



SPORTS B1

LSSC'S GRAY IS NAMED A VOLLEYBALL ALL-AMERICAN



SCENE | C1

ON TAP THIS WEEKEND: HOLIDAY CHEER AROUND

DAILY COMMERCIAL

Thursday, December 6, 2018

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR LAKE & SUMTER COUNTIES

@dailycommercial

Facebook.com/daily.commercial

75¢

Final salute



The flag-draped casket of former President George H.W. Bush is carried by a military honor guard past former President George W. Bush and wife Laura Bush, President Donald Trump, first lady Melania Trump, former President Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, former President Bill Clinton, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and former President Jimmy Carter during a State Funeral at the National Cathedral Wednesday in Washington. [CAROLYN KASTER/AP]

Nation bids goodbye to President George H. W. Bush with high praise, cannons, humor

By Calvin Woodward, Laurie Kellman and Ashraf Khalil
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation bid goodbye to George H.W. Bush with high praise, cannon salutes and gentle humor Wednesday, celebrating the life of the Texan who embraced a lifetime of service in

Washington and was the last president to fight for the U.S. in wartime. Three former presidents looked on at Washington National Cathedral as a fourth — George W. Bush — eulogized his dad as “the brightest of a thousand points of light.”

After three days of remembrance in the capital city, the Air Force plane with Bush’s casket left for a

final service in Houston and burial Thursday at his family plot on the presidential library grounds at Texas A&M University in College Station. His final resting place is alongside Barbara Bush, his wife of 73 years, and Robin Bush, the daughter who died of leukemia at age 3.

See BUSH, A8

Homeland Security breaks up sizable meth ring

By Austin L. Miller
GateHouse Media

LEESBURG — Authorities broke up a drug ring suspected of smuggling large quantities of methamphetamine after Department of Homeland Security agents intercepted a package of meth that had been mailed to a home on Grove Street in Leesburg.

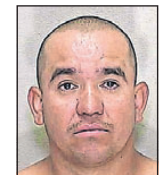
James Adelbert Walker II, 43, of Leesburg, and Ansonito “Tigre” Torres-Ibarra and Mario “Mayo” Perez-Ramos, both 33, were booked into the Marion County Jail without bond. Torres-Ibarra and Perez-Ramos were both listed as undocumented immigrants.



Walker



Torres-Ibarra



Perez-Ramos

According to task force agent Pablo Rivera of the Lake County Sheriff’s Office, the investigation began last month when a package that arrived in the mail through Orlando was checked by Homeland Security Investigations. A K-9 detected illegal drugs. A federal search warrant was obtained and Homeland Security officials found four kilograms of methamphetamine in the package.

See BUST, A6

Mueller: no prison for cooperative Michael Flynn

National Security Adviser Michael Flynn arrives for a White House senior staff swearing in ceremony Jan. 22, 2017, at the White House. Flynn has provided so much information to the special counsel’s Russia investigation that prosecutors say he shouldn’t do any prison time, according to a court filing on Tuesday. [AP PHOTO/ANDREW HARNIK, FILE]



By Chad Day and Eric Tucker
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump’s former national security adviser provided so much information to the special counsel’s Russia investigation that prosecutors say he shouldn’t do any prison time, according to a court filing Tuesday that describes Michael Flynn’s cooperation as “substantial.”

The filing by special counsel Robert Mueller provides the first details of Flynn’s assistance in the Russia investigation, including that he

participated in 19 interviews with prosecutors and cooperated extensively in a separate and undisclosed criminal probe. But the filing’s lengthy redactions also underscore how much Mueller has yet to reveal.

It was filed two weeks ahead of Flynn’s sentencing and just over a year after he became one of five Trump associates to plead guilty in the Russia probe, in his case admitting to lying to the FBI about conversations with the Russian ambassador to the U.S.

See FLYNN, A6



LOCAL | A3

CHARITY NECKLACE MAKES ROUNDS BEFORE AUCTION

Volume 142, Issue 340
©2018 GateHouse Media
Home delivery: 352-787-0600

Local & State A3
Opinion A9
Sports B1

Scene C1
Comics C4
Diversions C5

TODAY
Sunny; cool
66° / 47°

FRIDAY
Partly sunny
72° / 56°

SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy
76° / 64°



Holiday “BLOW OUT” Sale

SPA KINGDOM
Serving Central Florida Since 1999.



Best In Hot Tub Technology, Therapy And Relaxation

3050 US-441, Fruitland Park, FL 34731
352-616-7474 LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

NATION & WORLD

Senators blame Saudi crown prince

By Mary Clarke Jalonick and Lisa Mascaro
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Breaking with President Donald Trump, senators leaving a briefing with CIA Director Gina Haspel on Tuesday said they are even more convinced that Saudi crown prince Mohammed bin Salman was involved in the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker, R-Tenn., said he believes if the crown prince were put on trial, a jury would find him guilty in “about 30 minutes.”

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who demanded the briefing with Haspel, said there is “zero chance” the crown prince wasn’t involved in Khashoggi’s death.

“There’s not a smoking gun. There’s a smoking saw,” Graham said, referring to reports from the Turkish government that said Saudi agents used a bone saw to dismember Khashoggi after he was killed in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. Graham said “you have to be willfully blind” not to conclude that this was orchestrated and organized by people under the crown prince’s command.

Trump has equivocated over who is to blame for the killing, frustrating senators who are now looking for ways to punish the longtime Middle East ally. The Senate overwhelmingly voted last week to move forward on a resolution curtailing U.S. backing for the Saudi-led war in Yemen.

It’s unclear whether or how that resolution will move forward. The vote last week allowed the Senate to debate the measure, which could happen as soon as next week, but senators are still in negotiations on whether to amend it and what it should say.

Haspel met with a small group of senators, including leadership and the chairmen and top Democrats on the key national security committees, after senators in both parties complained that she didn’t attend an all-Senate briefing with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis last week.

LOTTERY

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Mega Millions:

28-31-41-42-50-4-x3

Lucky Money: 1-21-23-28-7

Fantasy 5: 5-12-24-27-29

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Pick 5

Afternoon: 8-2-1-2-9

Pick 4

Afternoon: 2-6-1-7

Pick 3

Afternoon: 7-1-5

Pick 2

Afternoon: 6-5

Tough tariff talk

Trump’s push for tariffs squeezes a weakening global economy

By Josh Boak
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — The global economy was already showing signs of a slowdown when President Donald Trump reminded the world of his love of tariffs and sent a chill through financial markets.

“I am a Tariff Man,” Trump announced Tuesday to signal his devotion to import taxes — a remark that served to downplay the likelihood of ending his trade war with China. Stocks sank across the world, in part over fear that an escalation in tariffs would choke off economic growth and possibly send a global slowdown into a recession.

By Wednesday, Tariff Man had tweaked his message to suggest more optimism on the odds of forging a deal with President Xi Jinping. Their meeting last weekend at an economic conference in Argentina produced a 90-day truce, a suspension of further increases in U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods and a pledge by Beijing to buy more U.S. goods.

“Not to sound naive or anything, but I believe President Xi meant every word of what he said at our long and hopefully historic meeting,” Trump tweeted. “ALL subjects discussed!”

Still, Trump’s rattling of the global economy came at a precarious moment, with the economic outlook for 2019



President Donald Trump, second from right, meets with China’s President Xi Jinping, second from left, during their bilateral meeting at the G20 Summit, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. China promised Wednesday to carry out a tariff cease-fire with Washington but gave no details that might help dispel confusion about what Presidents Xi and Trump agreed to in Argentina. [PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP PHOTO]

dimming and concerns about a potential recession — if not next year then soon thereafter — rising.

The economic stimulus from U.S. tax cuts is beginning to fade. Britain is struggling to leave the European Union. Italy’s debt is widening. China is trying to navigate a slowdown after decades of unsustainably fast growth. Germany, Europe’s largest economy, shrank in its most recent quarter.

Global growth was already slated to slip to 3.5 percent next year from 3.7 percent even without accounting for the risks of escalating U.S. tariffs and China’s counter-tariffs,

according to estimates by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an intergovernmental think tank of 36 nations.

Now, businesses, consumers and nations must account for the chaotic confusion injected by Trump’s evolving and conflicting messages about his administration’s trade relationship with Beijing, said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics.

Shepherdson worries that the president’s fondness for tariffs might itself be enough to further suppress growth.

“The uncertainty caused by the whipsawing of his trade

stance means that business investment will be delayed or canceled, marginal hiring decisions will be postponed and potential overseas business partners will look elsewhere,” Shepherdson said.

Trump imposed tariffs of 10 percent on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods in September. Those tariffs were set to rise to 25 percent on Jan. 1. The president had also threatened to impose tariffs on essentially all the remaining goods from China that aren’t already subject to his higher tariffs. The Trump-Xi dinner negotiations, though, led the two sides to hit pause and agree to 90 days of negotiations.

Climate reality check: Global carbon pollution up in 2018

By Seth Borenstein
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — After several years of little growth, global emissions of heat-trapping carbon dioxide experienced their largest jump in seven years, discouraging scientists.

World carbon dioxide emissions are estimated to have risen 2.7 percent from 2017 to 2018, according to three studies released Wednesday from the Global Carbon Project, an international scientific collaboration of academics, governments and industry that tracks greenhouse gas emissions. The calculations, announced during negotiations to put the 2015 Paris climate accord into effect, puts some of the landmark agreement’s goals nearly out of reach, scientists said.

“This is terrible news,” said Andrew Jones, co-director of Climate Interactive, which models greenhouse gas emissions and temperatures but was not part of the research. “Every year that we delay serious climate action, the Paris goals become more



Plumes of smoke rise from Europe’s largest lignite power plant in Belchatow, central Poland. After several years of little growth, global emissions of heat-trapping carbon dioxide surged in 2018 with the largest jump in seven years, discouraged scientists announced Wednesday. [CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/AP PHOTO]

difficult to meet.”

The studies concluded that this year the world would spew 40.9 billion tons of carbon dioxide, up from 39.8 billion tons last year. The margin of error is about one percentage point on either side.

The Global Carbon Project uses government and industry reports to come up with final emission figures

for 2017 and projections for 2018 based on the four biggest polluters: China, the United States, India and the European Union.

The U.S., which had been steadily decreasing its carbon pollution, showed a significant rise in emissions — up 2.5 percent — for the first time since 2013. China, the globe’s biggest carbon emitter, saw its

largest increase since 2011: 4.6 percent.

Study lead author Corinne Le Quere, a climate change researcher at the University of East Anglia in England, said the increase is a surprising “reality check” after a few years of smaller emission increases.

But she also doesn’t think the world will return to the even larger increases seen from 2003 to 2008. She believes unusual factors are at play this year.

For the U.S., it was a combination of a hot summer and cold winter that required more electricity use for heating and cooling. For China, it was an economic stimulus that pushed coal-powered manufacturing, Le Quere said.

John Reilly, co-director of MIT’s Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change, said the results aren’t too surprising because fossil fuels still account for 81 percent of the world’s energy use. The burning of coal, oil and gas release carbon dioxide, which warms the Earth. Reilly, who wasn’t part of the study, praised it as impressive.

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE FOR LAKE AND SUMTER COUNTIES

DAILY COMMERCIAL

PUBLISHER: Steve Skaggs
steve.skaggs@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8213
EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Tom McNiff
tom.mcniff@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8250
DIGITAL EDITOR, LIFESTYLES EDITOR: Whitney Lehnecker
whitney.lehnecker@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8258
SPORTS EDITOR: Paul Jenkins
paul.jenkins@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8204
SPORTS WRITER: Frank Jolley
frank.jolley@dailycommet.com 352-365-8268
REPORTER: Frank Stanfield
frankstanfield@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8257
REPORTER: Roxanne Brown
roxanne.brown@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8266
REPORTER: Payne Ray
pray@dailycommercial.com 352-365-8262
Retail Advertising 352-314-3278
Classified Advertising 352-314-3278
Lake Circulation 352-787-0600
Sumter Circulation 877-702-0600
Billing 352-787-0600
Accounting 352-365-8212

The Daily Commercial (ISSN 0896-1042) is published daily for \$178.47 per year (plus Florida sales tax) by GateHouse Media at 212 East Main Street, Leesburg, Florida. Periodicals postage is paid at the USPO, Leesburg, FL. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to the Daily Commercial, P.O. Box 490007, Leesburg, FL 34749-0007. All material contained in this edition is property of the Daily Commercial and is protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America. Reproduction is forbidden without written consent from the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Home delivery (Daily/Sunday)
3 months: 41.70Tax: 2.92 Total: 44.62
6 months: 88.40Tax: 5.84 Total: 94.24
1 year: 166.80Tax: 11.68 Total: 178.47

FOR HOME DELIVERY: Call 352-787-0600 (Lake) or 877-702-0600 (Sumter) between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Prepayments for 3 months or more, mail to: Circulation Dept., The Daily Commercial, P.O. Box 490007, Leesburg, FL 34749-0007. Billed monthly at the rates shown.

Print delivery available within the newspaper distribution area only. By submitting your address and/or email, you understand that you may receive promotional offers from GateHouse Media and its related companies. You may unsubscribe from receiving any such offers at any time by calling 352-787-0600 or emailing us at subscriptions@dailycommercial.com. The advertised price does not include the charges for any premium editions. Premium editions are published to provide additional information and value to our readers. You agree that you will be charged up to an additional \$7 for each premium edition published and delivered to you during your subscription period, in addition to the cost of your subscription. The length of your subscription will be shortened

by the publication of premium editions if those premium editions are delivered to you during your subscription. You may elect to be billed separately for premium editions by contacting Customer Service at 1-352-787-0600 or email us at subscriptions@dailycommercial.com. Thus, unless you elect to be billed separately up to an additional \$7 for each premium edition, you agree that the length of your subscription will be shortened in proportion to the value of the number of premium editions published and delivered to you during your subscription period. As an illustrative example, if you select a subscription of up to 12 weeks at a cost of \$48.00, and two premium editions at \$2 each are published and delivered to you during that subscription period, your subscription will be shortened by 1 week because the weekly cost of the subscription is \$4 per week and the premium charges total \$4. Depending upon the length of your subscription and the timing of the publication and the delivery of premium editions, you will not be charged for any premium editions if none are published and delivered to you during your subscription. As such, in that case only, the length of your subscription will not be shortened. The timing of the publication and the delivery of the premium edition is variable. There will be no more than 18 premium editions published each calendar year. For more info or to make changes or cancel your subscription, please call Customer Service at 1-352-787-0600 or email us at subscriptions@dailycommercial.com.

MISSED YOUR NEWSPAPER?: Email subscriptions@dailycommercial.com anytime or call 352-787-0600 in Lake County or 877-702-0600 in Sumter County from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday. Call from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday and from 7 to 10 a.m. on Sunday. If you’re going on vacation, call circulation 48 hours ahead to stop service.

OUR COMMITMENT TO ACCURACY: The Daily Commercial promptly corrects errors of fact appearing in its pages. If you believe we have made an error, call the news department at 352-365-8250.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CALENDAR, GAME RESULTS: Email upcoming events, along with news about awards and personal or professional milestones — with a photo, if you desire — to news@dailycommercial.com. Schools or coaches can report game results after 6 p.m. by calling 352-365-8268 or 352-365-8204. Submissions also can be emailed to sports@dailycommercial.com.



LOCAL & STATE

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

NEWS BRIEFS

MIAMI South Florida girl in need of rare blood to fight cancer

A worldwide search is on to find blood donors with a rare genetic variation to help save a 2-year-old South Florida girl battling cancer.

Zainab Mughal has neuroblastoma and needs life-saving transfusions. But finding compatible donors is immensely challenging, because she's missing a common antigen most people carry in their blood, called "Indian B."

Florida-based OneBlood says the donors must have "A" or "O" type blood and be Pakistani, Indian or Iranian; and that even within these ethnic groups, fewer than 4 percent of people have the genetic variation.

Three donors have been found thus far, including a person in England, but Zainab will need more blood than they can provide.

OneBlood is offering to coordinate compatibility testing anywhere in the world.

LEESBURG Boy dies after being struck in turn lane on Dixie Avenue

A 12-year-old boy died Tuesday after a SUV hit him in a center turn lane on West Dixie Avenue, according to Leesburg police.

Authorities said Tyler Khargie was waiting to cross the road in a two-way turn lane near Pasa Del Norte Avenue when Lawrence King, 81, of Leesburg, collided with him in his blue Chevrolet Trailblazer.

Tyler was taken to Leesburg Regional Medical Center, where he died from his injuries.

Captain Joe Iozzi, of the Leesburg Police Department, said there was plenty to contribute to the accident, not least of which was the location.

"Any time someone is not crossing at a crosswalk, it is illegal, but more importantly, it substantially decreases the safety of the pedestrian," he said.

He also said the darkness and rain would have severely cut down visibility.

Iozzi said crash remains under investigation, and anyone with information should call the Leesburg Police Department at 352-728-9860.

MOUNT DORA Police looking to stuff a cruiser with gifts for needy kids

The Mount Dora Police Department wants to make sure underprivileged children receive toys this holiday season.

The department will host its first Christmas in a Cruiser event from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday where community members will be able to stuff a police cruiser with toys.

The vehicle will be in front of Target, 17450 U.S. Highway 441 in Mount Dora, and donations will be accepted until the cruiser is filled to the roof.

"Please come out and help our police department make this a great holiday for as many children as we can," spokeswoman Lisa McDonald wrote in a press release.

CORRECTION

Wednesday's brief about a fatal crash incorrectly named the city and location. The wreck happened at U.S. 301 and County Road 720 south of Bushnell.

Commishs laud county efforts in '18

By Payne Ray
pray@dailyccommercial.com

TAVARES — Lake County commissioners made a state-of-the-county presentation Tuesday, showing a video meant to display the "spirit of service" philosophy they hope to embody.

The video featured commissioners and county officials talking about the highlights of the year.

Commissioner Tim Sullivan spoke about the recovery effort from Hurricane Irma that was ongoing last year.

The county made a strong recovery, he said, allowing them to send the same first responders that saw Lake through its crisis to help Panhandle residents devastated by Hurricane Michael this year.

"These men and women are the heart and soul of our county," Sullivan said in the video. "They exemplify what the county stands for, such as extending a helping hand to a neighbor in need, service to the community,

See SULLIVAN, A4



Chairman Tim Sullivan speaks during the State of the County address at a Lake County Commission meeting on Tuesday. [CINDY SHARP/CORRESPONDENT]

Treasure for charity



Some of the women who are sharing the necklace get together for a photo at Cafe Gianniis Italian Restaurant in Mount Dora on Tuesday. [CINDY SHARP/CORRESPONDENT]

Necklace Bella Diamante makes rounds en route to charity auction

By Roxanne Brown
roxanne.brown@dailyccommercial.com

MOUNT DORA — Everyone who knows Bella Diamante wants her to hang with them.

That's especially true of the 12 Mount Dora women who donated money to a local charity to wear Bella — an 18-inch, 14K, 3.51 total carat weight necklace with a one-carat center diamond orbited by 26 diamonds — for a month each.

"I was the first person to wear the necklace. It was part of my daily routine for a whole month. I had to work it into my outfits and had to figure out if it was appropriate to wear or not wear depending



The necklace, which is worth more than \$20,000, will be raffled off in March. Tickets are on sale now for \$50 each. [CINDY SHARP/CORRESPONDENT]

on the event I was going to or what I had during the course of a day," said Leslie Campione, a long-time Lake County resident and county commissioner.

The idea — officially dubbed the Diamond Endowment — came from a 2008 book written by Cheryl Jarvis called "The Necklace: 13 women, 1

Diamond Necklace and a Fabulous Idea."

The book tells the true story of 13 California women who split the cost of a \$37,000 necklace dubbed "Jewelia" they otherwise could not afford alone. They took turns wearing it for four weeks

See NECKLACE, A4

Putnam stays on sidelines in concealed-weapons dispute

By Jim Turner
News Service Florida

TALLAHASSEE — As he helps his Democratic successor, Nikki Fried, transition into office, Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam is staying out of the fight over the future of the state's concealed-carry permit program.

Putnam, a Republican who lost an August primary to Gov.-elect Ron DeSantis, sidestepped the issue when asked Tuesday about competing proposals aimed at shifting where the concealed-carry program is housed.

"There's a lot of opinions about where they will move it if they move it at all, and I'll let the Legislature sort that all out," Putnam said.

Putnam noted that two members of Fried's transition team are already "embedded" in the office and he's started meeting with Fried to help her with the transition.

Under Putnam, Florida's concealed-carry program in 2012 became the first state in the nation to surpass the 1 million mark. Currently, there are just under 2 million permits in the Sunshine State.

But, while he was running for governor this summer, Putnam drew fire after errors in the background-check process were revealed, and at least 300 permits later

See WEAPONS, A4

State turns over Dozier school land to Jackson County

By Jim Turner
News Service Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Jackson County officials hope to revitalize their community's economy and image through restoration of land that for more than a century housed what became a notorious state reform school.

Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Cabinet on Tuesday approved proposals to transfer state-owned property at the former Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys in Marianna to Jackson County.

Clint Pate, chairman of

the Jackson County Commission, said the county is prepared to move government offices into the site, while working to attract private businesses to the land north of Interstate 10.

"What's happened before, it's kind of given a dark cloud to the county," Pate said. "But we're going to do what we're supposed to and try to create new jobs."

In 2017, the Florida Senate and House passed resolutions formally apologizing for the abuse of juveniles sent to Dozier and a related facility in Okeechobee.

The resolutions acknowledged that treatment of boys sent to the facilities was cruel, unjust and "a violation of human decency." More than 500 former students have alleged brutal beatings, mental abuse and sexual abuse at the Dozier school, which closed in 2011 after 111 years of operation.

Tuesday's action by Scott and the Cabinet — Attorney General Pam Bondi, Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam and Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis — was an outgrowth of a 2017 state law that accompanied

the apologies.

The law required the state to turn over about 360 acres, containing the Dozier site's North Campus, South Campus and Boot Hill Cemetery, to Jackson County. The law required memorializing the cemetery and what was known as the "White House" on the campus.

Scott and the Cabinet also approved the transfer, at no cost, of another 919 acres that the county wants for economic-development efforts.

See DOZIER, A4

EUSTIS ON ICE

NOVEMBER 21 - JANUARY 6
250 FERRAN PARK, EUSTIS

ICE SKATING

PARTY RENTALS ❄️ CORPORATE PARTIES ❄️ GROUP RATES

CONTACT US: 352.483.5491
EUSTIS.ORG/EUSTISONICE

FERRAN PARK

Funeral Services

Charles J. Moran, Jr.



Charles "Chuck" J. Moran, Jr., 71, of Leesburg, FL died on Sunday, December 2, 2018 in Sumterville. Chuck was born November 17, 1947 in Philadelphia, PA to Charles J. and Margaret Mary (O'Connell) Moran. Chuck was a Vietnam Veteran and moved to Central Florida in 1971. He retired as a financial analyst with the Department of Defense. He was a catholic and attended St. Paul's Catholic Church. Chuck enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and family. He is survived by his wife, Rose Moran of Leesburg; sons, Shawn

A. Moran of Leesburg and Joshua Smith of Schaumburg, IL; mother, Margaret M. Moran of Orlando; sister, Colleen E. (Ronald) Abate of Orlando, FL; brother, Michael S. Moran of Orlando, FL; three grandchildren, Jack, Keely and Kelan and other family and friends, whom he dearly loved. A Memorial Mass will be held Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 8:30am at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Leesburg, FL. Inurnment will follow at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Catholic Charities of Central Florida, 1819 N. Semoran Blvd, Orlando, FL 32807 or to Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, Attn: Contributions, One Intrepid Square, W. 46th Street & 12th Avenue, New York, NY 10036. Online condolences may be left at www.beyersfuneralhome.com Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Leesburg, FL

BEYERS FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY
Locally Owned and Operated since 1920

Spencena I. Ramey

Spencena I. Ramey, 72 was born August 27, 1946 in Leesburg, Florida. She transitioned from labor to reward on December 3, 2018. The Leeks/Ramey family will receive friends, 5:00 - 7:00P.M., Friday, December 7, 2018 at Antioch Full Gospel Church, 1020 East Main Street, Leesburg, FL., Rev. Tommie Jordan, Pastor. A Celebration of life will convene 11:00AM., Saturday, December 8, 2018, at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 1012 E. Line Street, Leesburg,

Florida, Rev. Dr. Tony C. Person, Pastor; Rev. Tommie Jordan, Officiating. Professional services entrusted to Rocker-Cusack Mortuary, Leesburg, FL (352)435-9326. On-line condolences may be placed at www.rockercusackmortuary.com



Rocker-Cusack Mortuary



USA Gymnastics has filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition on Wednesday as it attempts to reach settlements in the dozens of sex-abuse lawsuits it faces and to forestall its potential demise at the hands of the U.S. Olympic Committee. [AP PHOTO]

USA Gymnastics files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

By Will Graves
The Associated Press

USA Gymnastics is turning to bankruptcy in an effort to ensure its survival.

The embattled organization filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition on Wednesday as it attempts to reach settlements in the dozens of sex-abuse lawsuits it faces and to forestall its potential demise at the hands of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

USA Gymnastics filed the petition in Indianapolis, where it is based. It faces 100 lawsuits representing 350 athletes in various courts across the country who blame the group for failing to supervise Larry Nassar, a team doctor accused of molesting them.

Kathryn Carson, who was recently elected chairwoman of the board of directors, said the organization is turning to bankruptcy to speed things up after mediation attempts failed to gain traction.

"Those discussions were not moving at any pace," Carson said. "We as a board felt this was a critical imperative and decided to take this action."

The filing does not affect the amount of money available to victims, which would come from previously purchased insurance coverage, she said. Carson said the insurance companies "are aware we're taking this action and our expectation is they will come to the table and pay on our coverage."

Carson added: "This is not a liquidation. This is a reorganization."

One that USA Gymnastics hopes will buy it enough time to fend off the USOC's intent to decertify it.

The USOC on Nov. 5 took steps to remove USAG as the sport's governing body at the Olympic level — a step that's taken only under the most extreme circumstances. In an open letter to the gymnastics community, USOC CEO Sarah Hirshland said "you deserve better," and that the challenges facing USA Gymnastics were more than it was capable of overcoming as currently constructed.

Carson said the legal maneuvering Wednesday delays the USOC's efforts to strip its designation as a national governing body.

SULLIVAN

From Page A3

stewardship, volunteerism, perseverance."

He spoke of public safety improvements made in 2018, largely through the integration of Lake EMS into the county and the approval of funds to replace public safety radio equipment.

Another major talking point was the county's investment in tourism, with new Director Brandon Matulka, and the projects taken on this year, such as improvements at the Hickory Point Athletic Complex.

Commissioners broke ground on that project in August.

Along with a showcase of the county's completed and ongoing projects, the video teased an optimistic outlook for 2019.

County Manager Jeff Cole said 2019 would be just as big for the county.

"Economic development is a high priority," Cole said after the meeting. County staff are focused on building an economy that supports a strong, well-paying workforce.

Cole said that also means using tax dollars appropriately and investing properly in infrastructure.

Infrastructure has already gotten a lot of attention in 2018, as commissioners and county staff continue to work out the details of

transportation impact fees.

A new district was created this year in a Nov. 6 ordinance, and 2019 will mark the start of a schedule increasing fees from February to August.

The higher fees are meant to bring in money to pay for road maintenance and expansion.

The county's presentation also made mention of some 2018 projects that are projected to be finished in 2019, including the Lake County Animal Shelter.

January will mark one year since the shelter earned its no-kill designation, and the county will break ground on a new facility on Jan. 14.

The multi-million dollar shelter is projected to be completed next year,

according to Commission Chair Leslie Campione.

Campione said the new facility was one of the things she was most excited for in 2019, and that she was happy to have "a county commission and staff who are committed to our no-kill mission."

Both the video presentation and Campione made mention of the area volunteers that helped bring the shelter to its current state.

To bring the video, and the state of the county address, to a close, Cole said the primary driver of success in 2018 was service to the taxpayer.

"We all try to remember all the time that the taxpayers, the public, are our number one customers that we have to focus on," Cole said.

NECKLACE

From Page A3

at a time before handing it off at a get-together to tell of the necklace's adventures each month.

Lake Cares Chairwoman Cathy Hoechst read the book earlier this year and thought the idea was not only fun but a great way to raise money for the food pantry.

The only difference is that Lake Cares will raffle it off after each of the 12 ladies has her turn wearing Bella.

Raffle tickets are being sold for \$50, and at the organization's 10th Anniversary Fund Raising Gala on March 30, 2019, one lucky winner will get to take her home for good.

The odds of winning are not bad, considering that only 1,000 tickets will be sold.

Second prize will be \$5,000 and third prize will be \$2,500. Jarvis will attend the gala.

The charitable aspect aside, the women who share Bella have become friends.

Each month, in fact, they pick a restaurant in town to meet at for drinks and dinner and to share stories about where Bella has been,



Melissa DeMarco passes on the necklace to Lynne Winker for her turn to wear it for the month of December. [CINDY SHARP/CORRESPONDENT]

who they've met and who has noticed her.

On Tuesday night at Gianni's Italian Restaurant in Mount Dora, Melissa DeMarco, who wore the necklace through November, passed it to Lynn Winker.

"I hope you have as much fun with it as I did, because I had a blast," said DeMarco. "I was fortunate to wear the necklace for the month of November because there are a lot of activities going on in town during that time."

"It was great to go around wearing it to Light-Up Mount Dora, the Christmas walk, the Art of the Deal and I will tell you, people spot you

from across the room when you're wearing the necklace," she said.

Winker said she has a couple of chamber galas coming up she'll definitely be wearing it to in order to give Lake Cares some exposure.

"I'm looking forward to wearing it every single day of December," Winker said.

Campione said she misses the necklace but still looks forward to their monthly get-togethers when the "transfers" take place.

"Each time we get together, we know each other a little bit more, and I feel I have some really good friends here,"

Campione said.

Besides the carefree nature of the whole project, Lake Cares' Executive Director Irene O'Malley said the necklace fundraiser will provide significant help to the pantry that last year distributed 688,000 pounds of food and other essentials to 36,000 people in Mount Dora and throughout Lake County.

O'Malley said the money will be used to expand their mobile distribution sites to serve more people and to purchase fresh food items like milk, cheese, produce, eggs, fruit and meat to complement non-perishables that come in. They also buy toiletries, laundry supplies, essential dry goods and dog and cat food as needed.

"This is an amazing fundraiser. It's completely different than anything we've ever done," O'Malley said. "It's also kind of special because it's brought these 12 women together who have never really known each other, and the bond is the necklace and the bond is helping our food pantry because each of these ladies knows what we are accomplishing there."

Tickets can be purchased from the ladies, at Lake Cares or online at lakecares.org.

WEAPONS

From Page A3

were revoked. The errors occurred when a Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services employee failed to review background checks and perform the requisite follow-up with applicants flagged as potentially ineligible.

Last week, Sen. Lauren Book, D-Plantation, filed a bill (SB 108) that would move the permitting process to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Senate President Bill Galvano, a Republican from Bradenton, has said he will review the legislation and refer it to the appropriate committee. A companion measure has yet to be introduced in the House.

Meanwhile, the National Rifle Association's Florida



Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam sidestepped the issue when asked Tuesday about competing proposals aimed at shifting where the concealed-carry program is housed. [PIERRE DUCHARME/GATEHOUSE MEDIA]

lobbyist Marion Hammer — a former president of the national gun-rights group — has made it known that her preference is to move the concealed-weapons permitting program to a different Cabinet office. She wants the program to be the purview of Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis, a Panama City

Republican.

Fried, who said she has a concealed-carry permit, made the agriculture department's control of the program an issue following a series of reports this summer by the Tampa Bay Times and the Associated Press highlighting errors in the background checks.

After tweeting support

last week for the move to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Fried later said she wants her agency to conduct a review of the program, a position she espoused during her campaign earlier this year.

"It is critical to Florida's public safety that we determine where and how failures have occurred, and ensure that permits are only issued under my administration after the completion of background checks — as plainly required under Florida law," Fried said in a statement.

"Looking to the future, we must start the conversation of non-partisan oversight of the permit process to take politics out of public safety," Fried continued. "Law enforcement is not subject to the whims of the political party that happens to be in power and could provide diligent oversight of the program."

DOZIER

From Page A3

Former state Rep. Marti Coley, a Marianna Republican, said Tuesday it is essential to have local control of the land, which stands as a gateway to the Northwest Florida community.

"It's been a difficult thing for the community," Coley said. "To have this back under local control and to look at repurposing that

property to bring jobs to the community is very, very crucial."

In October, Scott awarded Jackson County \$5.8 million from the state's Job Growth Grant Fund to redevelop the Dozier campus into a regional distribution and manufacturing center. The state money also will be used for a center that will provide vocational and academic education for young people with autism.

"There are a whole lot of possibilities there, when you start bringing in companies," Pate said. "There

will be restaurants and filling stations."

Also, Tuesday, Scott and the Cabinet agreed to spend \$6.4 million to purchase what is known as a "conservation easement" on nearly 20,000 acres of timber land near the Suwannee River and Gulf of Mexico in Dixie County.

Under a conservation easement, the land would be protected from development, but the owner, Lyme Cross City Forest Company, LLC, would be able to continue timber operations.

In making the deal, the state is banking on a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund. The foundation received \$2.544 billion in 2013 as part of federal plea agreements with BP and Transocean stemming from the Deepwater Horizon explosion and spill.

The grant is expected to cover all but \$1 million of the state's cost of the Dixie County deal, according to information provided to the Cabinet.

Florida Hospital will soon be AdventHealth.



Same doctors you know. Same care you love. Our network of care across the country and more than 1,000 care locations is coming together under one unified name. We're here to care for your whole health. Visit AdventHealth.com to learn more.



Residents head back into California town leveled by wildfire

By Don Thompson
The Associated Press

PARADISE, Calif. — Some residents of a Northern California town devastated by a catastrophic wildfire nearly a month ago were finally allowed to return home Wednesday to sift through the charred remains in search of precious family heirlooms, photos and other possessions that may have survived.

A long line of cars waited in a cold drizzle at a checkpoint on their way to neighborhoods on

the east side of Paradise, where evacuation orders have been lifted.

Beyond the checkpoint, crews in yellow slickers were still clearing debris from burned homes and removing trees from streets littered with melted plastic trash cans and hollowed vehicles sitting on tireless rims.

Before heading to their home, Joyce McLean, 73, and her husband, Jerry McLean, stopped at a store to buy paper towels and plastic bags.

“We didn’t own expensive things, but we had a

lot of memory things,” she said, recalling Christmas ornaments made by her son when he was a child and mementos from her Canadian husband’s great-grandmother. “If I can find a little piece of his family or just a little piece of my son, I would be happy.”

Access to the neighborhoods was limited to residents on Wednesday, but they will be open to anyone on Thursday.

More than 50,000 people in Paradise and two neighboring communities were forced to flee the wind-driven fire that started

Nov. 8, killing at least 85 people, destroying about 14,000 homes and blackening 240 square miles.

Authorities said 11 people were still unaccounted for in what was the deadliest U.S. wildfire in at least a century.

McLean said she has seen photos on social media of her destroyed home and knows one of the only things that survived was an American flag flying on a pole.

“We lost everything but the clothes on our backs,” she said about their dash for safety.



Jean Uno searches for heirlooms at her parent’s Magalia, Calif. Uno also lost her home in Paradise during the blaze. [NOAH BERGER/AP PHOTO]

BUST

From Page A1

Federal officials were told that the package was supposed to be delivered to a woman’s home on Grove Street in Leesburg and that Walker had been selling between five and 10 kilograms of meth per week.

Agents arranged for Walker to purchase four kilograms of meth on Dec. 1 at a Sumter County motel. Walker took a backpack from the agents, which contained four kilograms of meth. He gave them \$5,500 in cash. The agents arrested Walker, and a woman with him was detained. Walker alleged the woman did not know anything about

the transaction.

Walker admitted that the mailed package had been meant for him. He told agents he was working for a person who distributes 10 to 15 kilograms of meth per week and that he previously distributed marijuana. Within the past year, he said, he made 64 meth purchases, the largest of which was three kilograms at \$10,000 each.

Walker told the agents he had drugs stored at an address on Grove Street.

Agents obtained a search warrant for the home on Dec. 1. Two juveniles were inside.

The agents were given a key to a locked bedroom. They found a 9mm gun, a pound of loose marijuana, a plastic bag that contained 28 pills, and meth, marijuana and powder cocaine

packaged for sale. They also found scales that had white powder residue on them, a vacuum bag sealer, baggies and drug paraphernalia.

In a locked shed in the backyard, agents found a plastic bag of marijuana, packaged marijuana for sale and numerous rolls of bags for a vacuum sealer.

After Walker’s arrest, federal officials were told that the supply source for the meth was in the Apopka area and the supplier was known as “Mayo,” according to the complaint. Investigators were told that “Mayo” received truckloads of meth.

“Tigre” was also classified as another high-level supplier, who was associated with Mayo, the criminal complaint says.

Federal officials contacted Mario “Mayo”

Perez-Ramos, through a source and negotiated the purchase of two kilograms of meth for \$18,000. The meeting was scheduled for Dec. 2 at a Mount Dora hotel.

Homeland Security officials watched the meeting place as a Dodge Nitro and a Chevrolet Monte Carlo pulled into the hotel parking lot and parked next to each other. Agents moved in and detained Torres-Ibarra and Perez-Ramos. A woman and small child were also present.

Before meeting his supposed buyer, Perez-Ramos said, he told Torres-Ibarra what was inside a beer box — two kilograms of crystal meth — and that he had been paid \$1,000 for the delivery. He said he offered Torres-Ibarra \$500 to help him deliver the drugs and Torres-Ibarra agreed, according to the complaint.

A K-9 searched the vehicles, and agents recovered the drugs from the Monte Carlo in an open Modelo box on the front passenger floorboard. Meth also was found in two handkerchiefs in a white bag, federal officials said.

The two men were arrested and also were taken to jail in Ocala, which is a holding site for federal prisoners.

FLYNN

From Page A1

Though prosecutors withheld specific details of Flynn’s cooperation because of ongoing investigations, their filing nonetheless illustrates the breadth of information Mueller has obtained from people close to Trump as the president increasingly vents his anger at the probe — and those who cooperate with it.

This week, Trump accused his former lawyer, Michael Cohen, of making up “stories” to get a reduced prison sentence after pleading guilty to lying to Congress and also praised longtime confidant Roger Stone for saying he wouldn’t testify against Trump.

It’s unclear if Trump will now turn his fury on Flynn, whom Trump bonded with during the 2016 campaign.

Trump has repeatedly lamented how Flynn’s life has been destroyed by the special counsel’s probe. At one point, he tried to protect Flynn by asking former FBI Director James Comey to drop an investigation into his alleged false statements, according to a memo Comey wrote after the February 2017 encounter.

That episode, which Trump has denied, is being scrutinized by Mueller as he probes whether the president

attempted to obstruct the Russia investigation.

Federal sentencing guidelines recommend between zero and six months in prison, and Mueller’s office said Flynn’s cooperation merits no prison time.

Prosecutors said Flynn’s early cooperation was “particularly valuable” because he was “one of the few people with long-term and firsthand insight” into the events under investigation. They noted his cooperation likely inspired other crucial witnesses to cooperate.

Mueller’s team credited Flynn with serving 33 years in the U.S. Army, including five years in combat. But prosecutors also said the long military and government service that sets him apart from all other defendants in the investigation made his deception more troublesome.

“The defendant’s extensive government service should have made him particularly aware of the harm caused by providing false information to the government, as well as the rules governing work performed on behalf of a foreign government,” they wrote.

Flynn’s case has stood apart from those of other Trump associates, who have aggressively criticized the investigation, sought to undermine it and, in some cases, been accused of lying even after agreeing to cooperate.

COME SEE THE HOTTEST GIFTS OF THE SEASON!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FASHION SHOW

EAT, DRINK, SHOP AND BE NAUGHTY OR NICE

DECEMBER 7, 2018 | 6-9PM
FREE GIFT WRAPPING • BEER WINE • APPETIZERS • RAFFLE
Bring an unwrapped toy to enter the drawing for a gift basket

POWER HOUR SALE 25% OFF
LICENSED PRODUCTS FROM 8-9PM

GATOR

GATOR HARLEY-DAVIDSON
1745 U.S. HWY 441, LEESBURG, FL 34748
352.787.8050

IF-D047949

EVERYTHING
CLICKS
WITH US
DAILY COMMERCIAL
www.dailycommercial.com

CODY'S
Original
ROADHOUSE

HOT STEAKS • COLD BEER
EAT HERE

Holiday Specials

USDA Choice Top Sirloin & Cold Water Lobster Tail

ONLY \$18⁹⁸

Add A Broiled Lobster Tail To Any Dinner - \$9⁹⁸

Have A "Just Enough" Slice of Pumpkin Pie - 1⁹⁸

Fresh Haddock Piccata (Lemon Caper Butter Sauce)

\$16⁹⁸

USDA Choice Top Sirloin & Fresh Grilled Shrimp

\$17⁹⁸

Christmas Feast TO GO!
Serves Four - ONLY \$55⁹⁵!

1 lb of Roast Tom Turkey - 1 lb of Baked Sugar Cured Ham - Cody's Stuffing
Garlic Mashed Potatoes - Turkey Gravy - Green Beans - Cranberry Sauce
Pineapple Sauce - Cody's Salad - 8 Sweet Yeast Rolls & Cinnamon Butter
AND...Cody's Homemade Chocolate Brownies (1 Per Person)!

Double Your Order - ONLY \$105⁰⁰ (Serves 8)
Add 1 lb of Turkey OR 1 lb of Ham - ONLY \$12⁰⁰!

Brownwood (352) 430-2996

Lake Sumter Landing (352) 259-8500

Mulberry Grove (352) 205-7797

www.codysamerican.com

Everyday Easy

You need fast, delicious, and convenient. Check out all the ways that Publix can help at publix.com/everydayeasy.

Publix
WHERE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE®

IF-002968

WE ARE HAVING OUR END OF THE YEAR INVENTORY

BLOWOUT SALE!



COME JOIN US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE!

Saturday, December 8th from 10am - 4pm

Sales and Model Center at 224 Magnolia Drive, Lady Lake, Florida

At Water Oak Country Club, 300 acres of rolling hills, trees, and lakes creates a picturesque location with endless opportunities to explore – including an 18-hole championship golf course, a three story clubhouse and more. If this sounds like the lifestyle you've been dreaming of, don't miss this opportunity to make Water Oak Country Club your new home.

We will be serving light refreshments, have **free** giveaways, and will offer our lowest home prices during the event.

Call to schedule an appointment today & receive a

\$10

gift certificate to our **Bistro!**

Conveniently located in Lady Lake, Florida, Water Oak Country Club, a 55+ community, is expanding with additional lots and updated amenities to serve more residents than ever before.

BUSH

From Page A1

The national funeral service at the cathedral was a tribute to a president, a patriarch and a faded political era that prized military service and public responsibility. It was laced with indirect comparisons to President Donald Trump but was not consumed by them, as speakers focused on Bush's public life and character — with plenty of cracks about his goofy side, too.

Trump sat with his wife, a trio of ex-presidents and their wives, several of the group sharp critics of his presidency and one of them, Hillary Clinton, his 2016 Democratic foe. Apart from courteous nods and some handshakes, there was little interaction between Trump and the others.

George W. Bush broke down briefly at the end of his eulogy while invoking the daughter his parents lost in 1953 and his mother, who died in April. He said he took comfort in knowing "Dad is hugging Robin and holding Mom's hand again."

The family occupied the White House for a dozen years — the 41st president defeated after one term, the 43rd serving two. Jeb Bush stepped up to try to extend that run but fell short when Trump won the 2016 Republican primaries.

The elder Bush was "the last great-soldier statesman," historian Jon Meacham said in his eulogy, "our shield" in dangerous times.

But he took a lighter tone, too, noting that Bush, campaigning in a crowd in a department store, once shook hands with a mannequin. Rather than flushing in embarrassment, he simply quipped, "Never know. Gotta ask."

Meacham recounted how comedian Dana Carvey once said the key to doing an impersonation of Bush was "Mr. Rogers trying to be John Wayne."

None of that would be a surprise to Bush. Meacham had read his eulogy to him, said



Former President George W. Bush and former first lady Laura Bush, left, follow the casket of former President George H.W. Bush as it is carried out following a State Funeral at the National Cathedral in Washington. [SUSAN WALSH/AP]



Members of the clergy stand over the flag-draped casket of former President George H.W. Bush. [ANDREW HARNIK/AP]

Bush spokesman Jim McGrath, and Bush responded to it with the crack: "That's a lot about me, Jon."

The congregation at the cathedral, filled with foreign leaders and diplomats, Americans of high office and others touched by Bush's life, rose for the arrival of the casket, accompanied by clergy of faiths from around the world. In their row together, Trump and former Presidents Barack Obama, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton

stood with their spouses and all placed their hands over their hearts.

Alan Simpson, former Republican senator from Wyoming, regaled the congregation with stories from his years as Bush's friend in Washington. More seriously, he recalled that when he went through a rough patch in the political game, Bush conspicuously stood by him against the advice of aides. "You would have wanted him on your side," he said.

Simpson said Bush "loved a good joke — the richer the better. And he threw his head back and gave that great laugh, but he never, ever could remember a punchline. And I mean never."

George W. Bush turned the humor back on the acerbic ex-senator, saying of the late president: "He placed great value on a good joke, so he chose Simpson to speak."

Meacham praised Bush's call to volunteerism, placing his "1,000 points of light" alongside Abraham Lincoln's call to honor "the better angels of our nature" in the American rhetorical canon. Meacham called those lines "companion verses in America's national hymn."

Trump had mocked "1,000 points of light" last summer at a rally, saying "What the hell is that? Has anyone ever figured that one out? And it was put out by a Republican, wasn't it?"

Former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney praised Bush as a strong world leader who helped oversee the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union and helped

bring about the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico, signed into law by his successor, Clinton.

With Trump, a bitter NAFTA critic, seated in the front row, Mulroney hailed the "largest and richest free trade area in the history of the world." The three countries have agreed on a revised trade agreement pushed by Trump.

Earlier, a military band played "Hail to the Chief" as Bush's casket was carried down the steps of the U.S. Capitol, where he had lain in state. Family members looked on as servicemen fired off a cannon salute.

His hearse was then driven in a motorcade to the cathedral ceremony, slowing in front of the White House, the route lined with people much of the way, bundled in winter hats and taking photos.

Waiting for his arrival inside, Trump shook hands with Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama, who greeted him by saying "Good morning." Trump did not shake hands with Bill and Hillary Clinton, who looked straight ahead.

Bill Clinton and Mrs. Obama smiled and chatted as music played. Carter was seated silently next to Hillary Clinton in the cavernous cathedral. Obama cracked up laughing at someone's quip. Vice President Mike Pence shook Carter's hand.

Trump tweeted Wednesday that the day marked "a celebration for a great man who has led a long and distinguished life."

Bush's death makes Carter, also 94 but more than 100 days younger, the oldest living ex-president.

Following the cathedral service, the hearse and its long motorcade drove to the National Mall to pass by the World War II Memorial, a nod to the late president's service as a World War II Navy pilot, then transferred his remains at Joint Base Andrews for the flight home with members of his family aboard the plane that often serves as Air Force One.

Bush will lie in repose at St. Martin's Episcopal Church before his burial Thursday.

Call or visit about our Specials

Quality Care with a personal touch



REGENCY PARK

ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

Affordable Assisted Living
24-hour Nursing on Site
ECC License
Wireless Paging System
Medication Management Included

Monthly Rates include
Comcast Cable, Utilities, Wifi,
Local Telephone Calls, Housekeeping,
Meals and Laundry Service

Call or visit about our specials

www.regencyparkalf.com
Telephone:
352-609-2040

15000 Hwy. 441, Eustis, FL 32726
ECC License AL #12750

OPINION

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

DAILY COMMERCIAL

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

ANOTHER OPINION

George H.W. Bush a man of humility and civility

Chicago Tribune

There was once a private school that graded students on the usual academic subjects, plus a fuzzy category related to decorum: "Claims no more than his fair share of time and attention." Modesty and deference are still enviable traits, but imagine enforcing such behaviors in the age of social media. Where would Twitter and Facebook be without boasts and rants? Our current president would be rendered mute.

The student who once excelled at "claims no more ..." was President George H.W. Bush, whose lifetime of service to the country was characterized by his decency and good manners. These were virtues he learned at the Greenwich Country Day School in the 1930s, further instilled by his parents, who admonished him against being conceited. "I don't want to hear any more about the Great I Am," his mother told him.

And so Bush was polite. A biographer, Jon Meacham, called him "the last gentleman." As president, Bush strove to work with political friends and foes alike. He aspired to make America "a kinder, gentler nation." He was an inveterate letter-writer, Meacham said, but these were nice letters, handwritten thank-yous and supportive missives, not mean tweets.

The former president died Friday at age 94. Evidence to the contrary, civility did not go with him. It just feels like that era is gone in the public arena. Consider President Donald Trump's penchant for attacks and insults. Check out Twitter, where Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke last week accused a Democratic lawmaker of being a drunk.

But it's not just Trump and his allies who are responsible. Plenty of other politicians share blame for sully-ing public discourse. There was Republican U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, who shouted "you lie!" at President Barack Obama during a joint session of Congress. A few days ago in Springfield, Democratic state Rep. Stephanie Kifowit said on the House floor that she wanted to pump a deadly "broth" of bacteria into the water system used by a Republican colleague's family. She later apologized.

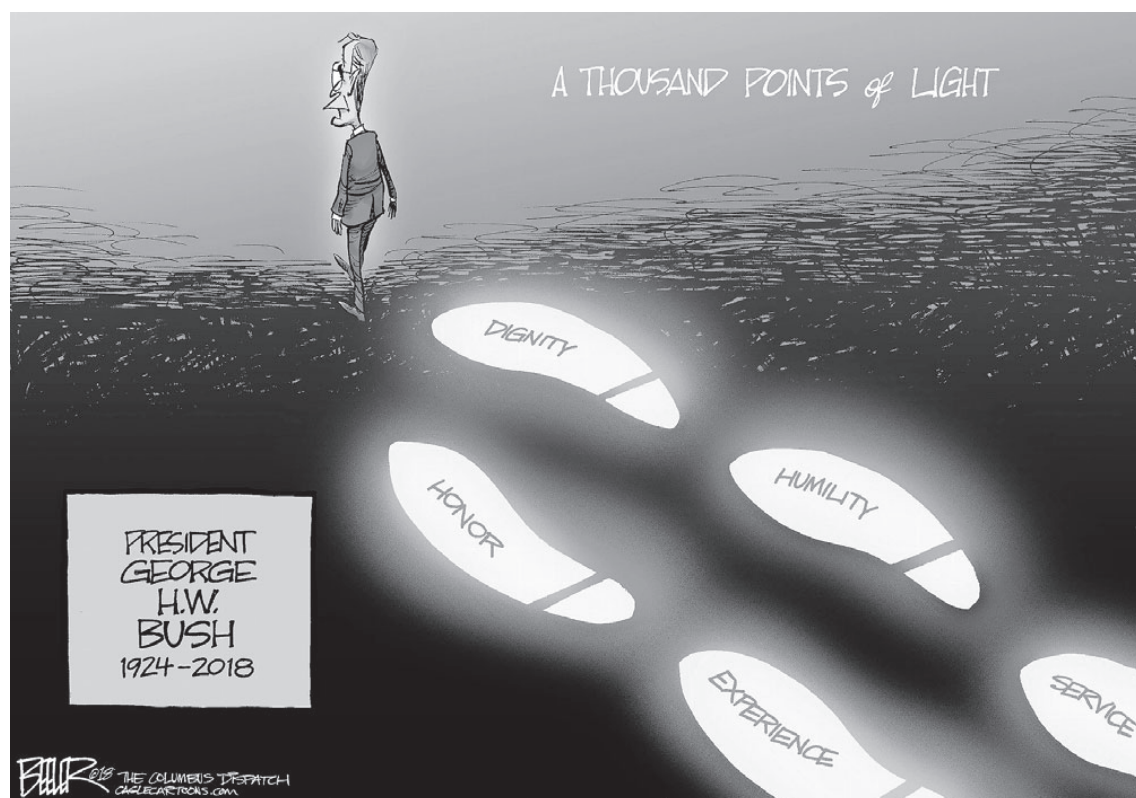
Bush was no saint; he was a politician who could brawl with the best of them during campaign season. Anyone elected president must have a large ego and a quick left jab. But obituaries and other reflections on his life remind us that Bush achieved success in life while most often acting with honor and humility. Turning 18 in 1942, he enlisted in the service, becoming the nation's youngest naval aviator. He was shot down in the Pacific. He was captain of the Yale baseball team. He ran the CIA. He didn't keep those accomplishments secret, but he also didn't present himself as the meanest guy in the room.

Bush's comportment worked against him as a presidential candidate, because his self-effacement was misconstrued as weakness. Newsweek magazine wrote an absurd 1987 cover story headlined "Fighting the 'Wimp Factor'." CBS News, during the 1980 campaign, had asked Bush if he was "too nice" to be president.

Bush defended himself — politely: "I don't equate toughness with just attacking some individual. I equate toughness with moral fiber, with character, with principle, with demonstrated leadership in tough jobs where you emerge not bullying somebody but with the respect of the people you led. ... If I happen to be decent in the process, that should not be a liability."

Those are words to live by. If enough politicians and others in the public sphere would take a lesson from the former president's honorable conduct, Americans would have more respect for their governments — and for each other.

ANOTHER OPINION



ANOTHER OPINION

Lesson from the California wildfires: empathy for others

By David J. Smith

During the past decade, we have witnessed a significant rise in the number of people displaced globally from their homes and homelands. The Syrian civil war coupled with the continuing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq have led to massive forced migration. People fleeing harsh conditions in Africa continue to escape to Europe by boat at great personal risk. Rohingya refugees are being forced out of Myanmar fleeing torture, rape and death. And some 2 million Yemenis are living in tent cities. Today, there are nearly 69 million people worldwide exiled because of war and violence as well as a result of natural (though arguably, often human affected) disasters such as fires and hurricanes. Even the casual follower of the news understands what has been going on. Forced migration has evoked sympathy among many, but for others there is derision, especially in the case of Central Americans seeking refuge in the U.S.

Now add 150,000 more people to that 69 million: The estimate of the number of Californians statewide fleeing the most recent wildfires. Though the residents of the Chico area in California are not displaced because of war and violence, they are experiencing much of the same anguish as those seeking safety from south of the U.S.

border. They are homeless, traumatized, feeling forgotten, separated from loved ones and living day to day not knowing what the future will hold. Images of spontaneously established tent cities in Chico look much like those we see as a result of displacement in far flung places. Of course, this is not the first time that Americans have been displaced, and in larger numbers than in California. We just need to remember hurricanes Maria, Harvey and Katrina, the last of which killed nearly 2,000 individuals and displaced more than 400,000 people in 2005. The number displaced in Puerto Rico after Maria has been difficult to gauge, but some estimate it as high as 1 million.

To use the terminology of the humanitarian community, these Americans are internally displaced persons, commonly called IDPs. Because they have not crossed an international border, they are not refugees. And they are not asylum seekers because they are not escaping threats of persecution that might be violent. But they are helpless, vulnerable and human beings.

It might be difficult for some Americans to recognize we are experiencing some of the same conditions as countries that have been disparaged as poor, violent and worse by President Donald Trump. The pain that these Californians are feeling can in some ways be compared to those making their

way to Europe. I would argue, though, that the uncertainty and trauma of those forced to flee to Europe is more extreme and distressing than that in California, but the similarities are still worth considering.

Maybe ironically, this provides for Americans a connection to the larger global community. We are not immune to crises that test the capacity of governmental responses and the need for private assistance. Our generosity in supporting those in need in California will likely be considerable in the end. There might be current images of slow response, but our local and national capacity will meet the needs in one way or another. Still, these individuals and families are suffering and are vulnerable and this should remind us of the humanity that connects us all.

Helping our own means helping those who share our humanity, not just our citizenship. When the fire season is over in California and affected people are resettled and able to restart their lives, we will still have some 69 million fellow humans fleeing more catastrophic conditions. What will we do for them?

David J. Smith is the president of the Forage Center for Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Education and teaches at George Mason University. A resident of Rockville, he can be reached at david@foragecenter.org.

ANOTHER OPINION

A powerful lesson as we remember President Bush



Cal Thomas

The scene at the U.S. Capitol on Monday as former President George H.W. Bush lay in state presented a tableau and a lesson for those who seek earthly power and believe it can change things.

As the TV cameras panned the crowd, I was struck by how many aging "formers" there were, men (and they were mostly men) who once held high office, but now live in the political shadows.

This fact should give us all pause and an opportunity to consider what truly matters in life. Washington and the media obsess about earthly power, but if it were real power

— that is, a force that could bring change for the better — would not change have been achieved by now? Instead, we get politicians who lust for power and when they get it, squander it on fights with each other instead of using it to solve important problems that affect most Americans.

While watching the coverage, I thought of something First Lady Barbara Bush said in a 1990 commencement address at Wellesley College in Massachusetts: "Our success as a society depends not on what happens in the White House, but on what happens inside your house."

Earlier that same year, James Baker, Bush's closest friend and at the time his secretary of state, delivered a remarkable address before the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington. Baker said: "Power doesn't really bring the fulfillment that many say

it does. Inner security and true, real fulfillment comes by faith (in God). It doesn't come by wielding power in a town where power is king."

Baker, who later said he received more comments on that speech than any he has given, told a story to illustrate his point. As The New York Times reported his remarks: "He also described his sense of the fleeting nature of power, which he said was driven home to him one day when he was riding to his job as chief of staff in his sleek black limousine. Near the White House he noticed a man walking down the street alone. 'He was someone many of you would have recognized — a chief of staff in a previous administration,' said Mr. Baker. 'There he was, alone — no reporters, no security, no adoring public, no trappings of power — just one solitary

man alone with his thoughts. That mental picture continually serves to remind me of the impermanence of power and place. That man had it all, but only for a time.'"

There were many at the Capitol ceremony who once had power, "but only for a time." Their names now begin in print and on TV with the word "former," if they are interviewed or noted at all. Few seem to care what they think now, preferring "currents" instead.

In his address, Baker noted that "power can be intoxicating" and can lead to corruption. One doesn't usually hear such confessions in Washington where transparency by political leaders is rare.

Moments like the ceremonies for George H.W. Bush offer opportunities for serious introspection. As Barbara Bush said in her Wellesley speech: "At the end of your

life, you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will regret time not spent with a husband, a child, a friend or a parent."

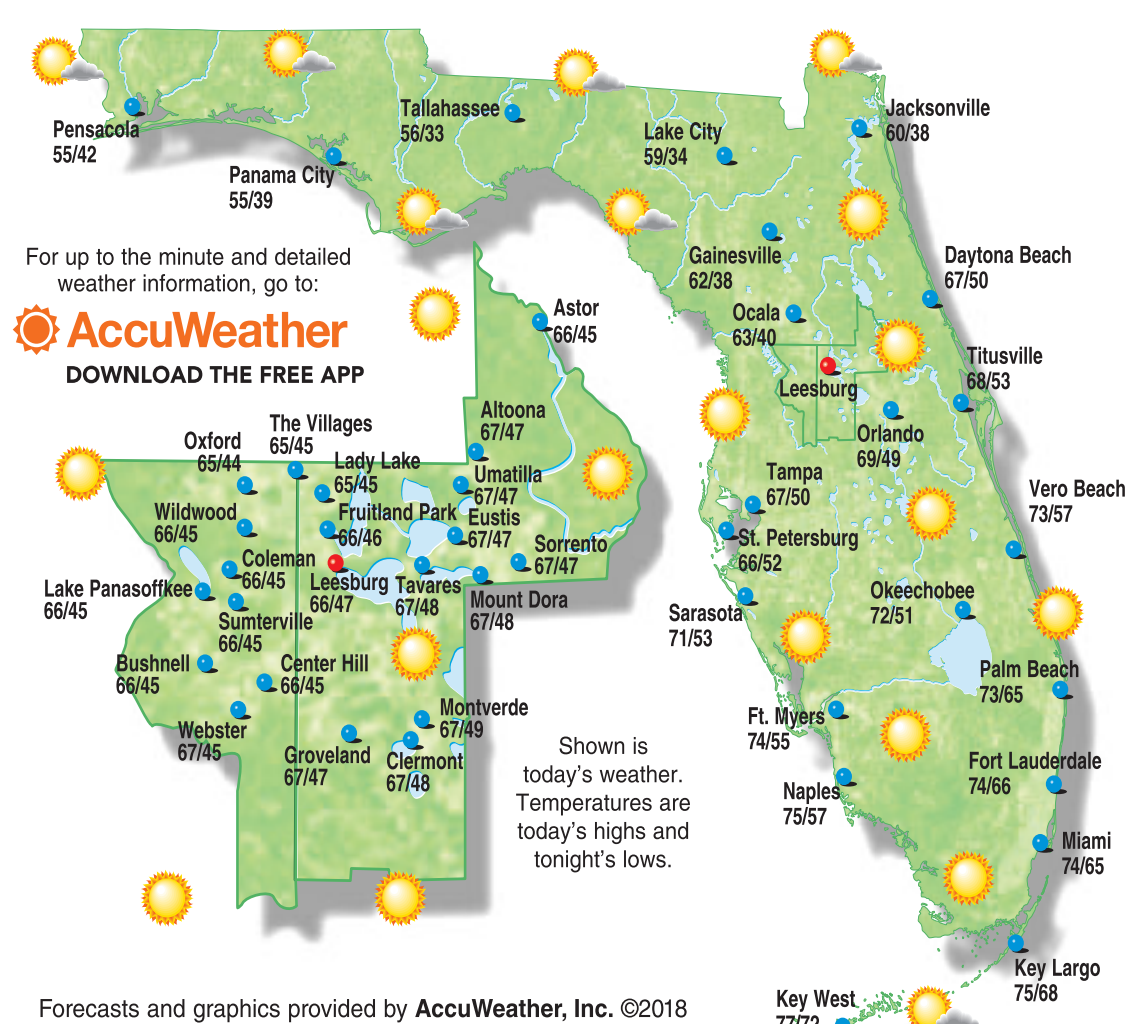
The number of "formers" at the Capitol on Monday and the memorial service on Wednesday and some "currents" who will be formers soon enough offer a lesson worth pondering before the engines of political power fire up again. If not in politics, where does real power come from? The answer was suggested in the film, "Chariots of Fire," in which the character portraying Scottish runner Eric Liddell said, "It comes from within."

It surely doesn't come from Washington, which lacks the power to fix itself.

Readers may email Cal Thomas at caedi-tors@tribpub.com.

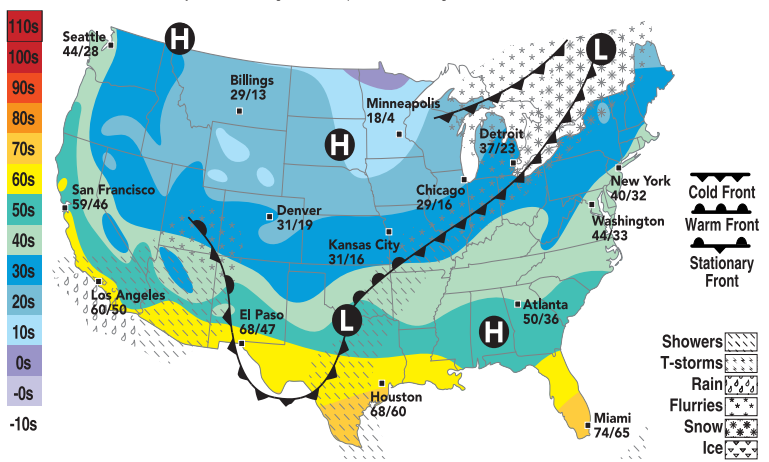
FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR LEESBURG

TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
Cool with plenty of sun		Partly sunny and nice		Mostly cloudy		Cloudy with showers and a heavier t-storm		Sun and areas of low clouds and cooler	
HIGH 66°	LOW 47°	HIGH 72°	LOW 56°	HIGH 76°	LOW 64°	HIGH 73°	LOW 53°	HIGH 61°	LOW 41°



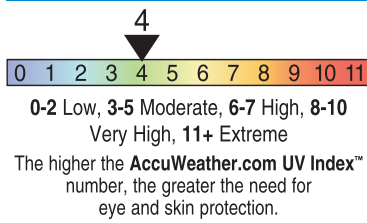
NATIONAL WEATHER FOR DECEMBER 6, 2018

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are today's highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.



Yesterday's National High/Low: (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High 80° in Key West, FL Low -26° in West Yellowstone, MT

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 10:23 a.m.	4:10 a.m.	10:47 p.m.	4:35 p.m.
Fri. 11:12 a.m.	4:59 a.m.	11:37 p.m.	5:24 p.m.

THE SUN AND MOON

	Today	Friday
Sunrise	7:07 a.m.	7:08 a.m.
Sunset	5:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
Moonrise	6:19 a.m.	7:16 a.m.
Moonset	5:20 p.m.	6:04 p.m.



TIDES

Homosassa				Daytona Beach					
Day	High	Feet	Low	Feet	Day	High	Feet	Low	Feet
Today	3:35 am	.....1.3	12:34 pm	.....-0.1	Fri.	4:05 am	.....1.4	1:21 pm	.....-0.1
	5:30 pm	.....0.7	10:05 pm	.....0.4		6:12 pm	.....0.7	10:35 pm	.....0.4

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi Lo W	Friday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Friday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Friday Hi Lo W	City	Today Hi Lo W	Friday Hi Lo W
Albany	39 26 pc	32 17 pc	Cheyenne	23 12 c	33 15 s	Great Falls	28 14 s	36 20 s	Norfolk, VA	46 36 pc	47 32 pc
Albuquerque	51 34 pc	49 34 r	Chicago	29 16 c	25 18 s	Greensboro, NC	46 30 pc	48 27 pc	Oklahoma City	44 27 c	35 30 i
Anchorage	35 32 sn	41 35 i	Cincinnati	41 22 sn	34 20 pc	Hartford	39 25 pc	36 17 pc	Omaha	22 5 pc	23 5 s
Asheville	45 28 pc	46 29 c	Cleveland	36 26 sn	31 22 pc	Honolulu	82 71 s	80 71 sh	Philadelphia	40 31 pc	39 25 s
Atlanta	50 36 pc	53 38 pc	Columbia, SC	51 32 pc	55 35 pc	Houston	68 60 c	71 61 r	Phoenix	60 53 sh	65 50 r
Atlantic City	42 31 pc	42 21 s	Concord, NH	36 21 pc	33 9 pc	Indianapolis	37 18 sn	30 19 s	Pittsburgh	36 23 sn	30 18 c
Baltimore	42 29 pc	40 26 s	Dallas	53 41 sh	48 39 r	Jackson, MS	56 40 pc	58 41 c	Portland, ME	38 23 pc	35 11 pc
Billings	29 13 s	36 22 s	Dayton	39 22 sn	32 19 s	Kansas City	31 16 c	32 22 pc	Portland, OR	44 29 s	44 35 s
Birmingham	51 35 pc	50 38 c	Denver	31 19 pc	39 20 pc	Las Vegas	50 45 sh	58 41 pc	Providence	40 28 pc	38 20 s
Bismarck	22 8 pc	28 13 s	Des Moines	24 9 pc	24 13 s	Little Rock	44 34 c	40 32 r	Raleigh	48 32 pc	51 28 pc
Boise	30 13 pc	32 18 pc	Detroit	37 23 sf	32 22 c	Louisville	45 26 c	38 25 pc	Reno	40 23 pc	42 22 pc
Boston	41 30 pc	39 20 s	Duluth	13 1 pc	18 9 pc	Memphis	46 36 c	43 35 r	Richmond	45 31 pc	46 24 s
Buffalo	35 22 sn	27 18 c	El Paso	68 47 pc	56 41 r	Milwaukee	29 14 c	23 16 s	Sacramento	58 34 s	57 32 pc
Burlington, VT	35 25 sf	26 11 c	Fargo	12 7 pc	22 12 s	Minneapolis	18 4 pc	20 6 s	St. Louis	38 18 c	31 22 pc
Charleston, SC	55 34 s	59 40 pc	Fairbanks	18 13 c	26 15 c	Nashville	47 33 pc	43 31 c	Salt Lake City	35 24 c	36 25 pc
Charleston, WV	42 29 c	36 20 pc	Flagstaff	39 25 sh	40 17 sf	New Orleans	63 54 pc	68 58 c	San Antonio	64 57 c	61 48 t
Charlotte, NC	49 31 pc	53 31 pc	Grand Rapids	33 21 sf	29 20 c	New York City	40 32 pc	38 26 s	San Diego	67 56 r	69 53 pc

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

turn to the experts™

...Consider It Done!

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATIONS

LAKE COUNTY • SUMTER COUNTY • THE VILLAGES

AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS ❖ HEATING SYSTEMS
 AIR QUALITY & ENERGY INSPECTIONS ❖ DRYER VENT CLEANING

(352) 787.7741

2135 US Hwy 441/27 • Fruitland Park | munnair.com

SPORTS

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

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Ward earns Mr. Bowling honors

South Lake standout boys individual state title

By Frank Jolley
frank.jolley@dailycommercial.com

Ryan Ward continues to roll strikes.

Less than a month after winning the boys individual championship, the South Lake High School standout

has been named Mr. Bowling by the Florida Dairy Farmers.

Ward is the first student athlete from Lake County to be named Mr. Bowling and the second area bowler — boy or girl — to be recognized by the Florida Dairy Farmers. Katie Stark, who was also from South Lake, was named Miss Bowling in 2012.

A junior, Ward capped a memorable season for the

Eagles with his two-day performance at the Florida High School Athletic Association state championships in November at Boardwalk Bowl Entertainment Center in Orlando.

He won five matches overall, including a 394-294 victory against Apopka's Ben Bailey in the finals. Ward, who qualified ninth, beat defending state champion Duke

Crouch in the third round of the championship bracket and lost only one game en route to the title.

The win earned Ward an automatic bid to the U.S. High School Bowling National Championships next June in Indianapolis.

This marks the 27th year that Florida Dairy Farmers have presented awards to the state's top student athletes

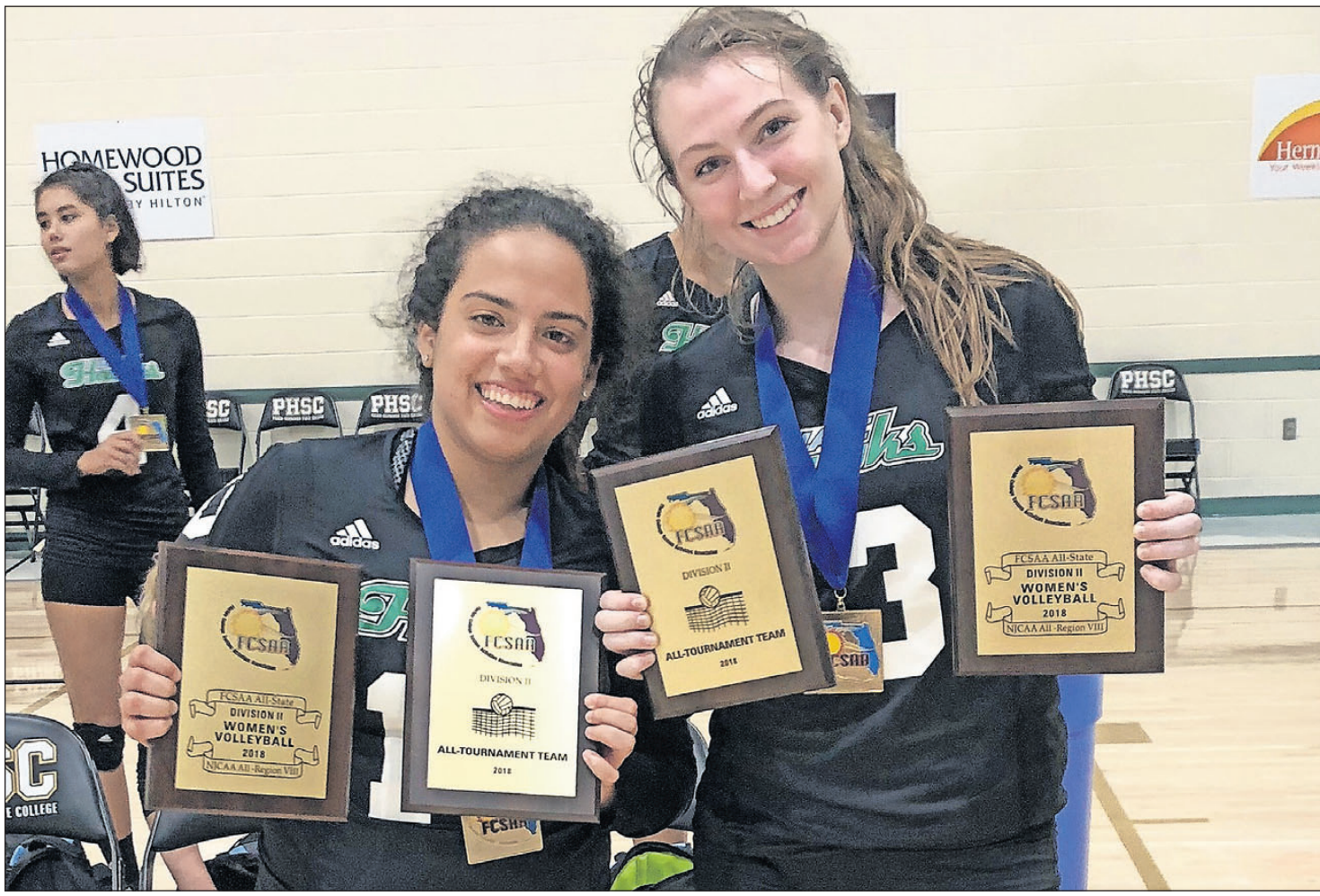
and coaches in all 30 sports that are sanctioned or recognized by the FHSAA.

Football

For the first time since learning he was being replaced as head football coach at Umatilla, Ryan Mills has spoken about his dismissal.

See PREPS, B3

A local All-American



Lake-Sumter State volleyball players Emma Gray, right, and Gabriela Hernandez pose with their All-Tournament and championship awards. Gray was named to the honorable mention All-America team on Tuesday. [JAY MILLER / LSSC]

LSSC's Emma Gray is school's first to receive honor

By Paul Jenkins
paul.jenkins@daily-commercial.com

In big moments when the Lake-Sumter State College volleyball team had to have a point, Lakehawks coach Amanda Phelps knew where they had to go with the ball.

And time after time, Emma Gray delivered in those big moments.

On Tuesday, Gray was recognized for her outstanding play when she was named an honorable mention All-American, the first All-America selection for LSSC in any sport.

"Obviously volleyball is a team sport," Phelps said. "But she was such a major part of our offense and when it came down to the wire and who are you going to get the ball to, it was Emma Gray."

The selection to the

All-America team caps a career that Gray really never envisioned when the Fruitland Park native signed with LSSC out of First Academy of Leesburg.

Although she had been a standout on the high school level, Gray wasn't certain that level of success was going to translate to the collegiate level.

Did it ever.

Gray was a first team All-Conference selection as a freshman and never stopped improving.

"I never thought I could do something like this, I just didn't have that much confidence in myself," Gray said. "My coaches and my teammates really pushed me to get better and really believed in me. I never could have done something like this without my coaches and my teammates."

"To get this honor is very special and I'm so proud I could do this for the school and for Leesburg."

In her final season with the Lakehawks, Gray helped lead the team to the first national tournament appearance in LSSC athletics history.

She completed her playing career at Lake-Sumter on Nov. 14 after helping the Lakehawks to an 11th-place finish at the NJCAA National Tournament in Charleston, West Virginia. It was LSSC's first trip to the national championships in any sport.

Gray finished her LSSC career in the top five all-time in kills (529) and total attacks (1,729).

"She's just a great kid," Phelps said. "She's so coachable and does whatever the coaches tell her to do. She really wanted to keep getting better. She's a great

teammate. She isn't the loudest one on the court, but she does a great job of leading by example."

Gray notched a double-double with 27 kills and 18 digs in a win over Pasco-Hernando in the NJCAA Region 8 championship to help the Lakehawks punch their ticket to the national tournament, earning a spot on the Region 8 All-Tournament team in the process. In helping LSSC go 2-0 at regionals, Gray had 41 kills, 29 digs and two service aces while accounting for 43.5 points.

Her work at regionals earned Gray the NJCAA Division II Offensive Player of the Week, making her the first LSSC athlete to receive the national honor.

Prior to LSSC, Gray was a

See HONOR, B3



FOOTBALL | B2

JAGS LOOK TO SPOIL TITANS' PUSH FOR PLAYOFFS

Rating UF juniors' chances of bolting for NFL

By Robbie Andreu
Gatehouse Media

GAINESVILLE — Last week, Chauncey Gardner-Johnson became the first Florida underclassmen to declare for the NFL draft. There certainly will be others doing the same in the coming days and weeks.

There appear to be at least two other locks for leaving early, and others who could be leaning that way.

Here's a look at the UF juniors who will have a decision to make between now and the Jan. 14 deadline to declare for the draft:

Jachai Polite, Defensive end/outside linebacker

Reason for leaving: He's coming off a breakout season in which he led the Gators in sacks (11) and tackles for losses (16) and some draft analysts are projecting him as a first-round pick, maybe even going in the top 10.

Reason for staying: There really isn't a good one, other than maybe wanting to get a little bigger and stronger with another year under UF's Director of Football Strength & Conditioning Nick Savage.

Chances he leaves: 100 percent.

Jordan Scarlett, Running back

Reason for leaving: After missing the 2017 season, Scarlett rushed for 717 yards and four touchdowns this season sharing reps with Lamical Perine and true freshman Dameon Pierce. He showed that he's physically ready for the next level, and with Scarlett likely sharing carries again in 2019, it's unlikely his draft status would improve significantly if he returns.

Reason for staying: Just like Polite, it's hard to come up with one for Scarlett. Maybe to try and become a dominant back and possibly play for a championship.

See GATORS, B3

COMMENTARY

Nothing in sports moves me like the Army-Navy game

By John Feinstein
The Washington Post

At about 6:30 on Saturday evening I will be standing on the field at Lincoln Financial Field while the Army and Navy alma maters are being played.

I have no idea who will sing second, as the winners always do, but I know one thing for certain.

As the last notes die out, my wife — who watches exactly one football game a year — will send me a text.

It will say, "Are you crying yet?"

And I know exactly what my answer will be: "Absolutely."

It doesn't matter who wins the game; when they play the alma maters, I cry. For 14 years, when I was the color commentator on the Navy radio network, I would tell Bob Socci, who did play-by-play, "When the alma maters end, don't ask me a question right away. I'm going to need a minute."

See FEINSTEIN, B3



Members of the Corps of Cadets celebrate a fourth-quarter touchdown during the Army-Navy game last year. [JONATHAN NEWTON / WASHINGTON POST]

NASCAR THIS WEEK

The Daytona Beach News-Journal's Godwin Kelly & Ken Willis have covered NASCAR for nearly 60 years combined. godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

CHAMPION'S TALE

Logano flew under the radar for 2018 Cup title

By Godwin Kelly
godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

Joey Logano had one of the greatest seasons as a NASCAR Cup Series driver and, for the most part, flew under the radar until late in the game.

While the "Big 3" of Kevin Harvick, Kyle Busch and Martin Truex Jr. combined for 20 victories and most of the media limelight, Logano quietly was putting together a solid season.

Those three drivers gave Logano a standing ovation when the 28-year-old driver was officially crowned 2018 Cup Series champion last Thursday in Las Vegas at the NASCAR Awards Ceremony.

"This is what we've worked for our whole life," Logano said before the ceremony. "Not just 10 years that we've been trying at the Cup level, but it started in '95 when I first got behind the wheel of a go-kart. That's when this goal started."

If it seems like Logano has been around stock-car racing forever, you are right. He got a Cup Series ride at the tender age of 18 from Joe Gibbs Racing, when Tony Stewart left to join ranks with Gene Haas.

Logano was on the leading edge of NASCAR's current youth movement, which placed four millennial drivers among the top 10 in season-ending points.

But unlike his young counterparts Chase Elliott (23), Ryan Blaney (24) and Kyle Larson (26), he went into the 2018 campaign with nine full seasons of Cup competition and 18 victories under his belt.

Logano scored a toss-of-the-dice victory at Talladega Superspeedway in the spring, then went winless for 22 races ... but was compiling top-five and top-10 finishes nearly every weekend.

The 'Dega win was important because it guaranteed Logano a playoff berth.

A look back at the stat sheet shows Logano led in Cup points after Race 2 and Race 3, before he drifted down to sixth place after crashing out at Watkins Glen International on Aug. 5.

His No. 22 Team Penske Ford started to get hot right as the playoffs began; not win-a-bunch-



New NASCAR champion Joey Logano did the customary photo op at the Vegas strip gateway during NASCAR Champion's Week. [NASCAR GETTY IMAGES/BRIAN LAUDERMILK]

of-races hot, but score-enough-points-to-advance hot.

He made it to the Round of 12 and Round of 8 on points.

His signature moment was at Martinsville Speedway when he pulled the last-lap bump-and-run on Truex to win the First Data 500 and earn a ticket to the Championship Round.

That win gave him an immediate advantage, allowing crew chief Todd Gordon and his team more time to concentrate on massaging the car he would run at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"This win allowed everyone at Team Penske to focus on Homestead for three weeks," Gordon said. "It was awesome to see all 550 Mooresville employees pulling in the same direction, getting us as prepared as we'd ever been for the championship race."

On the final restart in the Ford EcoBoost 400, Logano simply motored away from the "Big 3" and everybody else. He had the right car at the right time, and when he crossed the finish line, the Cup Series championship was won.

"It's just how it kind of unfolds, but there's typically one (caution) somewhere late in the race," Gordon said. "And when it came

up, there it was, our opportunity, and Joey's, and you give him that opportunity of 'here it is, it's right in front of you,' he steps up to another level."

After wrestling the lead from Truex, Logano would not be denied at Homestead. He led the last 12 laps for the win and title.

"There was never a second thing that I was going to try to do," Logano said. "This was it — NASCAR champion."

Logano becomes the seventh different champion over the past eight years. The only driver to nab two titles since 2011 was Jimmie Johnson (2013, 2016).

Logano's championship is a childhood dream fulfilled by the lanky driver from Middletown, Connecticut.

"You're a kid, and it's a dream," Logano said. "Maybe a goal is a little different. It's a dream at that point. A lot of kids want to be NASCAR champion, and I'm here to say it can happen, as long as you keep working hard and taking advantage of the opportunities in front of you."

"When I went to elementary school, and they said, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' it was always race car driver."

QUESTIONS & ATTITUDE

Compelling questions ... and maybe a few actual answers



The Indy 500 win with driver Will Power was among Roger Penske's 2018 accomplishments as team owner. [AP/DARRON CUMMINGS]

Have we overlooked the Captain's great 2018 season?

Over five-plus decades, Roger Penske has become so synonymous with success, it can be easy to overlook the recent trophies he's stashed into the bulging display case. Even at 81, he's hardly just a figurehead owner, but very much a part of team strategies and logistics. This past year, the Captain was clicking on all cylinders. Consider the spoils: The Indy 500 win with Will Power, Australia's V8 Supercar championship with Scott McLaughlin, and NASCAR's Cup championship with Joey Logano.

What, there's a down side?

Well, yes, in a way, though it's not Penske's fault. Many bemoan the lack of new blood in NASCAR's ownership ranks, but old warhorses like Penske are making it tough on interlopers. He's 81, Joe Gibbs is 78, and Rick Hendrick turns 70 next year. As stated so many times here, NASCAR needs an influx of younger ownership, but the current business model makes it tough for anyone without serious Wall Street connections.

Are you buying Jimmie's optimism?

Let's punt and say "renting." Jimmie Johnson went to Bahrain early last week and enjoyed a well-publicized test stint in the Formula One McLaren of two-time F1 champ Fernando Alonso. Jimmie was impressed ... with himself. The seven-time NASCAR champ is usually quite humble, but these aren't usual times. After a winless 2018, he's in need of a pick-me-up, even if he has to supply the lifting. "I climbed in an unfamiliar car and environment and did really well," he told media later last week in Las Vegas. "So my natural instincts, my ability to drive, my ability to scare myself and challenge myself hasn't gone anywhere."

— Ken Willis, ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

MOTOR MOUTHS PODCAST

Is it too early to think about the Daytona 500 and the 2019 season? Of course not!

Tune in online at www.news-journalonline.com/daytonamotormouths



SPEED FREAKS — A few questions we had to ask ourselves

Among those we hardly know right now, who might we be talking about a year from now?

GODSPEAK: Erik Jones scored his first win in 2018 and very well could have a "breakout" season and get to NASCAR's final four.

KEN'S CALL: Matt DiBenedetto is an intriguing possibility, but I'm going with "Billy the Kid," William Byron. Here's a hunch Chad Knaus will enjoy this second chance at building a winner.

Also, a year from now, what kind of season will Jimmie Johnson be reflecting upon?

GODSPEAK: There will be multiple wins, after a no-win 2018, plus a deep run into

the playoffs; you know, a regular Johnson year.

KEN'S CALL: I'd believe either extreme — all or nothing — but will take the easy way out and say two or three wins and the Round of 8 in the playoffs.

How long will Chase Elliott own the Most Popular Driver honors?

GODSPEAK: Chase is Bill's son and drove Xfinity for Junior, so has support from two camps. He has this thing locked up for the next 20 years (sorry, Alex Bowman).

KEN'S CALL: Somewhere short of his dad's 16 straight years or Junior Earnhardt's 15. If Bill went 16, and Junior then went 15, let's make the natural progression and say 14 years.



William Byron enjoyed many scenes like this in the Trucks and Xfinity Series. Can he get to Victory Lane as a Cup racer? [AP FILE]

2019 CUP SERIES SCHEDULE

Feb. 10: Clash at Daytona
Feb. 14: 150-mile qualifying races for Daytona 500
Feb. 17: Daytona 500
Feb. 24: Folds of Honor 500 at Atlanta
March 3: Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas
March 10: TicketGuardian 500 at Phoenix
March 17: Auto Club 400 at Fontana
March 24: STP 500 at Martinsville
March 31: O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 at

Texas
April 7: Food City 500 at Bristol
April 13: Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond
April 28: Geico 500 at Talladega
May 5: Dover 400
May 11: Kansas 400
May 18: All-Star Race at Charlotte
May 26: Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte
June 2: Pocono 400
June 9: FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan
June 23: Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma

June 30: Overton's 400 at Chicagoland
July 6: Coke Zero 400 at Daytona
July 13: Quaker State 400 at Kentucky
July 21: Foxwoods 301 at New Hampshire
July 28: Gander Outdoors 400 at Pocono
Aug. 4: Go Bowling at Watkins Glen
Aug. 11: Consumers Energy 400 at Michigan
Aug. 17: Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race at Bristol
Sept. 1: Southern 500 at Darlington
Sept. 8: Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis

Sept. 15: South Point 400 at Las Vegas
Sept. 21: Federated Auto Parts 400 at Richmond
Sept. 29: Bank of America 500k at Charlotte
Oct. 6: Delaware 400 at Dover
Oct. 13: 1000Bulbs.com 500 Talladega
Oct. 20: Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas
Oct. 27: First Data 500 at Martinsville
Nov. 3: AAA Texas 500
Nov. 10: Can-Am 500k at Phoenix
Nov. 17: Ford EcoBoost 400 at Homestead-Miami

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL GUIDE 2018-19

A QUICK GLANCE AT ALL OF THIS YEAR'S MATCHUPS | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



COTTON BOWL >>> NATIONAL SEMIFINAL

NOTRE DAME (12-0) VS. CLEMSON (13-0)

When: 4 p.m. EST Dec. 29 **Where:** Arlington, Texas **TV:** ESPN
Quick slant: Notre Dame is in the playoff for the first time. This is Clemson's fourth straight CFP appearance.



ORANGE BOWL >>> NATIONAL SEMIFINAL

OKLAHOMA (12-1) VS. ALABAMA (13-0)

When: 8 p.m. EST Dec. 29 **Where:** Miami Gardens, Fla. **TV:** ESPN
Quick slant: The Tide are the only team to have appeared every year. Oklahoma QB Kyler Murray has thrown for 4,053 yards and 40 TDs.

DEC. 15	CELEBRATION BOWL NC A&T (9-2) vs. Alcorn St. (9-3)	Time: Noon EST TV: ABC		Quick slant: Alcorn State QB Noah Johnson has thrown for 2,079 yards and 15 TDs. The Aggies' running game is averaging close to 200 yards per game.
	CURE BOWL Tulane (6-6) vs. La.-Lafayette (7-6)	Time: 1:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Green Wave became bowl eligible for the first time since 2013. The Ragin' Cajuns lost to Appalachian State in Sun Belt title game.
	NEW MEXICO BOWL North Texas (9-3) vs. Utah St. (10-2)	Time: 2 p.m. EST TV: CBSN		Quick slant: The Mean Green went 5-3 in Conference USA. The Aggies rattled off 10 consecutive wins, bookended by losses to Michigan State and Boise State.
	LAS VEGAS BOWL Fresno St. (11-2) vs. Arizona St. (7-5)	Time: 3:30 p.m. EST TV: ABC		Quick slant: The Sun Devils went 7-5 under first-year coach Herm Edwards. The Bulldogs knocked off Boise State in overtime to claim the Mountain West title.
	CAMELLIA BOWL Ga. Southern (9-3) vs. E. Michigan (7-5)	Time: 5:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Georgia Southern rebounded ended season with back-to-back lopsided wins. Eastern Michigan ranked fourth nationally in red zone defense.
	NEW ORLEANS BOWL Middle Tenn. (8-5) vs. Appalachian St. (10-2)	Time: 9 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Blue Raiders lost 27-25 to UAB in the Conference USA title game. Middle Tennessee played three games against SEC foes this year.
DEC. 18	BOCA RATON BOWL UAB (10-3) vs. North Illinois (8-5)	Time: 7 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Huskies beat Buffalo 30-29 in the MAC championship game. The Blazers are bowling for a second straight season after a two-year hiatus.
DEC. 19	FRISCO BOWL San Diego St. (7-5) vs. Ohio (8-4)	Time: 8 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Aztecs started this season 6-1 but have lost four of five games. Bobcats making 10th bowl appearance in 14 seasons under coach Frank Solich.
DEC. 20	GASPARILLA BOWL Marshall (8-4) vs. South Florida (7-5)	Time: 8 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Thundering Herd had won three straight games before falling 41-20 at Virginia Tech. The Bulls raced to a 7-0 start and then lost their final five.
DEC. 21	BAHAMAS BOWL Toledo (7-5) vs. FIU (8-4)	Time: 12:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: FIU lost 28-25 to Marshall in the regular-season finale. Toledo scored at least 45 points in four of its last five games.
	FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO BOWL Western Michigan (7-5) vs. BYU (6-6)	Time: 4 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Broncos finished second in the MAC's West Division. The bowl committee picked the Cougars over Wyoming due to the big local BYU fan base.
DEC. 22	BIRMINGHAM BOWL Memphis (8-5) vs. Wake Forest (6-6)	Time: Noon EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Memphis coming off 56-41 loss to No. 7 UCF in AAC title game. Wake Forest ended regular season with a 59-7 win over Duke.
	ARMED FORCES BOWL Houston (8-4) vs. Army (9-2)*	Time: 3:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Cougars scored at least 40 points in 10 games, the most by any team in the country. * Black Knights finished season vs. Navy on Dec. 8.
	DOLLAR GENERAL BOWL Buffalo (10-3) vs. Troy (9-3)	Time: 7 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Troy trying to reach 10 wins for the fourth consecutive season. Buffalo has already set a school record for wins.
	HAWAII BOWL Louisiana Tech (7-5) vs. Hawaii (8-5)	Time: 10:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Warriors made a five-win improvement from last year. Bulldogs are one of four teams to win four straight bowl games the last four seasons.
DEC. 26	FIRST RESPONDER BOWL Boston College (7-5) vs. Boise St. (10-3)	Time: 1:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Broncos came up short in Mountain West title game. Golden Eagles finished season on a three-game losing streak.
	QUICK LANE BOWL Minnesota (6-6) vs. Georgia Tech (7-5)	Time: 5:15 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Longtime Jackets coach Paul Johnson has 189 career victories. Gophers earned a bowl berth after beating Wisconsin on last game of season.
	CHEEZ-IT BOWL California (7-5) vs. TCU (6-6)	Time: 9 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Cal coach Justin Wilcox has overseen building of one of the nation's top defenses. Horned Frogs closed regular season with back-to-back wins.
DEC. 27	INDEPENDENCE BOWL Temple (8-4) vs. Duke (7-5)	Time: 1:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Blue Devils finished sixth behind ACC Coastal champion Pittsburgh. This is the fourth straight season the Owls have qualified for a bowl.
	PINSTRIPES BOWL Miami (7-5) vs. Wisconsin (7-5)	Time: 5:15 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Hurricanes lost four straight before finishing the season with win over Pittsburgh. Badgers were ranked fourth by The AP in the preseason.
	TEXAS BOWL Baylor (6-6) vs. Vanderbilt (6-6)	Time: 9 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Bears went 1-11 under first-year coach Matt Rhule last season. The Commodores won three of their final four games to become bowl eligible.
DEC. 28	MUSIC CITY BOWL Purdue (6-6) vs. Auburn (7-5)	Time: 1:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Tigers were ranked as high as seventh. The Boilermakers recorded one of season's most notable upsets, a 49-20 rout of Ohio State on Oct. 20.
	CAMPING WORLD BOWL West Virginia (8-3) vs. Syracuse (9-3)	Time: 5:15 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Orange scored at least 50 points in five regular-season games. The Mountaineers average 520.4 yards and 42.3 points on offense.
	ALAMO BOWL Iowa St. (8-4) vs. Washington St. (10-2)	Time: 9 p.m. EST TV: FS1		Quick slant: The Cyclones won seven of their last eight games. The Cougars' faint playoff hopes were dashed in a 28-15 loss to Washington in the Apple Cup.
DEC. 29	PEACH BOWL Florida (9-3) vs. Michigan (10-2)	Time: Noon EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Wolverines still rank No. 1 in total defense despite OSU rout. Dan Mullen's first Gators team has won five more games than it did year ago.
	BELK BOWL South Carolina (7-5) vs. Virginia (7-5)	Time: Noon EST TV: ABC		Quick slant: Gamecocks are tested and successful in close contests. Cavaliers making their first consecutive bowl appearances since 2004-05.
	ARIZONA BOWL Arkansas St. (8-4) vs. Nevada (7-5)	Time: 1:15 p.m. EST TV: CBSN		Quick slant: The Red Wolves are on a four-game winning streak. The Wolf Pack played in the inaugural Arizona Bowl in 2015, beating MWC rival Colorado State.
DEC. 31	MILITARY BOWL Cincinnati (10-2) vs. Virginia Tech (6-6)	Time: Noon EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Hokies are making their 26th straight bowl appearance. It was a turnaround season for the Bearcats coach Luke Fickell.
	SUN BOWL Stanford (8-4) vs. Pittsburgh (7-6)	Time: 2 p.m. EST TV: CBS		Quick slant: Panthers were one of the big surprises in the ACC. Stanford QB K.J. Costello has recorded seven 300-yard passing games.
	REDBOX BOWL Michigan St. (7-5) vs. Oregon (8-4)	Time: 3 p.m. EST TV: FOX		Quick slant: The Spartans beat Penn State on Oct. 13 then finished 3-3. This could be Ducks QB Justin Herbert's final game, should he decide to turn pro.
	LIBERTY BOWL Missouri (8-4) vs. Oklahoma St. (6-6)	Time: 3:45 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Tigers won their last four regular-season games. The Cowboys have victories over three teams currently in the Top 25.
	HOLIDAY BOWL Northwestern (8-5) vs. Utah (9-4)	Time: 7 p.m. EST TV: FS1		Quick slant: Utes won the Pac-12 South before losing to Washington in title game. Wildcats won Big Ten West before losing to Ohio State in championship.
	GATOR BOWL N.C. St. (9-3) vs. Texas A&M (8-4)	Time: 7:30 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Paul "Bear" Bryant's last game as Texas A&M's coach was in the 1957 Gator Bowl. Wolfpack ended regular season with rout of East Carolina.
JAN. 1	OUTBACK BOWL Mississippi St. (8-4) vs. Iowa (8-4)	Time: Noon EST TV: ESPN2		Quick slant: Joe Moorhead joins Jackie Sherrill as only MSU coaches to make bowl game in first season. Iowa's four losses came by a combined 23 points.
	CITRUS BOWL Kentucky (9-3) vs. Penn St. (9-3)	Time: 1 p.m. EST TV: ABC		Quick slant: The Wildcats' best regular season in four decades ended with a second-place finish in the SEC East. Nittany Lions finished 12th in the CFP.
	FIESTA BOWL LSU (9-3) vs. UCF (12-0)	Time: 1 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: The Knights finished a second straight undefeated regular season. The Tigers knocked off No. 2 Georgia during the regular season.
	ROSE BOWL Washington (10-3) vs. Ohio St. (12-1)	Time: 5 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Buckeyes missed out on CFP despite Big Ten title. Huskies earned their first Rose Bowl trip in 18 years with four consecutive wins to end season.
	SUGAR BOWL Texas (9-4) vs. Georgia (11-2)	Time: 8:45 p.m. EST TV: ESPN		Quick slant: Bulldogs coming off hard-fought loss to Alabama in SEC title game. Longhorns have chance to win 10 games for the first time since 2009.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

When: 8 p.m. EST Jan. 7 **TV:** ESPN **Where:** Santa Clara, California **Quick slant:** College football season culminates with matchup of Cotton Bowl, Orange Bowl winners.

Ryan Day paid dues before getting Ohio State job

By Mitch Stacy
The Associated Press



Day

future. The 39-year-old Day, who will become the 25th coach in Ohio State history after the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1, has never been a full-time head coach — which is rare at a major program hiring for its top job. But he's been known in the college football world for years as an up-and-comer, having already turned down a

head coaching offer at Mississippi State before being promoted at Ohio State. Later, he said no to the Tennessee Titans, who wanted him as their offensive coordinator, to stay with the Buckeyes. Meyer, who announced his retirement on Tuesday, said Ohio State was fortunate to have kept him. "I think in trying to build the most comprehensive premier program in America, you also want to hand it off to someone

at some point so it can get even stronger," Meyer said. "And my witnessing of the work Ryan has done made this decision not as difficult as I thought."

Day's stock rose even more after the spotlight was thrust upon him in August, when he guided the Buckeyes to a 3-0 record during Meyer's suspension for his handling of domestic abuse accusations against now-fired assistant Zach Smith. Day became a mentor to quarterback

Dwayne Haskins Jr., who broke single-season passing records this season in leading the Buckeyes to a 12-1 record and will be in New York this week as a Heisman Trophy finalist.

The Manchester, New Hampshire, native has sizable shoes to fill now. He will take over on the recruiting trail immediately for Meyer, who compiled an 82-9 record in seven years at Ohio State and won a national championship in 2014. "We all know the

tremendous job (Day) did and the challenging time," Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said. "He led our program through unbelievable adversity earlier in the year. He offers us terrific, terrific skill and talent."

Day worked as quarterbacks coach under Chip Kelly with the Philadelphia Eagles and San Francisco 49ers before joining the Ohio State staff. This was his 17th season overall in the professional and collegiate coaching ranks.

A Special Thank You to Our NIE Sponsors



Delivering a world of ideas to the future, one classroom at a time.



Learning Comes to Life in the Newspaper

- Promote Critical Thinking
- Enhance Global Awareness
- Improve Reading Skills
- Encourage Conversation in the Classroom



Discover Something New Every Day
in the Newspaper

DAILY COMMERCIAL

P: 352-365-8200 • F: 352-365-1951
www.dailycommercial.com
212 E. Main Street Leesburg, FL 34748

LAKE COUNTY'S MOST HONORED CABLE CHANNEL

Lake Sumter TV, in partnership with



Lake Sumter
State College

is pleased to present the live broadcast and encore airings of the

Fall Commencement Ceremony Saturday, December 8

LIVE 1pm

Encore Presentations:

Friday, Dec 14 | 9am and 10:30pm

Saturday, Dec 15 | 9am

Sunday, Dec 16 | 1pm



LAKE SUMTER TELEVISION

Watch LSTV on Comcast 13, Spectrum 498 & Prism 83

IF-00325TV

The 59th Commencement Ceremony can be streamed live at

LakeSumterTV.com

2018
HOT ROD
Holiday Giveaway

WIN A FREE HOT ROD

FROM
HANKSTERS
Hot Rods
MUSCLE CARS
386-944-9219
HANKSTERS.COM

SECOND PLACE
2 VIP Tickets
to the
DAYTONA 500
Includes 2-night stay at Night Swan Bed & Breakfast

THIRD PLACE
2 GA Tickets
to the
DAYTONA 500

12 CLASSIC
HOT RODS
TO CHOOSE
FROM!

CO-SPONSORED BY:

Plus 36 Participants will win Gift Bags!

EACH WEEK, FOR 4 WEEKS, YOU CAN ENTER TO WIN A CLASSIC HOT ROD!

DAILY COMMERCIAL
SOUTH LAKE **PRESS**

TO ENTER, GO TO
dailycommercial.com/contests
and enter this week's Code Word.

Contest runs from 11/25/18 - 12/18/18.

Week Two Code Word is: **MAGS**

IF-0047093

SCENE

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

ON STAGE

'Wonderful Life' opens in Clermont

By Linda Florea
Correspondent

Time to get out to the theater with all five local community theaters offering shows for the next two weeks.

The Moonlight Players in Clermont presents "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play," opening Friday and playing until Dec. 16. Special performances are Dec. 10 and Dec. 15.

Also on stage until Dec. 16 are "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)" at the Melon Patch in Leesburg, "She Loves Me" at the Tavares Community Theater, "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" by the Bay Street Players in Eustis and "Mary Poppins, the Broadway Musical" at the IceHouse in Mount Dora.

Tickets are going fast for The Lettermen, with two show Saturday at the Orange Blossom Opry in Weirsdale.

And looking ahead, the Victorian troupe, Phantasmagoria's brings "A Christmas Carol, A Ghost Story of Christmas" to the stage at the Bay Street Theatre in Eustis.



George Bailey (Josh Hernandez) with his wife Mary (Sarilda Mayberry) and their three children (left to right, Irelyn Silvestro, Rhyse Silvestro and Gloria Denmark) discover the true meaning of Christmas in this holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" by the Moonlight Players in Clermont opening Friday and playing until Dec. 16. [LALALU PHOTOGRAPHY]

"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play"

The Moonlight Players in Clermont presents "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play," on stage opening Friday and playing until Dec. 16. Special performances Dec. 10 and Dec. 15.

This beloved American holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve.

Tickets: \$10 to \$20.

Details and tickets: moonlightplayers.com

"Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)"

The Melon Patch in Leesburg presents "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)" playing until Dec. 16.

Instead of performing Charles Dickens' beloved holiday classic for the umpteenth time, three actors decide to perform reduced versions of every Christmas story ever told. They toss in Christmas traditions from around the world, try to capture seasonal icons ranging from ancient times to classic television specials to contemporary pop-culture and cap it all off by performing every carol ever sung.

See STAGE, C3



LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

On Tap this weekend



Wine and chocolate in Clermont and plenty of holiday cheer abound

By Linda Florea
Correspondent

It's a jam-packed weekend of wine, chocolate and holiday events in Lake and Sumter counties.

Snow is also in the forecast Saturday for Mount Dora, so bring your sleds to Children's Christmas in the Park.

Santa will visit Light Up Groveland and Fruitland Park's

See TAP, C3



TOP: A man tests out the sledding at Donnelly Park in Mount Dora. The annual Children's Christmas in the Park with Snow from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday. [CITY OF MOUNT DORA] **UPPER LEFT: The 43rd Annual Cracker Christmas Parade and Festival will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Cadwell Park in Umatilla. Dog jog at 9 a.m., parade at 9:30 p.m. With arts, crafts, food and activities. Go to umatillachamber.org.** [FACEBOOK] **LOWER RIGHT: Kira Curry's jaw drops at the sight of a decorate-it-yourself Christmas tree she received from Santa Claus at a recent light-up event in Groveland.** [LINDA CHARLTON/CORRESPONDENT]

MOVIE REVIEW

'Shoplifters' will steal your heart

By Al Alexander
More Content Now

If Charles Dickens were alive and living in Tokyo, he no doubt would write something very much like "Shoplifters," a modern spin on "Oliver Twist" in which a multigenerational clan of miscreants tries their illegal best to fend off an unaccepting society insistent on kicking them to the side of the road. Alas, ol' Boz is no road, but Hirokazu Kore-eda will do quite nicely in his stead, serving as writer-director of what is undoubtedly one of the two or three best films of the year.

Like the lion's share of Kore-eda's



This image shows a scene from "Shoplifters." [MAGNOLIA PICTURES]

mini-masterpieces, "Shoplifters" – his pinnacle – is about family and all the unconventionality

that concept inspires. There's a mom and dad, and a grandma and auntie, each pitching in to raise

"Shoplifters"

- Cast includes Lily Franky, Jyo Kairi, Sakura Ando, Kirin Kiki, Mayu Matsuoka and Miyu Sasaki. In Japanese with English subtitles.
- (R for some sexual content and nudity.)
- Grade: A

two children, but that's where normality ends and amorality begins. From the start, an air of intriguing mystery hovers. Who are these people? Why do they live in a dilapidated hut in the middle of a bustling metropolis? And why are they so seemingly

See REVIEW, C6

MUSIC & BOOKS

JAGGER ON NEW STONES TOUR, NEW MUSIC AND REACHING BACK INTO THE CATALOG

Rolling Stones frontman Mick Jagger says live shows give him a rush that can't be matched and is the reason that at 75, he still loves touring.

[VICTORIA WILL/INVISION/AP]

Mick Jagger likes a buzz. A natural buzz. The Rolling Stones frontman, who will tour America next spring with his iconic band, says live shows give him a rush that can't be matched and is the reason that at 75, he still loves touring.

In an interview Nov. 26 with *The Associated Press*, Jagger talked about the tour, only having three Grammys and appearing in the new-but-old Aretha Franklin concert documentary, "Amazing Grace," filmed at a Los Angeles church in 1972.

AP: What can fans expect from the U.S. shows?

JAGGER: A good night out! A good night out for all. We did a kind of similar tour in Europe this summer, so it's got a lot of fun. ...It's pretty high energy and it's a good show, I think. I'm into it. AP: Is it different performing in the U.S. compared to other territories?

Jagger: Well, I don't have to speak foreign languages normally, so that's a big difference. When you tour Europe it's a lot of languages, so I try to do them all and that takes up some time, so (in the U.S.) I can concentrate on some other things. There's lots of regional differences, say between Houston and New York, so you've got to tune yourself to that a little bit. It's slightly about adjusting your set and attitude. It's different. It's nice that

it's different, you don't want it to be completely homogenous. But it's great to be going around so many different areas, different states and so on.

AP: How's the new music you're writing coming along?

JAGGER: It's going good. I've got lots of stuff. I'm doing some more writing this week. And I'm always, like, messing around. I enjoy the writing process a lot. I mean, you always think the last thing you wrote is really wonderful and sometimes they're really not (laughs). But it's really fun doing it and it's really enjoyable doing new things.

AP: You don't even need to release music because of the band's catalog...

JAGGER: Yeah, and we haven't released that much and I think it's a shame we haven't released more new music. So, I would hope we're going to release some music. We do have a huge catalog. The thing about the catalog is when we come up to doing a tour like this, I try and go back and find some stuff that we haven't done ever or we haven't done very much and try to mix it in, so it isn't always the same show. But when you're playing a really big show, there's a certain amount of songs people want to hear — you don't have to play them — but there's a certain percentage of the songs that people will want to hear and if you don't do them, they'll go, "Wish he'd done that one."

By Mesfin Fekadu
The Associated Press

MUSIC REVIEW

Pumpkins' album is shiny, bright



By Ragan Clark
The Associated Press

It's no question The Smashing Pumpkins has had a tumultuous past. Multiple iterations, break-ups and solo careers later, three founding members of the 90s Chicago-rooted rockers — Billy Corgan, James Iha and Jimmy Chamberlin — are back to release their first collaborative album in 18 years, "SHINY AND OH SO BRIGHT, VOL. 1 / LP: NO PAST. NO FUTURE. NO SUN."

The title of the LP is fitting, considering there's a past the band likely wants to leave behind.

The Smashing Pumpkins has teetered between dissolution and reconciliation since 1996, after the overdose death of touring keyboardist Jonathan Melvoin and the firing of Chamberlin. Members have been in flux ever since, with the current roster featuring

Corgan, Iha and Chamberlin with guitarist Jeff Schroeder.

Ahead of their latest tour, one founding member, bassist D'arcy Wretzky, was left in the dark. The circumstances surrounding her exclusion from the band's reunion started a feud between Wretzky and Corgan, complete with publicized text message screenshots and name-calling.

Peel away the dramatics and dysfunction that marked the launch of "SHINY AND OH SO BRIGHT" — and the Pumpkins' past, for that matter — and you're left with an album that stays true to the band's classic sound with the help of legendary producer Rick Rubin.

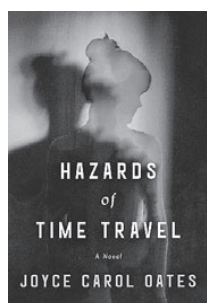
Triumphant strings and distorted vocals open the album, as "Knights of Malta" crescendos to a choir singing with the guttural Corgan singing, "We're gonna make this happen/I'm gonna fly forever."

'SHINY AND OH SO BRIGHT, VOL. 1/LP: NO PAST. NO FUTURE. NO SUN.'

The Smashing Pumpkins (Napalm Records)

BOOK REVIEW

Oates views past via future in latest



By Christina Ledbetter
The Associated Press

In Joyce Carol Oates' future America, history and free thought are off-limits. Thus, high school senior Adriane Strohl is arrested for treasonous speech when it's revealed that her valedictory address is comprised of questions that her classmates haven't the nerve to ask. While the curious student isn't "deleted," as some have been, she's sent into exile 80 years into the past to the idyllic town of Wainscotia, Wisconsin. Here, Adriane will face the "Hazards of Time Travel."

Armed with firm rules (no questions, no intimate relationships, no provision of future knowledge, among others), a fake birth certificate, a vague backstory and one box of secondhand clothing, Adriane enters her freshman year at Wainscotia

State University. Oates doesn't squander much print on obvious wonderments in this setting. Save for puzzlement over a typewriter and the oddity of witnessing her housemates smoke cigarettes free from worry, Adriane's biggest surprises comes in the classroom. Here, while struggling to intellectually find her place, she falls in love with a fellow exile, complicating her existence in a myriad ways.

Desperate for intimacy, yet unable to attain it without fear of execution, loneliness suffocates this loneliner. All the while, her classes, art and limited relationships stimulate her thinking in ways she's never before experienced, creating a love story wrapped in psychological turmoil.

Imagery takes a back seat to intellectual discourse.

'Hazards of Time Travel'

By Joyce Carol Oates (Ecco)

BILLBOARD TOP 10 For the week ending Nov. 25

TOP 10 SONGS OF THE HOT 100 LIST

1. **Thank U, Next**, Ariana Grande
2. **Sicko Mode**, Travis Scott
3. **Happier**, Marshmello & Bastille
4. **Without Me**, Halsey
5. **Lucid Dreams**, Juice WRLD
6. **High Hopes**, Panic! At The Disco
7. **Mo Bamba**, Sheek Wes
8. **Girls Like You**, Maroon 5 featuring Cardi B
9. **Drip Too Hard**, Lil Baby & Gunna
10. **ZEZE**, Kodak Black featuring Travis Scott

TOP 10 ALBUMS OF THE BILLBOARD 200 LIST

1. **Delta**, Mumford & Sons
2. **Love**, Michael Buble
3. **The Greatest Showman: Reimagined**, Various Artists
4. **A Star Is Born (Soundtrack)**, Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper
5. **Caution**, Mariah Carey
6. **Bohemian Rhapsody (Soundtrack)**, Queen
7. **ASTROWORLD**, Travis Scott
8. **Scorpion**, Drake
9. **A Love Letter To You 3**, Trippie Redd
10. **Not All Heroes Wear Capes**, Metro B

BEST-SELLING BOOKS

The Wall Street Journal's list reflects nationwide sales of hardcover books for the week ending Nov. 11

FICTION

1. **"The Meltdown (Diary of a Wimpy Kid 13)"** by Jeff Kinney (Amulet Books)
2. **"Look Alive Twenty-Five"** by Janet Evanovich (G.P. Putnam)
3. **"Long Road to Mercy (Atlee Pine)"** by David Baldaaci (Grand Central)
4. **"Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald-the Original Screenplay"** by J.K. Rowling (Arthur A. Levine)
5. **"The Reckoning"** by John Grisham (Doubleday)

NONFICTION

1. **"Becoming"** by Michelle Obama (Crown)
2. **"Homebody"** by Joanna Gaines (Harper Design)
3. **"It's Not Supposed to Be this Way"** by Lysa TerKeurst (Thomas Nelson)
4. **"Whose Boat is This Boat?"** by The Late Show Staff with Stephen Colbert (Simon & Schuster)
5. **"Girl, Wash Your Face"** by Rachel Hollis (Thomas Nelson)

FICTION E-BOOKS

1. **"Look Alive Twenty-Five (Stephanie Plum)"** by Janet Evanovich (G.P. Putnam)
2. **"Long Road to Mercy (Atlee Pine)"** by David Baldaaci (Grand Central)
3. **"Past Tense : A Jack Reacher Novel"** by Lee Child (Transworld Digital)
4. **"The Reckoning"** by John Grisham (Doubleday)
5. **"Nine Perfect Strangers"** by Liane Moriarty (Flatiron Books)

NONFICTION E-BOOKS

1. **"Becoming"** by Michelle Obama (Crown)
2. **"Educated"** by Tara Westover (Random House)
3. **"About My Mother"** by Peggy Rowe (Forefront Books)
4. **"It's Not Supposed to Be this Way"** by Lysa TerKeurst (Thomas Nelson)
5. **"Girl, Wash Your Face"** by Rachel Hollis (Thomas Nelson)

CALENDAR

We want to hear from you:

Send news releases about arts and entertainment events around Lake and Sumter counties to news@dailycommercial.com. Include a description, date, time, cost, address, contact name and phone number.

Through Saturday

CHRISTMAS SHOP AT THE LIBRARY: From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, 10 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday at the W.T. Bland Public Library, 1995 N. Donnelly St., Mount Dora.

Today

NEW VISION'S ANNUAL LUNCHEON: From 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Tavares Civic Center, 100 E. Caroline St. Cost: \$15 per person, or \$145 for a reserved table of eight. Details: <http://newvisionfl.org>.

OLD TIME RADIO DRAMA CLUB: At 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Savannah Center, 1575 Buena Vista Blvd. in The Villages. Go to thevillagesoldtimeradio.club.

AMERICAN LEGION GENERAL MEETING: At 6 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at American Legion John Gella Memorial Post 219, 194 W. Fountain St., Fruitland Park. Call 352-787-2338.

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY – FLOTILLA 43 MEETING: At 7 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at Mid-Florida Lakes MHP, 200 Forest Drive in Leesburg. Promote recreational boating safety while receiving specialized training and making new friends. Call 407-761-8764 or email marty@ganii.com.

READER OF THE PACK: From 4 to 5 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at Leesburg Public Library, 100 E. Main St. Free. All ages are invited to pet and read a book to the PAWS Therapy Dogs to strengthen reading skills and build reading confidence. Call Melissa Curry at 352-728-9790 or email melissa.curry@leesburgflorida.gov.

PALETTES AND PETS: From 5 to 7 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at Orlando Cat Café, 532 Cagan Park Ave. in Clermont. Order a snack and create a canvas painting with guidance from professional artist Kathie Camara. All materials provided. Cost is \$35. Registration required. Go to orlandocatcafe.com.

NORTH LAKE TEA PARTY MEETING: From 7 to 9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at Tavares Civic Center, 100 E. Caroline St. Go to northlaketeaparty.com for information.

LAKE COUNTY FARMERS AND FLEA MARKET: From 8 a.m. to

See **CALENDAR, C6**

TAP

From Page C1

Hometown Christmas, while Umatilla continues its longtime tradition with the 43rd annual Cracker Christmas Parade and Festival on Saturday.

Local street parties include the Night Market on Friday and Food Truck-n-Flick Night Saturday in Leesburg, the first Friday Street Party in Eustis and First Friday Food Trucks in Clermont.

Wine and Chocolate

Lakeridge Winery and Vineyards hosts the Wine and Chocolate Festival Friday through Sunday. Local chocolatiers will be on hand with sweet confections, along with artists, crafters and music. Lakeridge wine, beer, soft drinks and a variety of food will be available for purchase, along with complimentary winery tours and tastings. A portion of the proceeds go to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Florida. The event is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at Lakeridge Winery and Vineyards, 19239 N. Highway 27 in Clermont.

Admission is \$10. Children 12 and under are free. Details: lakeridgewinery.com

Light Up Groveland

Groveland lights up for the holidays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday in Downtown Festival Park, 117 N. Main Ave. at the corner of Crittenden Street.

The Elf Run 5K run/walk check-in is 8 a.m. and the race starts at 9 a.m. Reserve a spot for the 5K by sending your name, email address and T-shirt size to info@groveland-fl.gov and be ready to pay the \$10 entry fee on the morning of the event. Everyone who enters gets a T-shirt and finisher medal. Awards

ceremony is 10 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m. there will be a park grand opening and ribbon cutting. Holiday in the Park festivities are from 10:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. and include food trucks, craft vendors, kids zone, video game truck, rock climbing wall, obstacle course, bounce houses, face painting and more.

The holiday parade begins at 4 p.m. near Gray Middle School starting at Cherry Street and continuing on Lake Avenue and Magnolia Street. The tree lighting, concert and visits with Santa are at 6 p.m.

Children's Christmas in the Park with Snow

Get out the sleds for Mount Dora's annual Children's Christmas in the Park with Snow, featuring sledding, bounce houses, music and food from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday at Donnelly Park. Details: cityofmountdora.com

43rd Annual Cracker Christmas Parade and Festival

Umatilla celebrates its 43rd annual Cracker Christmas Parade and Festival from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in Cadwell Park. The event features arts, crafts, food and children's activities. Register for the dog walk and dress up your pooch for a walk along the parade route at 9 a.m. The parade starts at 9:30 a.m. at Central Avenue with floats, dignitaries and bands.

Fruitland Park's Hometown Christmas

Fruitland Park's Hometown Christmas is from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the front lawn of Fruitland Park City Hall, 506 W. Berckman Street. The Christmas event includes local entertainment, free activities for kids including bounce houses, live DJ, food trucks, vendors and a visit from

Mr. and Mrs. Claus who arrive by fire truck.

Holiday Home Tour

The Howey-in-the-Hills Garden and Civic Club sponsor a Holiday Home Tour from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. Cost: \$25. Details: events@howeygardenclub.com

Leesburg Night Market

Do a little shopping at the night market on the corner of Fifth and Magnolia streets from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday in downtown Leesburg. Details: leesburgarts.com

Eustis Street Party

Downtown Eustis features music, food, vendors and live music at the First Friday Street Party from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday. Details: eustis.org

First Friday Food Trucks

Live music, kids zone, food truck and shopping is in store at the First Friday Food Trucks from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday in downtown Clermont. Details: clermontdowntownpartnership.com

Food Truck-n-Flick Night

Classic and custom cars line up on Main Street and food trucks on Fifth and Sixth streets for an evening of fun, food and free movies from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday. There's live music and a cash bar.

Guitars and Cars

Swap meets for musicians, cars and motorcyclists combine for the Guitars and Cars Swap Meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at Renninger's Antique Center, 20651 Highway 441 in Mount Dora. Cost: \$2. Details: renningers.net



LAKERIDGE WINERY WINE AND CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL: From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at Lakeridge Winery and Vineyards, 19239 N. Highway 27 in Clermont. Admission is \$10, children 12 and younger are free. Details: lakeridgewinery.com. [SUBMITTED]

STAGE

From Page C1

"Well, if you love all things Christmas, this is the show for you," said director Jennifer Mendez. "Three men, over 50 costume changes and close to 70 props tell the story of every Christmas story you can think of in the space of approximately 90 minutes."

Details and tickets: melonpatchplayers.org

"She Loves Me"

The Tavares Community Theater presents the Broadway musical romantic comedy "She Loves Me" opening Saturday and playing until Dec. 16 at Bridges Family Center, 1100 N St Clair Abrams in Tavares.

In the play, when Georg Nowack (played by Jared Wells) meets Amalia Balish (Cassandra Small), neither realizes the other is the delightfully poetic person whom they are each

enamored with and write letters to under the pen name. Their meeting is less than agreeable at Maraczek's Parfumere where they both work. Owner Mr. Maraczek (Ken Anders) adds to Georg's troubles by firing him. Ilona Ritter (Lisa Ferguson) and Steven Kodaly (Rick Breeze) also work at the parfumere. While Ilona hopes to settle down, Steven is a lady's man. Seemingly benign Ladislav Sipos (Logan Blake) and an energetic Arpad Laszlo (Steven Ferguson) fill out the remaining help at the store. A plucky waiter (Keith Byers) adds a bit of comedy at the Café Imperial. Customers 1, 2, & 3 (Jordan Buster in her Florida debut/Katrina Guerra, Brenda Ferguson and Noel Miner) dot the show with upbeat holiday tunes.

Tickets: \$14 to \$16.

Details: tavar-estheater.org.

"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play"

The Bay Street Players

presents "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play," on stage at the Bay Street Theatre, 109 North Bay St. in Eustis until Dec. 16.

"It's a feel-good holiday story," said director Carlos Francisco Asse. "Since it's a radio play, there are musical interludes and commercials in the play and we have a pianist who plays all the background music for the show."

Tickets are \$18 to \$21.

Students with identification are \$11.

Details and tickets: baystreetplayers.org

"Mary Poppins, the Broadway Musical"

Just in time to set the stage for holiday family magic, "Mary Poppins, the Broadway Musical" continues its run at the Sonnentag Theatre at the IceHouse, 1100 N. Unser St. in Mount Dora. It runs through Dec. 16. Shows are not scheduled today and Friday.

"We're so excited to be

offering this show for the holidays, it is such a beloved story for so many people," said Darlin Barry, the managing artistic director of the IceHouse Theatre. "Ashley Willsey as our Mary Poppins and Kirk Simpson as the chimney sweep, Bert, are perfectly suited to their roles. A terrific supporting cast of actors are singing and dancing in the show beautifully, and the costumes and scenery are stunning. This will be such a treat for our audiences to enjoy with their children and grandchildren."

Tickets are \$10 to \$22.

Student and group discounts are available.

Details and tickets: icehousetheatre.com or 352-383-4616.

The Letterman

The Orange Blossom Opry in Weirsdale presents The Letterman at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday. The family friendly trio includes Tony Butala, Donovan Tea and Bobby Poynton. The 60's and the early 70's

saw The Lettermen score over 25 hit singles. They have sung and recorded in over 14 languages and have accumulated 18 gold records internationally. Tickets are \$38 to \$44.

Details and tickets: obopry.com

Upcoming

Phantasmagoria's "A Christmas Carol, A Ghost Story of Christmas"

Celebrate the holiday with the Victoria performance troupe Phantasmagoria, with its own unique adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic holiday tale "A Christmas Carol, A Ghost Story of Christmas." This critically acclaimed troupe brings its signature tapestry of movement, dance, puppetry, projections, music and storytelling to the stage as one of the most famous ghost stories of all times. The show is suitable for all ages. Tickets: Adults are \$21 to \$36 and children younger than age 12 are \$11. Details: baystreetplayers.org

Dr. James Young ~ Lake County's PROSTATE SPECIALIST Since 1982

rezūm
the new wave in BPH treatment

for an Enlarged Prostate
Eliminate surgery or medications

Prostate Cancer
Screening & Treatment
Second opinions for treatment options

1F0047451

Lady Lake

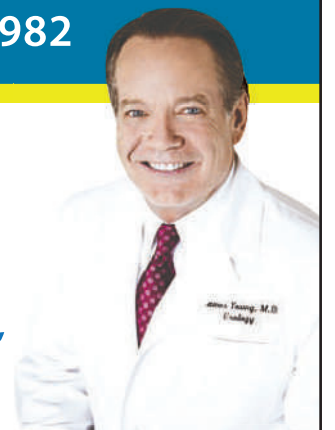
352 805 1050

For information and patient testimonials, please visit:

ProstateEvaluation.com

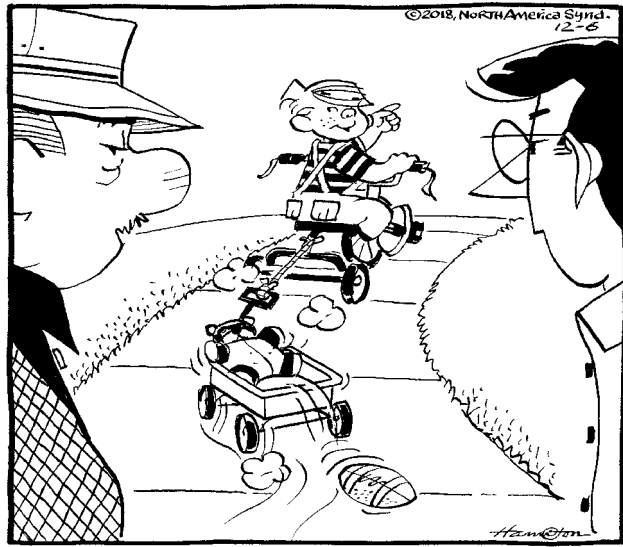
PROSTATE
EVALUATION
CENTER

Dr. James Young is a
nationally recognized,
Board Certified
Urologist.



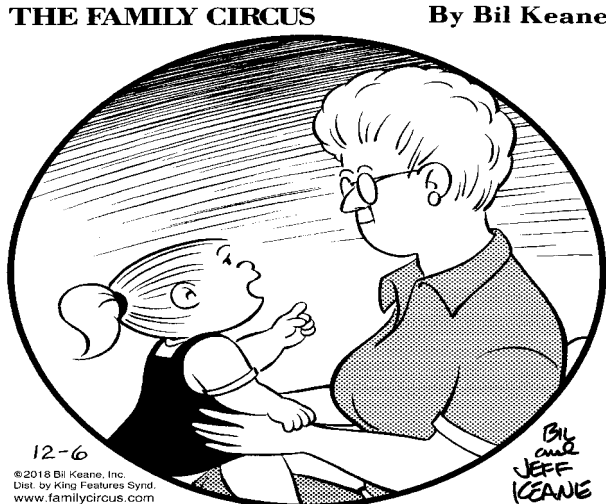
COMICS

DENNIS THE MENACE



"JUST THINK, HENRY... ONE DAY HE'LL BE DRIVING A CAR."

FAMILY CIRCUS



12-6
© 2018 Bill Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com
"Grandma, how well did you know Santa Claus when you guys were younger?"

HEATHCLIFF



"IT'S SOME KIND OF GENIE."

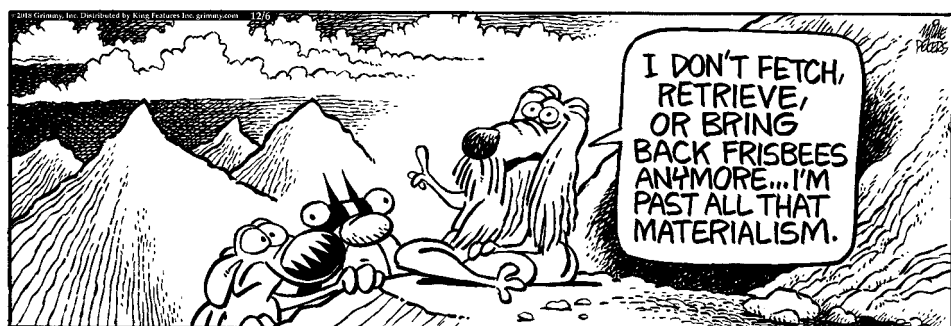
LUANN



DILBERT



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



I DON'T FETCH, RETRIEVE, OR BRING BACK FRISBEES ANYMORE... I'M PAST ALL THAT MATERIALISM.

BABY BLUES



BETLE BAILEY

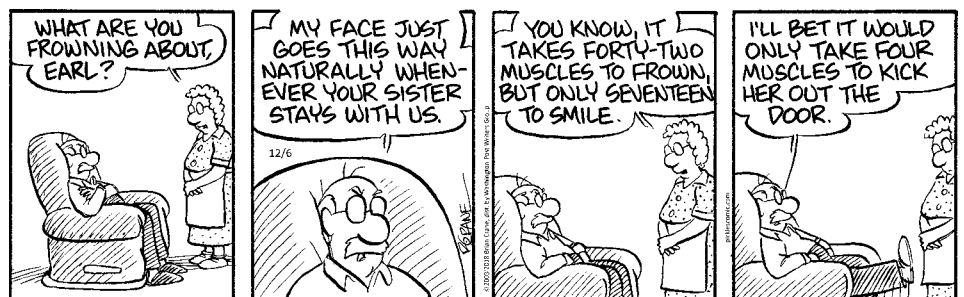


IT'S TIME TO GET UP, BEETLE! GET UP!!

IT'S HARD FOR HIM TO LEAVE THAT BED

IT'S HARD FOR THE BED TOO!

PICKLES



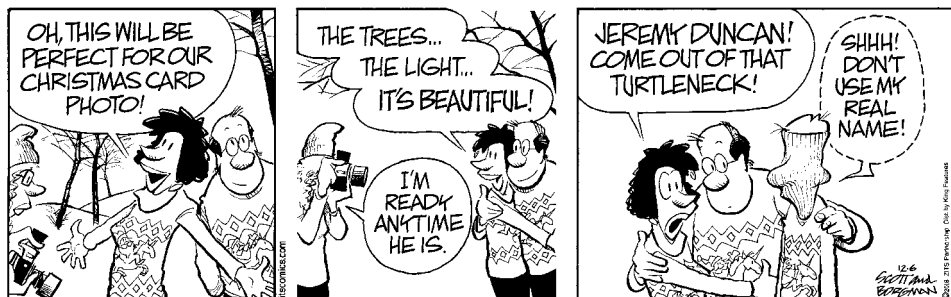
WHAT ARE YOU FROWNING ABOUT, EARL?

MY FACE JUST GOES THIS WAY NATURALLY WHENEVER YOUR SISTER STAYS WITH US.

YOU KNOW, IT TAKES FORTY-TWO MUSCLES TO FROWN, BUT ONLY SEVENTEEN TO SMILE.

I'LL BET IT WOULD ONLY TAKE FOUR MUSCLES TO KICK HER OUT THE DOOR.

ZITS



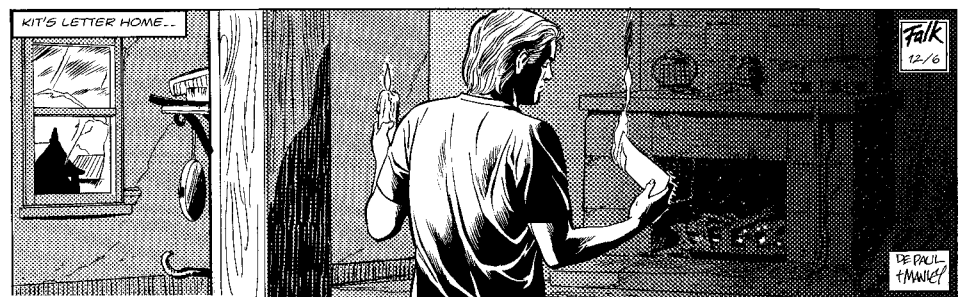
OH, THIS WILL BE PERFECT FOR OUR CHRISTMAS CARD PHOTO!

THE TREES... THE LIGHT... IT'S BEAUTIFUL!

JEREMY DUNCAN! COME OUT OF THAT TURTLENECK!

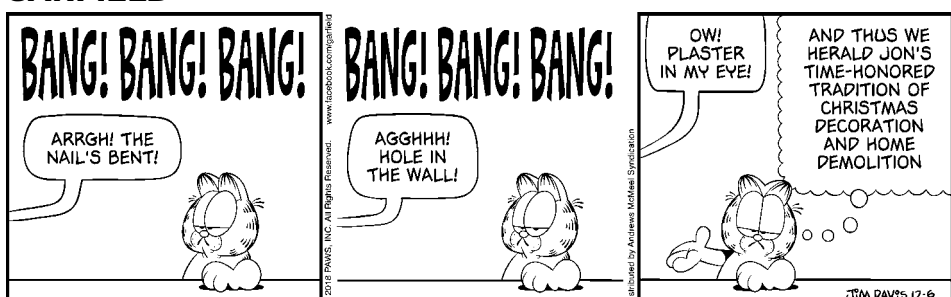
SHHH! DON'T USE MY REAL NAME!

PHANTOM



KIT'S LETTER HOME...

GARFIELD



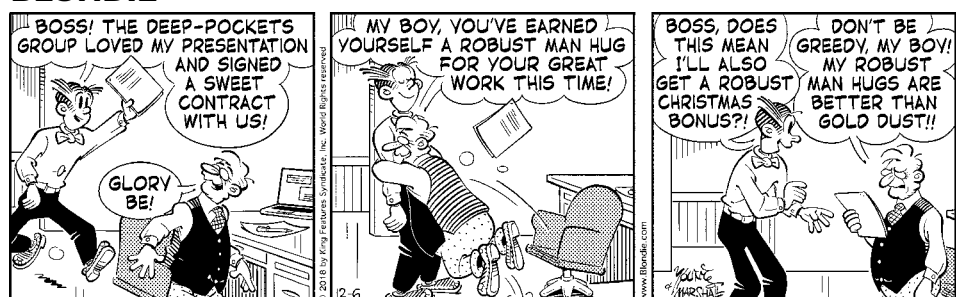
BANG! BANG! BANG!

BANG! BANG! BANG!

OW! PLASTER IN MY EYE!

AND THUS WE HERALD JON'S TIME-HONORED TRADITION OF CHRISTMAS DECORATION AND HOME DEMOLITION

BLONDIE



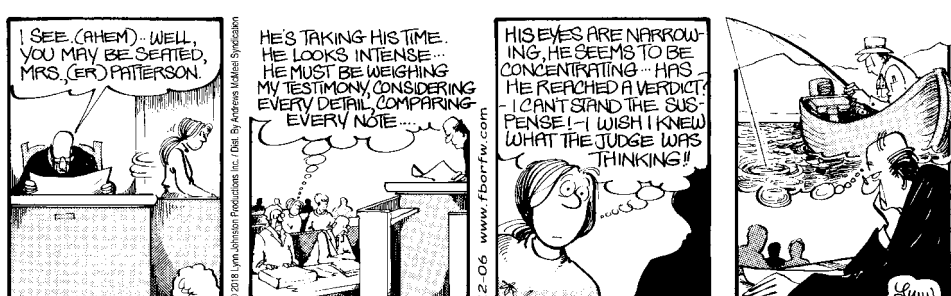
BOSS! THE DEEP-POCKETS GROUP LOVED MY PRESENTATION AND SIGNED A SWEET CONTRACT WITH US!

MY BOY, YOU'VE EARNED YOURSELF A ROBUST MAN HUG FOR YOUR GREAT WORK THIS TIME!

BOSS, DOES THIS MEAN I'LL ALSO GET A ROBUST CHRISTMAS BONUS?

DON'T BE GREEDY, MY BOY! MY ROBUST MAN HUGS ARE BETTER THAN GOLD DUST!!

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

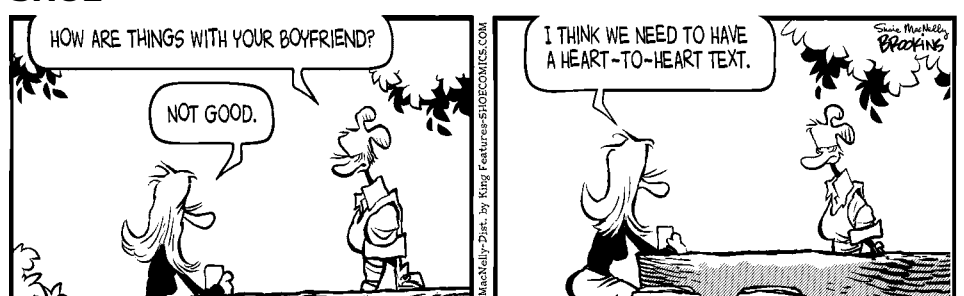


I SEE (AHEM) WELL, YOU MAY BE SEATED, MRS. (AHEM) PATTERSON.

HE'S TAKING HIS TIME. HE LOOKS INTENSE... HE MUST BE WEIGHING MY TESTIMONY, CONSIDERING EVERY DETAIL, COMPARING EVERY NOTE...

HIS EYES ARE NARROWING. HE SEEMS TO BE CONCENTRATING... HAS HE REACHED A VERDICT? I CAN'T STAND THE SUSPENSE! I WISH I KNEW WHAT THE JUDGE WAS THINKING!!

SHOE

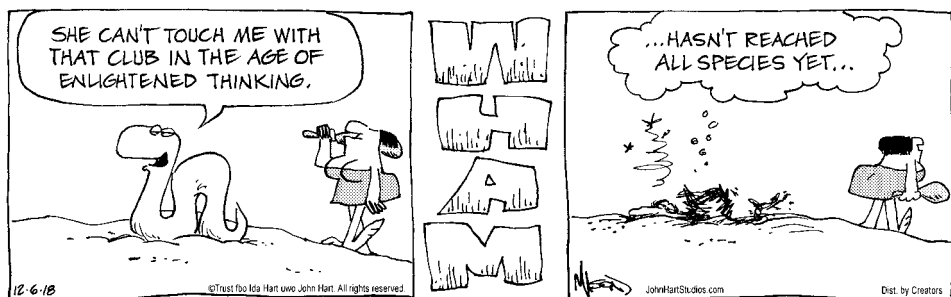


HOW ARE THINGS WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?

NOT GOOD.

I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE A HEART-TO-HEART TEXT.

B.C.



SHE CAN'T TOUCH ME WITH THAT CLUB IN THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENED THINKING.

W...A...M

...HASN'T REACHED ALL SPECIES YET...

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

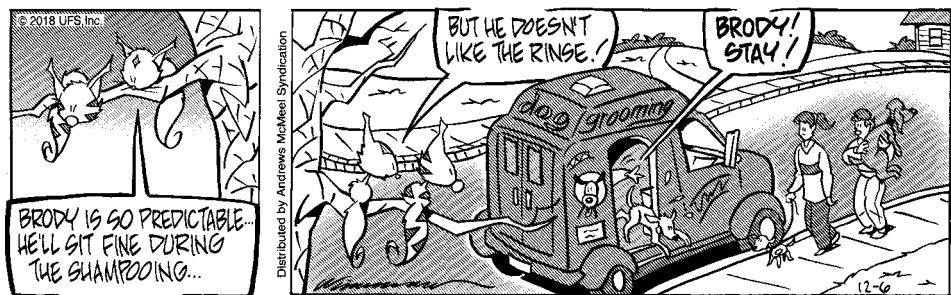


MY BROTHERS, IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL BE REWARDED WITH A HEAVENLY AFTER-PARTY!

WE BELIEVE BROTHER OLAF!

HE SURE KNOWS HIS FLOCK!

ROSE IS ROSE

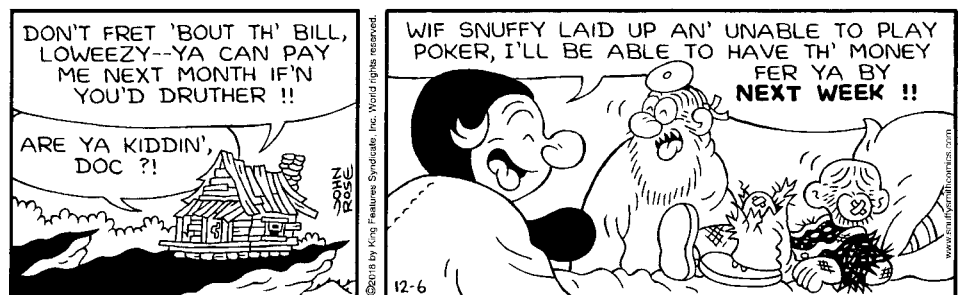


BRODY IS SO PREDICTABLE. HE'LL GET FINE DURING THE SHAMPOOING...

BUT HE DOESN'T LIKE THE RINSE!

BRODY! STAY!

SNUFFY SMITH



DON'T FRET 'BOUT TH' BILL, LOWEEZY--YA CAN PAY ME NEXT MONTH IF N' YOU'D DRUTHER !!

ARE YA KIDDIN', DOC ??

WIF SNUFFY LAID UP AN' UNABLE TO PLAY POKER, I'LL BE ABLE TO HAVE TH' MONEY FER YA BY NEXT WEEK !!

CLASSIC PEANUTS



NOW, THE FIRST THING WE'LL PRACTICE WILL BE OUR 'LIFTS'.

WE'LL CIRCLE THE ICE ONCE LIKE THIS, AND THEN YOU'LL LIFT ME IN THE AIR...

OKAY, NOW LIFT ME...

LIFT ME, I SAID! I'M LIFTING!! I'M LIFTING!!

DIVERSIONS

Mom makes travel plans without being invited to visit

DEAR ABBY: I gave birth to my daughter three months ago, after 44 grueling hours of labor. My mother, assuming I would want her in the delivery room, booked her flight, flew across the country and stayed at my house without asking when I'd like her to come to help me.

During her stay, she made comments about how she had flown 2,000 miles to "dog-sit" for me, that she knew she wasn't wanted, and had she known my daughter wasn't going to come on time (I was induced), she wouldn't have "wasted her vacation" to fly in early. The entire visit was miserable.

Without consulting my husband and me, she has now booked a flight to come and stay with us for Christmas. Christmas is my favorite holiday, and I'm dreading the thought of her being here and worried this visit will be just as awful as the last. I'd like my daughter's first Christmas to be a

JEANNE PHILLIPS

DEAR ABBY



happy occasion.

I asked my mother to change her flights and come in after the holiday, only to be met with the accusation "you're being selfish" from her and my stepfather. How do I tell them that I don't want them here for Christmas while minimizing hurt feelings? -- **PUSHED TOO FAR IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR PUSHED: It appears you not only have a pushy mother, but also one who has no filter. When she made the comments she did when she came to "help" after the delivery, did you tell her how offended you were? Or were you so weak from the struggle to give life that you wilted? If you didn't tell her how you felt, you have a communication problem.

Give your mother one

more chance. Welcome her and your stepfather at Christmas and, if she makes a demeaning or unkind comment, CALL her on it! And when you do, tell her that in the future you and your husband prefer to invite your houseguests rather than have them descend upon you.

DEAR ABBY: Because my husband and I are reaching advanced years, we know we will soon have to downsize to a senior living facility. In anticipation, we have begun distributing keepsakes we have accumulated over the years. Many were gifts with special meaning. Some are heirlooms that have been passed down from previous generations.

When I helped my son with his garage sale recently, I was shocked to discover several of the keepsakes on display. I didn't know how to react, but I did speak to him about it. Apparently, he doesn't value them! How should I handle

future distribution of keepsakes, as there are more of them, some of which I had intended for him and his family? Apparently, his wife and son also have no interest in them. -- **SENTIMENTAL IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR SENTIMENTAL: You now have two choices. You can either give the items as gifts to other family members, after first ensuring that they will be appreciated and treasured, or sell them and use the money to cover any expenses that may come up in the future.

P.S. If they have historical value, consider donating them to a museum or your state historical society.

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

» BRIDGE

The philosophy of defense

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	2♦	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠			

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Just as the declarer is frequently confronted with a choice of ways to try to make his contract, so are the defenders often presented with different ways to try to defeat the contract. In these cases, the defense naturally looks for the method of play that offers the best chance of attaining that goal.

Take this deal where West led the diamond king, East playing the nine. West continued with the queen, and after East and South each produced

another diamond, West paused to consider his next move.

He saw two chances to stop the contract: namely, if his partner had either the club king or the heart ace. So at trick three, he cashed the club ace, looking for an encouraging signal from East. But when East played the deuce, West shifted to a heart. Declarer won with the ace, drew trumps and claimed the balance.

Considering the bidding, West's defense offered virtually no chance of garnering four tricks for his side. He could see 25 high-card points between his own hand and dummy, which meant that South was virtually certain to hold the ace of spades, ace of hearts and king of clubs to justify his opening bid and subsequent four-spade bid.

After cashing the club ace at trick three, West should have dismissed any notion that East might have the ace of hearts. Instead, he should have played his partner for the one card he could reasonably hold on the bidding — the jack of spades. In line with that, West should have led the four of diamonds at trick four, hoping to manufacture a trump trick for himself.

This play would have worked like a charm. East would ruff the diamond with the jack, and West would ultimately score a trump trick to defeat the contract.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
©2018 King Features Syndicate Inc.

» HOROSCOPES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, DEC. 6, 2018:

This year you will land like a cat, on all fours. The next 12 months could be unusually fortunate for you. You have started a new 12-year luck cycle. If you have a certain goal, go for it. If you are single, you could meet someone who easily becomes a lifelong romantic partner. You will find it easy to get along with this person. If you are attached, the two of you could get into tiff after tiff. Respect your differences, and give your significant other the space to be him- or herself. SAGITTARIUS will experience a new beginning in the next few months.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19) You might have been thinking about a plan and finally have come to a conclusion. Once more, you become Mr. or Ms. Friendly. Others will rejoice at seeing the happier you return. Still, someone could become somewhat difficult.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20) You will be distancing yourself until it becomes obvious that you need to deal with a situation that

could implode. Expressing your caring is important, especially when dealing with an older relative. A call to someone at a distance will mean a lot.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20) A partner seems to have assumed control of a key matter. This change of responsibilities could be all right with you; however, you might want to discuss the long-term implications of the situation. A conversation like this is important.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22) You'll be taken aback by a personal matter. The other party could be overly assertive, which might cause you to feel cornered. Initiate an important one-on-one discussion; in fact, insist on it. The balance of power will level off as a result.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22) Your mood quickly changes midday. You are best when networking and socializing. Now is the time to kick back and be spontaneous. You might hear someone express his or her frustration; behind those feelings is an important message.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22) You could be quite creative in the morning when

JACQUELINE BIGAR

BIGAR'S STARS



faced with a difficult situation. Lighten up and have an important discussion once others seem more relaxed. The tone of those around you will be more significant than you might realize.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22) You have been tenacious and diligent about getting a project done. You also feel empowered by its completion and by the compliments you get. Later today, brainstorm with others to create and firm up a fun idea. Not everything has to be business.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21) You won't hesitate to express your opinions, but you could come off a lot sterner than you realize. The key to success will be following through on a particular situation and maintaining a lighter attitude. Others will open up more easily as a result.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-

DEC. 21) Check out the cost of proceeding as you have been. Someone might be more than ready to chip in and help. Know that all the responsibility does not have to land on your shoulders. Make a point to accept someone's gesture as it was meant.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19) Zero in on what you want. You'll have many supporters at the present moment, which increases your chances of achieving what you desire. You come off as far more sensitive than you think. You can't always hide your feelings.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18) You might be slow to start, but once you get going, you are a formidable force to stop. You know what you want, and have no intention of settling. Someone at a distance could play a significant role.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20) You have a matter that you would prefer to keep under wraps. Someone might try to coax it out of you, but you will resist. Be careful if you don't want to split the beans. A partner or associate will make an effort to discuss an issue that you both are well aware of.

» TODAY IN HISTORY

TODAY IS THURSDAY, DEC. 6, the 340th day of 2018. There are 25 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS IN HISTORY:
On Dec. 6, 1907, the worst mining disaster in U.S. history occurred as 362 men and boys died in a coal mine explosion in Monongah, West Virginia.

ON THIS DATE:
In **1790**, Congress moved to Philadelphia from New York.
In **1947**, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman.
In **1957**, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed as Vanguard TV3 rose about four feet off a Cape Canaveral launch pad

before crashing down and exploding.
In **1973**, House minority leader Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew.
In **1982**, 11 soldiers and six civilians were killed when an Irish National Liberation Army bomb exploded at a pub in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland.

In **1989**, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man who then took his own life.
In **1998**, in Venezuela, former Lt. Col. Hugo Chavez, who had staged a bloody coup attempt against the government six years earlier, was elected president.

WORD SCRIMMAGE™
BY JUDD HAMBRICK © 2018 UFS / Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

1st DOWN
H₇ C₆ N₂ S₂ N₂ T₂ E₁ 1st Down +60 PTS

2nd DOWN
L₂ R₂ C₆ D₃ A₂ E₁ E₁ 1st Letter +7 PTS

3rd DOWN
G₃ I₂ I₂ B₆ N₂ N₂ E₁

4th DOWN
A₂ E₁ F₇ I₂ L₂ G₃ R₂ 4th Down +30 PTS

FOUR PLAY TOTAL

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN JUDG'S TOTAL = 351
AVERAGE GAME 225-235 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.

12-6-18 **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW**

Sudoku ★★★☆☆ 4puz.com

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

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
© 2018 UFS / Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

1st DOWN = 82
T₂ I₂ N₂ H₇ O₂ R₂ N₂

2nd DOWN = 37
L₂ A₂ V₇ A₂ G₃ E₁

3rd DOWN = 120
F₇ I₂ S₂ T₂ U₃ L₂ A₂

4th DOWN = 77
P₆ A₂ R₂ T₂ I₂ T₂ E₁

AVERAGE GAME 200-210 PTS JUDG'S TOTAL = 316
12-5-18

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

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.

Coffee
with the morning newspaper...
they just go together.

LAKE 314-FAST SUMMER 748-1955
DAILY COMMERCIAL
TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY CALL 787-0600

license to
cruise...

Place your auto ad in the
DAILY COMMERCIAL
and watch it go!

Call Classifieds Today!
352-314-FAST
(3278)

REVIEW

From Page C1

happy when they have every reason not to be?

Kore-eda is careful and deliberate in revealing the answers; meaning patience is required. But the eventual rewards are well worth the investment. Just trust the fact that you're in the presence of a master at the top of his storytelling game, and one not afraid to challenge your every expectation. And he wastes no time putting you to the test in an opening scene showing a dad, Osamu (Kore-eda regular, Lily Franky) and his 12-year-old son, Shota (Jyo Kairi), exactingly pilfering food stuffs from a neighborhood grocery, ala Fagin and the Artful Dodger, albeit a far more genial version.

Are we to empathize, or

be repulsed? You choose, but know that it won't be the first time you'll be asked to decide. In fact, it's only a matter of minutes until the next moral quandary arises with the discovery of a scrawny – but adorable – 5-year-old girl (Miyu Sasaki) huddled alone and shivering in the dark. Unsure what to do, Osamu brings her home to his wife, Nobuyo (Sakura Ando), her younger sister, Aki (Mayu Matsuoka), and their granny, Hatsue (Kirin Kiki, another Kore-eda regular), who are already short on room and food.

Nobuyo insists on taking the child back to where Osamu found her, but when they do, the situation dictates that they don't. Does this now make them kidnapers? Technically, yes. But morally, no, at least in their eyes; a decision reinforced once they spot the awful burn marks on the tiny arms

of the girl they now call Yuri. Besides, she'd make a terrific decoy on Osamu and Shota's shoplifting sprees, especially after the latter twists his ankle at his part-time construction job and is put out of commission.

The wickets only get stickier as Kore-eda's somewhat fact-based tale unfolds in gloriously unexpected directions, raising even more questions while revealing ever darker secrets involving the origins of this appealing den of thieves. And as Kore-eda peels back the layers, we're left to contemplate, examine and confront what constitutes a family. The answer is rooted in the old nature vs. nurture conundrum, but Kore-eda digs much deeper by adding in the environmental factors, such as domestic abuse, betrayals and poverty exacerbated by a society eager to exclude those unable to conform

to its rigid templates.

At times, you're unsure of where Kore-eda is taking you, but when it's time to make his points about the pricelessness of unconditional love, it smacks you upside the face so hard it leaves you dazed, not to mention profoundly moved. Kore-eda is sneaky that way, and we're all the better for it. So are his talented stable of actors, each allotted ample opportunity to shine, whether it's the recently deceased Kirin Kiki expressively expressing gratitude for the family refusing to let her Hatsue die alone; Matsuoka's Aki struggling to find dignity and connection as a sex worker; or Kairi's Shota struggling to use labels like "Mom," "Dad" and "sister" on the people he so wearily loves.

That last one really got me thinking about how adeptly the family dynamics

in "Shoplifters" serve as a metaphor for society's problem with legitimizing gay partnerships, and who has the right to say blood is thicker than love when it comes to making decisions involving quality of life? And it only evolves from there, as it occurs to you that this is no mere movie; it's life itself, and all the messy heartbreak and beauty that entails. It's very much a companion to Kore-eda's last film, "After the Storm," and its ideas of relationships defying explanations and parameters. We want what we want and love what we love, no matter the circumstances. It's by no means easy, but it encompasses everything we know about being alive. And if we have to, like this sticky-fingered bunch, we'll steal every bit of it we can.

Al Alexander may be reached at alexandercritica@aol.com.

CALENDAR

From Page C3

noon every Thursday (except holidays) at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 2101 County Road 452 in Eustis. For information, call Cole Scharlau at 352-357-9692.

FAMILY CRAFTERS: From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Leesburg Public Library, 100 E. Main St. Free. Children under the age of 9 must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. Call 352-728-9790 or email penny.richardson@leesburgflorida.gov.

SUPPORT GROUP: From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Thursday at W.T. Bland Public Library Simpson Farm House, 1995 N. Donnelly St. in Mount Dora. For anyone who deals with or has a loved one with anxiety, depression or other mental health issues. Call Logan at 352-483-7434 or email loganandtiger@yahoo.com for information.

MEDITATION: At 4 p.m. every Thursday at Leesburg Public Library, 100 E. Main St. Guided meditation followed by discussion. Chairs provided or bring yoga mat. Beginners welcome. Call 352-728-9790 to register.

CRAFTERNOONS: From 2 to 5 p.m. every Thursday at Cooper Memorial Library, 2525 Oakley Seaver Drive in Clermont. Bring your current craft project. Call 352-536-2275 for information.

KIDS ACTIVITY NIGHT: From 6 to 7 p.m. every Thursday at Astor County Library, 54905 Alco Road. Call 352-759-9913 for information.

TNT GAMING: From 4 to 5 p.m. every Thursday at Leesburg Public Library, 100 E. Main St. For ages 8 to 18. Call 352-728-9790 for information.

LEGO CLUB: From 3 to 4 p.m. every Thursday at Fruitland Park Library, 205 W. Berckman St. For ages 5 to 18. Call 352-360-6561 for information.

STORY TIME OUR WORLD: From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. every Thursday at Leesburg Public Library, 100 E. Main St. For ages 5 and under. With music, movement and fingerplays. Call 352-728-9790 for information.

PRE-K STORY TIME: From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. every Thursday at W.T. Bland Public Library, 1995 N. Donnelly St. in Mt Dora. Call 352-735-7180 for information.

CHESS CLUB: From 5:45 to 7:45 p.m. every Thursday at Leesburg Public Library, 100 E. Main St. Call 352-728-9790 for information.

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.

QUILTING SISTERS GUILD: From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Thursday at Masonic Lodge, 200 Richey Road. in Leesburg.

Call Mary at 352-323-3351 or go to quiltingsistersguild.com for information.

RIDERS RIDE: At 10 a.m. every Thursday at American Legion John Gella Memorial Post 219, 194 W. Fountain St., Fruitland Park. Call 352-787-2338.

Friday

BLING ON THE HOLIDAYS: From 6 to 8 p.m. at Lake Eustis Museum of Art 1 W. Orange Ave., Eustis. With Two B's Studio, Florida Faience Gallery and Artisans on fifth. Details: ksmith@LakeEustisArtMuseum.org.

LIVING NATIVITY: From 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Woodlands Lutheran Church, 15333 CR 455 in Montverde. Free. Accepting non-perishable food. Details: 407-469-2525 or woodlandschurch.com.

HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS: From 5:30 to 9 p.m. on the front lawn of Fruitland Park City Hall, 506

W. Barckman Street. Music, bounce house, bonfire and Santa and Mrs. Claus.

NIGHT MARKET: From 5 to 9 p.m. the first Friday of the month on the corner of 5th and Magnolia in downtown Leesburg. Details: www.leesburgarts.com or call us at 352-365-0232.

FIRST FRIDAY FOOD TRUCKS: From 5:30 to 9 p.m. in downtown Clermont. Featuring live music, kids' zone, plenty of food trucks and stores will stay open late. Go to www.ClermontDowntownPartnership.com.

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.



BODY MIND SPIRIT FEST

**Saturday Dec. 8th
10am-5pm**

- ~ FREE ADMISSION & AMPLE PARKING
- ~ REFRESHMENTS
- ~ MINI VEDIC THAI BODYWORK AND MASSAGE SESSIONS
- ~ SPIRIT ART
- ~ PSYCHIC & MINI ASTRO READINGS
- ~ GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT ITEMS
- ~ YOGA INSPIRED JEWELRY, ETC
- ~ DISCOUNTS ON CLASS PACKAGES, PRIVATES, AND GIFT CERTIFICATES (DAY OF ONLY)
- ~ SPECIAL RAFFLES & DOOR PRIZES

**SamaCoreYoga.com
SamaCoreYoga@Gmail**

**SamaCore
Yoga & Barre**

**481 W ARDICE AVE.
EUSTIS FL
407.538.5301
352.409.3646**



MELON PATCH THEATRE

NOV 30 - DEC 16

EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD (AND THEN SOME!)

a comedy by
**MICHAEL CARLETON
JIM FITZGERALD
& JOHN K. ALVAREZ**

original music by
WILL KNAPP

Produced by
special arrangement with
PLAYSCRIPTS, INC.

Tickets are available at
MelonPatchPlayers.org
Box Office (352) 787-3013

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube icons

THE LARGEST CITY LEESBURG EST. 1857

CULTURE BUILDS FLORIDA

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LF-0046988