy 5:** 7-17-20-23-30  
**Cash 4 Life:** 2-6-14-22-40-1

Friday, April 13  
**Pick 4**  
**Afternoon:** 9-7-4-5  
**Evening:** 1-7-0-4

**Pick 3**  
**Afternoon:** 8-9-3  
**Evening:** 8-5-2

# Alleged chemical attack brutal end to rebellious Syria town

By Sarah El Deeb  
 The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The suspected chemical weapons attack on Douma was a brutal finale for a town that had haunted Syrian President Bashar Assad for seven years from right on his doorstep.

The leafy suburb on Damascus' outskirts was the bastion of one of the toughest, most disciplined Islamist factions in Syria's rebellion, raining mortars on Assad's seat of power and holding out for years under devastating siege. Now destroyed and defeated, it will be the scene of an international fact-finding mission that arrives Saturday to try to determine what happened there.

Russia and the United States have traded threats of military strikes and counterstrikes since the April 7 attack, which first responders and activists say killed more than 40 people and blamed on Assad's forces. Syria has denied any such attack even took place.

On Friday, the Russian Defense Ministry claimed the attack was fake and accused Britain of staging it, a bold charge vehemently denied by Britain as "a blatant lie."

The suspected chemical strike came after weeks of an intense air campaign that killed an estimated 1,600 people and tore the rebel-held Damascus suburbs of eastern Ghouta apart, leveling towns in an enclave that once housed 400,000 people, according to U.N. estimates.

A resident of Douma, an economist who fled the town amid threats to his life in 2015 and now lives in exile, said eight of his neighbors — two women and their six children — were found dead three days after the suspected chemical attack and were believed to have suffocated in their underground shelter from the poisonous gas. He said two of his aunts were still missing.

"There were plenty of bloody attacks before the use of chemical weapons and no



Syrians walk past a picture showing Syrian President Bashar Assad with Arabic that reads, "We apologize for your inconvenience, We are working for you. Exit," at the Hamadiyah market in the Old City of Damascus, Syria, on Thursday. (AP PHOTO / HASSAN AMMAR)

one moved," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he feared for the safety of his family now living under government control. "Only now and after seven years of destruction, the U.S. and the world remembered it was time to punish Assad?"

Hours after the attack, the Army of Islam rebel group, which had controlled Douma since 2012, agreed to surrender and evacuate its fighters to rebel-held northern Syria. The militants also gave up their prisoners, a key demand of the Syrian government, and handed over their heavy weapons and maps of tunnels built over the years to navigate the sprawling neighborhood. The last batch of rebel fighters left Douma on Friday, heading to Jarabulus, a town in northern Syria controlled by Turkey-backed rebels and with a Turkish military presence.

A member of the Army of Islam, who goes by the nom de guerre Abu Samer, said the alleged chemical gas attack was the final blow that settled the group's fate. Fearing an internal uprising and divisions within the group, Army of Islam leaders opted to leave Douma, he said.

"To be honest, it was not the death of 40 or 50 that would have made (the rebels)

give up on Douma. Many more died earlier," Abu Samer said. "The chemical attack wasn't the cruelest. But it was the terror and panic that hit the people that exerted the pressure on the group to leave."

Known for its luscious grapes and apricots, Douma was a hub for anti-Assad protests in the early, peaceful days of the uprising. Residents of Damascus came there to rally and march, away from the heavy security in the capital. The town was split among Islamists — including ultraconservative Salafis — and secular socialist and Nasserite movements. When the government moved to quash the revolt, the town was among the first to take up arms. It was in rebel hands by 2012.

The Army of Islam, whose founder Zahran Alloush was a native of Douma, quickly gained the upper hand, squeezing out the secular activists. But it also staunchly resisted the expansion of foreign jihadists, seeing them as rivals. After Alloush was assassinated in a suspected government airstrike in late 2015, the group maintained its grip, although its popular support eroded under its increasingly exclusionary policies.

At the height of their power,

Army of Islam militants had paraded prisoners captured from government areas in cages on pick-up trucks through the streets of Douma, including women, girls and members of Assad's Alawite minority. The Army of Islam justified the tactic by saying it was designed to stop Assad's relentless bombing campaign against civilians. But the scenes, which resembled the brutality of the extremist Islamic State group, showed how the powerful group was adopting the same abuses it had once revolted against.

Residents of Douma who recently evacuated the town spoke of a police state run by the militants. They said the fighters took control of the area's agriculture and ran several prisons where people were held and tortured.

"They were a state within a state," said Mohammed al-Khaled, a 28-year-old Douma resident who left the town with his family late last month. "Douma was the republic of the Army of Islam."

Speaking in the presence of local government officials in the Horjeli shelter, south of Damascus, Ammar Issam Sleik, an 18-year-old high school student said he was detained by Army of Islam members who suspected he was a government informer and took him to Tawba prison.

"I was taken blindfolded and held in solitary confinement in a cell where I hardly fit," he said, adding that there was a hole in the tiny room to be used as a toilet.

He said that before alleged chemical weapons attacks in the past, Army of Islam members used to tell residents to expect them, distributing medical masks for people to put on.

Ibrahim al-Fawwal, a resident, said he left Douma in 2015 because he couldn't bear living under the Army of Islam. He fled, he said, "so I wouldn't end up hating the revolution."

## DATELINES

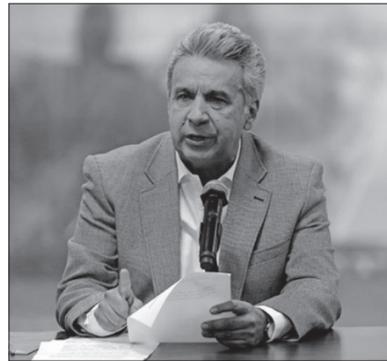
### FRANKFORT, KY.



Teachers from across Kentucky gather inside the state Capitol to rally for increased funding for education Friday in Frankfort, Ky. With the chants of hundreds of teachers ringing in their ears, Kentucky lawmakers voted Friday to override the Republican governor's veto of a two-year state budget that increases public education spending with the help of a more than \$480 million tax increase.

[BRYAN WOOLSTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

### QUITO, ECUADOR



Ecuador's President Lenin Moreno speaks during a press conference Friday confirming the deaths of three press workers from the newspaper EL COMERCIO, in Quito, Ecuador. Moreno spoke after a 12-hour deadline ended with the captors failing to demonstrate the hostages were still alive. "Despite our best efforts, we've confirmed that these criminals never had the intention of handing them back safe and sound," Moreno said. [DOLORES OCHOA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

### PARIS



A rail worker waves a union flag atop a street lamp during a demonstration Friday in Paris. Paris riot police ousted students seeking to occupy Sorbonne university and strikes Friday shut down the Eiffel Tower and two-thirds of French trains — all part of a season of simmering national discontent. [FRANCOIS MORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

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# LOCAL & STATE

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## BEST BETS FOR TODAY

**LAKE COUNTY FAIR:** The fair concludes today and the gates open at 1 p.m.

2:30 p.m. Firefighter Show  
3 p.m. Sea Lion Splash  
6 p.m. Swine Awards  
6:30 p.m. Firefighter Show  
7 p.m. Sea Lion Splash/Swine Sale

8 p.m. Firefighter Show  
8:30 p.m. Sea Lion Splash  
9 p.m. Comedy Hypnotist Show  
10 p.m. Poultry and Rabbit Check Out

**FOOD TRUCK-N-FLICK NIGHT:** From 5 to 10 p.m. at Towne Square, 510 W. Main St. in Leesburg. With food trucks, live music and a movie.

**FLORIDA STORYTELLING FESTIVAL:** At 9 a.m. at Lakeside Inn, 100 N. Alexander St. in Mount Dora.

**KAYAKATHON:** Grab your kayak and get ready for paddling with other like minded kayakers at the Kayakathon 9 a.m. Saturday at Wooton Park, 100 E. Ruby St. in Tavares. Paddle at your own pace with others and enjoy the ride. Cost: \$25 and includes T-shirt and discount drink tickets. You must bring your kayak. Proceeds benefit Camp Boggy Creek.

## IN BRIEF

### TAVARES Howey man charged with beating boy with cable cord

A Howey-in-the-Hills man was arrested Thursday after a boy told an educator he had been abused, authorities say.

A Tavares Middle School resource officer says he was informed by Vice Principal Kevin Caldwell that a student told him he had been beaten by an object and sustained significant injury. The resource officer interviewed the boy, who told him that Jose Ronay Ramos Martinez, 29, came in the bathroom about two weeks ago while he was showering and began hitting him with a television cable cord. He said his injuries began to bleed, so he ran from the bathroom to get away from Martinez.

Martinez admitted to hitting the boy but with his belt. He said he was addressing discipline issues and that in his country it is not against the law to hit or discipline a child the way he did. An officer told him it's a crime in the United States. Martinez was charged with child abuse and domestic battery.

The boy's mother, who was home at the time of the incident, said she was aware Martinez had hit her son, but she wanted to handle the situation at home.

The Department of Children and Families was contacted and opened an investigation.

### EUSTIS Eustis Tractor Supply hosting small livestock swap today

Got goats? How about chickens, rabbits or birds? If so, Tractor Supply in Eustis will host an animal swap today.

The event — from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — is intended to give Tractor Supply customers the opportunity to engage with other like-minded animal lovers while swapping, trading or selling their small animal livestock.

"As a leading retailer of livestock and animal products, this is an event that speaks directly to the interests and lifestyles of our customers," said manager Michelle Turner. "We invite guests to bring everything from goats, chickens and rabbits to ducks, guineas, quail, sheep and more."

Contact the Eustis Tractor Supply store, 100 Ardice Ave., at 352-357-0152 for more details.

### TALLAHASSEE Prison major sentenced to 5 years in beating case

A former major in Florida's prison system has been sentenced to five years in a

See BRIEFS, A4

# Expert: Mariotti was damaged

## Defense doctors testify that injuries, drug use to blame for killer's behavior

By Frank Stanfield  
frankstanfield@dailycommercial.com

TAVARES — David Mariotti got a double-whammy genetic inheritance from his parents for drug addiction and the harmful effects drug abuse carries, a defense expert in his murder trial testified Friday.

His "extraordinary" use of marijuana, starting at age 10, and a "speedball pattern"

— mixing stimulants with depressants — all combined to have "an enduring effect," said neuropharmacologist Jonathan Lipman, Ph.D.

Mariotti, found guilty in the June 2016 slaying of Beatrice Montgomery, is now in the penalty phase of his first-degree murder trial. His defense attorneys are calling upon numerous doctors and mental health experts in hopes of persuading jurors to recommend life in prison without parole instead of the death penalty.

Both of Mariotti's parents

See MARIOTTI, A4



David Mariotti arrives to the courtroom before receiving a guilty verdict on Wednesday at the Lake County Courthouse in Tavares. [WHITNEY LEHNECKER/DAILY COMMERCIAL]

# The week in review



Executive Assistant Public Defender John Spivey, left, reacts to David Mariotti's guilty verdict on Wednesday at the Lake County Courthouse in Tavares. [WHITNEY LEHNECKER/DAILY COMMERCIAL]

## A murder conviction, a long-awaited victory and an unexpected retirement highlight the week in Lake and Sumter

Staff Report

A jury on Wednesday found David Mariotti guilty of killing 84-year-old Bernadine Montgomery of Leesburg, in 2016.

Mariotti, 36, although calm at first, seemed stunned by the verdict. After Circuit Judge Don Briggs ordered that he be held without bond, Executive Assistant Public Defender John Spivey put his arm around him to console him.

Spivey would not comment on what Mariotti had to say, but said he was shaking. "He was upset."

After the jury left and much of the courtroom cleared out, he slumped in his chair waiting for bailiffs to put him in shackles. His eyes were red, stung by tears he fought back.

Police doing a well-being check on the widow at her Palmora Park home on June 22, 2016, did not find Montgomery, but they did find evidence that she had been struck and dragged out of her house. They also found evidence

that her body had been left on the couch for four days.

### Recently released murderer charged with killing again

A convicted murderer released from prison five months ago for good behavior was charged Thursday morning with killing a Tampa-area woman and dumping her body on the side of the road in Webster.

Sumter County Sheriff's detectives say Stanley Tarrand, 40, of Mascotte, shot Fannie Houck execution style in the back of the head and dumped her on County Road 711 in Webster, where her body was discovered Monday.

He was brought to the Lake County Jail, where he was charged with first-degree murder. He is being held without bond.

Tarrand had been in prison until November for stabbing a woman 51 times in Webster in 1993, when he was 15. He was released after accruing time off for good behavior.

### Ross announces retirement from politics

U.S. Rep. Dennis Ross, R-Fla., announced Wednesday he will not run for reelection in November, joining three other Florida Republicans who plan to leave Congress.



Ross

Ross, 58, issued a statement that said he looks "forward to the next chapter of my life which will include, in some way, continued public service." He represents Congressional District 15, which includes parts of Polk, Hillsborough and Lake counties.

"I never viewed this amazing opportunity as a job or a career," said Ross, a senior deputy majority whip in the House. "My home has been and will continue to be in Lakeland, Florida. I look forward to returning to the practice of law and to

See REVIEW, A4

# Panel tees up proposed changes to Constitution

By Lloyd Dunkelberger  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — The Florida Constitution Revision Commission is heading to the finish line, with a dozen ballot proposals up for final votes next week.

The 37-member commission, which is unique to Florida, meets every 20 years and has the power to place proposed changes to the state Constitution directly on the Nov. 6 general-election ballot.

After months of committee hearings, 15 public hearings across the state and preliminary debate and floor votes, the commission is ready for a series of final decisions on the proposed ballot issues. The commission will meet Monday in the Capitol and could continue meeting throughout the week.

Each of the 12 proposals must be supported by at least 22 members to be placed on the ballot. Proposals then would have to be supported by at least 60 percent of voters in November to be enacted.

The 12 ballot proposals actually contain two-dozen changes to the state Constitution because six of the measures contain multiple issues. The other six proposals are single-subject ballot measures.

One example of a ballot proposal grouping several topics is a measure (Proposal 6004) that combines a ban on drilling for gas and oil in state coastal waters with a prohibition on vaping or the use of electronic cigarettes in workplaces.

An example of a single-subject proposal is a measure (Proposal 6012) that would ban greyhound racing at Florida tracks after Dec. 31, 2020.

The bundling of multiple proposals in single ballot proposals was sharply criticized by a coalition of groups including the American Civil

See PANEL, A4

# Slew of new flights to Havana approved

## Interest in Cuba travel prompts US to allow more flights to Havana

By Chabeli Herrera  
Miami Herald

More flights to Cuba are on the horizon.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has tentatively awarded a slew of U.S.-Havana routes to five major airlines from several cities in the country. The proposed schedule is open

for public comment and will likely be finalized later this month.

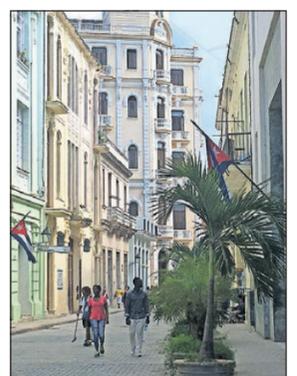
The new flights were awarded after a number of carriers reduced service to the island last year. Initially, airlines clamored to get a slice of the DOT's 20 available daily round-trip flights from the U.S., only to find weaker demand than expected, forcing some to stop flying to certain cities on the island or cut Cuba service altogether.

The new flights, which all

service Havana instead of lesser-known Cuban cities, indicate demand may be creeping up again for travel to Cuba, said Tom Popper, president of Insight Cuba, which has been leading U.S. tours on the island since 2000.

"What is encouraging now is we are starting to see a healthy increase," Popper said. "This came about probably mid-January, February,

See CUBA, A4



Its Spanish-inspired architecture on full display in Old Havana, streets like this reflect the city's colonial roots. [MAUREEN JENKINS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE]

## Today's Services

**LEWIS** - Josephine Bowers Lewis, A Celebration of Life Service will be held today, 2:30 PM at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Leesburg.



**WEESE** - Merrill Weese, Graveside Services will be held today, 3:00 PM at Shiloh Cemetery, Fruitland Park, FL.

**BEYERS** FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY  
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**WILLIAMS** - Antoine Preshae Williams, A Celebration of Life service will be held today, 11:00 AM at Greater Mt. Olive A.M.E., Coleman, FL.



## Ballot proposals range from oil drilling to dog racing

By Lloyd Dunkelberger  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — The Florida Constitution Revision Commission will consider 12 ballot proposals when it meets next week. Each proposal must receive at least 22 votes from the 37-member commission to be placed on the Nov. 6 general election ballot.

Here are snapshots of the proposed changes to the state Constitution:

• **VICTIMS' RIGHTS AND JUDGES (Proposal 6001):** The proposal would establish a series of rights for crime victims, including the right to be notified of major developments in criminal cases and the right to be heard in legal proceedings. It also would increase the mandatory retirement age for judges from 70 to 75. It also would provide that judges or hearing officers should not necessarily defer to the interpretation of laws and rules by governmental agencies

in legal proceedings.

• **FIRST RESPONDERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION (Proposal 6002):** The proposal would require the payment of death benefits when law enforcement officers, paramedics, correctional officers and other first responders are killed while performing their official duties. It also would apply to Florida National Guard and active-duty military members stationed in Florida. The proposal also would establish a governance system for the 28 state and community colleges. It would require a supermajority vote by university boards of trustees and the university system's Board of Governors when raising student fees.

• **PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Proposal 6003):** The proposal would impose an eight-year term limit on school board members. It would allow an alternative process for approving public schools, including charter schools, rather than by local school boards. It also would

establish a requirement for the teaching of civic literacy in public schools.

• **OIL DRILLING AND VAPING (Proposal 6004):** The proposal would prohibit drilling for gas and oil in state coastal waters and ban vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes in workplaces.

• **GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE (Proposal 6005):** The proposal would require all charter county governments to have elected constitutional officers, including state sheriffs. It would lead to the Legislature beginning its annual session in January in even-numbered years. It would create an Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism in the Department of Law Enforcement. It also would revise the constitutional authority for the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

• **PROPERTY RIGHTS AND HIGH-SPEED RAIL (Proposal 6006):** The proposal would remove constitutional language that prohibits "aliens

ineligible for citizenship" from owning property. It also would remove obsolete language that authorizes a high-speed rail system. It would revise language to make clear that the repeal of a criminal statute does not affect the prosecution of any crime committed before the repeal.

• **ETHICS (Proposal 6007):** The proposal would impose a six-year lobbying ban on former state elected officials, state agency heads and local elected officials. It would also create a new ethics standard that would prohibit public officials from obtaining a "disproportionate benefit" from their actions while in office.

• **INNOVATION SCHOOL DISTRICTS (Proposal 6008):** The proposal would allow "high-performing" school districts to be designated as "innovation" districts and provide exemptions from some laws that normally apply to the districts.

• **PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

(**Proposal 6009:**) The proposal would allow all voters to participate in primary elections if all of the candidates have the same party affiliation and are only opposed by one or more write-in candidates.

• **EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION (Proposal 6010):** The proposal would mandate an employment-verification system to determine if workers are legally authorized to work under federal immigration laws. It would apply to workers hired after July 1, 2020.

• **NAMING GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS (Proposal 6011):** The proposal would prohibit government buildings, projects or programs from being named after elected officials who are members of the governmental entities making the decisions. It would apply to state and local governments.

• **DOG RACING (Proposal 6012):** The proposal would ban greyhound racing at Florida tracks after Dec. 31, 2020.

## BRIEFS

From Page A3

federal prison after being convicted of falsifying a report about a prisoner's beating.

Michael Baxter was sentenced Thursday, more than two months after a jury found the 49-year-old guilty of trying to obstruct the investigation into a prisoner who was beaten in Baxter's office.

Baxter worked at the Apalachee Correctional Institution when a prisoner was assaulted on the day he was supposed to get married.

Blood from the inmate's head was found in Baxter's office, and investigators said he later submitted a false report about the assault.

The FBI helped state authorities investigate the case.

**VIERA**  
Iraq vet with PTSD gets life for killing bullies next door

Prosecutors in Florida agree that an Iraq war veteran who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder was systematically bullied by his neighbors.

But they said the bullying didn't justify killing them. Florida Today reports that Billy Woodward was sentenced on Wednesday to two life terms for murder.

Woodward claimed he was standing his ground and defending his family when he shot his neighbors in Titusville on Labor Day weekend in 2012.

The newspaper has reported that he wore camouflage and crawled through the grass at night to fatally shoot Gary Hembree and Roger Picior. Neighbor Bruce Blake survived 11 gunshot wounds.

Prosecutors said Woodward's security cameras recorded weeks of bullying, taunting and threats, but he shot the men out of anger, not fear.

## REVIEW

From Page A3

pursuing opportunities to increase civic education for our youth, and young adults, and with that

## CUBA

From Page A3

we started to see an increase in web traffic, an increase in leads or demands for information and increases in bookings."

Popper said a confluence of events last year affected demand

encourage more engagement and participation of future generations in government."

**First Academy gets first-ever win, in a huge way**

The First Academy of Leesburg softball team

for Cuba, including the announcement of a scale-back of some Obama-era regulations by President Donald Trump's administration, alleged sonic attacks on U.S. diplomats in Cuba — which triggered a travel warning by the U.S. State Department — and Hurricane Irma's passage.

The new regulations from the Trump

went into their game against Auburndale Kingdom Prep Academy on April 3 with the same goal they had all season ... to win the game. It would be a first, not just this season, but in the four-year history of the softball program.

But when the Eagles

played Kingdom Prep Academy, everything came together. They hit the ball with authority. They threw strikes. They fielded well ... and came away with a dominant 19-0 victory.

"It was an amazing moment," said First Academy coach Trisha Spivey.

"They earned that win and they deserved to enjoy the feeling that goes with success. I'm so thankful they were finally able to get that first win under their belts. They're so proud of what they accomplished they don't want to turn in their uniforms."

## MARIOTTI

From Page A3

were drug addicts and his mother was severely mentally ill, according to court records.

His father, Mark, was in federal prison on drug charges until Mariotti turned 13. The two used to smoke pot together, said Lipman, who interviewed David Mariotti in jail.

Lipman also talked to two other jail inmates who grew up with Mariotti. They said he suffered from hallucinations and other side effects.

Lipman went into great detail with Assistant Executive Public Defender John Spivey about how heavy marijuana use by adolescents affects development. Meth can induce a kind of psychosis, he said.

Assistant State Attorney Rich Buxman asked the pointed questions.

He noted that Mariotti lived with his grandparents from the time he was 8 months old to 13 years old.

"Were they a good influence?" the prosecutor asked.

Lipman agreed that

they were.

Was there any evidence of sexual or physical abuse? No, he answered, although they should have monitored his behavior more closely.

He was expelled from school when he was 13.

"That was because he punched a kid in the mouth so hard his teeth came through his lip," Buxman said.

There were later periods of stability, where he held jobs, ran a business, and was in a healthy relationship with a woman who would later become his wife and the mother of his child. She had no use for drugs, so during that time Mariotti was in a drug rehab program.

Mariotti eventually abandoned his family so he could have sex with many different women. "Didn't he describe himself as a 'slut back on the street'?" Buxman asked.

"He did," Lipman said, conceding that he went back to a "drug abuse career."

He did not participate in drug counseling programs in prison, Buxman noted, one of many bad choices he made.

"Drug dependency corrupts the ability to choose," Lipman said.

"We use the term free will rather glibly..."

Another expert focused on an event that occurred on May 2, 2016. That's when Mariotti lost consciousness in a Walmart parking lot in Manatee County after overdosing on heroin.

During a three-hour period, his blood-oxygen saturation reading was 79 percent, said Dr. Geoffrey Colino, a neurologist who reviewed ambulance and hospital reports. The normal reading on a pulse oximeter is 95 to 100. He described the condition as hypoxia.

"You cannot be hypoxic for three hours without suffering some degree of brain damage," he testified.

Buxman, in his cross-examination, asked if it would have affected his ability to tell right from wrong.

Colino said it could affect his ability to empathize with others.

Buxman also tackled reports of supposed traumatic brain injuries. Mariotti was hit in the head with a hammer that fell off a ladder, but the results of a CT scan were negative, and he was not admitted to the hospital. Nor was he admitted when he was involved in a rear-end truck collision.

previous administration. American travelers who visit the island must still adhere to the 12 categories of approved travel to Cuba. Travel just for tourism is still prohibited, in addition to financial transactions with any in a list of 180 prohibited companies, hotels and stores controlled by the Cuban military.

The new proposed

flights include routes between Havana and Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Boston and Houston. They represent the airlines' first-ranked choices for service to Cuba, according to DOT. Objections to the DOT's awards are due by April 16. Answers to objections are due April 23, before the department makes a final determination.

CT scans can detect broken bones or large amount of blood, but they are not as sensitive as an MRI at detecting brain injuries, Colino said.

Stories that he was hit in the head by a car, a baseball and hurt in a fall at a pool came either from Mariotti or his mother.

"Would you consider his mother to be a reliable source?" Buxman said.

"I'd have to say no to that."

Jurors also heard from a radiologist, Dr. Michael Foley. He said brain scans taken of Mariotti in 2017 showed abnormalities of Mariotti's frontal lobes.

That part of the brain has a lot to do with so-called "executive functions," like impulse control, and cognitive thinking, including language, and memory.

The most heart-breaking testimony, however, came at the end of the day. Delio DeBeneditto, bald, grey and limping, recalled when he and his wife had a brief guardianship of Mariotti when he was a teenager in Fort Lauderdale.

He described Mariotti's mother, Elsie Stevens, as a prostitute and a drug addict.

"David was more of a parent than his mother

was," he said, referring to Mariotti as the "caretaker" and "provider" for his younger brothers and sisters.

Mariotti, who dropped out of school in the eighth grade, wanted to get his GED, he said, "so he came to live with us."

The problem was, DeBeneditto was a convicted drug dealer who was still buying drugs when he got out of prison. Soon, Mariotti was stealing drugs from him. He never got the GED.

In 1999 Mariotti's grandparents picked him up and took him to Leesburg to live with them.

"Have you seen him since?" asked Assistant State Attorney Chris Small.

"No," he said.

"I was mad at the world when I got out of prison," he said after the testimony ended for the day.

A changed man, he is remorseful about not being a better father figure, and he is shocked that Mariotti stands convicted of strangling the 84-year-old widow in her Leesburg home and stealing from her to support his drug habit.

"I can't believe it. I look at him and it's like he doesn't have it in him," he said.

## PANEL

From Page A3

Liberties Union of Florida, the First Amendment Foundation, the Florida AFL-CIO and the League of Women Voters of Florida.

In a letter to Constitution Revision Commission members, the coalition said the bundling of the proposals before final votes on each measure was a "dramatic departure" from 1998, when the commission voted on each issue separately before deciding

which proposals would be grouped together.

"Some of the groupings appear to be designed to force commissioners and voters to accept constitutional changes they do not like in order to get those that they do," the coalition said.

The coalition specifically criticized a grouping (Proposal 6003) that combines term limits for school-board members and a mandate to teach civic literacy with a more-controversial proposal that could allow state authorization of charter schools over the objections of local school districts.

"We can all smell an attempted political manipulation a mile away. And right now this process is not passing the smell test," the coalition said.

County government advocates have objected to the grouping in another measure (Proposal 6005), which would require all charter county governments to have elected, rather than appointed, constitutional officers, including sheriffs. The counties want to retain the current constitutional provision that allows voters to decide between elected and appointed posts.

In testimony before the commission's Style and Drafting Committee, Miami-Dade County officials asked for the charter-county proposal to be a separate issue rather than grouped with measures, such as the creation of a state counterterrorism office, that are likely to draw strong voter approval.

A handful of the 12 ballot proposals did not receive the required 22 votes when the full commission advanced them for further consideration, raising the possibility they may fall short again in the final votes.

Among them is a proposal (Proposal 6010) that would require the creation of an employment verification system to determine if workers are legally authorized to work under federal immigration laws. Opponents have called the measure "anti-immigrant," and it has drawn opposition from agriculture interests and some business groups. It initially advanced in a 19-13 vote.

Any ballot proposals approved by the commission will join five constitutional revisions already on the November ballot. They include

measures on gambling, homestead tax breaks, restoration of felons' rights and a requirement for supermajority votes by the Legislature on future tax and fee increases.

In 1978, the commission advanced eight ballot proposals, which all were rejected by voters along with a citizens' initiative on casino gambling.

In 1998, the commission put nine proposals on the ballot, and eight were approved by voters along with four constitutional changes that had been advanced by the Legislature.

# Comey compares Trump to mob boss in book

By Chad Day and Jonathan Lemire  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Firing back at a sharply critical book by former FBI director James Comey, President Donald Trump blasted him Friday as an “untruthful slime ball,” saying, “It was my great honor to fire James Comey!”

Trump reacted on Twitter early Friday, the day after the emergence of details from Comey’s memoir, which says Trump is “untethered to truth,” and describes him as fixated in the early days of his presidency on having the FBI debunk salacious rumors he said were untrue but that could distress his wife.

The book, “A Higher Loyalty,” is to be released next week. The Associated Press purchased a copy this week.

In the book, Comey compares Trump to a mafia don and calls his leadership of the country “ego driven and about personal loyalty.”

Comey also reveals new details about his interactions with Trump and his own decision-making in handling the Hillary Clinton email investigation before the 2016 election. He casts Trump as a mobster-like figure who sought to blur the line between law enforcement and politics and tried to pressure him personally regarding his investigation into Russian election interference.

The book adheres closely to Comey’s public testimony and written statements about his contacts with Trump and his growing concern about Trump’s integrity. It also includes strikingly personal jabs at Trump that appear sure to irritate the president.

The 6-foot-8 Comey describes Trump as shorter than he expected with a “too long” tie and “bright white half-moons” under his eyes that he suggests came from tanning goggles. He also says he made a conscious effort to check the president’s hand size,



In this June 8 photo, former FBI director James Comey speaks during a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on Capitol Hill, in Washington.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]

saying it was “smaller than mine but did not seem unusually so.”

“Donald Trump’s presidency threatens much of what is good in this nation,” Comey writes, calling the administration a “forest fire” that can’t be contained by ethical leaders within the government.

On a more-personal level, Comey describes Trump repeatedly asking him to consider investigating an allegation involving Trump and Russian prostitutes urinating on a bed in a Moscow hotel, in order to prove it was a lie. Trump has strongly denied the allegation, and Comey says that it appeared the president wanted it investigated to reassure his wife, Melania Trump.

Trump fired Comey in May 2017, setting off a scramble at the Justice Department that led to the appointment of Robert Mueller as special counsel overseeing the Russia investigation.

Mueller’s probe has expanded to include whether Trump obstructed justice by firing Comey, which the president denies.

Trump has assailed Comey as a “showboat” and a “liar.” Top White House aides also criticized the fired FBI director on Friday. White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders questioned Comey’s credibility in a tweet and White House counselor

Kellyanne Conway said Comey took “unnecessary, immature pot shots.”

Comey’s account lands at a particularly sensitive moment for Trump and the White House. Officials there describe the president as enraged over a recent FBI raid of his personal lawyer’s home and office, raising the prospect that he could fire Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who appointed Mueller, or try to shut down the probe on his own. The Republican National Committee is poised to lead the pushback effort against Comey by launching a website and supplying surrogates with talking points that question his credibility.

Trump said he fired Comey because of his handling of the FBI’s investigation into Clinton’s email practices. Trump used the investigation as a cudgel in the campaign and repeatedly said Clinton should be jailed for using a personal email system while serving as secretary of state. Democrats, on the other hand, have accused Comey of politicizing the investigation, and Clinton herself has said it hurt her election prospects.

Comey writes that he regrets his approach and some of the wording he used in his July 2016 press conference in which he announced the decision not to prosecute

Clinton. But he says he believes he did the right thing by going before the cameras and making his statement, noting that the Justice Department had done so in other high profile cases.

Every person on the investigative team, Comey writes, found that there was no prosecutable case against Clinton and that the FBI didn’t find that she lied under its questioning.

He also reveals new details about how the government had unverified classified information that he believes could have been used to cast doubt on Attorney General Loretta Lynch’s independence in the Clinton probe. While Comey does not outline the details of the information — and says he didn’t see indications of Lynch inappropriately influencing the investigation — he says it worried him that the material could be used to attack the integrity of the probe and the FBI’s independence.

Comey’s book will be heavily scrutinized by the president’s legal team looking for any inconsistencies between it and his public testimony, under oath, before Congress. They will be looking to impeach Comey’s credibility as a key witness in Mueller’s obstruction investigation, which the president has cast as a political motivated witch hunt.

# Trump pardons Scooter Libby, says he was ‘treated unfairly’

By Chad Day and Catherine Lucey  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump issued a full pardon Friday to I. Lewis “Scooter” Libby, suggesting the former top aide to Vice President Dick Cheney had been “treated unfairly” by a special counsel at a moment when the president himself faces an escalating special counsel investigation.

Libby, Cheney’s former chief of staff, was convicted in 2007 of lying to investigators and obstruction of justice following the 2003 leak of the covert identity of CIA officer Valerie Plame. President George W. Bush later commuted Libby’s 30-month prison sentence but didn’t issue a pardon despite intense pressure from Cheney.

“I don’t know Mr. Libby,” Trump said in a statement issued by White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders, “but for years I have heard that he has been treated unfairly. Hopefully, this full pardon will help rectify a very sad portion of his life.”

Trump pardoned Libby in a case that dealt with leaks to the press despite the fact that he has raged against press leaks and excoriated “leakers” throughout his presidency.

The White House said a witness against Libby later changed her version of events and noted that he had a decade of public service and an “unblemished” record since. He had already been reinstated to the bar by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Libby’s case has been criticized by conservatives, who argue he was the victim of an overly zealous and politically motivated prosecution by a special counsel. Another twist is that the special counsel in Libby’s case, Patrick Fitzgerald, was appointed by James Comey, deputy attorney general at the time. Comey later became head of the FBI but was fired by Trump and has since written a book highly critical of the president.

The criticism echoes critiques of Robert Mueller, the special counsel leading an investigation into

Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, possible coordination with Trump associates and potential obstruction of justice by the president. Trump has called that probe a “witch hunt.”

Libby’s attorneys, Joseph diGenova and Victoria Toensing, issued a statement thanking Trump for “addressing a gross injustice” they said was inflicted by Fitzgerald and Comey.

Trump knows the attorneys and had sought to add them to his legal team in the Russian investigation, but it was determined diGenova and Toensing had conflicts of interest that would prevent them from joining.

Toensing told the Associated Press that she submitted the pardon papers for Libby to the White House counsel’s office last summer. She said the president called her midday Friday to deliver the news.

“He said, ‘He got screwed,’” Toensing recalled.

A spokesman for Bush said Friday that the former president was “very pleased” for Libby and his family.

Critics questioned the timing of the pardon. Earlier in the day, with rumors floating that a pardon was likely, Democratic Rep. Jerrold Nadler of New York, ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee, said the timing was “suspect.”

“It hasn’t been done through the normal channels. He hasn’t gone through the pardon office. And there’s no particular reason to pardon Scooter Libby,” Nadler said. “So one certainly suspects there’s a message.”

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway earlier Friday said, “Many people think that Scooter Libby was the victim of a special counsel gone amok.” Asked if a pardon would effectively be sending a message to Comey, Conway said no.

Plame appeared on MSNBC on Friday morning and said a pardon would signal “that you can commit crimes against national security and you will be pardoned.”

# Cosby accuser says she wants justice in retrial

By Michael R. Sisak  
The Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. — Bill Cosby’s chief accuser took the witness stand Friday at his sexual assault retrial, declaring for a second jury that he knocked her out with three blue pills and then sexually assaulted her at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004.

“I was weak. I was limp, and I just could not fight him off,” said Andrea Constand, once again confronting the 80-year-old comedian in court after his first trial ended with a hung jury.

Her harrowing account of sexual molestation was remarkably similar to the one she gave at last year’s trial, and jurors watched intently and scribbled notes as she described how Cosby — the good-guy celebrity she viewed as a mentor and friend — had betrayed her trust.

Cosby’s lawyer, who has blasted Constand as a “con artist” who leveled false accusations against the star as part of a get money from him, began what was expected to be a blistering cross-examination by going through a thick binder of Constand’s police statements and prior testimony, pointing out discrepancies between what

she said in the past and her testimony Friday.

Under questioning by prosecutors, Constand, who worked as a women’s basketball administrator at Temple University, said Cosby offered her pills and a sip of wine after she said she was “stressed” about telling the Temple coach of her plans to leave to study massage therapy in her native Canada. She said Cosby, a Temple alum and powerful trustee, called the pills “your friends” and told her

they would “help take the edge off.”

Instead, Constand said, the pills instead made her black out. She awoke to find the actor known as “America’s Dad” penetrating her with his fingers, touching her breast and putting her hand on his penis.

She said she wanted Cosby to stop but couldn’t say anything. She tried moving her arms and legs but couldn’t do that either.

Constand said she awoke between 4 and 5 a.m. to find

her bra up around her neck and her pants half unzipped. She said Cosby stopped her as she went to leave: “All he said was there’s a muffin and tea on the table and then, ‘All right’ and then I left.”

Afterward, Constand said, “I was really humiliated. I was in shock. And I

was really confused.”

Cosby has said he gave Constand the cold medicine Benadryl and that she consented to a sexual encounter.

Cosby lawyer Tom Mesereau told jurors in an opening statement on Tuesday that Constand

was a pauper who stiffed roommates on bills, racked up big credit card debt and once ran a Ponzi scheme until she “hit the jackpot” in 2006, when Cosby paid her \$3.4 million to settle the civil lawsuit Constand filed after the district attorney at the time dropped the case.

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# SYRIA

From Page A1

He called on Moscow to change course and join the West in seeking a more responsible regime in Damascus.

The allied operation comes a year after the U.S. missile strike that Trump said was meant to deter Assad from further use of chemical weapons. Since that did not work, a more intense attack would aim to degrade his ability to carry out further such attacks, and would try to do this by hitting Syrian aircraft, military depots and chemical facilities, among other things.

The one-off missile strike in April 2017 targeted the airfield from which the Syrian aircraft had launched their gas attack. But the damage was limited, and a defiant Assad returned to episodic use of chlorine and perhaps other chemicals.

A broader question is whether the allied attacks are part of a revamped, coherent political strategy to end the war on terms that do not leave Assad in power.

# Officials: 1 Palestinian killed, 223 wounded by fire

By Fares Akram and Mohammed Daraghme  
The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Thousands of Palestinians, some burning Israeli flags and torching tires, staged a mass protest on Gaza's sealed border with Israel for a third consecutive Friday, as part of a pressure campaign to break a decade-old blockade of their territory.

Israeli live fire from across the border fence killed a 28-year-old Palestinian man and wounded at least 223, Gaza health officials said.

The death brought to 28 the number of protesters killed in two weeks, with more than 1,500 wounded by Israeli fire since March 30, they said.

The marches have been organized by Gaza's Hamas rulers, but large turnouts on two preceding Fridays were also driven by desperation among the territory's 2 million residents who have been enduring a crippling border closure by Israel and Egypt since 2007.

"We want to live like everyone else in the world," said 37-year-old



Palestinian protesters run for cover from teargas fired by Israeli troops during a protest Friday at the Gaza Strip's border with Israel. (KHALIL HAMRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

construction worker Omar Hamada, an unemployed father of eight. "We came here so the world can see us and know that life here is miserable, and that there should be a solution."

On Friday, the turnout seemed to be significantly lower than on previous Fridays — some 10,000 protesters according to the Israeli military — raising questions about the organizers' goal of keeping the mass marches going until mid-May.

Gaza's Health Ministry said that 969 people were hurt Friday, including 223 by live fire and the rest by tear gas, rubber-coated steel pellets or shrapnel.

Fifteen of the wounded were in serious conditions, including a Gaza journalist. The count also included 67 minors and 20 women, health officials said.

Rights groups have described the Israeli military's open-fire regulations as unlawful, saying they permit soldiers to use potentially lethal force against unarmed protesters.

Israel has accused Gaza's Islamic militant Hamas rulers of using the protests as a cover for attacks and says snipers only target the main "instigators."

On Friday, most of the demonstrators assembled

at five tent camps located several hundred yards from the border fence.

Smaller groups moved closer to the fence, throwing stones, torching tires and burning large Israeli flags, U.S. flags, as well as posters of Israel's prime minister and defense minister. Large plumes of black smoke from burning tires rose into the sky.

Israeli forces fired tear gas, rubber-coated steel pellets and live rounds. Military spokesman Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus said that Palestinians repeatedly tried to damage the border fence, throwing several explosives and fire bombs at it.

Footage distributed by the military showed an area of the fence made up of several layers of barbed wire coils. Protesters stuck a Palestinian flag into the fence and affixed a rope, using it to tug at the coils. One man threw a burning tire into the fence, while another was seen walking nearby with the help of a crutch.

Gaza has endured a border blockade by Israel and Egypt since Hamas overran the territory in 2007, a year after winning

Palestinian parliament elections.

The blockade has driven Gaza deeper into poverty, with unemployment approaching 50 percent and electricity available for less than five hours a day.

The marchers are protesting against the blockade, but are also asserting what they say is a "right of return" of Palestinian refugees and their descendants to what is now Israel.

Hamas leaders have sent mixed signals about whether they plan an eventual mass breach of the border fence. The protests are to culminate in a large rally on May 15, the 70th anniversary of Israel's creation. Palestinians mourn the event as their "nakba," or catastrophe, when hundreds of thousands were uprooted in the 1948 war over Israel's creation.

Several thousand people gathered Friday at one of the tent camps, east of Gaza City. The camp was decked out in Palestinian flags. At the entrance, organizers had laid a large Israeli flag on the ground for protesters to step on.

# PROBE

From Page A1

accounts maintained by Cohen after securing an earlier search warrant.

None of those emails, they added, was exchanged with Trump.

In a footnote, the prosecutors wrote that although the investigation was referred to prosecutors in New York by Special Counsel Robert Mueller, it was proceeding independently.

The U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan made the filing after lawyers for Cohen and Trump asked a judge to block the Justice Department from reviewing records seized Monday in FBI raids on Cohen's apartment, hotel room, office and safety deposit box.

In a court hearing before U.S. District Judge Kimba Wood, Cohen's lawyers asked to examine the seized documents and electronic devices. The lawyers said they should be allowed to identify which of the documents are protected by attorney-client privilege

before prosecutors get to look at them.

An attorney for the president, Joanna Hendon, appeared as well, telling the judge that Trump has "an acute interest in these proceedings and the manner in which these materials are reviewed."

"He is the president of the United States," she said. "This is of most concern to him. I think the public is a close second. And anyone who has ever hired a lawyer a close third."

But Assistant U.S. Attorney Tom McKay told the judge that he believed the proceedings were an attempt to delay the processing of materials seized in the search.

"The issues here are straightforward," he said.

Of Trump, McKay said: "His attorney-client privilege is no greater than any other person who seeks legal advice."

Federal agents seized records on a variety of subjects in raids Monday on Cohen's Manhattan office, apartment and hotel room, including payments that were

made in 2016 to women who might have damaging information about Trump.

The court hearing Friday didn't provide new insight into why agents seized the items, but the judge, prosecutors and the attorneys all spoke openly about an investigation that previously has been shrouded in secrecy.

FBI and Justice Department officials have refused to say what crimes they are investigating, but people familiar with the investigation have told The Associated Press the search warrant used in the raids sought bank records, business records on Cohen's dealing in the taxi industry, Cohen's communications with the Trump campaign and information on payments made to a former Playboy model, Karen McDougal, and a porn actress, Stephanie Clifford, who performs under the name Stormy Daniels. Both women say they had affairs with Trump.

Ordinarily, documents or communications seized from a lawyer by FBI agents would

be reviewed by a team of Justice Department lawyers not directly involved in the investigation to determine which documents were relevant to the probe, and which should be off-limits to investigators because of attorney-client privilege.

The judge said prosecutors believed either a special "taint team" of government lawyers should decide what evidence can be properly viewed by criminal prosecutors. Or, they said, the court could appoint a special master for that purpose.

Hendon asked for a delay in court proceedings until at least Monday, saying she needed to research the law.

Clifford's lawyer, Michael Avenatti, was in the audience for the court session and asked the judge to be heard at 2 p.m.

"We have every reason to believe that some of the documents seized relate to my client," he said.

Cohen has denied wrongdoing.

Trump has called the raids a "witch hunt," "an attack on our country," and a violation of rules that ordinarily make attorney-client communications confidential.

Those confidentiality rules can be set aside under certain circumstances if investigators have evidence that a crime has been committed.

Public corruption prosecutors in the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan are trying to determine, according to one person familiar with the investigation, if there was any fraud related to payments to McDougal and Clifford.

McDougal was paid \$150,000 in the summer of 2016 by the parent company of the National Enquirer under an agreement that gave it the exclusive rights to her story, which it never published. Cohen said he paid Daniels \$130,000 in exchange for her silence about her claim to have had a one-night-stand with Trump.

The White House has consistently said Trump denies either affair.

# THEATRE

From Page A1

will issue a certificate of occupancy so they can open.

"It's what we've been working towards and we're on schedule, so we're happy, very excited," DeMarsh said.

In anticipation of the opening rush, no matter what day it ends up being, DeMarsh said more than 30 employees have been hired and trained.

The manager of the Mount Dora Epic was transferred from another location with the company.

DeMarsh said that the Mount Dora Epic Theatre will be the venue for the Central Florida Film Festival in September.

"Everybody's ready to go," DeMarsh said.

## High Cholesterol? The creator of Gatorade® can help.

**Gainesville, FL** - If you're one of the millions of Americans that have been diagnosed with high cholesterol, "Natural" help is now available from the creator of Gatorade®. The highly regarded late Dr. Robert J. Cade, while at the University of Florida, did extensive clinical trials utilizing a special formula he developed containing soluble fiber (Acacia Gum). This formula proved to lower cholesterol in the human blood by over 17% during an 8 week period. Not only is this special soluble fiber proven to lower cholesterol naturally but other positive effects showed weight loss and improving bowel functions which can help reduce the chances of many forms of cancer.

Dr. Richard Goldfarb, the medical director for the company states, "Statins and other drugs can create as many health problems as what they are developed to cure. Soluble fiber is one of the most important natural ingredients you can consume for over all good health." For the first time, Dr. Cade's original delicious tasting formula "CholesterAde" is now available at these select retailer or call 877-581-1502. [www.drinkcholestorade.com](http://www.drinkcholestorade.com)

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**Burry's Pharmacy**  
Leesburg 352-787-3787

**Adonai Pharmacy**  
Leesburg 352-460-4030

# STORM

From Page A1

snow. And this one is particularly strong. So we do have a lot of moisture with it, and a lot of energy," Beitlich said. "Over the next 24 hours cold air is going to get wrapped into this system

and we're going to see a band of heavy snow develop from southwestern Minnesota through northern Wisconsin. Also we're going to have really strong winds, especially in western Minnesota."

Blizzard warnings stretched from northern Kansas across most of Nebraska and South Dakota into

southwestern Minnesota and northeastern Minnesota, with winter storm warnings and watches covering most of the rest of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Heavy snow already blanketed parts of western Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota by early afternoon Friday, closing most roads and highways in western Nebraska — including a 200-mile stretch of cross-country thoroughfare Interstate 80 from North Platte west to the Wyoming border.

Snow, freezing rain and high winds were expected through Saturday night, with heavy ice accumulations in parts of Michigan through Sunday morning.

A swath of southern Minnesota including Minneapolis though northern Wisconsin was expected to get 8 to 12 inches of snow or more. Parts of Nebraska could get up to 14 inches, with up to 10 inches in Iowa. Wind gusts of up to 50 mph will make travel hazardous.

The National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma, issued tornado watches Friday for eastern Texas and

western Louisiana, moving up through eastern Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas and into Missouri and Iowa. The weather service also warned of the potential for strong thunderstorms, large hail and damaging winds for Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and eastern portions of Texas.

Forecasters said Alabama was also at risk for a weekend of severe weather, with the National Weather Service predicting storms beginning over north Alabama early Saturday will create a threat of winds up to 60 mph and tornadoes through Sunday.

The Storm Prediction Center said there's an enhanced risk of bad weather in an area that includes Birmingham, Huntsville and Mobile, and that Montgomery is on the fringe of the risk area.

Severe thunderstorms also popped up to the north Friday morning in parts of Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota. Golf ball-sized hail fell Friday morning in parts of southwestern Wisconsin, covering the ground like snow in Richland Center and Gays

Mills. Large hail also fell in Parker in southeastern South Dakota while pea-sized hail fell in nearby Sioux Falls.

"That just kind of again speaks to how strong the system is, where you're going to get a lot of snow on the cold side, and severe thunderstorms in the warm part of the storm," Beitlich said.

In South Dakota, where a blizzard warning covered much of the state, authorities issued no-travel advisories for many highways and closed much of Interstate 90 in the western half of the state. Gov. Dennis Daugaard closed state government offices in 32 counties ahead of the approaching blizzard. Dozens of school districts canceled classes ahead of snow accumulation expected to reach 12 to 16 inches. Rapid City had already received 5.5 inches by 10 a.m.

Dangerous fire weather conditions in Oklahoma contributed to wildfires that forced hundreds of people to evacuate their homes near Woodward, about 125 miles (200 kilometers) northeast of Oklahoma City. Emergency crews in western Texas were also battling wildfires amid forecasts of extreme fire danger.

## DENTAL SPECIALS

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# OPINION

Tom McNiff, editor  
352-365-8250  
tom.mcniciff@dailyccommercial.com

## DAILY COMMERCIAL

Steve Skaggs | Publisher  
Tom McNiff | Executive Editor  
Whitney Lehnecker | Digital Editor, Lifestyles Editor

### OUR OPINION

# Confusing voters on amendments

Here's a question for you: Do you spend time each election year studying the pros and cons of constitutional amendments?

Don't feel bad. Ferreting out the difference between what they say and what they really mean is time-consuming and, frankly, it's confusing. Most voters will have one or two they're interested in and mark those, then leave the others blank.

We think a better idea might be to mark the meaningful amendments and vote "no" on all the rest.

Our state constitution is getting cluttered with matters that have no business being in it.

The poster child for amendments that don't belong was placed on the 2002 ballot asking voters to consider this: "It shall be unlawful for any person to confine a pig during pregnancy in an enclosure or to tether a pig during pregnancy on a farm in such a way that she is prevented from turning around freely." It set a penalty of not more than \$5,000 (per pig) or imprisonment or both.

Don't get us wrong, pregnant pigs are due the best possible care, but does this belong in the state constitution?

There was once an attempt to outlaw mail order medicines. The sponsor was a lawmaker who happened to be a veterinarian. The basis for his action was that mail meds broke the doctor-patient confidentiality between an owner and his Golden Retriever.

This fall, we'll see what looks like 24 constitutional changes on the November ballot. One gives specific parameters for naming buildings. One bans greyhound racing. One deals with vaping in public and another sets guidelines for civics lessons in public schools.

Our concern isn't based on the individual merits of the amendments. The problem with the plethora of new rules is that many just don't belong on a ballot. They belong in the Legislature where they're debated.

In legalese the problem is the amendments "don't rise to fundamental constitutional dignity." That's because they do not govern state government, protect fundamental rights and can be enacted through the legislative process.

A second problem will show itself this year, in addition to 24 issues. What you'll actually see on the ballot will be 12 amendments from the Constitutional Revision Commission, in addition to five already OK'd for the ballot. This is an especially nefarious process called "logrolling." It's a pairing of two proposals into one amendment. And the two issues will generally have nothing in common.

For instance, preliminary grouping include a workplace vaping ban and offshore drilling for gas and oil. You get to vote yes or no.

A pair of higher education issues is paired with survivor benefits for the families of police, military and first responders killed in the line of duty.

Another pairs an eight-year term limit for school board members with the requirement that all students be educated in "civic literacy."

Yes, perhaps both are good ideas. But how do you vote if you support one and oppose another?

The one law the CRC might have added to the amendments would be a legal ban on logrolling. It's common sense.

But that's been an uncommon thing in Tallahassee recently where the motto might just as well be, "If you can't sway them, trick 'em."

From the Ocala Star-Banner editorial board.

### ANOTHER OPINION



### ANOTHER OPINION

## Kimmel's joke about Melania's accent hurts immigrants

By Annie Abbot

Our middle child, Marco, had a grade-school teacher named Miss Meece. My husband, with his strong Italian accent, pronounced her name as "Meese Meese." I love my husband's accent, so I giggled inside but said nothing. Finally, though, I decided to coach him on his pronunciation. He quickly grew frustrated and said, "What kind of a name is Miss Miss anyway?"

I laughed and laughed. I even told the story to my friends. "Next year," I said, "I hope Marco doesn't get Meester Meester for his teacher."

This past week's Twitter spat between Jimmy Kimmel and Sean Hannity about Melania Trump reflects the wrong reasons for laughing at someone's accent.

During a recent opening monologue of "Jimmy Kimmel Live," Kimmel poked fun at Trump's role in the White House Easter events. He rolled footage of the first lady reading a children's book, and the audience laughed at her accent. When she read, "... ask lots of questions about this and that," the audience laughed louder. For further comic effect, Kimmel repeated, "About dees and dat."

"You realize what this means," Kimmel said to his Mexican-American sidekick, Guillermo Rodriguez. "You could be first lady of the United States!"

Hannity fired off a tweet defending Trump and attacking Kimmel: "Also @ jimmykimmel attacking @ MELANIATRUMP while reading a book to kids? What happened to 'Mr Morality'? Attacking a woman who is helping children? This is @ Disney? #pervertkimmel."

I don't believe in censoring comedians, and I admire how they find the humor by crossing lines. That's art.

But most jokes about accents are just cheap shots.

Still, Kimmel's audience laughed at that monologue. People at home probably laughed too. I didn't. It's not just that I don't like making fun of people with accents; honestly, the jokes seemed predictable and not very smart. In fact, having an accent was the joke.

But there's a deeper problem with that monologue and with Hannity's defense of Melania. They both decontextualized our society's very serious and ugly treatment of immigrants.

Some of the funniest jokes by Kimmel and other late-night hosts highlight the absurdity and cruelty of President Donald Trump's anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies. This time, though, Kimmel's monologue played into the ways in which we belittle immigrants. By mocking their accents, we dismiss the content of what they say, of their contributions.

In fact, the comedian Hari Kondabolu refuses to use

accents in his routines. In a 2016 interview with NPR, Kondabolu said, "I think some people are used to accents because that's how they see immigrants: Immigrants are funny voices. Immigrants are foreign, strange experiences. And I think there are tons of examples where people have spoken about their (immigrant) parents, and all they are is an accent."

Hannity's tweets never mentioned Melania Trump's accent. Reading his back and forth with Kimmel, you would think that the joke was about Trump reading a book to children, not about the way she read it. Perhaps that is purposeful. Hannity and his fellow hard-line anti-immigrant media personalities have staked their personae on nativism. The first lady's accent is non-native.

I still laugh about Miss Meece. It wasn't funny because my husband mispronounced her name. It was funny because he pronounced something different. He melded his Italian with his English and created something new, something surprising. That's what is beautiful about accents. And about immigration.

Annie Abbot is a professor of Spanish at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She speaks three languages, all with an accent. She wrote this for the Chicago Tribune.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Children need positive role models

With the recent coverage of school threats in our state, it has made me want to take a stand for children. Since April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, there is no better time than now.

We all play a vital role in the development of young children, but honestly, what do we do to help? We all need to remember that as parents we are the child's first teacher. Children do and will model what they see. So, when we are parenting we need to remember how we would like our children to grow up as an adult. Do we want them to grow up learning that we can be nasty to people and not have consequences? Do we

want them to see us threaten others when we become upset at a traffic light? We need to be better role models regardless of the situation. We can break the cycle that we were raised in and show our children that actions have consequences. Threatening or provoking someone has severe consequences and it has to stop.

If we show children how to solve problems without getting into conflicts and teach them how to handle stressful situations, they would become better adults. It is important to help children learn how to identify what causes them stress and learn healthy ways to cope with stress. Parents make a difference in the choices their children make by having open communication with them so they feel

comfortable enough to tell them how they feel, what goes on during the day and what peers are influencing them to make bad choices. Promoting positive change and decision making allows children to make age-appropriate decisions, feel good about themselves and the choices they make. Let's ensure the next generation doesn't have to live with abuse.

Michele Carpenter, Leesburg

#### Tax cuts for the one percent

Sure, now that they gave the one percent every tax cut they could swing, they want a balanced-budget amendment. It's projected there's still trillions yet to be added to the debt, because of this

giveaway to the elite.

What do you think they are going to cut? Let's take an educated guess. Try Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, Healthcare, Education and Infrastructure just to name a few. Ryan has been salivating to take the first three away for years. Remember the Koch Brothers gave him \$500,000 just days after the tax cuts passed because of the huge tax cut they got, as well as removing the individual mandate for the Affordable Care Act, one of the Koch Brothers' big wishes. Now that they have their tax cut and increased our debt substantially, they want to balance it on the backs of you and me, the ones who pay taxes without all those lovely tax loopholes to exploit. Meanwhile, the president

and his selected few are gouging us daily with their free-wheeling spending on lavish trips, expensive salaries, office furnishings, security details, etc., while they cut all the programs that protect us. By the way, why are we protecting Trump Towers? He's never there. Did we ever have 24-hour details for other Presidents' homes? If we did, it should only be for the floors where he lives, not Trump's offices or entire buildings. If he wants that, he's allegedly rich enough to foot the bill himself. But I digress.

Don't let Ryan destroy everything we've worked for before he leaves at the end of the year.

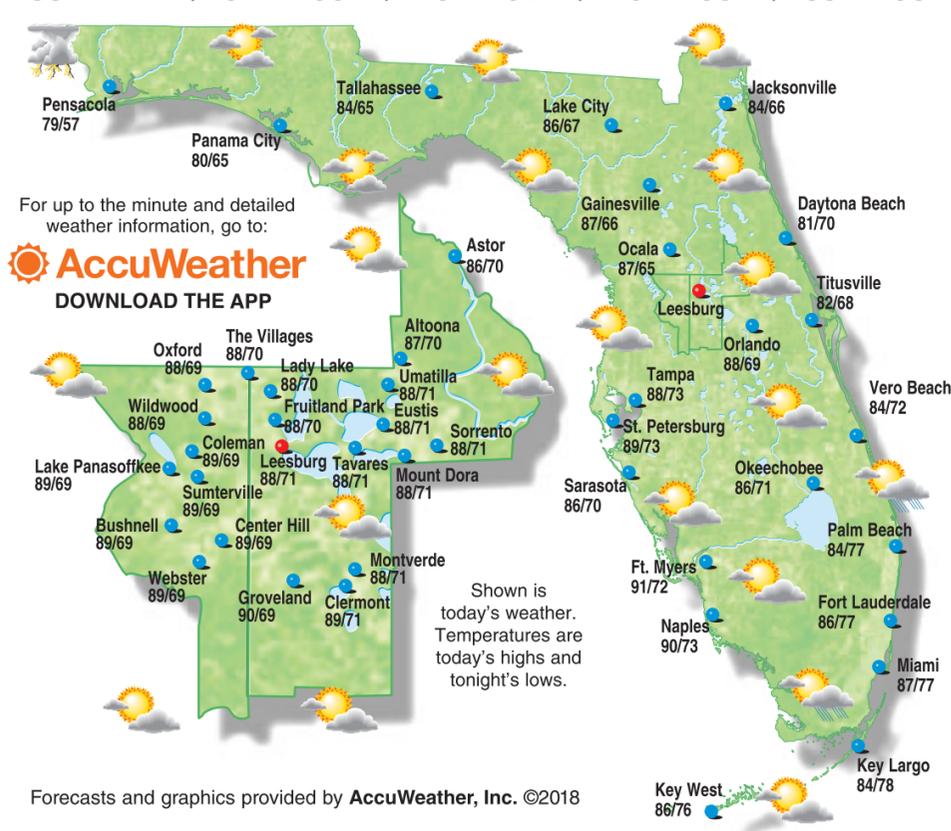
Alan Harris, Clermont

### HAVE YOUR SAY

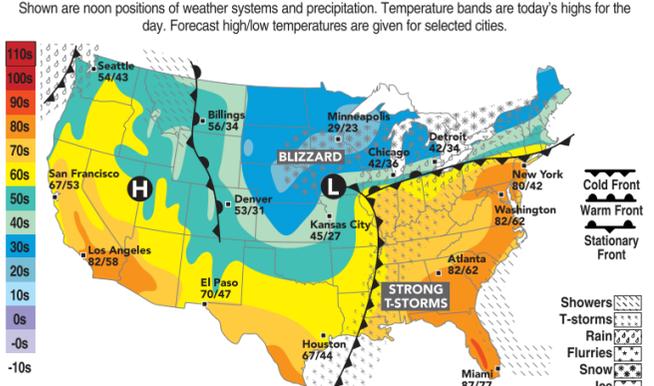
We welcome signed letters and guest columns. Letters should not exceed 300 words and columns should not exceed 500 words. Columns need to include a recent headshot of the writer. We edit for length, clarity, and grammar. **Mail:** Voices, P.O. Box 490007, Leesburg, FL 34749-0007 **Email:** letters@dailyccommercial.com **Fax:** 352-365-1951

### FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR LEEBSBURG

TODAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
	Partly sunny and warm		Strong t-storms, large hail, damaging winds		Sunshine and cooler but pleasant		Pleasant with plenty of sunshine		Pleasant with plenty of sunshine
HIGH 88°	LOW 71°	HIGH 84°	LOW 58°	HIGH 70°	LOW 51°	HIGH 76°	LOW 53°	HIGH 83°	LOW 58°



### NATIONAL WEATHER FOR APRIL 14, 2018



Yesterday's National High/Low: (for the 48 contiguous states)  
 High 88° in McAllen, TX      Low 10° in Crane Lake, MN

#### UV INDEX TODAY



#### SOLAR TABLE

The solar 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.

Major	Minor	Major	Minor
Today 11:06 a.m.	4:55 a.m.	11:30 p.m.	5:18 p.m.
Sun. 11:51 a.m.	5:39 a.m.	---	6:03 p.m.

#### THE SUN AND MOON

	Today	Sunday
Sunrise	7:03 a.m.	7:02 a.m.
Sunset	7:53 p.m.	7:53 p.m.
Moonrise	6:23 a.m.	7:00 a.m.
Moonset	6:42 p.m.	7:42 p.m.

	New	First	Full	Last
	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 7

#### TIDES

Day	High	Feet	Low	Feet
Today	5:40 am	.....1.0	12:13 am	.....0.1
	5:45 pm	.....1.1	12:36 pm	.....0.2

Day	High	Feet	Low	Feet
Sun.	6:14 am	.....1.0	1:03 am	.....0.0
	6:01 pm	.....1.2	12:51 pm	.....0.2

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi Lo W	Sunday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Sunday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Sunday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Sunday Hi Lo W
Albany	48 35 r	39 35 r	Cheyenne	44 25 pc	56 31 pc	Great Falls	55 33 pc	59 36 pc	Norfolk, VA	81 63 pc	78 63 t
Albuquerque	62 38 s	71 48 s	Chicago	42 36 r	38 28 sh	Greensboro, NC	79 62 pc	78 50 t	Oklahoma City	52 29 pc	60 33 s
Anchorage	46 32 s	46 31 s	Cincinnati	70 56 t	58 37 r	Hartford	62 33 pc	40 34 r	Omaha	38 23 sn	35 21 sn
Asheville	74 57 pc	66 41 t	Cleveland	60 40 r	65 39 t	Honolulu	82 74 sh	83 73 sh	Philadelphia	82 48 s	49 46 sh
Atlanta	82 62 pc	64 43 t	Columbia, SC	85 66 pc	80 51 t	Houston	67 44 s	69 44 s	Phoenix	82 59 s	91 65 pc
Atlantic City	77 48 s	49 48 sh	Concord, NH	47 26 r	33 28 i	Indianapolis	72 50 t	54 33 sh	Pittsburgh	78 60 pc	69 45 r
Baltimore	82 58 s	64 54 t	Dallas	64 39 s	67 44 s	Jackson, MS	69 41 t	57 37 s	Portland, ME	44 26 r	33 29 sn
Billings	56 34 pc	61 36 s	Dayton	69 58 t	59 34 r	Kansas City	45 27 c	38 24 c	Portland, OR	57 46 sh	52 42 r
Birmingham	79 50 t	61 40 c	Denver	53 31 pc	62 37 s	Las Vegas	77 58 s	85 63 pc	Providence	62 35 pc	41 37 r
Bismarck	38 19 pc	42 22 s	Des Moines	44 27 r	35 24 sn	Little Rock	63 36 pc	56 34 pc	Raleigh	81 63 pc	81 53 t
Boise	63 46 c	67 43 c	Detroit	42 34 r	52 34 r	Louisville	73 56 t	57 40 c	Reno	71 47 s	66 35 r
Boston	49 32 c	36 33 r	Duluth	27 22 sn	27 20 sn	Memphis	68 41 t	53 37 c	Richmond	83 63 s	79 60 t
Buffalo	40 31 i	53 42 i	El Paso	70 47 s	80 55 s	Milwaukee	37 31 r	37 26 c	Sacramento	76 50 s	68 44 r
Burlington, VT	35 26 sn	36 32 sn	Fargo	37 22 pc	39 21 s	Minneapolis	29 23 sn	32 17 sn	St. Louis	69 40 sh	46 32 c
Charleston, SC	82 65 pc	80 49 t	Fairbanks	37 14 s	40 17 s	Nashville	72 50 t	58 40 c	Salt Lake City	60 45 s	71 53 c
Charleston, WV	79 61 pc	70 43 t	Flagstaff	60 23 s	65 38 pc	New Orleans	77 49 t	63 47 s	San Antonio	76 47 s	78 52 s
Charlotte, NC	82 65 pc	77 51 t	Grand Rapids	36 32 r	40 30 sh	New York City	80 42 pc	45 43 r	San Diego	80 59 s	73 59 pc

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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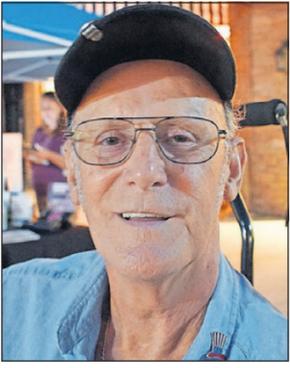
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Tom McNiff, editor  
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## CHAT WITH A VETERAN



## ALVA ASHLINE

**Town:** Clermont  
**Branch of service and rank:** Army, specialist 4th class, Vietnam War

**Enlisted or drafted?** Enlisted. I was from a small town in north-east New York, and I wanted to see something besides a farm and a gas station.

**What did you do in the service?** Infantry. Primarily I was an M16 machine gunner.

**Why was it important?** We protected everything.

**What is your most important memory from service?** I just liked a lot of the people I met and the children in Vietnam, from all over. Children are the future of us.

**What did you like least about service?** Probably the food.

**What do you want people to understand about war?** Soldiers are giving up everything, and people don't understand.

## CALENDAR

### TODAY

**DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT:** At 5 p.m. every Saturday at Amvets Post 1992, 32201 Amvets Way in Mount Dora. Nonmembers must be signed in by a member of the post. Go to [amvetspost1992.org](http://amvetspost1992.org).

**MILITARY MEMORABILIA SHOW:** From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Rennings Flea Market and Antique Center, 20651 Highway 441 in Mount Dora. Military collectibles from all countries and time periods bought, sold and traded. Call Greg Spaulding at 407-462-2163 or John Anderson at 407-376-2614.

**STEAK NIGHT AND BAKE SALE:** At 4 p.m. the second Saturday of the month at AMVETS Post 2006, 500 N. Canal St. in Leesburg. Guests must sign in with a sponsor. Call 352-323-8750, email [amvetspost2006@gmail.com](mailto:amvetspost2006@gmail.com) or go to [amvets2006.com](http://amvets2006.com).

### SUNDAY

**BREAKFAST BUFFET:** From 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Sunday at Amvets Post 1992, 32201 Amvets Way in Mount Dora. With biscuits and gravy, bacon, sausage, eggs and pancakes. Cost is \$6.50. Free to first responders with ID and kids under 6. Call 352-483-3327.

**WINGS AND KARAOKE:** At 2 p.m. every Sunday at AMVETS Post 2006, 500 N. Canal St. in Leesburg. Nonmembers must be signed in by a member of the post. Call 352-323-8750, email [amvetspost2006@gmail.com](mailto:amvetspost2006@gmail.com) or go to [amvets2006.com](http://amvets2006.com).

**BAKE SALE FOR CHARITY:** From 1 to 7 p.m. the third Sunday of the month at AMVETS Post 2006, 500 N. Canal St. in Leesburg. Check time before heading over. Call 352-323-8750, email [veteransinfoandevents@gmail.com](mailto:veteransinfoandevents@gmail.com) or go to [amvets2006.com](http://amvets2006.com).

### MONDAY

**TRI-COUNTY WOMEN'S VETERANS LUNCHEON:** At 11 a.m. at Palmer Legends County Club, 1635 Palmer Way in The Villages. No reservations required. For information call President Sue Roper at 757-576-9688.

**DAR CLASS:** From 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. the second, third and fourth Monday of the month at Cooper Memorial Library,

# Discipline, commitment and ACCOUNTABILITY



Johnny Saunderson poses with a photo from his days in the United States Army. "It's just a whole different breed of guys," he said. [BOB SNOW / CORRESPONDENT]

## Hard-nosed Eustis coach applies Army experience to youth football

By Keith Oliver  
Correspondent

EUSTIS — When Johnnie Saunders, founder of the Eustis Junior Panthers football and cheerleading programs, leads his players through exhausting drills and insists on discipline and teamwork, he applies what he learned in the U.S. Army.

"I grew up there," said the former sergeant. He was a helicopter repairman for the nimble Kiowa, an observer-scout aircraft that once served as the eyes and ears for some of the Army's most prolific fighting units.

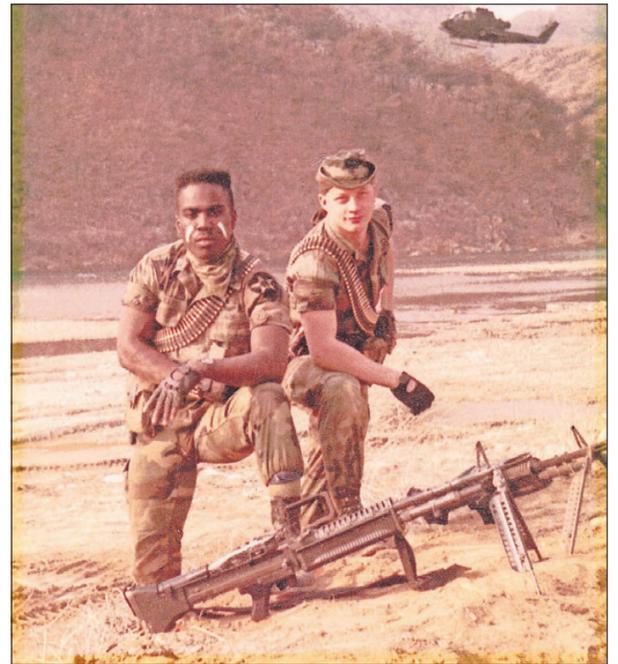
A native of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, Saunders, 52, also spent time in New York City before his mother "made the best move any

parent could make at that time," bringing her family back to the islands when he was nearing school age.

Later, Saunders made a decision to enlist in the Army, tackling boot camp in the wide-ranging, West Texas desert of Fort Bliss. His drill sergeant was the first of many soldiers who impressed Saunders with a sincere, daily demonstration of what discipline, commitment and accountability looked like.

A special trait, though, and one he has emulated as a coach, was the drill sergeant "making sure every one of his soldiers was adequately prepared," Saunders said. "Every single one had to be alright — no one was going to leave his charge until that was so. If it took extra, off-duty time on his part because an individual was not mastering this or that skill, so be

See ARMY, B4



Johnnie Saunders stands with Brian Kalibowski during their time in the U.S. Army. [SUBMITTED]

## Clermont teen honored for service to veterans

### Staff Report

CLERMONT — Benjamin Mack-Jackson of Clermont was selected state winner of the Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award for Service to Veterans for Florida State Society National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Benjamin was recognized for his continuing interviews of World War II Veterans through his Veterans History Project, which can be found at [www.wv2veteranshistoryproject.com](http://www.wv2veteranshistoryproject.com). At the spring conference in Orlando, the Florida State Society Regent Dawn Lemongello recognized Mack-Jackson at the organization's National Defense banquet.

In addition to interviewing the WWII veterans, Mack-Jackson has been active in addressing schools and service organizations, and he brings his traveling museum of memorabilia to share and educate.

The Outstanding Youth



Frances Nader, left, Benjamin Mack-Jackson, Charyl Winner and Harriet Wallace are pictured at the banquet in Orlando. [SUBMITTED]

Volunteer Award for Service to Veterans is a national competition sponsored by

the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Benjamin

Mack-Jackson was sponsored by Leesburg's NSDAR Mary Ellen Robertson Chapter.

# Gathering Places for Spiritual Worship

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## EUSTIS

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 with Childcare Available  
 Adult Sunday School 9:15am  
 Children's Chapel Service 10:30am  
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[www.stthomaseustis.com](http://www.stthomaseustis.com)

**Unitarian Universalist  
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## FRUITLAND PARK

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**  
 2201 Spring Lake Road, Fruitland Park  
 352-787-1500  
 Sunday Services: 8 a.m. (w/o music);  
 10 a.m. (w/choir)  
 Wednesday: 10 a.m. Bible Study;  
 11:30 a.m. Healing Service  
[www.holytrinityfp.com](http://www.holytrinityfp.com)  
 On CR466A: go east 2.3 miles past Colony Plaza;  
 left on Poinsettia to Spring Lake Rd.  
 On US441/27: go south .4 mile past Phillips Buick;  
 turn right on Spring Lake Rd.

**Community United Methodist  
 Church**  
 309 College Ave., Fruitland Park  
 (Intersection of 466A & College Ave.)  
 Church office 352-787-1829  
 Community Christian Preschool  
 352-787-1830  
 Co-Pastors Rev. Debbie Allen &  
 Rev. Daryl Allen  
 Sunday Traditional Worship 8 am & 11 am  
 Sunday Contemporary Worship 9:30 am  
 Sunday School for all ages 9:30 am & 11 am  
[www.communityumcfp.com](http://www.communityumcfp.com)

**Countryside Baptist Church**  
 2805 Register Road, Fruitland Park  
**Pastor John W. Stricklen**  
 Sunday School 9:30 am  
 Morning Service 10:30 am  
 Sunday & Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm

**LIFE Church Assembly of God**  
 04001 Picciola Rd., Fruitland Park  
 352-787-7962  
**Pastor Rick Welborne**  
 Sunday Deaf Impaired 10:00am  
 Sunday Evening 6:00pm  
 Wednesday Prayer and Youth Service 7:00pm  
 Sunday School 9:00am  
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

**LaVida Spanish Ministry**  
 un ministerio de  
**Life Church Assembly of God**  
 04001 Picciola Rd., Fruitland Park  
 352-787-7962 or 321-947-2644  
**Pastor Rick Orisini**  
 Es Domingo et al 4:00 PM  
[www.LifeChurchAG.net/Lavida](http://www.LifeChurchAG.net/Lavida)

**Trinity Assembly of God**  
 200 Urick Street, Fruitland Park  
 352-787-0996  
**Pastor Chuck Padgett**  
 Sunday School 9:00 am  
 Sunday Worship 10:00 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm  
[www.trinityaogfp.org](http://www.trinityaogfp.org)

## GROVELAND

**South Lake Christian Church**  
 19455 Villa City Road, Groveland, FL 34736  
 352-429-3400  
 Traditional Service 8:45AM  
 Coffee, Donuts and Fellowship 9:45AM  
 Bible School 10:15  
 Contemporary Service 11:00AM  
[Slcc.church](http://Slcc.church)

## LEESBURG

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
 1334 Griffin Road, Leesburg  
 352-787-7275  
 Sunday Service 10:30am  
 Wednesday Bible Study 10:00am  
 Sunday Bible Study 9:15am  
 Thursday Bible Study 5:30pm

**Central Baptist Church est.1883**  
 104 Perkins St. Leesburg,  
 Corner of Perkins & Main St. in Downtown Leesburg  
 352-787-3966  
**Pastor Jay Williams**  
 Service Times: Sunday 10:30am & 6:00pm  
 Wednesday Bible Study and Kids Awana 6:30  
 Facebook [centralbaptistchurchleesburg](http://centralbaptistchurchleesburg)  
[www.centralbaptistchurch.info](http://www.centralbaptistchurch.info)

**Christ United Methodist Church**  
 1313 Griffin Road  
 352-365-0622  
**Pastor Priscilla Scherrah**  
 Traditional Worship 8:30am & 10:45am  
 Sunday School 9:30am  
 Wednesday Bible Study (September-May) 10:00am  
[www.christumcleesburg.com](http://www.christumcleesburg.com)

**Community Wesleyan Church**  
 335 Tomato Hill Rd., Leesburg  
 (turn at Race Trac corner)  
 727-224-4180  
 Sunday 10:30am  
 Wednesday 6:00pm  
 Come join us!

**First Baptist Leesburg**  
 220 N. 13th St., Leesburg  
 352-787-1005  
 Sunday Service & Bible Fellowships  
 9:45am & 11:00am  
 Wednesday Night Activities 6:00pm

**Village Park Campus  
 American Legion Hall**  
 (699 W. Lady Lake Blvd., Lady Lake)  
 Sunday service 8:00am & 9:00am  
[www.villagepark.org](http://www.villagepark.org)  
[www.fbcleesburg.org](http://www.fbcleesburg.org)

**First Presbyterian Church  
 of Leesburg**  
 200 S. Lone Oak Dr., Leesburg  
 352-787-5687  
 Sunday Service 10:00am  
 Sunday School 8:45am  
[www.firstpresleesburg.org](http://www.firstpresleesburg.org)  
 "Disciples Making Disciples"

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**  
 130 S. Lone Oak Drive, Leesburg  
 352-787-3223  
 Sunday Worship Service 9:30am  
[www.gloriadeielca.net](http://www.gloriadeielca.net)

**Good News Church**  
 400 Executive Blvd, Leesburg, FL 34748  
 352-315-1695  
**Pastor John Blake**  
 Service Time 9 am & 11 am  
[www.goodnewschurch.org](http://www.goodnewschurch.org)

**Grace Evangelical Presbyterian  
 Church**  
 Worship Service @ (Women's Club of Leesburg)  
 700 S. 9th St. Leesburg  
 (352) 552-0052  
**Pastor Dave Dorst**  
**SUNDAYS**  
 9:30 AM Food & Fellowship  
 10:00-11:00 AM Worship  
 11:15-11:55 Sunday School



## LEESBURG

Call for more information on Small Groups, Bible  
 Studies and Choir!!  
**Email:** [graceepcleesburg@gmail.com](mailto:graceepcleesburg@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.graceepchurch.org](http://www.graceepchurch.org)  
 Like on Facebook: Grace EPC

**Leesburg Church of the Nazarene**  
 2100 Dr. M. L. Boulevard, Leesburg  
 352-326-8878  
**Senior Pastor Gregory R. Brown**  
 Associate Pastor of Care Steve Wilson  
 Coffee and Donuts 9:00am  
 Sunday School All Ages 9:30am  
 Worship Service 10:30am  
 Wednesday Bible Study 6:00pm  
 Sunday Service 6:00pm  
*A Place to Experience God's  
 Presence, Purpose and Power*  
[www.leesburgnazarene.org](http://www.leesburgnazarene.org)  
[leesburgnazarene.office@gmail.com](mailto:leesburgnazarene.office@gmail.com)

**Midway Baptist Church**  
 32707 Blossom Lane, Leesburg  
 352-314-3080  
**James Nickerson Jr.**  
**Senior Pastor**  
 Sunday Bible Study 9:30am  
 Sunday Worship 10:30am  
 Sunday Evening 6:00pm  
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:00pm  
 "We sing hymns and Gospel songs"  
[www.MidwayBaptistOnline.org](http://www.MidwayBaptistOnline.org)

**Seventh Day Adventist**  
 508 S. Lone Oak Dr., Leesburg  
 352-326-4109  
 Worship Service 9:30am  
 Sabbath School Service 11:00am  
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00pm

**St. James Episcopal Church**  
 204 Lee Street, Leesburg  
 352-787-1981  
**Rev. Thomas H. Trees, Rector**  
 Sunday Holy Eucharist Services  
 8:00am & 10:00am  
 Thursday Holy Eucharist and Healing Service  
 10:00am  
[www.stjames-leesburg.org](http://www.stjames-leesburg.org)

**St. Paul Roman Catholic Church**  
 (In union with the Roman Catholic Diocese of  
 Orlando & The Vatican)  
 1330 Sunshine Avenue, Leesburg  
 Weekday Masses M-F 8:30am  
 Sacrament of Penance  
 Saturday 2:30-3:30pm (or by appointment)  
 Saturday Masses 4:00 & 7:00pm (Spanish)  
 Sunday Masses 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00am  
 Office Hours M-F 8:00-12:00, 1:00-4:00

## MOUNT DORA

**St. Philip Lutheran Church**  
 1050 Boyd Drive, Mt. Dora  
 352-383-5402  
**Pastor Rev. Dr. Johan Bergh**  
 Worship 9:30am  
 Gathering 10:45am  
 (Childcare Provided)  
[www.stphilipic.com](http://www.stphilipic.com)

## OKAHUMPKA

**Corpus Christi Episcopal Church**  
 3430 County Road 470, Okahumpka  
 352-787-8430  
 Sunday Holy Eucharist Service 10:00am  
 Fellowship following the service  
 Thursday Morning Prayer 9:30am  
 Sunday Evening Prayer with Eucharist 4:00pm  
[www.corpuschristiepisopal.org](http://www.corpuschristiepisopal.org)

## TAVARES

**Tavares First United  
 Methodist Church (UMC)**  
 Corner of Old 441 & SR 19, Tavares  
 352-343-2761  
**Pastor Mike Briggs**  
 Sunday Services  
 8:30 am & 11:00 am – Traditional service in the  
 Sanctuary  
 10:00 am – Contemporary, café service in the UMAC  
 9:45 am – Adult Small Group  
 10:00 am – TreeHOUSE Kids (preK thru elementary)  
 \*\*Nursery for 3 & under available 8:15am-12:15am\*\*  
[www.functavares.com](http://www.functavares.com)

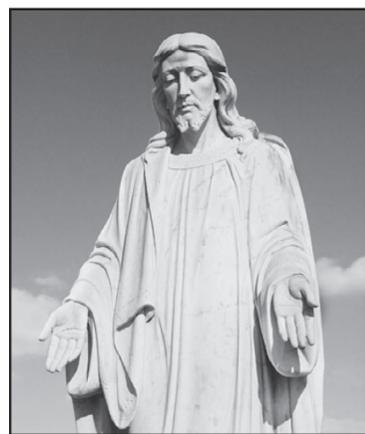
**Unity Tavares**  
 1410 E Alfred St. (Old 441)  
 Tavares, FL 32778  
 352-508-8266  
 Sunday Meditation 10:00  
 Sunday Service 10:30  
[www.UnityTavares.org](http://www.UnityTavares.org)

## YALAHA

**Yalaha Community Church**  
 9050 Citron Street, Yalaha  
 Sunday Evening Service 6:00-7:00  
 Tuesday Evening Bible Study 6:30-7:30  
 Non-Denominational  
 Phone: 352-408-4517

## WILDWOOD

**Rock Of Ages Lutheran Church**  
 201 Barwick St.  
 Wildwood, FL 34785  
 (352) 330-0463  
**Pastor Don Erickson**  
 8:30 am Traditional Communion Service  
 10:30 am Contemporary Communion Service  
[www.rockofageslutheran.com](http://www.rockofageslutheran.com)



For information on  
 listing your church  
 on this page call the  
**Classified**  
**Department at**  
**352-314-3278**

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 9039 US HWY 441  
 Leesburg, FL 34788

# FAITH

Tom McNiff, editor  
352-365-8250  
tom.mcniciff@dailyccommercial.com

## REFLECTIONS

*Our spirits  
will live  
with God  
eternally*



Rick Reed

It's amazing the amount of information available right at my fingertips. While researching a story I ran into John Randolph, a Virginia gentleman considered by many to be a great orator. He once said, "Time is at once the most valuable and the most perishable of all our possessions."

I came across that word, perishable, earlier in the week when I was reading the first chapter of 1 Peter to Nancy.

"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers," wrote Peter, "but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect."

We usually don't think about silver or gold as perishable but, as Peter reminded us, silver and gold will one day perish — along with everything else that isn't spiritual.

Peter used the word perishable a second time when he wrote in 1 Peter 1:23: "For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God."

The word perishable was used four other times in the Bible, all by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15.

Beginning in verse 42 he wrote, "So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body."

Paul continued in verse 50: "I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed — in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed."

Paul used perishable two more times, in verses 53 and 54.

"For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality," continued Paul. "When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Thank God we are perishable and our spirits will live with Him eternally.

Let me close with this, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Rick Reed is a columnist for the Daily Commercial. Email him at [ricoh007@aol.com](mailto:ricoh007@aol.com).

# Hidden history



Autumn's colors peak on hardwood trees in a cemetery near the Congregational Church in Cumberland, Maine. The history of the Congregational Church is the history of Colonial New England. Its records from 1630 to 1800 are being put online by the Boston-based Congregational Library and Archives Hidden Histories project, with a boost of more than \$300,000 from a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. [ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP]

## Grant helps scholars mine church records

By MARK PRATT  
Associated Press

The history of the Congregational Church is the history of Colonial New England.

Before the birth of the nation and the separation of church and state, the plain Congregational churches that date to the time of the Pilgrims and are found in every community in the region chronicled just about every aspect of life.

Yet that history remains largely scattered and hidden, tucked away in damp, unexplored corners of church buildings from the coast to the mountains.

Now, with the help of a more than \$300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities being announced on Monday, the Boston-based Congregational Library and Archives

Hidden Histories project is locating, securing and digitizing church records from 1630 to 1800 and putting them online for anyone to peruse for free.

Some records are already online, but the new grant will allow the project to digitize an additional 18,000 documents and transcribe about 7,000 of them, said James Cooper, director of the Hidden Histories project.

The church was the dominant religion in Colonial New England and the focal point of every community, Cooper said.

And because of that, the records contain more than just information about births, baptisms, marriages and deaths.

"Essentially, everyone was a Congregationalist at that time," he said. "Almost anything that happened in the community went through the doors of the church. If two people had a squabble, you didn't go to court, you went

before the minister and tried to settle it."

And fortunately, the ministers, often the town's sole record keeper, wrote everything down. Often in meticulous detail.

"They provide an amazing insight into the lives and minds of ordinary folks," Cooper said.

The documents are of immeasurable value to anyone "exploring political culture, social history, linguistics, epidemiology and climatology ... as well as to genealogists and members of the public interested in a range of subjects," The National Endowment for the Humanities said in its announcement.

The Congregational Library and Archives already has the records of about 40 churches online. But most of them are from Massachusetts.

The grant will help the project branch into the rest of New England, Executive Director Margaret Bendroth said.

"This is a very big deal for us," she said. "This is an affirmation of so much work and time and effort and expertise."

Cooper, a professor emeritus of history at Oklahoma State University, has spent almost three decades tracking down the records, often forgotten by modern day congregations.

"A staggering amount of the records are scattered in small local libraries, historical societies and still within churches and historians haven't been able to use them because they are utterly inaccessible," Cooper said.

They are crumbling, rotting and water stained.

He's found them stuffed in pantries next to cans of tomato sauce; wedged into coat closets; and in a safe to which no one associated with the church had the combination. In one case, a church member put the records in a

See CHURCH, B4

## CALENDAR

### TODAY

**SHABBAT SERVICES:** At 10 a.m. every Saturday at Chabad House Center for Jewish Life and Learning, 13030 County Road 103 in Oxford. Call 352-330-4466 or go to [ourchabad.org](http://ourchabad.org).

**PAWS OF PRAISE:** At 9:30 a.m. every second and fourth Saturday at Bark Park, 6085 County Road 44 in Wildwood. Community gathering for humans and canine companions. Contact Michael Beck at 352-203-7258.

**RUMMAGE SALE:** From 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Calvary Chapel Leesburg, 1601 W. Main St. Call 352-460-7595 for information.

### SUNDAY

**HANDBELL CHOIR CONCERT AND SPAGHETTI DINNER:** At 4 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 117 S. Center St. in Eustis. Concert is free. Cost of dinner is \$7 and

reservations are encouraged. Open to the public. Child care available. Call 352-357-2833.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:** From 3 to 5 p.m. every Sunday at First Presbyterian Eustis, 117 S. Center St. To help people face challenges and rebuild their lives. Go to [fpceustis.com](http://fpceustis.com).

**BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP:** At 10:30 a.m. the first and third Sunday of the month at the home of Joe Tassell, Pastor of Mercy Church in Mount Dora. Go to [mercy-churchfl.org](http://mercy-churchfl.org).

**PROPHECY CONFERENCE:** At 10:30 a.m. at New Life Baptist Church, 35300 Radio Road in Leesburg. With speaker Herb Rogers. Call 352-728-0004 for information.

### MONDAY

**OUR FATHER'S HANDS CRAFT GROUP:** From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Monday at New Life Baptist Church, 35300

Radio Road in Leesburg. Most items created are donated to charity. Call 352-728-0004 for information.

**GRIEFSHARE:** At 3:30 p.m. every Monday at First United Methodist Church of Tavares, 600 W. Ianthe St. For those grieving the loss of a loved one. Cost is \$15 for workbook. Call Betty at 352-308-8229 to register.

**TOASTMASTERS MEETING:** From 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Monday at Clermont Seventh-day Adventist Church, 498 W. Montrose St. Call 352-234-6495.

### MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

**SENIOR FEST TWO:** At 3 p.m. at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center, 39034 County Road 452 in Leesburg. With preachers, music, seminars and activities for senior men and women. Go to [lybcc.com/senior-fest](http://lybcc.com/senior-fest) for pricing and details.

### TUESDAY

**LADIES PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY:** From 9 to 11 a.m. every Tuesday at Fairway Christian Church Classrooms A-B, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**LADIES TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** From 9 to 11 a.m. every Tuesday at Fairway Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS MEETING:** At 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month at Trinity Lutheran Church, 17330 US Highway 27 in Summerfield. Nonprofit organization that provides support for families grieving from the death of a child. Central Florida Chapter. Email [tcaryl@comcast.net](mailto:tcaryl@comcast.net) for information.

See CALENDAR, B4

# ARMY

From Page B1

it.”

“Coach Johnnie” is known for his tough, tell-it-like-it-is approach.

“My style is direct. Brutal honesty. They (the players) respond to that,” he said. “Kids want to know, ‘Am I doing it right?’”

But his methods — and they have been proof-tested by two decades of his players’ success at the high school, college and professional levels — are fueled by a higher purpose.

“It hit me a few years ago that this wasn’t about winning anymore. It’s about reaching souls. It’s about showing respect. It’s about growing into a man. It’s about treating a young lady right.”

Another theme he espouses with passion is camaraderie — especially regarding race relations. Known for his racially mixed teams, coaching and support staff, Saunders sees football as a venue for building teamwork, trust and understanding.

It’s what he experienced in the Army, including a lifetime friendship he and a white roommate developed. “It started off badly,” he said. “It was putting two guys in a room who came from totally opposite cultural and geographic backgrounds and comfort zones.”

“It took about six months for us to get it figured out,” said. “We hated each other. Then we went on some field exercises and discovered that if we did not work together and get to know each other, we would not be able to accomplish the mission.”

Saunders said he believes race relations better in the Army than in the civilian world.

“It’s just a whole different breed of guys,” he said.

# CALENDAR

From Page B3

## WEDNESDAY

**LADIES BIBLE STUDY:** From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Wednesday at New Life Baptist Church, 35300 Radio Road in Leesburg. Call 352-728-0004 for information.

**GRIEFSHARE:** From 2 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday at Fairway Christian Church Room C/D, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. For all who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**YOGA THERAPY CHURCH:** At 11 a.m. every Wednesday at Wildwood United Methodist Church, 300 Mason St. Amrit Yoga Therapy and Christian Scripture. Call 352-203-7258.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDIES:** From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Fairway Christian Church, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** From 8 to 9 a.m. every Wednesday at Fairway Christian Church Classrooms C-D, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**LADIES WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:** From 6 to 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Fairway Christian Church Classrooms A-B, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

## THURSDAY

**LADIES THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY:** From 9 to 11 a.m. every Thursday at Fairway Christian Church Classrooms C-D, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**DISCUSSION GROUP:** At 1 p.m. at Sumter County Administration and Library Building, 7375 Powell Road in Wildwood. Rabbi Karen Allen of Congregation Beth Shalom with roundtable series on current Torah Portion. Go to bethsholomflorida.org.

**FLORIDA LAKES SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:** At 7:30 p.m. at Epiphany Celebration Anglican Church, 1724 South Bay St. in Eustis. Home on the Range. Go to FloridaLakesSymphonyOrchestra.com for tickets and information.

## FRIDAY

**CHRISTIAN BREAKFAST CLUB:** At 8:30 a.m. every Friday at Perkins Restaurant, 27811 S. Highway 27 in Leesburg. Interdenominational and all welcome. Call Dan or Lynda Rushing at 352-530-2518.

**SHEAR LOVE SOUL SALON:** From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Friday at Wildwood United Methodist Church, 300 Mason St. With Pastor and cosmetologist Krista Olson. Wash hair beforehand and bring Bible. Call 352-203-7258.

**MOVIE NIGHT:** At 6 p.m. at Fairway Christian Church Room C/D, 251

Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Showing of Wonder. With popcorn and snacks. Free. Bring a friend. Call 352-259-9305 for information.

**FLORIDA LAKES SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:** At 7:30 p.m. at Sheperd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 13600 Caspian Lane in Clermont. Home on the Range. Go to FloridaLakesSymphonyOrchestra.com for tickets and information.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 21

**PRINCESS BRUNCH:** From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at The Father's House, 2301 South St. in Leesburg. Cost is \$15, girls 5 and under free. With gifts, guest speaker and picture station. Call 352-315-1815 to register.

**TOUCH-A-TRUCK EVENT:** From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 2727 S. Grove St. in Eustis. Presented by Kiwanis Club. With bounce house and food. Free. Call Marcy Kappel at 352-589-5683 for information.

**SING INTO SPRING:** At 4 p.m. at Graceway Church, 10200 Morningside Drive in Leesburg. Lake County Ladies Chorus Annual Spring Concert. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Call 352-728-1620 for information.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 22

**SERVICE AND BARBECUE:** At 10:30 a.m. at Grace Bible Baptist Church, 1703 Lewis Road in Leesburg. For Public Safety Appreciation Day. Free plaque for

each department, gift for each guest and dinner for all public safety personnel and their families who attend. Call 352-326-5738.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28 REAL TALK FORUM:** From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Leesburg Cultural Arts Center, 201 E. Dixie Ave. Local pastors on taking a stand against social injustices. Call 352-728-8272 for information.

**SPRING TEA:** From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Eustis, 117 S. Center St. Cost is \$12 and includes lunch and tea. Go to mopsspringtea.eventbrite.com for tickets. Call 352-357-2833 for information.

**SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE:** At 10 a.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom Synagogue, 315 N. 13th St. in Leesburg. Led by Rabbi Karen Allen. Light Kiddush lunch to follow service. Go to bethsholomflorida.org.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 29

**HOW FLORIDA HAPPENED:** At 5 p.m. at Tri-County Unitarian Universalists, 7280 SE 135th St. in Summerfield. With former Florida Governor Buddy MacKay. Free and open to the public. Call Nelson Hay at 941-323-8512 or email nelsonhay@outlook.com for information.

**CONCERT:** At 3 p.m. at Congregational Church of Mount Dora, 650 N. Donnelly St. With Orlando singing group, Grace in

Tune. Free. Call 352-383-2285 for information.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

**SUMTER MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION:** At 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at Oxford Assembly of God, U.S. Highway 301 in Oxford. Call 352-748-6124 or email to oxfordassembly@embarq.mail.com.

## THURSDAY, MAY 3

**UNITED IN PRAYER:** At 12 p.m. at Donnelly Park, 530 N. Donnelly St. in Mount Dora. Pray for America and our community for National Day of Prayer. With music and community leaders. Bring a chair. Go to mtdorafumc.org.

## FRIDAY, MAY 4

**HOLY HOUR AND HAPPY HOUR:** At 7 p.m. the first Friday of the month at Chabad House Center for Jewish Life and Learning, 13030 County Road 103 in Oxford. Beginners Shabbat Service followed by cocktails and traditional dishes. RSVP to 352-330-4466 or info@jewishmarion.org. Go to ourchabad.org for information.

## SATURDAY, MAY 12

**ALL ABOUT FAIRWAY CLASS:** From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fairway Christian Church Room C/D, 251 Avenida Los Angeles in The Villages. Lunch provided. Call 352-259-9305 to register.

# CHURCH

From Page B3

bank, and then died without telling anyone where they were.

"These records are

an absolute gold mine," Cooper said.

## Who are the Congregationalists?

According to the Congregational Library & Archives' website, the Protestant reformers of

the 16th century — the Puritans — established a "godly commnwealth" of locally governed churches once they arrived here, in the New World. As a Protestant denomination, their services were simple forms of worship, governed by

the people of the congregation. "Built on strong community bonds, the Congregational churches went on to exercise a broad influence on American culture, both in the world of ideas and in efforts for social reform."

Congregational churches exist today within the United Church of Christ, and in two continuing bodies, the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches and the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

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### BRINGING HOPE



We'll learn how the **LifeStream Behavioral Center** is impacting lives all across Lake County by providing critical resources for those struggling with drug and alcohol dependency.

### HEALTHY FEET

It is **National Foot Health Month!** Tune into Hometown Health as we check in with the specialists at **Tri-County Foot & Ankle** for tips that will keep you on your toes.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. NEUZIL'S IRRIGATOR



Plus, we'll celebrate eight years of **Dr. Neuzil's Irrigator**, an herbal enhanced nasal spray developed in Lake County and sold all over the country, with the specialists at the **Allergy, Sinus and Asthma Family Health Center**.



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# SPORTS

Paul Jenkins, Sports editor  
352-365-8204  
paul.jenkins@dailycommercial.com

## Mullen looks to fill The Swamp

### New UF coach hoping for big crowd for spring game

By Robbie Andreu  
Gatehouse Media

GAINESVILLE — In the quest for his first big win as the head coach at Florida, Dan Mullen seems to be executing an innovative and thorough game plan.

He's making all the right calls.

It started with moving up his spring speaking tour to before the start of spring drills. Along with Gainesville, he's already made trips to Jacksonville, Tampa and Orlando to connect with Gator fans and energize the base.

He's brought many former

### UF football

**What:** Orange & Blue Game  
**When:** Today, 3 p.m.  
**Where:** Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, Gainesville  
**Tickets:** Free admission  
**TV:** SEC Network  
**Online:** ESPN3

UF players back to the program to explain the Gator standard to the current players.

And he's become a fixture on campus. He's visited fraternities and sororities. He showed up at the dance marathon. He's randomly popped in and out of classrooms to speak to students. He's played dodgeball with students at the rec center. He recently went on a morning run with members of

### ROTC.

He's been spreading his energy and enthusiasm all over campus, all over Gator Nation.

Mullen's longtime goal, of course, is to let fans and students know they are part of this process to restore Florida football to a championship program, which it was when Mullen left to become the head coach at Mississippi State after the 2008 national championship season.

His immediate goal is this: get the fans and students enthused and energized so they will fill up The Swamp for today's Orange & Blue Game and recreate that championship atmosphere.

See MULLEN, C4



Florida head football coach Dan Mullen came out to hype up the fans during a basketball game against Baylor at the O'Connell Center in January. Mullen has been energizing Gator Nation since his return to campus. (BRAD MCCLENNY / GATEHOUSE MEDIA)



Rich Billings returns for his fourth season as head coach of the Leesburg Lightning this year. (DAILY COMMERCIAL FILE)

## Lightning to kick off season at home June 1

By Frank Jolley  
frank.jolley@dailycommercial.com

The Leesburg Lightning will open its 12th season in the Florida College Summer League on June 1 against the DeLand Suns and will wrap up the regular season on July 28 against long-time rival Sanford.

League and team officials recently published schedules for the upcoming season, which features a rare season-opening game in May and a best-of-3 championship series that will not be played at Tropicana Field.

The Lightning will host DeLand at 7 p.m. June 1 at Pat Thomas Stadium-Buddy Lowe Field, the first of 22 home games during the team's 45-game schedule in June and July.

Leesburg, the only team in the FCSL that does not charge admission to its home games, will play four home games during opening week — DeLand on June 1 and June 6, Winter Garden on June 5 and Winter Park on June 8.

With the exception of two Sunday games (July 1 and July 22), which are scheduled for 5 p.m. starts, and July 4, a 5:30

p.m. start, all Lightning home games are scheduled for 7 p.m. starts.

Leesburg's annual Independence Day game, which will be against Sanford this year, will be the only game in the league played that day. After the game, fans will be permitted to move onto the playing field and watch fireworks over Lake Harris.

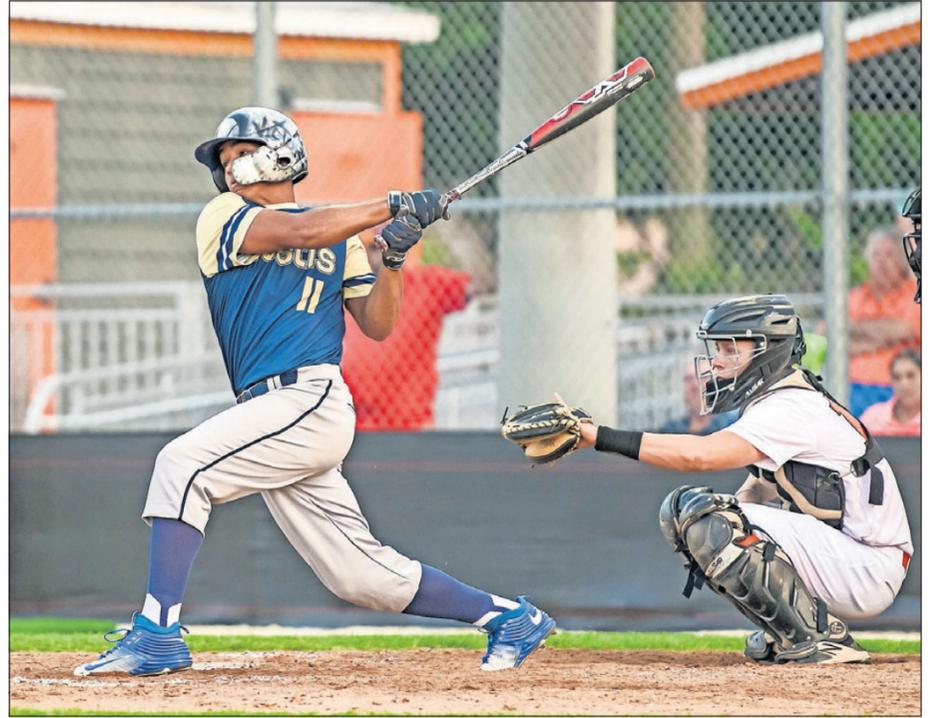
Lightning officials said Friday the team will hold its annual Meet the Players practice on May 31 at Pat Thomas Stadium-Buddy Lowe Field. Details, including practice time and any other activities that might be involved, are still being worked out.

Rich Billings will return for his fourth season as head coach of the Lightning.

The league will open its 15th season on May 31 when Winter Park and Sanford — the league's two oldest franchises — face off at Sanford Memorial Stadium. Sanford is the league's defending champion, and the River Rats and Winter Park have combined to win nine of 14 FCSL championships.

See LIGHTNING, C4

## Battling to the finish



Eustis' Javy Baez (11) takes a swing during a game against Mount Dora at Heim Field in Mount Dora on Friday. (PAUL RYAN PHOTOS / CORRESPONDENT)

### Pridgen's 2-run double in seventh lifts Eustis past Mount Dora

By Frank Jolley  
frank.jolley@dailycommercial.com

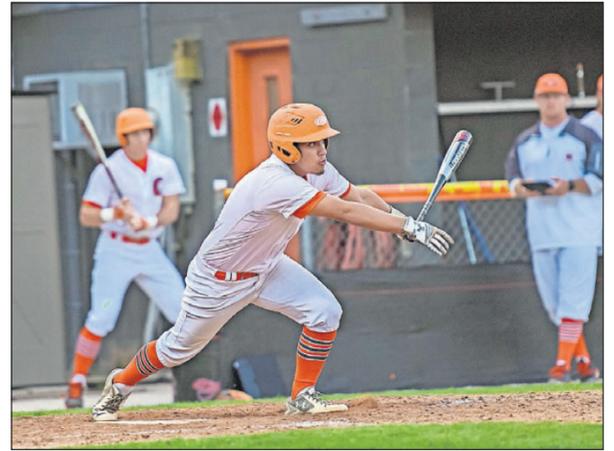
MOUNT DORA — Baseball is not always aesthetically pleasing.

A win, however, doesn't have to be a work of art.

Taylor Pridgen had six RBIs, including two on a two-out double to left in the seventh inning, to lift Eustis to a 10-8 win against Mount Dora on Friday at Heim Field in a battle of Class 5A-District 6 rivals.

In the seventh, Ryan Weedon worked Mount Dora reliever Bryant Heston for a leadoff walk and moved to second on a wild pitch.

See EUSTIS, C4



Mount Dora's Ricardo Garcia (1) swings during a game against Eustis at Heim Field in Mount Dora on Friday.

## 10 things to know about the 2018 NBA playoffs



Golden State Warriors head coach Steve Kerr yells to his players in the first half of a game against the Utah Jazz on Tuesday in Salt Lake City. (AP PHOTO / ALEX GOODLETT)

By Tim Reynolds  
Associated Press

With the NBA playoffs starting Saturday, here's 10 things to know:

### LEBRON'S STREAK

Pacers fans, avert your eyes. LeBron James hasn't experienced losing a first-round game in nearly six years.

James' teams have won 21 consecutive opening-round contests, a streak that started in Game 5 of the Miami-New York series in 2012. Combining his Cleveland and Miami years, James' teams have won 46 of their last 51 first-round

games.

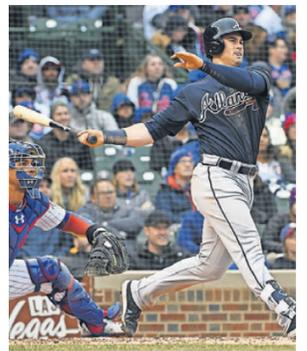
James and the Cavs play Indiana in the first round this season.

### MORE LEBRON

James could set a slew of NBA records in these playoffs.

He's already the all-time postseason leader in points, is seven steals from passing Scottie Pippen (395) for the playoff record in that department, is four shots from passing Kobe Bryant (4,499) for another career postseason mark.

See NBA, C4



BASEBALL | C5

**A ROUNDUP OF THE DAY'S MLB ACTION**

# SCOREBOARD

## HOW TO REACH US

Paul Jenkins, Sports Editor  
**Email:** paul.jenkins@dailycommercial.com  
**Phone:** 352-365-8204

## SPORTS RESULTS

Schools or coaches can report game results by calling 352-365-8204. Submissions also can be emailed to sports@dailycommercial.com. Results submitted after 9:30 p.m. may not appear in the next day's edition of the Daily Commercial.

## SPORTS ON TV

### AUTO RACING

8:30 a.m. MLB — Regional coverage, Arizona at L.A. Dodgers OR Oakland at Seattle (games joined in progress)

### MOTOR SPORTS

10 p.m. FS1 — AMA, Monster Energy Supercross, at Minneapolis (same-day tape)

FS1 — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Food City 500, final practice, at Bristol, Tenn.

1 p.m. FS1 — NASCAR, Xfinity Series, Fitzgerald Glider Kits 300, at Bristol, Tenn.

11 a.m. FS1 — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Food City 500, final practice, at Bristol, Tenn.

1 p.m. FS1 — NASCAR, Xfinity Series, Fitzgerald Glider Kits 300, at Bristol, Tenn.

4 p.m. FOX — IMSA, WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, Bubba Burger Sports Car Grand Prix, at Long Beach, Calif.

6:30 p.m. NBCSN — IndyCar, Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach (Calif.), qualifying

2:05 a.m. (Sunday) ESPN2 — Formula One, Heineken Chinese Grand Prix, at Shanghai

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

2:30 p.m. ESPN — Clemson spring game, at Clemson, S.C.

### COLLEGE SOFTBALL

1 p.m. ESPN2 — LSU at Tennessee

3 p.m. ESPN2 — Kentucky at Texas A&M

### GOLF

8 a.m. GOLF — European PGA Tour, Open de Espana, third round, at Madrid

1 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour, RBC Heritage, third round, at Hilton Head Island, S.C.

3 p.m. CBS — PGA Tour, RBC Heritage, third round, at Hilton Head Island, S.C.

GOLF — Champions Tour, Mitsubishi Electric Classic, second round, at Duluth, Ga.

7 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour, LOTTE Championship, final round, at Kapolei, Hawaii

### MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

6 p.m. FOX — UFC Fight Night, prelims, at Glendale, Ariz.

8 p.m. FOX — UFC Fight Night, Dustin Poirier vs. Justin Gaethje, at Glendale, Ariz.

### MLB BASEBALL

1 p.m. MLB — Regional coverage, Baltimore at Boston OR N.Y. Yankees at Detroit

4 p.m. FS1 — Texas at Houston

6 p.m. SUN — Philadelphia at Tampa Bay

7 p.m. FS1 — L.A. Angels at Kansas City

FS-Florida — Pittsburgh at Miami

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### FRISCO, TEXAS

#### Cowboys release Bryant, look to get salary-cap relief

Dez Bryant never lived up to the big contract he signed with the Dallas Cowboys when he was among the best receivers in the NFL.

If the franchise leader in touchdown catches is going to find his 2014 All-Pro form again, it will be with another team.

The Cowboys released Bryant on Friday, *The Associated Press*

10 p.m.

MLB — Regional coverage, Arizona at L.A. Dodgers OR Oakland at Seattle (games joined in progress)

### MOTOR SPORTS

10 p.m. FS1 — AMA, Monster Energy Supercross, at Minneapolis (same-day tape)

### NBA BASKETBALL

3 p.m. ABC — NBA playoffs, Western Conference, first round, Game 1, San Antonio at Golden State

5:30 p.m. ESPN — NBA playoffs, Eastern Conference, first round, Game 1, Washington at Toronto

8 p.m. ESPN — NBA playoffs, Eastern Conference, first round, Game 1, Miami at Philadelphia

10:30 p.m. ESPN — NBA playoffs, Western Conference, first round, Game 1, New Orleans at Portland

### NHL HOCKEY

3 p.m. CNBC or NBC- Regional coverage, NHL Stanley Cup playoffs, Eastern Conference, first round, Game 2, New Jersey at Tampa Bay

8 p.m. NBC or NBC- Regional coverage, NHL Stanley Cup playoffs, Western Conference, first round, Game 2, Colorado at Nashville

10:30 p.m. NBCSN — NHL Stanley Cup playoffs, Western Conference, first round, Game 2, San Jose at Anaheim

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## AUTO RACING

### NASCAR-MONSTER ENERGY-FOOD CITY 500 LINEUP

- After Friday qualifying; race Sunday at Bristol Motor Speedway Bristol, Tenn.
- Lap length:** .533 miles  
**(Car number in parentheses)**
- (18) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 128.822 mph.
  - (41) Kurt Busch, Ford, 128.804.
  - (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 128.262.
  - (17) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 128.253.
  - (12) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 128.185.
  - (42) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 128.048.
  - (21) Paul Menard, Ford, 127.980.
  - (88) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 127.835.
  - (34) Michael McDowell, Ford, 127.673.
  - (22) Joey Logano, Ford, 127.571.
  - (24) William Byron, Chevrolet, 127.470.
  - (19) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 126.628.
  - (20) Erik Jones, Toyota, 127.317.
  - (14) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 127.191.
  - (95) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 127.115.
  - (9) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 127.031.
  - (48) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 126.972.
  - (47) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 126.771.
  - (10) Aric Almirola, Ford, 126.704.
  - (43) Darrell Wallace Jr., Chevrolet, 126.420.
  - (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 126.395.
  - (37) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 126.270.
  - (38) Matt Ragan, Ford, 126.204.
  - (32) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 125.535.
  - (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 125.773.
  - (78) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 125.765.
  - (23) Gray Gaulding, Toyota, 124.938.
  - (00) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 124.922.
  - (31) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 124.735.
  - (1) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 124.517.
  - (13) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 123.978.
  - (6) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 123.802.
  - (72) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 121.790.
  - (96) DJ Kennington, Toyota, 121.389.
  - (55) Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, 121.366.
  - (51) Harrison Rhodes, Chevrolet, 118.058.
  - (66) Chad Finchum, Toyota, 114.658.
  - (4) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 0.000.

## PRO BASKETBALL

### NBA PLAYOFFS

All times Eastern  
**FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7; x-if necessary)**  
**EASTERN CONFERENCE**  
**TORONTO VS. WASHINGTON**  
 Today: Washington at Toronto, 5:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday: Washington at Toronto, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, April 20:** Toronto at Washington, 8 p.m.  
**Sunday, April 22:** Toronto at Washington, 8 p.m.  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Washington at Toronto, TBA  
**x-Friday, April 27:** Toronto at Washington, TBA  
**x-Saturday, April 29:** Washington at Toronto, TBA

### BOSTON VS. MILWAUKEE

**Sunday:** Milwaukee at Boston, 8 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Milwaukee at Boston, 8 p.m.  
**Friday, April 20:** Boston at Milwaukee, 9:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, April 22:** Boston at Milwaukee, 1 p.m.  
**x-Tuesday, April 24:** Milwaukee at Boston, TBA  
**x-Thursday, April 26:** Boston at Milwaukee, TBA  
**x-Saturday, April 28:** Milwaukee at Boston, TBA

### PHILADELPHIA VS. MIAMI

**Today:** Miami at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.  
**Monday:** Miami at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 19:** Philadelphia at Miami, 7 p.m.  
**Saturday, April 21:** Philadelphia at Miami, 2:30 p.m.  
**x-Tuesday, April 24:** Miami at Philadelphia, TBA  
**x-Thursday, April 26:** Philadelphia at Miami, TBA  
**x-Saturday, April 28:** Miami at Philadelphia, TBA

### CLEVELAND VS. INDIANA

**Sunday:** Indiana at Cleveland, 3:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 18:** Indiana at Cleveland, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, April 20:** Cleveland at Indiana, 7 p.m.  
**Sunday, April 22:** Cleveland at Indiana, 8:30 p.m.  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Indiana at Cleveland, TBA  
**x-Friday, April 27:** Cleveland at Indiana, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 29:** Indiana at Cleveland, TBA

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

**HOUSTON VS. MINNESOTA**  
**Sunday:** Minnesota at Houston, 9 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 18:** Minnesota at Houston, 9:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, April 21:** Houston at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.  
**Monday, April 23:** Houston at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Minnesota at Houston, TBA  
**x-Friday, April 27:** Houston at Minnesota, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 29:** Minnesota at Houston, TBA

### GOLDEN STATE VS. SAN ANTONIO

**Sunday:** San Antonio at Golden State, 3 p.m.  
**Monday:** San Antonio at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 19:** Golden State at San Antonio, 9:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, April 22:** Golden State at San Antonio, 3:30 p.m.  
**x-Tuesday, April 24:** San Antonio at Golden State, TBA  
**x-Thursday, April 26:** Golden State at San Antonio, TBA  
**x-Saturday, April 28:** San Antonio at Golden State, TBA

### PORTLAND VS. NEW ORLEANS

**Today:** New Orleans at Portland, 10:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** New Orleans at Portland, 10:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 19:** Portland at New Orleans, 9 p.m.  
**Saturday, April 21:** Portland at New Orleans, 5 p.m.  
**x-Tuesday, April 24:** New Orleans at Portland, TBA  
**x-Thursday, April 26:** Portland at New Orleans, TBA  
**x-Saturday, April 28:** New Orleans at Portland, TBA

### OKLAHOMA CITY VS. UTAH

**Sunday:** Utah at Oklahoma City, 6:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 18:** Utah at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.  
**Saturday, April 21:** Oklahoma City at Utah, 10 p.m.  
**Monday, April 23:** Oklahoma City at Utah, 10:30 p.m.  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Utah at Oklahoma City, TBA  
**x-Friday, April 27:** Oklahoma City at Utah, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 29:** Utah at Oklahoma City, TBA

## PRO HOCKEY

### NHL STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

All times Eastern  
**FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7; x-if necessary)**  
**EASTERN CONFERENCE**  
**TAMPA BAY 1, NEW JERSEY 0**  
**Thursday:** Tampa Bay 5, New Jersey 2  
**Today:** New Jersey at Tampa Bay, 3 p.m.  
**Monday:** Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.  
**x-Saturday, April 21:** New Jersey at Tampa Bay, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 22:** Tampa Bay at New Jersey, TBA  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Tampa Bay at New Jersey, TBA

### BOSTON 1, TORONTO 0

**Thursday:** Boston 5, Toronto 1  
**Today:** Toronto at Boston, 8 p.m.  
**Monday:** Boston at Toronto, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 19:** Boston at Toronto, 7 p.m.  
**x-Saturday, April 21:** Toronto at Boston, TBA  
**x-Monday, April 23:** Boston at Toronto, TBA  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Toronto at Boston, TBA

### COLUMBUS 1, WASHINGTON 0

**Thursday:** Washington 4, Columbus 3, OT  
**Sunday:** Columbus at Washington, 7:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Washington at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 19:** Washington at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.  
**x-Saturday, April 21:** Columbus at Washington, TBA  
**x-Monday, April 23:** Washington at Columbus, TBA  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Columbus at Washington, TBA

### PITTSBURGH 1, PHILADELPHIA 0

**Wednesday:** Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0  
**Friday:** Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, late  
**Sunday:** Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 3 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 18:** Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.  
**x-Friday, April 20:** Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 22:** Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, TBA  
**x-Tuesday, April 24:** Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, TBA

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

**NASHVILLE 1, COLORADO 0**  
**Thursday:** Nashville 5, Colorado 2  
**Today:** Colorado at Nashville, 3 p.m.  
**Monday:** Nashville at Colorado, 10 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 18:** Nashville at Colorado, 10 p.m.

**x-Friday, April 20:** Colorado at Nashville, TBA

**x-Sunday, April 22:** Nashville at Colorado, TBA

**x-Tuesday, April 24:** Colorado at Nashville, TBA

### WINNIPEG 1, MINNESOTA 0

**Wednesday:** Winnipeg 3, Minnesota 2  
**Friday:** Minnesota at Winnipeg, late  
**Sunday:** Winnipeg at Minnesota, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Winnipeg at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
**x-Friday, April 20:** Minnesota at Winnipeg, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 22:** Winnipeg at Minnesota, TBA  
**x-Wednesday, April 25:** Minnesota at Winnipeg, TBA

### VEGAS 1, LOS ANGELES 0

**Wednesday:** Vegas 1, Los Angeles 0  
**Friday:** Los Angeles at Vegas, late  
**Sunday:** Vegas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** Vegas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.  
**x-Thursday, April 19:** Los Angeles at Vegas, 10 p.m.  
**x-Saturday, April 21:** Vegas at Los Angeles, TBA  
**x-Monday, April 23:** Los Angeles at Vegas, TBA

### SAN JOSE 1, ANAHEIM 0

**Thursday:** San Jose 3, Anaheim 0  
**Today:** San Jose at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.  
**Monday:** Anaheim at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 18:** Anaheim at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.  
**x-Friday, April 20:** San Jose at Anaheim, TBA  
**x-Sunday, April 22:** Anaheim at San Jose, TBA  
**x-Tuesday, April 24:** San Jose at Anaheim, TBA

### AHL

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OLSOL	Pts	GF	GA
y-Lehigh Valley	74	45	19	5	5100	253	215
x-WB/Scranton	73	43	22	6	2	94	245
x-Providence	73	43	25	3	2	91	219
x-Charlotte	74	44	26	1	3	92	253
Bridgeport	73	36	29	5	3	80	203
Hartford	74	32	33	6	3	73	202
Springfield	73	32	34	5	2	71	206
Hershey	74	29	36	4	5	67	197

#### North Division

GP	W	L	OLSOL	Pts	GF	GA	
y-Toronto	73	51	18	2	2106	240	162
x-Syracuse	74	45	21	3	5	98	230
x-Rochester	74	35	22	11	6	87	224
x-Utica	73	37	25	7	4	85	205
Binghamton	73	25	37	7	4	61	187
Bellville	73	28	40	2	3	61	184
Laval	74	24	40	7	3	58	201

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OLSOL	Pts	GF	GA
x-Chicago	73	40	22	7	4	91	232
x-Manitoba	74	41	25	4	9	249	194
x-Grand Rapids	75	41	25	2	7	91	231
x-Rockford	74	40	26	4	4	88	223
Milwaukee	74	38	30	4	2	82	214
Iowa	74	31	27	10	6	78	225
Cleveland	74	24	40	7	3	58	183

#### Pacific Division

GP	W	L	OLSOL	Pts	GF	GA	
y-Tucson	66	40	20	5	1	86	205
x-Ontario	66	36	23	4	3	79	197
x-Texas	73	37	24	8	5	87	216
San Diego	66	36	26	3	1	76	197
San Jose	67	33	26	4	4	74	184
Stockton	66	33	27	2	4	72	205
San Antonio	74	34	30	10	0	78	192
Bakersfield	67	30	27	9	1	70	183

x-clinched playoff berth; y-clinched division title; 2 points for a win, 1 for an OT or shootout loss; Standings determined by winning percentage (not shown) not by points



Driver Kyle Busch practices for a NASCAR Monster Series auto race on Friday in Bristol, Tenn. [WADE PAYNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

## Busch brothers will start on the front row at Bristol

By Steve Reed  
The Associated Press

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Kyle and Kurt Busch haven't always seen eye-to-eye.

But as years have passed NASCAR's iciest sibling rivalry has thawed a little bit, at least to the point where they can joke around a little bit.

Kurt Busch did just that Friday after Kyle Busch edged him out by 0.002 seconds to take the pole for the Cup Series race Sunday at Bristol Motor Speedway.

"I can walk up to him and say, 'Yeah, I let you have it' and he will giggle. He will actually laugh," Kurt Busch said.

It marks the third time the Busch brothers have started on the front row together, and the first since 2013. In all three cases, Kyle started first and Kurt second.

"He always told everybody if you think I'm good, just wait for my younger brother," joked Kyle Busch.

Kurt Busch said he messed up in turn one, which cost him a shot at a second straight Cup Series pole.

"If I am going to get beat

by somebody if I don't hit a perfect lap I would rather it be my little brother," Kurt Busch said.

There was a time when the Busch brothers rarely spoke at all.

But Kurt Busch said they do communicate now.

"It's better now with age," he said of their relationship. "Like wine, it gets better with time. You let it settle."

Last year the Busch finished 1-2 at Sonoma with Kyle Busch holding off his older brother. There is a chance that could happen again Sunday as they were clearly the two fastest cars in all three rounds of qualifying at the half-mile track.

"It was tough years ago for a few times, but lately I guess we have been racing each other a little better," Kyle Busch said. "Overall we just need to keep trying to make sure they are good battles and clean battles and not ugly ones."

Things to watch at the Cup Series race on Sunday:

**FORDS DOMINATE:** Kyle Busch had the only Toyota in the top 10.

He was followed by four Fords, with Brad Keselowski, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. and Ryan

Blaney rounding out the top five. In all seven, Fords will start in the top 10.

**HARVICK'S TOUGH BREAK:** Kevin Harvick will have to start Sunday's race at Bristol Motor Speedway at the back of the field after crashing in practice. Harvick's suspension broke on a practice lap in the morning and his car took a right turn into the outside wall.

Under new rules installed this year Harvick will have to start at the back of the field because he went to a backup car.

"It definitely wasn't a tire failure or anything like that, but just going in the corner as soon as I let off the gas it just hung a right, so it's unfortunate but we'll get another one out and do it again," said Harvick, who is fourth in the NASCAR standings and has six top 10 finishes in seven starts.

**WHAT HAPPENED THERE:** Harvick has company with some other top drivers starting at the back of the field. Denny Hamlin will start 25th and Martin Truex Jr. 26th after failing to get out of the first round of qualifying.

## DeChambeau shoots career-best 64 to take Harbour Town lead

By Pete Iacobelli  
The Associated Press

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — Bryson DeChambeau shot a career-best 7-under 64 on Friday to take the lead into the weekend at the RBC Heritage Classic.

DeChambeau's first event as a pro was at Harbour Town Golf Links in 2016. Two years later, he posted his lowest ever on the PGA Tour to get to 10-under 132, one ahead of red-hot Ian Poulter and Si Woo Kim.

Poulter showed he's not done playing high-level golf with a bogey-free 64. Kim, The Players Championship winner, had a 65 that included a two-shot penalty for touching sand after a bunker shot.

Two shots behind DeChambeau were Chasson Hadley (68), past RBC Heritage winner Brandt Snedeker (64), Luke List (64) and first-round leader Rory Sabbatini (70).

World No. 1 Dustin Johnson shot a second straight 69 and was tied for 26th, six shots off the lead.

DeChambeau, 24, jump started his round with an eagle on the par-5 and took over the lead with birdies on the 13th, 15th, 16th and 17th holes. He made a knee-knocking, 12-footer for par on the 18th hole after his approach landed in a front-side bunker. DeChambeau pumped his fist when the ball curled in, as pleased with his improved putting as his composure at rallying late to the lead.

"Two years, it's time," DeChambeau said.

He won for the first time on tour last summer, shooting a pair of 65s on the way to taking the John Deere Classic. He's had three top 10s this season, including a second last month at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. DeChambeau's certain his play at Harbour Town is

simply the next step in his progress to the top.

"I'm figuring out a lot of great things that are helping me on the golf course," he said.

Poulter's learned plenty the past few weeks. He was the talk of golf two weeks back with his stunning playoff win at Harbour Town where he made a 20-foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole to force a play-off, then beat Beau Hossler on the first extra hole to gain entrance to Augusta National.

After an opening 69 at Harbour Town, Poulter put on a dazzling second-round, bogey-free display.

Poulter briefly took the lead alone with a 16-foot birdie on the par-3 seventh. He had a chance to reach 10-under, but lipped out an 8-footer on his final hole, the ninth. Poulter has shot five sub-70 rounds in his last six times around Harbour Town.

Poulter said his Houston victory wiped away any concerns holding him back. "The win helps a lot," he said. "I can free myself up in my mind. I can start attacking pins and just play free golf. And when you're in that position, sometimes the game feels easy when sometimes it isn't."

Even more remarkable than Poulter's play may have been Kim's scoring. He posted nine birdies along with a triple-bogey 6 on the par-3 14th where he was assessed a two-stroke penalty for touching the sand when he scrubbed the fringe of a bunker following a shot.

Kim quickly erased the error from his mind — and the scorecard — with birdies on the next three holes to regain his lost shots.

"This might be the first time that I've played so well with a triple bogey," Kim said. "But I'm having great feel around the greens and I feel really confident."

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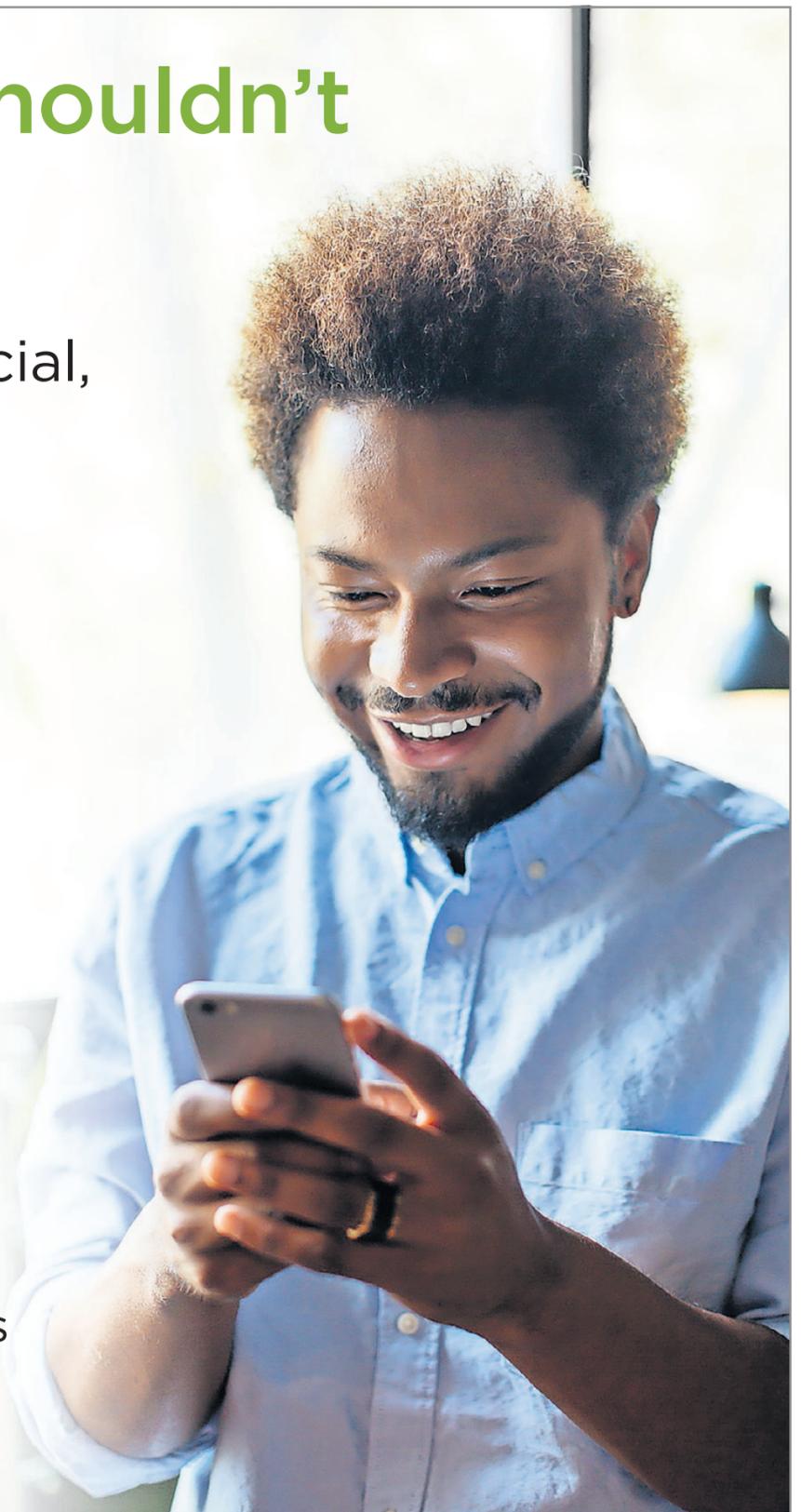
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DAILY COMMERCIAL



## LIGHTNING

From Page C1

In addition, the league championship game has been replaced with a best-of-3 series for the first time in FCSL history and, for the first time since 2004, the FCSL title will not be decided at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg. The championship series is slated to begin Aug. 4.

Location of the final series has not been decided, but could end up being played at the home fields of the participating teams.

The FCSL All-Star Game will be played July 7 in Sanford and the league will send a team of 25 prospects — as voted on by league coaches and staff — to North Carolina on July 16-17, for the annual

Southeast Prospect Showcase. Dozens of scouts from Major League Baseball franchises are expected to attend the showcase, which the FCSL team won last year, beating teams from the Sunbelt and Ripken leagues.

The 2018 incarnation of the FCSL consists of six teams — Leesburg, DeLand, Sanford, Seminole County, Winter Garden, and Winter Park.

Seminole County evolved out of the Altamonte Springs Scorpions. The franchise retained the nickname of its predecessor, but will play its home games in Sanford and share Sanford Memorial Stadium with the River Rats.

To see the Leesburg Lightning 2018 schedule or to print out a copy, fans can visit [www.leesburglightning.com](http://www.leesburglightning.com). A PDF version of the league-wide schedule, including all games, can be viewed or printed out at [www.floridaleague.com](http://www.floridaleague.com).

## MULLEN

From Page C1

If he does that, or even just comes close, it will be Mullen's first big win as UF's head football coach.

He's done all he can to make it happen. Now it's up to the students and fans.

Mullen is calling them out to break the unofficial spring game record for attendance, which is somewhere between 60,000-65,000 during Urban Meyer's tenure.

"We want a lot more than that," Mullen said. "We'll be there. We'll be going hard. We'll be giving relentless effort. The question is who else in the Gator Nation is going to be giving relentless effort (today)? That's their challenge."

A huge crowd would be big for the program, the players and for recruiting. Numerous elite recruits will be in attendance today, and Mullen wants to show them what The Swamp is all about, and what it will be like in the fall.

"If you have all these people out there, as a player, you're going to play harder," Mullen said. "You feel the energy from the stadium around you. It lifts up your level of play."

"Secondly, whether it's this coming weekend or it's every weekend in the fall, we're going to have some of the best players in America coming to

visit and see what game day is like in The Swamp.

"We want to make sure when they walk out of here, whether it is our spring game or whoever it is we are playing, when you walk into The Swamp it is the most electric atmosphere in college football. And these young players say: 'That's where I want to be.'"

Based on the vibe they've been getting on campus the past few weeks, the players are expecting their fellow students to show up in a big way today.

The buildup has been like no other spring game, senior tight end C'yontai Lewis said.

"Walking around campus, everybody's talking about the spring game and how big it's supposed to be this year," he said. "It's supposed to be real big."

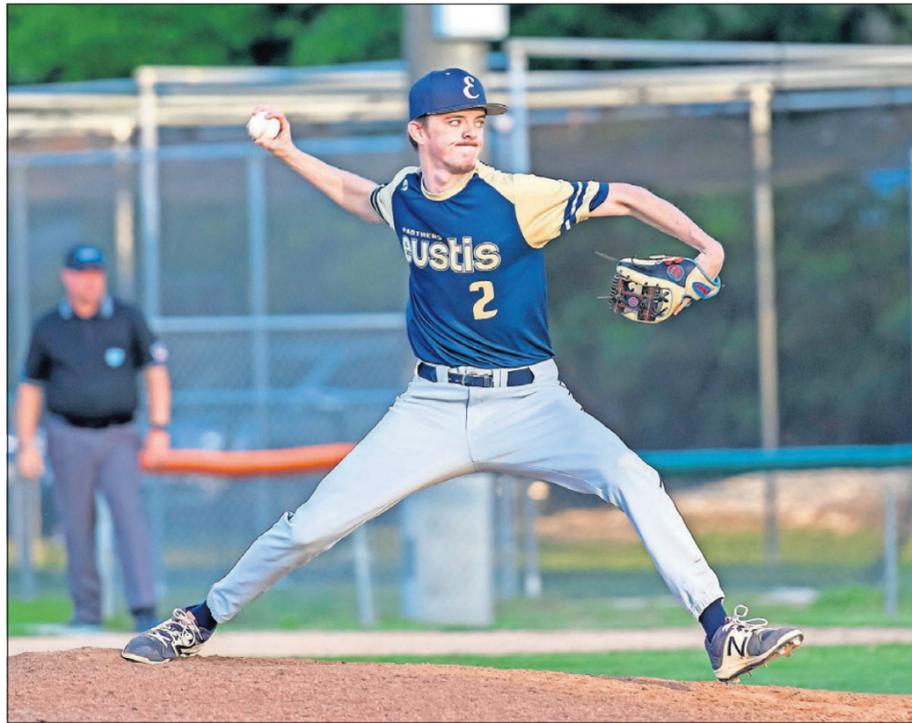
"It's way more exciting than my past years about the spring game."

Mullen's energy has been infectious on campus, junior defensive end Jabari Zuniga said.

"He definitely has a high energy," he said. "He's going out to all the frat houses and stuff trying to get everybody to come out, so it's a very high energy."

"(The students) just seem motivated to come out and cheer us on."

Mullen seems to have re-energized the students and the fan base. How much might be reflected by how many seats are filled in the stadium today.



Eustis' Corey Parker (2) pitches against Mount Dora at Heim Field in Mount Dora on Friday. [PAUL RYAN PHOTOS / CORRESPONDENT]

## EUSTIS

From Page C1

Following a strikeout and a ground out, Victor Baez walked to bring up Pridgen, who was 2-for-3 with four RBIs up to that point.

Pridgen laced a Heston fastball into the left-field corner, plating Weedon and Baez.

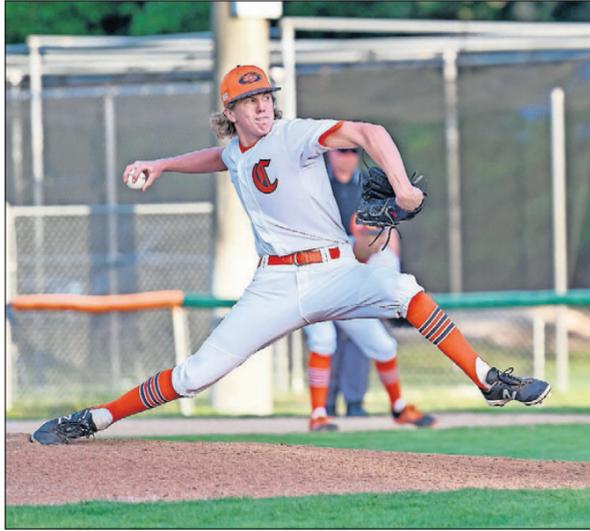
Eustis improved to 8-10 with the win and 4-4 in Class 5A-6. Mount Dora dropped to 7-10 overall and 2-6 in Class 5A-6.

Eustis got on the board first with three runs in the first inning and two more in the second for an early 5-0 lead.

Cameron Rodriguez and Victor Baez scored twice in the first two innings for the Panthers. Eustis jumped on Hurricanes starter Colton Bruns for six hits during its initial offensive outburst.

Taylor Pridgen contributed a pair of doubles and three RBIs.

Mount Dora bounced back with three runs in the bottom of the second against Eustis starter Corey Parker, who struggled to consistently find the strike zone. Parker surrendered only two hits in his initial two innings of work, but issued five walks, which helped to extend potential rallies.



Mount Dora's Colton Bruns pitches against Eustis at Heim Field in Mount Dora on Friday.

Eustis added two more in the third inning off Cody Bruns to seemingly regain control with a 7-3 lead.

However, a four-run spot on just one hit in Mount Dora's half of the third squared the contest at 7-all. A pair of Eustis errors aided in the rally, along with a catcher's interference and a hit batsman.

Parker lasted 3 1/3 innings before he was taken out in favor of reliever Zack Conte. He allowed four hits and struck out four, but walked eight.

Only five of the runs charged to him were earned.

Colton Bruns gave up five

runs — four earned — on six hits in two-plus innings and Cody Bruns allowed three earned runs in 2 1/3 innings. Bryant Heston relieved Cody Bruns in the fifth.

In the fifth, Eustis took an 8-7 lead when Ryan Weedon scored on a towering sacrifice fly to center by Pridgen, his fourth RBI of the game.

Mount Dora tied the game in the sixth. Tommy Jeckovich reached on a fielder's choice and stole second. Heston then ripped a double to the center-field fence off Rodriguez, who relieved Conte, easily scoring Jeckovich.

## NBA

From Page C1

Depending on how long Cleveland's postseason lasts, James also has a shot at passing Ray Allen (385) for career postseason 3-pointers; he's 55 shy of taking over the No. 1 spot there. And if the Cavs make a deep run James could also catch Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (2,356) for most field goals.

### KERR BATTLE

Golden State coach Steve Kerr is estranged from his son. Temporarily.

Nick Kerr works for the San Antonio Spurs — the Warriors' opponent in a Western Conference first round series. This has long been a source of great amusement for Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, who coached Steve Kerr as a player and remains close with him now. Popovich has said that Nick Kerr is the subject of additional security screenings at work, just to ensure he's not a spy for the Warriors. (No, Pop wasn't serious.)

Steve Kerr says he and his son are "recusing ourselves" from family interaction during the series.

"I think they already confiscated Nick's phone," he said.

### SO CLOSE ...

You have to feel for Omri Casspi and DeMarcus Cousins.

No active players have appeared in more regular-season games without any getting



The Minnesota Timberwolves' Karl-Anthony Towns, right, and Jeff Teague celebrate after the team's win over the Denver Nuggets to clinch a playoff spot on Wednesday in Minneapolis. [CARLOS GONZALEZ / STAR TRIBUNE VIA AP]

any postseason run than Casspi and Cousins. Casspi has played in 552 games, Cousins 535. And both were right on the cusp of ending their droughts this year; Casspi was waived by Golden State because it needed a roster spot once he hurt his ankle, and Cousins tore his Achilles' to end his season with New Orleans.

Tom Van Arsdale (929) is the record-holder for most regular-season games without seeing postseason play, followed by Otto Moore (682), Nate Williams (642), Sebastian Telfair (564), then Casspi and Cousins.

### GLOBAL GAME

These NBA playoffs will be more global than ever.

A record 62 international players, from a record 33 countries, are headed to the postseason. Every playoff team has at least one

international player on its roster, with Utah and Philadelphia both featuring seven and Boston, Toronto and San Antonio six each.

France and Australia lead the way in international representation in these playoffs, with seven players from each nation making it to the second season. Canada and Spain both have four.

### STREAKING SPURS

This wasn't San Antonio's best season; the Spurs got "only" the seventh seed in the West.

But their streak lives.

This is the 21st consecutive season the Spurs have made the playoffs, one shy of matching Philadelphia for the longest NBA run.

To put their current streak in perspective, the soonest any other NBA club will be able to say that it has a 21-season postseason streak

will be 2033.

Golden State and Houston have the second-longest active postseason streaks, at six. Portland and Toronto have been to five in a row, and four teams in this postseason — Miami, Minnesota, Philadelphia and New Orleans — didn't qualify for the playoffs a year ago.

### MONEY MATTERS

Portland and Philadelphia have already won a little extra money. By winning on the season's final night to ensure each finished alone in third in their respective conferences, the Trail Blazers and 76ers picked up another \$64,842 from the NBA's record \$20 million playoff pool this season.

Playoff teams split payouts from the pool, often toward bonuses for players and staff.

Houston is assured \$1,380,065 from the pool so far. Toronto is assured \$803,222 while Boston and Golden State are up to \$704,169. Every playoff team will receive at least \$298,485 — and the payouts keep rising as teams keep advancing.

The NBA champion will claim at least \$4,782,438; the runner-up, at least \$3,587,489.

### START FAST

Of the 15 series played in the 2017 postseason, Game 1 winners ultimately won the best-of-seven 12 times. That 80 percent clip is consistent with the league norm.

Since the 1983-84 season, winners of Game 1 have gone

on to win the series 79 percent of the time. But that guarantees nothing — over the last seven years, four teams have lost Game 1 of the NBA Finals and gone on to win the championship anyway.

### DEFEND HOME COURT

Home-court "advantage" really didn't exist in the 2017 playoffs.

Road teams won 43 percent of the postseason games played last year, and it's reasonable to think such a success rate might be in play again this year. The 16 teams in these playoffs combined to win 351 games on the road in the regular season, or 54 percent.

Ordinarily, road teams win playoff games about 35 percent of the time.

### FINALLY, MINNESOTA

The Timberwolves are in the playoffs for the first time since 2004.

During that 14-year drought, the franchise had nine different coaches, used 131 different players, 92 different starters, took 93,776 field-goal attempts and scored 112,664 points.

Here might be the best illustration of how long the postseason wait was for Minnesota: Only 12 of the 59 players taken in the 2004 draft were still in the NBA this season. The only player the Timberwolves drafted in the year of their last playoff run was Blake Stepp, who never made the NBA but played at least three times in the World Series of Poker.

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

## AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION									
TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Boston	10	2	.833	—	—	9-1	W-1	5-1	5-1
Toronto	8	5	.615	2½	—	7-3	L-1	4-3	4-2
New York	6	7	.462	4½	2	4-6	L-1	3-3	3-4
Baltimore	5	8	.385	5½	3	4-6	W-1	2-4	3-4
Tampa Bay	3	9	.250	7	4½	2-8	L-1	1-3	2-6

CENTRAL DIVISION									
TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Minnesota	7	4	.636	—	—	7-3	W-3	4-2	3-2
Cleveland	8	5	.615	—	—	7-3	W-5	6-1	2-4
Chicago	4	8	.333	3½	3½	2-8	L-1	1-5	3-3
Detroit	4	8	.333	3½	3½	4-6	L-4	1-4	3-4
Kansas City	3	8	.273	4	4	3-7	L-3	1-5	2-3

WEST DIVISION									
TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Los Angeles	11	3	.786	—	—	8-2	W-5	4-2	7-1
Houston	9	4	.692	1½	—	7-3	L-2	5-1	4-3
Seattle	6	4	.600	3	½	6-4	W-2	2-1	4-3
Oakland	5	8	.385	5½	3	4-6	W-1	3-5	2-3
Texas	4	10	.286	7	4½	3-7	L-4	2-8	2-2

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION									
TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	10	1	.909	—	—	9-1	W-8	4-1	6-0
Atlanta	8	5	.615	3	—	6-4	W-2	4-2	4-3
Philadelphia	6	5	.545	4	—	6-4	W-3	5-1	1-4
Washington	6	7	.462	5	1	3-7	L-2	2-5	4-2
Miami	3	9	.250	7½	3½	2-8	L-3	2-7	1-2

CENTRAL DIVISION									
TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Pittsburgh	9	3	.750	—	—	7-3	W-1	4-2	5-1
Milwaukee	7	6	.538	2½	—	4-6	W-1	2-5	5-1
St. Louis	7	7	.500	3	½	5-5	W-2	2-4	5-3
Chicago	6	7	.462	3½	1	4-6	L-2	1-3	5-4
Cincinnati	2	11	.154	7½	5	2-8	L-6	1-5	1-6

WEST DIVISION									
TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Arizona	9	3	.750	—	—	7-3	W-1	5-1	4-2
Colorado	7	7	.500	3	½	5-5	W-2	2-4	5-3
San Francisco	6	6	.500	3	½	4-6	W-1	3-4	3-2
Los Angeles	4	7	.364	4½	2	4-6	L-1	3-3	1-4
San Diego	4	10	.286	6	3½	4-6	L-2	1-7	3-3

## ROUNDUP/MATCHUPS

**Braves 4, Cubs 0:** Yu Darvish's first home start with the Chicago Cubs went nothing like his previous outing at Wrigley Field. Instead of dominating in a playoff win, he got knocked out in an early-season loss. Anibal Sanchez pitched three-hit ball over six innings, Preston Tucker backed him with a three-run homer and the Atlanta Braves spoiled Darvish's home debut with a 4-0 victory on Friday. The Braves went on to score all of the runs in that inning while knocking Darvish out of the game.

**Cardinals 5, Reds 3:** Yadier Molina homered and drove in three runs Friday night, leading the St. Louis Cardinals to a 5-3 victory that deepened the Cincinnati Reds' worst season-opening slump since 1955. St. Louis came into the series with a stagnant offense but broke out during two games against the worst pitching staff in the majors, piling up 18 runs and 25 hits. Molina — booted loudly in each plate appearance at Great American Ball Park — has homered in each game.

**LATE GAMES**  
 Colorado at Washington  
 Milwaukee at N.Y. Mets  
 Philadelphia at Tampa Bay  
 Pittsburgh at Miami  
 Baltimore at Boston  
 N.Y. Yankees at Detroit  
 Toronto at Cleveland  
 Texas at Houston  
 L.A. Angels at Kansas City  
 Oakland at Seattle  
 Arizona at L.A. Dodgers  
 San Francisco at San Diego  
**POSTPONED**  
 Chicago White Sox at Minnesota

## BOX SCORES

BRAVES 4, CUBS 0										CARDINALS 5, REDS 3									
ATLANTA	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG.	ST. LOUIS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG.				
Inciarte cf	4	0	0	0	1	1	.179	Fowler rf	5	1	2	1	0	0	.196				
Albies 2b	5	1	2	0	0	0	.288	Pham cf	4	1	2	0	1	1	.294				
F.Freeman 1b	5	0	1	0	0	2	.311	Carpenter 3b	4	1	1	0	1	.174					
Markakis rf	4	1	2	0	1	1	.288	Ozuna lf	5	1	2	1	0	2	.302				
Suzuki c	5	1	1	0	0	1	.259	Martinez 1b	4	0	2	0	0	.375					
Tucker lf	4	1	2	3	0	0	.308	Molina c	4	1	2	3	0	.288					
Bourjos if	1	0	0	0	0	0	.133	DeJong ss	4	0	0	0	2	.264					
Swanson ss	4	0	1	0	1	1	.340	Wong 2b	4	0	1	0	0	.162					
Flaherty 3b	5	0	3	0	0	1	.366	Weaver p	3	0	0	0	2	.143					
Sanchez p	2	0	0	0	1	0	.000	Bowman p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
b-Adams ph	0	0	0	0	1	0	.300	Lyons p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
S.Freeman p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	Leone p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
Minter p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	b-Munoz ph	1	0	1	0	0	.154					
Vizcaino p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	Norris p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>					
CHICAGO	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG.	CINCINNATI	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG.				
Happ cf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.244	Hamilton cf	2	1	1	0	2	1	.184				
La Stella 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.263	Peraza ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.267				
Morrow p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	Votto 1b	4	0	1	1	0	.271					
Bryant 1b-3b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.333	Gennett 2b	4	1	1	0	0	.296					
Contreras c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.298	Mesoraco c	4	1	2	2	0	.211					
Schwarber lf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.244	Duval lf	4	0	1	0	0	.116					
Russell ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.205	Ervin rf	3	0	0	0	1	.174					
Baez 2b	3	0	0	0	2	1	.190	Pennington 3b	2	0	0	0	0	.214					
Heyward rf	2	0	0	0	1	0	.214	Quackenbush p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
Darvish p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	a-Blandino ph-2b	2	0	1	0	1	.111					
Duensing p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	Mahle p	1	0	0	0	0	.250					
a-Navarro ph	1	0	0	0	1	.333	Gosselin 3b	2	0	0	0	2	.125						
Strop p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	Hughes p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
Montgomery p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	Peralta p	0	0	0	0	0	---					
Edwards p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---	c-Barnhart ph	1	0	0	0	1	.267					
c-Zobrist ph-1b	1	0	0	0	1	.275	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>ST. LOUIS</b>	<b>010</b>	<b>004</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>0</b>					
ATLANTA	000	040	000	—	412	0		CINCINNATI	000	000	210	—	3	7	2				
CHICAGO	000	000	000	—	0	4	2												

## AL LEADERS

**RUNS:** Betts, Boston, 14; Trout, Los Angeles, 14; Gardner, New York, 13; Simmons, Los Angeles, 13; Dozier, Minnesota, 12; Judge, New York, 12; Chapman, Oakland, 11; Gregorius, New York, 11; Upton, Los Angeles, 11; 7 tied at 10.

**RBI:** Gregorius, New York, 12; Ramirez, Boston, 12; Chapman, Oakland, 11; Lowrie, Oakland, 11; Ohtani, Los Angeles, 11; Trout, Los Angeles, 11; 9 tied at 10.

**HITS:** Simmons, Los Angeles, 21; Altuve, Houston, 18; Lowrie, Oakland, 18; Andrus, Texas, 17; Betts, Boston, 17; Chapman, Oakland, 17; Judge, New York, 17; MMachado, Baltimore, 17; Pujols, Los Angeles, 17; Upton, Los Angeles, 16.

**DOUBLES:** Bogaerts, Boston, 7; DMachado, Detroit, 7; Betts, Boston, 6; Gregorius, New York, 6; Beltre, Texas, 5; Escobar, Minnesota, 5; Nunez, Boston, 5; Smoak, Toronto, 5; 10 tied at 4.

**TRIPLES:** Castellanos, Detroit, 2; Cozart, Los Angeles, 2; Fisher, Houston, 2; Sanchez, Chicago, 2

**STOLEN BASES:** Anderson, Chicago, 6; Gordon, Seattle, 5; Buxton, Minnesota, 4; Davis, Cleveland, 3; Gentry, Baltimore, 3; Goodrum, Detroit, 3; Lindor, Cleveland, 3; Pillar, Toronto, 3; Ramirez, Boston, 3

## NL LEADERS

**RUNS:** Albies, Atlanta, 13; Harper, Washington, 13; Harrison, Pittsburgh, 12; Pham, St. Louis, 12; Freeman, Atlanta, 11; Polanco, Pittsburgh, 11; Baez, Chicago, 10; Cabrera, New York, 10; Eaton, Washington, 10; SMarte, Pittsburgh, 10.

**RBI:** Polanco, Pittsburgh, 15; Martinez, St. Louis, 14; Franco, Philadelphia, 12; Harper, Washington, 12; Tucker, Atlanta, 12; Cervelli, Pittsburgh, 11; Freeman, Atlanta, 11; Baez, Chicago, 10; Cespedes, New York, 10.

**HITS:** LeMahieu, Colorado, 20; Pirela, San Diego, 18; Albies, Atlanta, 17; Bryant, Chicago, 17; Hosmer, San Diego, 17; Ozuna, St. Louis, 17; Swanson, Atlanta, 17; Dietrich, Miami, 16; Martinez, St. Louis, 16.

**DOUBLES:** Albies, Atlanta, 7; Hosmer, San Diego, 7; Pollock, Arizona, 7; Dickerson, Pittsburgh, 6; Freeman, Atlanta, 6; Kendrick, Washington, 6; Swanson, Atlanta, 6; 6 tied at 5.

**TRIPLES:** Baez, Chicago, 2; KMarte, Arizona, 2; SMarte, Pittsburgh, 2; 22 tied at 1.

**STOLEN BASES:** Turner, Washington, 5; Hamilton, Cincinnati, 4; Inciarte, Atlanta, 4; Pollock, Arizona, 4; Taylor, Washington, 4; Cain, Milwaukee, 3; Hernandez, Philadelphia, 3; SMarte, Pittsburgh, 3.

## TODAY'S PITCHING COMPARISON

NATIONAL LEAGUE									
PITCHERS	TIME	W-L	ERA	REC	W-L	IP	ERA		
Colorado Gray (R)	1:05p	1-2	5.63	1-2	0-1	7.0	3.86		
Washington Scherzer (R)	2-1	0.90	2-1	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00		
St. Louis Mikolas (R)	1:10p	1-0	6.00	1-1	0-0	0.0	0.00		
Cincinnati Finnegan (L)	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-1	0-1	3.0	9.00		
Atlanta Newcomb (L)	1-1	4.35	1-1	0-2	10.1	6.10			
Chicago Quintana (L)	1-1	4.50	1-1	0-0	0.0	0.00			
Pittsburgh Taillon (R)	2-0	1.26	2-0	1-0	5.0	1.80			
Miami Richards (R)	7:10p	0-1	8.64	1-1	0-0	0.0	0.00		
Milwaukee Anderson (R)	0-1	3.38	2-1	1-0	7.0	0.00			
New York Harvey (R)	7:10p	0-0	3.60	2-0	0-1	5.0	9.00		
San Fran. Holland (L)	0-2	4.09	0-2	0-0	0.0	0.00			
San Diego Richard (L)	8:40p	1-1	5.29	1-2	0-2	17.0	5.29		
Arizona Walker (R)	0-0	3.27	2-0	2-1	17.2	5.09			
Los Angeles Hill (L)	9:10p	1-0	2.70	1-1	0-3	23.2	4.94		

AMERICAN LEAGUE									
PITCHERS	TIME	W-L	ERA	REC	W-L	IP	ERA		
Baltimore Cobb (R)	1:05p	0-0	0.00	0-0	3-1	29.1	3.38		
Boston Velazquez (R)	1-0	3.12	1-0	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00		
New York Cessa (R)	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00			
Detroit Liriano (L)	1:10p	1-1	2.13	1-1	1-0	6.0	3.00		
Chicago Lopez (R)	0-1	0.69	0-2	0-0	0.0	0.00			
Minnesota Lynn (R)	2:10p	0-1	5.00	0-2	0-0	0.0	0.00		
Texas Minor (L)	1-1	2.53	1-1	1-0	3.2	2.45			
Houston Morton (R)	4:05p	2-0	0.00	2-0	1-1	11.2	3.09		
Toronto Garcia (L)	1-0	3.18	2-0	0-2	12.1	4.38			
Cleveland Kluber (R)	4:10p	1-1	1.57	1-2	1-0	7.2	1.17		
Los Angeles Richards (R)	1-0	4.20	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00			
Kansas City Junis (R)	7:15p	2-0	0.00	2-0	0-1	5.1	8.44		
Oakland Graveman (R)	0-2	9.45	1-2	0-0	11.1	4.76			
Seattle Gonzales (L)	9:10p	1-1	7.27	1-1	0-0	4.0	0.00		

# BUSINESS



## StocksRecap

	NYSE	NASD
Vol. (in mil.)	2,945	1,737
Pvs. Volume	3,008	2,008
Advanced	1234	1058
Declined	1602	1732
New Highs	43	50
New Lows	41	32

	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD
DOW	24646.45	24243.74	24360.14	-122.91	-0.50%	-1.45%
DOW Trans.	10467.65	10334.93	10369.49	+9.08	+0.09%	-2.29%
DOW Util.	686.05	680.26	682.78	+4.62	+0.68%	-5.61%
NYSE Comp.	12640.88	12503.67	12546.05	-34.17	-0.27%	-2.05%
NASDAQ	7183.62	7078.14	7106.65	-33.60	-0.47%	+2.94%
S&P 500	2680.26	2645.05	2656.30	-7.69	-0.29%	-0.65%
S&P 400	1898.75	1877.78	1883.86	-6.14	-0.32%	-0.88%
Wilshire 5000	27805.18	27454.81	27559.95	-98.87	-0.36%	-0.84%
Russell 2000	1563.75	1545.06	1549.51	-7.82	-0.50%	+0.91%

## Stocks of Local Interest

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE	◇ CLOSE	LO	HI	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR	%CHG	%RTN	P/E	DIV
AT&T Inc	T	32.55	40.56	35.14	-0.02	-0.1	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-9.6	-8.4	13	2.00f
Advance Auto Parts	AAP	78.81	151.72	106.61	-3.96	-3.6	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	+6.9	-21.8	20	0.24
Amer Express	AXP	75.51	102.39	93.03	-0.32	-0.3	▲	▼	▼	▼	▼	-6.3	+23.5	16	1.40
AutoNation Inc	AN	38.20	62.02	46.12	-0.41	-0.9	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-10.2	+16.1	12	...
Brown & Brown	BRO	20.66	26.94	25.72	-0.03	-0.1	▲	▼	▲	▲	▲	...	+25.1	27	...
CocaCola Co	KO	42.19	48.62	44.51	+0.48	+1.1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	-3.0	+6.0	82	1.56f
Comcast Corp A	CMCSA	32.74	44.00	33.02	-1.11	-0.3	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-17.2	-9.4	16	0.76f
Darden Rest	DRI	76.27	100.11	87.72	+0.87	+1.0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	-8.6	+8.3	19	2.52
Disney	DIS	96.20	116.10	100.35	-0.04	...	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-6.7	-9.8	14	1.68f
Gen Electric	GE	12.73	30.54	13.49	+0.31	+2.4	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	-22.8	-53.3	dd	0.48
General Mills	GIS	43.84	60.69	44.80	+0.22	+0.5	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-24.4	-19.2	12	1.96
Harris Corp	HRS	106.18	164.69	161.69	-1.07	-0.7	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	+14.1	+49.6	29	2.28
Home Depot	HD	144.25	207.61	172.80	-0.56	-0.3	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-8.8	+20.8	24	4.12f
IBM	IBM	139.13	171.69	156.71	-1.36	-0.9	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	+2.1	-3.9	12	6.00
Lowe's Cos	LOW	70.76	108.98	86.23	-0.81	-0.9	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-7.2	+8.2	20	1.64
NY Times	NYT	14.20	25.70	22.70	-0.25	-1.1	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	+22.7	+59.4	cc	0.16
NextEra Energy	NEE	129.22	164.71	160.22	+0.15	+0.7	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	+2.6	+25.0	24	4.44f
Gen Electric	PEP	105.94	122.51	109.26	+0.95	+0.9	▼	▲	▼	▼	▼	-8.9	-1.8	22	3.22
Suntrust Bks	STI	51.96	73.37	67.38	-1.74	-2.5	▲	▼	▼	▼	▼	+4.3	+30.7	17	1.60
Walmart Strs	WMT	73.13	109.98	86.02	+0.59	+0.7	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	-12.9	+19.1	19	2.08f
Xerox Corp	XRX	26.64	37.42	28.17	-0.06	-0.2	▲	▼	▼	▼	▼	-3.4	+3.3	35	1.00

## MARKET WATCH

Dow	24,360.14	▼ 122.91
Nasdaq	7,106.65	▼ 33.60
S&P	2,656.30	▼ 7.69
Russell	1,549.51	▼ 7.82
NYSE	12,546.05	▼ 34.17

## COMMODITIES REVIEW

Gold	1,344.80	▲ 6.40
Silver	16.628	▲ .185
Platinum	927.30	▼ 1.70
Copper	3.0675	▲ .0075
Oil	67.39	▲ 0.32

## MARKET MOVERS

- **Broadcom Inc.:** Up \$7.51 to \$246.94 — The technology company announced a \$12 billion stock buyback program.
- **Marathon Oil Corp.:** Up 53 cents to \$18.16 — Energy companies benefited from an increase in oil prices.

## BRIEF CASE

### WASHINGTON Trump convenes task force to study US Postal Service

After weeks of railing against online shopping giant Amazon, President Donald Trump signed an executive order Thursday creating a task force to study the United States Postal Service.

In the surprise move, Trump said that USPS is on “an unsustainable financial path” and “must be restructured to prevent a taxpayer-funded bailout.”

The task force will be assigned to study factors including USPS's pricing in the package delivery market and will have 120 days to submit a report with recommendations.

### WASHINGTON US job openings decline in Feb. from record level

U.S. businesses posted fewer open jobs in February than the previous month when openings reached a record level, though layoffs fell.

The Labor Department said Friday that openings fell 2.8 percent to 6.05 million, down from 6.23 million in January, the most on record dating back to 2001. Layoffs dropped a steep 7.7 percent, to 1.65 million.

The figures suggest a healthy job market tilting in favor of job seekers. There are nearly as many job openings as there are unemployed people. Businesses have complained they can't fill jobs, and many are feeling pressure to raise pay to attract and keep workers.

### WASHINGTON Wells Fargo acknowledges \$1 billion federal offer

Wells Fargo is acknowledging that Federal regulators have offered to resolve a host of investigations into the consumer banking giant for \$1 billion. The disclosure comes as Wells reports a 6 percent increase in first-quarter profit.

Wells continues to navigate several investigations related to the opening of fake customer accounts, forcing customers to take unnecessary auto insurance policies, unfairly charging fees tied to mortgage rates and other matters. Well says the potential \$1 billion penalty involves the auto insurance and mortgage fee matters.

The Associated Press



In this March 29 photo, the logo for Facebook appears on screens at the Nasdaq MarketSite in New York's Times Square. Facebook made \$40 billion in advertising revenue last year, second only to Google when it comes to its share of the global digital advertising market. [RICHARD DREW/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]

# How ads target you

## Facebook's business depends almost entirely on selling ads aimed at people with particular interests and demographics

By Barbara Ortutay  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If you want to tailor a Facebook ad to a single user out of its universe of 2.2 billion, you could.

Trying to pitch your boutique bed and breakfast to a 44-year-old “trendy mom” who lives in Seattle, leans conservative and is currently traveling in the Toronto area but hasn't booked a hotel for the night yet? Go right ahead. Interested in mail-ordering pet treats to a 32-year-old cat owner in Madison, Wisconsin who enjoys Japanese food, doesn't like pizza and has an anniversary coming up in the next two months? Not a problem.

Targeting ads, it turns out, is almost infinitely

customizable — sometimes in surprising ways. The ads you might see can be tailored to you down to the most granular details — not just where you live and what websites you visited recently, but whether you've gotten engaged in the past six months, are interested in organic food or share characteristics with people who have recently bought a BMW, even if you've never expressed interest in doing so yourself.

Facebook made \$40 billion in advertising revenue last year, second only to Google when it comes to its share of the global digital advertising market.

Here are some ways advertisers can target you through Facebook:

### Monitoring your Facebook activity

By now you've probably gathered that Facebook uses things like your interest, age and other demographic and

geographic information to help advertisers reach you. Then there's the stuff your friends do and like — the idea being that it's a good indicator for what you might do and like. So, if you have a friend who has liked the New Yorker's Facebook page, you might see ads for the magazine on your Facebook feed.

But that's just the tip of the iceberg. Facebook and advertisers can also infer stuff about you based on things you share willingly. For example, Facebook categorizes users into an “ethnic affinity” based on what it thinks might be their ethnicity or ethnic influence. It might guess this through TV shows or music you've liked. Often, Facebook is wrong — and while it's possible to remove it, you can't change it. There is also no “ethnic affinity” option for whites.

In late 2017, Facebook said it was temporarily blocking advertisers' ability to target based on ethnic affinity, along with other things such as religious or LGBT affinity.

# China's March trade weakens, surplus with US at \$15.4 billion

By Joe McDonald  
The Associated Press

BEIJING — China's global trade balance swung to a rare deficit in March as exports shrank but its surplus with the United States, the center of a worsening dispute with Washington, stood at \$15.4 billion.

Exports contracted 2.7 percent from a year earlier to \$174.1 billion, down from the 24.4 percent growth for the first two months of 2018, customs data showed Friday. Imports rose 14.4 percent to \$179.1 billion, though that was down from 21.7 percent growth in January and February.

“The upshot is that the latest trade data suggest that both domestic and foreign demand

held up well in March,” said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics in a report.

The trade surplus with the United States contracted 13 percent from a year earlier, while China's global trade balance swung to a \$5 billion deficit.

President Donald Trump has approved a possible tariff hike on \$50 billion of Chinese goods in response to complaints Beijing steels or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. Trump is demanding Beijing take steps to narrow its trade deficit with the U.S., which Washington says stood at a record \$375.2 billion last year.

China runs multibillion-dollar monthly surpluses with

Europe and the U.S., which helps to offset deficits with Japan, South Korea and developing countries that supply industrial components and raw materials. The global trade balance often slips into deficit for one month early each year as factories restock following the Lunar New Year holiday.

“The biggest risk going forward is clearly that the current trade tensions escalate to the point where meaningful tariff barriers are erected,” said Evans-Pritchard. “But even if this is avoided, trade looks likely to soften slightly over the coming quarters given that global growth now appears past its peak and China's own economy faces rising headwinds from tighter policy.”

# Tumbling banks hold back S&P 500

By Stan Choe  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bank stocks buckled on Friday, even after several reported fatter profits than analysts expected, and the sharp declines overshadowed gains elsewhere in the market to drag the S&P 500 lower.

JPMorgan Chase and several other financial titans marked the unofficial start of the earnings reporting season, and expectations were high for them, as they are for most major companies. Wall Street is forecasting the strongest growth in seven years for S&P 500 companies, and the hope has been that healthy profit reports in coming weeks will steady the market following a rough couple of months.

But high expectations can be as much a burden as cause for optimism. JPMorgan Chase reported its biggest-ever profit and topped analysts' expectations. But investors were already anticipating the good news that it delivered, such as healthier trading revenue, and took note of things like an increase in charge-offs for credit cards. JPMorgan Chase's shares fell 2.7 percent to \$110.30 to lop off most of the big gains it had made earlier in the week.

The S&P 500 fell 7.69 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,656.30. The loss pared the index's gain for the week to 2 percent.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 122.91, or 0.5 percent, to 24,360.14, and the Nasdaq composite lost 33.60, or 0.5 percent, to 7,106.65.

As a group, financial stocks in the S&P 500 fell 1.6 percent, more than double the loss for any of the other 10 sectors that make up the index.

PNC Financial Services Group had one of the biggest losses in the S&P 500 after reporting first-quarter results that fell short of some analysts' expectations. It dropped 4.1 percent to \$145.46.

Wells Fargo fell 3.4 percent to \$50.89, and Citigroup dropped 1.6 percent to \$71.01 even though both reported profits that beat expectations.

The possibility of a big settlement with federal regulators hung over Wells Fargo's results.

# DAILY COMMERCIAL

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### 0001 LEGALS

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

File No. 2018 CP 000239

IN RE: ESTATE OF GRETA KENNEN

Deceased.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Greta Kennen, deceased, whose date of death was December 9, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Lake County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 550 West Main Street, Tavares, Florida 32778. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 (2017) WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is April 14, 2018.

Attorney for Personal Representative:

/s/ Merideth C. Nagel  
Merideth C. Nagel, Esq.  
Florida Bar Number: 0113141  
LANGLEY, NAGEL, CRAWFORD & MODICA  
CHARTERED ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1201 West Highway 50  
Clermont, Florida 34711  
(352) 394-7408 (telephone)  
(352) 394-7298 (facsimile)  
Service@LNCmlaw.com

Personal Representative:

/s/ Karen Kennen  
Karen Kennen  
401 S. Lakeshore Drive  
Minneola, Florida 34715

Ad No: 10075778  
April 14, 2018 &  
April 21, 2018

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

CASE NUMBER: 2016 DP 146 (04)

IN THE INTEREST OF: J. S. P. 12/15/2016 Minor Child

#### SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND PERMANENT COMMITMENT OF MINOR CHILDREN

THE STATE OF FLORIDA: LEGAL PUBLICATION

TO: DARRYLE SHULER (FATHER)  
DOB: 08/19/1995  
ADDRESS/WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

WHERE AS a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights under oath has been filed in this Court regarding the above-referenced children, a copy of which is attached hereto;

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable Judge, Michael G. Takac, at the Lake County Courthouse, located at 550 West Main Street, Tavares, Lake County, Florida, on MAY 23 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., (DST) for a TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ADVISORY HEARING. You must appear on the date and at time specified.

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THIS/ THESE CHILDREN. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILDREN NAMED IN THE PETITION ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.

#### NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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 AT THE OFFICE OF THE TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR, 550 WEST MAIN STREET, TAVARES, FL 32778, TELEPHONE: 352-742-4221, WITHIN 2 WORKING DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE, IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, 352-742-3890. FLORIDA RELAY SERVICE 711.

WITNESS my hand as the Clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 22 day of March, 2018.

NEIL KELLY  
Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Kathy Fetzer

### 0001 LEGALS

Deputy Clerk

Ad No: 10075011  
March 24, 2018 &  
March 31, 2018 &  
April 07, 2018 &  
April 14, 2018

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

CASE NUMBER: 2016 DP 146 (04)

IN THE INTEREST OF: J. S. P. 12/15/2016 Minor Child

#### SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND PERMANENT COMMITMENT OF MINOR CHILDREN

THE STATE OF FLORIDA: LEGAL PUBLICATION

TO: RHETTA PEREZ (MOTHER)  
DOB: 08/19/1995  
ADDRESS/WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

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WITNESS my hand as the Clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 22 day of March, 2018.

NEIL KELLY  
Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Kathy Fetzer  
Deputy Clerk

Ad No: 10075014  
March 24, 2018 &  
March 31, 2018 &  
April 07, 2018 &  
April 14, 2018

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

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

CASE NO.: 35-2017-CA-001607-AXXX-XX

JAMES B. NUTTER & COMPANY, Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE WILEY TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 27, 1995; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE WILEY TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 27, 1995; ET AL., Defendant(s).

#### NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order dated April 3, 2018, entered in Civil Case # 35-2017-CA-001607-AXXX-XX of the Circuit Court of the 5th Judicial Circuit in and for Lake County, Florida, wherein JAMES B. NUTTER & COMPANY, Plaintiff and UNKNOWN SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE WILEY TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 27, 1995; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE WILEY TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 27, 1995; ET AL. are defendant(s). The Clerk of Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Judicial Center (JC), Lobby, 550 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778, AT 11:00 AM on MAY 23 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 175, HIGHLAND LAKES, PHASE 1-A, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 31, PAGES 53 THROUGH 59, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

ANY PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THIS 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.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact 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) 253-1604, 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.

### 0001 LEGALS

they be dead, the unknown defendant who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who 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.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JEFFREY A. ZOLLER (DECEASED)

17533 STRAHA STREET

MONTVERDE, FL 34756

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property.

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN CITY OF MONTVERDE, BEING KNOWN AS LOT 14, APOPKA TERRACE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 15, PAGE 28, PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, INCLUDES THE OWNERSHIP OF ONE-TWENTIETH INTEREST IN LOT KNOWN AS 21-P, AND BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 1162, PAGE 182, RECORDED ON 04/28/1992 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY FL.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on counsel for Plaintiff, whose address is 6409 Congress Ave, Suite 100, Boca

DATED at Lake County, Florida, this 3 day of April, 2018.

NEIL KELLY  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
Lake County, Florida

/s/ D. Davis  
Deputy Clerk of Court

Submitted By:  
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF: Kelley Kronenberg, 8201 Peters Road, Suite 4000, Plantation, FL 33324

Ad No: 10075517  
April 07, 2018 &  
April 14, 2018

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

CASE NO: 35-2017-CA-001473

DIVISION: CIRCUIT CIVIL

QUICKEN LOANS INC., Plaintiff,

vs.

SAMUEL A. WINTERSTEEN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAMUEL A. WINTERSTEEN; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 1; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION 2, Defendant(s).

Property Address: 55735 SAM STREET, ASTOR, FL 32102

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: April 3, 2018.

NEIL KELLY, CLERK  
LAKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

(Court Seal)  
By: D. Davis  
Deputy Clerk

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in a proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator for the Courts within 2 working days of your receipt of your notice to appear in Court at: Lake County Laurie Crews (352) 253-0900 x100

Ad No: 10075554  
April 07, 2018 &  
April 14, 2018

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION

CASE NO. 35-2017-CA-002205-AXXX-XX

U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Plaintiff,

vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JEFFREY A. ZOLLER (DECEASED) et. al.

#### NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JEFFREY A. ZOLLER (DECEASED), whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendant who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who 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.

### 0001 LEGALS

they be dead, the unknown defendant who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who 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.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JEFFREY A. ZOLLER (DECEASED)

17533 STRAHA STREET

MONTVERDE, FL 34756

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property.

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN CITY OF MONTVERDE, BEING KNOWN AS LOT 14, APOPKA TERRACE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 15, PAGE 28, PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, INCLUDES THE OWNERSHIP OF ONE-TWENTIETH INTEREST IN LOT KNOWN AS 21-P, AND BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 1162, PAGE 182, RECORDED ON 04/28/1992 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY FL.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on counsel for Plaintiff, whose address is 6409 Congress Ave, Suite 100, Boca

### 0001 LEGALS

Raton, Florida 33487 on or before (30 days from Date of First Publication of this Notice) and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition filed herein.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court at Lake County, Florida, this 9 day of April, 2018.

NEIL KELLY  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: /s/ Beverly Allen  
DEPUTY CLERK

Submitted By:  
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, AND SCHNEID, PL  
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
6409 Congress Ave., Suite 100  
Boca Raton, FL 33487  
PRIMARY EMAIL: mail@rasflaw.com  
17-105612 - GeS

Ad No: 10075772  
April 14, 2018 &  
April 21, 2018

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION 2018 - 15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UMATILLA, FLORIDA, VACATING THE VISTA MANOR PLAT RECORDED AT PLAT BOOK 63, PAGE 27, PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY OVER PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF LAKE STREET AND WEST OF MAXWELL ROAD AND OWNED BY VISTA

### 0001 LEGALS

#### OAKS UMATILLA DEVELOPMENT INC; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND RECORDING.

The proposed resolution for vacating Vista Manor Plat will be considered at the following meetings:

Umatilla Planning & Zoning meeting on April 10, 2018, and Umatilla City Council meeting on April 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

The meetings will be held in the City Council Chambers at 1 S. Central Avenue, Umatilla, Florida.

The proposed resolution may be inspected by the public between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday at City Hall. For further information call (352) 669-3125.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance.

A person who decides to appeal any decision made by any board, agency, or council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, will need a record of the proceedings. For such purposes, any such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based (Florida Statutes, 286.0105).

The City of Umatilla is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 1 Deep sleep
- 5 Parlor drinks
- 10 Leaves out
- 12 Stream swimmer
- 13 Make fresh
- 14 Home
- 15 Bulldog backer
- 16 Long time
- 18 Drill need
- 19 Lower in status
- 21 Plops down
- 22 Accountants consult them
- 24 March 14, to math fans
- 25 They hold services
- 29 Edict
- 30 Kansas City team
- 32 Treasury Dept. div.
- 33 Summer sign
- 34 Antique auto
- 35 Muhammad Ali's boxing daughter
- 37 California griddler
- 39 Seat of County Clare
- 40 Martin of movies
- 41 Storms
- 42 Warring god
- DOWN
- 1 Hollowed out
- 2 Brunch dish
- 3 Low points
- 4 Had brunch
- 5 Band-leader
- 6 Planetoid
- 7 Rock's — Brothers
- 8 Book checks
- 9 Undoes a dele
- 11 Worry
- 17 If challenged
- 20 Yank living
- 21 With craft
- 23 Simian subset
- 25 Albania's capital
- 26 Moving carefully
- 27 Salary recipient
- 28 Jacket part
- 29 1040 sender
- 31 Tender spots
- 33 Highlands girl
- 36 Recline
- 38 "Give — rest!"

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12			
13						14			
15					16	17		18	
19			20				21		
	22					23			
				24					
	25	26						27	28
29						30			31
32						33			34
35			36				37	38	
39							40		
41								42	

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**0001 LEGALS**

Karen H. Howard, CMC  
City Clerk

Ad No: 10075582  
April 07, 2018 &  
April 14, 2018

**NOTICE Under Fictitious Name Statute Law Pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statute**

To Whom It May Concern:  
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, pursuant to the "Fictitious Name Statute" Florida Statute 865.09, 2009, will register with the Division of Corporations, Department of State, State of Florida, upon receipt of proof of publication for this notice the Fictitious Name, to wit:

**Laseriffic Inc.**

Intends to register said Fictitious Name located at the below address:

**3911 N. Hwy 19A, Suite 3, Mt. Dora, Lake County, FL 32757**

That the interested owner in said business enterprise is:

**Joseph R. Kace**  
Dated in Lake County, Florida this 13th day of April, 2018.

Ad No: 10075798  
April 14, 2018

PROBATE CITATION File No. 2018-13

**SURROGATE'S COURT - ONTARIO COUNTY CITATION**

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,  
By the Grace of God  
Free and Independent

TO: Scott A. Forsyth, Esq., Guardian Ad Litem for unknowns

**Michael McLaughlin (son of James F. McLaughlin) if living but if dead, his distributees, legal representatives, assigns, and all persons who by purchase, inheritance or otherwise have or claim to have an interest in the estate of James F. McLaughlin, deceased, derived through Michael McLaughlin, whose address is unknown to the petitioner.**

A petition having been duly filed by Jeannine Manuse who is domiciled at 5596 E. Lake Road, Honeoye, NY 14471.

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Ontario County, At 27 N. Main St., Canandaigua, NY 14424, on May 8, 2018 at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of James F. McLaughlin, a/k/a James Frederick McLaughlin admitting to probate a Will dated July 13th, 2017, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of James F. McLaughlin, deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that

[X] Letters Testamentary issue to Jeannine Manuse, to serve without bond.  
 [ ] Letters of Trusteeship issue to:  
 [ ] Letters of Administration c.t.a. issue to  
 (State any further relief requested)

March 28, 2018  
HON. FREDERICK G. REED  
Surrogate  
Elizabeth Simpson  
Chief Clerk

Dated, Attested and Sealed, Surrogate

Elizabeth Simpson  
(Seal)

Attorney for Petitioner:  
Derek G. Brocklebank, Esq.  
Tel. (585) 394-3758  
Address of Attorney:  
51 North Main Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

[Note: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.]

Ad No: 10075282  
March 31, 2018 & April 07, 2018 &  
April 14, 2018 & April 21, 2018

**NOTICES 1000-1999**

**1001 READER NOTICE**

This newspaper will never knowingly accept advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. If you have questions or doubts about any ads on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the local Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Line and/or the Better Business Bureau. Also be advised that some phone numbers published in these ads may require an extra charge. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises or guaranteed income from work-at-home programs, money to loan, etc., if it sounds too good to be true — it may in fact be exactly that. This newspaper cannot be held responsible for any negative consequences that occur as a result of you doing business with these advertisers. Thank you.

**EVERYTHING WITH US DAILY COMMERCIAL**  
www.dailycommercial.com

**EMPLOYMENT 2000-2999**

**2225 CLERICAL**

**RECEPTIONIST - FT**  
No weekends for very busy office. Must have exp. w/ veterinarian software & able to answer questions about basic animal care.  
**Apply at: 1231 W. Dixie Ave. Leesburg or send resume acleesburg@gmail.com**

**2250 FOOD PREPARATION & SERVING**

**COOKS & SERVERS NEEDED**  
Apply in person: O'Keefe's Irish Pub Downtown Tavares

**2255 GENERAL EMPLOYMENT**

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**  
Federal and State laws prohibit advertising expressing a discriminatory preference on the basis of race, age, sex, color, national origin, religion, handicap or marital status. The Daily Commercial will not knowingly accept advertisement for employment which is in violation of the law.

**Employment Advertising Standards of Acceptance**  
Employment Classifications are intended to announce bona fide employment offers only. Employment advertising must disclose the specific nature of the work being offered. Some employment categories may charge fees. If any advertiser does not comply with these standards, please notify a Classified Sales Representative at 365-8245 or 365-8200.

**2255 GENERAL EMPLOYMENT**

**CURRENT OPENINGS**

\$\$\$ If \$200-\$250 will help you? \$\$\$  
Work 20-30 hrs per week.  
Sales experience a must!  
Hourly plus Commission.  
Good for Retirees and College Students  
Call Ed 352-217-9937

\*\*\*\*\*  
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$  
**EXPERIENCED DOOR TO DOOR EASY SALE.**  
\$500 - \$800 per week possible.  
**START IMMEDIATELY!**  
Call Ed 352-217-9937  
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

**BLASTER/PAINTER - FT**  
No exp. necessary. Willing to train. Local, Lake County.  
Apply with resume to: hrdept@newittcontracting.com  
No Phone Calls Please.  
EOE, DFWP, EVerity

**HOUSEKEEPERS - PT**  
Experience preferred  
Apply in person  
Harker Hills Country Club,  
6538 Lake Griffin Road, Lady Lake

**LABORERS - EXP'D**  
For Demo, Painting and etc.  
Must have own vehicle.  
Call 352-516-0891

**MAINTENANCE PERSON - FT**  
Keeping up basic repairs & all exterior cleaning. Some knowledge of plumbing, elec, carpentry, & handyman exp. req'd. Must be able to work wknds & holidays. 30-40 hrs.  
Apply in person  
Quality Inn & Suites  
16630 Hwy. 441 West, Mt. Dora.

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED**  
Immediate positions available.  
Training provided.  
Lake County Schools,  
Transportation  
352-728-2561 or  
Apply online:  
www.lake.k12.fl.us

**Come Join Our Supreme Team**

THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, LAKE COUNTY'S LEADING NEWSPAPER, HAS RECENTLY EXPANDED OPERATIONS AND HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS AVAILABLE FOR NEWSPAPER CARRIERS/INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS. This is a great opportunity to be your own boss and earn \$800 to \$1,800+ per month. Candidates must be reliable, have a valid driver's license, proof of auto insurance, and dependable transportation. We have routes currently available in the following towns: CLERMONT, MINNEOLA AND GROVELAND. Contract a route with us and you will earn \$100 Sign on Bonus after 30 days. Email us at: carriers@dailycommercial.com with your Name, Phone Number and the city you live in. Or call 352-365-8265.

**2255 GENERAL EMPLOYMENT**

**NOW HIRING**  
VALET ATTENDANTS  
Florida Hospital Waterman  
All Shifts + Overnight  
Equal Opportunity Employer  
Call ParkMed, Inc.  
813-358-5994 ext 8

**WILL TRAIN THE RIGHT PERSON.**  
Full or Part time. 1st & 2nd shifts.  
Benefits after 90 days.

• **MFG. SPECIALIST:**  
Able to stand & work hands-on w/ various machines. Will train.

• **MFG./PRODUCTION MGR:**  
Exp. w/managing, leading & supervising teams, production planning; prioritizing & reporting.

• **WAREHOUSE SPECIALIST:**  
Able to work in fast-paced warehouse: pick, pack, ship, stock, cycle count, etc.

• **ASSEMBLY SPECIALIST:**  
Able to work hands-on to assemble parts and take on leadership tasks.

Fill out application at: **QUALTOOL, 28415 Lake Industrial Blvd, Tavares** or send resume to: **lynn@qualtool.com**

**2300 CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**NOW HIRING**  
DAILY COMMERCIAL CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT IN LEESBURG IS NOW HIRING FOR A PART TIME CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE.  
Candidate should have a good understanding of computers and good communication skills. Must be willing to work weekends and holidays. Must be willing to submit to a background check and drug test.  
Please send resume to: **Jessica.hernandez@dailyccommercial.com**

**2327 DRIVER EMPLOYMENT**

**DRIVER - OTR w/CDL**  
3 yrs. exp. Nice equip. Good pay. Home frequent.  
Call 352-516-1986

**2950 TRADES**

**DUMP TRUCK DRIVER & FINISH DOZER PERSON FOR LOCAL CONSTRUCTION CO.**  
Must have 5 yrs. exp. & current Driver's Lic. Call 352-365-0006

**LABORERS/CONCRETE FINISHERS**  
For established Construction Co. Apply in person Mott Concrete, Inc. 3745 Rogers Industrial Park Rd Okahumpka, FL 34762 or Call for details 352-323-8488

**MONTEREY MUSHROOMS INC. LOCATED IN ZELLWOOD, FL**  
now has PACKER positions available. Benefits include Vacation/Holiday/401K/Medical & Life Insurance.  
Apply at 5949 Sadler Road in Zellwood, Florida. EOE

**MONTEREY MUSHROOMS INC. LOCATED IN ZELLWOOD, FL**  
now has HARVESTER positions available. Benefits include Vacation/Holiday/401K/Medical & Life Insurance.  
Apply at 5949 Sadler Road in Zellwood, Florida. EOE

**MONTEREY MUSHROOMS INC. LOCATED IN ZELLWOOD, FL**  
now has MAINTENANCE MECHANIC positions available. Benefits include Vacation/Holiday/401K/Medical & Life Insurance.  
Apply at 5949 Sadler Road in Zellwood, Florida. EOE

**2990 HEALTHCARE MEDICAL**

**FLORIDA HOSPITAL MEDICAL GROUP**  
MEDICAL ASSISTANTS  
You are invited to a HIRING EVENT! Thursday, April 26th - 12:30 - 3PM  
FLORIDA HOSPITAL WATERMAN 1000 Waterman Way, Tavares, FL, Medical Office Building, 3rd Floor, Team Room 2

Medical Assistant candidates only!!! Dress professional and bring copies of your resume, diploma, CPR card and letters of recommendations.

To attend this exciting event, please forward your resume to: Melissa Hardy, Senior HR Recruiter via **Melissa.Hardy@fhoosp.org** or call 407-200-4826  
This event is via invitation only.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR EXCELLENT CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION:  
MEDICAL ASSISTANTS 2+ Yrs. Exp.

For the following specialties:  
• Urology • Primary Care  
• Pulmonary • Pediatrics  
• Internal Medicine

**3200 RENTALS 3000-3999**

**3200 APARTMENTS FURNISHED**

**FRUITLAND PARK TWIN PALMS MARINA**  
1 & 2 br. Mobiles newly renovated fully furnished. All utilities included. Weekly & Monthly rates. No Deposit Small dogs allowed. Old Florida Fish Camp with Convenience Store on property. Pontoon/Boat Slip rentals.  
Call 352-787-4514

**LEESBURG - SPANISH VILLAGE**  
Pool, great location!  
Furn. Efficiency.  
Includes util. & cable. \$735/mo.  
2br/1ba, \$675, you pay util.  
Call 352-728-5555

**TAVARES DOWNTOWN, 1/1, 321 W. lanthe St. \$390 bi-wkly, incl. elec. TV, WI-Fi & water. (352) 455-6195**

**TAVARES/DORA CANAL FURN. HOMES FOR RENT OR LEASE OPTION/SALE. NO DOGS.**  
From \$545/mo. or \$5,999  
Call 352-343-7780  
**rverestwaterfrontresort.com**

**UMATILLA, Furn. 1br., Includes utilities. \$625/mo + security, for single person. No pets. 352-250-4711**

**3250 APARTMENTS UNFURNISHED**

**LADY LAKE, efficiency furn. or unfurn.**  
352-396-1152 or 352-750-0030

**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 \*\*\*\*\*  
**LEESBURG, LAKE GRIFFIN MHP 55+ NEW 2/2 for rent \$750/mo Includes lake access \*\*\*\*\***  
407-547-9394 or 407-246-4550  
For other rentals 352-874-7375

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**3350 CONDOS & VILLAS UNFURNISHED**

**HOWEY IN THE HILLS, Mission Inn Resort. 3/2, W/D, garage, on golf course. Immed. avail. \$1695/mo + utilities. Call (215) 397-6741**

**3400 DUPLEXES**

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**3550 HOMES UNFURNISHED**

**LEESBURG**  
3/2 Home for Lease. \$1350/mo. Background & credit check. NO PETS / NON-SMOKERS ONLY  
Call 860-481-5848

**LEESBURG, older home 4/2, shaded 1.3 acres, private. \$950/mo + \$1800 dep. Ref. req'd. Close to schools & shopping. RENTED**

**3615 MOBILE HOME/RENTALS**

**MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE W/OWNER FINANCE - CLERMONT HWY. 50 (Before Groveland)**  
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**3750 ROOMMATES WANTED**

**EUSTIS** someone to share 2/2 home. Call 352-357-3367

**FRUITLAND PARK, private rm. Avail. now. Retired Male preferred. Non smoker. \$450/mo. (352) 323-1811**

**3850 VACATION/BEACH RENTAL**

**MOUNTAIN HOME 2 story 2/2 at Lake Junaluska, N.C. 25 mi W of Asheville, Maggie Valley - Waynesville area. 4 bks from Lake. \$600/wkly. 727-492-3635**

**3850 MOBILE HOME PARKS**

**LEESBURG, 2013, 3/2 on Canal. Custom Home, located in Mild Florida Lakes. New Stainless appls. Dining Rm furn. & pontoon. Will pay 6/mo. lot rent. \$67K. Ed 352-217-9937**

**4010 OPEN HOUSES**

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April 13th, 14th & 15th  
26147 Fern Lane, Astatula, FL.

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**REAL ESTATE 4000-4999**

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation, or discriminations.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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6453

**FOOD**

**GREEN ACRES**



**U - PICK**

**VERY LARGE AND SWEET BERRIES; VERY EASY PICKING.**

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

**8am - 5pm**

**8635 HIGH ST., YALAHA**

**CALL**

**352-360-5445**

6480

**FURNITURE/ HOUSEHOLD**

**BED, Mattress, Box Spring, King Serta. Used 2 yrs. \$250 obo. (321) 947-4746**

**CHINA CABINET** light wood, like new. \$250 Call(520) 273-4341

**CLUB CHAIR & OTTOMAN**, leather, by La-Z-Boy, like new, \$175. Call 520-273-4341

**CORNER DINING SET**, Oak, w/2 benches & 2 chairs. Excel. cond. \$275 Call (520) 273-4341

**HIGH TABLE** w/4 chairs. ceramic top, good cond. \$75 Call (570) 419-8583

**LOUNGE** wicker w/cushions, couch & 3 mirror tables \$100 (352) 603-4113

**MATTRESS & BOX SPRING**, Queen, Excel. Cond. \$50 (352) 901-6066

**MIRROR** gold tone for formal room. 40x38 \$80 obo Call (352) 874-2262

**RECLINER** leather, dark green, very nice. \$100 **SOLD 1ST DAY!**

6510

**GENERAL MERCHANDISE**

**COFFEE TABLE**, ornate, real marble, excel. cond. \$55. (352) 435-0888

**TOOLS** small & useful items (40) new/like new. \$30. (352) 787-0410

**VASES & MISC. FLORAL SUPPLIES** pictures avail. \$100. 352-408-9750

6550

**JEWELRY & WATCHES**

**DIAMOND RING** certified 0.63 kt. to-tal weight, round diamond solitaire, 14 kt ring. Estimated retail \$2620-\$3200. Sell \$800. (352) 431-3539

6570

**LAWN & GARDEN**

**GARDEN FOUNTAIN** Florentine org. \$179 sell for \$75 (352) 504-0463

**LAWN MOWER** Craftsman 5.5, 22" mulcher gear drive. \$60. 259-6691

**PUSH MOWER** 20" gas, good cond. \$30 Call (352) 552-0297

**WEEDEATER** Troy Bilt, gas, straight shaft. Excel. \$45. 352-793-1482

6590

**MACHINERY & TOOLS**

**CHAINSAW** 16" Sears, needs work, 2 blades, case \$50 (352) 753-1170

**HAND BAND SAW**, heavy duty, Mil-waukee w/5 new blades. \$175 Call 352-568-1354

6600

**MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

**ADULT DIAPERS** 5 boxes. \$100 **FIRM. Call (352) 255-0539**

**MOBILITY SCOOTER** Pronto new battery, w/Elec. carrier Harmer. Excel. \$450. (352) 793-1482

6620

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

**PIANO** plays perfect. **FREE**. just come and pick-up. (352) 408-1757

6630

**OFFICE FURNITURE**

**OFFICE CHAIR** reclining, w/foot rest. Like new. \$50 Call (352) 315-0302

6715

**SPAS/HOT TUBS**

**HOT TUB** 2 person. excel. cond. \$300 obo. Call to see (352) 787-0459

6760

**WANTED TO BUY**

**WANTED TO BUY** old watches, jewelry pipes & lighters, silver, instruments, records & other estate items.. (352) 454-0068

**6865 PETS**

The Florida Statute 828.29 states that no dog, puppy, cat or kitten may be offered for sale without a health certificate, nor can any puppy or kitten be sold under the age of 8 weeks, nor can you advertise puppies or kittens with a deposit to hold.

6865

**PETS**

**CAT, FREE to excellent home only. Mature Calico, Sally is very affectionate, front declawed. Must be only pet in home. (239) 734-0593**

6865

**PETS**

**CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES**, health cert. & 1st shots. Asking \$350 each. (352) 771-6627

**RECREATION**  
**7000-7500**

7170

**CAMPERS/TRAVEL TRAILERS**

**FIFTH WHEEL** Lynx 2006, 26.5' includes hitch & break system. \$3,500. (352) 205-1541

7330

**FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

**TREAD CLIMBER**, Bow Flex, folds, paid \$1K now \$300 (352) 617-0391

7340

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# HOME



## KITCHEN

### SIMPLE SWAPS

When planning your refresh, consider these simple, stylish swaps from DeltaFaucet.com.

- Replacing an outdated faucet is an easy way to give your space a facelift.
- Replacing outdated cabinet knobs and drawer pulls can give your space a fresh, streamlined look with minimal effort.
- Replace flat wall paint with a backsplash made from unique materials, such as faux-brick, salvaged wood or stainless-steel subway tile.

## BATHROOM

### HIGH-TECH TRENDS

Here are fun tech trends for the bathroom, from totousa.com.

- New toilets feature a personal cleansing system in the toilet seat, using warm water, dual action spray, warm air dryer and heated seat.
- Privacy glass. Using an app on your smartphone, change your window glass from opaque to transparent instantly.
- Digital steam spa. Turn your bathroom into a steam room with easy-to-use kits.

## TIP OF THE WEEK

### CUT HOME EXPENSES

Savvy homeowners can free up some cash with a few relatively easy home improvements:

- Choose options that automatically use less power, like LED bulbs.
- A programmable thermostat can keep you from heating and cooling the house when you're not home.

# Hail damage

Know what to look for, what to do after a storm

By Laura Firszt  
Network

A hailstorm is quite a sight to behold. Spheres of ice suddenly start falling from the sky — no matter what the season or what the temperature may be outdoors. Although a hailstorm usually lasts only a few minutes, it can cause tremendous damage to your property, because hailstones tend to fall with such force. Find out more about hail damage and how it can affect your home.

#### About hail damage

Hailstones vary in size from the diameter of a pea (1/4 inch) to the largest on record — a whopping 8 inches. (That's almost the size of a bowling ball!) But not only size matters when it comes to doing harm to your property; the extent of hail damage will also depend on the hailstones' density, weight, and shape. The speed at which they fall sometimes reaches 120 mph: that can make for one heck of an impact, even with a small stone. Not surprisingly, the dollar value of hail damage in the U.S. amounts to \$1 billion a year. If you've just weathered a major hailstorm, check your home for signs of hail damage in order to file an insurance claim.

#### Homeowners insurance dos and don'ts

- **DON'T** go outside during a hailstorm to check the state of your roof, siding, etc.; you'll be putting yourself at risk.
- **DO** look for any hail damage as soon as the storm is finished. (See the list below.)
- **DON'T** panic. Hail damage is covered by virtually all homeowners insurance policies.
- **DO** contact your insurance provider and let them know about the hail damage ASAP.
- **DO** take photos of all damaged areas of your home and make detailed notes.
- **DON'T** try to walk around on your roof to check for hail damage. Roofing that has been struck by hail could be unstable.
- **DO** find a reliable licensed contractor to give an estimate on the necessary repairs, after an insurance adjuster has inspected your property.
- **DON'T** throw out receipts for any expense, even temporary measures (like covering broken windows with plastic).



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTOS



You may be able to get compensation.

- **DON'T** bother filing a claim if the total repair cost is equal to, or slightly more than, your deductible. You'll likely end up raising your homeowners insurance premium.

#### Look for these signs of hail damage

**Roof.** Your roofing is particularly vulnerable to hail damage, so much that roofs in hail-prone regions need replacement every 7-10 years, rather than the typical 20-year lifespan. From the ground, look for split wood shingles, or asphalt shingles that have lost granules or are shiny, blackened, or dented. Whatever your type of roofing, watch for missing shingles or actual roof punctures. (Ouch!)

**Gutters.** Aluminum, thin copper, and vinyl gutters are the most susceptible to hail

damage. Vinyl gutters may be cracked or punctured, while metal ones will show indentations or protrusions, according to the direction of the falling hail. (A little home improvement humor: Building inspectors nickname these dents "innies" and "outies.")

**Exterior walls and trim.** Hail damage to exterior walls and trim of your house, garage, or other outbuildings might include chipped paint, cracked vinyl or wooden siding, dented aluminum siding, or holes in stucco finish.

**Windows.** Obviously the glass of your windows (or skylights) could be cracked or shattered due to a hailstorm, but be sure to check the condition of your screens, frames, sills, and awnings as well.

**Air conditioning system.** Your A/C's outside component, the condenser unit, may be harmed by falling hailstones, particularly the coil and fins. As a result, the air conditioning may function less effectively or stop working altogether.

**Landscaping.** Young garden plants can be crushed by even the smallest hailstones. Large trees and shrubs might be stripped of leaves and branches, or knocked down completely if the hailstorm also involves strong winds. Consult your homeowners policy to see whether it will compensate you for this type of loss, as well as removal of fallen trees and related debris.

## AROUND THE HOUSE

### New home inflation exacerbating affordability crisis



Don Magruder

The cost of buying and building a new home is soaring. Unlike the boom of the mid-2000s, this time new home inflation is being fueled not so much by strong housing demand but rather hard cost increases in

the supply chain. According to the United States Census Bureau, 2,068,300 new homes were started in the United States during the height of the boom in 2005. For 2017, national new home starts finished at 1,202,900. This means housing is still down 41.8 percent from the boom period. In historic terms, the number of housing starts in 2017 represents the 11th worst year for housing starts since 1959. By no means is the housing market inflation being

driven by a boom in sales.

What are the drivers of this huge runup of inflation in new housing?

The Great Recession is the first reason because it took out competitors, stifled innovations in technology, decimated the experienced workforce and left survivors in a weakened state. Most construction companies came out of the 2008-2014 Great Recession beaten very badly, if they came out at all. This created a gap of talent, money and innovation while

leaving a supply chain totally dysfunctional.

Next is labor — if you can find it. Delays on jobsites are common because there is no one to work. During the Great Recession, millions of workers in the construction industry retired or left the construction industry and new workers were not developed. There is a huge gap in construction labor that may last as long as a generation, especially if the

See INFLATION, E3

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## FROM THE EXTENSION

# Stock up on wildflowers at Tavares plant sale



Lloyd Singleton

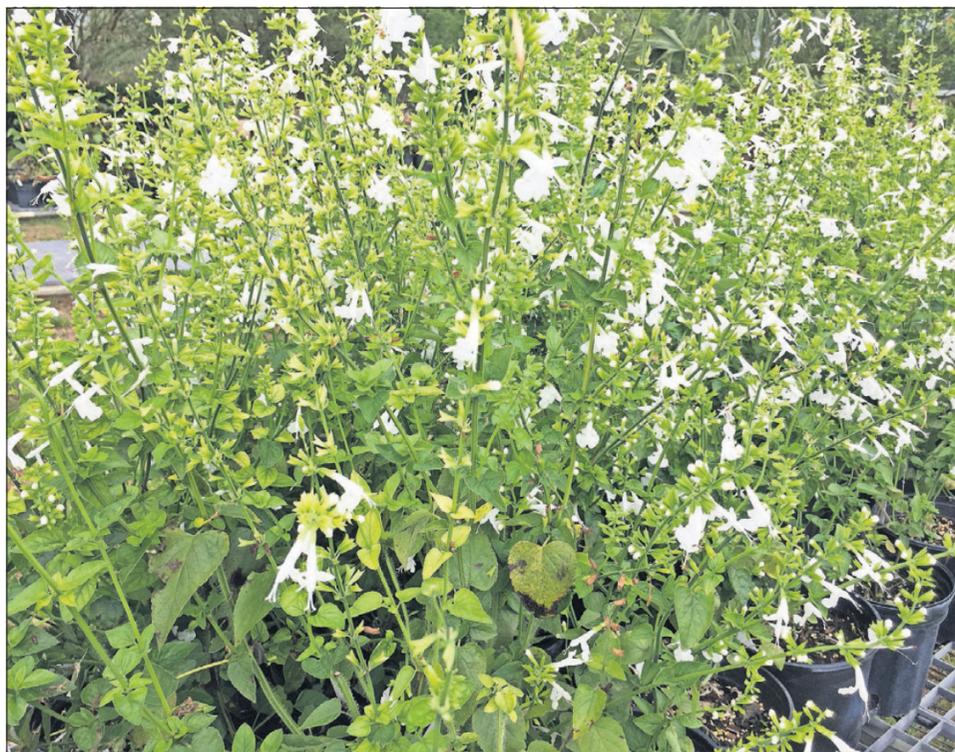
**T**AVARES — The Lake County master gardeners are having a plant sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Discovery Gardens in Tavares. The sale will feature several Florida-native wildflowers, including:

## Coreopsis

Seven species of coreopsis are native to the state of Florida. Coreopsis are considered perennials as they reappear each year. These colorful plants have bright green leaves that can be either entire or lobed. These plants have single or double flowers that come in a variety of colors including orange, pink, purple, red and yellow. These flowers are held upright upon tall leafless stems that enable the blooms to be incorporated into flower arrangements. The flowers are borne in capitula with small discs, and the ray florets have dentate tips. These 1 1/2- to 2-inch-wide flowers appear in the spring, summer and fall. For more information on this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp143>.

## Blanket flower

This sturdy North American native forms attractive, 12- to 24-inch-tall, rounded clumps of soft, hairy, divided leaves and single, semidouble or double flowers held on long stems above the foliage. Appearing throughout the summer, the 2- to 3-inch-wide flowers are available in yellow, orange, red or bicolors, and make excellent, long-lasting cut flowers. The blossoms are quite attractive to butterflies, and these annual flowers will normally reseed themselves quite readily. For more information on



The native salvia, pictured, may bloom with a prolific white flower. Lake County master gardeners are having a plant sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Discovery Gardens in Tavares featuring wildflowers native to Florida. [SUBMITTED]

this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp216>.

## Beach sunflower

The beach sunflower is a spreading perennial that has attractive, small, sunflower-like flower heads, which are borne throughout the year. These showy flowers have 10 to 20 pale yellow rays that encircle a purplish-brown disk that is 1/2- to 1-inch-wide. Different species of butterflies are attracted to these flowers. The 3-inch-wide flowers of this plant are followed by small seeds that readily germinate to produce plantlets. The beach sunflower has small, dark green, deltoid leaves that are irregularly lobed and toothed. These glossy leaves are roughly pubescent and attain a length of 4 inches. For more information on this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp/fp245>.

## Firebush

This Florida native will delight everyone with beautiful orange and red flowers throughout most of the year. Firebush is a large, soft-stemmed shrub that reaches a height and width of 8- to 12-foot tall without support. A 1 foot tall specimen that is planted in the spring can be expected to reach 5 feet or more by the following winter. It can grow to 15 feet tall or more if given support on a trellis or other structure. Its evergreen leaves are covered with red tomentum (hairs) when young and are speckled with red or purple at maturity. The petiole and young stems also appear red. These attractive leaves are commonly arranged in whorls of 3. Bright orange and red flowers appear in forking cymes at the tips of the branches throughout the year. The slender flowers are tubular and reach a length

of 1 to 1 1/2 inches. Although tolerant of shade, flowering is much reduced. For more information on this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp237>.

## Trumpet honeysuckle

Although a vigorous twining vine, the native trumpet honeysuckle does not spread out of control quite as easily as Japanese honeysuckle. The delicate but striking, 2-inch long, tapered, trumpet-shaped crimson blooms appear from April through summer and are set against a background of dark green, smooth leaves. The flowers are particularly attractive to hummingbirds but are not fragrant. Evergreen in the lower south, trumpet honeysuckle may die back during a hard freeze. Quickly covering fences, lampposts or mailboxes, trumpet honeysuckle is an excellent vine to use for naturalizing. Train it onto

an arbor or trellis in the full sun for good, thick coverage. For more information on this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp354>.

## Scarlet salvia, scarlet sage

The native salvia is an herbaceous perennial that is native to the southeastern United States including the state of Florida. It may attain a height of 3 to 4 feet with a vase-shaped or upright growth habit. It bears striking, rich red flowers (occasionally white or pink) in the late spring, summer and fall seasons. For more information on this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp519>.

## Black-eyed Susan

Black-eyed Susan forms a clumping, 2-foot-tall mound of foliage topped with a bright display of red and orange flowers bordered with yellow. Distribution of color in the flower varies depending on the cultivar and seed source. Flowering is more profuse when the faded blossoms are regularly removed. The flowers are useful for cutting. Space plants 18 to 24 inches apart in a mass planting to create a carpet of color. Plants can become weeds in the garden because seeds germinate readily in nearby beds. What a wonderful weed to have in the garden. For more information on this flower, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp512>.

Visit Discovery Gardens, 1951 Woodlea Road in Tavares, for the plant sale and include some native wildflowers in your landscape to support our local pollinators with food for the season.

Lloyd Singleton is a Florida-friendly landscaping agent at the UF/IFAS Sumter County Extension and the interim director at the Lake County Extension. Email [lsingleton@ufl.edu](mailto:lsingleton@ufl.edu).

## Preferring to nurture talent over plants, author demystified design

By Adrian Higgins

The Washington Post

Because John Brookes was English and in the business of creating gardens, you might have thought that he shared his compatriots' mania for growing plants to some sort of perfection. He didn't.

"I enjoy having plants around the place," he told me when I last saw him, in 2003. "But I'm not obsessed with how to cultivate them."

Instead, he commanded a

different discipline, one of garden design. Over the years, he wrote some two dozen books about design — the first being "Room Outside" in 1969 — for readers who wanted to make something of their yards. He also taught generations of budding garden designers at his school south of London. I met him when he was in Washington to teach a course to students at what was then the Corcoran College of Art and Design. Brookes died March 16, aged

84. Something he represented went with him, I suspect.

His most important contribution wasn't his design instruction — which was exceptionally good — but the mere idea that a garden must be designed.

You might think it obvious that designing a garden is fundamental to its creation. But you'd be wrong. Few, if any, books, television shows and offerings on the manic forum we call the Internet actually tell you much about

garden design. You will see pretty pictures of patios, arbors, balconies, and pools and fountains. To the extent that there are garden shows left on TV, they are about instant effect and the eye appeal of outdoor furnishings, built — in barbecues and brightly colored awnings. We are seeing photogenic vignettes, often staged and groomed, something that Brookes could instantly sniff out as bogus. "Gracious living," he called it, rolling his

eyes.

Design, on the other hand, is about the most effective and beautiful way to fix problems, meet needs and fulfill desires.

It is successful when all the elements relate to a whole and the garden becomes greater than the sum of its parts. With design, it is understood that the plan will take several years to reach fruition, as trees and shrubs mature — it is not the stuff of TV makeover shows.

# FEATURED HOMES

## MODEL CENTER OPEN



Welcome to Hidden Harbor on Lake Harris! Our new Palm Harbor Model Center is now open every day! Monday - Saturday 10-2 and Sunday 12-4 located at 29009 Cutter Lane Leesburg, FL 34748. We have 10 Palm Harbor Homes ready and available starting in the Mid 90's. These are custom and quality built homes with 9ft Flat ceilings, Horizon Windows, vibrant colors, and the best warranty in the business! The community is 55+, private, with only 46 Home sites yet upscale with plenty of amenities. Count the breathless views from your back porch, or the nature walk, or the Marina w/ limited boat slips, or the large pavilion while you grill and eat on the lake. Plenty of Birds and nature. The location of Hidden Harbor couldn't be better. It's just 2 miles south on RT27 from CR44 in Leesburg. If you haven't checked us out in a while come on over. You can view all the homes on [SUNBELTHOMESALES.com](http://SUNBELTHOMESALES.com) or call 352-314-0900 for appointments or any of your custom manufactured or modular home needs.

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# Gardening's benefits jive with emphasis on wellness

By Dean Fosdick  
The Associated Press

Modern gardening isn't just about growing plants — it's part of a movement toward personal and family wellness that includes everything from diet and exercise to a clean and livable environment.

"A lot of things are going on with wellness as it applies to our food culture," said Helen Lundell, a senior consultant with The Hartman Group Inc., a company in Bellevue, Washington, that studies consumer, food and beverage trends. "The essential theme is that consumers are moving toward natural foods. First and foremost is the absence of pesticides and chemicals used in production."



**A fire ring in the backyard of a Langley, Wash., home is shown and is one of many health-related themed spaces becoming popular. It's the kind of hardscaping that provides enjoyment as family lifestyles evolve.** [DEAN FOSDICK VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

But gardening fits the moment in ways beyond healthier food, she said. "People want to exercise," she said. "They want to connect with nature. They

want to socialize. They want to have some private time and disconnect from social media. They want long-term weight management rather than crash diets." All

of those can be benefits from gardening.

A trend toward outdoor living has blossomed in landscape design, and is also health-related, said Missy Henriksen, a spokeswoman for the National Association of Landscape Professionals.

"People are recognizing that being outdoors benefits wellness," Henriksen said. "They feel better when they interact with nature, even if it's simply looking through a window."

If you're remodeling a deck or patio, Henriksen said, consider adding creative lighting, wifi, TV connections, and shelter from harsh sun and wet weather. "Not only for nighttime use, but more people are working remotely from home and they're doing it outdoors,"

Henriksen said.

When planning the garden, she recommended nature-scaping with pollinator-friendly plants ("Attracting wildlife is a great educational tool for kids") and including edibles.

"People look at their landscapes and think they're attractive, but they may be missing some personal benefits," Henriksen said. "Herbs, fruits and vegetables add texture, color and variety to residential landscapes."

You also can hardscape to fit family lifestyles as they evolve. Include badminton or bocce ball courts, chessboards, pools and spas, fire pits and yoga spaces. Aside from their immediate satisfaction, these also may pay off when selling the property.

## INFLATION

From Page E1

United States continues to discourage immigration. Since February 2017, the United States Census Bureau reports construction wages have increased 3.7 percent, and skilled labor rates have gone up even more.

The tariffs and trade policies of the new administration have been bad for housing. Tariff increases of 20-plus percent in Canadian lumber have driven up lumber prices dramatically over the last year. The Ro-Mac Lumber & Supply, Inc. Wood Commodity Index for February 2017 was \$456.83 per thousand, which is 19.6 percent more than the previous year. The newly proposed 25 percent tariff on steel and aluminum will hit the residential construction market the hardest because



**The cost of buying and building a new home is soaring. Unlike the boom of the mid-2000s, this time new home inflation is being fueled not so much by strong housing demand but rather hard cost increases in the supply chain.** [GATEHOUSE MEDIA FILE]

imported steel is typically used for lighter gauge residential construction. In just the first couple of weeks, metal studs and foundation rebar have seen double-digit-plus increases in price, and there is real concern as to availability later in the

summer.

Transportation costs are soaring. Reuters reported in February that many companies have seen 10 to 15 percent increases over the last year in trucking as drivers are harder to find. In addition, new logging

rules are restricting the time current drivers can be on the road. The United States Department of Energy reported that diesel pricing nationally at the end of February was \$3.01 per gallon, which is 17.1 percent more than just a year ago. To put this in perspective, the government estimates 3.3 cents of every dollar in America goes to transportation.

Mortgage rates continue to remain historically low with the average 30-year rate in February hovering around 4.33 percent. However, compared to the prior year of 4.17 percent, mortgage rates are up 3.8 percent. This does not include the costs of permitting, impact fees and taxes, which are being raised by local jurisdictions across America. Buying a home remains complicated and it has become a place in which government has increasingly sought to raise revenues.

The reason why current housing starts remain at

historic lows, despite a 22.1 million gain in the United States population since 2008, is simply affordability. Housing affordability is why families are living with one another, adult children continue to live with their parents and homelessness is on the rise. This new round of housing inflation is terrible for housing affordability and will drive more people out of the housing market. It will also slow the United States economy, because housing remains the one true item that cannot be manufactured overseas. More than ever before, the United States and the state of Florida need to address this growing crisis in housing affordability.

*Don Magruder is the CEO of Ro-Mac Lumber & Supply Inc. He is also the host of the Around the House radio show heard every Monday at noon on My790AM WLBE in Leesburg.*

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## Interior Door Solutions

We offer the most innovative solutions for replacing plain, worn-out interior doors in your home. Using specially milled interior doors, that can easily be re-hinged to match your existing door openings, you can have embossed panel and cathedral doors installed in your home in a matter of minutes. You won't believe what a beautiful difference it will make, and it adds significantly to the value of your home. All for just a few extra dollars.

## Decorative Glass Inserts

Upgrade the curb-appeal of your home while allowing more sunlight inside at the same time. Ro-Mac Doors can reconfigure your solid entry door to accept a decorative glass insert. This is a quick and easy way to create a stunning first impression as you enter your home - all without the cost of completely replacing the door itself.



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- Help you with lock replacement, lock rekeying, moulding repair or replacement, matching existing custom moulding, interior and exterior door upgrades, even cut-outs for adding door lites to your exterior or interior doors.

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# COMICS

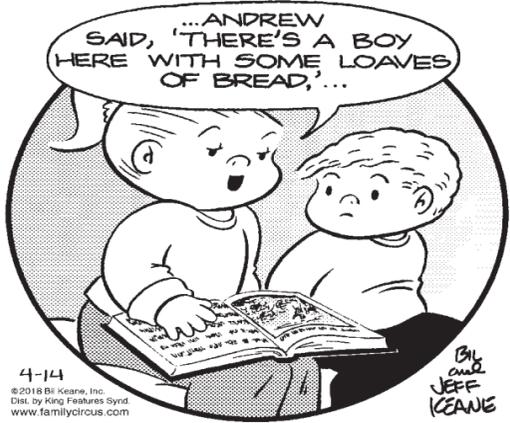
## DENNIS THE MENACE



"DON'T LET MR. WILSON'S YELLING SCARE YOU, JOEY...IT'S JUST HIS WAY OF SAYING GOOD NIGHT."

## FAMILY CIRCUS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



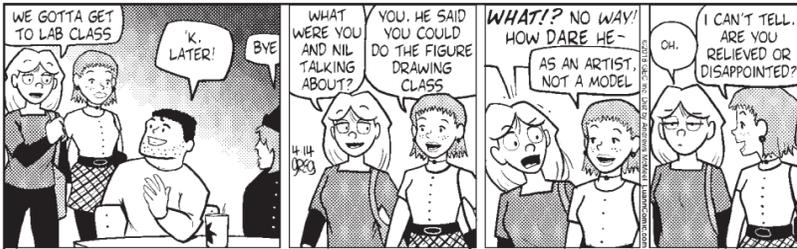
"... Jesus said, 'White, whole wheat or rye?'"

## HEATHCLIFF



"ANOTHER MILK?"

## LUANN



## DILBERT



## MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



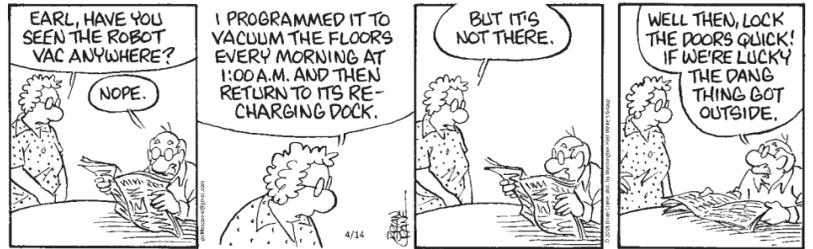
## BABY BLUES



## BETLE BAILEY



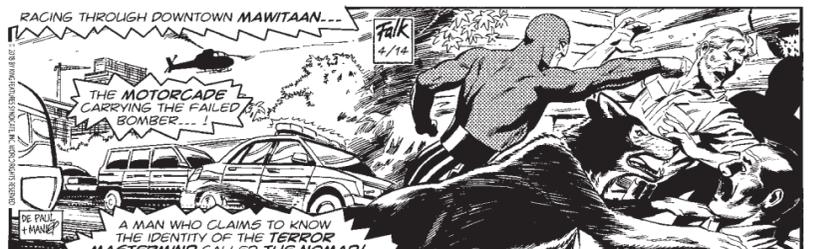
## PICKLES



## ZITS



## PHANTOM



## GARFIELD



## BLONDIE



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



## SHOE



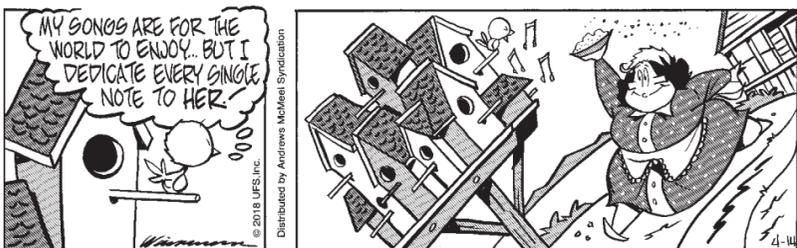
## B.C.



## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## ROSE IS ROSE



## SNUFFY SMITH



## CLASSIC PEANUTS



# DIVERSIONS

## Serious video gamer gets no respect for her hobby

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm an avid video game player. My husband and I bond over playing games, reading and talking about them. In fact, in my spare time, I just earned a master's degree in video game culture.

**JEANNE PHILLIPS**

DEAR ABBY



ing or learn new skills through educational games.

What can I say to people who dismiss my hobby as a waste while claiming that reading the latest trashy vampire book or going out every Friday and Saturday night to get wasted is "really living"? -- **PROUD GAMER GIRL**

**DEAR PROUD GAMER:** A master's degree in video game culture is impressive. People who regard you as lazy or lacking in motivation are ignorant. Video game design has become a well-established industry. In fact, it's akin to the film industry in that the creative process requires an education similar to

-- but even more extensive than -- that offered in film schools. Rather than try to convince those who tell you how to spend your time, focus your energy on what works for you and spend less of it around negative individuals.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have a problem: I don't have a mouth filter and haven't since childhood. I bullied people in the past because of how I was bullied and deliberately hurt people to prevent them from hurting me. At work, I did it to the point that a co-worker called me the b-word and threatened to punch me in the mouth if I did it again. I take full responsibility. I deserved it.

Abby, as an adult, I have become meaner and more bitter and hurtful than I was as a child. Please give me some advice because I'm afraid I'm going to be worse in the future. -- **GUILTY AND SAD**

**DEAR GUILTY AND SAD:**

You are not going to become worse in the future because you now realize you have a serious problem and are willing to do something about it. Awareness is the first step in fixing it. An anger management class could be a good start.

With practice, you can develop a filter. Rather than reflexively lashing out, start consciously cultivating kindness. If you do that, you'll be amazed at how quickly it will grow. Rather than criticize, first ask yourself, "Is what I'm going to say true? Is it helpful? Is it kind?" And if it's not all three -- don't say it.

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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## » BRIDGE

### Thinking things through

South dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 10 9 3  
♥ A K Q 4  
♦ J 10 3  
♣ 6 4

**WEST**  
♠ K 6 5 2  
♥ J 10 8 6  
♦ 8 5  
♣ A K Q

**EAST**  
♠ 8 7 4  
♥ 9 2  
♦ 9 6  
♣ J 10 9 8 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q  
♥ 7 5 3  
♦ A K Q 7 4 2  
♣ 7 5

The bidding:  
**South** 1♦  
**West** Pass  
**North** 3♥  
**East** 2♣

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Let's say you're declarer in five diamonds and West cashes two clubs and shifts to the jack of hearts. You win with the queen and draw two rounds of trump, but what do you do next?

There are two obvious chances for the contract. One is that the opposing hearts will divide 3-3, and the other is that a spade finesse will succeed if the hearts don't divide evenly.

Neither prospect is very attractive. First, the odds are against a suit

dividing 3-3, even if the opponents haven't bid. But given West's takeout double, he is more likely to have four hearts.

Second, you shouldn't invest even a plugged nickel on the chance of winning the spade finesse. West is virtually certain to have the king, as he could scarcely double without it.

Since these two probabilities add up to down one, you start looking for another way to make the contract. And if you look hard enough, you find the answer.

Assuming your initial conclusions are correct, West will have to guard both the hearts and the spades, in which case you can put him under extreme pressure by cashing your remaining trumps.

So you play the rest of your diamonds, reducing your hand to the A-Q of spades and 7-5 of hearts while retaining the jack of spades and A-K-4 of hearts in dummy.

On your last diamond, West must choose a discard from the K-6 of spades and 10-8-6 of hearts. He cannot spare a heart, so he discards the six of spades.

You now cash the A-K of hearts, on which East, as expected, shows out, and then lead the jack of spades toward your A-Q. After East follows low, you go up with the ace, since West's last two cards are almost surely the ten of hearts and king of spades, and the contract is home.

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## » HOROSCOPES

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018:

This year you work with unusually high and directed energy. Focus some of this energy on work and/or outside commitments. You could have an even shorter fuse than usual, if you are not careful. Maintain a routine stress-buster to help your self-control. If you are single, you will meet someone in the second half of your birthday year who has a vitality that intrigues you. If you are attached, give your significant other more of your time. Make sure you include this person in your adventures. A fellow ARIES easily could butt heads with you!

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)** Opportunities pop up from out of nowhere. An offer is likely to cause some disruption in your life, should you choose to accept it. Know that you can't go back to where you were if you do decide to pursue it. Make sure your actions are thought through.

**TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)** Don't allow a tense situation to drag you down. You will be on cruise control, but at a certain point you might find that your world is not as

bright as it was before. Don't worry -- you know what to do. Your perception lightens up the mood.

**GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)** Emphasize what is going on around you. Friends demonstrate their caring in many different ways. Some of them verbalize their feelings; others offer tokens of affection. Be aware that several people might ignore you, too. Let it all wash right over you.

**CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)** Others remain highly responsive to your ideas and leadership. Brainstorm with your inner circle, and note how they listen to what you have to say. Show them the same courtesy, and you will find a novel way of handling a problem.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)** You wake up feeling strong and focused. You know what you want, but you might not be sure how to pursue it. You have cohorts you can brainstorm with; why not tap into their energy and imaginations? They may have solutions that you don't see.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)** One-on-one relating keeps you on top of your game. You have a lot to share with a key friend. You

### JACQUELINE BIGAR

BIGAR'S STARS



might be surprised by his or her ideas. You open up to a new beginning involving a relationship. Do not reveal too much too fast. Time is your ally.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)** You want to move in a new direction. You are trying your best to figure out how to discuss this change with a close group of friends. Communication soars, which gives you the energy and drive you need to do whatever you want. Try not to wear yourself out!

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)** You might be in the mood to get into a last-minute project, but your mind could drift to other topics. Double-check your work to make sure that you have made no mistakes. Make a note of a fleeting thought, rather than explore it immediately.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)** Impulsiveness

marks your day. Use care with money; avoid taking any risks, if possible. You could be stressed out because you have a vision of what you want, and going for it could destroy it. Understand that change is necessary.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)** You could be too tired to deal with a family member who is on the war-path. Change your outlook and take a power nap before having a serious discussion. You might be disappointed by what occurs. Honor your ideas, and express your ingenuity.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)** You can be reserved at times and a blabbermouth at other times. Imagine trying to have a discussion with yourself, then act accordingly. Deal with some suppressed anger or frustration. Understand that excess of any kind could be a problem.

**PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)** Be aware of your finances. Could there be a liability somewhere, or are you more prone to fraud or error than you realize? Your mind is working overtime. You have the power to carry out a goal or desire. Discover the power of positive thinking.

## » TODAY IN HISTORY

**TODAY IS SATURDAY, APRIL 14,** the 104th day of 2018. There are 261 days left in the year.

**TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY:**  
On April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth during a performance of "Our American

Cousin" at Ford's Theater in Washington.

**ON THIS DATE:**  
In 1828, the first edition of Noah Webster's "American Dictionary of the English Language" was published.

In 1935, the "Black Sunday" dust storm descended upon the central Plains, turning a sunny afternoon into total

darkness.

In 1939, the John Steinbeck novel "The Grapes of Wrath" was first published by Viking Press.

In 1949, the "Wilhelmstrasse Trial" in Nuremberg ended with 19 former Nazi Foreign Office officials sentenced by an American tribunal to prison terms ranging from four to 25 years.

In 1956, Ampex Corp.

demonstrated the first practical videotape recorder at the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters Convention in Chicago.

In 1981, the first test flight of America's first operational space shuttle, the Columbia, ended successfully with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

**WORD SCRIMMAGE™**  
BY JUDD HAMBRICK © 2018 UFS / Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

1<sup>st</sup> DOWN  
M<sub>6</sub> N<sub>2</sub> S<sub>2</sub> P<sub>6</sub> P<sub>6</sub> O<sub>2</sub> O<sub>2</sub>

2<sup>nd</sup> Letter + 7 PTS  
H<sub>7</sub> A<sub>2</sub> R<sub>2</sub> C<sub>6</sub> D<sub>3</sub> A<sub>2</sub> E<sub>1</sub>

3<sup>rd</sup> DOWN + 30 PTS  
D<sub>3</sub> P<sub>6</sub> K<sub>2</sub> N<sub>2</sub> U<sub>3</sub> R<sub>2</sub> F<sub>7</sub>

4<sup>th</sup> DOWN  
R<sub>2</sub> O<sub>2</sub> B<sub>6</sub> I<sub>2</sub> E<sub>1</sub> C<sub>6</sub> M<sub>6</sub>

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN JUDD'S TOTAL = 315 AVERAGE GAME 200-210 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.  
4-14-18 JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

**Sudoku** ★★★★★ 4puz.com

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

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

**WORD SCRIMMAGE™ SOLUTION BY JUDD HAMBRICK**  
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1<sup>st</sup> DOWN = 143  
W<sub>7</sub> I<sub>2</sub> N<sub>2</sub> T<sub>2</sub> E<sub>1</sub> R<sub>2</sub> Y<sub>7</sub>

2<sup>nd</sup> DOWN = 51  
H<sub>7</sub> A<sub>2</sub> T<sub>2</sub> P<sub>6</sub> I<sub>2</sub> N<sub>2</sub>

3<sup>rd</sup> DOWN = 123  
E<sub>1</sub> L<sub>2</sub> A<sub>2</sub> S<sub>2</sub> T<sub>2</sub> I<sub>2</sub> N<sub>2</sub>

4<sup>th</sup> DOWN = 43  
F<sub>7</sub> L<sub>2</sub> U<sub>3</sub> R<sub>2</sub> R<sub>2</sub> Y<sub>7</sub>

AVERAGE GAME 230-240 PTS JUDD'S TOTAL = 360  
4-13-18

**YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION**

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

**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.

## » CRYPTOQUOTE

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-14 CRYPTOQUOTE

PRNQ MORYQYK RYQ RK MRA  
RK PXQ PRNQ LRDQYK —  
PJK RV UNA UMKQYGRPJUV  
RVA R GQYZ PYEQ UVQ.

— YJSXRYA KXQYJARV  
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: YOUR USE OF YOUR LEISURE TODAY TELLS ME JUST WHAT YOUR TOMORROW WILL BE.  
— ROBERT H. JACKSON

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# Friends of faux: Designers embrace fake flowers

By Jura Koncius  
The Washington Post

When then-first lady Michelle Obama wanted hibiscus garlands for a Korean state dinner, the fresh blossoms proved too fragile to string together. So artist Livia Cetti was tapped to create gorgeous garlands of paper blooms to adorn the White House. No longer the pariahs of decor, fake flowers are showing up at some of the best addresses.

“There is a place for faux flowers today,” says Whitney Robinson, editor in chief of Elle Decor. “They are essentially copies of what you would buy fresh.”

Although beautiful arrangements such as the bowl of 400 fresh lavender roses at a Zurich restaurant star in his Instagram feed (@whowhatwhit), Robinson recognizes that “not everyone has the time or budget to be able to buy fresh consistently. We are entering a new era in faux flowers as well,



Handmade paper anemones by Livia Cetti of the Green Vase (\$38 per stem, shop.thegreenvase.com). [KATE MATHIS]

toward a new generation of paper flowers that takes the artistry to the next level.”

In the past few years, consumers have embraced artificial flowers, unapologetically welcoming the silk, polyester or poly-blend version of succulents, orchid plants and hydrangea bouquets into their homes. Although they might have once carried a stigma, perhaps harking back to a dusty arrangement

on a grandmother’s coffee table, the tide has turned, thanks to modern materials and more sophisticated designs.

Decorators and design bloggers feature faux flowers in their projects and on social media.

Retailers are selling individual faux blooms as well as prearranged mixed bouquets and planters. On Etsy, roses and poppies spring forth in polyester and in tissue paper.

Monica Bhargava, Pottery Barn’s executive vice president of design, often mixes real blooms, such as fragrant roses, along with faux on her office desk in San Francisco. Pottery Barn has created flower shops for its faux line and created videos about how to design with them. “All of us are living crazy lives,” she says. “It’s nice to come home to things like these faux botanicals, which are effortless and fun.”

# The tools every new homeowner should own

By Daniel Bortz  
The Washington Post

Ah, the joys — and burdens — of becoming a homeowner.

Buying a home is an exciting milestone, but afterward you’re responsible for maintenance. You no longer have a landlord to fix that running toilet or leaky faucet.

The upside? Having a few essentials in your toolbox can help you make some common repairs yourself. Being your own jack-of-all-trades can also help you save money, as repair people typically charge \$60 to \$65 an hour, according to HomeAdvisor.

But you don’t want to cheap out on tools, home improvement expert Bob Vila says.

“It’s best to avoid the bargain bin at the big-box stores in favor of a good hardware store that can point you to the better brands,” Vila says.

Bruce Irving, a renovation consultant and real estate agent in Cambridge, Massachusetts, agrees, citing the maxim: “There’s nothing more expensive than a cheap tool.”

Here are tools every new homeowner should own.

## Claw hammer

You probably already own one of these. One side of the hammerhead is flat and used for pounding, while the other has a V-shaped notch that can extract nails from surfaces such as wood without damaging the nails or the surface. You want a claw hammer made from materials that can resist harsh weather and reduce the vibrations traveling from the hammer to your arm.

Vila recommends Estwing’s 16-ounce Straight-Claw Hammer With Shock Reduction Grip (\$20.97 at Home Depot).

## Manual screwdriver set

A manual screwdriver is one of the most frequently used tools in any household — good for assembling furniture, removing light switch covers and tightening cabinet knobs, among other tasks.

But there are a variety of screw heads and sizes, so buy a package with multiple blade tips and sizes.

## Cordless drill

A cordless drill will be the “most-used tool in your tool kit,” says Brian Kelsey, a contractor and host of the online video series “Kelsey on the House.” Whether

you’re driving bolts into wall studs to mount a flat-screen TV, tightening hinges or cutting out holes for doorknobs, using a battery-powered drill means you don’t have to worry about finding an outlet or snaking a cord into hard-to-reach spaces.

## Level

Don’t want to hang your artwork, mirrors or shelves at an angle? Use a laser level to make sure everything is straight. For those on a budget, home improvement and design website the Spruce recommends the MICMI A80 (\$10.49 on amazon.com). If you’re willing to splurge, go for the Hammerhead Compact Self-Leveling Cross Line Laser With Clamp (\$49.99 on amazon.com), which can produce a bright horizontal, vertical or cross line (helping you hang objects at evenly spaced intervals) on any surface up to 30 feet away.

## Needle-nose pliers and tongue-and-groove pliers

Irving recommends having both needle-nose pliers and tongue-and-groove pliers. You can use the needle-nose pliers to bend and grip nails and wires where bulkier tools or fingers can’t reach; the tongue-and-groove pliers are useful for tasks that involve fastening and crimping.

## Allen wrench set

A hex key, also known as an Allen wrench, is a small, L-shaped wrench used to drive bolts and screws with hexagonal sockets. A favorite among furniture manufacturers, an Allen wrench is often included in build-it-yourself furniture, but it can also be used for basic plumbing repairs such as unjamming a garbage disposal, Vila says.

## Putty knife

Whether you’re filling cracks, scraping away dry paint or applying caulk, Irving recommends using a putty or spackle knife with a stiff, metal two-inch blade.

## Staple gun

Great for common stapling needs such as retacking carpet, securing fabric and installing sheets of insulation, a staple gun is the perfect tool for quick fastening jobs. Manual staple guns are the tool of choice for most homeowners because they’re generally easier to use and less expensive than electric and pneumatic staple guns.

## DEAR MONTY

### The impact of the new tax bill on real estate



Richard Montgomery

**Reader question:** We now have the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. We are considering changing homes. What has changed regarding homeownership as a result of the new tax bill that may affect our move?

**Monty’s answer:** Your answer is not a one-size-fits-all answer.

According to Forbes Magazine, “How exactly the tax overhaul will affect you and your housing options will depend on where you live, how much you spent (or can spend) on your home and how much the bill decreases (or increases) your overall tax burden.”

The National Association of Realtors (NAR) says, “The new law provides generally lower tax rates for all individual tax filers. While

this does not mean that every American will pay lower taxes under these changes, many will.”

### The impact on housing

- Mortgage interest remains an itemized deduction up to \$750,000. In the old law, the cap was \$1 million. An existing mortgage grandfathered the \$1 million cap.

If you have a current loan above the cap and you move, you may want to keep your new loan under the \$750,000 maximum.

- The interest deduction for home equity loans has been repealed, including existing home equity loans, unless the proceeds were used to make improvements to your home.

Interest on second homes remains deductible up to the

\$750,000 cap.

- The new law caps the itemized deduction for state and local property taxes and incomes and sales taxes at \$10,000 for married couples and single homeowners alike. The standard deduction increases to \$12,000 for single taxpayers and \$24,000 for married taxpayers filing a joint return.

At the same time the personal exemption of \$4,150 for the taxpayer, and his or her spouse, plus each dependent was repealed.

- The bill eliminates moving expense deductions that qualified in the past except for members of the military.

- The like-kind 1031 exchange has been retained for real property, but repealed for personal property, such as art, heavy equipment, or other none real estate assets.

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<p><b>RELAXING POND VIEWS!</b> 2/2, den, formal rooms + FR open to the kitchen, screened entry + lanai. Interior paint will make it look new again, ROOF &amp; AC UPDATED! \$155,000 G4853210</p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b> <b>HERITAGE HILLS</b> Move in ready! 4 bedrooms, 3 bath w/ 3CG, cul-de-sac location, Kitchen open to living room. Oversized screened lanai. 314,900 G4849618</p>	<p><b>GOLF COURSE &amp; SAWGRASS LAKE VIEWS!</b> 3/2.5, formal rms, family room open to kitchen, storage galore, double owner suites! Double garage, EXTRA LONG DRIVEWAY! \$250,000 G4854709</p>	<p><b>BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME!!!</b> Can't find that perfect home in Royal Highlands Premium 55+ Community...here is your chance to build it to your specifications! \$26,000 G4848635</p>
<p><b>AMAZING VIEWS!</b> Shows like a model! Perfect for entertaining, Formal rooms plus FR open to kitchen, Double Owner suites, Den &amp; 2.5 baths. Extended garage. LARGE SCREENED LANAI! \$249,000 G4844431</p>	<p><b>ON LAKE LESSMAN!</b> Formal rooms plus FR open to kitchen &amp; breakfast nook, snack bar, den, double owner suites, large screened lanai. ACTIVITY CENTER AND POOL NEARBY! \$249,800 G4844801</p>	<p><b>ENJOY THIS FANTASTIC VIEW!</b> 2/2.5 &amp; den, formal rms + FR open to Kitchen, double owner suites, Screened entry &amp; lanai. Quiet cul-de-sac location! EXTENDED GARAGE! \$179,900 G4828916</p>	<p><b>LAWN MAINTAINED!</b> 2/2 &amp; den, double garage, formal rms + FR open to updated kitchen. Updates too numerous to list. Screened front &amp; lanai. NEIGHBORHOOD POOL! \$205,400 G4851240</p>

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